## Quotations of Augustus

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• If we could survive without a wife, citizens of Rome, all of us would do without that nuisance; but since nature has so decreed that we cannot manage comfortably with them, nor live in any way without them, we must plan for our lasting preservation rather than for our temporary pleasure.

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- If I have played my part well, clap your hands, and dismiss me with applause from the stage.
  - Statement made as he was dying, as quoted in *The Fall of the Roman Empire* (2007) by Rita J. Markel, p. 126

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• May it be my privilege to have the happiness of establishing the commonwealth on a firm and secure basis and thus enjoy the reward which I desire, but only if I may be called the author of the best possible government; and bear with me the hope when I die that the foundations which I have laid for its future government, will stand firm and stable.

Suetonius, Divus Augustus, paragraph 28

- Those who slew my father I drove into exile, punishing their deed by <u>due process of law</u>, and afterwards when they waged war upon the republic I twice defeated them in battle.
- Wars, both civil and foreign, I undertook throughout the world, on sea and land, and when victorious I spared all citizens who sued for pardon. The foreign nations which could with safety be pardoned I preferred to save rather than to destroy.