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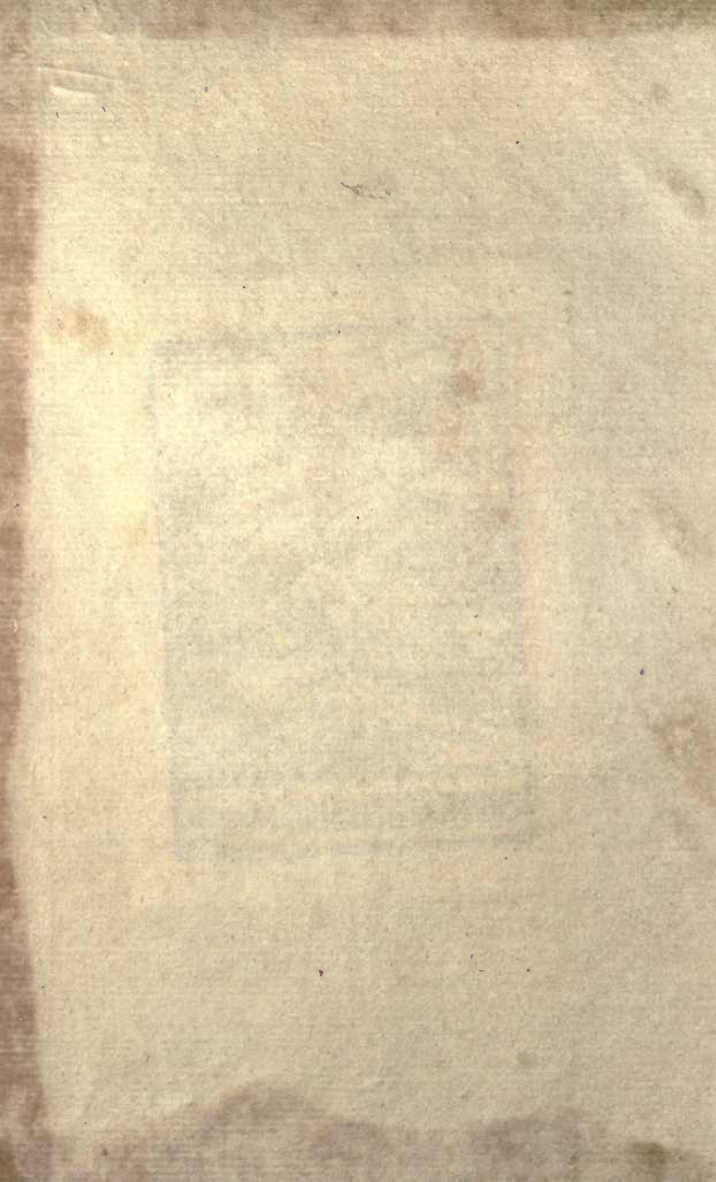
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Tren Owen Andrews
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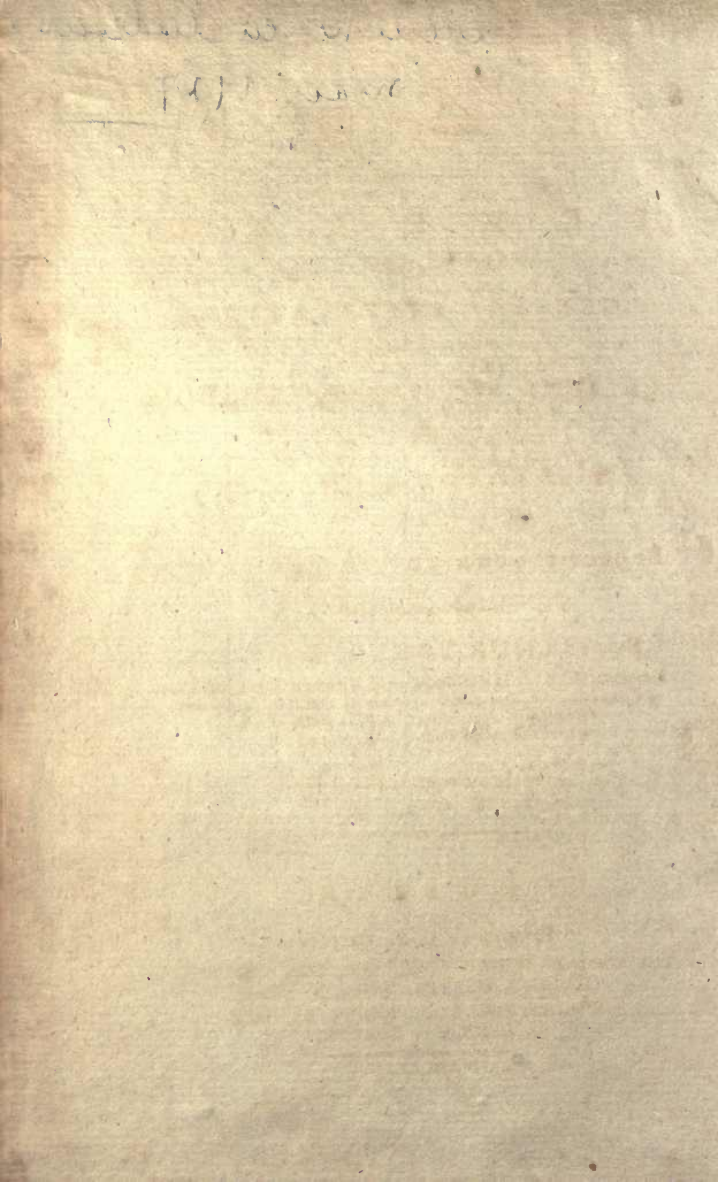
THE
GENERAL OBSERVATIONS
ON THE
PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION
OF THE
PROGRESS OF THE
DISEASE

BY ARTHUR YOUNG, Esq. M.D.

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FELLOW OF THE SOCIETY OF MEDICAL OFFICERS OF LONDON
FELLOW OF THE SOCIETY OF MEDICAL OFFICERS OF EDINBURGH

DUBLIN

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T O U R
I N
I R E L A N D:
W I T H
G E N E R A L O B S E R V A T I O N S
O N T H E
P R E S E N T S T A T E O F T H A T K I N G D O M.
M A D E I N
T H E Y E A R S 1776, 1777, and 1778,
A N D
B R O U G H T D O W N T O T H E E N D O F 1779.

By ARTHUR YOUNG, Esq; F. R. S.

Honorary Member of the Societies of DUBLIN, YORK and MAN-
CHESTER; the Oeconomical Society of BERNE; the Palatine
Academy of Agriculture, at MANHEIM, and the
Physical Society at ZURICH.

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M,DCC,LXXX.

T O U R

IN

J. A. M. D.

WITH

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

ON THE

PRESENT STATE OF THE

UNION

AND

PROSPECTS OF THE

BY MISS MARY YOUNG, F.R.S.

Author of the "Lectures on the History of the United States," &c. &c. &c.

VOL II

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A

T O U R, &c.

SEPTEMBER the 8th, left Drummoland, Sir Lucius rode with me through Clonmelly, to the hill above Bunratty Castle, for a view of the Shannon. Clonmelly is a division of Drumline parish, 900 acres of Corkass land in one lot, which is cheap, at 30s. an acre. I went into some of the pastures, which were stocked with very fine bullocks, at the rate of one to every acre. In this neighbourhood, Mr. Hickman has a close of 20 acres, which, when in his own hands, fattened him 2 cows per acre, and in winter fed him 100 wethers, to the improvement of 6s. each. The profit by the cows was 4l. and by the sheep 1l 10s. per acre: in all 5l. 5s. I had this fact from his own mouth. The richness of these corcaffes, which are flat lands on the river side, that have been gained at different times from the salt water, is very great. When in tillage, they sometimes yield extraordinary crops; 50 stat barrels an acre of bere have been known, sixteen of barley, and from 20 to 24 of oats are

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A

common

common crops. From Clonmelly Hill, the prospect is very noble. There is a view of the Shannon from Limerick to Foynes Island, which is 30 miles, with all its bays, bends, islands, and fertile shores. It is from one to three miles broad, a most noble river, deserving regal navies for its ornament, or what are better, fleets of merchantmen, the chearful signs of far extended commerce, instead of a few miserable fishing-boats, the only canvass that swelled upon the scene: but the want of commerce in her ports is the misfortune, not the fault of Ireland. Thanks for the deficiency to that illiberal spirit of trading jealousy, which has at times actuated and disgraced so many nations. The prospect has a noble outline in the bold mountains of Tipperary, Cork, Limerick, and Kerry. The whole view magnificent.

At the foot of this hill is the castle of Bunratty, a very large edifice, the seat of the O'Brien's, princes of Thomond; it stands on the bank of a river, which falls into the Shannon near it. About this castle, and that of Rosmanagher, the land is the best in the county of Clare; it is worth 1l. 13s. an acre, and fats a bullock per acre in summer, besides winter feed.

To Limerick, through a chearful country, on the banks of the river, in a vale surrounded by distant mountains. That city is very finely situated, partly on an island formed by the Shannon. The new part, called Newtown Pery,

Pery, from Mr. Pery, the speaker, who owns a considerable part of the city, and represents it in parliament, is well built. The houses are new ones, of brick, large and in right lines. There is a communication with the rest of the town by a handsome bridge of three large arches, erected at Mr. Pery's expense. Here are docks, quays, and a custom-house, which is a good building, faces the river, and on the opposite banks is a large quadrangular one, the house of industry. This part of Limerick is very chearful and agreeable, and carries all the marks of a flourishing place.

The exports of this port are beef, pork, butter, hides, and rape-seed. The imports are rum, sugar, timber, tobacco, wines, coals, bark, salt, &c. The customs and excise, about 16 years ago, amounted to 16,000l. at present 32,000l. and rather more four or five years ago.

Whole revenue	1751	—	£.16,000
	1775	—	51,000

Revenue of the port of Limerick, year ending

March 25	1759	-	-	£.20,494
	1760	-	-	29,197
	1761	-	-	20,727
	1762	-	-	20,650
	1763	-	-	20,525
	1764	-	-	32,635
	1765	-	-	31,099

Com. Jour. vol. 14. p. 71.

Account of duties paid on goods imported and exported in Limerick.

Years.	Imports.	Exports.
1764	£.19,869 15 9	£.2195 6 7
1765	21,332 4 8	1964 5 2
1766	16,729 8 2	1815 11 8
1767	16,316 10 0	2365 4 4
1768	16,571 12 8	2229 17 2
1769	20,237 12 7	1855 0 8
1770	22,138 0 4	1941 3 8
1771	20,213 12 6	2455 2 2
1772	22,003 2 0	3046 11 10
1773	20,606 15 7	2282 1 7
1774	17,317 0 9	2150 13 9
1775	16,979 10 6	2647 5 9

Salted, last year, 43,700 pigs; average $1\frac{1}{2}$ lb. Horned cattle (of which many were cows) 12,200. The number of bullocks killed here in a year amounts to 13,000; increased pretty considerably in twenty years. They have been salting pigs all summer. Pork now 29s. 3d. per cwt. was only 12s. seven years ago. The value of bullocks hides are on an average 35s. Cows 24s. per cwt. Butter exported in casks, from two to three cwt. each, now 44s. a cwt. 6 years ago only 25s. The shipping belonging to the town, 1 of 120 tons.

1	150
3	150 to 250
1	140
1	96
1	50

but

but not increased. A good deal of rape seed shipped off for Holland, and one hundred tons of rape cakes to Wells and Lynn in Norfolk, at 40s. a ton. Till this last year at 25s. a ton. Many thousand loads of dung thrown into the Shannon, both in the town and many places along the river. Within five or six years they have taken some away, but not much. Town parks let at 4l. 4s. to 5l. for ten miles every way the rent is 25s. to 30s. Much flour goes to Dublin from this county and Tipperary on the land-carriage bounty. There is a great increase of tillage: thrice the corn grown that there was formerly: There has been much pasturage broken up on this account; some bullock land, and some sheep land. Great quantities of butter made within a few miles of Limerick. Scarce any spinning here, or in the neighbourhood, either of wool or flax. The poor live upon potatoes and milk, generally speaking, with some oatmeal. They do not all keep cows; those who do not, buy, and pay 1d. for three quarts of skim milk. The rent of their cabbins and one-fourth of an acre 15s. to 20s. build them themselves. They are in a better situation in most respects than twenty years ago. Pigs are much increased, chiefly or entirely bred by the cottars, and the high price has been of prodigious consequence to them. They are much better clad than they were. Date their increase of this from the open cattle trade to England. Population has much increased within twenty years, and the city also, but was more populous six years ago than

than at present. Emigrations were known from hence; two ships went commonly till the war. Between 1740 and 1750, there were only four carriages in and about Limerick, the Bishop's, the Dean's, and one other Clergyman's, and one neighbouring Gentleman's. Four years ago there were above seventy coaches and post-chaises in Limerick, and one mile round it. In Limerick district, now 183 four wheeled carriages; 115 two wheeled ditto.

Price of Provisions.

Wheat, 1s. 1d. a stone.	Wild ducks, 20d. to 2s. a couple
Barley and oats, 5d $\frac{1}{4}$. to 6d.	Plover, 6d. a couple.
Scotch coals, 18s. Whitehaven, 20s.	Widgeon, 10d. ditto.
A boat load of turf, 20 tons, 45s.	Hares, 1s. each, commonly sold all the year round
Salmon, three halfpence	Woodcocks, 20d. to 2s. 2d. a brace
Trout, 2d. very fine, per lb.	Oysters, 4d. to 1s. a 100
Eels, 2d. a pound	Lobsters, 1s. to 1s. 6d. if good.
Rabbits, 8d. a pound	
Teal, 10d. a couple.	

Land sells at twenty years purchase. Rents were at the highest in 1765, fell since, but in four years have fallen 8s. to 10s. an acre about Limerick. They are at a stand at present, owing to the high price of provisions from pasture. The number of people in Limerick, are computed at 32,000, it is exceeding populous for the size; the chief street quite crowded; many sedan chairs in town, and some hackney chaises. Assemblies the year round,

in a new assembly-house, built for the purpose; and plays and concerts common.

Upon the whole, Limerick must be a very gay place, but when the usual number of troops are in town, much more so. To shew the general expenses of living, I was told of a person's keeping a carriage, four horses, three men, three maids, a good table, a wife, three children, and a nurse, and all for 500 l. a year.

	l.	s.	d.	to	l.	s.	d.
A footman, — —	4	4	0	to	6	6	0
A professed woman cook —					6	6	0
A house-maid — — —					3	0	0
A kitchen maid — —					2	0	0
A butler — —	10	0	0	to	12	0	0

A barrel of beef or pork, 200 lb. weight. Vessels of 400 tons can come up with spring tides, which rise 14 feet.

September 9th, to Castle Oliver; various country, not so rich to appearance as the corcaffes, being fed bare: much hilly sheep-walk, and for a considerable way, a full third of it potatoes and corn: no sign of depopulation. Just before I got to the hills, a field of ragwort (*senesio jacobaea*) buried the cows. The first view of Castle Oliver interesting. After rising a mountain so high that no one could think of any house, you come in view of a vale, quite filled with fine woods, fields margined with trees, and hedge plantations climbing

ing up the mountains. Having engaged myself to Mr. Oliver, to return from Killarney by his house, as he was confined to Limerick by the affizes, I shall omit saying any thing of it at present.

September 10th, reached Annsgrove, the seat of Richard Aldworth, Esq; to whom I am obliged for the following particulars. Farms about Annsgrove, in the parish of Castle Town Roche, rise from 50 acres to 200, a few smaller. It abounds exceedingly with land jobbers, who have hired large tracts, and re-let them to tenants, and those to under ones, but gentlemen are getting out of this system now. No graziers here; the rents are made by tillage and sheep, and a few dairies; the soil is all lime-stone, much fine hazel loam, from 4 to 18 inches deep. A hill runs through this country, which is wet woodcock clay. It lets in general from 7s. to 22s. plantation acre, average 15s. The barony of Orrery in this county (Cork) is as rich as Limerick; lets from 25s. to 35s. an acre. The next in Fermoy 13s. Duhallow has much mountains and unimproved; vast tracts of it heath, but rears at present great numbers of young cattle, and many dairies, average rent 7s. Condons and Clangibon 15s. Imokilly, a very fine corn country. Barrymore, rough, 7s. Barrets mountains, with bog, 4s. Musherry, rough and uncultivated, 4s. Kinalea yields more corn than any of them; lets at 14s. the English acre. The baronies of Kerrycurihy and Courcy's upon the coast are all high let, from situation,

10s. the

10s the English acre. In Carbery, there are great quantities of wild country, and much uncultivated; provisions are extravagantly cheap, from want of communications. The whole county, upon an average, 7s. The course of crops about Annsgrove:

1. Potatoes, 2. Wheat. 3. Oats. 4. Oats,
5. Oats. 6. Oats. 7. Leave it for three years.

1. Potatoes. 2. Bere. 3. Oats. 4. Oats,
5. Oats. 6. Oats. 7. Leave it for three or four years.

Flax sown in patches upon lay, and sometimes after potatoes. Potatoes they plant in a most slovenly manner, leaving the small ones in the ground of the first crop, in order to be seed for the second, by which means they are not sliced: sometimes a sharp frost catches them, and destroys all these roots. They plant many on grass without dung, on the rich land, and pay 25s. to 50s. an acre for liberty to do it. Of wheat they sow 20 stone per acre, and get on an average 7 barrels. They seldom sow it till February; they think the first dark nights in that month the best seed time in the year. But it is in fact owing to their taking their potatoes up so late, which they do not begin till near Christmas. Some, however, are earlier, and get their wheat in in November and December. They sow, of oats, a kilderkin, or 4 bushels of 32 gallons. Neither pease, beans, nor rape in the country, but turnips and clover are creeping in among gentlemen.

men. Flax is sown by every body for their own use, which they spin, and get woven into linen for themselves, and what they have to spare, sell in yarn. There are very few of these weavers.

Lime is the great manure; they lay 100 common barrels to the acre, lasts seven or eight good crops, and leaves the ground the better for it; but their principle is to exhaust as fast as possible in consequence of liming. It costs them 8d. a barrel roach. Burn with culm from the coal pits in the barony of Duhallow. This coal is only used for drying malt, smiths forges, &c. but not for common fuel. They have also a very rich manure, which is rotten lime-stone, as they call it. It is a rock, and rises very hard, like a lime-stone quarry, but when exposed to the air, falls into sand; it has a strong fermentation with acids, and gives great crops: they do not, however, carry it above a mile and half. Paring and burning they are very fond of for potatoes, and sometimes for bere, but the landlords prevent the practice. They get very great crops by it, and do it to chuse on waste lands; pare with an instrument they call a *graffane*, and the husbandry they call *graffaning* and burning. It is a very strong hoe with which they cut up the turf, rolling it up with their foot as they do it, and leaving it to dry in order to burn. They do it in March or April for their potatoe planting; and though it makes them very late, yet the crops never fail. Soot is thrown away, and
in

in general malt dust, as they do not screen their malt. The fences of common farmers are making banks, and sowing furze seed. Grass lands are applied to feeding sheep and cows. Their sheep system is that of breeding. They keep their lambs till they are two year old wethers, and then sell them to those who fatten near the coast. These they sell at 11s. to 18s. each; and they cull some ewes every year, which the butchers buy at 14s. or 15s. They shear generally on an average 4lb. wool, which sells 13s. to 19s. 6d a stone, at which amazing price some was sold this year. The cottars have all sheep, which they milk for their families. The poor people reckon their cattle by *collops*, that is proportions. The heaviest collop is six sheep, the next is a horse, the next two heifers, and lastly the cow. Flocks rise to 500 sheep; no folding. Dairies are considerable. They rise from 20 to 50 cows, are employed in making butter only; in some parts of the county they make very good cheese. An acre and a quarter maintains a cow in summer and winter grass and hay. The farmer generally lets them out to dairymen, at 2l. a cow, and a guinea for horn money; the 40s. is for the butter, and the guinea for the other produce, four milk, pigs, and calf. But sometimes the rent is in butter a hundred weight per cow delivered in Cork, and the guinea is in cash. The produce is not much more than this cwt. of butter; for the dairyman's profit lies principally in having the grass of a cow, an acre of ground, and a cabin and garden, and

they

they are generally very poor. They rear many pigs on account of the dairies, about a pig to every cow, and a calf to every two cows, which they feed on sour milk, giving them no new milk. They are attentive to have their cows calve in May. The tillage of the farmers is all done by horses; that of the gentlemen by oxen. Four horses and three men to every plough, one to drive, one to hold, and another with a pole, bearing on the beam to keep it in the ground; but they do an acre a day, by means of leaving a great space untouched in the middle of each land, where they begin by lapping the sods to meet. To 100 acres of tillage they keep about six horses; they make up their teams, borrowing of one another. The chaff is thrown away as every where else. Hire of a car and horse, and driver, 1s. 6d. a day. Price of carriage a $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per cwt. a mile. In hiring farms, they will manage to take 100 acres without 100 pence. They will do it without teams or cattle, or any thing; by re-letting the land for potatoes, grass for cows, &c. and if a fellow gets 5l. by a 100 acres, he is very well satisfied. Land sells at 20 years purchase. Rents, at present, at a stand; rather upon the rise, owing to the price of butter; they sell 3s. 6d. in the pound in 1772 and 3. Tythes are compounded. Wheat pays 8s. the English acre: some 6s. Barley and Bere 6s. Potatoes 6s. Mowing ground 2s. Sheep 3d. Lambs 2d. Cows 2d. Leases are generally 31 years, or three lives, or for ever.

The poor people in general occupy from 10 to 15 acres; but the most common way is hiring

hiring in partnership in rundale; and they have changedale also. Most of them have only a cabin and a cabbage garden, and the size is usually enough for 100 plants; and their rent for it 20s: in this case they pay their neighbour for the grass of their cow; but I was sorry to find that some of them have no cows. They live the year through upon potatoes, and for half the year have nothing but water with them. They have all a pig, and some of them several, but kill one for themselves at Christmas. Their circumstances are very generally better than twenty years ago, especially in cloathing, but in food no great difference. Spinning is the general business of the women: they spin infinitely more wool than flax. All the poor keep a collop of sheep; as soon as the lamb is fit to kill, they sell it, except enough to keep up the stock, in order to have the milk. In the little towns of Donneraile, Mitchelstown, Mallow, Kilworth, Kanturk, and Newmarket, are clothiers, who buy up the wool, employ combers in their houses, who make considerable wages, and when combed, they have a day fixed for the poor to come and take it, in order to spin it into worsted, and pay them by the ball, by which they earn one penny three farthings to two-pence a day. The clothier exports this worsted from Cork to Bristol and Norwich. Of late they have worked a good deal of it into serges, which are sent to Dublin by land-carriage, and from thence to the North, from whence it is smuggled into England by way of Scotland. The poor people's wool is worked

worked into frizes for the use of the men. The weavers who work these frizes and serges live about the country in the cabbins. Immense quantities of raw wool are sent to Cork from all parts; 500 cars have been seen in a line; and it is supposed to be sent in large quantities to France. No emigrations. All the poor people are Roman Catholics, and among them are the descendants of the old families who once possessed the country, of which they still preserve the full memory, insomuch, that a gentleman's labourer will regularly leave to his son, by will, his master's estate.

Ireland has very few such farmers as Mr. Aldworth; for above 600 acres in tillage is such a business as I have no where met with. In his improvements, turnips formed a considerable article; in the year 1772 he began with them, one acre: in 1774 he had two acres: in 1775, five acres: and this year, eight. He has always hoed them, but not yet in any perfection, though improving. He fed them on the land with sheep hurdles; they were chiefly fat wethers, and the benefit he found very great; being able, by no other means, to keep them fat, which the turnips did in great perfection. He also carted some off for stall-feeding bullocks and cows, which answered perfectly well. A very great advantage he found from turnips in the barley which succeeded, being incomparably better than after any other preparation. Mr. Aldworth is, upon the whole, so well persuaded of the advantage of the culture, that he is determined

terminated to increase the quantity every year, till he gets a fourth part of his farm under them. The effect of lime was never displayed in a clearer manner than upon Mr. Aldworth's farm. The soil, I should observe, is a loam and brick clay, on a rock of lime-stone, from nine inches to three feet deep on it; but what is remarkable, all the loose surface stones are grit, and all the quarries lime-stone. Upon this soil he has found the benefit surprisingly great: where he limes he gets very good crops; and where he does not he can get no crops at all. In my life I never saw this clearer displayed than in two of his fields this year, one wheat and the other barley; in each there was about an acre not limed, but all the rest had 100 barrels an acre; the parts limed had a very fine crop, but those two spots a wretched one; literally speaking, not worth mowing; and another smaller patch in the barley field the same; the crop excellent to an inch where the lime was laid, and immediately adjoining nothing but weeds. Another experiment, shewing the great efficacy of it, was a comparison he made of it with the sheep fold; he folded part without liming in a field, the rest of which was limed, and the superiority of the latter part was very great. Mr. Aldworth spreads it on his fallows for wheat, and on his potatoe-land for barley. It is to be noted that this land was never limed before. Upon another part of his farm which had been limed, he does not find the benefit to be equal. He burns his lime in both running and standing kilns; in the former with culm, and the
expense

expense to him is 8d. a barrel roach. In the standing kilns he burns without breaking the stones, 1500 barrels at a time with faggots, and in this way it is 6d. a barrel. These kilns, he remarks, should be built with very great strength, or the extreme heat of the fire bursts the masonry. His liming has been upon so extensive a scale, that last year he had seven kilns burning, two of them standing ones, and burned in all above 10,000 barrels, and as much this year, all for manuring his own farm. Mr. Aldworth has erected a bolting-mill which will grind 5000 barrels of wheat, and it is curious to observe the effect of it as a newly-established market: the first year he ground 1100 barrels, being all he could get; the next year, the present, it will be 5000. He has also taken pains to improve the breed of sheep, by buying English ewes. The same attention he has given to swine and various other articles. Reynold's turnip-cabbage he has planted two years for late feeding of sheep in the spring: he finds them of excellent use, and is determined never to be without them. He began to plant hops in 1772 upon half an acre of land, a fine rich red loam a yard deep; they succeeded perfectly well; and the second year yielded 8 cwt. the half acre of as good hops as ever he met. In 1773 he added two acres: in 1775 he planted another acre: last year the crop failed, not getting above 3 or 4 cwt. This year he has a very good appearance. Has not found the climate at all against them; and is clear that it may be a very advantageous branch of culture. He, however, re-

marked, that they are not so strong as English hops, owing, perhaps, to want of experience in drying, &c. He manures them every third year. Mr. Aldworth is the only person in this country that folds his sheep; he finds the practice very useful, but not equal, as observed before, to lime.

September 11th, accompanied Mr. Aldworth and family to his neighbour Mr. Hyde's, on the banks of the Black Water, which are very cheerful, and many of the views fine, particularly from the yard, of a new church on the river: pass many large woods in sight. Mr. Hyde's is a place entirely of his own forming. The lawn before the house has a very pleasing inequality of surface, and the whole scenery well improved and cheerful.

It was with regret I left so agreeable and liberal a family as that of Annsgrove, nor should I forget to mention that every thing about the place had a much nearer resemblance to an English than an Irish residence, where so many *fine* places want *neatness*, and where, after great expense, so little is found *complete*. Mrs. Aldworth has ornamented a beautiful glen, which winds behind the house, in a manner that does honour to her taste; she has traced her paths so as to command all the beauties of rock, wood, and a sweet river which glides beneath both: it is a most agreeable scenery.

September 12th, to Doneraile, with Mr. Aldworth. In our way called on a woollen manufacturer, Mr. Hannam, at Kilbrack, who gave me the following particulars of the trade. It consists in buying the wool about the country, and combing it upon their own account. The combers earn 10s. a week, or 40 balls at 3d. The fleeces he buys weighs 5lb. on an average. To every 22 stone of rough fleece there are 3 stone of short, coarse, and waste; 2 stone of the 3 are worth 10s. a stone, for coarse works, frizes, &c. the third stone 13s. 4d. The remaining 19 stone of combing wool give 8 balls each of 24 ounces. To each stone there is one pound and three quarters of pinions of short wool that comes out in the combing. These balls are given to women to spin, and 9d. a ball is paid them for it; a woman can spin the balls in two days and a half if she sticks to it all day; in three days and do trifles besides. Then the worsted, in skains twelve to the ball, is sent to Corke or Limerick for exportation. Not above one-sixth part, to his knowledge, is woven at home. Employs seven weavers making serges. Forty-four beer serges sell at 1s. 2d. a yard; is 29 inches broad, and the pieces 136 yards long. Pays two-pence halfpenny a yard for weaving, and a man weaves eight in a day; he weaves a piece in three weeks, and loses one day in that time in preparing his loom. The Connaught wool he prefers; it is of a middling length, and a fine staple: finds that the short wool is the finest. At Charleville there are thirty looms in it. The serges are all sent to

Dublin

Dublin to a factor, who sells them at 5l. per cent. commission. Are in general sent to Scotland. The demand for them is better than it was: it has been improving for three years. But the prices of both serges and worsted have not risen proportionally to that of wool.

An estimate of the cloathing trade.

20 combers would comb in a year 5000 stone of wool at 16s. per stone	-	-	4000	o	o
The said combers would comb 800 balls a week, at 3d. per ball, comes to 10l. in the year	-	-	520	o	o
300 women and girls to spin the above, and which would be the advantage of the clothier, to form into three houses or factories of 100 each; their hire, at 9d. a ball, comes to	-	-	1560	o	o
60 weavers would weave up the said worsted, at 8d. each a day, 24l. a week, the year	-	-	1248	o	o
50 little boys and girls employed in said weaving, at 3d. a day each, comes to 3l. 15s. per week, in the year	-	-	195	o	o
430					
Oil and soap would cost in the year	-	-	368	o	o
Carriage of wool, woollen goods, &c.	-	-	100	o	o
Sorting wool, washing it, &c.	-	-	80	o	o
			8071	o	o
The year's profit I suppose to be	-	-	350	o	o
The yearly sum brought into the country where such trade is carried on	-	-	£.8421	o	o

A very important information is to be drawn from this estimate, which is the proportion of labour to the wool in this manufactory.

Wool, at 16s.	-	-	4000
Combing	-	-	520
Spinning	-	-	1560
Weaving	-	-	1443
Sorting and carriage	-	-	180
Labour	-	-	3703
Oil and soap	-	-	368
			<u>£. 8071</u>

Hence therefore it appears that wool at 16s. labour and drugs equal it, and that labour alone is as nine one-fourth to ten.

Let me not forget here to remark, that the country, within two or three miles of Doneraile, ranks among the best I have seen in Ireland; it is varied, much improved, well wooded, and very chearful.

To Lord Doneraile's, to whom I am indebted for a variety of useful intelligence; the situation of his house is on a beautiful rising ground, which slopes down to a winding vale, in which is a small river, accompanied by wood; from this river, on the other side, the grounds (all lawn) rise very boldly, and are entirely margined with wood: from the higher grounds
the

the view of the house and park is fine, especially at the gate which opens to Kilbrack, there the house is seen surrounded by very noble woods and a great variety of cultivated inclosures intermixed with fields and thickly-planted hedges: the whole scene so pleasing, that it appeared to full advantage, though I had rode to it through a beautiful and even-dressed country in part of the way from Annsgrove. Near the house is a shrubbery, through which there are paths that lead to different parts of the farm, through new plantations, and in particular to a cottage, from whence there is a fine wooded scene, with the park lawn rising above it, scattered with single trees, and bounded by a margin of wood; the whole backed by distant mountains. The plantations and improvements which lead to and surround this cottage are the work of Lady Doneraile, and do credit to her taste.

Respecting his Lordship's husbandry the following particulars deserve the attention of the reader. Three years ago he procured ewes from Leicestershire, in order to improve the breed. The sheep which were here before took three to a stone of wool, but now only two, and the wool is to the full as good as ever; and he finds that they are much more thriving and advantageous to keep, and easier fed than the sheep of the country: sheep, his Lordship finds the most advantageous stock of all others: he keeps six to the acre winter and summer. This he finds much more profitable than keeping
cows

cows or fat cattle. Has tried many breeds of cattle, and finds that the long-horned English cow is the best for fattening. The Holderness for giving much thin poor milk, but are too heavy for winter feeding. The Kerry cow is much the best for milking in quantity of good milk. Hogs he has also tried of all sorts, and finds that nothing is so profitable as the black Indian breed with short legs, round carcases, and snub noses. For working, he finds the small mongrel Kerry beast works the best, and moves the fastest. He works them all by the horns, in the manner practised in the south of France, four in a plough at the first ploughing. He changed the manner in which Lord Shannon brought it over, from the yoke which couples them, to going single with double traces; this he finds much the most beneficial manner; they move quicker and with greater power, from being free and working not in couples; besides being applicable to all sorts of work which requires their going single. English waggons Lord Doneraile has tried and laid aside, from finding, on experience, that they are very much inferior to the common Irish car in hay harvest, dung, lime, &c. but he uses one-horse carts for many sorts of work. Turnips he has cultivated for some years, hoes them, and gets good crops, but best in the drill way, the rows two feet asunder; he uses them in feeding sheep, and also fattening beasts. He finds that they are not of any considerable use in this country, compared to others where there is not an equal plenty of grass, which springs all winter; and that

that they will fatten a beast better. When most wanted, which is in April and the beginning of May, they are gone. Cabbages he has tried upon a large scale three years; last year and the year before, he had 8 or 9 acres, and used them in feeding and fattening cattle and sheep; has found them preferable to turnips far, in all uses in feeding cattle; but an acre of the latter will produce much more. Fern he finds is best destroyed by mowing it twice a year in June, and the beginning of September. He makes his tillage exceedingly profitable by the use of lime. His course of crops,

1. Wheat, yielding 10 barrels per acre, and has measured 15 barrels, 15 stone per acre.
2. Barley, the produce 14, 15 barrels, and of small barley, 6 rowed 20.
3. Oats 20 barrels.
4. Clover laid down to grass, or for one year, and ploughed it up as soon as cleared of the hay.

Lime he spreads on all lands for wheat or barley, &c. 80 barrels of roach an acre costs 6d. a barrel burning. The effect is amazingly great, infomuch that it is the difference between a great and a bad crop. In general there is no ground worth 20s. an acre, that if you lime it 80 barrels, and take wheat, barley, and oats, it will then be worth 30s. This is certainly a marvellous improvement! Lord Doneraile knows, from an experiment of his brother's, that it is equally well adapted to boggy bottoms; he had five acres, which he set for 10s. 6d. the whole,

whole, and was so hard a bargain to the poor men, that an allowance was made for it. His brother took it, and limed it, and then mowed *five tons of hay per English acre*, one of the strongest proofs of the benefit of lime that can be given. In his Lordship's park he has a wheel for raising water, an improvement on the Persian, which raises a regular stream 28 feet; the stream which turns it is confined by a double wall to the exact dimension of the boxes, which take in the water, and it works constantly and regularly without trouble or expense. Lord Doneraile has erected a granary upon a new construction, that of a flue in the walls for a fire to air the whole building, and dry any damp corn that may happen to be in it. He dried the walls after building with it perfectly in a short time. This granary is so completely built, that not a mouse can possibly get in it: he has a thorough air, with lattice windows of wire. By the way, these flues are a proof, if one was wanting, how much moister the climate of Ireland is than that of England. He has planted the cluster potatoes, called here *bulls* and *bucks*, so much as 6 or 7 acres; gave them to horses, cows, and sheep: the horses that would eat them did well, and in a little time believes would all come very well to them. Fat cows and bullocks did exceedingly well: fat sheep were put to them; but several dying both years, made him leave the practice off. Of other sorts of potatoes, he finds the *London lady* and the *apple* to be the best sorts. The *London lady* is particularly valuable for one circumstance, which

which is the stalks withering, and the crop being ready to take up, from a month to six weeks before any other sort; consequently, the best sort to plant as a preparative to wheat. Hops he has planted two years ago, in order to see how far they will answer; and expects to be able to get not only good hops, but a great crop. One mode of managing them he has in meditation, which is a good thought, and that is to train them horizontally instead of perpendicularly, like espalier, on account of the storms and blights which hops, in the common way, are subject to from the height. Has compared the rotten lime-stone and lime in a 20 aced field for wheat, 10 of the one and 10 of the other, and found the wheat equal: both very good. Has observed the common farmers, after manuring with it, to take 12 and 14 crops of white corn running and then leaving it for grass, which not coming, they complain that it is not good for grass, but burns it up. But Lord Doneraile advised a friend to lay down, after two or three crops, which being done, the grass that followed was perfectly fine.

Lord Doneraile's lime-kiln is one of the completest I have any where seen; it is at bottom 16 inches diameter, leads up to 12 feet wide in the buldge, and 20 feet high from the bottom to the buldge, 7 feet from the buldge up, and at the top 9 feet diameter. Over the top, a roof and a porch to it, and it draws 44 barrels of roach lime a day, which takes 6 of culm; burns for $5\frac{1}{2}$ a barrel. The culm 2s. 5d. a barrel

barrel at the kiln. Labour 4s. Culm 15s. a day.

September 13th, left Doneraile, and went to Colonel Jephson's at Mallow. He was at that time confined with the gout; but his son, Denham Jephson, Esq; (member for Mallow) took every means for my information, in the circumstances I enquired after. About that place:

1. Potatoes on stubbles, or grafs dunged
2. Potatoes. 3. Wheat or Bere. 4. Oats. 5. Oats. 6. Oats.

1. Fallow. 2. Wheat. 3. Oats. 4. Oats.
5. Oats. 6. Oats. The measure the English acre.

Of potatoes they plant 6 common barrels, and get 42 in the crop: sometimes take three or four successive ones. Of wheat they sow 3 pecks and a half each, 3 *cluggets*, each clugget 11 quarts, and get 8 barrels. The crop of bere is 12. Of oats 12. Rents of town parks 2l. 2s. to 3l. other lands 10s. to 30s. average 12s. There are many dairies, up to 60 cows, which are all set to dairymen, at 50s. to 3l. 10s. of good land it will take one acre and a half to feed a cow. They make both butter and cheese, and where the latter is made, no butter, selling the cheese at 4d. a pound. A cow makes one cwt. of butter in the season. When cows are let, none are taken that do not give 2 gallons
of

of milk; good cows give 4 gallons. Colonel Jephson had a cow half bred, between the English long horned and Holderneffe, that was forced to be milked three times a day and gave 12 gallons a day, many times in the presence of various persons. Every dairyman is allowed a house, a garden of one acre and a half, and grafs for a horse, a cow, and some a collop of sheep. Great quantities of lime are used: they lay 100 barrels an acre, at 1s. 1d. They plough with horses, four or six to a plough. The poor pay 10s. rent for a cabin, and 20s. for one acre for potatoes; 2l. 2s. for grafs for a cow, and 10s. for the winter's hay. They live upon potatoes generally the year through; all of them keep cows and pigs, which latter they feed on small potatoes. Their circumstances are not better than 20 years ago; for though they have now 6d. and then had but 5d. yet the rise is not proportioned to that of rents. Villages of cottars will take farms in partnership in the manner I have often described. The soil of the country is in general lime-stone; but from Knockerera mountain, near Mallow to Corke, there is no lime-stone.

Leases are thirty-one years, or three lives, and some for three lives and thirty-one years after; and many farms let to middle-men, who occupy no part of the land themselves, but re-let it. Above one-third of the county is waste land.

There are collieries about ten miles off, near **Kantark**, from which coal is sold at 3s. a barrel,

rel; it is large and hard. Upon the river Blackwater, there are tracts of flat land in some places one quarter of a mile broad; the grass every where remarkably fine, and lets at 30s. It is the finest sandy land I have any where seen, of a reddish brown colour, would yield the greatest arable crops in the world, if in tillage; it is five feet deep, and has such a principle of adhesion, that it burns into good brick, yet it is a perfect sand. In floods much of it is overflown. The banks of this river, from its source to the sea, are equally remarkable for beauty of prospect, and fertility of soil.

There is but little manufacturing in Mal-
low; even spinning is not general. Mr. Jeph-
son manures his lands very highly with all
forts of dung and fullage of the streets of Mal-
low, which is constantly bringing away; by
means of this regular attention, united with
the goodness of the soil, he has brought it into
that high degree of heart, indicated by the
rent, at which it would let. The whole is
divided into fields, of a moderate size, with
double quick hedges, well planted with trees,
and kept in the most perfect degree of neatness;
between the hedges are gravel walks, so that
there is a planted communication about all the
fields; the gates are neat and light, and every
attention preserved to give the whole the ap-
pearance of a *ferme orne*. The quantity of til-
lage is not considerable, but his crops very
great, barley up to twenty barrels per acre.
Mules he finds more useful and hardy than
horses;

horses; has some very fine ones. Mr. Jephson has weighed to the dragoons, at the barracks, from twenty-eight acres of grass, three and a quarter tons of hay, per English acre. He has kept a particular account of his domain, and has kept his deer, horses, cows, house, &c. and sold to the amount of 55s. an acre besides. I walked to the spring in the town to drink the water, to which so many people have long resorted; it resembles that of Bristol, prescribed for the same cases, and with great success. In the season there are two assemblies a week. Lodgings are five shillings a week each room, and those seemed to be miserably bad. Board thirteen shillings a week. These prices, in so cheap a country, amazed me, and would, I should fear, prevent Mallow from being so considerable as more reasonable rates might make it, unless accommodations proportionable were provided. There is a small canal, with walks on each side, leading to the spring, under cover of some very noble poplars. If a double row of good lodgings were erected here, with public rooms, in an elegant style, Mallow would probably become a place for amusement, as well as health.

September 14th, to New Grove, the seat of Robert Gordon, Esq; in whom I met with the greatest zeal for giving me a correct information. Passing, at some distance, a very large house building, to the right of the road, in a good situation, by Sir Robert Dean. New Grove is an entire new improvement of Mr. Gordon's,

Gordon's, the whole place, some years ago, being a waste moor, or mountain, as it is called in Ireland.

Mr. Gordon took it for improvement; the soil and bog five to nine spits deep, and under it a black earth, or a reddish sand, and in some a whitish clayey substance, but not marle; many springs in it, which were carried off by drains; and then the whole surface of turf cut out, and carried to Cork: cutting, &c. 30s. a 100, and sold there at 5l. this was done in order to get lime, which is not upon the land, and by this means the lime came to seven-pence halfpenny a barrel; found many stones and great roots, and timbers, which were all cleared away, and the land ploughed with oxen, before winter; then left the winter three ploughings given in the spring, and fifty barrels of lime, spread and sown with oats and clover; the crop very great; could be sold however, for 4l. an acre; the clover fine. This was cut for hay, and the second weighed 23 lb. per English perch square, and a horse that was starved nine hours, eat in twenty-four hours 107 lb. And after these two cuttings, there was a third for soiling with in October; it was then sowed with a second crop of oats, and that with clover which was left, and has been mown every year for eleven years since; this was one field in particular, but all in the same manner, and would let for one pound an acre readily; all expences of the 3 crops, including the lime, cost 6l. 7s. 9d. an acre, so that the
mere

mere improvement was profitable, besides the increase of rent also improved. At Carrickduff, 650 acres of heath, &c. the black soil thin, and the heath low, and under it a brown loam, with whitish gravel, mixed. Fallowed it with strong ploughs, fourteen inches deep for a year; then limed it, 50 barrels an acre, at seven pence three farthings on the land, burnt on the spot, and upon this sowed oats and clover for a meadow, the oats great, and the grass part of it actually let at 11. 1s. and all would let so. Has prosecuted this improvement with such spirit, that last year he laid on 10,000 barrels of lime, and has 73 acres oats, 34 wheat, 12 potatoes, and 100 laid to grass, and all this in two years. Has there built a farm-office, 154 feet long, a barn, stalls for thirty bullocks, two stables, and a room for the steward; and has made 1750 perch of ditches, planted with quicks. These Mr. Gordon does in two years, half the ditch in one to leave it to sink, and the other half the year after. Turnips he has had, and got very fine crops of 6lb. the average turnip; they thin them by hand, which he thinks upon this land is preferable to hoeing; used the crop in stall-feeding 30 bullocks, which had, besides the turnips, half a hundred weight of hay to six each day, and found that they throve exceedingly well on such turnips as were not above three to six pounds weight, but upon the large ones they did not thrive. In November he cleared the field of all, stacked them, and found them keep perfectly till April. Found that the sheep, fed at New Grove, would not take to turnips till starved to them.

Imported

Imported a man from Norfolk, whom he gave forty guineas a year with board, who brought ploughs, hoes, &c. with him; gave him a guinea for every boy he taught to plough, and every boy who could fairly plough, had a shilling a day wages. By this means he has collected a set of excellent ploughmen, who have been of infinite use, so that he has to this day ploughed with Norfolk and Suffolk ploughs, worked with a pair of horses, and no driver except the first and second ploughing of fresh land, which, and dragging, he does with great drags of 18 cwt. and drawn by bullocks. This improvement is of particular consequence, as there are here twelve miles square of rich land, taken almost in a square between Mallow and Corke, one way, and the Bagra mountains and Nagles the other; upon all which there is not a stone to interrupt the plough, sometimes not a stone to an acre.

He is convinced, from experience, that the worst of this vast tract may be drained, inclosed, limed with fifty barrels, and tilled with a crop of oats on it, for 5l. an acre. In the neighbourhood, a great improvement of 1200 acres, without lime or gravel, and badly done yet, at 12s. an acre, six-7ths of the county of Corke at 2s. an acre, one-7th, 10s. of Kerry, nine-10ths, at 1s. and one-10th at 10s.

Six years ago, Mr. Gordon established a linen manufactory, and bleach mill, upon the
completest

completeſt ſcale ; a factory of eleven looms for damask, bleacher's houſe and other buildings, with a reſervoir of water for turning the wheel ; the whole well-built, well-contrived, and at the expence of 1200l. Kept theſe looms conſtantly at work, and at the ſame time bleached many pieces for the country people. Truſted to a manager for the conduct of the works, who broke, which put a ſtop to them, otherwiſe there would have been a flouriſhing manufactory eſtabliſhed. Spinning flax coming in, but the woollen through the country ; and from hence to the north-weſt Duhallow Barony is the great country for ſpinning cotton.

September 15th, to Blarney Caſtle, S. J. Jefferys, Eſq; of whoſe great works in building a town at Blarney, I cannot give ſo particular an account as I wiſh to do ; for I got there juſt as he and his family were on the point of ſetting out for France. I did not however let ſlip the time I had for making ſome enquiries, and found that in 1765, when Mr. Jefferys began to build this town, it conſiſted only of two or three mud cabins ; there are now 90 houſes. He firſt eſtabliſhed the linen manufactory, building a bleach-mill, and houſes for weavers, &c. and letting them to manufacturers from Corke, who have been ſo ſucceſſful in their works, as to find it neceſſary to have larger and more numerous edifices, ſuch as a large ſtamping mill for printing linens and cottons, to which is annexed another bleach-mill, and ſince there has been a third erected ; the work carried on is that of buying yarn, and weaving it into li-

nens, ten pence to thirty pence white; also diapers, sheeting, ticking, and linens and cottons of all sorts printed here, for common use and furniture. These several branches of the linen, employ 130 looms, and above 300 hands.

Another of Mr. Jefferys objects has been the stocking manufacture, which employs 20 frames, and 30 hands, in buildings erected by him; the manager employing, by covenant, a certain number of apprentices, in order by their being instructed, to diffuse the manufactory. Likewise a woollen manufactory, a mill for milling, tucking, &c. broad cloths; a gigg mill for glossing, smoothing, and laying the grain; and a mill for knapping, which will dress above 500 pieces a year, but will be more, when some alterations now making are finished. A leather mill for dressing shamoy, buck, or skins, fully employed. A large bolting mill, just finished, and let for 132l. a year. A mill, annexed to the same, just finishing, for plating; and a blade mill for grinding edged tools. A large paper mill, which will be finished this year. He has been able to erect this multiplicity of mills, thirteen in all, by an uncommon command of water.

The town is built in a square, composed of a large handsome inn, and manufacturers houses, all built of excellent stone, lime, and slate. A church, by the first fruits, and liberal addition of above 300l. from Mr. Jefferys. A market-house, in which are sold a hundred pounds worth of knit stockings per week. Four bridges,
which

which he obtained from the county, and another (the flat arch) to which he contributed a considerable sum. Much has been done, yet is not the design near finished.

To shew the magnitude of these works, and the degree of public good resulting from them, I shall mention the expence at which they have been executed. Respecting the principal bleach mill, Messrs. Forest and Donnoghue, under the linen act, took 15 acres, at a guinea an acre, upon which they have expended 5000*l.* in erecting a linen mill and bleach green, twenty-five houses for twenty-five weavers families, four looms in each house, a large dwelling-house for themselves or their director; in each house, a man, his wife, three apprentices, two girls and two boys, besides young infants. In a short time the farm was increased, and land, which before had only brought half a guinea, then let for a guinea. The linen board advanced 500*l.* to this work, and Mr. Jefferys repaid them 1400*l.* of the 5000*l.* The old rent of the premises was 40*l.* a year, the new rent 71*l.* Another bleach mill, which cost Mr. Jefferys 300*l.* to which the board added 300*l.* and the person to whom it is let, 600*l.* 40 acres of land, formerly let at 10*l.* a year, go with them. The whole rent now 80*l.* To this mill is since added an oat-mill, which cost 300*l.* two tuck-mills, 200*l.* a leather mill and kilns, 150*l.* two dwelling-houses, 300*l.* A stamping-mill, which cost Mr. Jefferys 2,300*l.* to which the board added 300*l.* promising 1000*l.* more when the works should be finished, which they have been these

two years. Twelve printing tables are kept going, and sixty-five hands employed. Twelve printers. Twelve tire boys. Three print cutters. Eighteen bleachmen. Six pencillers. Two tubmen. One clerk. One callender. One manager. Two draughtsmen. Four coppermen. Three carters. Besides the above sums, the manufacturer has laid out 500l. The quantity of land occupied is 25 acres: old rent, 6l. 10s. new, 113l. 15s.

