

Religion from the public life of the community by seeking to introduce a double conscience, or a double standard of right and wrong,—one for private and the other for public life. With St. Paul we say to you: "Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners." (I Cor. XI—33). There is but one God, one conscience, one standard of morality for actions public and private, whether as regards individuals, or a whole community. If the aiders and abettors of one who commits a private act of injustice are equally guilty with him, and held in common to restitution, so, too, the aiders and abettors of a public act of injustice, even if it be done by a Parliamentary Statute, participate in the guilt of the principal, and are held with him to make reparation.\* "Be not deceived:" to judge of the morality of public acts belongs to the authority established by God to preach and interpret His word. Political expediency, party needs, and private gain, are not the tests by which the justice of an action is to be determined. The immutable principles of natural right, and divine law, are the touchstones by which all action is to be tried. "Evil communications corrupt good manners;" hence it is to be feared that a constant and intimate intercourse with persons imbued with false principles, a frequent reading of papers or magazines in which these false principles are upheld, have obscured in the minds of some well meaning persons the Catholic truths we have set forth, and misled their judgment

*"Be not-deceived": we may not always be able to prevent public, or private injustice, but we can & should always rebuke, expose and condemn it.*