

to enrich ourselves by honest and lawful means ; if it condemns luxury and extravagance, it approves of those expenses which our condition in life requires. The law is perfect in itself, by the perfection with which it regulates every state, and corrects every disorder.

II. *There is nothing imperfect in its moderation.*

If it distinguishes precepts from counsels, it declares that the contempt of counsels leads to the transgression of precepts ; if it inspires sinners with a salutary confidence to preserve them from despair, it shows them sufficient motives to forbid presumption ; it disapproves of an excess of exterior mortification, it places no limits to that of the passions.