

the enormous differences between man and man ; not to cripple our action by the ridiculous pretence that they are all equal, or even alike ; which they obviously are not.

They believe in doing their duty in the state of life to which they are called ; with the not very difficult rider that they may, for a trial, be called to a state of life from which it is their plain duty to escape as soon as possible. This process is called " rising in the world ;" for which a thousand avenues are open. Tories do not believe in making people happy by Act of Parliament. They recognise that this can only be done by the process of robbing Peter to pay Paul. According to the Tory, a man must rise, if he wishes to do so, by his own exertion ; and " State"-help only means dipping into the pocket of his next-door neighbour, which is a flimsy travesty of the Eighth Commandment.

Cherishing these and similar principles the Tory accepts, as a matter of course, the lead of the aristocracy in political affairs, while the Whig must needs obscure the great fact with phrases chosen according to the tastes of the audience which he is endeavouring to persuade, and the part that he is, himself, playing at the moment. The Tory's attitude is the easier to assume, because it is simpler and more natural. Now it is, precisely, with the aristocracy that the Tory has at the present moment his most serious quarrel. It is upon the shoulders of the aristocracy that he casts all the blame for the recent misconduct of affairs, and for the cast-back of his party's fortunes throughout the country.

This is not altogether matter for astonishment, but is rather to be ascribed to the need of coalescing with Liberals ; a need forced upon the Tories by the direst of all the Liberal fits of expediency. All Tory principles have for the last twenty years been tacitly dropped in the face of the imperative necessity of saving the United Kingdom from disruption. None the less has it been Tory mismanagement that has prolonged the crisis for so long ; and in the meantime the old wholesome English habit of discussing public affairs has been