

ferent. I propose to determine the probability of the causes of events, a question which has not been given due consideration before, but which deserves even more to be studied, for it is principally from this point of view that the science of chances can be useful in civil life.

Translated from the original French by S. M. Stigler, University of Chicago. Originally published as "Mémoire sur la probabilité des causes par les évènements," par M. de la Place, Professeur à l'École royal Militaire, in *Mémoires de Mathématique et de Physique, Présentés à l'Académie Royale des Sciences, par divers Savans & lus dans ses Assemblées, Tome Sixième* (1774) 621-656. Reprinted in Laplace's *Oeuvres complètes* 8 27-65.