

1. Voltaire was a stupendous power, not only because his expression was incomparably lucid, or even because his sight was exquisitely keen and clear, but because he saw many new things, after which the spirits of others were unconsciously groping and dumbly yearning. Nor was this all. Fontenelle was both brilliant and far-sighted, but he was cold, and one of those who love ease and safe hearth, and carefully shun the din, turmoil, and danger of the great battle. Voltaire was ever in the front and centre of the fight. His life was not a mere chapter in a history of literature. He never counted truth a treasure to be discreetly hidden in a napkin. He made it a perpetual war-egg and displayed it on a banner that was many a time rent, but was never out of the field.

a. The merely professional man is in a sense an artificial man.

b. The moment I touched upon alchemy, he forgot his misfortunes and imprisonment, and broke forth into rhapsodies about his favorite science.

c. Leave your opponent no room for gaining a semblance of victory by answering the unimportant parts of your statement.

d. I am now called upon to wind up a narrative which has already extended to an unreasonable length.

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