

send a challenge for that purpose, or be aider or abettor in fighting a duel, shall be deprived of the right of holding any office of honor or profit in this State, and shall be punished otherwise in such manner as is, or may be prescribed by law; but the executive may remit the said offence and all its disqualifications."

In Yergey's Reports, vol. 1, p. 233, the following decision is found, and the opinion of the court was given by judge Catron, now of the Supreme Court of the United States. A lawyer had been stricken from the rolls of court, for the offence of accepting a challenge, which resulted in the death of his opponent; from which judgment, he appealed to the Supreme Court. "It is true, as a part of the history of our species, that many men of strong minds have equally strong passions, which are ill-controlled and subject such men to grosser errors than others with fewer mental advantages; these are the men of worth that fight duels, having no guide but blind and reckless passion when aroused, regardless of their own lives or those of others; hence their conduct furnishes the worst possible evidence upon which to ground a rule for the government of society. This class of duellists are not less wicked than others we will name, but their standing renders it more difficult to punish them.

Another set of men fight duels, (or more generally make a show towards it,) to gratify their vanity, by drawing upon themselves a little temporary notice, which their personal worth or good conduct cannot procure. These are always worthless coxcombs, equally destitute of bravery, virtue or sense, whose feeble nerves would be shattered and prostrated at the sight of an enemy in the field of battle, who are ridiculous in every situation where courage or conduct is required. This class of duellists do little harm other than disturb the community; they quarrel to make peace; or if officious intermeddlers force them into a fight, are too much alarmed to hit, or perhaps see their antagonist. The affair is laughed at as a farce, and the parties turned over to the constable. Many of this description challenge, because they know the party challenged will not fight, having a due regard for religion, the laws of his country, and his family,—the infamy or worthlessness of the challenger generally is such as to disgrace any decent man to notice him. These pretenders to bravery and gentlemanship, are always absolute cowards; for no man will challenge another, knowing he will not, or dare not fight, unless he be cowardly.

It be once understood that the bar of Tennessee dare not fight, and it will be deemed cowardly to challenge a member of it; and this court solemnly warns every lawyer, that if he violates the laws made to suppress, we will strike him from the rolls of court. The truth is, such men are too often insolent and impudent bullies, who tyrannize over, and impose upon all orderly men about them; who literal-