

political constitutions can be absolutely perfect, because they are framed by men who are too frequently passionate, interested, unjust and thoughtless ; hating the present ; regretting the past ; and eagerly anticipating the future. From men therefore errors may be expected in every situation ; and if they are not greater, or more frequent, in public, than in private life ; we have no reason to complain.—Not that the people should be blind to improper conduct in their rulers, or remiss in maintaining their just rights and privileges ; but the spirit of suspicious jealousy which has so long separated the governed and governors, will now gradually subside ; and the wish of both will be to promote the general good. Should even a person sometimes appear in a public situation not well qualified to discharge its duties ; it will neither excite astonishment, nor discontent. All who think must acknowledge that it is no easy matter to select such men for public employments as are able to acquit themselves with integrity and honor.—Mens dispositions are difficult to be known ; appearances are deceitful. Who has not found himself mistaken in his choice of persons for offices.—Professions are frequently false. We cannot read the hearts of men. Many who are esteemed in private life, become odious in public. Many that are honest and contented when poor ; turn violent and covetous when rich. When therefore a bad character appears in the administration, no commotions will arise, and the Rulers having discovered that they have no interest in employ-

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