

assumed in direct defiance of the Law and the Constitution, by those who are administering the public affairs.

But there is yet another quotation I would make, and one that must be equally appreciated and acted upon; and which lays down the correct principle, that, after all, in governments, the authority is but delegated, and it must be wielded for the benefit of those from whom it is derived. This passage is from an old Puritan Poet (of the name of George Wither), and was *in part* quoted by Mr. Bright, on a late occasion, in one of his most celebrated speeches:—

“Let not your King and Parliament in one,
 “Much less apart, mistake themselves for that
 “Which is most worthy to be thought upon,
 “Nor think they are essentially the State.
 “But let them know *there is a deeper life*
 “*Which they but represent.*
 “That there's on earth a yet auguster thing,
 “Veiled though it be, than Parliament and King.”

These two quotations contain the germ of all sound constitutional government—the principle and the mode. Books may be written—systems may be promulgated—experiments may be tried—but reduce all down to a simple proposition, and in these two quotations that proposition will be found.

I do not press these observations without serious reflection. One of the objects of education is to prepare for successful operation in the practical affairs of life. Religious and moral training, it must be assumed, may well be left to parents and tutors. In America, the great mass of the public take a deeper interest in, and exert a more powerful influence upon the affairs of their country than in England. The ancient traditions of England—the great wealth of England—enable her to have a class of men who almost exclusively take charge of the public service; and it is no uncommon thing to trace the same name in one continuous line of light from generation to generation. It is not so in America, and Canada is no exception to the rule. As your influence is therefore more extended here, so it is of consequence that your preparation should be