

parliament. Every one will see, without the necessity of a direct application, how these principles are connected with the subject to be discussed. The persons at present concerned in the government of Great Britain, have a delicate and momentous task imposed upon them. Of all their duties, that which is perhaps paramount to the rest, is to preserve the blessings we already possess, from the rashness of presumptuous experiment. General security is the basis of all those things which society has to give, that are worthy the acceptance of mankind. In security only the cultivator plows his field, the manufacturer exercises his ingenuity, and the merchant brings home the produce of every distant climate. Without security all these would be neglected, would be done with an irresolute and nerveless temper, and would fall gradually into ruin. In security only science is extended, arts are cultivated, and the virtues expand themselves. Without security mankind would speedily become ignorant and blood-thirsty savages. To the governors of the earth, therefore, the slender band of wise and judicious citizens would say, "Give us security, we will provide for ourselves all other advantages."