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V.13 A notion of despotism

- The Spirit of Law - Book V. That the laws made by the legislator must be relative to the principle of the government -

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When the savages of Louisiana want some fruit, they cut down the tree at the base and gather the fruit. [\[1\]](#) That is how a despotic government works.

[\[1\]](#) *Lettres édifiantes et curieuses*, 11th volume, p. 315.