

be changed into profound respect for what preachers have done in developing, defending and sanctifying the free political institutions that are the boast of our Christian lands. Not too much, but too little, has the Protestant pulpit been used of late for the declaration of those principles of righteousness and liberty without which a nation can neither be exalted nor free.

Protestant ministers do not desire to be Popes in politics. They do not desire, like the ecclesiastics of Rome, control in political affairs. Nor do they consider it in accord with their sacred duty to play the part of the vociferous demagogue. But as a class of citizens, thoughtful, educated, imbued with the spirit of Gospel liberty, as men of high moral inspiration and purpose, as patriots, philanthropists, as responsible moral leaders in the community it is their right and their duty to speak out calmly, yet fearlessly concerning every question that affects the rights, the liberties, the virtue and the happiness of the community in which God has cast their lot.

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