

A HANDBOOK
TO
POLITICAL QUESTIONS
OF THE DAY.

BACON gives a list of subjects for books which he has not time to undertake himself, and which he recommends to posterity ; among them, "a collection of studied antitheses ; or short and strong sentences on both sides of the question on a variety of subjects."

BACON, "*De Augmentis Scientiarum.*"

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TO
POLITICAL QUESTIONS
OF THE DAY.

BEING THE ARGUMENTS ON EITHER SIDE.

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PREFACE.

IN 1866, my father—Charles Buxton, M.P.—published a small book, entitled “Ideas of the Day on Policy,” the aim of which was to show what were the actual principles at that time swaying public opinion on the more important questions of the day.

That this book has been of use to many, by way of reference and help to the better understanding of political questions, I have often been assured; and it seemed to me, that, without infringing on the plan of the “Ideas,” there was room for a handbook on somewhat similar lines, which might be not altogether useless. Instead of the arguments being reduced to ideas, the arguments themselves, which govern each question, might be placed side by side, with the view of clearing the ground, and with the hope that some student of politics might be the better able to accept the true and reject the false, and so arrive at just conclusions.

In carrying out this intention my plan has been to give