

From Zadig, A Mystery of Fate:
By Voltaire

What, of all things in the world, is the longest and the shortest, the swiftest and the slowest, the most divisible and the most extended, the most neglected and the most regretted without which nothing can be done, which devours all that is little, and enlivens all that is great?

## Time.

Nothing is longer, since it is the measure of eternity.

Nothing is shorter, since it is insufficient for the accomplishment of your projects.

Nothing is more slow to him that expects, nothing more rapid to him that enjoys.

In greatness it extends to infinity, in smallness it is infinitely divisible.

All men neglect it; all regret the loss of it; nothing can be done without it.

It consigns to oblivion whatever is unworthy of being transmitted to posterity, and it immortalizes such actions as are truly great.

Time is man's most precious Asset.