

me, and, seeking in nowise whatever, to escape the punishment incurred by my culpability, without uttering the least murmur nor even claiming the benefit of extenuating circumstances, I personally condemn myself. . . . to be stoned. Still, repentent, humiliated, the instinct of conservation, and the hope of perhaps escaping the fate which threatens me, induce me to entrust my safety in the following humble prayer: Let the surgeon cast the first stone who does not carry around with him a little cemetery in some corner of his memory.

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