

used to call in foreigners to their aid in the time of the Valois family, who formed themselves into a League against Henry IV, who were continually caballing in every minority; this people I say, at present spend their time in nothing but imitating new fashions, in varying their taste, in laughing one day at what they passionately admired the day before; their great affair is to inspire fickleness and inconstancy into all that depend upon them, to change their Mistresses, their houses, and diversions.

Besides, the powerful armies that are at present kept on foot, and the number of fortresses which have been built of late years in France, for ever secure the possession of that Kingdom to its Sovereigns, who now have nothing to fear either from intestine wars, or the attempts of their neighbours.

C H A P. V.

How such States or Principalities are to be governed, as lived under their own Laws before they were subdued.

WHEN States that are newly conquered have been accustomed to liberty and to live under their own Laws, there are three ways of maintaining them. The first is, to ruin them [b], the second, to reside there in person; and the third, to leave them in the enjoyment of their old Laws and privileges, upon condition that they will become tributary, and submit to be governed by a Council of State consisting of a few of their own Citizens to take care of your interest there, and to keep the people in amity and obedience [i]. For that Council being established by the Conqueror, and therefore wholly dependant upon his favour and authority, will naturally exert its utmost endeavours to support him: and those that have a mind to keep possession of a State that has been used to live in freedom, will always find it more easy to accomplish their design by putting it under the government of its own Citizens, than by any other means whatsoever. The conduct of the Spartans and Romans may serve for a proof of what I have here laid down. The former having got possession of Athens and Thebes, established an Oligarchy in those two Cities; and

[b] This is a maxim with the Turks.

[i] Artabanus, King of the Parthians, acted in this manner with regard to Seleucia; the Government of which being Democratical, he changed it into an Oligarchy, as approaching nearer to Royalty. "Qui plebem primoribus tradidit, ex suo usu. Nam populi imperium juxta libertatem, paucorum dominatio regiae libidini propior est." Tacit. Annal. vi.