

Europeans and their descendants, for we are not aware that it has been adopted by any other race ; and it is, therefore, worthy of being remembered, that though it has undergone various changes, corresponding with the changes which the growth of civilisation has superinduced on society and its institutions, it is, nevertheless, *a relic of barbarism*. Though it is now regarded as an accomplishment, by a certain class of society ; and even held to be a necessary attribute of a *gentleman*, yet in truth it is a savage remnant of the times of ignorance and feudal barbarity ; and we would hope therefore, that, like every other thing of the same nature, it is doomed to be driven back, by the progress of society, to the place whence it came.

Let us briefly consider this custom, with the view of ascertaining its merits or demerits, morally considered. And, for this purpose, the only standard to which we can appeal is the word of God. The law which it contains is paramount. It points out the boundary between right and wrong, and from its decision there lies no appeal. Upon the authority of this law, I maintain that duelling involves the guilt of murder ; and not only so, but that there are many circumstances attending it, which prove it to be murder of the most aggravated kind.

I. It is maintained that duelling involves the guilt of *murder* ; and though, in any given case, neither of the parties engaged in a duel should lose his life, yet both are chargeable with the *murderous design* of compassing one another's death.