A stocking factory, for which Mr. Jefferys lent 200l. The man laid out 300l. himself; he occupies 50 acres, before let at 20l. a year; now at 76l. 11s. A gigg-mill, for which Mr. Jefferys lent 300l. till repaid by the Dublin Society, who granted 300l. towards it, and the tenant laid out 200l. the quantity of land he has is eleven acres, let at 5l. 10s. now at 36l.

A manufactory of tape is established, by which means 6 acres of land are advanced, from 2l. 8s. to 9l. They have three looms going, which makes 102 pieces a day of 36 yards each. The Dublin Society gave 20l. to it. A paper mill, which has cost Mr. Jefferys 1100l. and is not yet let. A bolting mill on which he has expended 1100l. the tenant 500l. on adding an iron mill. Twenty acres of land, rent before 9l. 10s. rent of the whole now 132l. 13s. The church has cost Mr. Jefferys 500l. and the first fruits 500l. more. The new inn, 250l. and the tenant 300l. more. Seventy acres of land, before at 20l. a year, now at 83l. 9s. A dwelling-house, 250l. to which the tenant added 500l. Ninety
acres

acres of land, before let at 5*l.* the new rent is 7*l.* Twelve cottages, and a lime-kiln, which cost 28*l.* Two dwelling-houses and a forge, which cost him 15*l.* and to which parliament granted 25*l.* more. Upon the whole, therefore, Mr. Jefferys has expended 7,63*l.* in these establishments. Of public money there has been added 2,17*l.* and the tenants themselves laid out 9,05*l.* in all, expended here 18,85*l.* besides what Mr. Jefferys laid out on bridges, &c. in the whole, very near, if not full, 20,000*l.* upon matters of a public nature. In all these establishments, he has avoided undertaking or carrying on any of the manufactures upon his own account, from a conviction that a gentleman can never do it without suffering very considerably. His object was to form a town, to give employment to the people, and to improve the value of his estate by so doing; in all which views it must be admitted, that the near neighbourhood of so considerable a place as Corke very much contributed: the same means which he has pursued would, in all situations, be probably the most adviseable, though the returns made might be less advantageous. Too much can scarcely be said in praise of the spirit with which a private gentleman has executed these works, which would undoubtedly do honour to the greatest fortune.

To animate others to tread in such laudable steps, I may remark, that even the profit of these undertakings is too much to be entirely forgotten; the expences are by no means barren ones; 327 acres let before these works at

167l. 18s. let afterwards at 682l. 8s. Profit 508l. 10s. without reckoning any thing for two dwelling-houses, a forge, twelve cottages, and a lime-kiln, which may moderately be reckoned at 25l. a year, and yet let at rents of favour, in all 533l. 10s. which from 7630l. is 7 per cent. There, however, is no agriculture improvement that would not, with much greater certainty of continuance, pay 17. At the same time, however, there is a greater reversionary advantage in the benefit resulting from the increasing of the rents at the expiration of the leases, upon undertaking these works, the longest of which is for no more than three lives. Another advantage which is felt already, is, the rise in the prices of products at Blarney, which is a direct premium to agriculture, to the farmer, and to the landlord. Dairy cows, on all the adjacent farms, arose in two years from 3l. to 4l. a cow, as the weavers were happy to get milk and butter at the same price they sold for in Corke. The same rise took place on corn, potatoes, &c. Mr. Jefferys, besides the above establishments, has very much improved Blarney Castle and its environs; he has formed an extensive ornamented ground, which is laid out with considerable taste; an extensive plantation surrounds a large piece of water, and walks lead through the whole; there are several very pretty sequestered spots where covered benches are placed.

Accompanied Mr. Jefferys, &c. to Dunkettle, the seat of Dominick Trent, Esq; who with a liberality of sentiment which renders him

him deservedly esteemed, took every measure I could wish for my information. The road leads very beautifully on the side of the harbour under a shore of bold hills, on which are many villas and some plantations. For the following particulars concerning the neighbourhood, I am indebted to Mr. Trent.

On the south side of the river, &c. the soil is a fine lime-stone; the country level for a mile or two, then swelling into very gentle hills. On the north side, which is much better planted, particularly at Lota, Dunkettle, &c. the ground rises in bold ascents, adorned with many beautifully-situated country-houses. Here the stratum is brown, or rather red stone, and the surface shallow; in some places a burning gravel. There is a good deal of arable land on the sides of the hills. The course of crops:

1. Potatoes.
2. Wheat.
3. Barley or oats.
4. Lay down with seeds.

Potatoes yield per acre from 10l. to 20l. Average quantity fifty barrels, at eighteen stone each. Land manured and let to labourers for planting, at four or five guineas an acre. Wheat from seven to ten barrels of twenty stone, at 20s. a barrel; average price from 19s. to 24s. per barrel. The manures are Corke dung of the richest kind, especially in the slaughtering season; sea sand for tillage, and bank sand from the river for grass grounds. There is water-carriage to the eastward for many miles: several good quays for landing manure, particular-

ly one at Glanmire, near Dunkettle, from which the inland inhabitants draw the manure four or five miles in one-horse carts. Lime is also much used at a shilling a barrel. The meadows in this country yield from $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 tons of hay per acre, at 40s. to 45s. per ton on an average. Dairies are let to dairymen at 4 to 5 guineas a cow. Many sheep are kept on the hills, but none folded. The diet of the poor is potatoes and milk, with some fish in the herring and sprat season. Labourers houses from 25s. to 40s. a year. Fuel a very little coal, the rest supplied by bushes, stolen faggots, &c. as there is no turf in this part of the country. Price of labour 6d. per day through the year, on a pinch in harvest 8d. sometimes more, but within the liberties of the city generally 8d. Women 3d. and 4d. a day in reeking corn: children from 1d. to 3d. in picking stones, &c. Most employed in country business; a few at some bolting iron and paper-mills in the neighbourhood. From fourteen acres of orchard Mr. Trent makes sixty hogsheads a year of cyder; a clear acre of good trees about seven hogsheads. His hogs he feeds on the bull potatoes, which yield great crops without dung, and for two or three years successively.

September 16th, to Cove by water, from Mr. Trent's quay. The view of Lota is charming; a fine rising lawn from the water, with noble spreading woods reaching on each side; the house a very pleasing front, with lawn shooting into the woods. The river forms a creek between

between two hills, one Lota, the other opening to another hill of inclosures well wooded. As the boat leaves the shore nothing can be finer than the view behind us; the back woods of Lota, the house and lawn, and the high bold inclosures towards Corke, form the finest shore imaginable, leading to Corke the city appearing in full view, Dunkettle wooded inclosures, a fine sweep of hill, joining Mr. Hoare's at Factory-hill, whose woods have a beautiful effect. Dunkettle house almost lost in a wood. As we advance, the woods of Lota and Dunkettle unite in one fine mass. The sheet of water, the rising lawns, the house in the most beautiful situation imaginable, with more woods above it than lawns below it, the west shore of Loch Mahon, a very fine rising hill cut into inclosures, but without wood, landlocked on every side with high lands, scattered with inclosures, woods, seats, &c. with every cheerful circumstance of lively commerce, has all together a great effect. Advancing to Passage the shores are various, and the scenery enlivened by four-score sail of large ships; the little port of Passage at the water's edge, with the hills rising boldly above it. The channel narrows between the great island and the hills of Passage. The shores bold, and the ships scattered about them, with the inclosures hanging behind the masts and yards, picturesque. Passing the streights a new basin of the harbour opens, surrounded with high lands. Monk's-town-castle on the hill to the right, and the grounds of Ballybricken, a beautiful intermixed scene of
wood

wood and lawn. The high shore of the harbour's mouth opens gradually. The whole scene is landlocked. The first view of Hawlbowl-ing-island and Spike-island, high rocky lands, with the channel opening to Cove, where are a fleet of ships at anchor, and Rostellan, Lord Inchiquin's house, backed with hills, a scenery that wants nothing but the accompaniment of wood. The view of Ballybricken changes; it now appears to be unfortunately cut into right lines. Arrived at the ship at Cove; in the evening returned, leaving Mr. Jefferys and family on board for a voyage to Havre, in their way to Paris.

Dunkettle is one of the most beautiful places I have seen in Ireland. It is a hill of some hundred acres broken into a great variety of ground, by gentle declivities, with every where an undulating outline, and the whole varied by a considerable quantity of wood, which in some places is thick enough to take the appearance of close groves, in others spreads into scattered thickets and a variety of single groups. This hill, or rather cluster of hills, is surrounded on one side by a reach of Corke harbour, over which it looks in the most advantageous manner; and on the other by an irignous vale, through which flows the river Glanmire: the opposite shore of that river has every variety than can unite to form pleasing landscapes for the views from Dunkettle grounds; in some places narrow glens, the bottoms of which are quite filled with water, and the steep banks covered
with

with thick woods that spread a deep shade; in others the vale opens to form the site of a pretty chearful village, over hung by hill and wood: here the shore rises gradually into large inclosures, which spread over the hills, stretching beyond each other; and there the vale melts again into a milder variety of fields. A hill thus situated, and consisting in itself of so much variety of surface, must necessarily command many pleasing views; to enjoy these to the better advantage, Mr. Trent (than whom no one has a better taste both to discover and describe the beauties of natural scenes) is making a walk around the whole, which is to bend to the inequalities of the ground, so as to take the principal points in view. The whole is so beautiful, that if I was to make the regular detour, the description might be too minute: but there are some points which gave me so much pleasure, that I know not how to avoid recommending to others that travel this way to taste the same satisfaction: from the upper part of the orchard you look down a part of the river, where it opens into a regular basin, one corner stretching up to Cork, lost behind the hill of Lota, the lawn of which breaks on the swelling hills among the woods; the house obscured, and therefore seeming a part of your home scene; the losing the river behind the beautiful projection of Lota, is more pleasing than can be expressed. The other reach, leading to the the harbour's mouth, is half hidden by the trees which margin the foot of the hill on which you stand: in front a noble range of cultivated hills,

hills, the inclosures broken by slight spots of wood, and prettily varied with houses, without being so crowded as to take off the rural effect. The scene is not only beautiful in those common circumstances which form a landscape, but is alive with the chearfulness of ships and boats perpetually moving. Upon the whole, it is one of the most luxuriant prospects I have any where seen. Leaving the orchard pass on the brow of a hill which forms the bank of the river of Glanmire, commanding the opposite woods of Lota in all their beauty. Rise to the top of the high hill which joins the deer-park, and exhibits a scene equally extensive and beautiful; you look down on a vale which winds almost around at your feet, finishing to the left in Corke river, which here takes the appearance of a lake, bounded by wood and hills, and sunk in the bottom of a vale, in a style which painting cannot imitate; the opposite hills of Lota, wood, and lawn, seem formed as objects for this point of view: at your feet a hill rises out of the vale, with higher ones around it, the margins scattered wood; to the right, towards Riverstown, a vale; the whole backed by cultivated hills to Kallahan's field. Milder scenes follow; a bird's-eye view of a small vale sunk at your feet, through which the river flows; a bridge of several arches unites two parts of a beautiful village, the meadow grounds of which rise gently, a varied surface of wood and lawn, to the hills of Riverstown, the whole surrounded by delicious sweeps of cultivated hills. To the left, a wooded glen
rising

rising from the vale to the horizon, the scenery sequestered, but pleasing; the oak wood which hangs on the deer-park hill, an addition. Down to the brow of the hill, where it hangs over the river, a picturesque interesting spot. The inclosures on the opposite bank hang beautifully to the eye, and the wooded glen winds up the hill. Returning to the house I was conducted to the hill, where the grounds slope off to the river of Corke, which opens to view in noble reaches of a magnitude that fills the eye and the imagination: a whole country of a character truly magnificent, and behind the winding vale which leads between a series of hills to Glanmire.

Pictures at Dunkettle.

A St. Michael, &c. the subject confused, by Michael Angelo. A St. Francis on wood, a large original of Guido. A St. Cecilia, original of Romanelli. An assumption of the virgin, by L. Carracci. A quaker's meeting, of above fifty figures, by Egbert Hemskerck. A sea view and rock piece, by Vernet. A small flagellation, by Sebastian del Piombo. A madonna and child, small, by Rubens. The crucifixion, many figures in miniature, excellent, tho' the master is unknown. An excellent copy of the famous Danae of Titian, at Monte Cavallo, near Naples, by Cioffi of Naples. Another of the Venus of Titian, at the tribuna in Florence. Another of Venus blinding Cupid, by Titian, at the Palazzo Borghese in Rome. Another of great merit

merit of the madonna Della Sedia of Raphael, at the Palazzo Pitti in Florence, by Stirn, a German, lately at Rome. Another of an holy family, from Raphael, of which there are said to be three originals, one at the king's palace in Naples, one in the *palais royal* in Paris, and the third in the collection of Lord Exeter, lately purchased at Rome. A portrait of Sir Patrick Trent, by Sir P. Lely. An excellent portrait of a person unknown, by Dahl.

September 17th, to Castlemartyr, the seat of the earl of Shannon, one of the most distinguished improvers in Ireland, in whom I found the most earnest desire to give me every species of information, with a knowledge and ability which enabled him to do it most effectually. Passed through Middleton, a well built place, which belongs to the noble lord to whom it gives title. Castlemartyr is an old house, but much added to by the present earl; he has built, besides other rooms, a dining one 32 feet long by 22 broad, and a drawing one, the best rooms I have seen in Ireland, a double cube of 25 feet, being 50 long, 25 broad, and 25 high. The grounds about the house are very well laid out; much wood well grown, considerable lawns, a river made to wind through them in a beautiful manner, an old castle so perfectly covered with ivy as to be a picturesque object. A winding walk leads for a considerable distance along the banks of this river, and presents several pleasing landscapes. But let me hasten to objects of more importance: Lord Shannon's
 husbandry

husbandry consists of many circumstances. I shall begin with

T U R N I P S,

Which Lord Shannon has cultivated upon a very large scale, as will appear from the following particulars. His father began the culture many years ago, which he continued till 1770, and then went largely into it. He had every year, from 1770 to 1774 both inclusive, sixteen acres, and in 1775, twenty-four. Has cultivated them in both broad cast and the drill method the rows at three feet; but finding that the roots became too large, altered his method to eighteen inches, in order to have more of them; the size will be seen by the following account.

Castlemartyr, December 21st, 1771.

I this day measured a square perch of turnips, $16\frac{1}{2}$ feet, drilled in rows three feet apart; there were 84 turnips on this perch, they weighed 7 cwt. 2 qrs. which I compute to be 60 tuns to the English acre; and there were vacant spaces in the rows within this perch where the turnips had failed, that would have held at least ten large turnips more. I then pulled 84 turnips, the largest I could see, within about fifteen yards of the above perch, and they weighed 15 cwt. 15 qrs. 17lb. which is about 125 ton, 29 cwt. 20lb. I weighed two of the above turnips separately, one of them a white tankard, they each weighed 32lb. The white Nor-

Norfolk was three feet eight inches in circumference. N. B. I neither manured nor burned the ground; it was naturally good; I tilled it well, and hoed the crop carefully.

SHANNON.

One of the above turnips Lord Shannon took with him to the Dublin Society, where it was seen by the whole city; but from my tour through the kingdom, I am afraid it did not animate so many as it ought. These large turnips were not raised in any peculiar spot, but were part of a field of eight or ten acres. The application of the crop has been generally by drawing and giving them to sheep on dry pastures; all sorts of sheep, but particularly fat ewes, they fattened admirably. Finds that the great benefit of the culture is having them near a very dry field, in order to manage them as above-mentioned. He has found that they will do exceedingly well without manuring, especially if the land is an old rough pasture, or which wants to be broken up; fallowed well and thoroughly ploughed, produces great crops. Seaweed his lordship has tried for them, spread about the thickness of dung, and it gave prodigious products. Upon the whole, he is clearly of opinion, that nothing can be more beneficial to the agriculture of Ireland than introducing this culture, and so well convinced of this, that he has always shewn his crops to farmers, weighed them before them, shewed the

cattle

cattle fed, and took every pains to make them come into the culture, but in vain. As a preparation of corn they are incomparable; he has had very great crops of barley after them, such as were laid with every heavy rain from luxuriance. Wheat also he has sown after them, and got eight barrels an acre from seven stone of seed.

C A B B A G E S

Lord Shannon cultivated also: generally had five or six acres for four or five years; the sort the flat Dutch, and got very fine crops. Gave them to cattle of all sorts, who eat them very greedily and did better upon them than upon turnips, but would not last longer than Christmas, otherwise would have preferred them. The crops of corn after them neither better nor worse than after turnips. Tried also the Scotch and other sorts, but preferred the flat Dutch to any other. One great objection to both cabbages and turnips is the mildness of the season in Ireland, which is so great as to burst the cabbages, and make the turnips run to seed before their time. As to the grass springing so fast in winter, as to prevent the necessity of the culture, he does not find it. Cabbages must be well manured for.

P O T A T O E S.

Lord Shannon planted eighteen acres of potatoes with the plough, manuring only the fur-

rows; horse and hand-hoed them perfectly, to keep them free from weeds; did it twice, and purposed oftener, but the growth of the crop was so luxuriant that neither the horse nor hoe could get through them. Took them up with the plough, and the crop proved exceedingly good, far better than they would have been in the common method.

DRILL HUSBANDRY.

Lord Shannon's expression of this mode to me was excellent, *I read myself into it, and worked myself out of it.* He tried it with wheat, horse and hand-hoeing it perfectly, and got a very fine crop; an unexceptionable one for the mode, but the produce was not equal to the common way, while the expense, trouble, and attention, were endless, so that he was convinced, even by his success, that it could not be a beneficial mode of culture. For turnips also he prefers very much the broad-cast mode, and never began the drill method but as an ease of hoeing.

S O I L I N G.

Soiling horses, &c. in summer, with grass mown every day, Lord Shannon has practised greatly, and finds it highly beneficial, and particularly for raising great quantities of Jung.

SEA-SAND AND LIME.

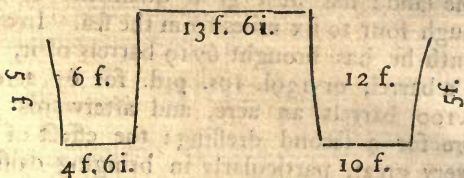
The manures which Lord Shannon uses are sea-sand and lime. He prefers the latter for brown flaty stone land, and sand for limestone land: has used great quantities of it, though four to six miles from the sea. In one month he has brought 6719 barrels of it, at 5d. a barrel, or 139l. 19s. 9½d. for 67 acres, at 100 barrels an acre, and afterwards 50 more for a second dressing: the effect of it is very great, particularly in bringing daisies (*bellis*) on very poor land, and white clover when laid on good grass lands. If a bag breaks, and some accidentally falls on a waste, the man gathers it up as clear as he can, yet it is sure to bring a patch of white clover. Lime his lordship burns in a long-necked kiln, which he finds to answer so well, that one barrel of culm burns ten of lime. He lets the kiln, and buys the lime at 1s. 4d. a barrel. Draws 26 barrels a day. The culm 4s. a barrel. The labourers hire 1d. a barrel, for quarrying, breaking, and burning.

B O U N T I E S.

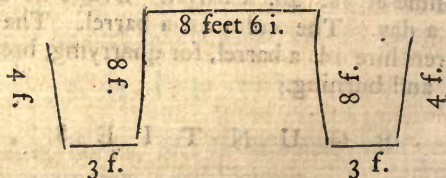
Lord Shannon's bounties to labourers amount to 50l. a year. He gives them by way of encouragement; but only to such as can speak English, and do something more than fill a cart.

D I C H E S.

His Lordship has made some ditches of an extraordinary dimension; the following segment:



The center of 13 feet 6 inches, is a terrace between two ditches, broad enough to plant a hedge on each side of it, and have a riding between them: it is most completely done, and will answer the double purpose perfectly. He is also doing a good deal in the following dimensions:



which costs a shilling a perch, a double row of quick, and a walk or ride between.

L I N E N

LINEN MANUFACTORY.

Lord Shannon established a factory at Cloghnickelty, in the year 1769, a bleach yard of seventeen acres of land, with mills, &c. for bleaching the pieces that are wove in the neighbourhood. There are 94 looms at work in the town, 100l. a week laid out in yarn, and at three fairs, 1800l. the amount of which is 7000l. a year; the cloth chiefly coarse: and this establishment has had great effect in increasing the manufactures in the neighbourhood.

C O M P O S T S.

He is exceedingly attentive in forming composts. A river runs through Castlemartyr, part of which is often full of sand and mud; this he empties periodically and mixes it with lime. In one field I saw larger compost heaps of these materials, than I remember any where else to have observed; one of these was 105 yards long, nine broad, and four feet high, containing cubical yards - - 1260
 Another, 78 and 8 broad, and 4 feet high 832
 Another, 155 by 5, and 4 feet high - 1033
 Another, 76 by 5, and 4 feet high - - 506

Total - - - 3631

Among these hills were 2000 barrels, or 8000 bushels of lime mixed: after this it is needless

less to say, that he manures his land with uncommon spirit.

WASTE LAND.

His Lordship has reclaimed 109 acres of furze land, which he has eradicated, and brought to a very profitable soil.

WALLING.

Lord Shannon has inclosed 380 acres with a most excellent wall, eight feet and a half high under the coping, and 8 inches above it. The wall is two feet thick at bottom, and 18 inches at top, and costs 4s. per perch, or 1l. 16s. running measure.

BARN.

The best built barn I have seen in Ireland, is at Castle Martyr. The bays and threshing floor are fourteen feet high, and over them are two stories for granaries, the first eight feet two inches high, and the upper one eight feet nine inches, besides the roof, with a door in the center of the floors, and a wheel for winding sacks up. It is built in such a manner, the doors, &c. so plated every where at the edges with iron, that it is impossible a mouse should get in or out; or that a rat should any where gnaw his way in. Upon clearing it last year, about twenty mice were found, that had been carried in in the sheafs, a little straw was laid
for

for them in a corner, and the barn shut for a fortnight, at the end of which time they were found alive, and killed, not one being able to escape. I have seen very fine barns built in England, on capt stones, into which no vermin could get, unless carried in, but when they were carried in they had a million of ways to get out.

BULLOCKS DRAWN BY THE HORNS.

Lord Shannon upon going into tillage, found that the expense of horses was so great, that it eat up all the profit of the farm; which made him determine to use bullocks; he did it in the common method of yokes and bows, but they performed so indifferently, and with such manifest uneasiness, that he imported the French method of drawing by the horns; and in order to do this effectually, he wrote to a person at Bourdeaux to hire him a man who was practised in that method. Upon the correspondent being applied to, he represented difficulties attending it, the man who was spoken to having been in Germany for the same purpose. Upon which Lord Shannon gave directions that every thing should be bought and sent over which the labourer wished to bring with him. Accordingly, a bullock of the best sort, that had been worked three years, was purchased; also a haycart, a plough, harrows, and all the tackle for harnessing them by the horns, which, with the man, were sent over. His salary was to be 400 livers a year, with board, &c. The bullock

lock, 218 livres; tackle for two bullocks, 36. Two carts, 314. A plough and harrow, 123, which, with other expences, came to 45l. 17s. and freight 16l. 16s. Upon the whole, the experiment cost, from first to last, to bring it thoroughly to bear, about an hundred pounds. His Lordship is persuaded, that the first year of his introducing it at large on his farm, saved him the whole. He has pursued the method ever since, and with the greatest success. He finds the bullocks so perfectly at their ease, that it is a pleasure to see them; for first breaking up lays, and for cross ploughing, he uses four, but in all succeeding earths, only two; nor more for the first ploughing of stubbles; I saw six ploughs doing this in a wheat stubble, and they did it five or six inches deep with great ease. Upon first introducing it, there was a combination among all his men against the practice, but Lord Shannon was determined to carry his point; in this matter, he followed a course that had all imaginable success: one lively sensible boy took to the oxen, and worked them readily. His Lordship at once advanced this boy to eight pence a day: this did the business at once; others followed the example, and since that he has had numbers who could manage them, and plough as well as the Frenchman. They plough an acre a day with ease; and carry very great loads of corn and hay, coals, &c. Four bullocks in the French cart brought twelve barrels of coals, ship measure, each 5 cwt. or three tons, but the tackle of the
fore

fore couple breaking, the other two drew the load above a mile to a forge. Two of them drew 35 cwt. of flag stone, three miles with ease; but Lord Shannon does not in common work them in this manner, three tons he thinks a proper load for four bullocks. Upon the bailiff, Mr. Bere, mentioning loads drawn by these oxen, that appeared to me most extraordinarily great, I expressed many doubts; his Lordship immediately ordered the French harvest cart to be loaded half a mile from the reeks: it was done; 1020 sheafs of wheat were laid on it, and two oxen drew it without difficulty; we then weighed forty sheafs, the weight 251lb. at which rate the 1020 came to 6375 lb. or above three tons, which is a vast weight for two oxen to draw; I am very much in doubt whether in yoaks they would have stirred the cart so loaded.

Lord Shannon has an excellent way of managing all his cattle in one circumstance, which is to mark them on the horn with numbers, and keeps a book ruled in columns, and engraved, by which means, on turning to the number, he sees every particular of the beast, which are inserted in the columns. He trains them for work at three to four years old, gently breaking them in at once, without any difficulty.

The common husbandry about Castle Martyr, will be seen from the following account, for which particulars I am obliged to the attention

tion of this patriotic nobleman, who took every method to have me well informed. Farms rise from one hundred to three hundred acres, but some to one thousand, of which size Lord Middleton has one. Farms not taken in partnership so much as in other parts; two or three will take a farm of thirty or forty acres, but it is not general. The soil is various; the vale, from Carricktowel to Killay, of ten or twelve miles long, and four over, is of lime-stone; the hills are brown stone; the loam upon it is from three inches to eight feet, strong, rich and good; dry in winter, and good turnip land. These lime-stone rocks are full of cavities, and subterraneous passages, so that if you cut a drain to carry water off, and touch upon a lime-stone rock, probably all will find its way. Rent of the barony of Imokilly, on an average, twelve shillings an acre; Kilnatalton, eight shillings. A third part of the county is waste land, the price of which is risen extremely in a few years; rent, one shilling; the rest of the county, eight shillings. The course of crops:

1. Potatoes, upon clay ground, dunged and ploughed at 3l. plant six barrels at two and a half cwt. produce 50 to 100 barrels; potatoes sell 2s. to 4s. a barrel.

2. Wheat, sow twelve stone, produce five barrels.

3. Oats, on one ploughing, sow a barrel of fourteen stone, crop eight barrels. Some poor

poor people take one or two more crops of oats.

4. Lay out for grafs from two to twelve years. They sometimes burn for potatoes, especially on the absentee estates, and get as good crops, as in the other way.

Expence of an acre of potatoes.

Rent	—	—	—	3	0	0
Seed	—	—	—	0	18	0
Planting and trenching, forty days of a man				1	0	0
Taking up and carrying home, &c.			—	1	0	0
Tythe	—	—	—	0	6	0
				<hr/>		
				£.6	4	0
				<hr/>		

PRODUCE.

Seventy barrels at 3s.	—	—	—	10	10	0
Expences	—	—	—	6	4	0
				<hr/>		
Profit	—	—	—	£.4	6	0
				<hr/>		

A dispute arising upon the produce of potatoes, Lord Shannon ordered some spades square (each $5\frac{1}{2}$ feet) to be taken up, and weighed them; the weight, on an average, 19lb. per spade, or 108 barrels per acre, each 252 lb. that is, 12 weights to the barrel, each 21lb. These were his own potatoes, and not an extra crop at all. Barley is sometimes put in instead of oats, and

and bere instead of wheat. A crop of bere produces 10 barrels; barley yields 8. No turnips or rape. A few of the better farmers sow clover, but the number very inconsiderable. Flax is sown by few of the common people in patches. Paring and burning is called grafting and burning is practised by the common farmers, upon such estates as their landlords will permit. They manure with sea sand for corn, and sea weed for potatoes; they will carry them three miles from the sea: all make composts of sand and earth. Dairies are numerous, from twenty to fifty cows set at 3l. a cow. The dairyman has his privilege, which is an acre of land for every ten cows, a good house and dairy; a collop for every 10 cows, and will keep 8 or 10 pigs. If not paid in money, it is one cwt. of butter and 12s. in money. A cow that gives two gallons a day the dairyman cannot reject: it will take three acres to a cow, but privilege and all is four acres. Very few flocks in this country; Mr. Robert Fitzgerald has 1000 to 1500: but the number too few to be worth mentioning. The poor people all keep a collop or two of sheep, with which they clothe themselves. They plough generally with four horses, sow with two, and use ploughs of so bad a construction, that a man attends them with a strong stick leaning on the beam to keep it in the ground.

Land sells at twenty-five years purchase. Rents have not fallen; for very little of it is let at more than its value. Tythes are every
where

where valued by the proctor by the acre. No emigrations from the county of Corke. The religion is almost universally catholic. Building a common cabbín 5l. two of stone, &c. for 3l. 10s. They carry half a barrel of sea sand on horseback, fourteen miles from Corke to the mountains of Barrymore, and to Mr. Coppinger's, twenty-four miles, and it improves much for tillage: but it is carried when not to mountains in cars: it is not found to be so good as lime.

There is a woollen trade at Castle Martyr: Mr. James Pratt in particular buys wool in Tipperary and at Ballynasloe. The best is the Connaught; it is the finest, and is short; the longest is in the county of Carlow and Tipperary. In Carlow they keep the sheep fattening a year longer, after buying in Tipperary. Tipperary wool 5lb. Carlow 6lb. Connaught 4½lb. In sorting, the fine belly wool is separated, the finer will make cloth of 10s. or 12s. a yard. The back and sides are laid by for combing, the other is carded; about four fifths of the fleece is combed. Combs in his own house, employing 16 to 20 hands; pays them by the ball, 3d. each of 24 oz. and they earn 8s. a week; these balls are given out to the poor people to spin, employing above a thousand spinners. They spin a ball from 11 to 13 skain in four days, attending their family besides. The value is 2s. 8d. per ball: are paid 9d. a ball. In this way of doing it there are not many tricks, being in general
very

very honest. For 11 skains, 8d.—12—9d. 13—10d.—14—11d. They are sorted and packed in packs of 180 balls, which sell at 30l. a pack. It was never known to be higher than last year: twenty years ago it was 25l. a pack, about a fourth of what is spun in this part of the kingdom, is worked up at home. The trade has been a rising one for two years.

Edward Roche, Esq; of Kildining, gave me, at Castle Martyr, the following account of some improvements he has made. Has done 250 acres of mountain, and began upon 50 of bog; the former with paring and burning with ploughs, at 7s. and cutting and burning, 5s. 6d. in June and July. Limes with the ashes, 50 barrels per acre, at 47 gallons, or 75, at 5d. Spread and plough in April or May; then set to poor people, at 30s. an acre. They trench in potatoes in the common way, get on an average sixty barrels, then trench in rye or black oats, six men to an acre; crops six barrels of rye, 20 stone per barrel, at 7s. or 8s. and black oats, 10 kilderkins, at 11 stone; then white oats, 8 barrels, sow grass seeds one barrel, with them, and 8 lb. white clover, and 2 lb. rib-grass. The land before not 6d. an acre, could let it now at 7s. Ploughs with six bullocks first, and four afterwards. Potatoe stalks he carries to his pound, but in general are left in heaps in the field, and are a nuisance to ploughing. In Wicklow, they bleed their horses and cows, and mix the blood with meal for food.

From

From Castle Martyr, September 20, to Castle Mary, the seat of ——— Longfield, Esq; who keeps a great quantity of land in his hands. Has cultivated the potatoes, called here bulls, that is, the English *cluster*, very much for cattle, but nobody will eat them; he has from six to eleven acres yearly: plants them in the common manner, and gets 120 barrels an acre, of 20 stone each. I saw a spade of five feet and a half square, dug the produce 23 lb. on very poor land. On sand and sea weed the same space of London ladies, weighed 27 lb. Manures for them with sea sand and weed, but not with dung; gives them to his horses and bullocks: and when he gives his horses potatoes, they have no oats. It is surprising to see how fond horses are of them; they do very well on them raw, but the best way is to boil them, as they will then fatten the horses. The bullocks are equally fond of them, and will follow him to eat them out of his hand. Sheep are the same, and will get into the fields to scrape them up: upon the whole, Mr. Longfield is persuaded that no root or crop in the world is more beneficial to a farmer than this potatoe, so that he should have continued in turnips, which he has cultivated largely but has found this root so perfectly useful, that he has experienced the absolute dependence which may be placed on them for winter provision of all sorts. And what is of infinite consequence, the culture may be extended to what quantity you please, without the assistance of dung, without which other potatoes cannot be managed.

Mr.

Mr. Longfield established the linen manufacture here three years ago, by building a bleach mill and bleach green; he has 14 looms constantly at work upon his own account, who are paid for what they manufacture by the yard. The sort generally made is from 900 to 1400, and makes 650 pieces of 25 yards length, annually; sells, at present, from 23s. to 30s. a piece. The factory employs 50 hands; bleaches great quantities for the poor people. A great many weavers are scattered about the country, who bring their webs, &c. to be bleached here. The flax is raised, and the yarn spun at Clanikilty and Ross, &c. in the west of the county. No woollen manufacture is carried on in this country. Mr. Longfield has always ploughed with oxen, which he has found far more advantageous than horses. Clover he has cultivated long with very great success, and finds it highly beneficial. The county of Corke two-thirds waste, at a very low or no rate, the other third at 15s.

September 21st to Rostellan, the seat of Lord Inchiquin, commanding a beautiful view of Corke harbour, the ships at Cove, the great island, and the two others which guard the opening of the harbour. It appears here a noble basin of several miles extent, surrounded with high grounds, which want no other addition but woods. This view is seen in great perfection from the windows of two very good rooms, 25 by 35, which his Lordship has built in addition to the old castle.

From

From Rostellan to Lota, the seat of Frederick Rogers, Esq; I had before seen it in the highest perfection from the water going from Dunkettle to Cove, and from the grounds of Dunkettle. Mrs. Rogers was so obliging as to shew me the back grounds, which are admirably wooded, and of a fine varied surface.

Got to Corke in the evening, and waited on the Dean, who received me with the most flattering attention. Corke is one of the most populous places I have ever been in; it was market-day, and I could scarce drive through the streets, they were so amazingly thronged: on the other days, the number is very great. I should suppose it must resemble a Dutch town, for there are many canals in the streets, with quays before the houses. The best built part is Morrison's Island, which promises well; the old part of the town is very close and dirty. As to its commerce, the following particulars I owe to Robert Gordon, Esq; the surveyor general.

*Average of nineteen years export, ending
March 24, 1773.*

Hides, at 11. each	—	—	—	64,000
Bay and woollen yarn	—	—	—	294,000
Butter, at 30s per cwt. from 56s. to 72s.	—	—	—	180,000
Beef, at 20s. a barrel	—	—	—	291,970
Camblets, ferges, &c.	—	—	—	40,000
Candles	—	—	—	34,220
				<hr/>
Carried over	—	—	—	£.904,190
				Soap

	Brought over	————	904,190
Soap	—	—	20,000
Tallow	—	—	20,000
Herrings, 18 to 35,000l. all their own		—	21,000
Glue, 20 to 25,000		—	22,000
Pork	————	————	64,000
Wool to England	—	—	14,000
Small exports, Gottenburgh herrings, horns, hoofs, &c. feather-beds, palliasses, feathers, &c.			35,000
			<u>£. 1,100,190</u>

Average prices of the 19 years on the custom books. All exports on those books are rated at the value of the reign of Charles the Second; but the imports have always 10 per cent. on the sworn price added to them. Seventy to eighty sail of ships belong to Corke. Average of ships that entered that port in those 19 years, 872 per annum. The number of people at Corke mustered by the clergy, by hearth-money, and by the number of houses, payments to minister, average of the three, 67,000 souls, if taken before the 1st of September, after that 20,000 increased. There are 700 coopers in the town. Barrels, all of oak or beech, all from America: the latter for herrings, now from Gottenburgh and Norway. The excise of Corke now no more than in Charles the Second's reign. Ridiculous!

Cork old duties, in 1751, produced £. 62,000

Now the same

140,000

Bullocks

Bullocks 16,000 head, 32,000 barrels; 41,000 hogs, 20,000 barrels. Butter 22,000. Firkins of half a hundred weight each, both increase this year, the whole being

240,000 firkins of butter

120,000 barrels of beef.

Export of woollen yarn from Corke, 300,000 l. a year in the Irish market. No wool smuggled, or at least very little. The wool comes to Corke, &c. and is delivered out to combers, who make it into balls. These balls are bought up by the French agents at a vast price, and exported; but even this does not amount to 40,000 l. a year.

P R I C E S.

Beef, 21 s. per cwt. never so high by 2s. 6d. Pork, 30 s. never higher than 18 s. 6d. owing to the army demand. Slaughter dung, 8d. for a horse-load. Country labourer 6d. about town 10 d. Milk 7 pints a penny. Coals 3 s. 8 d. to 5 s. a barrel, 6 of which make a ton. Eggs 4 a penny.

Corke labourers. Cellar ones 20,000; have 1 s. 1 d. a day, and as much bread, beef and beer, as they can eat and drink, and 7 lb. of offals a week for their families. Rent for their house, 40 s. Mason and Carpenters labourers 10 d. a day. Sailors, now, 3 l. a month and ship provisions: before the American war, 28s.

Porters and coal-heavers paid by the great State of the poor people in general incomparably better off than they were 20 years ago. There are imported 18,000 barrels annually of Scotch herrings, at 18 s. a barrel. The salt for the beef trade comes from Lisbon, St. Ube's, &c. The salt for the fish trade from Rochelle; for butter English and Irish.

Particulars of the woollen fabricks of the county of Corke received from a manufacturer. The woollen trade, serges and camblets, ratteens, frizes, druggets, and narrow cloths, the last they make to 10 s. and 12 s. a yard; if they might export to 8 s. they are very clear that they could get a great trade for the woollen manufactures of Corke; the wool comes from Galway and Roscommon, combed here by combers, who earn 8 s. to 10 s. a week into balls of 24 ounces, which is spun into worsteds, of twelve skains to the ball, and exported to Yarmouth for Norwich; the export price, 30 l. a pack, to 33 l. never before so high; average of them 26 l. to 30 l. Some they work up at home into serges, stuffs, and camblets; the serges at 12 d. a yard, 34 inches wide; the stuffs sixteen inches, at 18 d. the camblets at nine-pence halfpenny to thirteen pence; the spinners at nine-pence a ball, one in a week; or a ball and half twelve-pence a week, and attend the family besides; this is done most in Waterford and Kerry, particularly near Killarney; the weavers earn 1 s. a day on an average. Full three-fourths
of

of the wool is exported in yarn, and only one-fourth worth worked up. Half the wool of Ireland is combed in the county of Corke.

A very great manufacture of rattreens at Carric-on-sure, the bay worsted is for serges, shalloons, &c. Woollen yarn for coarse cloths, which latter have been lost for some years, owing to the high price of wool. The bay export has declined since 1770, which declension is owing to the high price of wool.

No wool smuggled, not even from Kerry, not a sloop's cargo in twenty years, the price too high; the declension has been considerable. For every 86 packs that are exported, a licence from the Lord Lieutenant, for which 20 l. is paid,

From the act of the last sessions of Great Britain for exporting woollen goods for the troops in the pay of Ireland, Mr. Abraham Lane, of Corke, established a new manufacture of army cloathing for that purpose, which is the first at Corke, and pays 40 l. a week in labour only. Upon the whole there has been no increase of woollen manufacture within 20 years. Is clearly of opinion that many fabricks might be worked up here much cheaper than in France, of cloths that the French have beat the English out of; these are, particularly, broad-cloths of one yard and half-yard wide, from 3s. to 6s. 6d. a yard for

for the Levant trade. Frizes which is now supplied from Carcaffone in Languedoc. Frizes of 24 to 27 inches, at 10d. to 13d. a yard. Flannels, 27 to 36, from 7d. to 14d. Serges of 27 to 36 inches, at 7d. to 12d. a yard; these would work up the coarse wool. At Ballynasloe fair, in July, 200,000l. a year bought in wool. There is a manufactory of knit-stocking by the common women about Corke, for eight or ten miles around; the yarn from 12d. to 18d. a pair, and the worsted, from 16d. to 20d. and earn from 12d. to 18d. a week. Besides their own consumption, great quantities are sent to the north of Ireland.

All the weavers in the country are confined to towns, have no land, but small gardens. Bandle or narrow linnen, for home consumption, is made in the western part of the county. Generally speaking, the circumstances of all the manufacturing poor are better than they were twenty years ago. The manufactures have not declined, though the exportation has, owing to the increased home consumptions. Bandon was once the seat of the stuff, camblet, and shag manufacture, but has in seven years declined above three-fourths. Have changed it for the manufacture of coarse green linsens, for the London market, from 6d. to 9d. a yard, 27 inches wide; but the number of manufacturers in general much lessened.

September 22d, left Corke, and proceeded to Coolmore, the seat of the Rev. Archdeacon Oliver, who is the capital farmer of all this neighbourhood; no person could be more desirous of procuring me the information I wished, nor any more able to give it me. Mr. Oliver began the culture of turnips four years ago, and found them so profitable that he has every year had a field of them in the broad-cast method, and well hoed. This year they are exceedingly fine, clean, and well hoed, so that they would be no disgrace to a Norfolk farmer. This is the great object wanting in Irish tillage; a gentleman, therefore, who makes so considerable a progress in it, acts in a manner the most deserving praise that the whole circle of his husbandry will admit. Mr. Oliver has usually drawn his crops for sheep and black cattle; for the former he has spread them upon grass fields to their very great improvement; and the cattle have had them given in stalls. All sorts have done perfectly well on them, insomuch that he is fully convinced of their great importance: he has found that they support the cattle much better than any thing else, to such a degree of superiority, he is determined never to be without a crop. He has always dunged for them, except when he has ploughed up a grass lay, and then he has found it not necessary.

In bringing in furzy waste land he has improved very extensively. One instance in particular I shall mention, because it is the best preparation for laying land to grass that I have met with in Ireland: he first dug it and put in potatoes, no manure, the crop middling; and after that cleared it of stones, which were in great numbers, and sowed turnips, of which crop the following are the particulars.

“In November 1771, the Rev. Archdeacon John Oliver (at his residence in the county of Corke) began to cultivate a field for turnips and cabbages; the field contained about 40 English acres, but was so full of rocks that only about ten or eleven plantation acres could be tilled, the remainder being a limestone quarry; the surface in the part tilled, in general, not above four inches deep, and in the deepest part not above twelve inches over the lime-stone quarry; this ground was planted with potatoes the spring preceding, without any manure, and all done with the spade, and in many parts there was not sufficient covering for them. The ploughing for turnips and cabbages was finished the latter end of December; it remained in that state till the month of March following (1772,) when a large quantity of stones were taken out with crows and spades; it was then ploughed a second time, then harrowed with very strong harrows made on purpose; about the latter end of May it was rolled

rolled with a wooden roller; on the 11th, 12th, and 13th of June, it was sowed with about one pound and a quarter of seeds to the English acre. When the turnips were in four leaves there appeared more fern and potatoes than turnips, which were weeded out by hand, at a great expense; and in about three weeks after, when the turnips began to bottom, they got a second weeding as before, after which they were again thinned by hand; these different operations were continued till the turnips were about a pound weight, and then they were thinned again, and weeded as often as there was occasion, and now it is imagined they are as great a crop as any in the kingdom, some thousands weighing fourteen pounds per turnip. Part of the same field is sowed in drills, thinned and weeded as the other, but they are not equal to the broad cast, but are a very good crop. Another part of the same field is planted with 20,300 cabbages of different kinds, namely, the flat Dutch, borecole, large late Dutch cabbage, turnip-cabbage, and large Scotch cabbage, at three feet between each drill, and two feet in the rows, which is at least one foot too near in the drills, and half a foot in the rows, as they now touch one another this 13th of October. All the said cabbages and turnips were cultivated with the plough, and the cabbages hoed with the garden hoes, and manured mostly with rotten dung; part with horse-dung, not half rotten, from the stable; part with cow-dung, not rotten; part with sea-slob and lime mixed; all which ma-
 nures

nures answer very well. One small part of the field where the cabbages were planted, was broke from the lay last March, got six ploughings and five harrowings; another part four ploughings and three harrowings.

The quantity of ground under turnips is 8a. 1r. 10p.

Under cabbages 2a. 1r. 10p.

The turnip ground got no manure of any kind, nor was it burned.

The foregoing improvements were conducted under the immediate care and management of

MAURICE MURRAY."

After these turnips he sowed barley, and with the barley, grafs seeds; before this improvement the land was worth 10s. an acre, but after it would let for 25s. the grafs having succeeded perfectly. Cabbages Mr. Oliver has also cultivated these four years, and with success, but does not find, upon the whole, they succeed so well as turnips, except Reynolds' turnip-rooted cabbage, which is of very great use late in the spring, after other sorts are gone. Beans Mr. Oliver has also tried in small quantities, and seem to do pretty well; I saw his crop this year drilled and well managed, and a good produce, enough to give him the expectation of their being an advantageous article. Lucerne he has also tried, but found the trouble of keeping it clean too great to answer the cultivation.

tivation. Upon manures he has tried an experiment, which promises to be of considerable consequence; upon some land he took in from a creek of Corke harbour, under the slob or sea ooze he dug some very fine blue marle; this he tried for potatoes against dung; the crops to appearance very equal, but upon measuring a *spade* of each, the part marled yielded 14lb. but that dunged only $7\frac{1}{2}$ lb. but the dunging was not a considerable one. It is an object of prodigious consequence to be able to get potatoes at all with marle. In the cultivation of this root Mr. Oliver has introduced the mode of planting them in drills, two feet and a half asunder, with the plough, and found that the saving of labour is exceedingly great, but that the difference of crop is rather in favour of the common method: an acre which yielded 1005 weights, the drilled 822, but saving in the seed of the drilled 60 weights, each weight 21lb.

Mr. Oliver has just taken a farm of 400 acres of land, waste or exhausted by the preceding tenant by incessant crops of corn; this land was rented as 1s. 6d. an acre, but Mr. Oliver has tried it at 15s. and is at present engaged in making very great improvements on it; draining the wet parts, grubbing furze, fallowing, liming, inclosing, and building offices, doing the whole in the most perfect manner, and will soon make the farm carry an appearance very different from what it ever did before. His fallows for wheat had been well and often ploughed,

ploughed, and of a countenance very different from any lands in the neighbourhood.

A year after the date of this journey, having the pleasure of being again with this excellent improver, I had a farther opportunity of becoming better acquainted with his management. I had also gone over an improvement of his at Duntreleague, near Mitchelstown, where he advanced 300 acres of mountain from 50l. or 60l. a year to 300l. a year, having hired it on a lease for ever; he divided the whole in fields of a proper size by well-made ditches, doubly planted with quick and rows of trees; the lands were improved with lime, laid down to grass, and let to tenants who pay their rents well; but Mr. Oliver residing at a distance, the trees were very much damaged and hurt by the tenants cattle. To all appearance this improvement was as completely finished as any in Ireland, and the great profit arising from the undertaking induced the archdeacon to attempt his new one I mentioned above. In that I found a very great progress made: besides an excellent barn of stone and slate, there was a steward's house, stables, &c. and a good farm-yard, walled in; and it was with particular pleasure I saw (it was in winter) a large number of cows and young cattle very well littered in it with straw, and feeding on turnips a thick layer of sea-sand having been spread all over it. The improvement and cultivation of the farm went on apace, especially the liming; the kiln had been burning a twelvemonth, in which time the expense had been as follows:

364 barrels

364 barrels of culm, at 4s.	-	-	73	0	0
The quarry is $1\frac{1}{4}$ mile English from the kiln; two horses and two men drawing stone, at 18s. a week	-	-	46	16	0
Two men quarrying, 5s. a week to one, and 3s. a week to the other	-	-	20	16	0
Breaking and burning, 8s. a week	-	-	20	16	0
Gunpowder, 1s. a month	-	-	0	12	0
24 waggon-load of coal cinders, bought at Corke, at 10s.	-	-	12	0	0
One horse and man carries out 24 barrels a day, at 1s. 6d. 242 days	-	-	18	1	0
			<hr/>		
Total			£. 192	1	0
			<hr/>		

The quantity of lime drawn from February 1777 to Feb. 1778 was 5824 barrels, the expense therefore just 8d. a barrel. One Corke barrel of culm, at 4s. used every day, and half a barrel of ashes: the kiln draws 18 barrels a day, 16 for 1 of culm, and 10 for 1 including cinders. This barrel of culm is 6 bushels heaped. Mr. Oliver had an old memorandum, that the price of fuel was three-pence farthing per barrel of lime. Twelve tons of lime-stone produces 50 barrels of roach lime. Nor does the arch-deacon trust to lime alone; he buys great quantities of dung and soap ashes in Corke. At the same time I viewed his turnip crops on his home farm, and found them excellent, and many oxen tied in stalls fattening on them, a practice he finds exceedingly profitable; when other

other graziers sell their bullocks with difficulty, he puts his to turnips, and doubles and trebles their value. In 1777 he had 23 acres of turnips. Before I conclude this account of his spirited exertions, I must add, that if a very few improvers in Ireland have gone through more extensive operations, I have not found one more attentive or more practical, and, upon the whole, scarcely any that come near to him.

