

onets. In that state of things, I could not but perceive the everlasting seeds of civil commotions and disturbances which threatened at every instant to see the renewal of those proscriptions that have disgraced the famous Republic of Rome, and which are in themselves, sufficient to instil in the breast of every lover of order, a strong prejudice against a form of Government, in which the mass of the people has too great a share. On the other hand, the security, the peace, and the liberty I had enjoyed, in common with the rest of my then fellow subjects, under the absolute sway of the Great Frederic of Prussia, were powerful motives to persuade me that absolute power was neither Despotism nor tyranny when in the hand of one single man not absolutely destitute of human feelings, and was on the contrary, conducive to the individual, as well as general welfare of his Country, when swayed by a Sovereign like him. In France I found again, a country, in which all the powers were re-united in a single man, and nevertheless, the mass of the people was far from being deserving of pity. That there existed abuses, that in some instances power was made subservient to the gratification of private purposes, cannot be denied: but that this was carried to that excess, justificative of the horrors of a revolution, is what no man whose mind is not totally surrounded by the thick mist of prejudice, or who never having had the opportunity of seeing and observing by himself, has adopted as indubitable truths, all and every absurd canting, and heart rending tale of modern philanthropy can maintain, a Nation composed of beings whose daily labour was constantly enlivened by songs, and whose resting moments were spent in dancing, can on no account be said to have felt very grievously the weight of that yoke, represented as so unsufferably oppressive. I repeat it, abuses existed, but they were of such a nature as to be easily remedied and removed. More of this in another place.

My mind was therefore powerfully biased in favor of monarchy; and assuredly, I would have strenuously supported that kind of Monarchy, the good effects whereof I had witnessed in England. But how far the British Constitution, such as it was, could be at once adopted, without modification, and successfully transplanted in a soil, without considering its fitness to admit such an exotic