



MORAL COURAGE.

MORAL courage is not the order of the present time, although much admired. Very few step aside from Fashion to follow the dictates of conscience, and fewer still will take the responsibility of advocating principles that are not popular with a certain class. Too much of the shrinking, shuffling system is practised, and the individual who maintains his position and preserves a straight forward course, as his sense of duty points out may expect to be a target for the shafts of Calumny, Jealousy, and Envy, just in proportion to the amount of intelligence Nature has endowed him with. But fortunately they never accomplish the end designed, but fall, as it were, harmless at the feet of the intended victim. If more care was taken to maintain the truth and put down error, society would be the gainer. If *friends* would endorse any statement they see fit to make (regardless of consequences), either from hearsay or otherwise, and not leave the subject like an anonymous communication, with "*I heard so ;*" but have the moral courage to speak only what they *know to be true*, we would then begin to think that the millennium of a high reform was ushered in. And we would all have great reason to be thankful for it.

A. J. R.

Dundas, June 3rd. 1869.