Land about Coolmore lets from 8s. to 20s. The soil lime-stone. Farms rise from 50l. to 300l. The courses are,

1. Potatoes, yield \sim 50 barrels. 2. Wheat, 3 barrels: add sometimes, 3. Oats. 4. Lay out for grafs.

The poor people have most of them land with their cabbins, from four to six acres, which they sow with potatoes and wheat. Not many of them keep cows, but a few sorry sheep for milk; they generally have milk, either of their own, or bought, in summer, and in winter they have herrings; but live, upon the whole, worse than in many other parts of the kingdom. The price of labour 6d. a day the year round; in harvest 8d. Rent of a cabin 20s. Many dairies here, which are generally set at four pound a cow, some four guineas, and near Corke, five pounds.

The manures are lime, at 1s. 4d. a barrel roach; if burnt by themselves, 8d. to 10d. lay thirty to fifty barrels. Sea sand is used, sixty to eighty bags, each five pecks, to the acre. Corke dung costs 6d. to 1s. a car load; it is all bought up very carefully; 10l. a year is paid for the cleaning of one street; this argues a very spirited husbandry.

Rode to the mouth of Corke harbour; the grounds about it are all fine, bold, and varied, but so bare of trees, that there is not a single view but what pains one in the want of wood. Rents of the tract south of the river Caragoline, from 5s. to 30s. average, 10s. Not one man in five has a cow, but generally from one to four acres, upon which they have potatoes, and five or six sheep, which they milk, and spin their wool. Labour 5d. in winter, 6d. in summer; many of them for three months in the year live on potatoes and water, the rest of it they have a good deal of fish. But it is remarked, at Kinsale, that when sprats are most plentiful, diseases are most common. Rent for a mere cabin, 10s. Much paring and burning; paring twenty-eight men a day, sow wheat on it and then potatoes; get great crops. The soil a sharp stoney land; no lime-stone south of the above river. Manure for potatoes, with sea weed for 26s. which gives good crops, but lasts only one year. Sea sand much used, no shells in it. Farms rise to two or three hundred acres, but are hired in partnership.

Before I quit the environs of Corke, I must remark, that the country on the harbour, I think preferable, in many respects for a residence, to any thing I have seen in Ireland. *First*, It is the most southerly part of the kingdom. *Second*, there are very great beauties of prospect. *Third*, by much the most animated, busy scene of shipping in all Ireland, and consequently, *Fourth*, a ready price for every product. *Fifth*, great plenty of excellent fish and wild fowl. *Sixth*, the neighbourhood of a great city for objects of convenience.

September 24th, took my leave of Mr. Oliver; I purposed going from hence to Bandon, in the way to Carbury, and so to Killarney, by Bantry and Nedeen, and with this view had got letters of recommendation to several gentlemen in that country; but hearing that the Priests Leap between Bantry and Nedeen was utterly impassable, the road not being finished, which is making by subscription. I changed my route, and took the Macroon road. Dined with Colonel Ayres, who informed me that the agriculture of that neighbourhood was very indifferent, and little worth noting, except the use of lime as a manure, which is practised with great success. From his house I took the Nedeen road.

Passed Brockham, the place where Cornelius Townshend, Esq; eight years ago fixed two Suffex farmers, to improve a stoney mountain. I saw the land, and some of the buildings, and
having

having heard several accounts of the transaction from friends to the farmers, which accounts had been received from them; I wished to have Mr. Townshend's, and with that view called at his house, but unfortunately he was not at home; as I missed him, I shall only mention the affair in the light it appeared to me from the particulars I received from different hands.

Mr. Townshend wishing to improve his estate, a considerable part of which consisted of mountain, but surprizingly full of rocks and stones; he engaged two Suffex farmers, (Messrs. Crampe, and Johnson) to come over to Ireland, to view the lands in question: they both came over, examined the land, and hired a tract for some time at no rent, or a very small one, and after that at a rent named and agreed to. The men returned, settled their affairs in England, bought very fine horses, and embarked all their stock, implements, &c. and came over, under circumstances of great, but useless expence. When they got to the land, houses and offices were built for them, in a most complete stile, and among others, a barn 100 feet long, and 37 broad; an exceedingly ill-judged expence, the result of bringing merely English (perhaps mistaken in ideas) into the climate of Ireland.

These buildings being executing at the landlord's expence, but the tenants drawing the materials, they began the improvement; and

found the land so excessively stoney, that the expence of clearing was too great to be within a possibility of answering. One field of eight acres cost 100l. in clearing: walls were built 10 feet thick, with stones that arose in clearing the land. The undertaking went on for 4 years, but was then concluded in the way one might have expected. The men were ruined, and Mr. Townshend suffered considerably by the expences of the undertaking, rising infinitely beyond what he had ever thought they could amount to.

Had Mr. Townshend met with farmers of sufficient knowledge in their profession, they would not probably have fixed on this spot at all; certainly when they found to what excess it abounded with stones, they would have persuaded him either to give them other land, or have hired a more favourable soil of some other landlord: at all events to persist in improving a spot, the improvement of which could never be repaid, whether it was upon their own, or their landlord's account, was equally inexcusable in point of prudence, and the sure way to bring discredit on the undertaking, and ridicule on what falsely acquired the name of *English husbandry*. Planting is the only proper improvement for land abounding to such excess with rocks.

From hence I reached Sir John Coulthurst's at Knightsbridge, who has a very extensive estate here, 7000 acres of which are mountain and

and bog. I was unfortunate in not having seen Sir John's seat, near Corke, for there he is at work upon 1000 acres of mountain, and making very great improvements, in which, among other circumstances, he works his bullocks by the horns.

September 25th, took the road to Nedeem, through the wildest region of mountains that I remember to have seen; it is a dreary, but an interesting road. The various horrid, grotesque and unusual forms in which the mountains rise, and the rocks bulge; the immense height of some distant heads, which rear above all the nearer scenes, the torrents roaring in the vales, and breaking down the mountain sides, with here and there a wretched cabin, and a spot of culture yielding surprise to find human beings the inhabitants of such a scene of wildness, altogether keep the traveller's mind in an agitation and suspense. These rocks and mountains are many of them no otherwise improvable than by planting, for which, however, they are exceedingly well adapted.

Sir John was so obliging as to send half a dozen labourers with me, to help my chaise up a mountain side, of which he gave a formidable account: in truth it deserved it. The road leads directly against a mountain ridge, and those who made it were so incredibly stupid, that they kept the strait line up the hill, instead of turning aside to the right, to wind around a projection of it. The path of the

road is worn by torrents into a channel, which is blocked up in places by huge fragments, so that it would be a horrid road on a level; but on a hill so steep, that the best path would be difficult to ascend, it may be supposed terrible: the labourers, two passing strangers, and my servant, could with difficulty get the chaise up. It is much to be regretted that the direction of the road is not changed, as all the rest from Corke to Nédeen is good enough. For a few miles towards the latter place the country is flat on the river Kenmare, much of it good, and under grass or corn. Passed Mr. Orpine's at Ardtilly, and another of the same name at Killowen.

Nedeen is a little town, very well situated, on the noble river Kenmare, where ships of 150 tons may come up: there are but three or four good houses. Lord Shelburne, to whom the place belongs, has built one for his agent. There is a vale of good land, which is here from a mile and a half to a mile broad; and to the north and south, great ridges of mountains said to be full of mines.

At Nedeen, Lord Shelburne had taken care to have me well informed by his people in that country, which belongs for the greatest part to himself, he has above 150,000 Irish acres in Kerry; the greatest part of the barony of Glanrought belongs to him, most of Dunkerron and Iveragh. The country is all a region of mountains, inclosed by a vale of flat land on the river;

ver; the mountains to the south come to the water's edge, with but few variations, the principal of which is Ardee, a farm of Lord Shelburne's: to the north of the river, the flat land is one-half to three quarters of a mile broad. The mountains to the south reach to Bear-haven, and those to the north to Dingle-bay; the soil is extremely various; to the south of the river all are sand stones, and the hills loam, stone, gravel, and bog. To the north there is a slip of lime-stone land, from Kilgarvon to Cabbina-cush, that is six miles east of Nedeen, and three to the west, but is not more than a quarter of a mile broad, the rest including the mountains all sand stone. As to its rents, it is very difficult to tell what they are; for land is let by the plough land and gineve, 12 gineves to the plough land; but the latter denomination is not of any particular quantity: for no 2 plough lands are the same. The size of farms is various, from 40 acres to 1000, less quantities go with cabins, and some farms are taken by labourers in partnership. Their tillage consists of potatoes measured by the peck of 84lb. manure for them with sea weed, three boat loads to an acre, each at 16s. 3d. the poor people use nothing else: but those who can afford it, lay dung with it. These potatoes are the first crop. Thirty pecks plant an acre, and it takes from twenty to thirty men to set an acre in a day.

1. Potatoes.

1. Potatoes. 2. Potatoes. 3. Oats, or barley, good crops. 4. Lay it out for what comes, and in the first season the finest grasses appear.

Some wheat is sown, but not generally by the poor people. Oats are the common crop. This is the short history of their arable management. There are some dairies; from 12 to 24 cows in each, and are set at 50s. or one cwt. of butter and 12s. horn money, the dairy-men's privilege is two collops to 20 cows; a cabin, and three acres of land. The butter is all carried to Corke on horses backs. Three years ago 40s. a cow was the highest. The common stock of the mountains are young cattle, bred by the poor people; but the large farmers go generally to Limerick for yearlings, turn them on the mountains, where they are kept till three years old, when they sell them at Nedeem or Killarney, engaging them to be with calf. Buy at 40s. this year, but used to be from 20s. to 30s. formerly sold at 50s. now at 3l. The poor people's heifers sell at three years old, at 30s. their breed is the little mountain, or Kerry cow, which upon good land gives a great deal of milk. I have remarked, as I travelled through the country, much of the Alderney breed in some of them. The winter food, which the farmers provide, is to keep bottom lands through the summer, which they call a nursery, to which they bring their cattle down from the mountains when the weather becomes severe. There are great numbers

numbers of swine, and many reared on the mountains by the Tormentile root, which abounds there, and from which they will come down good pork. There are few sheep kept, not sufficient to cloath the poor people, who, however, work up what there is into frize. Lambs sell from 2s. 2d. to 3s. at four months old. Three year old wethers, fat, from 5s. to 8s. weight about 9lb. a quarter, and are admirable mutton. A ewe's fleece, one pound and a half to two pound and a half. A lamb's, one pound. A three year old wether, two pound and a half. They have some cows, which are fattened in the vales ; and also some on the mountains, weighing 2 cwt. and two and a quarter. Many goats are kept on the mountains, especially by the poor people, to whom they are a very great support ; for upon the mountains the milk of a goat is equal to that of a cow ; and some of the kids are killed for meat.

Upon asking whether they ploughed with horses or oxen, I was told there was not a plough in the whole parish of Tooavista, which is 12 miles long by 7 broad. All the tillage is by the Irish loy ; ten men dig an acre a day that has been stirred before. It will take forty men to put in an acre of potatoes in a day. Rents have fallen greatly in most parts of Kerry. Tythes in 1770 and in 1771 were taken in kind, owing to their having been pushed up to too great a height ; since 1771 they have been lowered ; the pro-
tor

tor every year values the tythe of the whole farm. Leases are, some for ever, others 31 years, and some 21. The rent of a cabin, without land, 6s. with an acre of land, 1l. 2s. 9d. The grass for a cow is 40s. on the mountains from 1s. 6d. to 2s. 6d. a quarter. They have generally about five acres. They all keep a cow or two. All on the mountains have goats. Swine also are universal among them. The labour of the farms are generally carried on by cottars, to whom the farmer assigns a cabin, and a garden, and the running of two collops on the mountain, for which he pays a rent; he is bound to work with his master for 3d. a day and two meals. Their food in summer potatoes and milk; but in spring they have only potatoes and water. Sometimes they have herrings and sprats. They never eat salmon. The religion is in general Roman catholic,

Lime, 1s. a barrel, but may be burnt for 8d. Fuel, all turf, 13d. a flane, each flane four feet long, by two feet broad. Price of building a cabin, with stone and slate in lime mortar 20l.

There has been a considerable fishery upon the coast of Kerry, particularly in the Kenmare, at Ballenskillings in Iveragh, in the river Valentia, in Bear Haven, in Castlemain bay, in Dingle bay, &c. Last year, that in the Kenmare river was the most considerable: it employed twelve boats. This year none at all; the chief in Ballenskerrings and river Valentia.

Valentia. None in Kenmare for several years before : but great abundance of sprats for three years. Salmon is constant; they export about five tons, salted. The herrings chiefly for home consumption, salted and fresh. The herring boats are of two tons, 14 foot keel, cost building 3l. 3s. five men go in each: they are built here of bog deal. A string of three nets cost 3l. the poor go shares in the fishery; build or hire the boat, and join for the nets, which are made of hemp, bought at Corke, and spun and made here: they tan them with bark. There are many more men would go out if they had boats, but it is a very uncertain fishery. Many persons have put themselves to considerable expence about it, but without success, except thirty-three years ago, when the pilchards came in, and have never been here since,

Killarney is the principal market for wheat, which is twelve miles distant. A sloop constantly employed upon the river Kenmare, in bringing salt and carrying lime-stone, or whatever was wanted, would be a great improvement.

Lord Shelburne has a plan for improving Nedeem, to which he has given the name of Kenmare, from his friend the nobleman, with that title, which, when executed, must be of considerable importance. It is to build ten cabbins, and annex ten acres to each cabin,
rent

rent free for twenty-one years; also to form twenty-acred allotments for the parks to the town of Nedeen, with design to encourage settlements in it, for which 330 acres are kept in hand. The situation is advantageous, and ships of 100 tons can come up to it, with a very good landing-place. He has also fixed some English farmers.

Relative to the improvement of the wild regions within sight of the house I was in, I asked, *Suppose five acres of those mountains to be cleared of stones, a stone cabin built, at 7l. expence, and a wall raised round the whole, and to be let at a reasonable rent, would a tenant be found? "That moment." Suppose six of them, or twelve? "You would have tenants for all, if there were an hundred."*

In the parish of Tooavister, they have a way of taking land by the *ounce*, in the arable part, which joins the sea. An ounce is the sixteenth of a gineve, and is sufficient for a potatoe garden, and they pay a guinea for it.

The climate in these parts of Kerry is so mild, that potatoes are left by the poor people in the ground the whole winter through; but last winter almost ruined them, their crop being destroyed.

September 26th, left Nedeen, and rising the mountainous region, towards Killarney, came to a tract of mountain-bog, one of the most improvable

improvable I have any where seen. It hangs to the south, and might be drained with the utmost ease. It yields a coarse grass, and has nothing in it to stop a plough. Lord Shelburne's agent, Mr. Wray, told me, that there are vast tracts of such in the barony of Iveragh. There is common gravel on the spot, and limestone in plenty, within half a mile of Nedeen.

Soon entered the wildest and most romantic country I had any where seen; a region of steep rocks and mountains, which continued for nine or ten miles, till I came in view of Mucrus. There is something magnificently wild in this stupendous scenery, formed to impress the mind with a certain species of terror. All this tract has a rude and savage air, but parts of it are strikingly interesting; the mountains are bare and rocky, and of a great magnitude; the vales are rocky glens, where a mountain-stream tumbles along the roughest bed imaginable, and receives many torrents, pouring from clefts, half overhung with shrubby wood; some of these streams are seen, and the roar of others heard, but hid by vast masses of rock. Immense fragments, torn from the precipices by storms and torrents, are tumbled about in the wildest confusion, and seem to hang rather than rest upon projecting precipices. Upon some of these fragments of rock, perfectly detached from the soil, except by the side on which they lie, are beds of black turf, with luxuriant crops of heath, &c. which appeared very curious to me, having no where
seen

seen the like; and I observed very high in the mountains, much higher than any cultivation is at present, on the right hand, flat and cleared spaces of good grafs among the ridges of rock, which had probably been cultivated, and proved that these mountains were not incapable from climate of being applied to useful purposes,

From one of these heights, I looked forward to the lake of Killarney at a considerable distance, and backward to the river Kenmare; came in view of a small part of the upper lake, spotted with several islands, and surrounded by the most tremendous mountains that can be imagined of an aspect savage and dreadful. From this scene of wild magnificence, I broke at once upon all the glories of Killarney; from an elevated point of view I looked down on a considerable part of the lake, which gave me a specimen of what I might expect. The water you command (which, however, is only a part of the lake) appears a basin of two or three miles round; to the left it is inclosed by the mountains you have passed particularly by the Turk, whose outline is uncommonly noble, and joins a range of others, that form the most magnificent shore in the world: on the other side is a rising scenery of cultivated hills, and Lord Kenmare's park and woods; the end of the lake at your feet is formed by the root of Mangerton, on whose side the road leads. From hence I looked down on a pretty range of
of

of inclosures on the lake, and the woods and lawns of Mucruss, forming a large promontory of thick wood, shooting far into the lake. The most active fancy can sketch nothing in addition. Islands of wood beyond seem to join it, and reaches of the lake, breaking partly between, give the most lively intermixture of water: six or seven isles and islets form an accompaniment, some are rocky, but with a slight vegetation, others contain groups of trees, and the whole thrown into forms, which would furnish new ideas to a painter. Farther is a chain of wooded islands, which also appear to join the main land, with an offspring of lesser ones scattered around.

Arrived at Mr. Herbert's at Mucruss, to whose friendly attention I owed my succeeding pleasure. There have been so many descriptions of Killarney written by gentlemen who have resided some time there, and seen it at every season, that for a passing traveller to attempt the like, would be in vain; for this reason I shall give the mere journal of the remarks I made on the spot, in the order I viewed the lake.

September 27th, walked into Mr. Herbert's beautiful grounds, to Oroch's hill, in the lawn that he has cleared from that profusion of stones which lie under the wall; the scene which this point commands is truly delicious; the house is on the edge of the lawn, by a wood which covers the whole peninsula, fringes the slope at
your

your feet, and forms a beautiful shore to the lake. Tomis and Glena are vast mountainous masses of incredible magnificence, the outline soft and easy in its swells, whereas those above the eagle's nest are of so broken and abrupt an outline, that nothing can be imagined more savage, an aspect horrid and sublime, that gives all the impressions to be wished to astonish, rather than please the mind. The Turk exhibits noble features, and Mangerton's huge body rises above the whole. The cultivated tracts towards Killarney, form a shore in contrast to the terrific scenes I have just mentioned; the distant boundary of the lake, a vast ridge of distant blue mountains towards Dingle. From hence entered the garden, and viewed Mucruss abbey, one of the most interesting scenes I ever saw; it is the ruin of a considerable abbey, built in Henry the VIth's time, and so entire, that if it were more so, though the building would be more perfect, the *ruin* would be less pleasing; it is half obscured in the shade of some venerable ash trees; ivy has given the picturesque circumstance, which that plant alone can confer, while the broken walls and ruined turrets throw over it

The last mournful graces of decay,

heaps of skulls and bones scattered about, with nettles, briars and weeds sprouting in tufts from the loose stones, all unite to raise those melancholy impressions, which are the merit of such scenes, and which can scarcely any where

be felt more completely. The cloisters form a dismal area, in the center of which grows the most prodigious yew tree I ever beheld, in one great stem, two feet diameter, and fourteen feet high, from whence a vast head of branches spreads on every side, so as to form a perfect canopy to the whole space; I looked for its fit inhabitant—it is a spot where

The moping owl doth to the moon complain.

This ruin is in the true stile in which all such buildings should appear; there is not an intruding circumstance—the hand of dress has not touched it—melancholy is the impresson which such scenes should kindle, and it is here raised most powerfully.

From the abbey we passed to the terrafs, a natural one of grass, on the very shore of the lake; it is irregular and winding; a wall of rocks broken into fantastic forms by the waves: on the other side, a wood, consisting of all sorts of plants, which the climate can protect, and through which a variety of walks are traced. The view from this terrafs consists of many parts of various characters, but in their different stiles complete; the lake opens a spreading sheet of water, spotted by rocks and islands, all but one or two wooded, the outlines of them are sharp and distinct; nothing can be more smiling than this scene, soft and mild, a perfect contrast of beauty to the sublimity of the mountains which form the shore:

shore: these rise in an outline, so varied, and at the same time so magnificent, that nothing greater can be imagined; Tomys and Glona exhibit an immensity in point of magnitude, but from a large hanging wood on the slope, and from the smoothness of the general surface, it has nothing savage, whereas the mountains above and near the Eagle's-nest are of the most broken outlines; the declivities are bulging rocks, of immense size, which seem to impend in horrid forms over the lake, and where an opening among them is caught, others of the same rude character, rear their threatening heads. From different parts of the terraces these scenes are viewed in numberless varieties.

Returned to breakfast, and pursued Mr. Herbert's new road, which he has traced thro' the peninsula to Dynis island, three miles in length; and it is carried in so judicious a manner through a great variety of ground, rocky woods, lawns, &c. that nothing can be more pleasing; it passes through a remarkable scene of rocks, which are covered with woods; from thence to the marble quarry, which Mr. Herbert is working; and where he gains variety of marbles, green, red, white, and brown, prettily veined; the quarry is a shore of rocks, which surround a bay of the lake, and forms a scene, consisting of but few parts, but those strongly marked; the rocks are bold, and broken into slight caverns; they are fringed with scattered trees, and from many parts of

them wood shoots in that romantic manner, so common at Killarney. Full in front Turk mountain rises with the proudest outline, in that abrupt magnificence which fills up the whole space before one, and closes the scene.

The road leads by a place where copper-mines were worked; many shafts appear; as much ore was raised as sold for twenty-five thousand pounds, but the works were laid aside, more from ignorance in the workmen, than any defects in the mine.

Came to an opening on the Great Lake, which appears to advantage here, the town of Killarney on the north-east shore. Look full on the mountain Glená, which rises in a very bold manner, the hanging woods spread half way, and are of great extent, and uncommonly beautiful. Two very pleasing scenes succeed, that to the left is a small bay, hemmed in by a neck of land in front; the immediate shore rocks, which are in a picturesque stile, and crowned entirely with arbutus, and other wood, a pretty retired scene, where a variety of objects give no fatigue to the eye. The other is an admirable mixture of the beautiful and sublime: a bare rock, of an almost regular figure, projects from a headland into the lake, which with much wood and high land, forms one side of the scene, the other is wood from a rising ground only; the lake open between, in a sheet of no great extent, but in front is the

hanging wood of Glená, which appears in full glory.

Mr. Herbert has built a handsome Gothic bridge, to unite the peninsula to the island of Brickeen, through the arch of which the waters of the north and south lake flow. It is a span of twenty-seven feet, and seventeen high, and over it the road leads to that island. From thence to Brickeen nearly finished, and it is to be thrown across a bottom into Dynis.

Returned by the northern path through a thick wood for some distance, and caught a very agreeable view of Ash Island, seen through an opening, inclosed on both sides with wood. Pursued the way from these grounds to Keelbeg, and viewed the bay of the Devil's Island, which is a beautiful one, inclosed by a shore, to the right of very noble rocks, in ledges and other forms, crowned in a striking manner with wood; a little rocky islet rises in front; to the left the water opens, and Turk mountain rises with that proud superiority which attends him in all these scenes.

The view of the promontory of Dindog, near this place, closes this part of the lake, and is indeed singularly beautiful. It is a large rock, which shoots far into the water, of a height sufficient to be interesting, in full relief, fringed with a scanty vegetation; the shore on which you stand bending to the right, as if to meet that rock, presents a circular shade of dark wood:

wood : Turk still the back ground, in a character of great sublimity, and Mangerton's loftier summit, but less interesting outline, a part of the scenery. These views, with others of less moment, are connected by a succession of lawns breaking among the wood, pleasing the eye with lively verdure, and relieving it from the fatigue of the stupendous mountain scenes.

September 28th, took boat on the lake, from the promontory of Dindog before mentioned. I had been under a million of apprehensions that I should see no more of Killarney ; for it blew a furious storm all night, and in the morning the bosom of the lake heaved with agitation, exhibiting few marks but those of anger. After breakfast, it cleared up, the clouds dispersed by degrees, the waves subsided, the sun shone out in all its splendor ; every scene was gay, and no ideas but pleasure possessed the breast. With these emotions sallied forth, nor did they disappoint us.

Rowed under the rocky shore of Dindog, which is romantic to a great degree. The base, by the beating of the waves, is worn into caverns, so that the heads of the rocks project considerably beyond the base, and hang over in a manner which makes every part of it interesting. Following the coast, open marble quarry bay, the shore great fragments of rock tumbled about in the wildest manner.

The island of rocks against the copper-mine shore, a remarkable group. The shore near Casemilan is of a different nature; it is wood in some places, in unbroken masses down to the water's edge, in others divided from it by smaller tracts of rock. Come to a beautiful land-locked bay, surrounded by a woody shore, which opening in places, shews other woods more retired. Tomys is here viewed in a unity of form, which gives it an air of great magnificence. Turk was obscured by the sun shining immediately above him, and casting a stream of burning light on the water, displayed an effect, to describe which the pencil of a Claude alone would be equal. Turn out of the bay, and gain a full view of the Eagle's Nest, the mountains above it, and Glená, they form a perfect contrast, the first are rugged, but Glená mild. Here the shore is a continued wood.

Pass the bridge, and cross to Dynis, an island Mr. Herbert has improved in the most agreeable manner, by cutting walks through it, that command a variety of views. One of these paths on the banks of the channel to the upper lake, is sketched with great taste; it is on one side walled with natural rocks, from the clefts of which shoot a thousand fine arbutus's, that hang in a rich foliage of flowers and scarlet berries; a turf bench in a delicious spot; the scene close and sequestered, just enough to give every pleasing idea annexed to retirement.

Passing the bridge, by a rapid stream, came presently to the Eagle's Nest: having viewed
this

this rock from places where it appears only a part of an object much greater than itself, I had conceived an idea that it did not deserve the applause given it, but upon coming near, I was much surprized; the approach is wonderfully fine, the river leads directly to its foot, and does not give the turn till immediately under, by which means the view is much more grand than it could otherwise be; it is nearly perpendicular, and rises in such full majesty, with so bold an outline, and such projecting masses in its center, that the magnificence of the object is complete. The lower part is covered with wood, and scattered trees climb almost to the top, which (if trees can be amiss in Ireland) rather weaken the impression raised by this noble rock; this part is a hanging wood, or an object whose character is perfect beauty; but the upper scene, the broken outline, rugged sides, and bulging masses, are all sublime, and so powerful, that sublimity is the general impression of the whole, by overpowering the idea of beauty raised by the wood. The immense height of the mountains of Killarney may be estimated by this rock, from any distant place that commands it, it appears the lowest crag of a vast chain, and of no account; but on a close approach it is found to command a very different respect.

Pass between the mountains called the Great Range, towards the upper lake. Here Turk, which has so long appeared, with a figure perfectly interesting, is become, from a different position,

position, an unmeaning lump. The rest of the mountains, as you pass, assume a varied appearance, and are of a prodigious magnitude. The scenery in this channel is great and wild in all its features; wood is very scarce; vast rocks seem tossed in confusion through the narrow vale, which is opened among the mountains for the river to pass. Its banks are rocks in a hundred forms; the mountain sides are every where scattered with them. There is not a circumstance but is in unison with the wild grandeur of the scene.

Coleman's Eye, a narrow pass, opens a different scenery. Came to a region in which the beautiful and the great are mixed without offence. The islands are most of them thickly wooded; Oak isle in particular rises on a pretty base, and is a most beautiful object: Mac Gilly Cuddy's reeks, with their broken points; Baum, with his perfect cone; the Purple mountain, with his broad and more regular head; and Turk, having assumed a new and more interesting aspect, unite with the opposite hills, part of which have some wood left on them, to form a scene uncommonly striking. Here you look back on a very peculiar spot; it is a parcel of rocks which cross the lake, and form a gap that opens to distant water, the whole backed by Turk, in a stile of the highest grandeur.

Come to Derry Currily, which is a great sweep of mountain, covered partly with wood,
hanging

hanging in a very noble manner, but part cut down, much of it mangled, and the rest inhabited by coopers, boat-builders, carpenters, and turners, a sacrilegious tribe, who have turned the Dryades from their ancient habitations. The cascade here is a fine one, but passed quickly from hence to scenes unmixed with pain.

Row to the cluster of the Seven Islands, a little archipelago; they rise very boldly from the water upon rocky bases, and are crowned in the most beautiful manner with wood, among which are a number of arbutus; the channels among them opening to new scenes, and the great amphitheatre of rock and mountain that surround them, unite to form a noble view.

Into the river, at the very end of the lake, which winds towards Mac Gilly Cuddy's Reeks in fanciful meanders.

Returned by a course somewhat different, through the Seven Islands, and back to the Eagle's Nest, viewing the scenes already mentioned in new positions. At that noble rock fired three cannon for the echo, which indeed is prodigious; the report does not consist of direct reverberations from one rock to another with a pause between, but has an exact resemblance to a peal of thunder rattling behind the rock, as if travelling the whole scenery we had viewed and lost in the immensity of Mac Gilly Cuddy's Reeks.

Returning through the bridge, turn to the left round Dynis island, under the woods of Glená; open on the cultivated country beyond the town of Killarney, and come gradually in sight of Innisfallen and Ross Island.

Pass near to the wood of Glená, which here takes the appearance of one immense sweep hanging in the most beautiful manner imaginable, on the side of a vast mountain to a point, shooting into the great lake. A more glorious scene is not to be imagined. It is one deep mass of wood, composed of the richest shades perfectly dipping in the water, without rock or strand appearing, not a break in the whole. The eye passing upon the sheet of liquid silver some distance, to meet so intire a sweep of every tint that can compose one vast mass of green, hanging to such an extent as to fill not only the eye, but the imagination unites in the whole to form the most noble scene that is any where to be beheld.

Turn under the North shore of Mucrus; the lake here is one great expanse of water, bounded by the woods described, the islands of Innisfallen, Ross, &c. and the peninsula. The shore of Mucrus has a great variety; it is in some places rocky, huge masses tumbled from their base lie beneath, as in a chaos of ruin. Great caverns worn under them in a variety of strange forms; or else covered with woods of a variety of shades. Meet the point of Ard-nagluggen, (in English where the water dashes
on

on the rocks) and come under Ornescope, a rocky headland of a most bold projection hanging many yards over its base, with an old weather-beaten yew, growing from a little bracket of rock, from which the spot is called Ornescope, or *yew broom*.

Mucrus's gardens presently open among the woods, and relieve the eye, almost fatigued with the immense objects upon which it has so long gazed; these softer scenes of lawn gently swelling among the shrubs and trees, finished the second day.

September 29th, rode, after breakfast, to Mangerton Cascade and Drumarourk Hill, from which the view of Mucrus is uncommonly pleasing.

Pass the other hill, the view of which I described the 27th, and went to Colonel Hussy's monument, from whence the scene is different from the rest; the fore ground is a gentle hill, intersected by hedges, forming several small lawns. There are some scattered trees and houses, with Mucrus's Abbey, half obscured by wood, the whole cheerful, and backed by Turk. The lake is of a triangular form, Ross island and Innisfallen its limits, the woods of Mucrus and the islands take a new position.

Returning, took boat again towards Ross isle, and as Mucrus retires from us, nothing can be more beautiful than the spots of lawn
in

in the terrace opening in the wood ; above it, the green hills with clumps, and the whole finishing in the noble group of wood about the abbey, which here appears a deep shade, and so fine a finishing one, that not a tree should be touched. Rowed to the east point of Ross, which is well wooded, turn to the south coast. Doubling the point, the most beautiful shore of that island appears ; it is the well wooded environs of a bay, except a small opening to the castle ; the woods are in deep shades, and rise on the regular slopes of a high range of rocky coast. The part in front of Filekilly point rises in the middle, and sinks towards each end. The woods of Tomys here appear uncommonly fine. Open Innisfallen, which is composed at this distance of the most various shades, within a broken outline, entirely different from the other islands, groups of different masses rising in irregular tufts, and joined by lower trees. No pencil could mix a happier assemblage, Land near a miserable room, where travellers dine——Of the isle of Innisfallen, it is paying no great compliment to say, it is the most beautiful in the king's dominions, and perhaps in Europe. It contains twenty acres of land, and has every variety that the range of beauty, unmixed with the sublime, can give. The general feature is that of wood ; the surface undulates into swelling hills, and sinks into little vales ; the slopes are in every direction, the declivities die gently away, forming those slight inequalities which are the greatest beauty of dressed grounds. The little vallies let in views of the

fur-

surrounding lake between the hills, while the swells break the regular outline of the water, and give to the whole an agreeable confusion. The wood has all the variety into which nature has thrown the surface; in some parts it is so thick as to appear impenetrable, and secludes all farther view; in others, it breaks into tufts of tall timber, under which cattle feed. Here they open, as if to offer to the spectator the view of the naked lawn; in others close, as if purposely to forbid a more prying examination. Trees of large size, and commanding figure, form in some places natural arches; the ivy mixing with the branches, and hanging across in festoons of foliage, while on one side the lake glitters among the trees, and on the other a thick gloom dwells in the recesses of the wood. The figure of the island renders one part a beautiful object to another; for the coast being broken and indented, forms bays surrounded either by rock or wood: slight promontories shoot into the lake, whose rocky edges are crowned with wood. These are the great features of Innisfallen; the slighter touches are full of beauties easily imagined by the reader. Every circumstance of the wood, the water, the rocks and lawn are characteristic, and have a beauty in the assemblage from mere disposition. I must, however, observe, that this delicious retreat is not kept as one could wish.

Scenes, that are great and commanding from magnitude or wildness, should never be dressed;

dressed ; the *rugged* and even the *horrible*, may add to the effect upon the mind : but in such as Innisfallen, a degree of dress, that is cleanliness, is even necessary to beauty. I have spoken of lawn, but I should observe, that expression indicates what it ought to be, rather than what it is. It is very rich grass, poached by oxen and cows, the only inhabitants of the island. No spectator of taste but will regret the open grounds not being drained with hollow cuts ; the ruggedness of the surface levelled, and the grass kept close shaven by many sheep instead of beasts. The bushes and briars where they have encroached on what ought to be lawn, cleared away ; some parts of the isle more opened : in a word, no ornaments given, for the scene wants them not, but obstructions cleared, ruggedness smoothed, and the whole cleaned. This is what ought to be done ; as to what might be made of the island, if its noble proprietor (Lord Kenmare) had an inclination, it admits of being converted into a terrestrial paradise, lawning with the intermixture of other shrubs and wood, and a *little* dress, would make it an example of what ornamented grounds might be, but which not one in a thousand is. Take the island, however, as it is, with its few imperfections, and where are we to find such another ? What a delicious retreat ! An emperor could not bestow such an one as Innisfallen ; with a cottage, a few cows, and a swarm of poultry, is it possible that happiness should refuse to be a guest here ?

Row to Ross Castle, in order to coast that island; there is nothing peculiarly striking in it; return the same way around Innisfallen; in this little voyage the shore of Ross is one of the most beautiful of the wooded ones in the lake; it seems to unite with Innisfallen, and projects into the water in thick woods one beyond another. In the middle of the channel a large rock, and from the other shore a little promontory of a few scattered trees; the whole scene pleasing.

The shore of Innisfallen has much variety, but in general it is woody, and of the beautiful character which predominates in that island; one bay, at taking leave of it, is exceedingly pretty, it is a semicircular one, and in the center there is a projecting knole of wood within a bay; this is uncommon, and has an agreeable effect.

The near approach to Tomys exhibits a sweep of wood, so great in extent, and so rich in foliage, that no person can see without admiring it. The mountainous part above is soon excluded by the approach; wood alone is seen, and that in such a noble range, as to be greatly striking; it just hollows into a bay, and in the center of it is a chasm in the wood; this is the bed of a considerable stream, which forms O'Sullivan's cascade, to which all strangers are conducted, as one of the principal beauties of Killarney. Landed to the right of it, and walked under the thick shade of the wood, over a
rocky

rocky declivity; close to the torrent stream, which breaks impetuously from rock to rock, with a roar that kindles expectation. The picture in your fancy will not exceed the reality; a great stream bursts from the deep bosom of a wooded glen, hollowed into a retired recess of rocks and trees, itself a most pleasing and romantic spot, were there not a drop of water; the first fall is many feet perpendicularly over a rock, to the eye it immediately makes another, the bason into which it pours being concealed; from this bason it forces itself impetuously between two rocks; this second fall is also of a considerable height, but the lower one, the third, is the most considerable, it issues in the same manner from a bason hid from the point of view. These basons being large, there appears a space of several yards between each fall, which adds much to the picturesque scenery; the whole is within an arch of wood, that hangs over it; the quantity of water is so considerable as to make an almost deafening noise, and uniting with the torrent below, where the fragments of rock are large and numerous, throw an air of grandeur over the whole. It is about seventy feet high. Coast from hence the woody shores of Tomys and Glenà, they are upon the whole much the most beautiful ones I have any where seen; Glenà woods having more oak, and some arbutus's, are the finer and deeper shades; Tomys has a great quantity of birch, whose foliage is not so luxuriant. The reader may figure to himself what these woods are, when he is informed that they
fill

fill an unbroken extent of six miles in length, and from half a mile to a mile and a half in breadth, all hanging on the sides of two vast mountains, and coming down with a full robe of rich luxuriance to the very water's edge. The acclivity of these hills is such, that every tree appears full to the eye. The variety of the ground is great; in some places great swells in the mountain side, with corresponding hollows, present concave and convex masses; in others, considerable ridges of land and rock rise from the sweep, and offer to the astonished eye yet other varieties of shade. Smaller mountains rise regularly from the immense bosom of the larger, and hold forth their sylvan heads, backed by yet higher woods. To give all the varieties of this immense scenery of forest is impossible. Above the whole is a prodigious mass of mountain, of a gently swelling outline and soft appearance, varying as the sun or clouds change their position, but never becoming rugged, or threatening to the eye.

The variations are best seen by rowing near the shore, when every stroke of the oar gives a new outline, and fresh tints to please the eye: but for one great impression, row about two miles from the shore of Glenà; at that distance the inequalities in the surface are no longer seen, but the eye is filled with so immense a range of wood, crowned with a mountain in perfect unison with itself, that objects, whose character is that of beauty, are here, from their magnitude, truly magnificent, and attended
with

with a most forcible impressi^on.—Returned to Mucrus.

September 30th, this morning I had dedicated to the ascent of Mangerton, but his head was so enshrouded in clouds, and the weather so bad, that I was forced to give up the scheme: Mr. Herbert has measured him with very accurate instruments, of which he has a great collection, and found his height 835 yards above the level of the sea. The Devil's punch bowl, from the description I had of it, must be the crater of an exhausted volcano: there are many signs of them about Killarney, particularly vast rocks on the sides of mountains, in streams, as if they had rolled from the top in one direction. Brown stone rocks are also sometimes found on lime quarries, tossed thither, perhaps in some vast eruption.

In my way from Killarney to Castle Island, rode into Lord Kenmare's park, from whence there is another beautiful view of the lake, different from many of the preceding; there is a broad margin of cultivated country at your feet, to lead the eye gradually in the lake, which exhibits her islands to this point more distinctly than to any other, and the back grounds of the mountains of Glenà and Tomys give a bold relief.

Upon the whole, Killarney, among the lakes that I have seen, can scarcely be said to have a rival. The extent of water in Loch Earne is
much

much greater; the islands more numerous, and some scenes near Castle Caldwell, of perhaps as great magnificence. The rocks at Keswick are more sublime, and other lakes may have circumstances in which they are superior; but when we consider the prodigious woods of Killarney; the immensity of the mountains; the uncommon beauty of the promontory of Muckross, and the isle of Innisfallen; the character of the islands; the singular circumstance of the arbutus, and the uncommon echoes, it will appear, upon the whole, to be in reality superior to all comparison.

Before I quit it, I have one other observation to make, which is relative to the want of accommodations and extravagant expence of strangers residing at Killarney. I speak it not at all feelingly, thanks to Mr. Herbert's hospitality, but from the accounts given me: the inns are miserable, and the lodgings little better. I am surpris'd somebody with a good capital does not procure a large well built inn, to be erected on the immediate shore of the lake, in an agreeable situation, at a distance from the town: there are very few places where such an one would answer better, there ought to be numerous and good apartments. A large rendezvous-room for billiards, cards, dancing, music, &c. to which the company might resort when they chose it: an ordinary for those that liked dining in public; boats of all sorts, nets for fishing, and as great a variety of amusements as could be collected,

lected, especially within doors : for the climate being very rainy, travellers wait with great impatience in a dirty common inn, which they would not do if they were in the midst of such accommodations as they meet with at an English spaw. But above all, the prices of every thing, from a room and a dinner, to a barge and a band of music, to be reasonable, and hung up in every part of the house : the resort of strangers to Killarney would then be much increased, and their stay would be greatly prolonged; they would not view it post-haste, and fly away the first moment to avoid dirt and imposition. A man, with a good capital and some ingenuity, would, I think, make a fortune by fixing here upon such principles.

In the line of agriculture, Mr. Herbert has carried on some important experiments, which must deserve attention. Of 360 acres he has reclaimed 140, which, before he began, were covered with great rocks, stones, brambles, (*rubus frusticosus*) and furze, (*eulex europæus*.) His first operation was to cut down and grub up the spontaneous growth that was the strongest : but the rest he set fire to, in order to plough them up with bullocks. Then he attacked the stones, some of which were five or six feet square ; the large ones were burst in pieces by kindling fires upon them, being the brown sand-stone. But this operation will have no effect on lime-stone ; others not so large were drawn off the land by bullocks, to
some

some of which 30 were harnessed: but all stones that could be got at were by some means or other carried off.

This work of breaking the stones by fire is very curious, and exceedingly useful: Mr. Herbert appeared to have attended very closely to the operation. He informed me that they first light a good fire, which in about a quarter of an hour enables them to beat off the outward skin of the stone with a sledge hammer, and they then immediately light a second fire, which soon makes the stone crack. The men observe to keep it a lively brisk fire, free from ashes; when the stone cracks, they assist it with a strong blow of the hammer, which then bursts it asunder, and is at once broken in pieces without difficulty.

In ploughing the land, as soon as this work was done, the remaining roots of furze, &c. were so large, that he was forced to fasten two ploughs together with chains, and then, with a great force of bullocks, tore up the roots, the ploughs and tackle being remarkably strong. The ashes of the wood, &c. being spread with those of the rubbish, numerous ploughings were given. The soil a thin gravel, of a whitish hungry appearance, but lime changed it at once to a rich brown colour. The last ploughing turned in the lime: upon which, Mr. Herbert, fresh from Tull and Randal determined to become a driller, drilled it with wheat, the clearest proof in the world how completely the ground had been reclaim-

ed. This crop he horse hoed, following the directions of Tull and Duhamel ; the produce was trifling, and the practice found very expensive, and the crops unprofitable : were, however, very beautiful and elegant to look at. He tried it for wheat, lucerne, sainfoine, red clover, beans, pease, and in a word, every plant recommended by the drill writers, and continued it for four years. Having ascertained this thorough experience, that the drill husbandry was exceedingly disadvantageous, he gave it up, and laid down with white clover and hay seeds : and could be let at 20s. an acre. Mr. Herbert, however, going to England, they were not taken such care of as they ought, never being manured. Some were laid down with burnet, which took very well in the land, but was soon overcome and choaked with natural grass. Bird grass he tried, got the seed from Rocque, but finds it a very coarse poor plant of no value. Lucerne he had upon a very extensive scale ; having six acres of it, found it a very good grass, fed all sorts of cattle with success, particularly in fattening bullocks, the fat of them being marbled in the finest manner imaginable. He had it in broad cast, and used Rocques harrow ; but upon his soil the harrow tore up the lucerne as well as the weeds, yet the natural grass got much a head. The drill method is the best ; but such is the luxuriant growth of the common grasses in Ireland, that there was the greatest difficulty in keeping it clean. Sainfoine also did very well,
but

but the grass had with that the same effect as the lucerne.

Mr. Herbert has cultivated potatoes in the common lazy-bed method, upon an extensive scale, and he is convinced, from repeated experience, that there is no way in the world of managing that root that equals it, especially for bringing in waste lands. It has been with the greatest surprise that he has read this mode condemned by several English writers; when properly executed, it mixes the land and the manure, and by taking two crops successively, and digging them out, if all the land is stirred, it leaves it in admirable order for a successive crop of any kind.

Folding sheep Mr. Herbert practises by means of a contrivance of his own; instead of hurdles, a pole 12 feet long, and 5 inch diameter, struck through with perpendiculars, and having at each end two longer pieces to rest on, in form of a cross: those are moveable, and easily set in rows. He pens the sheep on his grass lands, and finds the effect wonderful, nothing equalling them for manuring the land, and at a very small expence. Is clearly of opinion, that nothing would be a greater improvement to Ireland than introducing the practice generally.

An observation which Mr. Herbert has made on mowing land is highly deserving attention: it is, that land ought always to be mowed, though
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the value of the hay will not pay the expence. It is common in Ireland to mow parts of fields that are good, and leave the rest; but he always cuts the whole, and finds the practice very advantageous to the land.

Some bog this gentleman has improved merely by draining, and then spreading mold upon it, without tilling or burning, brings it to a meadow as soon as possible: and this is the method he would, in all cases, recommend for their improvement, as there is never any necessity of tillage in order to bring them to grass.

Relative to the common husbandry of this neighbourhood, I found that the soil is divided, between lime-stone and brown-stone. The peninsula of Mucrus is half the one and half the other, the one ending suddenly where the other begins: the vale also to Killarney and beyond is limestone for the extent of many miles, and in general the mountains are all brown stone, and the vales lime-stone. Rents here are about 8s. an acre on an average, including much indifferent land, but not the mountains. About three-fifths of the county of Kerry is waste land, not rising to above 3d. an acre, and the other fifths on an average at 7s. an acre. Farms are from 20l. a year to 130l. the large ones include considerable mountain tracts. The tillage of the country is trifling. The course is,

1. Potatoes,

1. Potatoes, sow eight pecks, at 70lb. and get 80lb. at 7l. an acre. 2. Wheat, 6l. 3. Oats. 4. Oats. (Poor crops not above 3l. 10s. an acre.) 5. Lay it out to weeds, &c.

Lime the manure, from 60 to 80 barrels an acre, which costs 6d. to 8d. a barrel burning. Mr. Herbert can burn it for 4d. five miles off. Pasturage is applied chiefly to dairies; the common ones about 40 or 50 cows. They are all set at 40s. to 50s. a cow. Three acres allowed to a cow; some paid in butter. The dairyman has his privilege, which is a cabbin, potato garden, liberty to cut turf, and a quantity of land proportioned to the number of cows. The butter is all sent to Corke on horses backs in truckles, and in that way the poor horses of the country will carry 8 cwt. the distance 37 miles. They go in two days, and generally home in a week. Bring back rum, groceries, &c. they are paid 9d. for carrying a firkin of butter of 56lb. and for the back carriage 1s. 8d. a cwt. Very few sheep kept; no flocks, except Mr. Herbert's. It is remarkable, that no sheep in the country are better fattened than many upon Mac Gilly Cuddy's Reeks, which are the wildest and most desolate region of all Kerry. Great herds of goats are kept on all the mountains of this country, and prove of infinite use to the poor people. The inhabitants are not in general well off; some of them have neither cows nor goats, living entirely upon potatoes, yet are they better than twenty years ago, particularly in cloathing. Price of provition the same

same as at Nedeen, but pork not common. Turkies, at 9d. Salmon, at 1d. Trout and perch plentiful. No pike in Kerry. Lampreys and eels, but nobody eats the former. All the poor people, both men and women, learn to dance, and are exceedingly fond of the amusement. A ragged lad, without shoes or stockings, has been seen in a mud barn, leading up a girl in the same trim for a minuet: the love of dancing and music are almost universal amongst them.

The Rev. Mr. Bland, of Wood Park, near Killarney, at whose house I had the pleasure to dine with Mr. Herbert, has improved a great deal of boggy land; the turf six inches deep, burnt, but would not give ashes; under it a brown gravel; reclaimed it by marking and trenching in May, lime eighty barrels per acre; spread with green fern, then leave it until Spring following, when dunged and planted, potatoes; the crop equal to the best: dig the potatoes, and plant a second crop, which will be a greater produce, but the roots not so large; took care in the digging them to bring up the sod and manure; in the spring dig again for turnips, or oats, the turnips will be very good, but has generally sown oats; the crop tolerable, great straw, but must be sown very thin, or they will lodge; leave the oat stubble and it becomes in one year grass to mow. Has tried turnips, and found them to answer perfectly, in fattening sheep infinitely better than any winter or spring grass.

