

Part VI. Monarchy

[6:12] (6:12:1) The fields, and the whole soil, and, if it can be managed, the houses should be public property, that is, the property of him, who [Durant \[10a\]](#) 178 holds the right of the commonwealth: and let him let them at a yearly rent to the citizens, whether townsmen or countrymen, and with this exception let them all be free or exempt from every kind of taxation in time of peace. (6:12:2) And of this rent a part is to be applied to the defences of the state, a part to the king's private use. (6:12:3) For PAGE 320 it is necessary in time of peace to fortify cities against war, and also to have ready ships and other munitions of war.

Part VII. Of monarchy. Proof of the foundations of a monarchical dominion.

[7:19] (7:19:1) Furthermore, in the state of nature, there is nothing which any man can less claim for himself, and make his own, than the soil, and whatever so adheres to the soil, that he cannot hide it anywhere, nor carry it whither he pleases. (7:19:2) The soil, therefore, and whatever adheres to it in the way we have mentioned, must be quite common property of the commonwealth — that is, of all those who, by their united force, can vindicate their claim to it, or of him to whom all have given authority to vindicate his claim. (7:19:3) And therefore the soil, and all that adheres to it, ought to have a value with the citizens proportionate to the necessity there is, that they may be able to set their feet thereon, and defend their common right or liberty. (7:19:4) But in the [eighth](#) section of this chapter we have shown the advantages that the commonwealth must necessarily derive hence. [Bk.XIB:188](#).

Part VIII. Of Aristocracy.

(8:9:15) For since the subjects are excluded from giving their advice or votes, they are to be reckoned as foreigners, and are, therefore, to be hired for service on no worse terms than foreigners. (8:9:16) And there is

in this case no danger of their being distinguished above the rest by the [patricians](#): nay, further, to avoid the partial judgment which everyone is apt to form of his own exploits, it is wiser for the patricians to assign a fixed payment to the soldiers for their service.

[8:10] (8:10:1) Furthermore, for this same reason, that all but the patricians are foreigners, it cannot be without danger to the whole dominion, that the lands and houses and the whole soil should remain public property, and be let to the inhabitants at a yearly rent. (8:10:2) For the subjects having no part in the dominion would easily, in bad times, all forsake their cities, if they could carry where they pleased what goods they possess. (8:10:3) And, therefore, lands and farms are not to be let, but sold to the subjects, yet on condition that they pay every year an aliquot part of the year's produce, etc., as is done in Holland. [Bk.XIB:163](#)⁵⁰.

Part IX

[9:8] (9:8:1) No taxes are to be imposed by the senate on the subjects; but to meet the expenditure, which by decree of the senate is necessary to carry on public business, not the subjects, but the cities themselves are to be called to assessment by the senate, so that every city, in proportion to its size, should pay a larger or smaller share of the expense. (9:8:2) And this share indeed is to be exacted by the patricians of every city from their own citizens in what way they please, either by compelling them to an assessment, or, as is much fairer, by imposing taxes on them.