

government of a country, and have attempted to dispose of human happiness, according to their own doctrines and wishes, is that of *France*, since the beginning of the revolution. If we consider this government as established over a nation educated for ages to the belief and obedience of many doctrines of Christianity, and retaining, as to a great majority of the people, the habits formed by that education, the state of that nation will evince, beyond a question, that all which I have said is true without exaggeration. *France*, during this period, has been a theatre of crimes, which, after all preceding preparations, have excited in the mind of every spectator amazement and horror. The miseries suffered by that single nation have changed all the histories of the preceding sufferings of mankind into idle tales, and have been enhanced and multiplied without a precedent, without number, and without a name. The kingdom appeared to be changed into one great prison; the inhabitants converted into felons: and the common doom of man commuted for the violence of the sword and of the bayonet, the sucking-boat and the guillotine. To contemplative men, it seemed, for a season, as if the knell of the whole nation was tolled, and the world summoned to its execution and its funeral. Within the short time of ten years, not less than three millions of human beings are supposed to have perished in that single country, by the influence of atheism. Were the world to adopt, and be governed, by the doctrines of *France*, what crimes would not mankind perpetrate? what agonies would they not suffer?

“The whole of the atheist’s creed, with respect to the future world, is comprised in the following summary: that his body began by chance or necessity, is continued without design, and perishes