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power in controlling the will of the people. Every deliberation in matters of state was held in popular assemblies, wherein the influence of such orators as Demosthenes, Eschines, Themistocles and Cimon very often carried the day, and even so at times when their own personal objects were in direct conflict with the interest of the nation. The result of such a system was that the Republic was in perpetual quarrels with its neighbours and when called upon to defend its territory, it became an easy pray to the invader. Rome exhibited more unity of purpose and greater strength in action, but its government was almost exclusively in the hands of a privileged class which was distinct from the rest of the people and formed a real aristocracy. Its Senate which was its only deliberative body was composed exclusively of that class. The mass of the people had but the negative power of Veto which lost its authority when opposed by the more potent influence of the Patriciens.

The world owes to the genius of the founders of the American Republic to have framed a system of government based upon the sovereignty of the people and in which the people is called upon to take their share in the government by