

least, so it appears in most we know, otherwise the difference is only, that commonwealths prescribe for themselves, while in mixt monarchies the governing party are often so modest, as to leave it to their leader's discretion in what manner he will use his dispensing power, and in absolute monarchies the prince and his ministers commonly share.

Utopia is a very fine country, and our Americans much inclined to travel that way; but it is like some of the regions in romance, that vanish at mortal appearances. The best government, is that which does the most good, and least mischief. No prince, let his heart be ever so bad, can injure the people, materially, but by their own connivance; and the best rule to judge of a form of government, is, by the reputation that time has stamped on it: the experience of a single century will shew any sensible defects, which if not to be remedied without shocking the basis, must be suffered to subsist, tho' evidently prejudicial, and all colonies subject to such government, participate equally of the good and evil; but more especially when it cannot be clearly determined, either
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