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XXIV.25 The drawback of transporting a religion from one country to another

- The Spirit of Law - Book XXIV. On laws in their relation with religion, considered in its doctrines and in itself -

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It follows from this that there are very often many drawbacks to transporting a religion from one country into another.

"The pig," says Mr. de Boulainvilliers, "must be very rare in Arabia, where there are hardly any woods, [1] and almost nothing fit for these animals to eat ; moreover, the saltiness of the water and food makes people very susceptible to skin diseases." [2] This local law could not be good for other countries [3] where the hog is an almost universal food, and in a sense necessary.

I will offer a reflection here. Santorio has observed that there is little transpiration of the hog flesh we eat, [4] and that this food even largely prevents the transpiration of other foods ; he has found that the reduction came to one-third. [5] We know, moreover, that the lack of transpiration causes or irritates skin diseases ; consumption of the pig must therefore be forbidden in climates where people are subject to these diseases, as in the climates of Palestine, Arabia, Egypt and Libya.

[1] [It was a common practice in Europe to let hogs run in the forests, where they could live on acorns.]

[2] *Life of Mohammed.*

[3] *De medicina statica aphorismi*, Sect. 3, aphorism 22.

[4] *De medicina statica aphorismi*, Sect. 3, aphorism 22.

[5] Sect. 3, aphorism 23.