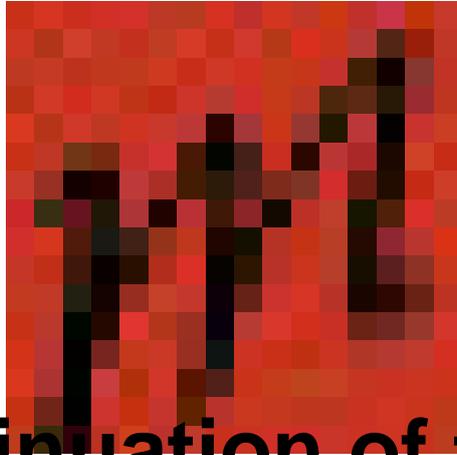


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# X.8 Continuation of the same subject

- The Spirit of Law - Book X. On the laws in their relation to offensive strength -

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## X.8 Continuation of the same subject

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Thus, when a republic holds some people in its dependency, it must seek to compensate for the disadvantages that arise from the nature of the thing by giving them a good political law and good civil laws.

An Italian republic was keeping islanders in its obeisance, but its political and civil law with respect to them was flawed. We remember the act of amnesty [\[1\]](#) that prescribes that they would no longer be sentenced to corporal punishments *ex informata conscientia* of the governor. We have often seen peoples ask for privileges ; here the sovereign grants the law of all nations.

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[\[1\]](#) Of 18 October 1738, printed in Genoa by Franchelli. *Vietiamo al nostro General Governatore in detta Isola di condanare in avvenire solamente ex informata conscientia persona alcuna nazionale in pena afflittiva : potra ben si far arrestare ed incarcerare le persone che gli saranno sospette ; salvo di renderne poi à noi conto sollicitamente*, att. VI. ['We henceforth forbid our governor-general of this island to condemn to bodily punishment any person of our nation unless it be *ex informata conscientia* : however, he may arrest and imprison those he finds suspect, provided that he make a prompt account of it to us.'] See also *Gazette d'Amsterdam*, 23 December 1738.