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for a change in the form of Government, did they proceed to make a revolution, and to elect a King? No, the scripture on the contrary informs us that they came to *Samuel*, and requested *him*, as the prophet of God, to *make them a King, or to give them a King* to judge them. So little does the scripture suppose that they had a free right to *alter the form of their Government* of their own accord, that even their *wish to alter it*, through the intervention of the prophet, was highly displeasing to God, and was considered as an act of rebellion against him \*. God however at last consents to their request; and directs the prophet to appoint a Sovereign. “And the Lord said to *Samuel*, hearken unto their voice, and *make them a King.*” In consequence God sends *Saul* to the prophet, and directs him to anoint *Saul* to be King over his people *Israel*. Then *Samuel* took a vial of oil, and poured it upon his head, and kissed him, and said, is it not because the Lord hath anointed thee to be captain over his inheritance? whether he manifested this his appointment to the people by lots, or any other manner is immaterial. That God appointed him of his own free choice is very clear, for when *Saul* appeared, “*Samuel* said to all the people, see ye him whom the Lord, (not the people) hath chosen, and all the people shouted and said, God save the King.”

Some of the people indeed, as Mr. *Burke* says, “expressed their dissent,” but the scrip-

\* Hof. ch. 10. v. xi. 1 Sam. ch. 12. v. xvi.—xvii.

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