

**A DISCOURSE ON THE
STUDY OF THE LAW OF
NATURE AND NATIONS**

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A Discourse on the Study of the Law of Nature and Nations by Sir James Mackintosh

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SIR JAMES MACKINTOSH

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DISCOURSE

ON

THE STUDY

OF THE

LAW OF NATURE AND NATIONS,

BY

SIR JAMES MACKINTOSH, M. P.;

TOGETHER WITH A COLLECTED LIST OF

WORKS UPON INTERNATIONAL LAW,

A SKETCH OF THE AUTHOR'S LIFE, ETC.,

BY J. G. ^{the Editor} MARVIN.

"IT WOULD BE EXCEEDINGLY TO THE DISCREDIT OF ANY PERSON, WHO SHOULD BE CALLED TO TAKE A SHARE IN THE COUNCILS OF THE NATION, IF HE SHOULD BE FOUND DEFICIENT IN THE GREAT LEADING PRINCIPLES OF INTERNATIONAL LAW."

Chancellor Kent.

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## P R E F A C E .

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WE are aware that the duties of a compiler, or editor of another's production, are sufficiently humble; but if, by this means, any thing truly valuable is placed within the reach of the public, no one ought to shrink from the task. This admirable "Discourse" has passed through several *large* editions in England, and has ever been regarded by competent judges as the most finished and profound production that has been written upon the Law of Nature and Nations. When such ornaments of the Senate and the Bench, as PITT, CANNING, LOUGHBOROUGH, and STORY, warmly commend a production, it needs no farther proof of its intrinsic value and importance. The entire writings of this accomplished scholar and profound philosopher, cannot be too extensively read or highly appreciated. We have thought that it might not be inappropriate to prefix to the "Discourse" a brief Biographical Sketch of Sir James Mackintosh, and a list of some of the more reputable works upon International Law; hoping that these few pages, in their present form, will not be wholly beneath the attention of the general reader, or of the Legal Profession.

J. G. M.

Cambridge, Oct. 20, 1843.





## AUTHORS,

### WHO HAVE WRITTEN UPON THE LAW OF NATURE AND NATIONS.

THE following list contains some of the authors who have written upon international law. Though far from being complete, yet upon glancing at the succeeding pages, the reader will observe a noble array of the most profound jurists and elegant scholars of modern times, who have illustrated this branch of jurisprudence, so essential to be thoroughly understood by the Statesman, and so necessary for the preservation of national rights.

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