

The Evils of Monarchy

In his essay on the Australian Commonwealth published in his Studies in History and Jurisprudence (Vol. 1) Mr. Bryce says "The love for republicanism in the abstract, though far stronger in Continental Europe than in England, was everywhere a force in the first half of the nineteenth century." And he proceeds to add, "It has faded away in the second half throughout the British world, because the solid substance of freedom has been secured, because the old mischiefs of monarchical government have reappeared in republics, because men's minds have begun to be occupied with economic and social rather than with

purely political questions. The fact that the British Crown is titular head of the Australian Commonwealth will not render the working of the Constitution less truly popular, any more than has befallen in Canada, a somewhat less democratic country. So far as the internal politics of Australia are concerned, she will take her own course, scarcely affected by her connexion with England.

~~The last of these States~~ The fulfilment of the last of these ~~statements~~ assertions depends upon the extent to which ~~the~~ ~~future~~ the present and future Secretaries of State for the Colonies shall advise the Crown to exercise its power of veto upon Australian legislation ~~and the veto~~ in alleged protection of imperial

interests and the extent to
 which the ~~people of~~ Parliament
 and people of the Commonwealth
 will ~~submit~~ quietly submit to
 its exercise. It is very far from
 true that the internal politics of
 Australia have hitherto been
 unaffected by its connection
 with England. But apart
 from the exercise of the royal
 power of veto on Australian
 legislation, ~~the connection of the~~
~~Commonwealth of with England~~
~~must always bring a continuance~~
~~of the Commonwealth as an~~
~~integral part of the British Empire~~
~~a permanent connection of the~~
~~Commonwealth with the~~
~~British Empire must~~
~~will always~~ ~~must~~
~~beget~~ will necessarily continue
 to submit Australian politics to
 the influence of monarchical in-

stitutions and sentiments; and the observations of Mr Bryce upon republicanism betray a very common misapprehension of the distinctive merits of ~~the~~ a Republican form of government in contrast with monarchy.

The men who in Continental Europe and in England and Australia who ^{have} intelligently advocated ~~republican~~ ~~the~~ ~~principles~~ republicanism and ^{have} worked for its advancement ^{have} asserted or believed that ^{the establishment of} a republican form of government would fundamentally transform human nature and introduce perfect social and economic adjustments in any portion of the world. But they have not hesitated to assert that the political institutions of ~~a country~~ under which men live ~~incidentally influence~~

~~Should these conceptions~~
~~dictate to a majority of them~~
~~prescribe for a majority of them~~
~~their conceptions the standards~~
~~by which they measure civic~~
~~service and merit in the~~
~~cannot fail to have a formative~~
~~influence on the conceptions of a~~
~~majority of the ^{people} inevitably~~
~~prescribe the relations in~~
~~which the members of the~~
~~community shall stand to~~
~~one another, in the present and~~
~~if those ^{inevitably} prescribe in a large measure~~
~~of a community, largely ^{therefore}~~
~~thence in the majority of its~~
~~members their conceptions of the~~
~~test and standards of civic and~~
~~social status, ^{and} worth; and~~
~~if the ^{test} these test and standards~~
~~are ^{to} hereditary and ^{to} personal titles~~
~~and smaller titular distinctions are~~
~~ferred at the will of the ^{community}~~

~~his advisers in a community~~
~~where political power is~~
~~exercised in a monarch and a~~
~~hereditary and other~~
~~privileges which smaller~~
 titular distinctions ~~are~~ conferred
 at the will of the monarch or
 his advisers, they will be
~~valued only for the~~
~~honour~~ ~~carried with them~~
~~political~~ ~~social~~ ~~privileges and~~
~~precedence they will be valued~~
~~and sought for by the~~
 and strive for as the prizes of
 life ~~irrespective of the means~~
~~and methods by which they~~
~~without reference to the means~~
~~or methods without any~~
~~with perfect disregard of the~~
 without any regard to the
 means or methods by which they
 may be acquired. But in a
 community in which such
 titular distinctions are not found

~~political and social position~~
~~must depend upon real or~~
~~apparent or service to the~~
~~community and social~~
~~distinctions must be~~
~~produced by follow to arise~~
~~out of purely social or~~
~~conditions whether they are~~
~~health provided by any~~
~~compulsory and not from~~
~~compulsory political.~~

~~Any external force in the~~
~~any real or professed~~
~~and apparent service to the~~
~~community will be the~~
~~only road to political position~~
~~and power. The effect may be~~
~~obtained in a parliamentary republic~~
~~each case upon the~~
~~parliament. At a particular period~~
~~of his history by democracy, history~~
~~and of by history and other forms of~~
~~corruption if the moral standards~~
~~of a majority of the people are~~
~~low & ignorant or if their standards~~

8

~~and public morality in~~
~~a particular republic~~
~~at a particular period of its~~
~~history be lower than the standard~~
~~of political and public morality~~
~~in a particular monarchy, but~~
~~in the case of the Republic~~
~~it is a period of or in a~~
~~particular monarchy~~
~~will always be dependent~~
~~upon the stage. The public~~
~~and political morality prevalent~~
~~in a particular republic or in a~~
~~particular monarchy will~~
~~always depend upon the ideal~~
~~or standard of public conduct~~
~~accepted by the majority~~
~~acknowledged by the majority~~
~~of the community, and the standard~~
~~will be high or low in accordance~~
~~stage of moral development~~
~~to which the majority of the~~
~~community have attained.~~

9
But long after the grosser forms
of public and political morality
have disappeared from a
community

of public and political morality
~~is a low one.~~ is unfortunately
a low one. But the standard
of public and political morality
may be equally low in a particular
monarchy and will produce the
same evil results in the same
or other forms. Whatever be the
form of its government the old
saying remains true that every
community in the long run
obtains as good a government as
it deserves. But when the
standards of public and
political morality of a com-
munity are as high as those
which are followed in
Great Britain and Australia
the influence of monarchical

of respective
 the merits of monarchical ~~the~~ and
 republican forms institutions
 are to be found in ^{leaders} ~~the influences~~
~~which have exercise upon~~ the
~~ideals of individual personal qualities~~
~~which they evoke or~~
~~foster in the members of the~~
~~community distinct from~~
~~the fundamental virtues of~~
~~personal qualities which they~~
~~evoke or foster in the members~~
~~of the community leaders~~
~~exercise the fostering influences~~
 which they exert upon the
 members of the community in
 evoking or fostering in them
 particular personal qualities
~~distinct~~ which ~~increase or~~
~~diminish~~