Coleridge’s Schematic Concept of English Society


The Nation (Enclesia, “called into the world”) ———— The Christian Church (Ecclesia, “called out of the world”)
...survives even when the Nation withers

The Crown

The State (assets called “propriety”) ———— The National Church (assets called “nationalty”)

1st Estate

Force of Permanence
Fixed Property, the Land
Center in the Country
Values Tradition

2nd Estate

Force of Progression
Liquid Property, Money
Center in the City
Values Progression, Technology

3rd Estate

Force of “Civilization” (Cultivation)
Operates within the economy of the State
Not identical with Established Church
Values “harmony of the whole”

“Clerisy”

Pastors (clergy), Schoolteachers, learned men, poets, artists, philosophers, scholars, etc.

Lords

Minor Barons

Burgesses

Aristocracy (hereditary)
Yeomen, Franklins (agricultural class)
Commercial, Tradesmen
1. Mercantile
2. Manufacturing
3. Distributive
4. Professional...(shared interest).................

House of Lords

House of Commons

Forces of Civilization

“a Nation can never be a too-cultivated, but may easily become an over-civilized race” --Coleridge

...of Cultivation