September

September 30th, took my leave of Mucruss, and passing through Killarney, went to Castle Island. In my way to Arbella, crossed a hilly bog of vast extent, from one to six or seven feet deep, as improvable as ever I saw, covered with bog myrtle (*myricagale*) and coarse grass: it might be drained at very little expense, being almost dry at present. It amazed me to see such vast tracts in a state of nature, with a fine road passing through them.

To Mr. Blennerhasset, member for the county, I am indebted for every attention towards my information. About Castle Island the land is very good, ranking among the best in Kerry. From that place to Arbella, the land is as good as the management bad, every field over-run with all kinds of rubbish, the fences in ruins, and no appearance but of desolation: they were mowing some fine crops of hay, which I suppose will be made in the snow. The following is the state of husbandry about Arbella.

The soil, from Castle Island to Tralee, is from a guinea to a guinea and a half; it is all a rich lime-stone land: some about Tralee at 3l. 10s. to 4l. 4s. About Arbella I went over some exceeding fine reddish sandy and gravelly loam, a prodigiously fine soil: fern (*pteris aquilina*) the spontaneous growth, which I remarked in Ireland to be a sure sign of excellent land. Two thirds of the county is mountain, which runs at no great rent, being thrown into the bargain. Six parts in seven of the whole
mountain

mountain and bog. The remainder at 10s. an acre.

1. Potatoes. 2. Potatoes. 3. Wheat, or Barley. 4. Oats. 5. Ditto. 6. Ditto. 7. Ditto. 8. Lay it out, and not a blade of grass comes for three or four years.

The best part of the country is under dairies. Great farmers hire vast quantities of land, in order to stock with cows, and let them to dairymen; one farmer, who died lately, paid 1400l. a year for this purpose; but 300l. or 400l. common.

The number of cows let to one man, generally from twenty to forty. Let at one cwt. and 16s. per cow, or one-half cwt. of butter, and 16s. each, some one cwt. 12s. and a hog, besides one fourth part of all the calves a year old. In the mountains, half cwt. and 5s. Others with all the calves to the dairymen. The dairyman's privilege, from two to four collops kept for them, and one or two acres, with a cabbie; these dairymen live very indifferently, their privilege being all their profit, and sometimes not that. The farmer who lets the cows, must keep the number to such as give two pottles of milk. All the dairies in this county, as in others, in the bonny clobber method, that is, letting the milk stand several days, till the cream comes off, by taking hold of it between the fingers, like a skin of leather, and some till it is moldy, the remainder

mainder bonny clobber. Forty acres will carry twenty cows through the year. The cows are in general of the small breed, but not the true Kerry, for many have been brought from other countries. A cow sells at a guinea a pottle for the milk, above two or three pottles, that is 4l. 4s. four pottles, 5l. 5s. for five pottles, given at one meal. A little fattening of cows and small bullocks, but the number not great. No sheep kept.

As to manure none is used in the vale, except their dung for potatoes, but upon the mountains they lime a little.

There is a colony of Palatines, that have been fixed here above thirty years; there are now fifteen or sixteen families; Colonel Hasset brought them from the county of Limerick, and fixed them here as little farmers, and these few people cost him above 500l. settling. He gave each a cow, a horse, and every thing they wanted for a year, and let the land to them for half its value. Their improvements have been first, by ploughing with a wheel plough, which with two horses works easily without a driver. They brought in cars with wheels, there were only sliding ones before. They also sow all their potatoes in drills with the plough, and also plough them out, and this with great success, but nobody follows them.

Years purchase of land sixteen to eighteen. Rents three years ago fallen exceedingly, from
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having been too high let, but of late they have risen again. The rise in the price of labour from three-pence and four-pence in twenty years, to five-pence and six-pence. Oysters, two-pence to three-pence per hundred; near Tralee there is a strand six miles long, which is on a bed of oysters, and is a curious object. Lobsters, twelve years ago, one penny each, now two-pence to four-pence. Salmon three halfpence. Woodcocks, ten-pence a couple. Partridges, ten-pence a couple. A grouse, one shilling. Whittings, one penny each. Herrings, three a penny. Plaice, turbot, mullets, and some soles. Potatoes, 1s. 6d. per cwt. the cheapest, medium, 2s. 6d. Cabbins of stone, mortar and slate, 25l. Many orchards in this county, give, upon an average, ten hogsheads of cyder per acre, some 15; they reckon young trees the best, from 12 to 20 years old,

The state of the poor in the whole county of Kerry represented as exceedingly miserable, and, owing to the conduct of men of property, who are apt to lay the blame on what they call land pirates, or men who offer the highest rent, and who, in order to pay this rent, must, and do re-let all the cabin lands at an extravagant rise, which is assigning over all the cabbins to be devoured by one farmer. The cottars on a farm cannot go from one to another, in order to find a good master as in England: for all the country is in the same system, and no redress to be found. Such being the

case, the farmers are enabled to charge the price of labour as *low* as they please, and rate the land as *high* as they like. This is an evil which oppresses them cruelly, and certainly has its origin in its landlords, when they set their farms, setting all the cabbins with them instead of keeping them tenants to themselves. The oppression is, the farmer valuing the labour of the poor at 4d. or 5d. a day, and paying that in land rated much above its value. Owing to this, the poor are depressed; they live upon potatoes and four milk, and the poorest of them only salt and water to them, with now and then a herring. Their milk is bought; for very few keep cows, scarce any pigs, but a few poultry. Their circumstances are incomparably worse than they were 20 years ago; for they had all cows, but then they wore no linen: all now have a little flax. To these evils have been owing emigrations, which have been considerable.

October 1st, rode over the mountain improvements which William Blennerhasset, Esq; of Elm Grove, has made. I viewed it with very great attention; for it projects far into a mountain of heath, that lets only at 1s. an acre. I saw the progress of the improvement in different stages. He has done 250 Irish acres, and inclosed 300 more, and has been offered 20s. an acre for them, but the farm-houses were not built; at present he has four, to which he purposes to throw the whole.

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The method he pursued has been first to enclose with double ditches, four feet deep and five broad, and the earth out of both thrown on to a parapet, ten feet broad, and some more, planted with rows of trees, and of osiers, the expence in labour, 2s. a perch. While this work is doing, he ploughs nine or ten inches deep, and as soon as the weather will admit, burns; then he tills it again once or twice, and burns again; and before the last ploughing, limes 100 barrels an acre, which costs him (burning it himself) sixpence a barrel, including carriage and spreading: upon this he sows corn, has tried wheat, rye, and oats, but oats answer the best; has tried potatoes, and they did pretty well, followed them with corn, and then *laying it out*, that is, leaving it to grass itself. The other is to sow corn as long as it will yield any, when it is exhausted, to lay it out two or three years, and then plough and lime: take two crops of corn, and lay it out again; and this way he thinks is the best, from the experience of forty years, for so long the improvement has been making. Trees of all sorts have grown perfectly well, but the ash has done best. A ploughing costs 6s. an acre. Graffaning and burning, 2l. an acre. Mr. Hasset's stock at present on this farm, 30 horses, mares and foals, 100 cows, 100 sheep, 100 young cattle, 8 plough bullocks: this is a most noble stock of cattle for a spot which was all heath.

Mr. Blennerhasset has also tried lime-stone sand, over one part of a field, and lime upon the

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the rest, spread but lately, yet the appearance is much in favour of the sand.

October 2d, to Ardfert by Tralee, through a continuation of excellent land, and execrable management. Mr. Bateman tried rock salt on grass land for a manure, half a ton to the English acre, but found not the least benefit from it. But of lime he has used large quantities, and with great success; burning it for 6d. a barrel, in a standing kiln with turf, four eyes or fires to each; lays on 50 barrels to an acre, and has advanced some land, by draining and liming, from 5, to 20s. an acre, the soil a cold stiff clayey gravel.

To the west of Tralee are the Mahagree Islands, famous for their corn products; they are rock and sand, stocked with rabbits; near them a sandy tract, 12 miles long, and one mile broad, to the north, with the mountains to the south, famous for the best wheat in Kerry. All under the plough. Their course.

1. Buck potatoes. 2. Barley. 3. Wheat. Also corn on some land, without any intermediate crop. Manure for every crop, if potatoes with sea weed, great crops; they get 20 for one of wheat and barley. All grain is remarkably early; they have sown English barley, and made bread of the crop in six weeks; these lands let at 14s. or 15s. an acre, but some much higher. Farms are large, one, two, or three hundred acres, but some are taken in partnership.

partnership. I was assured, that in these islands, they have known two crops of barley gained from the same land in one year, and the second better than the first. They sowed the first of April, and reaped the middle of May, and immediately sowed a second, which they reaped the end of August. This was done by John Macdonald, of Maharaghbeg.

Arriving at Ardfert, Lord Crosby, whose politeness I have every reason to remember, was so obliging as to carry me by one of the finest strands I ever rode upon, to view the mouth of the Shannon at Ballengary, the site of an old fort: it is a vast rock separated from the country by a chasm of a prodigious depth, through which the waves drive. The rocks of the coast here are in the boldest stile, and hollowed by the furious Atlantic waves into caverns in which they roar. It was a dead calm, yet the swell was so heavy, that the great waves rolled in and broke upon the rocks with such violence as to raise an immense foam, and give one an idea of what a storm would be, but fancy rarely falls short in her pictures. The view of the Shannon is exceedingly noble; it is eight miles over, the mouth formed by two headlands of very high and bold cliffs, and the reach of the river in view very extensive: it is an immense scenery. Perhaps the noblest mouth of a river in Europe.

Crossed in the way a large bog, highly improvable, saw some little spots taken in with heaps of sea sand for carrying it on.

Lord

Lord Glandore manures his ground with lime, sea sand, and sea weed, the last is the worst, the sand best. Land lets at 12s. or 13s. an acre on an average; it rises from 10s. to 20s.

Ardfert is very near the sea, so near it, that single trees or rows are cut in pieces with the wind, yet about Lord Glandore's house there are extensive plantations exceedingly flourishing, many fine ash and beech; about a beautiful cistercian abbey, and a silver fir of 48 years growth, of an immense height and size.

October 3d, left Ardfert, accompanying Lord Crosby to Listowel. Called in the way to view Lixnaw, the ancient seat of the earls of Kerry, but deserted for ten years past; and now presents so melancholy a scene of desolation, that it shocked me to see it. Every thing around lies in ruin, and the house itself is going fast off by thieving depredations of the neighbourhood. I was told a curious anecdote of this estate, which shews wonderfully the improvement of Ireland: The present Earl of Kerry's grandfather, Thomas, agreed to lease the whole estate for 1500l. a year, to a Mr. Collis, *for ever*; but the bargain went off upon a dispute, whether the money should be paid at Corke or Dublin. Those very lands are now let at 20,000l. a year. There is yet a good deal of wood, particularly a fine ash grove, planted by the present Earl of Shelburne's father.

Proceeded to Woodford, Robert Fitzgerald's, Esq; passing Listowel bridge, the vale leading to it is very fine, the river is broad, the lands high, and one side a very extensive hanging wood, opening on those of Woodford in a pleasing stile.

Woodford is an agreeable scene; close to the house is a fine winding river under a bank of thick wood, with the view of an old castle hanging over it. Mr. Fitzgerald is making a considerable progress in rural improvements; he is taking in mountain ground, fencing and draining very completely, and introducing a new husbandry. He keeps 30 pigs, which stock he feeds on potatoes, and has built a piggery for them. Turnips he cultivates for sheep, and finds them to answer perfectly. Not being able to get men who understand hoeing, he thins them by hand. He has five acres of potatoes put in drills with the plough, and designs ploughing them out: they look perfectly well, and promise to be as good a crop as any in the trench way. The common course in this neighbourhood is,

1. Potatoes.
2. Potatoes.
3. Wheat.
4. Oats.
5. Lay it out.

Farms are very much in partnership, and improvements exceedingly backward on that account. The poor live on potatoes and milk all the year round, but are rather better off than they were twenty years ago. The labour
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of the country is generally done for land in the manner I have so often described, rated at an exorbitant price, 4d. winter; 5d. summer; some 6d. round. Three-fourths of Kerry mountain and bog, at 1s. 6d. the rest at 15s.

In 1765, Mr. Fitzgerald was travelling from Constantinople to Warsaw, and a waggon with his baggage, heavily laden, overset; the country people harnessed to buffaloes *by the horns*, in order to draw it over, which they did with ease. In some very instructive conversation I had with this gentleman, on the subject of his travels, this circumstance particularly struck me.

October 4th, from Woodford to Tarbat, the seat of Edward Lesle, Esq; through a country, rather dreary, till it came upon Tarbat, which is so much the contrary, that it appeared to the highest advantage; the house is on the edge of a beautiful lawn, with a thick margin of full-grown wood, hanging on a steep bank to the Shannon, so that the river is seen from the house over the tops of this wood, which being of a broken irregular outline, has an effect very striking and uncommon; the river is two or three miles broad here, and the opposite coast forms a promontory, which has from Tarbat exactly the appearance of a large island. To the east, the river swells into a triangular lake, with a reach opening at the distant corner of it to Limerick: the union of wood, water, and lawn, forms upon the whole

a very fine scene; the river is very magnificent. From the hill, on the coast above the island, the lawn and wood appear also to great advantage. But the finest point of view is from the higher hill on the other side of the house, which looking down on all these scenes, they appear as a beautiful ornament to the Shannon, which spreads forth its proud course, from two to nine miles wide, surrounded by highlands: a scenery truly magnificent. I am indebted to Mr. Leslie's good offices for the following particulars.

Arable land about Tarbat lets at 14s. on an average; Mr. Leslie, in 1771, let several farms at 17s. but the fall of that period reduced the rents 3s. Farms are from 50 acres to 3 or 400: it is common to have the poor people hire them in partnership, but only the small ones; the large are all stock farms. The tillage course;

1. Potatoes, produce 28 barrels, at 16 pecks each, and the peck 60lb. or 26,880lb. in all.
2. Potatoes. 3. Oats. 4. Lay out for several years. The second crop of potatoes more numerous, but not so large; they manure for them only with dung. The oats yield six barrels, each 26 stone, being double ones. Very little wheat sown but by gentlemen or large farmers, who burn the land; plough it, and burn the sod, which they call *beating*, and manure with lime or sea-sand; 40 barrels of lime at 1s. The stone is brought from an island

island towards Limerick. They get sand at the same place. Lime does best for tillage, and sand for grass. The stock farms are either under dairies, or in the succession system, of buying in year olds from the county of Clare, and keeping them till three or four years old, the heifers till they calve; buy at a guinea to 30s. sell from 3l. 5s. to 4l. 10s. at four year old. There are also some cows fattened: bought in in general at 3l. or 3l. 10s. sell in October at 4l. 10s. to 5l. The dairies are set to dairymen, the price is one cwt. of butter, and 10s. to 15s. horn money; the dairyman has all the calves, and must sell off at Michaelmas. His privilege is a house and potatoe garden, and grass for a cow for every ten. A collop here, is one cow, one horse, two yearlings, six sheep; two acres to feed a collop, and some two and a half. Every cabbín has a bit of flax, which they spin and manufacture for their own use, there being some weavers dispersed about the country. A little pound yarn is sold besides to Limerick, but not much. A little wool is spun for their own use, and wove into frize.

The state of the poor is something better than it was twenty years ago, particularly their cloathing, cattle, and cabbíns. They live upon potatoes and milk; all have cows; and when they dry them, buy others. They also have butter, and most of them keep pigs, killing them for their own use. They have also herrings. They are in general in the cottar system,

tem, of paying for labour by assigning some land to each cabin. The country is greatly more populous than twenty years ago, and is now increasing; and if ever so many cabins were built by a gradual increase, tenants would be found for them. A cabin, and five acres of land, will let for 4*l.* a year. The industrious cottar, with two, three, or four acres, would be exceedingly glad to have his time to himself, and have such an annual addition of land as he was able to manage, paying a fair rent for it; none would decline it but the idle and worthless.

Tythes are all annually valued by the proctors, and charged very high. There are on the Shannon about 100 boats employed in bringing turf to Limerick from the coast of Kerry and Clare, and in fishing, the former carry from 20 to 25 tons, the latter from five to ten, and are navigated each by two men and a boy.

October 5th, passed through a very unenterprising country (except for a few miles on the bank of the Shannon) to Altavilla, but Mr. Bateman being from home, I was disappointed in getting an account of the Palatines settled in his neighbourhood. Kept the road to Adair, where Mrs. Quin, with a politeness equalled only by her understanding, procured me every intelligence I wished for.

Land lets about Adair from 10s. to 40s. an acre, average 20s. the richest in the country is the Corcaffes on the Maag, which lets at 30s. to 36s. a tract of five miles long, and two broad, down to the Shannon, which are better than those on that river; the soil is a kind of yellow and blue clay, of which they make bricks; but there is a surface of blue mould. The grafs of them is applied to fattening bullocks, from 7 to 8 cwt. each, and an acre fats one, and gives some winter and spring food for sheep. When they break this land up, they sow first oats, and get 20 barrels an acre, or 40 common barrels, and do not reckon that an extra crop; they take ten or twelve in succession, upon one ploughing, till the crops grow poor, and then they sow one of horse beans, which refreshes the land enough to take ten crops of oats more; the beans are very good. Wheat sometimes sown, and the crops very great. Were such barbarians ever heard of?

In the common course of lands about Adair, the course of crops is,

1. Potatoes. 2. Ditto. 3. Wheat. 4. Oats.
5. Oats. 6. Oats. 7. Lay out.

1. Potatoes. 2. Ditto. 3. Wheat. 4. Wheat.
5. Oats. 6. Oats. 7. Oats. 8. Lay out.

1. Potatoes. 2. Ditto. 3. Wheat. 4. Oats.
5. Lay out.

Potatoes

Potatoes they plant on grafs without dung, a good crop, 60 barrels to an acre, at 8s. a barrel average. When they hire it they pay six guineas an acre; they dung tillage land and poor lays for them. Of wheat they sow a barrel an acre, and the crop in general eight to ten of those barrels. Oats they sow two to an acre, and get twelve to sixteen. The low bottoms of moory and rushy kind they plough, and burn the furrows; upon that burning they plough in the ashes and harrow in rape seed, a pottle, or three quarts to an acre; never feed, but keep it for seed, and get eight Bristol barrels an acre; it sells usually at 14s. to 18s. a barrel; they sow bere afterwards, the produce ten barrels an acre; then a crop of oats, twelve to sixteen barrels, and then leave it to lay. No grafs seeds sown.

Farms rise from 40 acres to 2000. a year; some few of the little ones are taken by cottars, in partnership, but not common; the large farms are all stock ones. Turnips have been sown many years, but by few; a little on pared and burnt land in the bottoms, instead of rape; the crops very large; they give them all to fat sheep, in order to keep their flesh for a better market after Christmas; it is found to be a very advantageous practice, but not increasing. No hoeing. Hemp is sown a little by the Palatines, but by few others. Flax, by every cabin, in order for a little spinning for their own use.

The

The system of the stock farmers is in general dairying, but upon the best lands they fatten bullocks, cows being only kept on lands which they think will not do for bullocks. The cows are all let, and paid for principally by butter, one cwt. to a cow, and 25s. horn money. The dairyman's privilege is a cabbin, a garden of an acre, and the grass of a cow or horse to every twenty cows, and may rear half the calves, and keep them to November or Christmas. To 60 acres, 24 cows, 1 horse, 30 sheep; this is just two acres a head, and it is about the average of the country. The dairymen are not in good circumstances, making a mere living. The swine here are of a large white sort, and rise to two cwt. they are mostly fattened on potatoes, but have some oats at last to harden the fat. A good many sheep; the system is to keep the lambs till three year old wethers, and sell them fat at 20s. each; the fleeces 7lb. Tythes, wheat 6s. barley 5s. Oats 4s. Rape no tythe. Potatoes 8d. to 10d. mowing ground 1s. to 3s. sheep 2d. each.

The poor people do not all keep cows, but all have milk; all have pigs and poultry; are not better off than twenty years ago. Have a potatoe garden, of which one-half to three-fourths of an acre carries a family through the year; they live entirely upon them, selling their pigs. They pay a guinea for a cabbin, and 10 perch; if half an acre, 2l. 2s. A whole acre, and a cabbin on poor ground,

3l. 3s. but not so cheap if near a village. Labour paid in land in general. Grass of a collop 2l. 2s. if a cow hayed, 5os.

Palatines were settled here by the late Lord Southwell, about seventy years ago. They have in general leases for three lives, or 31 years, and are not cottars to any farmer, but if they work for them, are paid in money. The quantities of land are small, and some of them have their feeding land in common by agreement. They are different from the Irish in several particulars; they put their potatoes in with the plough, in drills, horse-hoe them while growing, and plough them out. One third of the dung does in this method, for they put it only in the furrows, but the crops are not so large as in the common method. They plough without a driver; a boy of twelve has been known to plough and drive four horses, and some of them have a hopper in the body of their ploughs, which sows the land at the same time it is ploughed. Their course of crops is,

1. Potatoes, 2. Wheat. 3. Wheat. 4. Oats.

1. Potatoes. 2. Barley. 3. Wheat. 4. Oats.

In which management they keep their land many years, never laying it out as their neighbours do. They preserve some of their German customs: sleep between two beds. They
appoint

appoint a burgomaster, to whom they appeal in case of all disputes; and they yet preserve their language, but that is declining. They are very industrious, and in consequence are much happier and better fed, cloathed, and lodged, than the Irish peasants. We must not, however, conclude from hence that all is owing to this; their being independent of farmers, and having leases, are circumstances which will create industry. Their crops are much better than those of their neighbours. There are three villages of them, about seventy families in all. For some time after they settled they fed upon four crout, but by degrees left it off, and took to potatoes: but now subsist upon them and butter and milk, but with a great deal of oat bread, and some of wheat, some meat and fowls, of which they raise many. They have all offices to their houses, that is, stables and cow houses, and a lodge for their ploughs, &c. They keep their cows in the house in winter, feeding them upon hay and oat straw. They are remarkable for the goodness and cleanliness of their houses. The women are very industrious, reap the corn, plough the ground sometimes, and do whatever work may be going on; they also spin, and make their children do the same. Their wheat is much better than any in the country, insomuch that they get a better price than any body else. Their industry goes so far, that jocular reports of its excess are spread: in a very pinching season, one of them yoked his wife against a horse, and went in
that

that manner to work, and finished a journey at plough. The industry of the women is a perfect contrast to the Irish ladies in the cabins, who cannot be persuaded, on any consideration, even to make hay; it not being the custom of the country; yet they bind corn, and do other works more laborious. Mrs. Quin, who is ever attentive to introduce whatever can contribute to their welfare and happiness, offered many premiums to induce them to make hay, of hats, cloaks, stockings, &c. &c. but all would not do.

Few places have so much wood about them as Adair: Mr. Quin has above 1000 acres in his hands, in which a large proportion is under wood. The deer park of 400 acres is almost full of old oak and very fine thorns, of a great size; and about the house, the plantations are very extensive, of elm and other wood, but that thrives better than any other sort. I have no where seen finer than vast numbers here. There is a fine river runs under the house, and within view are no less than three ruins of franciscan friaries, two of them remarkably beautiful, and one has most of the parts perfect except the roof.

In Mr. Quin's house, there are some very good pictures, particularly an annunciation, by Dominicino, which is a beautiful piece. It was brought lately from Italy by Mr. Quin, junior. The colours are rich and mellow, and the airs of the heads inimitably pleasing; the
group

group of angels at the top, to the left of the piece, are very natural. It is a piece of great merit. The companion is a magdalen; the expression of melancholy, or rather misery, remarkably strong. There is a gloom in the whole in full unison with the subject. There are, besides these, some others inferior, yet of merit, and two very good portraits of Lord Dartry, (Mrs. Quin's brother) and of Mr. Quin, junior, by Pompeo Battoni. A piece in an uncommon stile, done on oak, of Esther and Ahasuerus: the colours tawdry, but the grouping attitudes an effect pleasing.

October 7th, to Castle Oliver, by Bruff, passing through a very fine tract of rich reddish loam. The Right Hon. Mr. Oliver was assiduous to the last degree to have me completely informed. About his feat, the soil is brown stone on indifferent slate strata, mountainous; the mountain tops are thrown into the bargain; mountain farms, tops, bottoms and sides, 1s. an acre; furze land reclaimed, and some from 15s. to 20s. Farms of all sizes, but the occupying tenants have from 15 to 100 acres, some 300. The course of crops:

1. Potatoes. 2. Potatoes. 3. Potatoes. 4. Oats. 5. Oats. 6. Oats. 7. Lay out: sometimes only two of potatoes.

They manure for potatoes with all the dung they can get. Very little under tillage, and the grass applied chiefly to dairies. In one particular

particular they are very attentive; to conduct the mountain streams into their grass lands; cutting little channels, to introduce the water as much as possible over the whole; and though it comes from a poor mountain of brown stone, or turf, yet the benefit they find to be very great. This is a general custom among all the little occupiers; and they are frequently coming to Mr. Oliver, with complaints of each other for diverting or stealing one another's streams. This is an instance of excellent husbandry, which I do not recollect meeting with before in Ireland. They always mow it the year they water it, and their crops of hay 2 ton, or 2½ an acre. They do not reclaim any mountain, but sometimes a little furze land for potatoes. They have some lime-stone sand; but being at a distance, they use it in small quantities, a few barrels an acre sown for potatoes, which is effectual in preventing them from being wet or rotting. The state of the poor people better in these mountainous tracts than upon the rich flats of Limerick, both from there being more employment and greater plenty of land for them. Some few farms taken in partnership. The cattle system is generally dairying cows, which are all set to dairymen. There has been a fall in rents since 1771-2, of 2s. 3s. or 4s. an acre, but it is not falling at present. Building a cabin 4l. to 5l. Ditto stone, slate, &c. 25l.

Relative to the rich lands of this country, they are principally found, first in the barony
of

of Small County, which is rich ; Coonagh has much ; Coshlea a great deal, and much mountain ; Clanwilliam, a good share. The rich land reaches from Charleville, at the foot of the mountains, to Tipperary, by Kilfenning, a line of twenty-five miles, and across from Ardpatric to within four miles of Limerick, 16 miles. Bruff, Kilmallock, and Hospital have very good land about them ; the quantity in the whole conjectured to be 100,000 acres. It is in general under bullocks, but there is some tillage scattered about, to the amount probably of a fifteenth of the whole ; the rents are from 25s. to 40s. but average 30s. an acre.

The county of Limerick, besides the rich grazing, has a light lime-stone land for sheep and cows, at 15s. to 20s. There are also yellow clays, from 10s. to 20s. also middling land of furze and fern, from 10s. 6d. to 1l. 1s. Some mountain is likewise fifteen miles of corcasses on the Shannon, two to three miles broad. Average of the whole county, 20s. The county of Tipperary, 18s.

As to the soil I am able to speak of it particularly, for Mr. Oliver was so kind as to ride through a great variety of it, a man with a spade following to dig ; the finest soil in the country is upon the roots of mountains ; it is a rich, mellow, crumbling, putrid, sandy loam, eighteen inches to three feet deep, the colour a reddish brown. It is dry sound land, and would do for turneps exceedingly well, for carrots,

carrots, for cabbages, and in a word for every thing. I think upon the whole, it is the richest soil I ever saw, and such as is applicable to every purpose you can wish: it will fat the largest bullock, and at the same time do equally well for sheep, for tillage, for turneps, for wheat, for beans, and in a word, for every crop and circumstance of profitable husbandry.

The lower lands are wetter, and under them a yellow clay, whereas in the upper, it is sandy loam to a considerable depth. The rent in England would be considerably higher than this of the bullock land in Ireland.

The farms are of all sizes: The bullock farm rise to 600 acres, which quantity is a large farm; but there are many small ones under cottars and dairymen: the general run in stocking is a bullock of four and a half to seven cwt. average five hundred and a half to the acre, and quarter for the summer's grass; but their not generally having a bullock to an acre, is owing to their keeping sheep and calves so late, in which they do even to June. The winter's hay amounts to about a rood, besides the acre for the summer food: These beasts are bought in at autumn, at three or four years old, average price, 5*l*. they are fed regularly through the winter with hay every day in the fields where they are to be fattened in summer; they chuse the dry fields for it, but still mischief is done by it. All the hay is stacked

in the fields for this purpose. The time of selling autumn. The profit they make per bullock on an average, about three guineas. The principal winter system is buying calves, at 1l. 1s. to 2l. 2s. keeping them till May, and then selling them at 20s. to 30s. profit, but give them a bellyful of their best hay. A great many sheep are also sent to be wintered from Tipperary, which is extraordinary, as their own lands are much drier than these of Limerick: they do this by hiring farms for the purpose. This is one of the most profitable articles; they bring the spring lambs in October, and keep them till May, and then send them back to Tipperary, and they are much better than those they left there.

The graziers are many of them rich, but generally speaking, not so much from the immediate profit, as from advantageous leases. I wanted much to be informed of their profit, but it is exceedingly difficult to come near it, for not a grazier in the country but denies his making any thing considerable: this is supposed to be a great piece of art, but I am very apt to think the truth not so far from the declaration, at least as well as I am able to judge from the information I have received.

Rent of an acre and a half for a bullock	2	12	6
County cess, at 6d.	0	0	9
Mowing and making one-third of an acre hay	0	3	0
		<hr/>	
Carried over	£. 2	16	3

	Brought over	£. 2 16 3
A bullock 5l. interest at 6 per cent.	-	0 6 0
Labour 1s. 6d. an acre	-	0 2 3
		<hr/>
		£. 3 4 6
		<hr/>
Profit on a bullock	-	3 3 0
Winter food, two sheep at 5s.	-	0 10 0
		<hr/>
		3 13 0
Expences	-	3 4 5
		<hr/>
Profit	-	£. 0 8 7
		<hr/>

From this is to be deducted the whole of chances, the loss of cattle, &c. and from what I was able to pick up, I have reason to believe that it does not exceed 10s. an acre at most. The sum necessary to stock 6l. an acre. I must observe that the profit is very low for land to yield, which is of such extraordinary fertility; it is of that soil which would do very well for tillage, for though it is not dry, yet it has not the wetness of our English clays, and would in a course of good tillage, pay infinitely better as every person must admit who are at all acquainted with the wet lands of Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, &c. I am however very far from recommending it, for if the Irish tillage should be introduced, the very contrary would be the case, and the landlord suffer exceedingly from his estate being exhausted. In no part of Ireland have I seen more careless management

ment than in these rich lands. The face of the country is that of desolation; the grounds are over-run with thistles, (*carduus*) ragwort, (*senecio jacobæa*) &c. to excess; the fences are mounds of earth, full of gaps; there is no wood, and the general countenance is such, that you must examine into the soil before you will believe that a country, which has so beggarly an appearance, can be so rich and fertile.

To shew the rise of land, Sir Harry Harp-son has a farm of 400 acres, which his grandfather let in 1676, at 4s. 6d. an acre, and thought so dear that an offer of a score of sheep and two goats were offered to be off; it would let now at 30s. I had this fact from himself. The breed of cattle here is all long horned. There are some cows fattened also, but not near so many as oxen. Likewise some dairies, which are set, one cwt. butter, and 20s. horn money. The dairyman's privilege is two or three cows, a cabin and a garden. The number of cows seldom above a score: but they are found so troublesome and imposing, that they have taken a different method, and employed dairywomen on their own account.

Great quantities of flax sown by all the poor and little farmers, which is spun in the country, and a good deal of bandle cloth made of it. This and pigs are two great articles of profit here; they keep great numbers, yet the poor in this rich tract of country are very badly

off. Land is so valuable, that all along as I came from Bruff, their cabbins are generally in the road ditch, and numbers of them without the least garden; the potatoe land being assigned them upon the farm where it suits the master best. The price they pay is very great, from 4l. to 5l. an acre, with a cabin; and for the grafs of a cow, 40s. to 45s. They are, if any thing, worse off than they were twenty years ago. A cabin, an acre of land, at 40s. and the grafs of two cows, the recompense of the year's labour: but are paid in different places by an acre of grafs for potatoes at 5l. Those who do not get milk to their potatoes, eat mustard with them, raising the seed for the purpose. The population of the country increases exceedingly, but most in the higher lands; new cabbins are building every where. The tillage in these rich lands consists in,

1. Potatoes. 2. Potatoes. 3. Barley. 4. Wheat. 5. Oats. 6. Oats.

1. Potatoes. 2. Potatoes. (on spots $\frac{1}{2}$ or $\frac{1}{4}$ acre flax after the 2d Potatoes.) 3. Wheat. 4. Barley. 5. Oats. 6. Oats. 7. Oats. 8. Oats. 9. Lay it out.

Mr. Oliver has known 150 Bristol barrels, each four bushels heaped of potatoes, which make six bushels, or 900 from an acre. The weight, strike measure, 15 stone. The common crop, 150 heaped barrels, at 4s. average price. Opinions differ much, whether the second

cond crop is better or worse, but from one practice they have, I am clear which it must be; for they trust to the small potatoes left in the ground as seed, which are necessarily irregular: and I have found, by various trials, that a slice of a middling potatoe is far better than a whole small one.

P O T A T O E S.

Rent	-	-	-	-	5	13	8
Seed, sixteen barrels and a half, at 10s.	-	-	-	-	2	15	0
Cutting seed	-	-	-	-	0	5	6
Digging	-	-	-	-	0	14	0
Carrying out	-	-	-	-	0	2	6
Trenching and sowing	-	-	-	-	1	5	0
Weeding	-	-	-	-	0	10	0
Digging out	-	-	-	-	1	10	0
Gathering	-	-	-	-	0	10	0
Carrying home	-	-	-	-	0	9	6
Houfing	-	-	-	-	0	6	0
Picking	-	-	-	-	0	10	0
Tythe	-	-	-	-	0	12	0

£. 15 3 2

C R O P.

One hundred and fifty barrels, at 4s. each	30	0	0
Expences	15	3	2
	<hr/>		
Profit	14	16	10
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One

One hundred barrels, at 4s. each	20	0	0
Expences	15	3	2
	<hr/>		
Profit	£.4	16	10
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The Bristol barrel, which is here charged at 4s. is heaped, and weighs 22 stone. The quality of the corn raised on these rich lands is much better than any other in the country; the quantity of barley per acre, 12 Bristol barrels.

Mr. Ryves, a gentleman of the neighbourhood I had the pleasure of meeting at Castle Oliver; on $3\frac{3}{4}$ acres sowed nine bushels of bere, from which 111 Bristol barrels, striked measure. Of wheat, the crops fluctuating, but a middling one 12 barrels. Mr. Ryves has had 20 of oats, generally 15. All these crops are with good tillage: there are many who do not get near so much.

There is a bolting mill at Limerick, at Annsgrove, at Marlefield, at Clonmell, at Castle Hyde, at Newport: hence therefore there is no want of a market in this country for corn. I was surprized to find that land, in this rich country, sells at as many years purchase as in mountain tracts. Limerick is famous for cyder; the finest cakagee is at Mr. Waller's, Mr. Maffey's, Mr. Westrope's, Mr. Monson's, &c. The soil of the orchard's thin, on limestone.

Mr. Oli-

Mr. Oliver has practised husbandry on a pretty extensive scale. A considerable part of his land is improved mountain, which he grubbed and cleared of spontaneous rubbish, and manured with lime-stone sand; and then cultivated some for corn, and some for turnips: where the land is boggy, he burns, in order to get rid of that soil which he considers as worth but little. Whatever he sows, the land runs at once immediately to thick fine grass, even on the mountain top; so that a stubble will, in the first year, yield a great crop of hay. A strong proof how adapted this country is to pasturage. In the breed of cattle he has been very attentive, purchasing bulls and cows, at the expence of twenty guineas each, of the long-horned Lancashire breed, and from them has bred others. I saw two exceeding well-made bulls of a year old of his breeding, which would have made a considerable figure in Leicestershire. Turnips he has cultivated for many years, applying them chiefly to feeding deer, but he has fattened some sheep on them with good success. Hollow draining he has practised upon an extensive scale, and laid a large tract of wet land dry by it.

Mr. Oliver planted a colony of Palatines 15 years ago, from about Rathkeal, 66 families in one year, which made 700 protestants, on his own estate. Fixed them upon spots, of from thirteen to thirty acres each, charging them only two thirds of the rent, which he could get of others; built houses for them at
the

the expence of above 500l. gave them leases for three lives. The benefit of them has been introducing much tillage; to the proportion of their little farms, they till much more than the Irish. They drill their potatoes, and on stubble land worn out. House their cattle, feeding them with hay, and raising thereby dung. They are cleaner and neater, and live much better: are better clothed, and all of them have neat little kitchen gardens. Many of them labour for nobody but themselves, and none of them constantly for others, being employed principally on their own little farms. They live partly on four crou.

Castle Oliver is a place almost entirely of Mr. Oliver's creation; from a house, surrounded with cabbins and rubbish, he has fixed it in a fine lawn, surrounded by good wood. The park he has very much improved on an excellent plan; by means of seven feet hurdles, he fences off part of it that wants to be cleaned or improved, these he cultivates, and leaves for grass, and then takes another spot, which is by much the best way of doing it. In the park is a glen, an English mile long, winding in a pleasing manner, with much wood hanging on the bank. Mr. Oliver has conducted a stream through this vale, and formed many little water-falls in an exceeding good taste, chiefly overhung with wood, but in some places open with several little rills, trickling over stones down the slopes. A path winds through a large wood and along the brow of the glen; this
path

path leads to an hermitage, a cave of rock, in a good taste, and to some benches, from which the views of the water and wood are in the sequestered stile they ought to be. One of these little views, which catches several falls under the arch of the bridge, is one of the prettiest touches of the kind I have seen. The vale beneath the house, when viewed from the higher grounds, is pleasing; it is very well wooded, there being many inclosures, furrounded by pine trees, and a thick fine mass of wood rises from them up the mountain side, makes a very good figure, and would be better, had not Mr. Oliver's father cut it into vistas for shooting. Upon the whole, the place is highly improved, and when the mountains are planted, in which Mr. Oliver is making a considerable progress, it will be magnificent.

In the house are several fine pictures, particularly five pieces by Seb. Ricci, Venus and Æneas; Apollo and Pan, Venus and Achilles; and Pyrrhus and Andromache, by Lazzerini; and the rape of the Lapithi, by the centaurs: the last is by much the finest, and is a very capital piece; the expression is strong, the figures are in bold relief, and the colouring good. Venus and Achilles is a pleasing picture; the continence of Scipio is well grouped, but Scipio, as in every picture I ever saw of him, has no expression. Indeed, chastity is in the countenance so *passive* a virtue as not to be at all suited to the genius of painting; the idea is rather that of insipidity, and accordingly Sci-
pio's

pio's expression is generally insipid enough. Two fine pieces, by Lucca Jordano, Hercules and Anteus; Sampson killing the lion: both dark and horrid, but they are highly finished, and striking. Six heads of old men, by Nogari, excellent; and four young women, in the character of the seasons.

October 9th, left Castle Oliver. Had I followed my inclination, my stay would have been much longer, for I found it equally the residence of entertainment and instruction. Passed through Kiltfennan and Duntreague, in my way to Tipperary. The road leads every where on the sides of the hills, so as to give a very distinct view of the lower grounds; the soil all the way is the same sort of sandy reddish loam I have already described, incomparable land for tillage: as I advanced, it grew something lighter, and in many places free from gravel. Bullocks the stock all the way. Towards Tipperary I saw vast numbers of sheep, and many bullocks. All this line of country is part of the famous golden vale. To Thomas-Town, where I was so unfortunate as not to find Mr. Mathew at home; the domain is 1500 English acres, so well planted, that I could hardly believe myself in Ireland. There is a hill in the park, from which the view of it, the country and the Galties, are striking.

To the Earl of Clanwilliam's, where I was particularly fortunate in meeting Messrs. Macarthy and Keating, sons to two of the greatest farmers

farmers that ever were in Ireland. The country is all under sheep, and the soil dry sandy loam. The sheep system of Tipperary is to breed and keep the lambs till three-year old wethers, fat, and sell them at 26s. at an average; keep the ewe lambs, and cull the old stock, selling an equal number of fat ewes at three to four years old, the average price 20s. in October, the wool of all the stock in general amounts to three fleeces, per stone, of 16lb. or 6s. a head. From hence to Clonmell, there are many sheep; to Cullen in Kilkenny, three or four miles beyond Thurles, within two miles of Cullen, three or four and twenty miles N. to S. and from Cullen to within three miles of Cullen, which is 30: generally speaking, this is all sheep, but there are many spots in it where bullocks are fed. The stock mixed with sheep are usually calves, bought in at six to eight months, 30s. to 40s. average 32s. and when they are three year old, send them to the richer lands in the county of Limerick, (where every Tipperary grazier has a farm) to fat. When they have not enough of their own rearing, they buy three-year olds at Ballynasloe, and fatten them in Limerick. In general, this land will carry three to five sheep to the acre, and bear some calves besides. One acre and three quarters a bullock the year through, one half for hay.

Arrangement of a flock of 2,500 sheep.

500 ewes
 500 lambs
 500 hoggarts
 500 two-year olds
 250 fat wethers
 250 ewes, added to stock, instead of 250 older ones
 sole off

2500 at 5 to an acre 500 acres

250 fat wethers, at 26s.	-	-	324	18	0
250 culled ewes, at 20s.	-	-	250	0	0
2000 fleeces, at 6s,	-	-	600	0	0
			<hr/>		
			£. 1174	18	0
			<hr/>		

A part of the stock of fat wethers is kept over from October to the spring, for the Dublin market, not merely for the high price, but because underlings, and not fat in autumn, and sell for less than the rest, seldom more than 19s. or 20s. To 3000 sheep a grazier in this neighbourhood has 30 acres of turnips, in order to feed this part of his wether stock with. Mr. Macarthy with 8000 sheep, has seldom more than 30 acres. This system will be further explained by Mr. Allen's stock.

1,200 acres—2,000 sheep, besides lambs—
 Sells 200 four year-old wethers, at 26s.—200
 three

three year-olds, at 26s.—200 barren ewes, at 18s.—2,000 fleeces, at 5s.—400 two-year olds—400 year olds—500 Brood ewes—500 lambs—Land to feed this flock, 1000 acres. Also 120 bullocks—40 cows and spayed heifers and working bullocks for work, and milk breeding.—30 horses, mares, &c.—30 labourers, 5 shepherds—20 acres of wheat—10 barley—10 oats—10 turnips—8 potatoes—60 mowing ground—Rent of this large tract of sheep-land from 20 to 25s. an acre.

Farms are generally large, commonly 3 or 4000 acres, and rise up to 10,000, of which quantity there is one farm, this is Mr. Macarthy's, of Spring House, near Tipperary, and is I suppose the most considerable one in the world. Here are some of the particulars of it :

9,000 acres in all---10,000l. rent---8,000 sheep---2,000 lambs---550 bullocks---80 fat cows---20,000l. value of stock---200 yearlings---200 two-year olds---200 three-year olds---80 plough bullocks---180 horses, mares and foals---150 to 200 labourers---200 acres tillage.

Mr. Richard Dogherty, of Locklogher, 76 bags of wool at 500lb. to 600lb. this year. Loss of sheep and cattle one-half per cent. No folding. For hiring and stocking, 5l. an acre. A shepherd is allowed four cows, a horse, a cabin, and three acres of garden, and as much hay as they like for their cattle.

Slaughter

Slaughter at Corke of cows and bullocks undoubtedly much lessened. The increase of tillage is in Tipperary owing to bolting mills.

The quantity of tillage in this country trifling, but the crops are large; there are several courses. The turnip husbandry often upon burnt land, some on lime and fallow, and some on fallow alone.

1. Turnips. 2. Fallow. 3. Wheat. 4. Oats.
5. Oats. 6. Oats. 7. Oats. 8. Oats. 9. Oats.
10. Lay it out.

1. Turnips. 2. Fallow. 3. Potatoes. 4. Bere.
5. Wheat. 6. Oats. 7. Oats. 8. Oats.
9. Oats.

1. Burn for rape feed. 2. Potatoes.
3. Wheat. 4. Oats. 5. Oats. Lay out. And
sometimes they take two crops of wheat.
They never hoe turnips.

Mr. Dexter of Cullen, had a ram, half a guinea a leap, and great numbers of ewes were sent to him, the breed much improving.

Potatoes, average produce, 80 to 100 Bristol barrels, at 5s. average price, and the poor people pay 5 to 6 guineas for land. They often take two crops with adding some feed, pay the same price for the second; they pay this price for turnip land burnt; grass potatoes not generally known. The quantity
of

of wheat 10 barrels to 15.—Bere 15 to 18.—Barley 12 to 18.—Oats 12 to 15. Their turnips they seldom sow before the 12th of July. Their manures are lime and lime-stone gravel, the gravel for crops, and lime for grass; they use it on lime-stone land, and with great success. The soil a mellow, dry sandy, or gravelly loam, on lime-stone or lime-stone gravel. Much bog in this country, that of Allen comes in a line through the Queen's County to within three miles of Cashel. One-fifth of Tipperary, mountain, the rest 20s. an acre. Land sells at 20 years purchase. Rents have fallen four or five shillings an acre since 1771 and 1772.

Price of Cattle.

Yearling bullock, 3l. to 3l. 10s. Store bullock, 6l. to 7l. Fat ditto, 10l. to 12l. Profit on a bullock, 4l. to 4l. 10s. A bullock fat of ten guineas, weighs 6 cwt.

Newtown, 250 acres, a farm of Mr. Dogherty's, under bullocks from May to November, and 1100 lambs all winter through.

I had heard much of the late Mr. Keating's farm, of Garranlad, as the largest that ever was; his son gave me the following particulars of it:

10,000l. a year rent. 13,800 Irish acres.
 3,000 head of black cattle. 16,300 sheep.
 300 horses. 500 couple of ducks. 300 turkies.

turkies. 90 hogheads of cyder a year. He had most of the ground from Golding to Clonmell. Collops here in order are, 1 horse. 6 sheep. 1 cow. 1 fat bullock. 2 yearlings. 3 calves.

To Cullen, Newtown, Palace, Carrick on Lish, rents 30 s. an acre. Respecting the state of the poor in this country they are paid by a cabin, and one acre and a half of land, for which they are reckoned 4l. and for grafs of a cow 2l. 2s. They live upon potatoes and milk; generally have cows, but not all, and those who have not, buy, but very many of them have for the half year, only potatoes and salt. They all keep pigs. They are just as they were 20 years ago. Prices, wheat 1s. 1d. per stone. English barley, 10d. Oats, 6d. Bere, 7d. Hay 1l. 2s. 9d. a ton.

Rape is very commonly sown upon burnt land; they never feed it, but let it stand for seed, of which they get 12 to 15 barrels, and it sells at 16s. a barrel. Burning I should explain, is only the remaining turf after two ploughings, the first in November, and after Christmas a cross ploughing; harrow in March, and burn in May.

Accompanied Lady Clanwilliam in a drive through her plantations; she has planted a broad margin for several miles round a domain, (which his Lordship walled in with intention of building) and done it with equal taste

taste and success. The attention she has given to this rational amusement, and the sensible and agreeable manner in which she renders every tree interesting by her descriptions and remarks, are formed to set off a female character in a light at least as respectable and as amiable as the most brilliant exhibition that a capital can witness. The twig which she plants with her hand, and nourishes by her care, will not disappoint her in the pleasure she expects; it will thrive with her attention, and greet her with its friendly shade: when will Dublin prove as grateful?

October 12th, to Lord de Montalt's at Dundrum, a place which his Lordship has ornamented in the modern stile of improvement: the house was situated in the midst of all the regular exertions of the last age. Parterres, parapets of earth, straight walks, knots and clipped hedges, all which he has thrown down, with an infinite number of hedges and ditches, filled up ponds, &c. and opened one very noble lawn around him, scattered negligently over with trees, and cleared the course of a choaked up river, so that it flows at present in a winding course through the grounds. He continues this work of dressing the fields contiguous to him, to give them a neat appearance, and advances in it every year, even his tillage lands are all kept in the same neat manner, with fences new done, and the whole carrying the most cultivated appearance.

His Lordship's system of husbandry is an admirable one ; it is in the great outline to take farms into his own hands, as the leases expire, to keep them for improvement, and when done to relet them. This is the true agriculture for profit for a landlord ; he has upon this system improved near 2000 acres. Throwing down the old miserable fences which split the farms into little scraps of fields, and made new ditches for drains and water-courses, disposed the new fields to the best advantage, drained them with stone drains where wet, broke up such of the grass as was bad, cultivated it enough to bring it into proper order, and laid it down again to meadow ; there cannot be a better system, or more calculated at the same time to ornament a country, and improve his own estate.

His Lordship has also followed several practices in farming, which have proved of great service ; among others, keeping hogs upon clover. He had a mind to shew the countryman that they might keep many hogs (a very advantageous stock to them) by means of clover ; he kept four sows and twenty-four pigs the summer through on one acre, by which he made 10l. produce. A clear proof that the husbandry would be highly advantageous with this view.

Turnips he cultivates upon a very large scale ; was the first who had them here on stubbles ; he has thirty or forty acres, and

every year has a large quantity; drills them with a very cheap simple drill, his own invention, and thins them out by hand, or hoes them. I viewed his crop, and found them very regular, and of a good size; with the leaves of the whole of a remarkable deep green, without any yellow ones: more so, I think, than is common in England, and I observed the same circumstance with the other crops I saw. He uses them for feeding and fattening sheep, giving them on dry grass land; also for stall-feeding bullocks, and finds the advantage of both uses so great, that he does not know what he should do without them.

