

constructed of that form which best answers the purposes for which they seem intended. The knowledge of the optician and anatomist, scanty as it is, is yet sufficient to convince him that the eye is of that form which best answers the purposes of vision ; he perceives in some degree the propriety and necessity of every muscle, coat, and humour which composes that delightful organ ; he is convinced there is nothing defective, nothing redundant. The moralist who reflects on the mental world, makes the same observation on the instincts and passions of animals ; he will not therefore readily acquiesce with Dr. Price, that man, the sovereign of the earth, is the only animal of imperfect construction, which he certainly is, if the form of government which the Doctor has given a sketch of be absolutely necessary to his welfare ; since it neither now is, nor ever was, established to any extensive degree ; and therefore this defect must arise from the natural imperfection of man.

It falls not within the purpose of this disquisition to attempt to describe the most excellent forms of government ; but on this occasion it may not be improper to declare that the principal purposes of government of every state are the
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