

force, the idea must have been suppressed as soon as it arose.

The design of civil societies is the safety of mankind. Disunited among themselves, they found it not in a state of nature. The weak became a prey to the strong, and the man of strength generally found one yet more powerful. Hence arose the necessity of civil society, which is nothing more than a *confederacy of many individuals, for their mutual defence.*

The design of this confederacy was not confined to defence against the lawless among themselves; it had another object equally important. Men were obliged, from local circumstances, to form different societies. And here again the weaker became liable to the ambition and conquest of the more powerful. Hence a competition for power and strength took place, as the *only means of their security.*

Reason taught them wherein this strength consisted. They saw that two men were stronger