In the winter management of his cattle, he proceeds on very different principles from what is common in Ireland; instead of feeding them abroad, and for that purpose stacking the hay about the fields, he ties them up in stalls, of which he has many, and is erecting more: he ties up above 100 head, in which he finds the greatest advantage, both in the cattle, saving food, and yielding dung. The breed of sheep he has begun to change, from the long-legged Tipperary to the short legs of Leicestershire; has several tups of that breed, and finds that the change is of the highest consequence. Folding he has practiced with the greatest success. The breed of hogs he has also changed to the Berkshire, and has one of the finest boars of that breed I have seen.

Cabbages he cultivated for several years, but finds them burst too soon to be of considerable use; turnips much better: but Reynolds' turnip-cabbage he finds excellent for late spring food; has eight acres of very fine ones this year, which cost him just 20l. labour of manuring included.

Lord de Montalt keeps 2000 acres in his hands, 1500 sheep, 40 plough bullocks, 12 cows, &c. His Lordship, for the purpose of draining his clay lands, ploughs and shovels them up into broad highlands, so as to form regular segments of circles, in the manner practised in some counties in England; he does this that the furrows may be drains to the land, for French drains will not run, owing to the stiffness of the clay. He has not much of this land, however; for in general his soil is the rich reddish sandy loam of the golden vale. He does much of his ploughing with the plough of Warwick and Shropshire, and finds it answers very well.

The mountain lands of Tipperary one-seventh of the county, the rest lets at 20s. an acre on an average. There is some woollen manufactory scattered through it, especially at Thurles, Tipperary, Clonmell, &c. Mr. John Fenning, near Colchin, employs 30 combers. The year's purchase of land 20, was 25 some years ago. The fall
owing

owing partly to the expectation of an absentee land-tax.

October 13th, leaving Dundrum, passed through Cashel, where is a rock and ruin on it, called the rock of Cashel, supposed to be of the remotest antiquity. Towards Clonmell, the whole way through the same rich vein of red sandy loam I have so often mentioned: I examined it in several fields, and found it to be of an extraordinary fertility, and as fine turnip land as ever I saw. It is much under sheep; but towards Clonmell there is a great deal of tillage.

The first view of that town backed by a high ridge of mountains, with a beautiful space near it, of inclosures, fringed with a scattering of trees, was very pleasing. It is the best situated place in the county of Tipperary, on the Sure, which brings up boats of ten tons burthen. It appears to be a busy populous place, yet I was told that the manufacture of woollens is not considerable. It is noted for being the birth-place of the inimitable Sterne. Within two miles of it is Marfield, the seat of Stephen Moore, Esq; celebrated in Ireland for his uncommon exertions in every branch of agriculture. It was not without the greatest concern that I found him absent. Seeing this Gentleman however in London afterwards, he was kind enough to favour me with the following particulars:

His

His mill was built seven years ago, and cost 15,000*l.* the wages of the millers, including candles, coals, soap, tallow, &c. 7 or 800*l.* a year: it contains 9 stones for wheat, and 4 for oatmeal: it has a very complete apparatus for sifting, cleaning, &c. and granaries of uncommon magnitude, holding 10,000 barrels: began to be worked with only 3,000 barrels of wheat in a year, which has risen gradually to 20,000 barrels in 1776, a very strong proof of the great increase of tillage in the neighbourhood. Very much of it is between Clonmell and Cashel, in which tract there was formerly more sheep in one parish, than now in three; also much in the Corke road to Cloheen, but no mountain heath ground improved. The change has been from sheep and bullocks. He has a prospect of doing yet more, and at the same time that other mills have been erected that grind much, perhaps the whole is not short of 40,000 barrels. The farmers do not bring their wheat from a greater distance than 16 miles. Mr. Moore finds it necessary to kiln dry all. I mentioned to him the bad colour of all the wheat in his own, and every other mill in Ireland, he attributed it only to wet harvests. He sends his flour to Dublin, on the bounty, which rather more than pays the expence of carriage 6*d.* per cwt. Never exports on his own account, but sends a little to Waterford. It goes to Dublin in cars, which takes each eight to ten cwt. that is from four to five bags.

bags. He used to pay 3s. a cwt. in winter, and 3s. 6d. in summer for 84 miles, but now the price is 2s 6d. in summer, and 3s. in winter. Mr. Moore tried English broad-wheeled waggons, with high priced strong horses, but they did not answer at all: he has found the cars to carry much greater loads.

He has not found that the premium has over stocked the Dublin market, which he attributes to there being an export from Dublin, notwithstanding such exported corn receives no bounty. The bran Mr. Moore applies to breeding and fattening hogs, contrary to the practice of most other mills, who having tried it, have given that practice up. He has thirty breeding sows and six hundred pigs, which are fed and fattened entirely on it, and the fat is firm and good. The price of bran is 1s. 1d. the six stone, and the hogs answer so well, that he would contract for other bran to be delivered him at that price, in order to use it in this manner. He does not depend entirely on breeding his own, but buys many stores. He is entirely in the Berkshire breed, which he finds much superior to the Irish. I observed his hogs, and thought them very fine ones. His sows bring three litters each, seven pigs on an average, in a year and a quarter; sells them at half a year to two years old, putting them to fat as soon as they have done growing; but when there is a great demand, fats them young. The average fat pig, two cwt.

at

at from 20s. to 30s. a cwt. medium 25s. The dung is a considerable profit; he finds it beyond any other. He has given bran also to fattening store cattle, having built stalls for that purpose; gives them hay till when near fat, then leaves off the hay. His working horses are fed on bran entirely, no oats.

Mr. Moore contracts for biscuit, which he bakes in large quantities, and bread for the whole town of Clonmell. He has eight ovens going for biscuit. Starch he also makes large quantities of. Adjoining his flour mill, he has erected a rape mill, for making oil; the seed is all raised in the neighbourhood. The cake sells at 48s. a ton, and is exported, some to Holland, but most to England for manure. He has tried feeding beasts with it, but it will not do at all: they would have died. This fact has long been known in England. It is the cake of lint seed that fattens. We have, however, very florid writers of *this* age, who speak of oxen fattening on *rape* cake as a common thing.

Mr. Moore's husbandry is also worthy of considerable notice. His principal attention has been given to cattle; seventeen years ago he imported Leicestershire rams, Northampton stallions, and a Craven bull from England, and has at different times since had bulls from Bakewell and others, and has himself sold yearling bull calves, from 10l. to 30l. a piece, and rams from 10l. to 40l. Long ex-
perience

perience has told him that the long horned Craven breed of cattle is preferable to any other. I enquired particularly into the quantity of milk, because the common objection is their not giving much. Sir William Osborne, as well as Mr. Moore, assured me that he had seen one of them milked, and the milk measured seventeen quarts at one meal; but the average six to ten quarts at a meal, which is neither better nor worse than the common cows of the country: but the milk is much better and thicker, and yields more butter than that of the Holderneffe. I examined his bulls, cows, and oxen, with attention; he has a bull which deserves every commendation for shape; and three or four out of six or seven prime cows I saw, were very beautiful ones.

Of sheep he keeps 1000, that is 200 ewes, 200 year-olds; 200 two-year olds; 200 barren ewes, and 200 lambs. He sells every year 200 two-year old fat wethers, and 100 barren ewes; the wethers in October, at 28s. and the ewes in the spring, at 25s. His fleeces are 7lb. each on an average, at 1s. per lb.

Turnips he has cultivated for some years, up to 30 acres in a year, broad cast, has not hoed, from finding them very good without. He both draws and feeds on the land. He has had cabbages also, but never more than two acres, finds them more expensive, but do not go so far as turnips.

To Sir William Osborne's, three miles the other side Clonmell. From a character so remarkable for intelligence and precision. I could not fail of meeting information of the most valuable kind. This gentleman has made a mountain improvement which demands particular attention, being upon a principle very different from common ones.

Twelve years ago he met with a hearty looking fellow of forty, followed by a wife and six children in rags, who begged. Sir William questioned him upon the scandal of a man in full health and vigour, supporting himself in such a manner: the man said he could get no work: *Come along with me, I will shew you a spot of land upon which I will build a cabbin for you, and if you like it you shall fix there.* The fellow followed Sir William, who was as good as his word: he built him a cabbin, gave him five acres of a heathy mountain, lent him four pounds to stock with, and gave him, when he had prepared his ground, as much lime as he would come for. The fellow flourished; he went on gradually; repaid the four pounds, and presently became a happy little cottar: he has at present twelve acres under cultivation, and a stock in trade worth at least 80l. his name is John Conory.

The success which attended this man in two or three years, brought others, who applied for land, and Sir William gave them as they applied. The mountain was under lease to a
tenant,

tenant, who valued it so little, that upon being reproached with not cultivating, or doing something with it, he assured Sir William, that it was utterly impracticable to do any thing with it, and offered it to him without any deduction of rent. Upon this mountain he fixed them; gave them terms as they came determinable with the lease of the farm, so that every one that came in succession had shorter and shorter tenures; yet are they so desirous of settling, that they come at present, though only two years remain for a term.

In this manner Sir William has fixed twenty-two families, who are all upon the improving hand, the meanest growing richer; and find themselves so well off, that no consideration will induce them to work for others, not even in harvest: their industry has no bounds; nor is the day long enough for the revolution of their incessant labour. Some of them bring turf to Clonmell, and Sir William has seen Conory returning loaded with soap ashes.

He found it difficult to persuade them to make a road to their village, but when they had once done it, he found none in getting cross roads to it, they found such benefit in the first. Sir William has continued to give them whatever lime they come for; and they have desired 1000 barrels among them for the year 1766, which their landlord has accordingly contracted for with his lime-burner, at 11 d. a barrel. Their houses have all been built at
his

his expence, and done by contract at 6l. each, after which they raise what little offices they want for themselves.

Sir William being prejudiced against the custom of burning land, insisted that they should not do it, which impeded them for some time; but upon being convinced that they could not go on well without it, he relaxed, and since that they have improved rapidly. He has informed them, that upon the expiration of the lease, they will be charged something for the land, and has desired that they will mark out each man what he wishes to have; they have accordingly run divisions, and some of them have taken pieces of 30 or 40 acres: a strong proof that they find their husbandry beneficial and profitable. He has great reason to believe that nine-tenths of them were white boys, but are now of principles and practice exceedingly different from the miscreants that bear that name. The lime Sir William gives them for the first breaking up, and the quantity they chuse is 40 barrels an acre, so that all the expence is 6l. for the house, and 1l. 16s. 8d. an acre for the land they improve. He has little doubt but they will take the whole mountain among them, which consists of 900 acres. Their course of tillage is,

1. Potatoes on the burning, generally *Turks*, (clustered) and great crops. 2. Rye. 3. Oats, and then leave it out; the grass is,

Their

Their cattle are feeding on the mountain in the day, but of nights they house them in little miserable stables. All their children are employed regularly in their husbandry, picking stones, weeding, &c. which shows their industry strongly; for in general they are idle about all the country. The women spin.

Too much cannot be said in praise of this undertaking. It shows that a reflecting penetrating landlord can scarcely move without the power of creating opportunities to do himself and his country service. It shows that the villainy of the greatest miscreants, is all situation and circumstance: EMPLOY, don't *hang* them. Let it not be in the slavery of the cottar system, in which industry never meets its reward, but by giving property, teach the value of it; by giving them the fruit of their labour, teach them to be laborious. All this Sir William Osborne has done, and done it with effect, and there probably is not an honest set of families in the county than those which he has formed from the refuse of the white boys.

Suppose he builds a house to every twenty acres, and limes that quantity of land, the expense would be a few shillings over 40l. or 40s. an acre. If they pay him 2s. 4d. an acre for the land, he will make just 6l. per cent. for his money: a most striking proof of the immense profit which attends mountain improvements of every kind, because instead of 2s. 4d. they would consider 6s. or 7s. as a rent of favour.

4s. 8d. is 12 per cent. for his money; 7s. is 18 per cent. Yet in spite of such facts do the lazy, trifling, inattentive, negligent, *slobbering*, profligate owners of Irish mountains leave them, as they received them, from the hands of their ancestors, in the possession of grouse and foxes. Shame to such a spiritless conduct!

One-third of Waterford mountain at 6d. an acre, and two-thirds at 7s. Twenty miles on the coast in length, and eight or ten in breadth, is under dairies, of which the rent per acre is little known, farms being paid for by the cows they will maintain, at 50s. each. These dairies rise to 50 and even 100 cows. They all keep great numbers of hogs, which increase every day from the high price. The state of the poor people much better than formerly; they used to have one acre of potatoes, and the grass of one cow for their year's labour, and no more, and were much greater slaves than at present.

Tillage does not thrive in the county; it has, however, increased pretty much about Dunganon, from whence there has been a tolerable export of corn; not only from its neighbourhood, but also from a distance, owing to the mobs of Clonmell and Carrick stopping corn going to Waterford, which has injured the latter town.

October 15th, left New Town, and keeping on the banks of the Sure, passed through Carrick to Curraghmore, the seat of the Earl of Tyrone.

Tyrone. This line of country, in point of soil, inferior to what I have of late gone through: so that I consider the rich country to end at Clonmell. For the following account of the husbandry of the county of Waterford I am obliged to the attention of Lord Tyrone, who omitted no means of informing me accurately.

That county is divided into very large farms, and the renters of them keep cows generally, which they let to dairymen. One farmer, Mr. Peor, has 2000 cows, and pays 2000l. a year, but they rarely let more to one man than 50 cows, usually about 20; many of these men pay weekly, and others quarterly: the rent from 50s. to 3l. 5s. no such thing as horn-money. The dairyman's privilege is a house and two or three acres of land, or a horse and two cows in twenty. They make nothing but butter, and all keep hogs; but do not feed them with milk, felling it all; 1,300 to 1,500 churns full of milk, each eight gallons, goes into Waterford every day in the year, and a prodigious quantity to Carrick. The county is by far the greatest dairying one in Ireland. The breed is the common mountain cow, poor to look at, but great milkers, five or six pottles at a meal common. Price of them 5l. at an average. Average rent of all the land under cows, 10s. One-third of the county mountain; at 6d. the other two-thirds, at 10s. Along the Blackwater, good land, and four miles round Waterford, 20s. or 25s. The quantity
for

for a cow from two to four acres. They generally breed their own by rearing a few calves every year; the young stock are kept on the mountains in summer, and in the worst of the low land in winter. They never feed their cows with any hay, except in very severe weather. No other stock but cows.

The soils are various at this end of the county, clay and shingly slate, with a reddish mold upon it and gravelly loams. At the other end, they have lime-stone lands. They have, however, about Curraghmoor lime-stone gravel of a stiff nature. Lime at the kiln 9d. a barrel; Lord Tyrone pays 1s. for the stone, and 2s. 8d. a barrel for the culm, and pays 2d. a barrel for breaking and burning, all which make 9d. Every barrel of culm gives seven of lime; a ton of stone produces four barrels of lime: the barrel of lime four cubical feet. Not a thirtieth part of the country under the plough. The tillage consists only of a little patches broken up by the cabbins; it has been increasing these 15 years: but the principal increase has been within these ten years. The course of crops:

1. Potatoes. 2. Potatoes. 3. Barley, or oats. 4. Oats. 5. Oats: continued while the land yields. Wheat is coming in. Some who till large fields, and do not take so many crops. About Dungarvon, there are many potatoes planted, which are sent to Dublin in boats, with loads of birch brooms, and they are said to

to be loaded with *fruit* and *timber*. But in no part of the county do they plant grass potatoes: they plant many of the bull or turk fort for their pigs, but they are reckoned an unwholesome sort for the people to feed on. Paring and burning land was common before the law passed against it, but of late very little. Upon the coast there is a great deal of seaweed and sea-sand, especially beyond Dungarvon and Waterford. Flax is scarcely any where sown. The poor people feed on potatoes and milk; most of them have cows; many of them for a part of the year only salt: but they have oat bread when potatoes are not in season. They all keep pigs, but never eat them. Their circumstances are in general greatly better than they were twenty years ago, both in food and cloathing; they have now all shoes and stockings, and are decently dressed every Sunday. No hats among the women, and it is the same in other parts. Their labour is valued, and they are paid the amount in land. The religion of the lower classes is the Roman catholic.

Emigrations from this part of Ireland principally to Newfoundland, for a season; they have 18l. or 20l. for their pay, and are maintained, but they do not bring home more than 7l. to 11l. Some of them stay and settle; three years ago there was an emigration of indentured servants to North Carolina, of 300, but they were stopped by contrary winds, &c. There had been something of this constantly,

but not to that amount. The oppression which the poor people have most to complain of, is the not having any tenures in their lands, by which means they are entirely subject to their employers.

Manufactures here are only woollens. Carrick is one of the greatest manufacturing towns in Ireland. Principally for ratteens, but of late they have got into broadcloths, all for home consumption; the manufacture increases, and is very flourishing. There are between three and four hundred people employed by it, in Carrick and its neighbourhood.

Lord Tyrone is clear that if his estate in Londonderry was in Waterford, or that all the inhabitants of it were to emigrate from it, so as to leave him to new model it, he would be able to get full one-third more for it than he can do at present; rents in the north depending not on quality, but on price of linen.

The rise in the prosperity of Ireland, about the year 1749, owing to the higher price of provisions, which raised rents and enforced industry. Butter now 9d. a lb. thirty years ago 2½d.

Tythes are usually compounded for by the year through this county. Wheat pays 10s. Barley, 10s. Oats, 5s. Mowing ground, 4s. Sheep, 1d. each. Milk sells in summer for a halfpenny

halfpenny a quart; five quarts of butter-milk in summer for a halfpenny.

Lord Tyrone has improved 127 acres of hill, the soil reddish dry loam, on a flaty bottom, over-run with French and Irish furze, and briars and bushes; he first grubbed them up at a guinea an acre: then he levelled an infinite number of old ditches and mounds, at 50l. expense, ploughed in winter, and second ploughed in May; and 200 barrels of roach lime per acre, spread, at 1s. a barrel. Upon this ploughed twice more; and sowed, part with wheat at Michaelmas, and part with barley in spring. The crops exceedingly good; 8 barrels an acre of wheat, and 18 of barley. After the wheat, barley and grass seeds were sown; the barley as good as the other; and upon the barley, part oats were sown, the crop 15 barrels, and white clover and hay feeds. Before the improvement, it let at 10s. an acre; after the improvement it would let readily at 25s. The grubbing the furze was not effectual, for 50l. has been since expended in grubbing up scattered ones. They are now completely destroyed, is a very beautiful well-laid lawn, and so good land, that the wool of the sheep alone that were kept there last year, without other food, and through the year paid 20s. an acre for the whole. It would now feed 600 sheep through the year. Over 90 acres limed, with 250 barrels an acre, and fallowed, had 17 barrels an acre of wheat. Eight years ago, his Lordship stopped their burning

land; but upon receiving many complaints at it, he sold them lime at 9d. a barrel, which cost him 1s. in order to make up the imaginary loss.

I had the pleasure of meeting, at Lord Tyrone's, William Shanly, Esq; of Willyfield, in Leitrim, who informed me that he had twelve hundred per acre from a bad red bog, stone of potatoes four feet deep, drained to the clay at bottom; lime-stone sand at 3l. labour, besides horses; dunged it a common covering, and immediately planted the potatoes, dug them, and sowed barley, 15 barrels an acre. Barley again 12 barrels; barley again 8 barrels, grew too rank, laid with grass seeds, could let at 40s. an acre: answers so well, that he would have done any quantity of it; did 20 acres. He planted with a plough 29½ stone of potatoes in rows, four feet asunder; the produce was 1,440 stone, the quantity of land about three rood. In the county Leitrim, four-fifths of mountain, at 2d. or not so much; the remaining fifth, 6s. the mountains in Leitrim all wet, a boggy surface.

Curraghmoor is one of the finest places in Ireland, or indeed that I have any where seen. The house, which is large, is situated upon a rising ground, in a vale surrounded by very bold hills, which rise in a variety of forms, and offer to the eye, in riding through the grounds, very noble and striking scenes. These hills are exceedingly varied, so that the detour
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of the place is very pleasing. In order to see it to advantage, I would advise a traveller to take the ride which Lord Tyrone carried me. Passed through the deer park wood of old oaks, spread over the side of a bold hill, and of such an extent, that the scene is a truly forest one, without any other boundary in view than what the stems of trees offer from mere extent, retiring one behind another till they thicken so much to the eye, under the shade of their spreading tops, as to form a distant wall of wood. This is a sort of scene not common in Ireland, it is a great extent alone that will give it. From this hill enter an evergreen plantation, a scene which winds up the Deer-park hill, and opens on to the brow of it, which commands a most noble view indeed. The lawns around the house appear at one's feet, at the bottom of a great declivity of wood, almost every where surrounded by plantations. The hills on the opposite side of the vale against the house, consist of a large lawn in the center of the two woods, that to the right of an immense extent, which waves over a mountain side, in the finest manner imaginable, and lead the eye to the scenery on the left, which is a beautiful vale of rich inclosures, of several miles extent, with the Sure making one great reach through it, and a bold bend just before it enters a gap in the hills towards Waterford, and winds behind them; to the right you look over a large plain, backed by the great Cumeragh mountains. For a distinct extent of view, the parts of which are all of a commanding

manding magnitude, and a variety equal to the number, very few prospects are finer than this.

From hence the boundary plantation extends some miles to the west and north-west of the domain, forming a margin to the whole of different growths, having been planted, by degrees, from three to sixteen years. It is in general well grown, and the trees thriven exceedingly, particularly the oak, beech, larch, and firs. It is very well sketched, with much variety given to it.

Pass by the garden across the river, which murmurs over a rocky bed, and follow the riding up a steep hill, covered with wood from some breaks, in which the house appears perfectly buried in a deep wood, and come out, after a considerable extent of ride, into the higher lawn, which commands a view of the scenery about the house; and from the brow of the hill the water, which is made to imitate a river, has a good effect, and throws a great air of cheerfulness over the scene, for from hence the declivity below it is hid; but the view, which is the most pleasing from hence, the finest at Curraghmoor, and indeed one of the most striking that is any where to be seen, is that of the hanging wood to the right of the house, rising in so noble a sweep as perfectly to fill the eye, and leave the fancy scarce any thing to wish: at the bottom is a small semicircular lawn around, which flows the river, under the immediate

immediate shade of very noble oaks; the whole wood rises boldly from the bottom, tree above tree, to a vast height, of large oak, the masses of shade are but tints of one colour, it is not chequered with a variety, there is a majestic simplicity, a unity in the whole, which is attended with an uncommon impression, and such as none but the most magnificent scenes can raise.

Descending from hence through the roads, the riding crosses the river, passes through the meadow, which has such an effect in the preceding scene, from which also the view is very fine, and leads home through a continued and an extensive range of fine oak, partly on a declivity, at the bottom of which the river murmurs its broken course.

Besides this noble riding, there is a very agreeable walk runs immediately on the banks of the river, which is perfect in its stile; it is a sequestered line of wood, so high on the declivities in some places, and so thick to the very edge in others, overspreading the river; that the character of the scene is gloom and melancholy, heightened by the noise of the water falling from stone to stone; there is a considerable variety in the banks of it, and in the figures and growth of the wood, but none that hurts the impression, which is well preserved throughout.

October 17th. accompanied Lord Tyrone to Waterford; made some enquiries into the state of their trade, but found it difficult, from the method in which the Custom-house books are kept, to get the details I wished; but in the year following, having the pleasure of a long visit at Ballycanvan, the seat of Cornelius Bolton, Esq; his son, the member for the city, procured me every information I could wish, and that in so liberal and polite a manner, that it would not be easy to express the obligations I am under to both. In general I was informed that the trade of the place had increased considerably in ten years, both the exports and imports. The exports of the products of pasturage, full one-third in twelve years. That the staple trade of the place is the Newfoundland trade; this is very much increased, there is more of it here than any where. The number of people who go passengers in the Newfoundland ships is amazing; from sixty to eighty ships, and from three thousand to five thousand annually. They come from most parts of Ireland, from Corke, Kerry, &c. Experienced men will get 18 to 25l. for the season, from March to November; a man who never went will have five to seven pounds, and his passage, and others rise to 20l. the passage out they get, but pay home two pounds. An industrious man in a year will bring home twelve to sixteen pounds with him, and some more. A great point for them is to be able to carry out all their strops, for every thing there is exceedingly dear, one
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or two hundred per cent. dearer than they can get them at home. They are not allowed to take out any woollen goods but for their own use. The ships go loaded with pork, beef, butter, and some salt: and bring home passengers, or get freights where they can; sometimes rum. The Waterford pork comes principally from the barony of Iverk in Kilkenny, where they fatten great numbers of large hogs; for many weeks together they kill here three to four thousand a week, the price 50s. to 4l. each; goes chiefly to Newfoundland. One was killed in Mr. Penrose's cellar, that weighed five cwt. and a quarter, and measured from the nose to the end of the tail, nine feet four inches.

There is a foundery at Waterford for pots, kettles, weights, and all common utensils; and a manufactory by messieurs King and Tegent, of anvils to anchors, 20 cwt. &c. which employs 40 hands. Smiths earn from 6s. to 24s. a week. Nailors, from 10s. to 12s. And another less considerable. There are two sugar-houses, and many salt-houses. The salt is boiled over lime-kilns.

There is a fishery upon the coast of Waterford, for a great variety of fish; herrings particularly in the mouth of Waterford harbour, and two years ago in such quantities there, that the tides left the ditches full of them. There are some premium boats both here and

at

at Dungarvon, but the quantity of herrings barrelled is not considerable.

The butter trade of Waterford has increased greatly for 7 years past; it comes from Waterford principally, but much from Carlow; for it comes from 20 miles beyond Carlow, for 6d. per cwt. From the first of January, 1774, to the first of January, 1775, there were exported 59,856 casks of butter each on an average, one hundred weight at the mean price of 50s. Revenue of Waterford, 1751, 17,000l. --- 1776, 52,000l. The slaughter trade has increased, but not so much as the butter. Price of butter now at Waterford, 58s. twenty years average, 42s. Beef now to 25s. average, twenty years, 10s. to 18s. Pork now 30s. average, twenty years, 16s. to 22s. Eighty sail of ships now belonging to the port, twenty years ago not 30. They pay to the captains of ships of 200 tons, 5l. a month; the mate 3l. 10s. Ten men, at 40s. five years ago only 27s. Building ships, 10l. a ton. Wear and tear of such a ship, 20l. a month. Ship provisions, 20s. a month.

The new church in this city is a very beautiful one; the body of it is in the same stile exactly as that of Belfast already described: the total length 170 feet, the breadth 58. The length of the body of the church 92, the height 40; breadth between the pillars 26. The isle (which I do not remember at Belfast) is 58 by 45. A room on one side the steeple, space

space for the bishop's court, 24 by 18; on the other side, a room of the same size for the vestry; and 28 feet square left for a steeple when their funds will permit. The whole is light and beautiful: it was built by subscription, and there is a fine organ bespoke at London. But the finest object in this city is the quay, which is unrivalled by any I have seen; it is an English mile long; the buildings on it are only common houses, but the river is near a mile over, flows up to the town in one noble reach, and the opposite shore a bold hill, which rises immediately from the water to a height that renders the whole magnificent. This is scattered with some wood, and divided into pastures of a beautiful verdure, by hedges. I crossed the water, in order to walk up the rocks on the top of this hill; in one place, over against Bilberry quarry, you look immediately down on the river, which flows in noble reaches from Granny castle on the right past Cromwell's rock, the shores on both sides, quite steep, especially the rock of Bilberry. You look over the whole town, which here appears in a triangular form; besides the city, the Cummeragh mountains, Slein-a-man, &c. come in view. Kilmacow river falls into the Sure, after flowing through a large extent of well planted country; this is the finest view about the city.

From Waterford to Passage, and got my chaise and horses on board the Countess of Tyrone packet, in full expectation of sailing immediately

immediately, as the wind was fair, but I soon found the difference of these private vessels and the post office packets at Holyhead and Dublin. When the wind was fair the tide was foul: and when the tide was with them, the wind would not do; in English there was not a complement of passengers, and so I had the agreeableness of waiting with my horses in the hold, by way of rest, after a journey of above 1500 miles:

October 18th. after a beastly night passed on ship board, and finding no signs of departure, walked to Ballycanvan, the seat of Cornelius Bolton, Esq; rode with Mr. Bolton, jun. to Faithleghill, which commands one of the finest views I have seen in Ireland. There is a rock on the top of a hill, which has a very bold view on every side down on a great extent of country, much of which is grass inclosures of a good verdure. This hill is the center of a circle of about ten miles diameter, beyond which higher lands rise, which after spreading to a great extent, have on every side a back ground of mountain: in a northerly direction, mount Leinster, between Wexford and Wicklow, twenty-six miles off, rises in several heads, far above the clouds. A little to the right of this, Sliakeiltha (*i. e.* the woody mountain) at a less distance, is a fine object. To the left, Tory hill, only five miles, in a regular form varies the out-line. To the east, there is the long mountain, eighteen miles distant, and several lesser Wexford hills.

hills. To the south-east, the Saltees. To the south the ocean, and the colines about the bay of Tramore. To the west, Monavollagh rises 2160 feet above the level of the sea, eighteen miles off, being part of the great range of the Cummaragh mountains; and to the north-west Slinaman, at the distance of twenty-four miles; so that the out-line is every where bold and distinct, though distant. These circumstances would alone form a great view, but the water part of it, which fills up the canvass, is in a much superior stile. The great river Sure takes a winding course from the city of Waterford, through a rich country, hanging on the sides of hills to its banks, and dividing into a double channel, forms the lesser island, both of which courses you command distinctly; united, it makes a bold reach under the hill on which you stand, and there receive the noble tribute of the united waters of the barrow and the Nore, in two great channels, which form the larger island; enlarged by such an accession of water, it winds round the hill in a bending course, of the freest and most graceful outline, every where from one to three miles across, with bold shores, that give a sharp outline to its course to the ocean; twenty sail of ships at Passage, gave animation to the scene; upon the whole, the boldness of the mountain outline; the variety of the grounds; the vast extent of river, with the declivity to it from the point of view, altogether form so unrivalled a scenery—every
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object so commanding, that the general want of wood is almost forgotten.

Two years after this account was written I again visited this enchanting hill, and walked to it, day after day, from Ballycanvan, and with increasing pleasure. Mr. Bolton, jun. has since I was there before, inclosed forty acres on the top and steep slope to the water, and began to plant them. This will be a prodigious addition; for the slope forming the bold shore for a considerable space, and having projections from which the wood will all be seen in the gentle hollows of the hill, the effect will be amazingly fine. Walks and a riding are tracing out, which will command fresh beauties at every step; the spots from which a variety of beautiful views are seen are numerous. All the way from Ballycanvan to Faithleg, the whole to the amount of 1200 acres, is the property of Mr. Bolton.

Farms about Ballycanvan, Waterford, &c. are generally small, from twenty and thirty to five hundred acres, generally about two hundred and fifty, all above two hundred acres are in general dairies; some of the dairy ones rise very high. The soil is a reddish stony, or flaty gravel, dry, except low lands, which are clay or turf. Rents vary much about the town very high, from 5l. 5s. to 9l. but at the distance of a few miles towards Passage, &c. they are from 20s. to 40s. and some higher, but the country in general does

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not rise so high, usually 10s. to 20s. for dairy-
ing land. The course of crops is,

1. Potatoes; the produce 40 to 80 barrels,
20 stones each. 2. Wheat; the crop 8 barrels,
each 20 stones. 3. Oats; the produce from
10 to 14 barrels. 4. Barley; the crop 12 to
15 barrels, 16 stone each. 5. Lay it out;
the better sort clover with the barley, and leave
it for meadow.

1. Oats. 2. Wheat. 3. Oats. 4. Barley.
One preparation is a slight burning of the fur-
rows for wheat, after that wheat, they will
sow barley, and then several crops of oats.
Also.

1. Potatoes. 2. Wheat. 3. Wheat. 4.
Barley. 5. Lay out.

1. Potatoes. 2. Potatoes. 3. Wheat. 4.
Oats. 5. Barley. 6. Lay out. The second
crop 10 barrels. Every house has a little
patch of flax for making a little bandle cloth,
but the quantity is not considerable.

The principal manure is a sandy marle
they raise in boats on the banks in the har-
bour at low water; it is of a blueish colour,
very soapy, and ferments strongly with acids:
a boat load is 18 tons, and costs 6 to 8s. a
load. Most of it has shells. They lay it on
for barley particularly, and get great crops,
can in all see to an inch where spread. Some-
times

times it is laid on grass, and the effect uncommonly great, bringing up a perfect carpeting of white clover wherever laid. They lay five or six loads an acre, and the land is for ever the better. They repeat it on the same land, and with great effect. They make composts of it with lime, and also hedge earth with good success. Lime they use also; lay from 100 to 150 barrels roach to an acre, which has a very great effect. On the stiffer yellow clays it does better than sand, but laid on all sorts, and also on grass land with good effect. Sea sand they use for potatoes, but it does not last more than for that crop. Waterford dung, and street sullage, 42s. the boat load of 18 tons. Clover has been introduced these 12 years; Mr. Bolton has sown it for many years with very good effect, so that he never lays down land without it.

The dairies are generally set at 2l. 5s. The dairyman's privilege to 40 cows is a cow and horse, and 2 acres and a cabin, and he is allowed to rear one calf in ten; 100 acres to 40 cows; they do not keep any hogs on account of cows. Price of cows, average 4l. to 5l. They are engaged to give two pottles each on an average, putting all the milk together. Meadows let at 3l. to 4l. an acre for the hay.

There are few sheep kept, no great flocks. The poor people plough with four horses, sometimes six: gentlemen generally with spayed heifers or oxen. Land sells at 19 and 20 years

20 years purchase; it did sell at 23, and the fall has been owing to the failure of credit in 1771 and 1772.

Tythes, Potatoes, Wheat, Barley, and Oats, 5s. to 6s. Cows, 2d. Sheep, 6d.

The poor people spin their own flax, but not more, and a few of them wool for themselves. Their food is potatoes and milk; but they have a considerable assistance from fish, particularly herrings; part of the year they have also barley, oaten, and rye bread. They are incomparably better off in every respect than twenty years ago. Their increase about Ballycanvan is very great, and tillage all over this neighbourhood is increased. The rent of a cabbin 10s. an acre with it 20s. The grass of a cow a few years ago, 20s. now 25s. or 30s.

An exceeding good practice here in making their fences is, they plant the quick on the side of the bank in the common manner, and then, instead of the dead hedge we use in England on the top of the bank, they plant a row of old thorns, two or three feet high, which readily grow, and form at once a most excellent fence. Their way also of taking in sand banks from the river deserves notice: they stake down a row of furzes at low water, laying stones on them to the height of one or two feet; these retain the mud, which every tide brings in, so as to fill up all within

the furze as high as their tops. I remarked on the strand, that a few boat loads of stones laid carelessly, had had this effect, for within them I measured 12 inches deep of rich blue mud left behind them, the same as they use in manuring, full of shells and effervesced strongly with vinegar.

Among the poor people, the fishermen are in much the best circumstances; the fishery is considerable; Waterford and its harbour have 50 boats each, from 8 to 12 tons, six men on an average to each, but to one of six ton, five men go. A boat of eight tons costs 40l. one of twelve 60l. To each boat there is a train of nets of six pair, which costs from 4l. 4s. to 6l. 6s. tan them with bark. Their only net fishery is that of herrings, which is commonly carried on by shares. The division of the fish is, first, one fourth for the boat; and then the men and nets divide the rest, the latter reckoned as three men. They reckon 10 maze of herrings an indifferent night's work; when there is a good take 40 maze have been taken, 20 a good night; the price per maze, from 1s. to 7s. average 5s. Their take, in 1775, the greatest they have known, when they had more than they could dispose of, and the whole town and country stunk of them, they retailed them 32 for 1d. 1773 and 1774 good years. They barrelled many; but in general there is an import of Swedish. Besides the common articles I have registered, the following are, Pigeons, 1s. a couple. A hare, 1s. Par-

Partridges, 9d. Turbets, fine ones, 4s. to 10s. Soals, a pair, large, 1s. 6d. to 1s. Lobsters, 3d. each. Oysters, 6s. per hundred. Rabbits, 1s. to 1s. 4d. a couple. Cod, 1s. each, large Salmon, 1½d. to 2d.

A very extraordinary circumstance I was told, that within five or six years there has been much hay carried from Waterford to Norway, in the Norway ships that bring deals; as hay is dear here, it proves a most backward state of husbandry in that northerly region, since the neighbourhood of sea-ports to which this hay can alone go, is generally the best improved in all countries.

Mr. Bolton has improved a great deal of waste land, that was under furze, heath, and wood. He first grubs it, which costs for the woody part, 3l. or 3l. 3s. and for the furze, 20s. Then levels all holes, &c. and clears it of rocks, at the expence of 20s. an acre. Upon this he dungs and plants potatoes in the trenching way upon a part, and upon the rest fallows and limes it, and sows wheat, 100 to 150 barrels an acre, produce seven to ten barrels an acre. Then sows it for oats or barley, 15 barrels of barley, and 12 of oats. In this way he has done 300 acres, which was not worth more than 5s. an acre: now lets at 30s. In making this very noble improvement, he divided the land into well proportioned fields, and surrounded them with very noble fences; double ditches, with a parapet bank between,

planted on both sides with quick, and on the top with a double row of oak, elm, ash, or fir; many of these were planted 36 years ago; they are now in very great perfection, so thick and fully grown as to be impervious to the sight, and to take, when viewed at a distance, the appearance of spreading woods. Nothing could be done in a completer manner, and the quantity over more than 300 acres, uniting with many orchards planted at the same time, give his domain and its environs a richness of landscape not common in Ireland. I could not help much admiring it when on the water, from some parts of the river the effect is very beautiful.

Mr. Bolton cannot be too much commended for the humane attention with which he encourages his poor cottar tenantry; he gives them all leases, whatever their religion, of 21 or 31 years, or lives: even the occupier of two acres has a lease. It is inconceivable what an effect this has had: this is the way to give the catholics right ideas. I was for three weeks a witness of a most spirited industry among them; every scrap of rough rocky land, not before improved, they were at work upon, and overcoming such difficulties as are rarely to be found on common wastes: many spots, not worth 5s. an acre, they were reclaiming to be well worth 25s. and 30s. The improvement of this part of Mr. Bolton's estate may be guessed at when I mention, that on only 500 acres of it, there have been built, in
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six years, 40 new houses, many of them handsome ones of stone and slate. For cabbins, barns, &c. he gives timber for the roofs.

In 1751, Mr. Bolton being in England, where observing the cultivation of turnips for sheep, he introduced them on his estate on his return, and had hurdles made for penning sheep on them, and did it with much success; after the same journey also, he introduced horse-beans for feeding his horses, mixed with oats: he did it for twenty years together, and with the greatest success. Turnip cabbage he has tried also for sheep, and found them to do exceedingly well. One turnip cabbage sown the beginning of April, and not transplanted, weighed 13lb. top and bottom. An experiment on carrots I viewed, of which Mr. Bolton, junior, has since favoured me with the following account.

“ When you were here, I shewed you a few beds of carrots, which were pulled the beginning of this month; I measured the ground, and when the carrots were cleaned and topped, I saw them weighed. The ground measured fifteen perches, plantation measure, which produced 36 hundred and six stone of carrots, besides allowing 4lb. to every hundred for dirt, though they were very clean and dry. The produce is 156 barrels, and 16 stones to an acre, (20 stones to the barrel) and beyond any thing I could have imagined; and I am certain, had the carrots been hoed and thinned

as they ought, the product would have been much greater. The tops were given to pigs; they seemed to like them better than any thing else. These fifteen perches are part of a field, which, in 1774, had been highly manured with dung for potatoes. In 1775, the roots of the weeds (of which there were a great quantity, particularly couch grass and crow-foot) were burnt, and the ashes and some blue sand spread, and it was sown with turnips. The latter end of March, these fifteen perches were dug, and about the 16th of April sown with a pound of carrot-feed; they were twice hoed, to destroy the weeds which came up very thick."

In the winter of 1775, Mr. Bolton fed 10 working horses on bull potatoes, twice a day on oats, and once on potatoes; the potatoes given always at night; the quantity to each horse $1\frac{1}{2}$ peck of small ones; and at the other two feedings, half a peck each of oats. He found that they fattened the horses very much, and did exceedingly well on them. Value of the potatoes, 3s. a barrel. The culture of rape and turnips has been tried in this neighbourhood also by Mr. James Wise, merchant, of Waterford.

In the beginning of June, 1774, Mr. Wyse ploughed lightly with a winged plough, and burned the surface of near four acres of land, which had not been tilled for many years. He spread the ashes, and manured the ground with

12 boat loads of the blue sand, which is taken from the banks of the river at low water, each boat load containing 20 tons. Then ploughed and harrowed it once; and such of the clods as were not thoroughly burnt and pulverized after harrowing, he turned with the grassy side down to hinder their growing. About the middle of August he sowed with rape; a little more than half a bushel to an acre. It was cut the latter end of June, 1775, and produced 48 barrels, of sixteen stones to the barrel, which sold for 16s. per barrel, and the straw to a tallow-chandler to burn for ashes, for 48s. The straw, or haulm of rape, is sold for twelve-pence for each barrel of seed it produced. The beginning of July, 1775, Mr. Wyse ploughed and harrowed the ground; about the 20th of July sowed it with turnips, which on their coming up, were immediately destroyed by the fly. About the middle of August harrowed the ground, and sowed turnips again, which were also destroyed by the fly. Mr. Wyse imagines the great number of flies were occasioned by the oiliness and richness of the ground, (caused by the putrefaction of the leaves and blossoms of the rape) and the moisture and warmth of the weather. About the middle of October, the grass came up so rich and luxuriant, (though not sown with grass seed) that Mr. Wyse would not suffer it to be ploughed for tillage, as he had intended. The latter end of June, 1776, mowed it, and it produced three tons of hay per acre; sold for 34s. per ton. The sand
and

and carriage of it cost about thirty shillings per boat load; ploughing, burning, harrowing, sowing, cutting, &c. about four guineas per acre. Rent of the land thirty shillings an acre. In 1775 Mr. Wyse ploughed seven acres, which he prepared in the same manner (except fanding) and sowed it with rape; it grew very well till the great frost and snow fell, which, was remarkably severe, and which injured it very much, together with the moisture of the ground, occasioned by springs in the land, and heavy rains, which succeeded the frost and snow; the produce per acre, about half the quantity of the former year; sold at the same price. Mr. Wyse recommends narrow ridges for low moist ground. He thinks a large quantity of ashes to be a chief means of ensuring a plentiful crop. The land does not require manure after rape for wheat, barley, oats, potatoes, &c. but will not answer for a second crop of rape.

Mr. Bolton, junior, having mentioned a neighbour of his, who had drawn up a memoir upon making cyder, from considerable experience, at my request wrote to him for a copy of it, which I have since received, with his permission to insert it in this work.

The following is an abridgment of the account.

“ Let apples of every species hang till they are ripe, and begin to drop; let them be gathered

thered perfectly dry, and if convenient in the heat of the day, when warmed in the sun; when gathered let them lie in heaps for one, two, three, or four weeks, according to their degrees of firmness, so as to undergo a moderate fermentation; let the moisture be carefully wiped off, and each species separated (if the quantity of fruit in your orchard be sufficient to admit it) and then ground in a mill, or pounded in troughs; but the first the best method, because less of the pulp is broke, and the liquor will flow clearer from the bags; by pressing the fruit of each distinct species so separated, the cyder will undergo one uniform fermentation.

“When the fruit are sufficiently broke for pressing, let them lie forty-eight hours before they be pressed; this will add to that deep richness of colour, which to the eye is pleasing in cyder; then let the fruit so broke, having stood forty-eight hours, be pressed in hair cloth bags; as the juice is thus pressed out, let it be poured into large vessels, usually called keeves, to undergo the fermentation; three of these vessels are necessary in every orchard, one to contain the liquor in its state or course of fermentation, while a second is filling from the press, and the third to contain the pummage before it be pressed; three keeves, containing five or six hogsheads each, will serve for an orchard that yields sixty or seventy hogsheads of cyder. The expence of these vessels made of double boards, hooped with iron,

iron, or strong ash hoops, will not be very considerable; if the weather should prove cold the fermenting keeves should be covered with bags, &c. in order to quicken the fermentation, which will be completed in six or seven days if the weather be temperate, provided no new or unfermented cyder be put into the keeve, which above all things should be carefully avoided; when the fermentation is over, the liquor will be fine, and should then be racked off into very clean hogheads, smoaked with brimstone matches; the hogheads should not be bunged or stopt close till all symptoms of fermentation cease; and in three weeks or a month it should be a second time racked, still observing to smoak the hogheads with brimstone, then the hogheads should with the greatest care be very closely stopped; the keeves must be entirely emptied before the new pressed cyder is poured into them. The great secret in making good cyder, is to prevent or mitigate its fermentations, the first excepted; and nothing will so effectually do this, as repeated racking from the foul lee.

“ Do not press wildings till Candlemas, or until they begin to rot; and when the juice is pressed out, let it be boiled in a furnace for one hour, before it be suffered to work or ferment, and that will greatly soften the acrimony of its juice.”

Mr. William Atkinson, of Mount Wilkin-son, near Ballycanvan, seems to be very attentive to the orchard husbandry; from two acres he had twenty-one hogsheds of cyder, and the same year reaped twenty barrels of wheat under the trees, a produce little short of 50l. or 25l. an acre; three and an half barrels of his aples (each 6 bushels) made a hogshed of cyder. A common practice here in planting orchards, is to set cuttings, three or four feet long, half way in the ground, of the cackagee, jergonelle, or any set that grows rough and knotty in the wood; they call them *pitchers*, they rarely fail, and yield well and soon.

Mr. Bolton carried me to the houses of some fishermen on the harbour, one of whom had planted around his cabin for shelter, three years ago, some willow cuttings, the growth of which amazed me; I measured them 21 feet high, and not crooked or bending like common sorts, but strait as a fir. I took half a dozen cuttings with me to England to compare it with the sorts common with us.

October 19th, the wind being fair, took my leave of Mr. Bolton, and went back to the ship; met with a fresh scene of provoking delays, so that it was the next morning, October 20th, at eight o'clock, before we sailed, and then it was not wind, but a cargo of passengers that spread our sails. Twelve or fourteen hours are not an uncommon passage, but

but such was our luck, that after being in sight of the lights on the Smalls, we were by contrary winds blown opposite to Arklow sands; a violent gale arose which presently blew a storm, that lasted thirty-six hours, in which, under a reefed mainsail, the ship drifted up and down wearing, in order to keep clear of the coasts.

No wonder this appeared to me, a fresh-water sailor, as a storm, when the oldest men on board reckoned it a violent one; the wind blew in furious gusts; the waves ran very high; the cabin windows burst open, and the sea pouring in set every thing afloat, and among the rest a poor lady, who had spread her bed on the floor. We had however the satisfaction to find, by trying the pumps every watch, that the ship made little water. I had more time to attend these circumstances than the rest of the passengers, being the only one in seven who escaped without being sick. It pleased God to preserve us, but we did not cast anchor in Milford Haven, till Tuesday morning the 22d, at one o'clock.

It is much to be wished, that there were some means of being secure of packets sailing regularly, instead of waiting till there is such a number of passengers, as satisfies the owner, and captain; with the post-office packets there is this satisfaction, and a great one it is; the contrary conduct is so perfectly detestable,

detestable, that I should suppose the scheme of Waterford ones can never succeed.

Two years after, having been assured this conveyance was put on a new footing, I ventured to try it again; but was mortified to find that the Tyrone, the only one that could take a chaise or horses, (the *Countess* being laid up) was repairing, but would sail in five days; I waited, and received assurance after assurance that she would be ready on such a day, and then on another; in a word, I waited twenty-four days before I sailed; moderately speaking, I could, by Dublin, have reached Turin or Milan as soon as I did Milford in this conveyance. All this time the papers had constant advertisements of the Tyrone sailing regularly, instead of letting the public know that she was under a repair. Her owner seems to be a fair and worthy man, he will therefore probably give up the scheme entirely, unless assisted by the corporation, with at least four ships more, to sail regularly *with* or *WITHOUT* passengers; at present it is a general disappointment; I was fortunate in Mr. Bolton's acquaintance, passing my time very agreeably at his hospitable mansion; but those who, in such a case, should find a Waterford inn their resource, would curse the Tyrone, and set off for Dublin. The expences of this passage are higher than those from Dublin to Holyhead: I paid,

206 F U R N E S S.

A four-wheel chaise	-	-	3	3	0
Three horses	-	-	3	3	0
Self	-	-	1	1	0
Two servants	-	-	1	1	0
Custom-house at Waterford, hay, oats, &c.			2	1	7
Ditto at Pembroke and Hubberston	-		3	0	0
Sailors, boats, and fundry small charges	-		1	15	5
			<hr/>		
			£	15	5 0
			<hr/>		

* * * * *

1777.

Upon a second journey to Ireland this year, I took the opportunity of going from Dublin to Mitchelstown, by a route through the central part of the kingdom which I had not before sufficiently viewed.

