

undertaken to do duty to their country have no right to hand their responsibilities over to some other fellow and seek to make him a scapegoat.

These remarks are general observations. Our readers will have no difficulty in applying them specially in these days of "standing from under."

CHILDREN OF ROYALTY AS COMMONERS.

His Royal Highness Prince Henry, who attained his majority on the 31st ult., and on whom a Knighthood of the Garter has been conferred, shares with Sir Robert Walpole (afterwards first Earl of Orford), the famous Prime Minister; Lord Palmiston, who, although the holder of an Irish peerage, sat as Prime Minister for a British constituency in the House of Commons; and Sir Edward (Viscount) Grey the distinction of being one of the few commoners who have been made Knights of the Garter. The status of Prince Henry, who, although a younger son of the Sovereign, is a commoner—whatever titles he bears are simply titles of courtesy which carry with them no political privileges above other commoners—is an object lesson in the doctrine, on which Professor Freeman laid stress, that in strictness we have no nobility. "As the children of the peer," he wrote, "have no special advantage, so neither have the younger children of the King himself. The King's wife, his eldest son, his eldest daughter, his eldest son's wife, all have special privileges by law. His other children are simply commoners unless their father thinks good to raise them, as he may raise any other of his subjects, to the rank of peerage. There is perhaps no feature in our Constitution more important and beneficial than this, which binds all ranks together, and which has hindered us from suffering at any time under the curse of a noble caste. Yet this marked distinction between our own Constitution and that of most other countries is purely traditional." Professor Freeman in a note further explains and expounds this position. "As the law of England knows no classes of men except peers and commoners, it follows that the younger children of the King—the eldest is born Duke of Cornwall—are, in strictness of speech,