

**ON CERTAIN HINDRANCES  
TO WISDOM IN  
STATESMANSHIP**

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On Certain Hindrances to Wisdom in Statesmanship by H. Strickland Constable

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**H. STRICKLAND CONSTABLE**

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TO

WISDOM IN STATESMANSHIP.

BY

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AUTHOR OF

*'Hints to Country Bumpkins,' 'Letters to Country Newspapers on  
Radicalism and Socialism,' &c.*

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## PREFACE.

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THE chief hindrances to wisdom in statesmanship on which I propose to give a few hints are, abnormally exaggerated faculty of eloquence of the rhetorical kind, abnormally exaggerated passion for popularity, and abnormally exaggerated sentimentality of the imagination as distinguished from true feeling. Wisdom requires balance of great faculties. A person in whom special one-sided talents or faculties are monstrously developed never can see truth or understand human nature.

There are repetitions in the following pages. 'Of all figures of speech,' says Carlyle, 'the most effective one for persuasion is repetition.' There are truisms in the following pages. But instruction *means* the repetition of truisms. The truths of religion and morality are truisms. But one day in every seven is set apart to repeat these truisms. Without the unceasing repetition of truism mankind would go back to savagery.

I have sometimes, for conciseness, slightly altered the wording, but never the meaning of a quotation. Life is short and sentences are long.





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