Left Dublin the 24th of September, and taking the road to Naas, I was again struck with the great population of the country, the cabbins being so much poorer in the vicinity of the capital than in the more distant parts of the kingdom. Mr. Nevill, at Furness, had, in a very obliging manner, given directions for my being well informed of the state of that neighbourhood. He is a landlord remarkably attentive to the encouragement of his tenantry. He allows half the expense of building houses on his estate, which has raised seven of stone and slate, and nine good cabbins, 35 by 16, at 27l. each. He gives annually three premiums of 7l. 5l. and 3l. for the greatest number

ber of trees, planted in proportion to the number of their acres, and pays the hearth money of all who plant trees. He also allows his tenants 40s. an acre for all the parts of their farm that want gravelling, and does the boundary fence for them, but he is paid in his rent very well for this. The following particulars I owe to him.

The soil in general, for some miles every way, is a lime-stone gravel, which does very well for wheat; lets at an average at 20s. that is, from 10s. to 40s. There are some tracts of green stone land, and a little clay. Rents rose till 1772, but have since rather fallen: the the whole county through may be 14s. or 15s. If all now was to be let, it would be 20s.

Farms rise from 15 acres to 500: a middling size is 250. They are now smaller than formerly, being divided as fast as leases fall. There are houses in general to all, the land lets the better for them, owing to its being a tillage country. Mr. Nevill encourages his tenantry to build, by being at half the expense. A common farmer requires one 50 feet long, 16 wide, two stories high; a barn, 40 by 16; a stable, 40 by 16; a cow-house, 50 by 14; a pig-stye, hen-house, &c. all which would cost about 300l. of stone, the house slated, and would be sufficient for 250 acres of land. The courses of crops are;

1. Fallow. 2. Wheat. 3. Oats. 4. Wheat.
5. Clover. 6. Clover.

1. Potatoes. 2. Barley. 3. Fallow. 4. Wheat.
5. Clover. 6. Clover.

They sometimes sow wheat after potatoes; the crops are as great as after fallow; but the quality of the grain is not equal. Their fallow they plough first in winter; harrow in May, cross plough in ditto and in June; stretch it (that is, form the ridges) in August, making them of two bouts; harrow, and the seed furrow, in September; and reckon the best seed time the middle of that month. No dung in general used for it, but sometimes gravel. One barrel of seed to the acre; never weed the crop; the produce from five to twelve barrels, medium seven. Price of late years, 20s. a barrel. They thresh upon floors formed of lime, sand, and coal ashes, and are of opinion that they do not hurt the colour of the grain. At harvest they do not reap till it is quite ripe, bind directly, and form it into stacks in the field, which they leave out a fortnight. Plough the potatoe land once or twice for barley, sow a barrel an acre of 16 stone in April; medium price of late years from 7 to 12s. average 10s. Of clover they sow 21lb. per acre, generally half clover and half trefoil; do not sow it till the barley is up, bush harrowing it; and on wheat *bull* harrow it, that is, with harrows without teeth. Never mow it. For oats they plough twice if able, sow two barrels per acre
in

in March; the produce six to twelve barrels, and sometimes sixteen. Medium price for a few years past 6s. 6d. Upon some grounds that are light, are substituted pease instead of oats after wheat. Plough but once, sow 20 stone on an acre under furrow, never weed them; the produce six barrels per acre, and the price 10s. No flax sown.

Potatoes generally on a wheat stubble, always well dunged; the ridge seven feet, and the trench three feet wide, and to one perch in length of it, four loads of dung. Ten sacks, at twenty stone, plant an acre. March the best season; weed them, and get 100 sacks, at the medium price of 5s. the white English and apple sorts the best. It is common for the poor to hire grass land to plant them on, at 6l. to 6l. 6s. an acre or for stubble land dunged.

Account of an acre.

Planting	-	-	-	2	0	0
Seed	-	-	-	2	10	0
Weeding	-	-	-	0	10	0
Digging out	-	-	-	3	0	0
Rent	-	-	-	6	0	0

£. 14 0 0

P R O D U C E.

One hundred facks, at 5s.	-	-	25	0	0
Expences	-	-	14	0	0
			<hr/>		
		Clear profit	£.	11	0 0
			<hr/>		

One hundred facks costing 14l. gives the prime cost of 2s. 9d. a fack. They are often sold as they grow, for 16l. or 18l. an acre. No turnips.

Lime not generally used, Mr. Nevil has a kiln that draws 16 barrels a day. Burns with culm, at 2s. 8d. a barrel. Pays for quarrying, 2d. and burning, 1d. The lime costs him, at the kiln, 10d. a barrel. Lime-stone gravel more used, which lasts seven years, and on some soils longer: twelve loads on a square perch may be done for 3l. an acre. Tillage is done with both horses and oxen, and which is extraordinary, the latter are used by common farmers as well as gentlemen. Six oxen, or six horses in summer to a plough, or four in winter, do about half an acre a day. In the cross ploughing, which is the second, they go nine inches deep, at other times shallower, price per acre, with harrowing, 10s. 6d. They do not begin to mow their hay till July, get it into the large field cock in about a fortnight, which they leave out three or four weeks longer; a medium crop 12 loads an acre, at the average price of 5s. 6d.

It is generally a corn country, yet are there some graziers that buy in bullocks, but more cows. Also some dairies that fatten veal for Dublin, by which they make 3l. or 4l. a cow; feeding them in winter when dry on straw, some on hay. They are let out to dairymen at 4l. a cow. The price of milch cows, in May, 5l. to 7l. One acre and a half will summer feed one, and half an acre of hay for winter.

The sheep kept are generally ewe flocks for fattening, for Dublin market. Buy in at Ballinasloe, at 10s. to 15s. Sell the lamb in June or July, at 8s. to 14s. and the ewe in November, at the same price they gave, keep them chiefly on clover. No folding. Medium price of wool, for 10 years past, 16s. clip three to a stone. They are not at all subject to the rot. A great many hogs bred; keep them for fattening on potatoes; some are finished with offal corn and pease; in summer they feed them on clover. Mark this! one would think from more than one circumstance, that a good farmer in England was speaking.

In hiring and stocking a farm of 200 acres, a man ought to employ 500l. but some of them will do it with 200l. Stock for 200 acres to have 100 acres corn, and fallow every year.

Twenty horses, at 6l. and ten bullocks, at 5l.	170	0	0
Six cows, at 5l.	—	—	—
Two fows	—	—	—
Six ploughs, at 13s.	—	—	—
Three sets of geers	—	—	—
Six Cars, at 25s.	—	—	—
Sundry tools, &c.	—	—	—
Seed 40 acres wheat	—	40	0 0
20 oats	—	13	0 0
4 barley	—	2	0 0
1 potatoes	—	2	10 0
10 clover	—	5	0 0
			62 10 0

For labour he will have three cottars for ploughing, &c. paid by land ; for other work allow

County cefs, 4d. an acre

Tythe, 40 wheat, 6s.

20 oats 4s.

4 barley 6s.

10 hay 4s.

£.352 2 0

In respect of labour, every farmer has as many cottars as ploughs, whom they pay with a cabbin, and one acre of potatoes, reckoned at 30s. and a cow kept thro' the year, 30s. more. Every cabbin has one or more cows, a pig, and some poultry. Their circumstances just the same as 20 years ago. Their food potatoes and milk for 9 months of the year ; the other three wheaten bread, and as much butter as the cow gives. They like the potatoe fare

fare best. Some have herrings; and others 6s. to 10s. worth of beef at Christmas. Sell their poultry, but many of them eat their pig. The sale of the fowls buys a few pounds of flax for spinning, most of them having some of that employment.

They are not much given to thieving, except bushes and furze, which is all they have for fuel, there being no bog nearer than that of Allen. They bring turf eight and ten miles, the price 8d. a kish of three feet and a half, by three and five long, and 1s. 2d. more carriage. A kish will last one common fire five days.

Expence of building a cabin.

Mud walls	—	—	—	2	0	0
Roof, 3 pair principals		—	—	0	9	0
4 dozen of rubberies, at 4s.			—	0	16	0
Labour	—	—	—	0	4	0
Wattles	—	—	—	0	6	0
Eight load of straw, 5s.		—	—	2	0	0
Thatching	—	—	—	0	8	0
Two doors	—		—	0	8	0

£. 6 11 0

Mason's perch of a wall — — — 0 3 0

Women are paid 5d. a day, earn by spinning, 3d. A farming-man, 5l. 10s. a year. A lad, 1l. 10s. A maid, 2l. to 2l. 10s. Reap-
 ing

ing, 6s. 6d. Mowing grafs, 2s. 6d. to 3s. Pigeons, 3d. each. Rabbits, 8d. a couple.

To Kildare, crossing the Curragh, fo famous for its turf. It is a sheep walk of above 4000 Englifh acres, forming a more beautiful lawn than the hand of art ever made. Nothing can exceed the extreme foftnefs of the turf, which is of a verdure that charms the eye, and highly fet off by the gentle inequality of furface. The foil is a fine dry loam on a ftony bottom ; it is fed by many large flocks, turned on it by the occupiers of the adjacent farms, who alone have the right, and pay very great rents on that account. It is the only confiderable common in the kingdom. The fheep yield very little wool, not more than 3lb. per fleece, but of a very fine quality.

From Furnefs to Shaen Castle, in the Queen's County, Dean Coote's ; but as the husbandry, &c. of this neighbourhood is already registered, I have only to obferve, that Mr. Coote was fo kind as to fhew me the improved grounds of Dawson's Court, the feat of Lord Carlow, which I had not feen before. The principal beauties of the place are the well grown and extenfive plantations, which form a fhade not often met with in Ireland. There is in the back grounds a lake well accompanied with wood, broken by feveral iflands that are covered with underwood and an ornamented walk paffing on the banks, which leads from the houfe. This lake is in the feafon perfectly alive with wild

wild fowl; near it is a very beautiful spot, which commands a view of both woods and water, a situation either for a house or a temple. Mr. Dawson is adding to the plantations, an employment of all others the most meritorious in Ireland. Another work scarcely less so, was the erecting a large handsome inn, wherein the same gentleman intends establishing a person who shall be able to supply travellers, post, with either chaises or horses.

From Shaen Castle to Gloster, in the King's County, the seat of John Lloyd, Esq; member for that county, to whose attention I owe the following particulars, in which he took every means to have me well and accurately informed. But first let me observe, that I was much pleased to remark, all the way from Naas quite to Rosscrea, that the country was amongst the finest I had seen in Ireland, and consequently that I was fortunate in having an opportunity of seeing it after the involuntary omission of last year. The cabbins, though many of them are very bad, yet are better than in some other counties, and chimnies generally a part of them. The people too have no very miserable appearance; the breed of cattle and sheep good, and the hogs much the best I have any where seen in Ireland. Turf is every where at hand, and in plenty; yet are the bogs not so general as to affect the beauty of the country, which is very great in many tracts, with a scattering of wood, which makes it pleasing.

Shaen

Shaen Castle stands in the midst of a very fine tract. From Mountrath to Gloster, Mr. Lloyd's, I could have imagined myself in a very pleasing part of England; the country breaks into a variety of inequalities of hill and dale; it is all well inclosed, with fine hedges; there is a plenty of wood, not so monopolised as in many parts of the kingdom by here and there a solitary seat, but spread over the whole face of the prospect: look which way you will, it is cultivated and chearful.

The King's county contains the following baronies, and annexed to their names is the value per acre of each:

Clonlisk	-	-	-	0	15	0	
Ballibrit	-	-	-	0	15	0	
Eglisk	-	-	-	0	13	0	
Balliboy	-	-	-	0	10	0	
Garrycastle	-	-	-	0	13	0	
Gashill	-	-	-	0	12	0	
Coolestown	-	-	-	1	0	0	
Warrenstown	-	-	-	1	5	0	
Ballicowen	-	-	-	0	11	0	
Kilcourfy	-	-	-	0	16	0	
Upper and Lower Philip's town				£.	0	15	0

In Gashill are 13000 acres belonging to Lord Digby; and in Warrenstown is Croghen hill, famous for the great fleeces the sheep yield that are fed upon it. A Curragh sheep, from giving 3lb. carried there, will yield 12lb. but the quality is coarse.

There

There are great tracts of bog in the county; and 153,000 acres that pay county charges; 170,000 acres at 15s. and 30,000 of bog. The rise of rents since 1750, more than two-thirds, but are much fallen since 1772, in many farms 4s. in the pound.

Estates through the county are remarkably divided; and are in general small. The size of farms varies much, 600 acres are a very large one; usually not less than 100; very few in partnership. There are many farms without buildings, which if divided and built, would let much better. The arable system, when burning is permitted, is to plough in the spring, very thin, then cross cut it and burn the sod as soon as the season serves, which will be some time in June; plough in the ashes very lightly, and sow turnips; these they never hoe, which is said to be difficult, on account of the number of stones; they feed the crop on the land with three-year old wethers or lambs. After this, plough it up and fallow for a second crop of turnips, which they manage as the first, but feed them earlier; then plough once, and set it to the poor for potatoes, at 6l. 6s. to 6l. 10s. an acre, after which they sow bere upon one ploughing; this they succeed with wheat also on one ploughing; and after the wheat, oats. Then they summer and winter fallow, which is followed by wheat and oats as before; but by this time the land is quite exhausted. A partial burning is sometimes used, which is to break up in November, and plough
twice

twice or thrice by May, and then to burn what the harrow does not reduce. For wheat they plough once, as before-mentioned in the burning course; and four times on a fallow. Sow 20 stone to an acre; the crop five to six and a half barrels; the medium price of late 1l. 1s. a barrel. They sow a barrel of bere, of sixteen stone, the crop 14 to 23 barrels, which great produce is from the rich preparation. Of oats two barrels, or 24 stone, the crop 10 to 16; of barley they sow 16 stone, the crop 10 to 16. The price of bere and barley 9s. 6d. No clover at all sown, nor any grass seeds, and very few pease or beans, as they never feed their pigs or horses with either. Very little flax. There are a few bleach yards about Clara, &c. but the business is not much upon the increase. Potatoes they plant in the common trenching way; the season from the middle of April to the middle of May; more after the first of May than before it; eight barrels plant an acre; they always weed them. The apple sort is preferred from lasting longest; the medium price 2d. a stone; twenty stone the barrel.

Account of an acre.

Planting, 48 men, the first and second trenching					
at 8d.	-	-	-	-	1 12 0
Seed, at 3s. 4d,	-	-	-	-	1 6 6
Taking up, 48 men	-	-	-	-	1 12 0
Picking up, carrying home, and sorting; horse-					
hire only, as the family does the rest	-	-	-	-	0 8 8
Rent	-	-	-	-	6 6 0
					<hr/>
					11 5 2
					<hr/>

P R O D U C E.

100 barrels, at 3s. 4d.	-	-	16	13	4
Expences	-	-	11	5	2
Profit	-	-	<hr/>		
			£. 5	8	2
			<hr/>		

Prime cost, 2s. 3d. a barrel. A barrel will last a family of five persons a week.

The turnips on the burnt land they sow from the 20th of July to the 4th of August, but a fortnight or three weeks earlier upon a fallow, the quantity of seed $1\frac{1}{2}$ lb. they never hoe; the price upon an average 3l. an acre, either to take away or feed on the land, but the former rarely done: they feed them off with fat sheep or lambs, very rarely with black cattle.

No lime burnt for manure, nor any limestone gravel used, though plenty of it found all the country through. One farmer made an experiment of them both for corn, but neither answered; the general opinion is, its being bad for the grass afterwards; there is not any marle known; the farm-yard system incomplete, as every where else, foddering in the fields; but cows are kept in the house at night, and fed with hay for about five months in the winter. Their hay grounds they wish to shut up about the 25th of March, but if their hay is finished, they are obliged to be later; mow
from

from the 15th of July to the 15th of September, which lateness is owing to their feeding so late in the spring. They usually upon the average of weather, and management, get it into the large cock in about ten days, and leave it in that from one to two months; the medium produce per acre, two tons and a quarter, and the price 30s. a ton; the women here never make it.

Tillage is performed more with horses than with horned cattle; the latter only by considerable graziers, and they are usually spayed heifers. Four horses, or four heifers to a plough, which do half an acre a day; the depth, from the shallowness of the soil, not more than six or seven inches; the price 7s. 6d. an acre. Very few hogs kept, not more than for mere convenience.

To hire and stock a farm will, on an average, take 40s. an acre, if a grazing one, but less in proportion to the tillage; but there are men who will hire on little or no capital, this however is much less than formerly, from several landlords having suffered severely from it. The tillage of the whole country is very inconsiderable; it is chiefly pasturage, not one acre in fifteen is tilled; the barony of Garrey castle has much more; one reason of there not being more, is the number of farms, from 150 to 400 acres, under leases for ever, which are so highly improved by the tenants, that they abstain from tillage, under the idea of its being
pre-

prejudicial. Respecting the labour of a farm, the standing business is done by cottars; a cottar is one who has a cabin, and an acre and a half of garden, charged at 30s. and the grass of one or two cows, at 25s. each, and the daily pay 6d. the year through, the account being kept by tallies, and those charges deducted; the year's labour amounts to about 6l. after the cottar's time for his potatoes and turf is deducted; the remaining 40s. is paid in money, hay, or any thing else the man wants. The cows are fed by a field being assigned for all the cottars of the farm. No instance of a cottar without a cow. The calves they rear till half a year old, and then sell them at 12s. to 20s. which will pay for the cow's hay. They keep no sheep, but every cabin has a pig, a dog, and some poultry. No difference in their circumstances for the last fifteen years. It is here thought that it would be very difficult to nurse up a race of little farmers from the cottars, by adding land gradually to them at a fair rent; it would be also very difficult, if not impossible, to cut off the cottars from a farm; nobody would be troubled with such tenants, and no farmer would hire a farm with the poor on it independant of him, their cattle and all their property would be in constant danger; as the kingdom increases in prosperity, such ideas it is to be hoped will vanish. Their food is potatoes and milk for ten months, and potatoes and salt the remaining two; they have however a little butter. They sell their pig, their calf, and their poultry, nor do they buy
meat

meat for more than ten Sunday's in a year. Their fuel costs them about 14s. a year, or eighty kish of turf, an ample allowance. There is in every cabin, a spinning-wheel, which is used by the women at leisure hours, or by a grown girl, but for twelve years 19 in 20 of them breed every second year. Vive le pomme de Tere!

Expence of a poor family.

Cabbin and garden	-	-	1	10	0
Labour in the garden	-	-	1	10	0
Two Cows	-	-	2	10	0
Hay for ditto	-	-	1	10	0
Turf	-	-	0	14	0
Cloathing, 15s. a head	-	-	3	15	0
Tools	-	-	0	5	0
Hearth tax	-	-	0	2	0
			<hr/>		
			11	16	0
			<hr/>		

The Receipt.

The year	-	-	365	days	
Deduct Sundays	-	52			
Bad weather	-	30			
Holydays	-	10			
			<hr/>		
			273	at 6d.	6 16 6
Two calves	-	1	10	0	
Pig	-	1	0	0	
Poultry	-	0	5	0	
			<hr/>		
			2	15	0
			<hr/>		
Carried over			£.	9	11 6
					303 days

Brought over	-	£.9 11 6
303 days spinning between the wife and daughter at 3d.	- - -	3 15 3
		13 6 9
Expences	- -	11 16 0
		£. 1 10 9

Potatoes are much more the food than formerly; there are full twice as many planted. The cottars in their gardens follow the course of crops first mentioned. They are all very much addicted to pilfering: their general character idleness and dirtiness, and want of attention. They are remarkable for a most inviolable honour in never betraying each other, or even any body else, which results from a general contempt of order and law, and a want of fear of every thing but a cudgel, the reader will remember that maiming cattle, pulling down, and scattering stacks, and burning the houses of those who take lands over their heads, are very well known. I am registering information, and that not from one or two persons, but several.

The pasturage system is to buy in yearling calves, called *bull chins*, at from 35s. to 55s. (but twenty years ago, 22s. 9d. each), which they generally sell at Banagher fair, when three years and an half, at 5l. 10s. to 6l. buying and selling regularly every year. They also buy cows in May, and sell them fat in autumn,

turnn, with 40s. profit. Sheep they either breed, or buy *hoggits* in May, at 12s. to 15s. each in the fleece, and sell them fat, at three years and an half old, from 11. 1s. to 11. 4s. each; they get three fleeces, worth 18s. the profit 10s. a head, keeping them three summers and two winters. No folding. Flocks rise from 100 to 2000, they calculate to keep a sheep to every acre of their farms. The fleeces, on an average of a running stock, are three to a stone of 16 lb. The price, this year, 17s. 6d. twenty years ago only 9s. or 10s. Not much alteration in the number of sheep through the country; all fat ones, are in winter fed with turnips and a little hay. Their low lands rot; but being more careful than formerly, it is not so common as it was; that, with the *gid*, (a sudden giddiness) and the red water, are the chief distempers they are troubled with.

Milch cows are kept only for convenience, a few to every farm. An acre and half necessary to keep one the year through, but must have $1\frac{1}{4}$ ton of hay besides. One four or five years old ready for milk in the spring, sells for five or six guineas. A three years old heifer ready to calve, four or five guineas.

The bounty on the inland carriage of flour to Dublin has occasioned the building several mills, five considerable ones, four were immediately built in consequence. The quantity of tillage has increased double in 20 years; probably

probably from this cause, among others, has arisen the increase of whisky, the quantity of which is three times greater than fifteen years ago. Not less than 30,000 barrels of barley and bere are distilled yearly within 8 miles of Gloster.

Land sells at 25 years purchase. Suppose six farms, one let for ever, at 20 years purchase, one for three lives, let 20 years ago, 25—one for two lives, ditto 28 --- one for one life, ditto 30 --- one for 31 years, 30 --- one to let now, 20. Average of all, 25 years. Ten years ago it would have been twenty-six and a half; twenty years ago, twenty-three and a half. Leases are generally for three lives, or thirty-one years.

The country in general is much improved in most national circumstances; buildings are much increased, on a larger scale, and of a far better sort than twenty years ago; there is also a rise in the price of almost all commodities.

Prices not minuted in the table.

Rabbits, 8d. a couple. Roasting pigs, 2s. 6d. much beyond the proportion of other things. Rise in the price of meat, 1d. a lb. in twenty years, since which bere has also advanced, from 6s. to 9s. 6d. the barrel of 16 stone. Womens labour, 4d. Wages of a farming man, 4l. ditto a boy, 1l. ditto a maid, 2l. From 10

to 14 men reap an acre of corn in a day. Mowing grafs, by the acre, 2s. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. two men do it in a day. Threshing wheat, 6d. a barrel. Bere, 4d. Oats, 3d. Cutting turf, footing, &c. 12s. the 120 kish.

B U I L D I N G.

A common cabbin, 5l. Ditto of stone, 10l. to 15l.

Walling, mason's perch work	-	-	0	0	7
One barrel lime	-	-	0	0	6
Seven load stone	-	-	0	1	1
Attendance	-	-	0	0	2
Sand and carriage	-	-	0	1	0
			<hr/>		
			0	3	4
Feet high					5
			<hr/>		
			£.	0	16
					8
			<hr/>		

A guinea a perch, 7 feet, 6 inches high. Slates, 9s. 6d. a thousand. Slating, 1l. 2s. 9d. a square, every thing included. Oak, 1s. 3d. a foot. Ash and home fir, 1s. Lime, five-pence halfpenny a barrel, burnt, with turf in kilns on arches; two arches burn 400 barrels, the stone large. 400 kish of turf will burn 400 barrels; price of burning and filling from 2l. 5s. 6d. to a guinea and half.

September 30th, took my leave of Mr. Lloyd, a gentleman from whose conversation I reaped equal instruction and amusement. Passed by
Shin-

Shinroan, Murderinny, and Graig, to Johnstown, the seat of Peter Holmes, Esq; Much of this line a very beautiful country; near Johnstown nothing can be more picturesque, the whole well planted with hedges and little woods, and consisting of the most fanciful variety of hill, dale, and swelling declivities, upon which every bush and tree is seen to advantage.

For the following particulars I am indebted to Mr. Holmes, who, notwithstanding his own ability to answer every question, trusted not to it, but called in the best assistance the neighbourhood could give.

Baronies in the county of Tipperary.

Lower Ormond, 20s. an acre.—Upper Ormond, 20s.—Skevin, 18s.—Eliogurty, 20s. Owen and Aira, 12s.—Clanwilliam, 11. 2s. 9d. Middle third, 25s. Besides Iffa, Offa, and Kilnemanna. The whole county on an average would now let for 20s. an acre. Rents have doubled in twenty years.

Through the whole barony of Lower Ormond, the soil is in general a dry lime-stone land. Farms are large, some very large, few less than 5 or 600 acres: the size is rather increased. There are many without any buildings, and it is only from particular circumstances that they let the better for them. The small farms are taken much in partnership; a

parcel of labourers will take 1 or 200 acres. The common course of tillage is,

1. Pare, and burn for turnips. 2. Turnips. 3. Potatoes. 4. Bere. 5. Wheat. 6. Oats. 7. Grey pease. 8. Fallow. 9. Wheat. 10. Oats. 11. Lay out for grass quite exhausted. Also,

1. Fallow turnips from the turf. 2. Turnips, and then as before.

The management is to plough the sod at Christmas, in April or May cross plough it, and let it dry, burn as soon as dry, which will be sometimes in May; spread the ashes, plough once, and harrow in a pound and a half or two pounds of seed to the acre, from the 20th of June to the 4th of August. They never either hoe or weed. Begin to feed them upon the land in December with fat sheep, giving three or four acres at a time to 2 or 300 sheep; and one acre to 100 sheep, giving them at the same time hay in sheep racks: a middling acre will keep 13 from Christmas to the first of April, being worth from two guineas to 3l. They are also commonly used for sheep and lambs in March and April. The profit upon fat sheep, from turnips only, will amount to from 7s. to 10s. a head. The land is ploughed three times for the second crop; but the turnips are not so sweet for sheep as the first, yet they sell as well: they must
be

be eaten off first, as they will not stand so long as the others.

The poor people hire this turnip land at six guineas to 7l. 10s. for planting potatoes. About ten years ago the price was four guineas to 5l. but the restrictions on paring and burning have lessened the quantity of it. For this potatoe crop one ploughing is given in March or April, six to eight barrels of seed planted; the favourite sorts are the apple potatoe for late, and the early wise for early use. They hand weed them carefully, and take them up the middle of November or beginning of December, the average crop 90 barrels.

Expences on an acre.

Rent	-	-	-	6	16	6
Seven barrels of seed, at 4s.	-	-	-	1	8	0
Planting, thirty men a day	-	-	-	0	16	0
Taking up, eighty men a day	-	-	-	2	0	0
				<hr/>		
				11	0	6
				<hr/>		

P R O D U C E .

Ninety barrels, at 4s.	-	-	-	18	0	0
Expenses	-	-	-	11	0	6
				<hr/>		
Profit	-	-	-	£.6	19	6
				<hr/>		

Prime cost, 2s. 5d. a barrel.

The

The culture has increased very much, and been the means of reclaiming great tracts of land, which otherwise would never have been touched. The potatoe land they plough immediately for bere, and, if weather dry enough, sow 14 stone per acre, and get 16 barrels. For the wheat they plough thrice; sow in November 14 stone, and get 7 barrels.

It was in this neighbourhood Mr. Yelverton had his famous crop, which has been written so often in all the books of husbandry in Europe, but nobody here believed it. The account I had was this: that he selected the best acre in a field of 30, which he marked out; but his labourers knowing his intention, put many stocks from the adjacent parts of the field into that acre. Thus without any intentional deceit in the gentleman himself was the public completely deceived. From hence it appears, there was some reason in my proposing to the London society, to annex to their premiums for the greatest crops, the condition of reaping, threshing, and measuring all in one day, and in the presence of witnesses which they adopted much against the opinion of several gentlemen who did not approve it.

For the oats they plough once, sow two barrels in March, and get on an average from 10 to 14. For the pease, they plough once, sow twenty stone broad cast, are so far from hoeing or weeding, that *they like to have weeds among them, by way of sticks!* get six or seven
barrels

barrels an acre. The succeeding fallow is ploughed four times, the crop of wheat as good as after bere, but the following oats will not yield above eight or nine barrels.

The medium prices of the preceding products have of late years been, Wheat, 20s. Bere, 10s. Oats, 5. Pease, 6s. There are very few threshing floors of wood: but they make the clay ones so hard, that they think them as good. Flax is sown only by the cottars in their gardens; very few that do not sow some. Six pottles of seed on about four perch of land. They proportion it very exactly to their own consumption; it is wove by weavers, who make it their business to weave for others; and there are very few gentlemen that do not do the same for the coarse linen of their families.

Marle and lime-stone sand are the manures used here. They have two ways of improving waste land with marle: they plough and sow oats, and marle the stubble: or else they marle at first upon the lay: this is mostly practised in the Duharrow mountains, where it has worked very great improvements. It is a grey soapy marle, full of shells, dredged from the bottom of the Shannon. The expense of getting it, with boats and carriage into the land, is 40s. an acre. Lime-stone sand is laid on at the end of an exhausting course, on the oat stubble: it costs about 50s. an acre. Very little lime used. No farm-yards; the hay is stacked

stacked in the fields where it is designed to be fed, and scattered about; and shame on them, they do the same with their straw; but no wonder the farm-yard system is unknown, for they sell much of their corn in the stack in the field, which gentlemen buy for straw. Great improvements have been made in the Duharrow mountains, insomuch that the tythes of one parish have risen from 70l. a year to 400l.

The sheep in the Ormond baronies are kept chiefly for breeding; they do not sell the lambs till they become three years old wethers; give the ewes the ram at two years old, which supply the place of the old ewes, culled out and fattened at four years old, going five. In 170 there are 50 ewes, 40 lambs, 40 two-year olds, 20 three year old wethers sold, 20 ewes kept, and 20 old ones sold. Ten are kept for accidents. The fat wethers sell at 20s. from grass, and 30s. from turnips; and the 20 culled ewes will sell at 20s. each; the wool of the whole, three fleeces to a stone. Mr. Robert Gowen has sold a score of four-year old wethers at Dublin, for 59l. Their black cattle are in the succession way. To 1000 acres, besides 1500 sheep, they will buy in 180 year-old calves every year, at 45s. bought in from May to September, the right time May and June; they keep them two years and an half, selling them in November, at 6l. to 8l. allowing three for losses, there would be

177 calves, 177 two-year olds, 177 three-year olds—531.

Also upon 1000 acres there would be two breeding mares, and six colts, ten working heifers, 4 car horses, and ten milch cows; there would also be 100 acres of 1000, in tillage, ten of which under turnips every year, and fifty acres of hay mown; an instance out of thousands how little attention in Ireland is paid to providing a due quantity of winter food.

Mr. William Harden, thirty-two years ago, sold wool at 6s. 6d. a stone; it rose gradually for ten years to 10s. 6d. and did not get up to 15s. till about four years ago; but the price was very fluctuating, rising and falling suddenly without any evident reason; the weight of the fleeces have not increased in thirty years, but the number of sheep is greater; turnips were commonly sown at that time. In black cattle however, there has been a great improvement, being much larger than formerly. Calves have risen in price as much as wool, such as now cost 45s. might, thirty years ago, have been had at 20s. Mr. Harden's father bought a two-year old bullock for 5s. of a man now alive.

In tillage, bullocks and heifers are generally used, four in a plough, and they do not quite half an acre a day. Three ploughs will do an acre; they stir five inches deep. The price 6s. Paring and burning take from twelve to
 I forty

forty men per acre, according to the dryness of the season.

Labour is done by cottars, who have a cabin and a garden of one acre, if only one man in family, but if the son is grown, two acres. The cabin and one acre is reckoned at 20s. also two collops, at 20s. each, which are generally cows. All this he works out at five pence a day, all extra labour six-pence half-penny a day, and eight pence in harvest. They all have from one to three pigs, and much poultry. Their food is potatoes for at least eleven months of the year, and one month of oat, barley or bere bread.

Expences and receipt of a cottar family.

Cabbin, and one acre rent	-	-	1	0	0
Two cows	-	-	2	0	0
One stone of broken wool	-	-	0	14	0
Weaving it	-	-	0	3	0
Weaving their linen	-	-	0	3	0
Hearth money	-	-	0	2	0
Tools	-	-	0	5	0
Tythe of one acre	-	-	0	5	0
Hire of half an acre potatoes	-	-	3	8	0
			<hr/>		
			£. 8	0	0
			<hr/>		

Receipt.

Two Pigs	-	-	2	0	
On an average of years the two cows will yield					
three calves in two years	-	-	2	0	0
					Poultry

Brought over	-	-	£. 4 0 0
Poultry	-	-	0 15 0
Hire———365 days			
52 fundays			
15 holydays			
20 bad weather			
48 sickness and their own work			
135	—		
230 at 5d.	-	-	4 16 0
			<hr style="width: 100%;"/>
			9 11 0
Expences	-	-	8 0 0
			<hr style="width: 100%;"/>
Remains for unspecified articles	-		£. 1 11 0
			<hr style="width: 100%;"/>

It is a general remark, that industrious and attentive men will earn 5l. in the year. The circumstances of the poor are much better than they were twenty years ago, for their land and cabbins are not charged to them *by gentlemen* higher than they were 30 years ago, while all they sell bears double the price.

Potatoes are rather more cultivated and eaten than twenty years ago, and are managed better. The poor in this neighbourhood are by no means to be accused of a general spirit of thieving. It arises from holding them in too much contempt, or from the improper treatment of their superiors. No white boys have ever arisen in these baronies, nor any riots that last longer than a drunken bout at

a fair : nothing that has obstructed the execution of justice.

There is no objection to cutting off the cottars from a farm, and making them tenants to the landlord, upon the score of difficulty in letting a farm without cottars upon it, provided they were kept perfectly distinct by a good fence. Nor is there any doubt but out of them a race of little farmers might be gradually formed.

Land at improved rents sells at 20 years purchase. Rents are doubled in 20 years ; they are not fallen since 1772. Leases are usually for three lives, or thirty-one years.

The interest of money has certainly risen, and the year's purchase of land fallen in twenty years ; yet in the same period it is undoubted that the kingdom has improved greatly, which has the appearance of a contradiction. Buildings have very much increased in all the towns, and in a stile far superior to former periods.

Tythes are very rarely taken in kind. Bere and wheat pay 6s. an acre. Barley and oats, 3s. Potatoes, 6s. They are generally let to proctors, who are severe to the poor, and very indulgent to gentlemen. The rigour, however, does not extend beyond those prices.

The bounty on the inland carriage of corn has occasioned the building some mills, which united with the turnip husbandry, and the vast increase of whisky have altogether much increased tillage.

Prices not in the tables.

Labour of a woman or boy in harvest, 4d. Mowing grass, 2s. 4d. to 2s. 6d. Hire of a car, a day, 1s. 3d. to 1s. 8d. Building a cabin of stone and slate, 25l. Walling the mason's perch, 4s. Lime, per barrel, sevenpence halfpenny; at Nenagh, 1s. Culm, per barrel, 3s. one burns nine of lime, in some places only six.

Quarrying the stones	_____	o	o	o	$\frac{1}{2}$
Breaking and burning	_____	o	o	3	
Culm	_____	o	o	4	
		<hr/>			
		£.	o.	o.	$7\frac{1}{2}$
		<hr/>			

Oak timber, 50s. to 3l. a ton. Fir, 40s.

Wild fowl.—Wild ducks, 1s. 6d. a couple. Teal, 9d. ditto. Widgeon, 6d. ditto. Rabbits, 8d. ditto. Trout 5lb. for 1s. Salmon, 2d. per lb. Fresh water fish in general, 2½d. a lb. Oysters, 2s. per 120.

The Shannon adds not a little to the convenience and agreeableness of a residence so near

near it. Besides affording these sorts of wild fowl, the quantity and size of its fish are amazing. Pikes swarm in it, and rise in weight to 50lb. In the little flat spaces on its banks are small but deep lochs, which are covered in winter and in floods; when the river withdraws, it leaves plenty of fish in them, which are caught to put into stews. Mr. Holmes has a small one before his door at Johnstown, with a little stream which feeds it; a trowling rod here gets you a bite in a moment, of a pike from 20 to 40lb. I eat of one of 27lb. so taken; I had also the pleasure of seeing a fisherman bringing three trouts, weighing 14lb. and sell them for six-pence halfpenny a piece. A couple of boats lying at anchor, with lines extended from one to the other, and hooks in plenty from them, have been known to catch an incredible quantity of trout. Colonel Prittie, in one morning, caught four stone, odd pounds, thirty-two trouts: in general they rise from 3 to 9lb. Perch swarm; they appeared in the Shannon for the first time about ten years ago, in such plenty that the poor lived on them. Bream of 6lb. Eels very plentiful. There are many gillaroos in the river, one of 12lb. weight was sent to Mr. Jenkinson. Upon the whole, these circumstances, with the pleasure of shooting and boating on the river, added to the glorious view it yields, and which is enough at any time to cheer the mind, render this neighbourhood one of the most enviable situations to live in that I have seen in Ireland. The face
of

of the country gives every circumstance of beauty. From Killodeernan-hill, behind the new house building by Mr. Holmes, the whole is seen to great advantage. The spreading part of the Shannon, called Loch Derg, is commanded distinctly for many miles; it is in two grand divisions of great variety. That to the north is a reach of five miles leading to Portumna. The whole hither shore a scenery of hills, checkered by inclosures and little woods, and retiring from the eye into a rich distant prospect. The woods of Doras, belonging to Lord Clanrickard, form a part of the opposite shore, and the river itself presents an island of 120 acres. Inclining to the left, a vale of rough ground, with an old castle in it, is backed by a bold hill, which intercepts the river there, and then the great reach of 15 miles, the bay of Sheriff, spreads to the eye, with a magnificence not a little added to by the boundary, a sharp outline of the *county of clare mountains*, between which and the *Dubarrow hills*, the Shannon finds its way. These hills lead the eye still more to the left, till *the Keeper* meets it, presenting a very beautiful outline that sinks into other ranges of hill, uniting with *the Devil's Bit*. The home scenery of the grounds, woods, hills, and lake of Johnstown, is beautiful.

Mr. Holmes has practiced agriculture upon an extensive scale, and not without making some remarks, which must be of use to others.

He

He has not for five or six years past been without a small field of Scotch cabbages. The seed he sows both in March and autumn for use at different seasons; the rows he plants three feet asunder, and two feet from cabbage to cabbage. He has used them for fat sheep and fat cattle, but principally for weaned calves: they have answered perfectly well in all, but remarkably so with the calves, of which Mr. Holmes has had the best in the country, and singly from being thus fed. His people were all of opinion, that a good acre of cabbages will go as far as two acres of turnips, worth each 3l. Two years ago a violent frost stopped the use of turnips, and he then found the benefit of them prodigiously great. He has always manured for them with dung or marle, the former best.

R A P E C A K E,

Mr. Holmes has used as a manure, with great success: in 1775, he dressed two acres of worn out meadow, with a ton and an half an acre, at 2l. 2s. per ton; and in 1776, he laid on seven tons, at 1½ per acre; the first trial was made too late, and a dry season coming, the effect was not great. The last year it was laid on the fifth of April, when the effect was remarkably great: it threw up a most luxuriant crop of the finest herbage, insomuch that he is convinced nothing can answer better, and is determined to extend the practice considerably. He has tried it on low, wet, and
on

on upland, and the effect infinitely greater on the latter. In the same field, Mr. Holmes fed 150 sheep some months, on the produce of seven acres of turnips, going over nine acres of grass; the benefit to the latter did not near equal that of the rape, except in the destruction of moss, which was destroyed by both methods.

C L O V E R .

Mr. Holmes has used this grass these six years; he began with six acres, and has extended it as far as seventeen acres last year: he sows 24lb. of seed per acre. The crops as good as he has seen in England; has mown it twice, but now feeds the second growth. He has tried it on dry lime-stone hills, which are slow in coming to grass, but answer well in clover. For his sheep he finds it of great use. Ewes lamb here about the 17th of March, and when turnips are done, want the clover very much: also in keeping fat sheep for a late market. Course of crops,

1. Turnips on old turf, two ploughings and a slight burning. 2. Turnips. 3. Barley, yielding 18 barrels. 4. Clover. 5. Clover. 6. Wheat, yielding 8 barrels. 7. Oats, ditto 15. Also,

1. Manure a stubble for cabbages. 2. Potatoes. 3. Barley, 20 barrels. 4. Clover. 5. Clover. 6. Wheat. 7. Oats.

October 3d, taking my leave of Johnstown and its agreeable and hospitable family, I took the road towards Derry, the seat of Michael Head, Esq; through a country much of it bordering on the Shannon, and commanding many fine views of that river; but its nakedness, except at particular places, takes off much from the beauty of the scenery. Near to Derry there are some finer views. From one hill, the road commands the bay of Skeriff, Loch Derg, back to Johnstown; and the river turning under the hills of Achnis, a promontory of wood, which separates them, is fully seen: there are also many hedges, so well grown with scattered trees on the higher side as to have a pleasing effect. I found Mr. Head, on my arrival, just going to dine with a neighbour, Mr. Parker, whose father had worked a very fine mountain improvement, and who would probably be there: this was a sufficient inducement, had there been no other, for me to accompany him. I found Mr. Parker's house so near the river, as sometimes to be washed by it. The improvement I had heard of is a hill of above 40 acres, which was covered with ling, furze, &c. and not worth 6d. an acre thirty-two years ago when the work was begun. He grubbed, ploughed it, and sowed oats, and marled the stubble from the Shannon; the marle, from the steepness of the hill, being carried on the backs of oxen. Upon this he took a crop of wheat, and another of oats, both exceedingly fine, and with the latter sowed the seeds for the grass, which still remains,
an

and has been improving ever since; it is now worth 30s. an acre, and a very pleasing object to the eye, especially since Mr. Parker, junior, has added to the fineness of the verdure and herbage by feeding it with many sheep.

In the same conversation I also learned a few particulars of a bog of twelve acres part of one of 150, improved by Mr. Minchin, near Nenagh. The first operation was to cut main drains six feet deep, and cross ones of 18 inches or two feet, and as soon as it was a little firm, covered it with lime-stone gravel three inches thick, before the bog would bear a car; but did it by beginning at the edge, and advancing on the part gravelled. Part was tilled, and part left for grass without ploughing: the meadow thus formed has been exceedingly fine. One uncommon circumstance was, his having paved the bottom of the drains with gravel, in order to prevent cattle from being bogged in them. The expense of the whole improvement 8l. an acre. The profit immense.

It is to Mr. Head's attention that I am indebted for the following particulars concerning the barony of Owna and Arra. The soil is a light gravelly loam, on a slaty rock, which is almost general through the whole. The rent on an average 15s. for profitable land, and 1s. for mountain; and as there is about half and half, the whole will be 8s. The rise of rent, in twenty years is about double. Estates are generally large, scarce any so low as 5 or

600l. a year. Farms are all small, none above 3 or 400 acres: many are taken in partnership, three, four, or five families to 100 acres. They divide the land among themselves, each man taking according to his capital. The terms *rundale* and *changedale* unknown, as is the latter practice. There are no farms without buildings upon them. Laying out money in building better houses would pay no interest at all, as they are perfectly satisfied with their mud cabbins. Courses of crops on reclaimed mountain,

1. Marle for oats. 2. Bere. 3. Bere.
4. Wheat. 5. Oats, or English barley.
6. Oats. 7. Oats. 8. Oats. 9. Oats. 10. Oats.
The number of these crops of oats proportioned to the quantity of marle laid on; but the rule is to take as long as the land will yield, and then leave it to recover itself by weeds. Another course.

1. Potatoes in drills on an exhausted stubble.
2. Bere. 3. Oats. 4. Oats. 5. Oats. 6. Oats,
and so on till none will be got.

The quantity of wheat is very little; for that little they sow a barrel an acre, and get 8 barrels; medium price, 10d. to 13d. a stone. Of bere they sow a barrel, and get 15. Of oats sow two barrels, the produce 8 to 15, according to being early or late in the course. Price of bere, six-pence to seven-pence halfpenny. Oats, four-pence to six-pence per stone. No
pease,

pease, beans, clover, or turnips; but they have little patches of flax for their own consumption. Potatoes they very generally cultivate in drills; they plough the stubble twice or thrice, and then open trenches with the plough three feet asunder; in which they put some dung, lay the sets on it, and cover them with the plough if they have horses, or if not with shovels. They keep them clean by constant earthing up with ploughs or shovels. They dig them out, the produce thirty-five barrels per acre. They find that nothing is so good and clean as fallow for corn. Some poor people hire grass land for them in the lazy bed way, paying 3l. to 5l. 10s. per acre.

The only manure used besides dung is the shelly marle, dredged up from the bottom of the Shannon. Mr. Head's grandfather was the first who introduced that method of getting at it by bringing men from Dublin used to raising ballast. It proved so profitable, that the use has much increased since. It lies irregularly in banks, from 100 to 200 yards from the shore, and under 10 or 12 feet of water in summer which is the only time they can get it. The price of raising it is from 1s. to 2s. according to circumstances, besides finding boat, ropes, and all tackle; a boat contains 60 bushels, and requires 5 men. They land it on a quay, from whence it is taken in sledge carts to some distance for drying, nor is it dry enough for carting away till the year following. Some think it worth carrying one mile,
and

and even two. The common people do not lay on more than four or five boat loads to an acre, but Mr. Head always ten, and the whole expence he calculates at 40s. Much bad land has been reclaimed by it, and to great profit. All their dung is used for potatoes.

The tillage of the common people is done with horses, four in a plough, which do half an acre a day: gentlemen use four oxen. The price 8s. an acre. No paring and burning.

They shut up their meadows for hay in March or April, and rarely begin to mow till September. I should remark, that I saw the hay making or marring all the way (October 3d) from Johnstown hither, with many fields covered with water, and the cocks forming little islands in them. They are generally two months making it; the crop one to one ton and a half per acre.

There is no regular system of cattle in this barony, there not being above four or five graziers; but gentlemen, in their domains, have all the different systems. The common farmers keep a few of most sorts of cattle, except fat ones. No large flocks of sheep, but every farmer a few breeding ewes. The fleeces four to a stone. They sell either lambs, hoggits, or two or three year olds; the price of a two-year old ewe 10s. they have no winter food but grass, even the gentlemen have their fat mutton all winter from the low grass lands on the Shannon,

Shannon, without either hay or turnips. The marled land has a remarkable spring of grafs in the winter; the rot is very little known. All keep pigs, which are much increased of late; their pork 32s. a cwt. last year at Lime-rick; Mr. Head has known it so low as 14s. No proportion between cows and pigs.

In hiring and stocking farms, many will take them in partnership with no other capital than a little stock of cattle. Difficult to fix the number of years purchase at which land sells. None has been sold in this barony in Mr. Head's memory. Leases to protestants three lives.

The common mode of labour is that of cottars, they have a cabbin and an acre for 30s. and 30s. the grafs of a cow, reckoning with them at five pence a day the year round; other labour vibrates from four pence to sixpence. A cottar with a middling family will have two cows; there is not one without a cow. All of them keep as many pigs as they can rear, and some poultry. Their circumstances are rather better than 20 years ago.

A cottar's expences,

Rent of, a cabbin and an acre	-	1	10	0
Two cows	-	3	0	0
Hay for ditto, one ton	-	1	15	0
Tythe	-	0	4	0
Hearth money	-	0	2	0
		<hr/>		
Carried over		£. 6	11	0
				One

Brought over

£. 6 11 0

One stone of wool a year for the man, one for the woman, and two stones for three children; this is what they ought to have, but the fact does not exceed two stone, one at 17s. and one at 8s.	-	-	1	5	0
Tools	-	-	0	5	0
Turf, whether bought or in their own labour	-	-	1	0	0
Flax seed, five or six pottles, at 8d.	-	-	0	3	6
Breaking and scutching, eight stone, at 10d.	-	-	0	6	8
Heckling ditto, at 10d.	-	-	0	6	8
Weaving 336 bundles, at 1s. 1d. a score	-	-	0	16	6

N. B. After heckling 56lb. flax, the rest is tow, which they spin for bags, &c.

Two pair of brogues, 9s. 9d. and four pair soles, 1s. 10d. each, 7s. 4d.	-	-	0	17	1	
A pair of women's shoes, 3s. 3d. and a pair of soles, 1s. 5d.	-	-	0	4	8	
A boy of fourteen, two pair, at 2s. 2d. soles, 1s. 1d.	-	-	0	3	3	
A hat, 2s. 8d. the boy one, 1s. 6d.	-	-	0	4	2	
			<hr/>			
			£.	12	3	6
			<hr/>			

*His receipt.*Deduct from 365 days

Sundays 52

Holiday 1

Bad weather 10

Own work 48

111

Remain at 5d. 254

5 5 10
The

Brought over	-	-	5	5	10
The boy of twelve or fourteen, three-pence halfpenny a day	-	-	3	14	1
Two pigs, one eat, the other sold for	-	-	0	15	0
Two calves, one 20s. one 10s.	-	-	1	10	0
			<hr/>		
			£.	11	4 11
			<hr/>		

N. B. Chickens and ducks pay for salt, soap and candles, and they eat the geese.

When my informant, who was a poor man, had finished, I demanded how the 20s. deficiency, with whisky, and the priest, were to be paid; the answer was, that *he must not eat his geese and pig, or else not dress so well*, which probably is the case. Their acre of garden feeds them the year through; nine months on potatoes, and the other three on oaten bread, from their own oats. The consumption of potatoes not increased in twenty years. A family of five persons will eat and waste forty-two stone of potatoes in a week. They are not addicted in any remarkable degree to thieving. The cottars of a farm might easily be taken from it, and yet the farm let without difficulty, for the tenant would soon have others; but it is questioned whether they could easily be made farmers of.

