

reflects on what was acted in the Campus Martius of Rome, from the murder of the Gracchi to the establishment of the sovereignty in the person of Augustus Cæsar, it will diminish his attachment to that form of government where every man acts as legislator. But if any one wishes to see the glaring imperfections of this form of government, let him read in Polybius the revolt of the Carthaginian mercenaries, after the first Punic war, when every soldier became his own legislator, till they were at last reduced to seek relief by submitting themselves to the arbitrary command of such wretches as Spendius and Matho.

The imperfections of this government are so numerous, that it has no where long subsisted, but has become the prey of some artful and ambitious demagogue. If these forms are so very necessary to the welfare of mankind that it is even justifiable to commence a civil war to establish them, it is somewhat surprizing there never has been any considerable establishment of them. The pious will not adopt such an opinion, as it seems derogatory to the wisdom of Providence; the naturalist well observes, that all animals, and even inanimate machines, are