

policy in accordance with its own lights, or sufficient influence over Parliament to direct the course of public legislation, is a fertile source of political corruption, and a hindrance to the true development of national life. How far the suggestions herewith submitted are calculated to prevent the occurrence of this evil, and to check the encroachments of an uncontrollable democracy, others must determine. One thing should be remembered, however, that while at first sight some of the recommendations included in this scheme may appear to be novel and peculiar, they are nevertheless in strict accordance with the general principles of the British Constitution, and have been framed with the view of adapting those principles to our own political condition. They have the further advantage of being in direct conformity with the recommendations of the highest constitutional authorities in Great Britain, in their endeavours to redress the balance between the several co-ordinate powers of which the Imperial Legislature is composed, and secure to the Ministers of the Crown, and to the possessors of property in the United Kingdom, their rightful share of influence in the House of Commons. We are therefore warranted in the hope that in a political system, based upon this foundation, it would be possible to preserve the