

abuses are inherent in the constitution, it may be imagined, that to rectify them would be to destroy the constitution itself. But were I to dictate new laws in a remote corner of the universe, the good of posterity, ever present to my mind, would hold back my trembling hand, and prevent me from authorizing *secret accusations*.

PUBLIC accusations, says *Montesquieu*, are more conformable to the nature of a republic, where zeal for the public good is the principal passion of a citizen, than of a monarchy, in which, as this sentiment is very feeble, from the nature of the government, the best establishment is that of *commissioners*, who, in the name of the public, accuse the infractors of the laws. But in all governments, as well in a republic as in a monarchy, the punishment, due to the crime of which one ^{falsely} accuses another, ought to be inflicted on the informer.

Montesquieu at the word, "falsely" has inserted here?