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Quotes by Blackstone, Sir William

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Sir William Blackstone, (July 10, 1723 February 14, 1780) was an English jurist and professor who produced the historical treatise on the common law called Commentaries on the Laws of England, first published in four volumes over 1765-1769. It had an extraordinary success, said to have brought the author 14,000, and still remains the best general history of the subject.

The Royal Navy of England hath ever been its greatest defense and ornament; it is its ancient and natural strength; the floating bulwark of the island.

- Blackstone, Sir William

The public good is in nothing more essentially interested, than in the protection of every individual's private rights.

- Blackstone, Sir William

It is better that ten guilty persons escape than one innocent suffer

- Blackstone, Sir William

In all tyrannical governments the supreme magistracy, or the right both of making and of enforcing the laws, is vested in one and the same man, or one and the same body of men; and wherever these two powers are united together, there can be no public liberty.

- Blackstone, Sir William

The public good is in nothing more essentially interested, than in the protection of every individuals private rights.

- Blackstone, Sir William

So great moreover is the regard of the law for private property, that it will not authorize the least violation of it; no, not even for the general good of the whole community.

- Blackstone, Sir William



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