
A
DISCOURSE,
&c.

BEFORE I begin a course of lectures on a science of great extent and importance, I think it my duty to lay before the Public the reasons which have induced me to undertake such a labour, as well as a short account of the nature and objects of the course which I propose to deliver. I have always been unwilling to waste in unprofitable inactivity that leisure which the first years of my profession usually allow, and which diligent men, even with moderate talents, might often employ in a manner neither discreditable to themselves nor wholly useless to others. Desirous that my own leisure should not be consumed in sloth, I anxiously looked about

B

for