

The andrew carnegie dictum assignment

[History](#)



Third 1/3rd life Philanthropy. Before his death on August 11, 1919, Carnegie had donated (at THAT time). The “ Andrew Carnegie Dictum” illustrates Carnegie’s generous nature: TO spend the first third Of one’s life getting all the education one can. TO spend the next third making all the money one can. TO spend the last third giving it all away for worthwhile causes.

Carnegie was involved in philanthropic causes, but he kept himself away from religious circles.

He wanted to be identified by the world as a “ positivist”. He was highly influenced in public life by John Bright. On Wealth: As early as 1868, at age 33, he drafted a memo to himself. He wrote: “... The amassing of wealth is one of the worst species of idolatry. No idol more debasing than the worship of money. ... The man who dies thus rich dies disgraced,” He wanted to retire at 35, initially. However, he did not begin his philanthropic work in earnest until 1881 (age 46).

“Rags to Riches” is a common phrase in America, referring to the person who achieves success by his own effort in the face of great obstacles. Over 100 books with such heroes were written by Horatio Alger (1834-1899), whose stories of boys overcoming poverty were widely read in the 19th century. Yet Alger’s novels are virtually nowhere to be found today. Bookstores don’t stock them. The Houston Public Library doesn’t circulate them (though it has a collection of them in a separate building for Old books of historical interest).