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XI.10 The manner of thinking of the other political thinkers

- The Spirit of Law - Book XI. On the laws that constitute political freedom in their relation to the constitution -

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To temper the government of one man alone, Arribas, [1] king of Epirus, imagined only a republic. The Molossians, not knowing how to limit the same power, made two kings [2] : they thereby weakened the state more than the command : they wanted rivals and they had enemies.

Two kings were tolerable only in Lacedæmon ; it was not they who shaped the constitution, but they were a part of the constitution.

[1] Aristotle, *Politics*, book V, ch. ix.

[2] Aristotle, *Politics*, book III, ch. xiv.