Dancing is very general among the poor people, almost universal in every cabin. Dancing-masters of their own rank travel through the country from cabin to cabin, with a piper or blind fidler; and the pay is sixpence a quarter. It is an absolute system of education.

education. Weddings are always celebrated with much dancing; and a Sunday rarely passes without a dance; there are very few among them who will not, after a hard day's work, gladly walk seven miles to have a dance. *John* is not so lively, but then a hard day's work with him is certainly a different affair from what it is with *Paddy*. Other branches of education are likewise much attended to, every child of the poorest family learning to read, write, and cast accounts.

There is a very ancient custom here, for a number of country neighbours among the poor people, to fix upon some young woman that ought, as they think, to be married; they also agree upon a young fellow as a proper husband for her; this determined, they send to the fair one's cabin to inform her, that on the Sunday following *she is to be horsed*, that is carried on men's backs. She must then provide whisky and cyder for a treat, as all will pay her a visit after mass for a hurling match. As soon as she is *horsed*, the hurling begins, in which the young fellow appointed for her husband, has the eyes of all the company fixed on him; if he comes off conqueror, he is certainly married to the girl, but if another is victorious, he as certainly loses her, for she is the prize of the victor. These trials are not always finished in one Sunday, they take sometimes two or three, and the common expression when they are over is, that *such a girl was goal'd*. Sometimes one barony hurls against another,

another, but a marriageable girl is always the prize. Hurling is a sort of cricket, but instead of throwing the ball in order to knock down a wicket, the aim is to pass it through a bent stick, the ends stuck in the ground. In these matches they perform such feats of activity, as ought to evidence the food they live on to be far from deficient in nourishment.

Tythes—Potatoes, 5s. Wheat, barley, bere, 5s. Oats, 2s. 6d. Meadow, 2s. They are in the management of proctors, but the greatest hardship attending them, is the poor man paying for his garden, while the rich grazier pays nothing, owing to the famous vote of the house of commons.

There is only one flour mill in the barony, and the increase of tillage is very trifling, but the whisky stills at Killaloe, trebled in five or six years.

Prices not in the tables.

Wild ducks, 1s. a couple. Teal, 6d. Plover, 2d. Salmon, three halfpence to 3d. per lb. Large pike, 2s. 6d. each. Trout, of twelve inches long, 1d. each. Eels, 1s. a dozen. Eggs, ten a penny in summer, three in winter. Women's labour in harvest, 3d. in winter, 2d. Maid's wages, 1l. 10s. A lad's, 1l. 8s. Mowing, per acre, 2s. 4d. Women earn by spinning, 3d. Hire of a car, with man and horse, 1s. 6d. Threshing wheat,
per

per barrel, 6d. Bere, 4d. Oats, two pence
halfpenny. Barley, 3d.

B U I L D I N G.

A mud cabin, 4l.

Ditto of stone and slate, 20l.

A dry wall, five feet high, building	-	0	1	3
Labour coping	-	0	0	6
Dashing	-	0	0	2
Lime, two barrels	-	0	1	4
Sand	-	0	0	2
		<hr/>		
		0	3	5

Besids carting the stones, the mason's perch of house walling, 1s. 6d.

All materials laid at the spot.

Oak bark, 8l. to 9l. a ton.

Cars are made by hatchet men, at 6d. a day.

Timber and labour of one	-	0	10	0
Iron	-	0	10	0
		<hr/>		
		£	1	0
			0	0

In the hills above Derry are some very fine slate quarries, that employ 60 men. The quarrymen are paid 3s. a thousand for the slates, and the labourers 5d. a day. They are very fine, and sent by the Shannon to distant parts of the kingdom; the price at the quarry 6s. a thousand, and at the shore 6s. 8d. 400,000 slates are raised to pay the rent only, from which some estimate may be made of the quantity.

Mr.

Mr. Head has made some considerable improvements of waste or rough land by means of marle. His first was a field of 14 acres ten years ago; the soil light, as before described of the country in general; the spontaneous growth, furze and ferns, worth 5s. an acre. He cleared it from stones, which were used for building; the expence small, marled it, and sowed five crops of corn, and with the last of them hay feeds: it became a meadow in two years, and is now worth 30s. an acre. The next was a field of eight acres, the same soil; he broke it up for potatoes, then took one crop of corn, marled it on the stubble, and sowed five crops of corn, laying down with the fifth. Worth 8s. an acre before, now 30s. Five acres and an half were also done, marled on the surface, the effect little; it was therefore ploughed up in four or five years; yielded two crops of good turnips, two of English barley, and then laid down. It is now worth 30s. an acre.

The next attempt was upon 16 acres, not worth 2s. 6d. an acre, over-run with furze, fern and heath, with so many stones that clearing them away cost 10s. an acre. Ploughed and burnt it, and took two crops of turnips, then two of oats. Left it to itself for five or six years, and then marled it, since it has yielded four crops of corn, and is now worth 1l. 2s. 9d. an acre.

The last improvement is a field of 11 acres, which has been lately marled.

Mr. Head has 400 sheep, and they consist of 100 breeding ewes.—100 lambs.—84 hoggits.—70 three-year old wethers and culled ewes, fat.—46 two year old wethers. He sells annually

Fifty fat wethers — — 57 0 0

Fifty culled ewes, at 18s. — — 45 0 0

Four-hundred fleeces, 133 stone, at 18s. 119 14 0

£. 221 14 0

Mr. Head has a practice in his fences which deserves universal imitation: it is planting trees for gate-posts. Stone piers are expensive and always tumbling down; trees are beautiful, and never want repairing. Within 15 years this gentleman has improved Derry so much, that those who had only seen it before, would find it almost a new creation. He has built a handsome stone-house, on the slope of a hill rising from the Shannon, and backed by some fine woods, which unite with many old hedges well planted to form a woodland scene, beautiful in the contrast to the bright expanse of the noble river below: the declivity, on which these woods are, finishes in a mountain, which rises above the whole. The Shannon gives a bend around the adjoining lands, so as to be seen from the house both to the west and north, the lawn falling gradually to a margin

of wood on the shore, which varies the outline. The river is two miles broad, and on the opposite shore cultivated inclosures rise in some places almost to the mountain top, which is very bold.

It is a very singular demesne; a stripe of very beautiful ground, reaching two miles along the banks of the river, which forms his fence on one side, with a wall on the other. There is so much wood as to render it very pleasing, adding to every day by planting all the fences made or repaired. From several little hills, which rise in different parts of it, extensive views of the river are commanded quite to Portumna; but these are much eclipsed by that from the top of the hill above the slate quarry. From thence you see the river for at least 40 miles, from Portumna to 20 miles beyond Limerick. It has the appearance of a fine basin, two miles over, into which three great rivers lead, being the north and south course and the bay of Skeriff. The reaches of it one beyond another to Portumna are fine. At the foot of the mountain Mr. Head's demesne extends in a shore of rich woodland.

October 7th, took my leave of Mr. Head, after passing four days very agreeably, Through Killaloe, over the Shannon, a very long bridge of many arches; went out of the road to see a fall of that river at Castle Connel, where there is such an accompaniment
of

of wood as to form a very pleasing scenery ; the river takes a very rapid rocky course, around a projecting rock, on which a gentleman has built a summer-house, and formed a terrace : it is a striking spot. To Limerick. Laid at Bennis's, the first inn we had slept in from Dublin. God preserve us this journey from another !

The 8th, leaving that place, I took the road through Palace to Cullen. The first six or seven miles from Limerick has a great deal of corn, which shews that tillage is gaining even upon bullocks themselves. I observed with much pleasure, that all the cottars had their little gardens surrounded with banks well planted with osiers. To the Rev. Mr. Lloyd's, at Castle Lloyd, near Cullen, a gentleman who I found as able and willing as he had been represented, to give me the intelligence I wished relative to the grazing grounds around him.—The following particulars, which I owe to him, concern more immediately the barony of Clanwilliam in Tipperary ; the same in Limerick, Small County, and the part of Coonagh next Clanwilliam. In these parts the soil and management are much the same: that of Oonabeg nearly, but not quite equal.

The soil is a loam of a yellowish brown, friable, but putrid and mixed with a small quantity of grit stones upon a lime-stone rock, at the depth of two, three, and four feet ; much of it is very dry, but the richest has what is here called a *tender moist skin*, which

yields so much to the tread of beasts that it breaks under them : the richer and the more improved it is, the more so. It is a great error to assert, that it would not do for tillage, for there is none better for the purpose if properly managed.

The average rent of the rich parts of this tract is 30s. an acre. In Coonagh there are 19,313 acres, half of it not worth 5s. an acre, being mountainous. In the last twenty years, the rents of the rich lands have risen about a fourth, and two-thirds since the year 1748.

Average of the county of Tipperary, 12s. 6d.
Ditto of Limerick, 10s. 6d. Ditto of Corke, 5s.

Estates are generally very large, but some so low as 300l. a year. Farms arise from small ones in partnership to 5 or 6000 acres. The tillage acts have had the effect of lessening them evidently. The great system of this district is that of grazing. Bullocks are bought in at the fairs of Ballinasloe, Newport, Banagher, Toomavarra, &c. in the months of September, October, and November, the prices from 5l. to 8l. average, 6l. Twenty years ago beasts were bought at 40s. which now could not be got under 4l. The prices having doubled, allowing at the same time for the improved size of beasts. As soon as bought, they are turned into the coarsest ground of the farm ; the fattening stock being put into the after-grass, the lean ones are turned after them ; if

the farmer has a tract of mountain, they will be turned into that at first. They are put to hay after Christmas, and kept at it till May. An acre of hay for three bullocks is reckoned a good allowance, the quantity will be from three to four tons. It is given scattered upon the ground in dry fields, till the latter end of April, or the beginning of May, when they are collected into a small space, in order for the grass elsewhere to grow. About the 10th of May they are put to grass for the summer; and in this, the method is to turn into every field the stock which they imagine will be maintained by it, and leave the whole there till fat. The Corke butchers come in July and August to make their bargains, and begin to draw in September, and continue to take them till December. Some graziers keep them with hay till the market rises, but it is not a common practice. It is thought that they begin to lose flesh about the 20th of November, and that after the first nothing is gained. Average selling price, 9l. 10s. It vibrates from 8l. to 11l. 10s.

Annexed to this bullock system is that of buying in bull calves, six months old, in September and October, from 20s. to 40s. each, some to 3l. these are fed in well sheltered prights with grass and hay, and sold in May and June with 20s. profit upon an average. One acre of hay will yield enough for nine calves; the proportion is, to buy a calf to every acre.

Upon

Upon other parts of the farm, where calves are not fed in this manner, sheep are substituted. Much land is hired here by Tipperary farmers, who bring their sheep to it; and where this is not the case, the Limerick farmers have both coarse and rich land which enables them to go into sheep. They keep stocks of breeding ewes. If a man has 100 ewes, he will have 100 lambs, 100 yearlings, 100 two-year olds, 100 three-year olds, selling every year 50 three-year old fat wethers, and 50 culled ewes, viz.

50 wethers, at 25s.	—	—	62 10 0
50 culled ewes, fat, at 23s.	—	—	57 10 0
400 fleeces, 133 stone of wool, at 15s.			99 15 0
<hr/>			
500 Total flock			£. 219 15 0
<hr/>			<hr/>

If a man has only rich land in those baronies, without any in Tipperary, then he keeps only bullocks regularly; but he buys in some *baggit* sheep, which he keeps a year, and sells fat. The Tipperary system is supposed to be the most profitable, for they have given more for the Limerick lands than the Limerick people themselves. Besides these methods, there is another which is buying in cows in March, April, May, and June, at 3l. to 6l. each, and selling them fat with 40s. profit. This is very profitable, but subject to difficulties, for they are troublesome to pick up, and much subject to distempers.

Calculation of the profit of grazing bullocks.

One bullock bought in at	-	-	6	0	0
Rent of one acre and one-third	-	-	2	0	0
County cefs, at 9d.	-	-	0	1	0
Mowing, making, carting, and stacking hay			0	3	0
Herdsmen, at 12l. a year	-	-	0	2	0
Losses on stock, $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.	-	-	0	0	6
			<hr/>		
			8	6	6
Interest of 8l. at 6 per cent.	-	-	0	9	7
			<hr/>		
			£. 8	16	1
			<hr/>		

P R O D U C E.

Sale of a bullock	-	-	9	0	0
Value of the after-grass of one-third of an acre			0	3	4
			<hr/>		
			9	3	4
Expences	-	-	8	16	1
			<hr/>		
Profit on one acre and one-third			0	7	3
			<hr/>		
Which is per acre	-	-	£. 0	5	6
			<hr/>		

This profit is, I think, very low, so low that nothing but the ease with which grazing bullocks is carried on, could induce a man to be satisfied with it.

The size to which oxen now come upon this rich land is $5\frac{1}{2}$ cwt. twenty years ago it was $4\frac{1}{2}$ cwt. the additional $\frac{1}{2}$ cwt. is owing not to

to any improvement in the land, or management, but of the breed.

Particulars of a grazing farm at Cullen.

120 acres in all. 110 bullocks. 40 lambs. 4 cows. 7 acres of meadow. $1\frac{1}{2}$ acre, herdsman's garden. 2 acres of orchard. 246l. rent, or 41s. per acre.

The number of sheep kept in this neighbourhood has decreased, owing to the division into smaller farms. The winter food for them in the rich tracts is grass, except in snows, when they turn them to their hay stacks, they are very little troubled with the rot. The rise in the price of wool, 5s. a stone in 30 years.

There are but few dairies; the little farmers have the chief. The breed of the cows is generally half English, half Irish. They are kept on the poorest grounds, $1\frac{1}{2}$ acre, or $1\frac{3}{4}$, keeps a cow the year round; the usual produce is 1 cwt. of butter, and 20s. horn money, or 3l. in all; the winter food hay, $\frac{1}{4}$ of an acre to each. The calf is always reared; valued when it drops at 2s. 6d. or 3s. the medium price of a cow, 5l. There have been many English bulls introduced for improving the cattle of the country, at a considerable expence, and great exertions in the breed of sheep; some persons, Mr. Dexter chiefly, have brought English rams, which they let out
at

at seventeen guineas a season, and also at 10s. 6d. a ewe, which indicates a spirited attention.

Hogs all the way from Limerick are of a very good breed, far superior to the common Irish, and the number greatly increased.

Respecting tillage, the chief is done by little farmers, for the graziers apply themselves solely to cattle. It is entirely connected with breaking up grass for potatoes—the quantity small.

1. Grass potatoes. 2. Potatoes. 3. Bere. 4. Oats. 5. Oats, and then leave it for grass without sowing any seeds. With gentlemen it is,

1. Potatoes. 2. Ditto. 3. Wheat. 4. Oats, or English barley. 5. Oats, left smooth to grass itself—Shame to them for being as bad farmers as the Paddies!

The grass is let for the potatoe crop to the poor people, who pay from 5l. to six guineas an acre for it; no manure used; nine barrels of seed at 20 stone, plant an acre; the usual season April and the beginning of May. In planting, they dig the whole ground, except the two first sods, and when they have got seven or eight feet, form trenches in the common manner; they weed them carefully; the produce about 120 barrels per acre; price 2s. to

to 3s. 6d. a barrel; they pay as much rent for the second crop as the first, and it is as good, though they don't plant it, trusting to the little potatoes left in the ground, and which they spread in digging; but this is a most slovenly practice; if they were to plant the second crop it would be better than the first, provided it is as good without it.

Expences of an acre.

Rent	-	-	-	6	0	0
Nine barrels of seed at 3s.	-	-	-	1	7	0
Planting, and digging, 16 men, at 8d.	0	10	8			
Planting, 12 children at 4d.	-	0	4	0		
Trenching, 12 men	-	-	0	8	0	
Cutting sets, eight women at 4d.	0	2	8			
Second trenching, six men	-	0	4	0		
				<u>1</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>4</u>
					8	16 4
Digging out, twenty-six men at 8d.	-	-	0	17	4	
Picking, twelve women	-	-	0	4	0	
Carrying home, two horses	-	-	0	3	0	
Tythe	-	-	0	11	0	
				<u>10</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>8</u>

P R O D U C E.

One hundred and twenty, at 3s.	-	18	0	0
Expences	-	10	11	8
Profit	-	<u>£.7</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>4</u>
Prime cost, 1s. 2½d. per barrel.				

They

They do not plough the potatoe land for bere at all, but trench it in with spade and shovel, sow six bushels an acre, and get 20 barrels, at 7s. on an average. They then plough once for oats, sow six bushels, and get 16 to 20 barrels, worth 4s. a barrel on a medium, at 12 stone. The second crop of oats is as good as the first. In the gentleman's course the wheat is trenched in if the season is wet, but ploughed in if it is dry; twenty stone of seed per acre, the product ten barrels, at 20 stone, and the price 20s. Plough twice for the English barley; sow five or six bushels per acre, and get 20 barrels, 17 stone per barrel, at 8d. a stone. No lime, marle, or limestone gravel used, nor clover, pease, beans, or turnips sown; but enough flax is sown by every poor family for their own use; and some sell it at fairs, after scutching, at 4s. to 5s. a stone. There are many weavers about the country, who make bandle cloth, and some a yard wide, for the poor people; they live both in towns and villages. All the women spin flax. They shut up their fields for hay the beginning of June, generally mow in September, the crop three to four tons an acre, sometimes five or six. It is sold standing for 40s. an acre.

Tillage is done with horses, four in a plough, and do half an acre a day, four or five inches deep; the price 7s. to 10s. In hiring and stocking they reckon that 3l. an acre will do for a grazing farm, but much less for tillage. Leases are for thirty-one years or three lives.

Land

Land sells at twenty years purchase: there has been a fall of rents from 1772, to the American war, but since that time they have been rising. The religion all Roman catholic.

Much of the labour is done by servants, hired into the house of little farmers that keep dairies, &c. Much also by cottars, who have a cabbin and an acre and a half of potatoe garden, which are valued at three guineas; they have also two cows, at 50s. a cow. Three-fourths of an acre under potatoes every year, and the rest oats and flax; they get about 120 barrels an acre, which crop, with the oats, feed them the year through; they are much more eaten than they were 20 years ago; two barrels will last a family a week as they are usually consumed. They all keep a pig, a dog, two cats, and some poultry; their circumstances are better than they were twenty years ago; their pig they sell, but they eat some poultry, particularly geese. Some of them buy turf for fuel, which costs them fifteen shillings: but many depend on breaking and stealing hedge-wood; they are much given to pilfering.

Cottar's account.

Cabbin and $1\frac{1}{2}$ acre	-	-	-	3	8	3
Grass of two Cows	-	-	-	5	0	0
Turf	-	-	-	0	15	0
				<hr/>		
			Carried over	£. 9	3	3
						Tythe

266 CASTLE LLOYD.

Brought over,	-	-	9	3	3
Tythe	-	-	0	11	0
Seed flax, four pottles	-	-	0	3	4
20 Bandles of cloth for the man	}				
20 _____ for the woman			0	3	0
7 _____ for three children					

47 weaving, at $\frac{1}{4}$ d.

N. B. Hackled, &c. by themselves.

One stone of wool for the whole family	-	0	17	0
Weaving ditto	-	0	3	4
Shoes	-	0	10	0
Hats	-	0	1	0
Hearth money	-	0	2	0

Duties to the Priest.

Two confessions	-	0	2	2
A christening	-	0	1	6
Sundries	-	0	1	4
			<u>0</u>	<u>5</u>
				<u>£. 11 18 11</u>

His Receipt.

Days	365
Sundays	52
Holydays	30
Bad weather	10
His own garden	20
	<u>112</u>

253 at 5d.

£. 5 5 5

The

CASTLE LLOYD. 267

	Brought over	5	5	5
The eldest child, 10 or 12 years old, 2d. a day				
for 253 days	-	-	-	2 2 1
Other earnings of the family	-	-	-	1 0 0
A pig, bought at 7s. sold at 47s.	-	-	-	2 0 0
Poultry	-	-	-	0 10 0
One Calf	-	-	-	0 15 0
Two cwt. of butter	-	-	-	4 0 0
				15 12 6
Expences	-	-	-	11 18 11
				3 13 7

Many of the poor here have no cows ; there are cabbins on the road side that have no land ; the inhabitants of them are called *spalpeens*, who are paid for their labour in cash, by the month, &c. Some of them pay no rent at all, others 10s. a year ; and these are the people who hire grafs land for their potatoes ; it is certain that the cottars are much better off than these spalpeens, who can get but little milk, buying it part of the summer half year only of the dairy farmers.

Tythes. Wheat, 8s. Bere, 7s. Barley, 7s. Oats, 4s. 6d. Potatoes, 11s. Meadow, 2s. 8d.

Prices not in the tables.

Womens labour, reaping, 4d. Other work, 3d. Making hand turf, 6d. Farming man's wages, 3l. to 4l. Farming maid's ditto, 1l. 12s. Mowing, per acre, 2s. 6d. to 3s. in

1745, only 1s. 6d. Ditching, 9d. a perch. Double ones, 1s. 6d. seven feet wide at top, three and a half at bottom, and four deep, and they will earn 8d. a day at it. Hire of a car, 1s. 6d. a day. In 1745 it was 1s. Price of a car, 1l. 18s. 3d. Building a mud cabbin, 3l. Stone and slate, 25l. Mason's perch of stone walls for labour, 9d. six feet high complete, 16s. Oak, 4l. a ton; twenty years ago, 2l. Lime, 10½d. a barrel, burnt with culm, brought 25 miles.

Mr. Lloyd has worked a very great improvement of a shaking morass, which when he began was worth only 5s. an acre. The first business was banking it, from a river subject to floods, with a parallel back cut, to carry off the water that came over his bank. He then carried a central drain through it and a mile beyond it, to gain a fall. Next he subdivided it into fields, from 10 to 20 acres, by ditches planted with quick. The land was over-run with much underwood and sedgy tussocks, &c. these were all grubbed, cut up, and burnt; after which cattle were put in, the improvement being finished; and it has grown better and better ever since, being now worth 30s. an acre: some of it is actually let at 38s. It was a very expensive undertaking, owing to the stream above him belonging to a neighbour, who did not second his undertaking; he was obliged to make a long bank upon this account only, partly over a turf bog, which was blown up once, but made again with great difficulty;

fourteen

fourteen spits deep were cleared, and a foundation of rammed clay laid: this cost 1000*l.* it has, however, stood well since.

Lime Mr. Lloyd tried in a very satisfactory experiment; he broke up one of the rich hills near Castle Lloyd, and limed half a field; afterwards upon laying the whole down, the part limed has continued of a much deeper green and more luxuriant herbage than the other half.

October 10th, left Castle Lloyd, and took the road by Galbally to Mitchel's Town, through a country part of it a rich grazing tract; but from near Galbally, to the Galty mountains, there are large spaces of flat lands, covered with heath and furze, that are exceedingly improvable, yet seem as neglected as if nothing could be made of them. The road leads immediately at the northern foot of the Galties, which form the most formidable and romantic boundary imaginable; the sides are almost perpendicular, and reach a height, which piercing the clouds, seem formed rather for the boundaries of two conflicting empires, than the property of private persons. The variety of the scenery exhibited by these mountains is great; the road after passing some miles parallel with them, turns over a hill, a continuation of their chain, and commands an oblique view of their southern side, which has much more variety than the northern; it looks down at the same time upon a long plain, bounded

bounded by these and other mountains, several rivers winding through it, which join in the center, near Mitchel's Town. I had been informed that this was a miserable place: it has at least a situation worthy of the proudest capital.

Upon my arrival, Lord Kingsborough, who possesses almost the whole country, procured me the information I requested in the most liberal manner, and a residence since has enabled me to perfect it. His Lordship's vast property extends from Kildorrery to Clogheen, beyond Ballyporeen, a line of more than 16 Irish miles, and it spreads in breadth from five to ten miles. It contains every variety of land, from the fertility of grazing large bullocks to the mountain heath the cover of grouse. The profitable land lets from 8s. to 25s. an acre, but the whole does not on an average yield more than 2s. 6d. Such a field for future improvements is therefore rarely to be found. On the cold and bleak hills of Scotland estates of greater extent may be found, but lying within twenty miles of Corke, the most southerly part of Ireland, admits a rational prophecy that it will become one of the first properties in Europe.

The size of farms held by occupying tenants is in general very small, Lord Kingsborough having released them from the bondage of the middle men. Great tracts are held in partnership; and the amount held by single farmers rises
from

from 5l. to 50l. a year, with a very few large farms.

The soils are as various as in such a great extent they may be supposed: the worst is the wet morassy land, on a whitish gravel, the spontaneous growth, rushes (*juncus conglomeratus*) and heath (*erica vulgaris*); this yields a scanty nourishment to cows and half-starved young cattle. Large tracts of wet land has a black peat or a turf surface; this is very reclaimable, and there are immense tracts of it. The profitable soil is in general a sandy or a gravelly loam, of a reddish brown colour, and the principal distinction is its being on lime or grit stone, the former generally the best. It declines in value from having a yellow sand or a yellow clay near the surface under it. There are tracts of such incomparable land that I see very little equal to it, except in Tipperary, Limerick, and Roscommon. A deep friable loam, moist enough for the spontaneous growth to fat a bullock, and dry enough to be perfectly under command in tillage: if I was to name the characteristics of an excellent soil, I should say *that* upon which you may fat an ox, and feed off a crop of turnips. By the way I recollect little or no such land in England, yet is it not uncommon in Ireland. Quarries of the finest lime-stone are found in almost every part of the estate.

The tracts of mountain are of a prodigious extent; the Galties only are six or seven miles long,

long, from one to four miles across; and more improvable upon the whole than any land I have seen, turf and lime-stone being on the spot, and a gentle exposure hanging to the south. In every inaccessible cliff there are mountain ash, (*fraxinus excelsior*) oak, (*quercus robur*) holly, (*ilex aquifolium*) birch, (*betula alba*) willow, (*salix*) hazel, (*corylus avellana*) and white thorn, (*cratægus oxyacantha*) and even to a considerable height up the mountain, which, with the many old stumps scattered about them, prove that the whole was once a forest, an observation applicable to every part of the estate.

The tillage here extends no farther than what depends on potatoes, on which root they subsist as elsewhere. They sometimes manure the grass for them, and take a second crop; after which they follow them with oats, till the soil is so exhausted as to bear no longer, when they leave it to weeds and trumpery, which vile system has spread itself so generally over all the old meadow and pasture of the estate, that it has given it a face of desolation—furze, (*eulex europæa*) broom, (*spartium scoparium*) fern, (*pteris aquilina*) and rushes, owing to this and to neglect, occupy seven-eighths of it. The melancholy appearance of the lands arising from this, which, with miserable and unplanted mounds for fences, with no gate but a furze bush stuck in a gap, or some stones piled on each other, altogether form a scene the more dreary, as an oak, an ash, or an elm, are almost

almost as great a rarity, (save in the plantations of the present Lord) as an olive, an orange, or a mulberry.

Of potatoes, eight barrels of seed plant an acre, which yields sixty barrels, at twenty-one stone; the average price 4s. 4d.

Planting, fourteen men, at 6½d.	o	7	7
Trenching, fourteen ditto	o	7	7
Leading the dung	1	o	o
Spreading, six men	o	3	3
Eight barrels seed	1	14	8
Weeding by the women	o	o	o
Taking up, sixty men	1	12	6
Carting home, &c.	o	15	o
		<hr/>	
		6	o 7

P R O D U C E.

Sixty, at 4s. 4d.	-	-	13	o	o
Expenses	-	-	6	o	7
			<hr/>		
			£. 6	19	5

Prime cost, 2s. a barrel.

They lay them up in holes in the field. The second crop is generally the best. Of oats they sow two barrels, and reap from 8 to 15. There no wheat, and very little barley. Clover and turnips, rape, beans, and pease, quite unknown. The rents are paid by cattle, and of

these dairy cows are the chief stock. The little farmers manage their own; the larger ones let them to dairymen for one cwt. of butter each cow, and 12s. to 15s. horn money; but the man has a privilege of four collops, and an acre of land and cabbin to every twenty cows. The people, most attentive to their own interest, are, however, getting out of this system, from the innumerable rascalities of these dairymen, they will play twenty tricks to keep them from taking the bull, in order to have the longer season; and to force them to give down their milk, they have a very delicate custom of blow-them where _____, but I have heard of this practice in other parts.

The winter food is straw and hay at night; not many of them are housed. In the breeding system they are very deficient. Vast numbers of calves are killed at two or three days old for an execrable veal they call *staggering bob*, I suppose from the animal not being old enough to stand steady on its legs: they sell at 2s. or 2s. 6d. a head. A good cow sells from 5l. to 6l. 6s. and a calf of six or eight months, at 20s. or 22s. Sheep are kept in very small numbers; a man will have two, or even one, and he thinks it worth his while to walk ten or twelve miles to a fair, with a straw band tied to the leg of the lamb, in order to sell it for 3s. 6d. an undoubted proof of the poverty of the country. Markets are crowded for this reason, for there is nothing too trifling to carry; a yard of lincn, a fleece of wool, a couple

couple of chickens, will carry an unemployed pair of hands ten miles. In the mountains are a small breed of sheep, which are as delicate mutton when properly fattened as the welch, and of so hardy a breed as to live upon heath, furze, &c. in winter as well as summer. Hogs are kept in such numbers that the little towns and villages swarm with them; pigs and children bask and roll about, and often resemble one another so much, that it is necessary to look twice before the *human face divine* is confessed. I believe there are more pigs in Mitchelstown than human beings, and yet propagation is the only trade that flourished here for ages.

Tillage is done by horses; four in a plough do half an acre a day, five or six inches deep; the price 6s. to 10s. an acre.

Labour is chiefly done in the cottar system, which has been so often explained; there are here every gradation of the lower classes, from the spalpeens, many among them strangers, who build themselves a wretched cabin in the road, and have neither land, cattle, nor turf, rising to the regular cottar, and from him to the little joint tenant, who, united with many others, takes some large farm in partnership; still rising to the greater farmer.

The population is very great. It is but few districts in the north that would equal the proportion that holds on this estate; the cabins

are innumerable, and like most Irish cabbins, swarm with children. Wherever there is many people, and little employment, idleness and its attendants must abound.

It is not to be expected that so young a man as Lord Kingsborough, just come from the various gaiety of Italy, Paris, and London, should, in so short a space as two years, do much in a region so wild as Mitchelstown; a very short narrative however, will convince the reader, that the time he has spent here, has not been thrown away. He found his immense property in the hands of that species of tenant which we know so little of in England, but which in Ireland have flourished almost to the destruction of the kingdom, the *middle man*, whose business and whose industry consists in hiring great tracts of land as cheap as he can, and re-letting them to others as dear as he can, by which means that beautiful gradation of the pyramid, which connects the broad base of the poor people with the great nobleman they support, is broken; he deals only with his own tenant, the multitude is abandoned to the humanity and feelings of others, which to be sure may prompt a just and tender conduct; whether it does or not, let the misery and poverty of the lower classes speak, who are thus assigned over. This was the situation of nine-tenths of his property. Many leases being out, he rejected the trading tenant, and let every man's land to him, who occupied it at the rent he had himself received before.

During

During a year that I was employed in letting his farms, I never omitted any opportunity of confirming him in this system, as far as was in my power, from a conviction that he was equally serving himself and the public in it; he will never quit it without having reason afterwards for regret.

In a country changing from licentious barbarity into civilized order, building is an object of perhaps greater consequence than may at first be apparent. In a wild, or but half cultivated tract, with no better edifice than a mud cabin, what are the objects that can impress a love of order on the mind of man? He must be wild as the roaming herds; savage as his rocky mountains; confusion, disorder, riot, have nothing better than himself to damage or destroy: but when edifices of a different solidity and character arise; when great sums are expended, and numbers employed to rear more expressive monuments of industry and order, it is impossible but new ideas must arise, even in the uncultivated mind; it must feel something, first to respect, and afterwards to love; gradually seeing that in proportion as the country becomes more decorated and valuable, licentiousness will be less profitable, and more odious. Mitchelstown, till his Lordship made it the place of his residence, was a den of vagabonds, thieves, rioters, and whiteboys; but I can witness to its being now as orderly and peaceable as any other Irish town, much owing to this circumstance of building, and thereby employing

employing such numbers of the people. Lord Kingsborough, in a short space of time, has raised considerable edifices; a large mansion for himself, beautifully situated on a bold rock, the edge of a declivity, at the bottom of which is a river, and commanding a large tract of country, with as fine a boundary of mountain as I have seen; a quadrangle of offices; a garden of five English acres, surrounded with a wall, hot-houses, &c. Besides this, three good stone and slate houses upon three farms, and engaged for three others, more considerable, which are begun; others repaired, and several cabbins built substantially.

So naked a country as he found his estate, called for other exertions, to invoke the Dryades it was necessary to plant, and they must be coy nymphs indeed if they are not in a few years propitious to him. He brought a skilful nurseryman from England, and formed twelve acres of nursery. It begins to shew itself; above ten thousand perch of hedges are made, planted with quick and trees; and several acres, securely inclosed on advantageous spots, and filled with young and thriving plantations. Trees were given, gratis, to the tenantry, and premiums begun for those who plant most, and preserve them best, besides fourscore pounds a year offered for a variety of improvements in agriculture the most wanted upon the estate.

Men,

Men, who from long possession of landed property, become gradually convinced of the importance of attending to it, may at last work some improvements without meriting any considerable portion of praise; but that a young man, warm from pleasure, should do it, has a much superior claim. Lord Kingsborough has, in this respect, a great deal of merit; and for the sake both of himself and his country, I heartily wish he may *steadily* persevere in that line of conduct which his understanding has once told him, and must continue to tell him, is so greatly for the advantage of himself, his family and the public.

It is not uncommon, especially in mountainous countries, to find objects that much deserve the attention of travellers intirely neglected by them. There are a few instances of this upon Lord Kingsborough's estate, in the neighbourhood of Mitchelstown; the first I shall mention, is a cave at Skeheenrinky, on the road between Cahir and that place: the opening to it is a cleft of rock in a lime stone hill, so narrow as to be difficult to get into it. I descended by a ladder of about twenty steps, and then found myself in a vault of a hundred feet long, and fifty or sixty high: a small hole, on the left, leads from this a winding course of I believe not less than half an Irish mile, exhibiting a variety that struck me much. In some places the cavity in the rock is so large, that when well lighted up by candles, (not flambeaux, Lord Kingsborough once shewed

it me with them, and we found their (smoak troublesome) it takes the appearance of a vaulted cathedral, supported by massy columns. The walls, cieling, floor, and pillars, are by turns composed of every fantastic form; and often of very beautiful incrustations of spar, some of which glitters so much, that it seems powdered with diamonds, and in others the cieling is formed of that sort which has so near a resemblance to a cauliflower. The spar formed into columns by the dropping of water has taken some very regular forms; but others are different, folded in plaits of light drapery, which hang from their support in a very pleasing manner. The angles of the walls seem fringed with icicles. One very long branch of the cave, which turns to the north, is in some places so narrow and low, that one crawls into it, when it suddenly breaks into large vaulted spaces, in a thousand forms. The spar in all this cave is very brilliant, and almost equal to Bristol stone. For several hundred yards in the larger branch, there is a deep water at the bottom of the declivity to the right, which the common people call the river. A part of the way is over a sort of potter's clay, which moulds into any form, and is of a brown colour: a very different soil from any in the neighbouring country. I have seen the famous cave in the Peak, but think it very much inferior to this: and Lord Kingsborough, who has viewed the Grot d'Aucel in Burgundy, says that it is not to be compared with it.

But

But the commanding region of the Galties deserves more attention. Those who are fond of scenes in which nature reigns in all her wild magnificence, should visit this stupendous chain. It consists of many vast mountains, thrown together in an assemblage of the most interesting features, from boldness and height of the declivities, freedom of outline, and variety of parts; filling a space of about six miles by three or four. Galtymore is the highest point, and rises like the lord and father of the surrounding progeny. From the top you look down upon a great extent of mountain, which shelves away from him to the south, east, and west; but to the north, the ridge is almost a perpendicular declivity. On that side the famous golden vale of Limerick and Tipperary spreads a rich level to the eye, bounded by the mountains of Clare, King's and Queen's counties, with the course of the Shannon, for many miles below Limerick. To the south you look over alternate ridges of mountains, which rise one beyond another, till in a clear day the eye meets the ocean near Dungarvon. The mountains of Waterford and Knockmaldown fill up the space to the south-east. The western is the most extensive view; for nothing stops the eye till Mangerton and Macgilly Cuddy's Reeks point out the spot where Killarney's lake calls for a farther excursion. The prospect extends into eight counties, Corke, Kerry, Waterford, Limerick, Clare, Queen's, Tipperary, King's.

A little

A little to the west of this proud summit, below it in a very extraordinary hollow, is a circular lake of two acres, reported to be unfathomable. The descriptions which I have read of the craters of exhausted volcanoes, leave very little doubt of this being one; and the conical regularity of the summit of Galtymore speaks the same language. East of this *respectable* hill, to use Sir William Hamilton's language, is a declivity of about one quarter of a mile, and there Galtymbeg rises in a yet more regular cone, and between the two hills is another lake, which from position seems to have been once the crater which threw up Galtymbeg, as the first mentioned was the origin of Galtymore. Beyond the former hill is a third lake, and east of that another hill; I was told of a fourth, with another corresponding mountain. It is only the mere summit of these mountains which rise above the lakes. Speaking of them *below*, they may be said to be on the tops of the hills; they are all of them at the bottom of an almost regularly circular hollow. On the side, next the mountain top, are walls of perpendicular rocks, in regular strata, and some of them piled on each other, with an appearance of art rather than nature. In these rocks the eagles, which are seen in numbers on the Galties, have their nests. Supposing the mountains to be of volcanic origin, and these lakes the craters, of which I have not a doubt; they are objects of the greatest curiosity, for there is an unusual regularity in every considerable

summit, having its corresponding crater ; but without this circumstance the scenery is interesting in a very great degree. The mountain summits, which are often wrapped in the clouds, at other times exhibit the freest outline ; the immense scooped hollows which sink at your feet, declivities of so vast a depth as to give one terror to look down ; with the unusual forms of the lower region of hills, particularly Bull hill, and Round hill, each a mile over, yet rising out of circular vales, with the regularity or semi-globes unite upon the whole, to exhibit a scenery to the eye, in which the parts are of a magnitude so commanding ; a character so interesting, and a variety so striking, that they well deserve to be examined by every curious traveller.

Nor are these immense outlines the whole of what is to be seen in this great range of mountains. Every Glen has its beauties ; there is a considerable mountain river, or rather torrent in every one of them ; but the greatest are the Funcheon, between Sefang and Galtymore ; the Limestone river, between Galtymore and Round hill, and the Grouse river, between Coolegarranroe, and Mr. O'Callaghan's mountain ; these present to the eye, for a tract of about three miles, every variety that rock, water, and mountain can give, thrown into all the fantastic forms which art may attempt in ornamented grounds, but always fails in. Nothing can exceed the beauty of the water, when not discoloured by rain,

its

its lucid transparency shews, at considerable depths, every pebble no bigger than a pin, every rocky bason alive with trout and eels, that play and dash among the rocks, as if endowed with that native vigour which animate, in a superior degree, every inhabitant of the mountains, from the bounding red deer, and the soaring eagle, down even to the fishes of the brook. Every five minutes you have a waterfall in these glens, which in any other region, would stop every traveller to admire it. Sometimes the vale takes a gentler declivity, and presents to the eye at one stroke, twenty or thirty falls, which render the scenery all alive with the motion; the rocks are tossed about in the wildest confusion, and the torrent bursts by turns from above, beneath, and under them; while the back ground is always filled up with the mountains which stretch around.

In the western Glen is the finest cascade in all the Galties; there are two falls, with a bason in the rock between, but from some points of view they appear one: the rock over which the water tumbles is about sixty feet high. A good line in which to view these objects is either to take the Killarney and Mallo road, to Mitchelstown, and from thence by Lord Kingsborough's new one, to Skeheenrinky, there to take one of the Glens, to Galtibeg, and Galtymore, and return to Mitchelstown by the Wolf's track, Temple hill, and
the

the Waterfall : or, if the Corke road is travelling, to make Dobbin's inn, at Ballyporeen, the head quarters, and view them from thence.

* * * * *

Having heard much of the beauties of a part of the Queen's county, I had not before seen, I took that line of country in my way on a journey to Dublin.

From Mitchelstown to Cashel, the road leads as far as Galbally in the route already travelled from Cullen ; towards Cashel the country is various. The only object deserving attention, are the plantations of Thomastown, the seat of Francis Mathew, Esq; they consist chiefly of hedge-row trees in double and treble rows, are well grown, and of such extent as to form an uncommon woodland scene in Ireland. Found the widow Holland's Inn, at Cashel, clean and very civil. Take the road to Urlingford. The rich sheep pastures, part of the famous golden vale, reach between three and four miles, from Cashel to the great bog by Botany Hill, noted for producing a greater variety of plants than common. That bog is separated by only small tracts of land, from the string of bogs which extend through the Queen's County, from the great bog of Allen ; it is here of considerable extent, and exceedingly improvable. Then enter a low marshy bad country, which grows worse after passing the 66th mile stone, and successive bogs in it. Breakfast at Johnstown, a regular village on
a slight

a slight eminence, built by Mr. Hayley; it is near the Spaw of Ballyspellin. Rows of trees are planted; but their heads all cut off, I suppose from their not thriving, being planted too old. Immediately on leaving these planted avenues, enter a row of eight or ten new cabins, at a distance from each other, which appear to be a new undertaking, the land about them all pared and burnt, and the ashes in heaps.

Enter a fine planted country, with much corn and good thriving quick hedges for many miles. The road leads through a large wood, which joins Lord Ashbrook's plantations, whose house is situated in the midst of more wood than almost any one I have seen in Ireland. Pass Durrow; the country for two or three miles continues all inclosed with fine quick hedges, is beautiful, and has some resemblance to the best parts of Essex. Sir Robert Staple's improvements join this fine tract; they are completed in a most perfect manner, the hedges well-grown; cut, and in such excellent order, that I can scarcely believe myself to be in Ireland. His gates are all of iron. These sylvan scenes continue through other seats beautifully situated, amidst gentle declivities of the finest verdure, full grown woods, excellent hedges, and a pretty river winding by the house. The whole environs of several would be admired in the best parts of England.

Cross a great bog, within sight of Lord de Vescey's plantations. The road leads over it, being

ing drained for that purpose by deep cuts on either side. I should apprehend this bog to be among the most improvabie in the country.

Slept at Ballyroan, at an inn kept by three animals, who call themselves women; met with more impertinence than at any other in Ireland. It is an execrable hole. In three or four miles pass Sir John Parnel's prettily situated in a neatly dressed lawn; with much wood about it, and a lake quite alive with wild fowl.

Pass Monstereven, and cross directly a large bog, drained and partly improved; but all of it bearing grass, and seems in a state that might easily be reduced to rich meadow, with only a dressing of lime. Here I got again into the road I had travelled before.

I must in general remark, that from near Urlingford to Dawson Court, near Monstereven, which is completely across the Queen's County, is a line of above thirty English miles, and is for that extent by much the most improved of any I have seen in Ireland. It is generally well planted, has many woods, and not consisting of patches of plantation just by gentlemen's houses, but spreading over the whole face of the country, so as to give it the richness of an English woodland scene. What a country would Ireland be had the inhabitants of the rest of it improved the whole like this.

END OF PART I.

ing demand for that purpose by deep cuts on
the surface. I thought upon the best mode
among the most improvable in the country.

at Ballinacorney, as an inn kept by the
stranger, who calls themselves watermen, and will
not open their doors to any of the country
it is an excellent place. In this part of the
parish, John Frost's wood, which is a
wealth, dotted town, with many other
it, and a lake point above with water.

This Monksreah, and with other towns
beg, drained and partly improved, but all of
it bearing grass, and seems in some places might
easily be reduced to its former state, and
draining of time. Here I got again into the road
I had travelled before.

I must in general remark that from near
Uppingford to Dawson Court, near Monks-
reah, which is completely across the Queen's
County, is a line of above thirty English miles,
and is for that extent by much the most im-
proved of any I have seen in Ireland. It is
generally well planted, has many woods, and
not consisting of patches of plantation, but by
gentlemen's houses, but spreading over the
whole face of the country, so as to give it the
richness of an English woodland town. What
a country would Ireland be had the inhabitants
of the rest of it improved the whole like this.

A

T O U R, &c.

P A R T II.

Observations on the preceding Intelligence.

TO register the minutes received upon such a journey as this, and leave them simply to speak for themselves, would have its use; but it would leave to the inquisitive reader so much labour and trouble in collecting general facts, that not one in five hundred would attempt it. That it is a matter of importance to have accurate general ideas of a country, instead of erroneous ones, will hardly be disputed; no books of geography but speak generally of soil, climate, product, rental, population, &c. but they are too often mere guesses; or, if founded at all, the facts that support them of too old a date to yield the least truth at present in points subject to change. When one country is mentioned in another it is usually in general terms: and by comparison, *England has not so rich a soil as Ireland. Products in England larger than in France. Rents higher in Ireland than in Scotland.* A thousand instances might be produced, in which ideas of this sort are particularized, and in which general errors are often found the cause of political measures, even of the highest consequence. That my English tours give *exact* information relative to England, I cannot assert; but I may venture to say, that they are the only information extant, relative to the rental, produce, stock of that country, which are taken from an actual examination: I wish to offer equal information relative to our sister island; and I am encouraged to do it, not only from my own ideas, but the opinions of many persons with whom I have either corresponded or conversed from most parts of Europe, including some of the most respectable for abilities and rank.

A

SECTION

S E C T I O N I.

Extent of Ireland.

IN order to know the consequence and relative importance of any country, it is necessary to be acquainted with its extent; I have reason to believe that that of Ireland is not accurately known. I insert the following table of the acres of each county, plantation measure, because there are several observations to be made on it.

		<i>Acres.</i>			<i>Acres.</i>
Ulster—	Antrim,	383,020	Munster,—	Clare,	428,187
	Armagh,	170,620		Corke,	991,010
	Cavan,	274,800		Kerry,	636,905
	Down,	344,658		Limerick,	375,320
	Donnegal,	630,157		Tipperary,	599,500
	Fermanagh,	224,807		Waterford,	259,010
	Londonder,	251,510			
	Monaghan,	170,090	Total,	-	3,289,932
	Tyrone,	387,175			
	<hr/>		Conaug.—	Galway,	775,525
Total,	-	2,836,837		Leitrim,	206,830
Leinster,—	Carlow,	116,900		Mayo,	724,640
	Dublin,	123,784		Roscomm.	324,370
	Kildare,	228,590		Sligo,	241,550
	Kilkenny,	287,650			
	King's Co.	257,510	Total,	-	2,272,915
	Longford,	134,700			
	Louth,	111,180	In all Ireland,		11,042,642
	Meath,	326,480			
	Queen's Co.	238,415			
	Westmeath,	249,943			
	Wexford,	315,390			
	Wicklow,	252,410			
	<hr/>				
Total,	-	2,642,958			

Gerard Malines makes the acres of Ireland eighteen millions: (*Lex Mercatoria*, part 1. p. 49) I suppose English measure, which is eleven millions Irish; these two accounts flow therefore from the same source. Templeman's measurement gives it 27,457 square miles, or 17,572,480 acres (*Survey of the globe*) English on a scale of 60 miles to a degree, but consequently it is professedly erroneous, as a degree is $69\frac{1}{2}$; according to this measure therefore, the contents in real acres would be 20,354,789 English, and 12,721,743 Irish. These accounts come so nearly together, that they are all drawn from similar data; that is, from old maps. Newer ones have many blunders; but as no late actual survey has been made of the kingdom, we must depend on the authority we find.

SECTION II.

Soil, Face of the Country and Climate.

TO judge of Ireland by the conversation one sometimes hears in England, it would be supposed that one half of it was covered with bogs, and the other with mountains filed with Irish ready to fly at the sight of a civilized being. There are people who will smile when they hear that in proportion, to the size of the two countries, Ireland is more cultivated than England, having much less waste land of all sorts. Of uncultivated mountains there are no such tracts as are found in our four northern counties, and the North Riding of Yorkshire, with the eastern line of Lancaster, nearly down to the Peak of Derby, which form an extent of above an hundred miles of waste. The most considerable of this sort in Ireland are in Kerry, Galway, and Mayo, and some in Sligo and Donnegal. But all these together will not make the quantity we have in the four northern counties; the vallies in the Irish mountains are also more inhabited, I think, than those of England, except where there are mines, and consequently some sort of cultivation creeping up the sides. Natural fertility, acre for acre over the two kingdoms, is certainly in favour of Ireland; of this I believe there can scarcely be a doubt entertained, when it is considered that some of the more beautiful, and even best cultivated countries in England, owe almost every thing to the capital art and industry of the inhabitants.

