

The arguments against my poem  
are of three kinds - the  
aesthetic, the moral and the  
intellectual or scientific. The  
aesthetic argument is that my  
poem is an (aesthetically) bad  
poem because (or partially  
because) it is an immoral poem.  
The moral argument is that it  
is a poem /morally bad poem\ which is  
absolutely dangerous and  
pernicious because conducive to  
influencing to unnatural vice.  
The scientific or intellectual  
argument is that it is an  
intellectually bad poem because  
it is based upon a sentiment  
which is unhealthy and corrupt.  
I purpose to demonstrate that  
if my poem be a bad one it is  
for aesthetic, not for moral  
reasons; to do it, I shall have  
to take up from a new stand  
point the old problem of the  
relation of art to morals.

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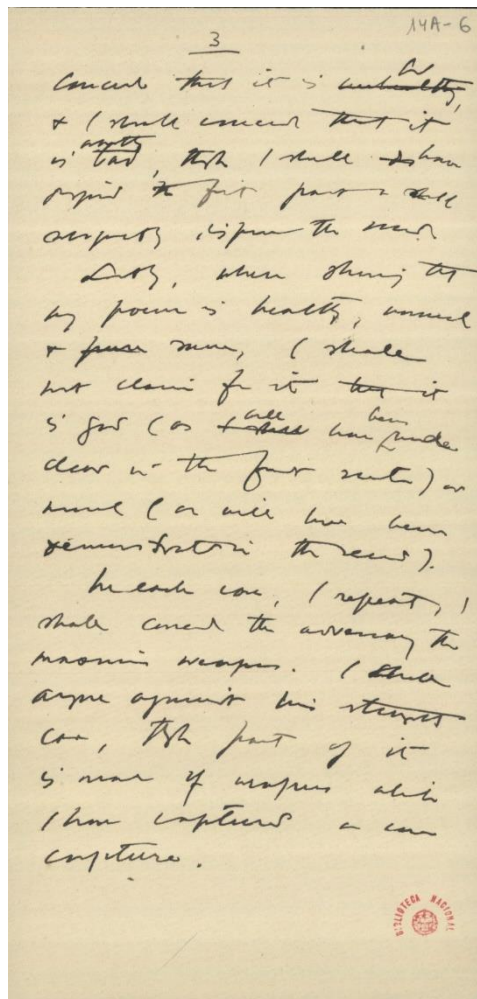
In the discussion <sup>of each</sup> of the three arguments I shall take up the attitude which places me at the greatest disadvantage, thus defending myself against the maximum attack.

Thus, ~~in the first argument,~~ when ~~demon~~ though I shall demonstrate that my poem is not immoral & that my poem is not unhealthy, I shall (when discussing ~~wholly~~ it from the aesthetic standpoint or inquiring whether its moral side interests its aesthetic one) concede to the adversary that the poem is immoral and that the poem is unhealthy. I shall subsequently show that it is not immoral and that it is not unhealthy. But I shall not use that advantage here.

Similarly, when refuting the thesis that my poem is pernicious reading, I shall

In the discussion of each of the three arguments I shall take up the attitude which places me at the greatest disadvantage, thus defending myself against the maximum attack.

Thus, ~~in the first argument,~~ when ~~demon~~ though I shall demonstrate that my poem is not immoral and that my poem is not unhealthy, I shall (when discussing ~~wholly~~ it from the aesthetic standpoint or inquiring whether its moral side interests its aesthetic one) concede to the adversary that the poem is immoral and that the poem is unhealthy. I shall subsequently show that it is not immoral and that it is not unhealthy. But I shall not use that advantage here. Similarly, when refuting the thesis that my poem is pernicious reading, I shall



concede that it is ~~unhealthy~~  
 bad, and I shall concede that  
 it is ~~bad~~ unhealthy, though I  
 shall ~~dis~~ have disproved the  
 first part and shall  
 subsequently disprove the  
 second.

Lastly, when showing that  
 my poem is healthy, normal and  
 pure sane, I shall not claim  
 for it that it is good (as ~~it~~  
~~shall~~ will have been made clear  
 in the first section) or moral  
 (as will have been demonstrated  
 in the second).

In each case, I repeat, I  
 shall concede the adversary the  
 maximum weapons. I shall argue  
 against his strongest case,  
 though part of it is made of  
 weapons which I have captured  
 or can capture.

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## DIREITOS ASSOCIADOS

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