

**ESSAYS WRITTEN IN
THE INTERVALS OF
BUSINESS**

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Essays Written in the Intervals of Business by Sir Arthur Helps

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SIR ARTHUR HELPS

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BUSINESS**

ESSAYS

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THE FIRST PART.

“ AND he that knows how little certainty there is in
“ humane discourses, and how *we know in part, and*
“ *prophesie in part,* and that of every thing thereof we
“ know a little, we are ignorant in much more, must
“ either be content with such proportion as the things will
“ bear, or as himself can get, or else he must never seek
“ to alter or to perswade any man to be of his opinion.
“ For the greatest part of discourses that are in the whole
“ world, is nothing but a heap of probable inducements,
“ plausibilities, and witty entertainments: and the throng
“ of notices is not unlike the accidents of a battel, in
“ which every man tells a new tale, something that he
“ saw, mingled with a great many things which he saw
“ not; his eyes and his fear joyning together equally in
“ the instructions and the illusion, these make up the
“ stories.”—*Jeremy Taylor's Ductor Dubitantium.*



ON PRACTICAL WISDOM.

PRACTICAL wisdom acts in the mind, as gravitation does in the material world : combining, keeping things in their places, and maintaining a mutual dependence amongst the various parts of our system. It is for ever reminding us where we are, and what we can do, not in fancy, but in real life. It does not permit us to wait for dainty duties, pleasant to the imagination ; but insists upon our doing those which are before us. It is always inclined to make much of what it possesses : and is not given to ponder over