

before we announce a Paradise. For our own part we no more worship individual liberty than we worship State interference. We are willing to have our lives guided aright by any system or power that can do it. We are ready to give ourselves into the hands of the State, that is of the government, provided we can be assured that the government is perfectly wise and good. But so long as the government consists of ordinary men, not to say of leaders of faction and demagogues, we shall prefer to confine its duties to those matters with which it alone can deal. The reason, as it seems to us, why society at present does not come to ruin is that power is largely in the hands, not of the politicians, but of chiefs of commerce and industry, of wielders of social influence and moulders of opinion. To construct a perfect government is the first task of the Socialist, though it is one to which he never turns his attention. He rails at all existing governments and proposes to put unlimited power into their hands. After all, erect what government you will and put what you will into its hands, we doubt whether the workman will make any great advance towards Paradise otherwise than by steady industry, integrity, frugality and temperance,—modes of improving his condition which no labour journalists preach.

—Europe continues to watch with anxious eyes the eccentric movements of the German Emperor. That the Emperor's nature is not noble appears too plainly from his failure publicly to acknowledge at parting, by a single word of gratitude, the immense services of the great man who has placed the Imperial crown upon his head, and by whose heroic daring Germany has been made a nation. He seems to think that Bismarcks are secondary accidents and the wearer of the crown is all in all. Had his majesty's grandfather thought the same his majesty would be king of Prussia. He proclaims peace and increases his army. Very likely he does desire peace, but the mighty hand which could impose peace on Europe is gone.