

without very great danger to himself. Whosoever therefore considers the different constitution of these two States, will perceive that it would be a difficult matter to conquer Turkey, but a very easy one to keep possession of it when conquered. The difficulties in conquering it, would consist in this: that the Invader could not possibly be called in by the Grandees of that Empire, nor hope for any revolt amongst the Ministers to facilitate his enterprize, from the causes already assigned. For as the principal Officers of State are Slaves and creatures of the Prince's own hands, they could not easily be corrupted: and supposing that possible, but little advantage could be expected from it, as they could not draw any considerable party after them, for the reasons above mentioned. So that if any one should take it into his head to invade the Turks, he may almost certainly depend upon finding them united, and must trust rather to his own valour and forces, than any disaffection or rebellion amongst that people. But if he should be fortunate enough to conquer them and disperse their armies in such a manner that they could not face him again in the field, the main difficulty would then be surmounted, and no obstacle left in his way to the secure possession of his conquests, but the family of the Emperor, which must be extinguished; after which, there is nothing further to be apprehended, since no one else will have interest enough amongst the people to give him any disturbance: and as the Invader could have no hopes from them before they were conquered, so he will have nothing to fear from them afterwards.

But the case is very different with regard to Kingdoms that are built upon the same model with France: for in such, it is an easy matter to get footing by the assistance of the Barons; as some of them will always be discontented or disaffected under such Governments, and consequently desirous of a change. These I say will open him a way into such States and facilitate the conquest of them, for the reasons above given: but still he will meet with many difficulties in keeping possession, and much opposition both from those that he has injured, and those that have been his friends. Nor will it be sufficient in this case to extinguish the family of the last reigning Prince; because those Barons, who are still left, will put themselves at the head of new commotions; and as he can neither satisfy nor exterminate them, it will not be long before he loses that acquisition.

Now if we consider the constitution of the Kingdom governed by Darius, we shall find it in many respects like that of the Turks: so that Alexander was under a necessity of striking home at first, to