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X.5 Gelon, king of Syracuse

- The Spirit of Law - Book X. On the laws in their relation to offensive strength -

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The finest peace treaty of which history has spoken is, I believe, the one that Gelon made with the Carthaginians. He insisted they abolish the custom of sacrificing their children. [1] How extraordinary ! After defeating three hundred thousand Carthaginians, he imposed a condition that was useful only to them, or rather he was negotiating for the human race.

[1] See the collection by M. [Jean] de Barbeyrac, [art. 113](#).