

unable to give any satisfactory answer; and you accordingly went to consult Major C. on the subject. It is not necessary to state all that passed before you went away; but I feel confident that you will recollect that we agreed as to the propriety of there being some precise, and definite cause of offence, before one Gentleman could call upon another to give him the satisfaction usually required in such cases. There was also mention made by you of Major Coffin's having adverted to Capt. Piper having on some former occasion displeased him; and on this point we joined in thinking that it should be discarded from our consideration. Upon your return from Major Coffin you told me, that he would be perfectly satisfied if Captain Piper would declare upon his honor that on the night in question he had made use of no disrespectful expressions regarding Major Coffin's conduct. My answer was, "that Captain Piper had placed his cause in my hands, and that I would not allow him to make any such acknowledgment, as I did not conceive that Major Coffin was authorized to make such a demand upon a bare surmise of his own, because Captain Piper had joined in a conversation respecting certain apples." You then returned to Major Coffin, and when we again met, you said, that as Capt. Piper would not comply with Major C.'s request he would be expect-