

life, is very clear and express on this point,—(1) “Render unto Cæsar the things that are Cæsar’s; (2) render unto all their dues, fear to whom fear, honor to whom honor,” says our blessed Saviour.—(3) “Fear God, honor the King,” says the Apostle, as if he meant to say, that the former is the primary duty of men, as Christians, the latter in their civil capacity as subjects. Not to multiply passages on this head, which are very numerous in the word of God, I will give only one more,—(4) “Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord’s sake, whether it be to the King, as supreme, or unto Governors, as unto them that are sent by him for the punishment of evil-doers, and for the praise of them that do well.”—Now this form of Government being the most ancient, and being more particularly foretold under the Gospel dispensation, where it is said, (5) “And King’s shall be thy nursing fathers, and Queens thy nursing mothers.”—Have we not ample reason my Christian Brethren, not only to be satisfied with, but to make our boast of that Constitution under which we have the happiness to live? Power, when placed in the hands of one person, or of one set of men, we find by dear-bought experience, and it is confirmed by the general history of nations, is apt from the general weakness and depravity of human nature, to become wanton and oppressive. The British Constitution not only secures us against any such event, but by the happy distribution of power in the three estates that compose it, a salutary check on each is maintained, while the highest amount of worth and talent is brought to bear upon the general weal; all feel their weight and influence, all feel that they have no separate interests, all therefore find it their advantage, as they conceive it their duty to legislate solely with a view to the public good.—To give proofs of its excellence! I might say that it has stood the test of ages, that under it England and all connected with her have gradually risen in prosperity, happiness and fame; that it has carried her safe and untarnished through many a fiery

(1) Math. 22, 21.; (2) Rom. 13, 7.; (3) 1 Peter 2, 17.; (4) Do. 13, 14.
(5) Isaiah 49, 23.