

actually introduce a state of war, which is that of force without authority. And thus, by removing the legislative established by the society (in whose decisions the people acquiesced and united, as to that of their own will), they untie the knot and expose the people anew to the state of war. And if those who by force take away the legislative are rebels, the legislators themselves, as has been shown, can be no less esteemed²⁰ so—when they, who were set up for the protection and preservation of the people, their liberties and properties, shall by force invade and endeavor to take them away.

²⁰esteemed: considered. [D. C. ABEL]