PRACTICAL WISDOM; LETTERS TO YOUNG MEN

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Practical wisdom; letters to young men by Various

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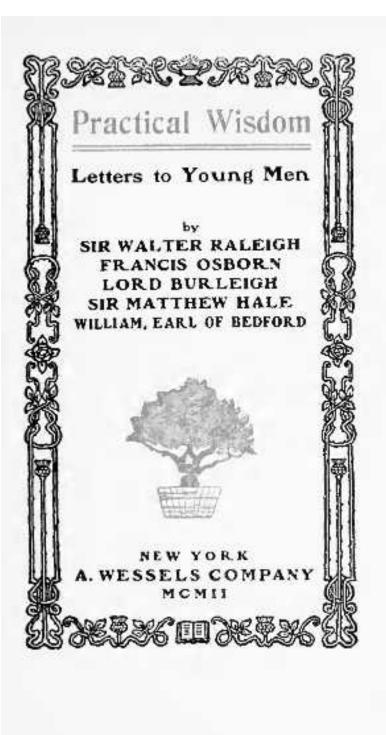
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BJ 1451 194, 74

CONTENTS

5.	
SIR WALTER RALEIGH'S INSTRUCTIONS TO	PAGE
His Son (circa 1632)	9
Francis Osborn's Advice to a Son	
(1656)	43
LORD BURLEIGH'S ADVICES TO HIS SON	
(1617)	117
Sir Matthew Hale's Advice to His	
GRAND-CHILDREN (CIRCA 1680) .	131
WILLIAM, EARL OF BEDFORD'S ADVICE TO	
His Sons (circa 1642)	171

SIR WALTER RALEIGH'S INSTRUCTIONS TO HIS SON

PRACTICAL WISDOM

SIR WALTER RALEIGH'S INSTRUCTIONS TO HIS SON

TIRTUOUS PERSONS TO BE MADE CHOICE OF FOR FRIENDS .- There is nothing more becoming any wise man, than to make choice of friends, for by them thou shalt be judged what thou art: let them therefore be wise and virtuous, and none of those that follow thee for gain; but make election rather of thy betters, than thy inferiors, shunning always such as are poor and needy: for if thou givest twenty gifts, and refuse to do the like but once, all that thou hast done will be lost, and such men will become thy mortal Take also special care, that enemies. thou never trust any friend or servant, with any matter that may endanger thine

PRACTICAL WISDOM

estate; for so shalt thou make thyself a bond-slave to him that thou trustest, and leave thyself always to his mercy: and be sure of this, thou shalt never find a friend in thy young years, whose conditions and qualities will please thee after thou comest to more discretion and judgment, and then all thou givest is lost, and all wherein thou shalt trust such a one, will be discovered, Such therefore as are thy inferiors, will follow thee but to eat thee out, and when thou leavest to feed them, they will hate thee; and such kind of men, if thou preserve thy estate, will always be had. And if thy friends be of better quality than thyself, thou mayest be sure of two things: the first, that they will be more careful to keep thy counsel, because they have more to lose than thou hast: the second, they will esteem thee for thyself, and not for that which thou dost possess. But if thou