

upon the people a salutary horror of such violent proceedings. It is mainly through his exertions that the nation obtains a better notion of right and wrong, a clearer idea of political rights and duties, than any community upon earth. Should hereafter a different state of affairs arise, and rival generals throng the legislative chambers, it might end in mischief, but the probability of that appears to be guarded against by the establishment of the federal instead of the centralising system.

The superiority of monarchical to republican government is considered in most parts of the world to be so well proved, that nothing can be said upon the subject. Yet it may be doubted whether the proof be not of that kind which the *Edinburgh Review* calls "finding out premises for preconceived conclusions" that the few who profit by the system have unscrupulously made use of venal advocacy to support their views, and that failing them, have resorted to the more cogent logic of persecution.

Most people remember how Edmund Burke's sentimental letter upon the French Revolution was rewarded by a comfortable pension; but we know not what admirable things he might have said upon the other side of the question, if the comfortable pension had been there.

Comparisons are constantly made to the disadvantage of the ancient republics; but before the invention of the printing-press no means were available by which the mass of mankind could receive a sufficient education to fit them for choosing legislators. They were, consequently, more at the mercy of ambitious and