

## A TESTIMONY AGAINST DUELLING.

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*"Thou shalt not kill."*—Exodus xx. 13.

It is one of the great duties of the Church to testify, in the name, and on the behalf of God, against sin. And the faithful performance of this duty is a necessary means of vindicating the honour of the Divine Government, and preserving and promoting the moral interests of mankind; yet it seldom fails to bring upon the Church the resentment of those whose conduct she arraigns. But this ought not to deter her from the duty. For, if she fails, either through fear, or any other cause, to lift up her voice, and testify against prevailing wickedness; or if she utters only *an uncertain sound*, which those who practise that wickedness may neutralise by an interpretation of their own, she involves herself in the consequences of those sins which she has been too timid to rebuke. Christ said to his disciples, "*The world cannot hate you, but me it hateth, because I testify of it, that the works thereof are evil;*" and the Church which he hath purchased ought to follow in the same path, though it should lead to the same consequences.