

it. No system of equal administration can be so perfect, but that some men will be urged by necessity, and aggravated by distress. If offence be discountenanced by the sober and judicious, there will always be turbulent spirits who will pursue a contrary conduct; they will confirm the offender in his error, instead of recalling him to reason; they will harden him in his deviation, and encourage him to hold inoffensive remonstrance in contempt.

Human society is a wonderful machine. How great are the inequalities that prevail in every country in Europe! How powerful is the incitement held out to the poor man, to commit hostility on the property of the rich, to commit it in detail, each man for himself, or by one great and irresistible effort to reduce every thing to universal chaos! Political wisdom, when it is found such as it ought to be, is the great and venerable power, that presides in the midst of turbulent and conflicting passions, that gives to all this confusion the principles of order, and that extracts universal advantage from a nearly universal selfishness.

He that deliberately views the machine of human society, will, even in his speculations, approach