The circumstance which strikes me as the greatest singularity of Ireland, is the rockyness of the soil, which should seem at first sight against that degree of fertility; but the contrary is the fact. Stone is so general, that I have great reason to believe the whole island is one vast rock of different strata and kinds rising out of the sea. I have rarely heard of any great depths being sunk without meeting with it. In general it appears on the surface in every part of the kingdom, the flattest and most fertile parts, as Limerick, Tipperary and Meath, have it at no great depth, almost as much as the more barren ones. May we not recognize in this the hand of bounteous providence, which has given, perhaps, the most stoney soil in Europe to the moister climate in it? If as much rain fell upon the clays of England (a soil very rarely met with in Ireland, and never without much stone) as falls upon the rocks of her sister island, those lands could not be cultivated. But the rocks here are cloathed with verdure;—those of lime stone with only a thin covering of mold, have the softest and most beautiful turf imaginable.

Of the great advantages resulting from the general plenty of lime stone, and lime-stone gravel, and the nature of the

bogs, I shall have occasion to speak more particularly hereafter.

The rockyness of the soil in Ireland is so universal, that it predominates in every sort. One cannot use with propriety, the terms clay, loam, sand, &c. it must be a *stone* clay, a *stone* loam, a *gravelly* sand. Clay, especially the yellow, is much talked of in Ireland, but it is for want of proper discrimination. I have once or twice seen almost a pure clay upon the surface, but it is extremely rare. The true yellow clay, is usually found in a thin stratum under the surface mould, and over a rock; harsh, tenacious, stoney, strong loams, difficult to work, are not uncommon; but they are quite different from English clays.

Friable sandy loams dry, but fertile, are very common, and they form the best soils in the kingdom, for tillage and sheep. Tipperary, and Roscommon, abound particularly in them. The most fertile of all, are the bullock pastures of Limerick, and the banks of the Shannon in Clare, called the *Corcaffes*. These are a mellow, putrid, friable loam.

Sand, which is so common in England, and yet more common through Spain, France, Germany, and Poland, quite from Gibraltar to Petersburg, is no where met with in Ireland, except for narrow slips of hillocks, upon the sea coast. Nor did I ever meet with, or hear of a chalky soil.

The bogs of which foreigners have heard so much, are very extensive in Ireland; that of Allen extends 80 miles, and is computed to contain 300,000 acres. There are others also, very extensive, and smaller ones scattered over the whole kingdom; but these are not in general more than are wanted for fuel. When I come to speak of the improvement of waste lands, I shall describe them particularly.

Besides the great fertility of the soil, there are other circumstances, which come within my sphere to mention. Few countries can be better watered, by large and beautiful rivers; and it is remarkable, that by much the finest parts of the kingdom, are on the banks of these rivers. Witness the Suer, Blackwater, the Liffy, the Boyne, the Nore, the Barrow, and part of the Shannon, they wash a scenery that can hardly be exceeded. From the rockyness of the country however, there are few of them that have not obstructions, which are great impediments to inland navigation.

The mountains of Ireland, give to travelling, that interesting variety, which a flat country can never abound with. And at the same time, they are not in such number as to confer the usual character of poverty, which attends them. I was either upon or very near the most considerable in the kingdom. Mangerton, and the Reeks, in Kerry; the Galties in Corke; those of Mourne in Down; Crow Patrick and Nephin in Mayo; these are the principal in Ireland, and they are of a character, in height and sublimity, which should render them the objects of every traveller's attention.

Relative to the climate of Ireland, a short residence cannot enable a man to speak much from his own experience; the observations I have made myself, confirm the idea of its being vastly wetter than England; from the 20th of June, to the 20th of October, I kept a register, and there were in 122 days, 75 of rain, and very many of them incessant and heavy. I have examined similar registers I kept in England, and can find no year that even approaches to such a moisture as this. But there is the register of an accurate diary published, which compares London and Corke. The result is, that the quantity at the latter place, was double to that of London. See *Smith's Hist. of Corke*.

From the information I received, I have reason to believe, that the rainy season sets in usually about the first of July, and continues very wet till September or October, when there is usually a dry fine season of a month or six weeks. I resided in the county of Corke, &c. from October till March, and found the winter much more soft and mild, than ever I experienced one in England. I was also a whole summer there (1778), and it is fair to mention, that it was as fine a one, as ever I knew in England, though by no means so hot. I think hardly so wet, as very many I have known in England. The tops of the Galty Mountains, exhibited the only snow we saw; and as to frosts, they were so slight and rare, that I believe myrtles, and yet tenderer plants, would have survived without any covering. But when I say that the winter was not remarkable for being wet, I do not mean that we had a dry atmosphere. The inches of rain which fell, in the winter I speak of, would not mark the moisture of the climate. As many inches will fall in a single tropical shower, as in a whole year in England. See *Mitchel's Present State of Great Britain, and North America*. But if the clouds presently disperse, and a bright sun shines, the air may soon be dry. The worst circumstance of the climate of Ireland, is the constant moisture without rain. Wet a piece of leather, and lay it in a room, where there is neither sun nor fire, and it will not in summer even, be dry in a month*. I have known gentlemen in Ireland deny their climate being moister than England;—but if they have eyes let them open them, and see the verdure that cloathes their rocks, and compare it with ours in England—where rocky soils are of a russet brown however sweet the food for sheep.

Does

* I have had this happen myself with a pair of wet gloves.

The myriads of flies also which buzz about one's ears, and are ready to go in shoals into one's mouth at every word—and those almost imperceptible flies called midges, which perfectly devour one in a wood, or near a river, prove the same thing.

Does not their island lye more exposed to the great Atlantic, and does not the west wind blow three-fourths of a year? If there was another island yet more to the westward, would not the climate of Ireland be improved? Such persons speak equally against fact, reason, and philosophy. That the moisture of a climate does not depend on the quantity of rain that falls, but on the powers of aerial evaporation, Dr. Dobson has clearly proved. *Phil. Transf.* Vol. lxxvii. part i. p. 244.

S E C T I O N III.

Rental.

NO country can ever be held in a just estimation when the rental of it is unknown. It is not the only circumstance which a political arithmetician should attend to, but it is a most important one. The value of a country is rarely the subject of a conversation without guesses at its rental being made, and comparisons between different ones. I contend for nothing more through this and the ensuing tables, than the superiority of actual information on the spot, drawn into one point of view, over any guesses whatever. I shall therefore proceed at once to lay it before the reader.

<i>Places.</i>	<i>Rent per Acre.</i>	<i>Rent at Irish Acre.</i>	<i>Rise.</i>	<i>Fall.</i>	<i>Year's purchase of land.</i>	<i>Leases, years or lives.</i>
County of Dublin,			s. d.	s. d.	22	41 61 L.
Celbridge,	1 10 0				22	31 or L.
Dollestown,	1 1 0			5 0		
Summerhill,	1 0 0				23	
Slain Castle,	1 5 0				22½	31 or L.
Headfort,	1 0 0				21	
Druestown,	1 6 0					
Fore,	0 15 0					
Packenham Hall,	0 17 6			4 4	21	
Mullingar to Tullspace,	1 0 0					
Charleville,	0 16 0			4 0	20	
Shaen Castle,	0 13 0			5 0	20	
Athy to Carlow,	0 18 0					
Kilfaine,	0 15 6			2 0	21	21 31
Rofs to Taghmon,	0 15 0					
Bargie and Forth,	1 2 9		a little		23½	
Wexford to Wells,	0 11 0					
Wells to Gowry,	0 17 0					
Courtown,	0 17 6		none		22½	31 L.
New Town M. Kennedy,	2 0 0		8 0		19½	31 L.
Ditto Mountain,	0 8 0					
Kilrue,	1 2 0					

Hampton,

Places.	Rent per Acre.	Rent at Irish Acre.	Rise.	Fall.	Years purchase of land.	Leases, years or lives.
Hampton,	1 50	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	20	
Cullen,	1 00					
Ravensdale,	0 70					
Market-hill,	0 11 6	14 9				
Ardmagh,	0 10 0	13 0				
Armagh to Newry,	0 10 0	13 0				
To Dungannon,	0 11 0	14 0				
To Lurgan,	0 10 0	13 0				
Mahon,	0 13 6	17 4				
Down,	0 16 0	20 0				
To Belfast,	0 16 0	20 0				
Castle Hill,	0 15 0	9 0				
Ards,	0 10 6	13 6				
Lecale,	1 00					
Redemon to Saint-field,	0 10 6	13 6				
Belfast,	0 13 0	17 0				
Belfast to Antrim,	0 8 0	10 0				
Shanes Castle,	0 8 0	10 0			21	31 L.
Lesly Hill,	0 12 0	15 0	3 0		21	
Near Giants Causeway,	0 12 0	15 0				
Colrain,	0 10 6					
Mewtown Limm.	0 10 0	13 0	1 6			
Clonleigh county,	0 17 6	21 6			25	L.
Mount Charles,	0 10 0				21½	
Castle Caldwell,	0 17 6		2 0		22	
Inniskilling,	0 11 0					
Ditto,	0 15 0					
Florence Court,	0 10 0					
Farnham,	0 17 0		5 6		22	
Granard,	1 10					
Longford,	0 13 6		2 0		18½	
Strokestown,	1 50					
Elphin,	0 13 6					
Kingston,	0 17 6					
Mercra,	0 15 0				20	31 L.
Tyrera,	0 14 6					
Ditto,	0 18 0					
Tyrawley,	0 17 0					
Foxford to Castlebar,	0 12 0					
Castlebar,	0 17 0					
Westport,	0 8 0			1 0	21½	21 31 L.
Holymount,	0 13 6					
Moniva,	0 14 0				21	

Places.	Rent per acre.	Rent at Irish acre.	Fall.	Year's purchase of land.	Leases, years or lives.
Wood Lawn,	0 16 0	s. d.	s. d.		
Drumoland Corcaffes,	1 0 0			20	
Limerick,			8 0	20	
Ansgrove,	0 15 0		2 6	20	31 L.
Orrery,	1 10 0				
Fermoy,	0 13 0				
Duhallow,	0 7 0				
Condons and Clangibbons,	0 15 0				
Barrymote,	0 7 0	11 0			
Barrets,	0 4 0	6 0			
Mushery,	0 4 0	6 0			
Kinlea,	0 14 0	22 0			
Kerrycurrity,	0 10 0	16 0			
Courcy's,	0 10 0	16 0			
Mallow,	0 12 0	19 0			31 L.
Castle Martyr,				25	
Imokilly,	0 12 0	19 0			
Kilnattalton,	0 8 0	12 0			
Coolmore,	0 14 0	22 0			
Killarney,	0 8 0				
Castle Island to Tralee,	1 7 0				
Mahagree,	0 14 6			17	
Tarbat,	0 14 0				
Adair,	1 0 0				
Castle Oliver,	0 12 0		3 0		
100,000 acres in Limerick,	1 10 0				
20 miles sheep-land Tipperary,	1 2 6		4 6	20	
Ballycavan,	0 15 0			19½	
Furnes,	1 0 0				
Gloster,	0 15 0		3 0	25	31 L.
Johnstown,	1 0 0			20	31 L.
Derry,	0 15 0				
Cullen,	1 10 0			20	31 L.
Mitchel's Town,	0 2 6			20	21
Average,		16 6		21	
Average per English acre,		10 3			

The first column of rent is either plantation measure, Cunningham, or English; and the second reduces the two last to plantation.

The Cunningham acre is reduced to the plantation measure as seven to nine, and the English as five to eight, which though not perfectly accurate is near it.

R E N T A L.

The following table contains the information I received relative to the general average rental of whole counties; and as there are several with more than one account, the medium of those different accounts is given in a separate column.

<i>Counties.</i>	<i>Different minutes.</i>	<i>Average.</i>	<i>Reduced to plantation.</i>	<i>Total rental of the County.</i>
Dublin,		1 11 6	1 11 6	L.194,959
Meath,	1 0 0			
Ditto,	1 5 0			
Ditto,	0 18 6			
	-----	1 1 2	1 1 2	345,524
Westmeath,		0 7 0	0 7 0	87,480
King's County,	0 13 0			
Ditto,	0 12 6			
	-----	0 12 9	0 12 9	164,161
Carlow,		0 15 0	0 15 0	87,675
Wexford,		0 15 0	0 15 0	236,547
Wicklow,		0 15 0	0 15 0	189,307
Louth,		1 1 0	1 1 0	116,739
Ardmagh,	0 8 0			
Ditto,	0 14 0			
	-----	0 11 0	0 14 0	119,434
Down,	0 10 0			
Ditto,	0 10 0			
Ditto,	0 10 0			
	-----	0 10 0	0 12 10	221,154
Antrim,	0 5 6			
Ditto,	0 4 9			
	-----	0 5 1 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 6 6	124,481
Derry,	0 4 6			
Ditto,	0 4 0			
	-----	0 4 3	0 5 6	69,164
Donnegal,	0 1 0			
Ditto,	0 1 0			
Ditto,	0 2 6			
	-----	0 1 6	0 1 6	47,260
Fermanagh,		0 8 5	0 8 5	94,603
Cavan,	0 6 0			
Ditto,	0 7 6			
	-----	0 6 9	0 6 9	92,745
Longford,		0 10 0	0 10 0	67,350
Leitrim,	0 4 0			
Ditto,	0 2 0			
Ditto,	0 1 4			
	-----	0 2 5	0 2 5	24,990
Roscommon,	0 11 0			
Ditto,	0 10 0			
	-----	0 10 6	0 10 6	170,294
				Sligo,

R E N T A L.

Counties.	Different minutes.	Average.	Reduced to plantation.	Total rental of the County.
Sligo,	0 12 6			
Ditto,	0 12 10			
Ditto,	0 10 10			
	<hr/>	0 12 0	0 12 0	144,930
Mayo,		0 8 0	0 8 0	289,856
Galway,		0 8 1	0 8 1	313,440
Clare,		0 5 0	0 5 0	107,046
Corke,	0 7 0			
Ditto,	0 3 1			
Ditto,	0 5 8			
Ditto,	0 5 4			
Ditto,	0 5 0			
	<hr/>	0 5 2	0 5 2	256,010
Kerry,	0 2 0			
Ditto,	0 2 11			
Ditto,	0 1 7			
Ditto,	0 4 10			
	<hr/>	0 2 10	0 2 10	90,226
Limerick,	1 0 0			
Ditto,	1 0 0			
Ditto,	0 10 6			
	<hr/>	0 16 10	0 16 10	315,893
Tipperary,	0 16 3			
Ditto,	0 17 4			
Ditto,	1 0 0			
Ditto,	0 12 6			
	<hr/>	0 16 6	0 16 6	494,587
Waterford,	0 5 0			
Ditto,	0 6 10			
	<hr/>	0 5 11	0 5 11	76,622
Kildare,		0 14 6	0 14 6	165,727
Tyrone,	0 4 0			
Ditto,	0 7 0			
	<hr/>	0 5 6	0 5 6	106,747

Since the journey I have procured the information for the following :

Kilkenny,	0 16 0	0 16 0	230,119
Monaghan,	0 11 0	0 11 0	93,549
Queen's,	0 13 0	0 13 0	154,968
			<hr/>
Total,	—	—	5,293,312
			<hr/>

11,042,642 plantation acres, giving the rent of 5,293,312l. is at the rate of 9s. 7d. *per acre*. The average of all the minutes made it 16s. 6d. from hence there is reason to imagine, that the line travelled was better than the medium of the kingdom; or on the contrary, that the suppositions of the rents *per county* are *under* the truth, the real rent of the kingdom, if it could be ascertained, would probably be found rather to exceed than fall short of six millions. Especially as the rents upon which these particulars are drawn, were not those paid by the occupying tenant, but a general average of all tenures; whereas the object one would ascertain is the sum paid by the occupier, including consequently, not only the landlords rents, but the profit of the middle men.

But farther, as the computation that makes the total of 11,042,642 acres is professedly erroneous above a seventh, being drawn from geographic miles, there should be added above 700,000l. to this rental on that account.

The difference of money and measure included 35s. Irish makes just 20s. English. Suppose therefore the rental of Ireland 9s. 7d. *per acre*, it makes 5s. 6. English.

If Ireland is 10s. it would be 5s. 9d. English.

Suppose it 11s. or the total of six millions, it is *per English acre* 6s. 4d.

It is a curious disquisition to compare the rent of land in different countries, and to mark the various circumstances to which the superiority may be attributed. The rental of England has been pretty accurately ascertained to be 13s. an acre*. Poor rates in the same 1s. 10½d. in the pound, or 1s. 2½d. *per acre*. ¶ The information I received in Ireland concerning the amount of the money raised for presentments throughout the kingdom, made the total 140,000l. or 3d. an acre.

			l. s. d.
Landlords rent of Ireland,	—	—	0 9 7
Roads,	—	—	0 0 3
			0 9 10
Rent of England,	—	—	0 13 0
Rates,	—	—	0 1 2½
			0 14 2½
Irish acre and money makes	—		0 9 10
Which for an English acre and English money is			0 5 7
			Instead

* *Eastern Tour through England, Vol. iv. p. 229.*

¶ *The average of the Eastern and Northern Tours which make a total of 1,926,666l. By the returns laid before parliament it appeared to be actually 1,720,316l. 14s. 7d; but that return was incomplete,*

Instead of which is 14s. 2½d. consequently the proportion between the rent of land in England and Ireland is nearly as two to five: in other words, that space of land which in Ireland lets for 2s. would in England produce 5s.

In this comparison the value of land in England appear to be so much greater than it is in Ireland, that several circumstances should be considered. The idea I found common in Ireland upon that matter was, that rents there were *higher* than in England; but the extreme absurdity of the notion arose from the difference of measure and money, the exact par being, as 20 to 35. As far as I can form a general idea of the soil of the two kingdoms, Ireland has much the advantage; and if I am accurate in this, surely a stronger argument cannot be used, to shew the immense importance of CAPITAL first in the hands of the landlords of a country, and then in that of the farmers. I have reason to believe that five pounds sterling per English acre, expended over all Ireland, which amounts to 88,341,136l. would not more than build, fence, plant, drain, and improve that country to be upon a par in those respects with England. And farther, that if those 88 millions were so expended, it would take much above 20 millions more (or above 20s. an acre) in the hands of the farmers in stock of husbandry, to put them on an equal footing with those of her sister kingdom; nor is this calculation so vague as it might at first sight appear, since the expences of improvements and stock are very easily estimated in both countries. This is the resolution of that surprising inferiority in the rent of Ireland: the English farmer pays a rent for his land in the state he finds it, which includes, not only the natural fertility of the soil, but the immense expenditure which national wealth has in the progress of time poured into it; but the Irishman finds nothing he can afford to pay a rent for, but what the bounty of God has given, unaided by either wealth or industry. The second point is of equal consequence—when the land is to be let, the rent it will bring must depend on the capability of the cultivators to make it productive, if they have but half the capital they ought to be possessed of, how is it possible they should be able to offer a rent proportioned to the rates of another country, in which a variety of causes have long directed a stream of abundant wealth into the purses of her farmers?

These facts call for one very obvious reflection, which will often recur in the progress of these papers: the consequences

incomplete, for there are very many parishes named, from which, through neglect, no returns were made. I may remark that this fact is a strong confirmation of the truth of the data upon which I formed these calculations, the above sum coming vastly nearer to the truth afterwards ascertained by parliament, than any other calculation or conjecture which ever found its way into print.

The roads of England are a very heavy article; I conjecture much heavier than in Ireland, but I have no data whereby to ascertain the amount.

ces of it are felt in Ireland; but I am sorry to say, very ill understood in England: that portion of national wealth which is employed in the improvement of the lands of a state is the best employed for the general welfare of a country; while trade and manufactures, national funds, banking, &c. swallow up prodigious sums in England, but yield a profit of not above 5 to 10 per cent; the lands of Ireland are unimproved, upon which money would pay 15 to 20 per cent. exclusive of a variety of advantages which must strike the most superficial reader.—Hence the vast importance to *England* of the improvement of her *Irish* territory. It is an old observation, that the wealth of Ireland will always center in England; and the fact is true, though not in the way commonly asserted: No employment of 100 millions, not upon the actual soil of Britain, can ever pay her a tenth of the advantage which would result from Ireland being in the above respects upon that par which I have described with England. The more attentively this matter is considered, I am apt to think the more clearly this will appear; and that whenever old illiberal jealousies are worn out, which, thanks to the good sense of the age, are daily disappearing, we shall be fully convinced, that the benefit of Ireland is so intimately connected with the good of England, that we shall be as forward to give to that hitherto unhappy country, as she can be to receive, from the firm conviction, that whatever we thus sow will yield to us a most abundant harvest.

SECTION IV.

Products.

THE products per acre were, in every place, an object of my enquiries. The following table will at one view shew what they are in most parts of the kingdom.

Places.	Wheat, Barrels.	Barley, Barrels.	Oats, Barrels.	Bere, Barrels.
Dublin,	8		16	
Celbridge,	7		14	
Dollestown,	7		13	13½
Summershill,	6		10	
Slaine,	7		16	
Headfort,	7		12	
Packenham,	7		10	15½
Tullamore,	5½		12½	16
Shaens Castle,	5½	13	11½	13
Near Athy,	8	15	17½	
Athy to Carlow,	5½			
Near Carlow,		14	12	
Kilfane,	6	10	8	10
Bargie,		9	9	
Ditto,	8½	12		

<i>Places.</i>	<i>Wheat, Barrels.</i>	<i>Barley, Barrels.</i>	<i>Oats, Barrels.</i>	<i>Bere, Barrels.</i>
Bargy and Forth,	15	12½	11	
Wells,		6	7½	
Courtown,	8	9	9	
M. Kennedy,	8		10	
Kilrue,	11½	11½	14½	
Hampton,	7	11	10	
Louth,	6	15	15	
Mahon,	5		6	
Ards,	7			
Lecale,	7	10	12	
Shaens Castle,	6		8	
Newtown Limm.		9		
Innishoen,		8	7	
Clonleigh,		10	8½	
Castle Caldwell,		10	12	
Belleisle,		12½	8	
Florence Court,		8	12	
Farnham,	7	9	10	
Longford,		12	15	10
Strokestown,	6	9	10	
Ballymoat,	6½		10	
Mercera,	6	14	10	
Tyrera,		13½	10	
Ditto,		15	10	
Westport,			12	
Holymount,	6		9	9
Moniva,			8	
Woodlawn,	8	12	12	
Drumoland,	6½	12	12	
Ansgrove,	7			
Mallow,	8		12	12
Dunkettle,	8½			
Adair,	9		14	10
Castle Oliver,	12		15	
Tipperary,	12	15	14	27
Ballycanvan,	8	14	12	
Furness,	7		9	
Gloster,	6	16	13	17
Johnstown,	7		12	16
Derry,	8		11½	15
Cullen,	10	20	18	20
Mitchel's Town,			11½	
Cunningham acre reduced.				
Mahon,	6½		7½	
Ards,	9			
Shaens Castle,	7½		10	
English acre reduced.				
Mallow,	12		19	19
Dunkettle,	13			
Averages,	7½	11½	11½	14

These quantities per English acre are :

	<i>Qrs.</i>	<i>Bush.</i>	<i>Pecks.</i>
Wheat	2	2	3
Barley	3	4	3
Oats	3	4	3
Bere	4	3	0

The averages of the Farmer's Tour through the East of England were :

	<i>Qrs.</i>	<i>Bush.</i>	<i>Pecks.</i>
Wheat	3	0	0
Barley	4	0	0
Oats	4	6	0

Of the Six Months Tour through the North of England :

	<i>Qrs.</i>	<i>Bush.</i>	<i>Pecks.</i>
Wheat	3	0	0
Barley	4	0	0
Oats	4	4	0

The products upon the whole are much inferior to those of England, though not more so than I should have expected; not from inferiority of soil, but the extreme inferiority of management. They are not to be considered as points whereon to found a full comparison of the two countries; since a small crop of wheat in England, gained after beans, cloyer, &c. would be of much more importance than a larger one in Ireland by a fallow: And this remark extends to other crops.

Tillage in Ireland is very little understood. In the greatest corn counties, such as Louth, Kildare, Carlow and Kilkenny, where are to be seen many very fine crops of wheat, all is under the old system, exploded by good farmers in England, of sowing wheat upon a fallow, and succeeding it with as many crops of spring corn as the soil will bear. Where they do best by their land, it is only two of barley or oats before the fallow returns again, which is something worse than the open field management in England, of 1. fallow; 2. wheat; 3. oats; to which, while the fields are open and common, the farmers are by cruel necessity tied down. The bounty on the inland carriage of corn to Dublin has increased tillage very considerably, but it has no where introduced any other system. And to this extreme bad management of adopting the exploded practice of a century ago, instead of turneps and clover, it is owing, that Ireland, with a soil, acre for acre, much better than England, has its products inferior.

But

But keeping cattle of every sort, is a business so much more adapted to the laziness of the farmer, that it is no wonder the tillage is so bad. It is every where left to the cottars, or to the very poorest of the farmers, who are all utterly unable to make those exertions, upon which alone a vigorous culture of the earth can be founded; and were it not for potatoes, which necessarily prepare for corn, there would not be half of what we see at present. While it is in such hands, no wonder tillage is reckoned so unprofitable; profit in all undertakings depends on capital, and is it any wonder that the profit should be small when the capital is nothing at all? Every man that has one gets into cattle, which will give him an idle, lazy, superintendence, instead of an active attentive one.

That the *system* of tillage has improved very little, much as it has been extended in the last fourteen years, there is great reason to believe, from the very small increase in the import of clover seed, which would have doubled and trebled, had tillage got into the train it ought. This the following table proves.

Import of Clover seed.		Cwt.
In the year 1764	—	2990
1765	—	2798
1766	—	3654
1767	—	1479
1768	—	4476
1769	—	2483
1770	—	5563
Average of seven years	—	3349
1771	—	4083
1772	—	2956
1773	—	2820
1774	—	3085
1775	—	3910
1776	—	4648
1777	—	5988
Average of seven years *	—	3927

* Taken from the Records of imports and exports kept by order of the House of Commons.

S E C T I O N V.

Of the Tenantry of Ireland.

IT has been probably owing to the small value of land in Ireland before, and even through a considerable part of the present century, that landlords became so careless of the interests of posterity, as readily to grant their tenants leases for ever. It might also be partly owing to the unfortunate civil wars, and other intestine divisions, which for so long a space of time kept that unhappy country in a state rather of devastation than improvement. When a castle, or a fortified house, and a family strong enough for a garrison, were essentially necessary to the security of life and property among protestants, no man could occupy land unless he had substance for defence as well as cultivation; short, or even determinable tenures were not encouragement enough for settling in such a situation of warfare. To increase the force of an estate leases for ever were given of lands, which from their waste state were deemed of little value. The practice once become common, continued long after the motives which originally gave rise to it, and has not yet ceased entirely in any part of the kingdom. Hence, therefore, tenants holding large tracts of land under a lease for ever, and which have been relet to a variety of under-tenants, must in this enquiry be considered as landlords.

The obvious distinction to be applied is, that of the occupying and unoccupying tenantry: in other words, the real farmer, and the middle man. The very idea, as well as the practice, of permitting a tenant to relet at a profit rent, seems confined to the distant and unimproved parts of every empire. In the highly cultivated counties of England the practice has no existence, but there are traces of it in the extremities; in Scotland it has been very common; and I am informed that the same observation is partly applicable to France. In proportion as any country becomes improved the practice necessarily wears out.

It is in Ireland a question greatly agitated, whether the system has or has not advantages, which may yet induce a landlord to continue in it. The friends to this mode of letting lands contend, that the extreme poverty of the lower classes renders them such an insecure tenantry, that no gentleman of fortune can depend on the least punctuality in the payment of rent from such people; and therefore to let a large farm to some intermediate person of substance, at a lower rent, in order that the profit may be his inducement and reward for becoming a collector from the immediate occupiers, and answerable for their punctuality, becomes necessary to any person who will not submit to the drudgery of such a minute attention. Also, that such a man will at least improve a spot around

his own residence, whereas the mere cottar can do nothing. If the intermediate tenant is, or from the accumulation of several farms becomes, a man of property, the same argument is applicable to his reletting to another intermediate man, giving up a part of his profit to escape that trouble, which induced the landlord to begin this system, and at the same time accounts for the number of tenants, one under another, who have all a profit out of the rent of the occupying farmer. In the variety of conversations on this point, of which I have partook in Ireland, I never heard any other arguments that had the least foundation in the actual state of the country; for as to ingenious theories, which relate more to what might be, than to what is, little regard should be paid to them.

That a man of substance, whose rent is not only secure, but regularly paid, is in many respects a more eligible tenant than a poor cottar, or little farmer, cannot be disputed, if the landlord looks no farther than those circumstances the question is at an end, for the argument must be allowed to have its full weight even to victory. But there are many other considerations: I was particularly attentive to every class of tenants throughout the kingdom, and shall therefore describe these middle men, from whence their merit may be the more easily decided. Sometimes they are resident on a part of the land, but very often they are not. Dublin, Bath, London, and the country towns of Ireland, contain great numbers of them; the merit of this class is surely ascertained in a moment; there cannot be a shadow of a pretence for the intervention of a man, whose single concern with an estate is to deduct a portion from the rent of it. They are however sometimes resident on a part of the land they hire, where it is natural to suppose they would work some improvements; it is however very rarely the case. I have in different parts of the kingdom seen farms just fallen in after leases of three lives, of the duration of fifty, sixty, and even seventy years, in which the residence of the principal tenant was not to be distinguished from the cottared fields surrounding it. I was at first much surprized at this, but after repeated observation, I found these men very generally were the masters of packs of wretched hounds, with which they wasted their time and money, and it is a notorious fact, that they are the hardest drinkers in Ireland. Indeed the class of the small country gentlemen, chiefly consisting of these profit renters, seem at present to monopolize that drinking spirit, which was, not many years ago, the disgrace of the kingdom at large: this I conjecture to be the reason why those who might improve are so very far from doing it; but there are still greater objections to them.

Living upon the spot, surrounded by their little undertenants, they prove the most oppressive species of tyrant that ever lent assistance to the destruction of a country. They relet the land, at short tenures, to the occupiers of small farms; and often give no leases at all. Not satisfied with screwing

up the rent to the uttermost farthing, they are rapacious and relentless in the collection of it. Many of them have defended themselves in conversation with me, upon the plea of taking their rents, partly in kind, when their undertenants are much distressed: "What," say they, "would the head landlord, suppose him a great nobleman, do with a miserable cottar, who, disappointed in the sale of a heifer, a few barrels of corn, or firkins of butter, brings his five instead of his ten guineas? But we can favour him by taking his commodities at a fair price, and wait for reimbursement until the market rises. Can my lord do that?" A very common plea, but the most unfortunate that could be used to any one who ever remarked that portion of human nature which takes the garb of an Irish land jobber! For upon what issue does this remark place the question? Does it not acknowledge, that calling for their rents, when they cannot be paid in cash, they take the substance of the debtor at the very moment when he can not sell it to another? Can it be necessary to ask what the price is? It is at the option of the creditor; and the miserable culprit meets his oppression, perhaps his ruin in the very action that is trumpeted as a favour to him. It may seem harsh to attribute a want of feeling to any class of men; but let not the reader misapprehend me; it is the *situation*, not the *man*, that I condemn. An injudicious system places a great number of persons, not of any liberal rank in life, in a state abounding with a variety of opportunities of oppression, every act of which is profitable to themselves. I am afraid it is human nature for men to fail in such posts; and I appeal to the experience of mankind, in other lines of life, whether it is ever found advantageous to a poor debtor to sell his products, or wares, to his richer creditor, at the moment of demand.

But farther; the dependance of the occupier on the resident middle man goes to other circumstances, personal service of themselves, their cars and horses, is exacted for leading turf, hay, corn, gravel, &c. insomuch that the poor undertenants often lose their own crops and turf, from being obliged to obey these calls of their superiors. Nay, I have even heard these jobbers gravely assert, that without undertenants to furnish cars and teams at half or two-thirds the common price of the country, they could carry on no improvements at all; yet taking a merit to themselves for works wrought out of the sweat and ruin of a pack of wretches, assigned to their plunder by the inhumanity of the landholders.

In a word, the case is reducible to a short compass; intermediate tenants work no improvements; if non-resident they *cannot*, and if resident they *do not*; but they oppress the occupiers, and render them as incapable as they are themselves unwilling. The kingdom is an aggregate proof of these facts; for if long leases, at low rents, and profit incomes

given, would have improved it, Ireland had long ago been a garden. It remains to enquire, whether the landlord's security is a full recompence for so much mischief.

But here it is proper to observe, that though the intermediate man is generally better security than the little occupier; yet it is not from thence to be concluded, as I have often heard it, that the latter is beyond all comparison beneath him in this respect; the contrary is often the case; and I have known the fact, that the landlord, disappointed of his rent, has *drove* (distraigned) the undertenants for it at a time when they had actually paid it to the middle man. If the profit rent is spent, as it very generally is in claret and hounds, the notion of good security will prove visionary, as many a landlord in Ireland has found it: several very considerable ones have assured me, that the little occupiers were the *best* pay they had on their estates; and the intermediate *gentlemen* tenants by much the *worst*.

By the minutes of the journey it appears, that a very considerable part of the kingdom, and the most enlightened landlords in it, have discarded this injurious system, and let their farms to none but the occupying tenantry; their experience has proved, that the apprehension of a want of security was merely ideal, finding their rents much better paid than ever. At the last extremity, it is the occupier's stock which is the real security of the landlord. It is that he distrains, and finds abundantly more valuable than the laced hat, hounds and pistols of the gentleman jobber, from whom he is more likely in such a case to receive a *message*, than a remittance.

And here let me observe, that a defence of intermediate tenants has been founded upon the circumstance of lessening the remittance of absentee rents; the profit of the middle man was spent in Ireland; whereas upon his dismissal the whole is remitted to England. I admit this to be an evil, but it appears to be in no degree proportioned to the mischiefs I have dwelt on. It is always to be remembered, that in the arrangement of landed property, the *produce* is the great object; the system of letting, which encourages most the occupying tenant, will always be the most advantageous to the community. I think I have proved that the middle man oppresses the cottar, incomparably more than the principal landlord; to the one he is usually tenant at will, or at least under short terms, but under the other has the most advantageous tenure. This single point, that the person most favoured is in one instance an idle burthen, and in the other the industrious occupier, sufficiently decides the superiority. To look therefore at the rent, after it is paid, is to put the question on a wrong issue; the payment of that rent, by means of ample products, arising from animated industry, is the only point deserving attention; and I had rather the whole of it should go to the antipodes, than exact it in a manner that shall cramp that industry, and lessen those products.

When

When therefore it is considered, that no advantages to the estate can arise from a non-resident tenant, and that a resident intermediate one improves no more than the poor occupiers who are prevented by his oppressions, that the landlord often gains little or nothing in security from employing them, but that he suffers a prodigious deduction in his rental for mere expectations, which every hour's experience proves to be delusive. When these facts are duly weighed, it is presumed, that the gentlemen in those parts of the kingdom, which yet groans under such a system of absurdity, folly and oppression, will follow the example set by such a variety of intelligent landlords, and be deaf to the deceitful asseverations with which their ears are assailed, to treat the anecdotes retailed of the cottar's poverty, with the contempt they deserve, when coming from the mouth of a jobber; when these bloodsuckers of the poor tenantry boast of their own improvements, to open their eyes and view the ruins which are dignified by such a term, and finally determine, as friends to themselves, to their posterity and their country, **TO LET THEIR ESTATES TO NONE BUT THE OCCUPYING TENANTRY.**

Having thus described the tenants that ought to be rejected, let me next mention the circumstances of the occupiers. The variety of these is very great in Ireland. In the North, where the linen manufacture has spread, the farms are so small, that ten acres in the occupation of one person is a large one, five or six will be found a good farm, and all the agriculture of the country so entirely subservient to the manufacture, that they no more deserve the name of farmers than the occupier of a mere cabbage garden. In Limerick, Tipperary, Clare, Meath and Waterford, there are to be found the greatest graziers and cow-keepers perhaps in the world, some who rent and occupy from 3000l. to 10,000l. a year: these of course are men of property, and are the only occupiers in the kingdom, who have any considerable substance. The effects are not so beneficial as might be expected. Rich graziers in England, who have a little tillage, usually manage it well, and are in other respects attentive to various improvements, though it must be confessed not in the same proportion with great arable farmers; but in Ireland these men are as errant slovens as the most beggarly cottars. The rich lands of Limerick are in respect of fences, drains, buildings, weeds, &c. in as waste a state as the mountains of Kerry; the fertility of nature is so little seconded, that few tracts yield less pleasure to the spectator. From what I observed, I attributed this to the idleness and dissipation so general in Ireland. These graziers are too apt to attend to their claret as much as their bullocks, live expensively, and being enabled, from the nature of their business, to pass nine-tenths of the year without any exertion of industry, contract such a habit of ease, that works of improvement would be mortifying to their sloth.

In the arable counties of Louth, part of Meath, Kildare, Kilkenny, Carlow, Queen's, and part of King's, and Tipperary, they are much more industrious. It is the nature of tillage, to raise a more regular and animated attention to business; but the farms are too small, and the tenants too poor, to exhibit any appearances that can strike an English traveller. They have a great deal of corn, and many fine wheat crops; but being gained at the expence and loss of a fallow, as in the open fields of England, they do not suggest the ideas of profit to the individual, or advantage to the state, which worse crops in a well appointed rotation would do. Their manuring is trivial, their tackle and implements wretched, their teams weak, their profit small, and their living little better than that of the cottars they employ. These circumstances are the necessary result of the smallness of their capitals, which even in these tillage counties do not usually amount to a third of what an English farmer would have to manage the same extent of land. The leases of these men are usually three lives to protestants, and thirty-one years to catholics.

The tenantry in the more unimproved parts, such as Corke, Wicklow, Longford, and all the mountainous counties, where it is part tillage, and part pasturage, are generally in a very backward state. Their capitals are smaller than the class I just mentioned, and among them is chiefly found the practice of many poor cottars hiring large farms in partnership. They make their rents by a little butter, a little wool, a little corn, and a few young cattle and lambs. Their lands at extreme low rents, are the most unimproved, (mountain and bog excepted,) in the kingdom. They have, however, more industry than capital; and with a very little management, might be brought greatly to improve their husbandry. I think they hold more generally from intermediate tenants than any other set; one reason why the land they occupy is in so waste a state. In the mountainous tracts, I saw instances of greater industry than in any other part of Ireland. Little occupiers, who can get leases of a mountain side, make exertions in improvement, which, though far enough from being complete, or accurate, yet prove clearly what great effects encouragement would have among them.

In the King's county, and also in some other parts, I saw many tracts of land, not large enough to be relet, which were occupied under leases for ever, very well planted and improved by men of substance and industry.

The poverty, common among the small occupying tenantry, may be pretty well ascertained from their general conduct in hiring a farm. They will manage to take one with a sum surprizingly small; they provide labour, which in England is so considerable an article, by assigning portions of land to cottars for their potatoe gardens, and keeping one or two cows for

for each of them. To lessen the live stock necessary, they will, whenever the neighbourhood enables them, take in the cattle at so much per month, or season, of any person that is deficient in pasturage at home, or of any labourers that have no land. Next, they will let out some old lay for grass potatoes to such labourers; and if they are in a county where corn acres are known, they will do the same with some corn land. If there is any meadow on their farm, they will sell a part of it as the hay grows. By all these means the necessity of a full stock is very much lessened, and by means of living themselves in the very poorest manner, and converting every pig, fowl, and even egg into cash, they will make up their rent, and get by very slow degrees into somewhat better circumstances. Where it is the custom to take in partnership, the difficulties are easier got over, for one man brings a few sheep, another a cow, a third a horse, a fourth a car and some seed potatoes, a fifth a few barrels of corn, and so on, until the farm among them is tolerably stocked, and hands upon it in plenty for the labour.

But it is from the whole evident, that they are uncommon masters of the art of overcoming difficulties by patience and contrivance. Travellers, who take a superficial view of them are apt to think their poverty and wretchedness, viewed in the light of farmers, greater than they are. Perhaps there is an impropriety in considering a man merely as the occupier of such a quantity of land, and that instead of the land, his capital should be the object of contemplation. Give the farmer of twenty acres in England no more capital than his brother in Ireland, and I will venture to say he will be much poorer, for he would be utterly unable to go on at all.

I shall conclude what I have to say upon this subject, with stating, in few words, what I think would prove a very advantageous conduct in landlords towards the poor tenantry of the kingdom, and I shall do this with the greater readiness, as I speak not only as a passing traveller, but from a year's residence among several hundred tenants, whose circumstances and situation I had particular opportunities of observing.

Let me remark, that the power and influence of a resident landlord is so great in Ireland, that whatever system he adopts be it well or ill imagined, he is much more able to introduce and accomplish it than Englishmen can well have an idea of; consequently, one may suppose him to determine more authoritatively than a person in a similar situation in this kingdom could do. The first object, is a settled determination never to be departed from, to let his farms only to the immediate occupier of the land, and to avoid deceit not to allow a cottar, herdsman, or steward, to have more than three or four acres on any of his farms. By no means to reject the little occupier of a few acres from being a tenant to himself, rather than annex his land to a larger spot. Having by this previous step, eased these inferior tenantry of the burden of the intermediate

diate man, let him give out, and steadily adhere to it, that he shall insist on the regular and punctual payment of his rent, but shall take no personal service whatever. The meanest occupier to have a lease, and none shorter than twenty-one years, which I am inclined also to believe is long enough for his advantage. There will arise, in spite of his tenderness, a necessity of securing a regular payment of rent: I would advise him to distrain without favour or affection, at a certain period of deficiency. This will appear harsh only upon a superficial consideration. The object is to establish the system, but it will fall before it is on its legs, if founded on a landlord's forgiving arrears, or permitting them to encrease. He need not be apprehensive, since they, who can under disadvantages, pay the *jobber*, can certainly pay the *landlord* himself, when freed from those incumbrances. At all events, let him persist in this firmness, though it be the ruin of a few; for he must remember, that if he ruins five, he assuredly saves ten: he will, it is true, know the fall of a few, but many with an intermediate tenant might be destroyed without his knowing it. Such a steady regular conduct would infallibly have its effect, in animating all the tenantry of the estate to exert every nerve to be punctual; whereas favour shewn now and then would make every one, the least inclined to remissness, hope for its exertion towards himself, and every partial good would be attended with a diffusive evil; exceptions however to be made for very great and unavoidable misfortunes, clearly and undoubtedly proved. This stern administration on the one hand should be accompanied on the other with every species of encouragement to those, who shewed the least disposition to improve; premiums should be given, rewards adjudged, difficulties smoothed, and notice taken, in the most flattering manner, of those whose conduct merited it. I shall in another part of these papers point out, in detail, the advantageous systems; it is here only requisite to observe, that whatever novelties a landlord wishes to introduce, he should give seed gratis, and be at a part of the expence, promising to be at the whole loss, if he is well satisfied it is really incurred. From various observations I am convinced, that such a conduct would very rarely prove unsuccessful. The profit to a landlord would be immense; he would in the course of a lease find his tenantry paying a high rent, with greater ease to themselves, than they before yielded a low one.

A few considerable landlords, many years ago, made the experiment of fixing, at great expence, colonies of palatines on their estates. Some of them I viewed, and made many enquiries. The scheme did not appear to me to answer. They had houses built for them; plots of land assigned to each at a rent of favour, assisted in stock, and all of them with leases for lives from the head landlord. The poor Irish are very rarely
treated

treated in this manner ; and when they are, they work much greater improvements than common among these Germans ; witness Sir William Osborne's mountaineers ! a few beneficial practices were introduced, but never travelled beyond their own farms ; they were viewed with eyes too envious to allow them to be patterns, and it was human nature that it should be so : but encourage a few of your own poor, and if their practices thrive they will spread. I am convinced no country, whatever state it may be in, can be improved by colonies of foreigners, and whatever foreigner, as a superintendant of any great improvement, asks for colonies of his own countrymen to execute his ideas, manifests a mean genius and but little knowledge of the human heart ; if he has talents he will find tools wherever he finds men, and make the natives of the country the means of encreasing their own happiness. Whatever he does then, will live and take root ; but if effected by foreign hands, it will prove a sickly and short lived exotic ; brilliant perhaps, for a time, in the eyes of the ignorant, but of no solid advantage to the country that employs him.

SECTION VI.

Of the Labouring Poor.

SUCH is the weight of the lower classes in the great scale of national importance, that a traveller can never give too much attention to every circumstance that concerns them ; their welfare forms the broad basis of public prosperity ; it is they that feed, cloath, enrich, and fight the battles of all the other ranks of a community ; it is their being able to support these various burthens without oppression, which constitutes the general felicity ; in proportion to their ease is the strength and wealth of nations, as public debility will be the certain attendant on their misery. Convinced that to be ignorant of their state and situation, in different countries, is to be deficient in the first rudiments of political knowledge. I have upon every occasion, made the necessary enquiries, to get the best information circumstances would allow me. What passes daily, and even hourly, before our eyes, we are very apt entirely to overlook ; hence the surprizing inattention of various people to the food, cloathing, possessions and state of the poor, even in their own neighbourhood ; many a question have I put to gentlemen upon these points, which were not answered without having recourse to the next cabbın ; a source of information the more necessary, as I found upon various occasions, that some gentlemen in Ireland are infected with the rage of adopting *systems* as well as those of England : with one party the poor are all starving, with the other they are deemed in a very tolerable situation, and a third, who look with an evil eye on the administration of the British government, are fond of exclaiming at poverty and rags, as proofs of the cruel treat-

ment of Ireland. When truth is likely to be thus warped, a traveller must be very circumspect to *believe*, and very assiduous to *see*.

<i>Places.</i>	<i>Rent of cabbie and garden.</i>	<i>Cows grafs rent.</i>	<i>Cows per family.</i>
Dublin,	1 8 0		
Celbridge,	2 0 0		
Dollestown,	2 0 0		
Summerhill,			1 or 2
Slaine,	2 0 0	2 0 0	
Packenham,	1 10 0		
Tullamore,	2 0 0		
Shaen Castle,	1 5 0	1 5 0	
Ballynakill,	1 0 0	1 10 0	
Kilfaine,	3 3 0		1
Bargy and Forth,	3 0 0		1
Mount Kennedy,	2 10 0		1
Kilrue,	1 10 0	1 10 0	
Hampton,	2 10 0	1 10 0	2
Warrentown,	1 10 0	1 10 0	
Lecale,	2 2 0		
Castle Caldwell,	1 0 0	1 10 0	2
Longford,	1 10 0	1 10 0	all
Strokestown,	1 0 0	1 2 0	
Mercra,	1 0 0	1 10 0	
Moniva,	1 10 0		
Woodlawn,			3
Limerick,	1 0 0		
Mallow,	1 10 0	2 2 0	all
Dunkettle,	1 12 6		
Coolmore,	1 0 0		
Nedeen,	1 2 9	2 0 0	
Adair,	2 5 6		
Castle Oliver,	2 0 0	2 2 6	
Tipperary,	3 0 0	2 2 0	
Ballycanvan,	1 10 0	1 7 0	
Glofter,	1 10 0	1 5 0	
Johnstown,	1 0 0	1 0 0	
Derry,	1 10 0	1 10 0	
Mitchell's Town,	1 10 0	1 10 0	
Average,	1 13 10	1 11 3	

From the minutes of the journey it will be found, that there is no determinate quantity of land for the potatoe garden; it is usually an acre; sometimes half an acre, and sometimes one acre and a half; but according to the soil, that quantity which is understood (right or wrong) to be necessary, is called the garden. The grass for a cow is for the green food only, the cottar himself finds or buys hay. From the blanks in the number of cows it is not to be implied that they have none, but that the information was not received.

But it is necessary here to explain the common cottar system of labour in Ireland, which much resembles that of Scotland until very lately, and which was probably the same all over Europe before arts and commerce changed the face of it. If there are cabbins on a farm they are the residence of the cottars, if there are none the farmer marks out the potatoe gardens, and the labourers, who apply to him on his hiring the land, raise their own cabbins on such spots; in some places the farmer builds; in others he only assists them with the roof, &c. a verbal compact is then made, that the new cottar shall have his potatoe garden at such a rent, and one or two cows kept him at the price of the neighbourhood, he finding the cows. He then works with the farmer at the rate of the place, usually sixpence halfpenny a day, a tally being kept (half by each party) and a notch cut for every day's labour: at the end of six months, or a year, they reckon, and the balance is paid. The cottar works for himself as his potatoes require.

The rates of	£1 13 10
And,	1 11 3
	<hr style="width: 100%; border: 0.5px solid black;"/>
Forming together	3 5 1

for milk and potatoes appear to be very reasonable; if two cows are kept, it is only 4l. 16s. 4d. from whence it is evident, as far merely as this charge goes, there is no oppression upon them which can ever amount to starving. In particular instances, where there is much inhumanity in the greater tenants, they are made to pay too high a rent for their gardens; and though the price, at which their cows are supported, may not appear high, yet they may so poorly be kept as to make it very unreasonable. I believe, from what I saw, that such instances are not uncommon.

Places.	P O T A T O E S.					
	Expence per acre.	Produce Barrels.	Price per Barrel.	Produce value.	Prime cost.	Rent potatoe ground.
Dublin,		65				
Celbridge,		100	5 0			8 0 0
Dollestown,	15 15 0	60		15 15 0	5 0	5 12 6
Summerhill,		80				6 3 0
Slain Castle,	12 4 0	64	3 6	11 4 0	4 0	4 10 0
Headfort,		85				4 10 0
Packenham,	10 10 0	80			2 6	5 0 0
Mullingar to Tul- lespace,		60				
Tullimore,						6 0 0
General Walfh,		176				
Near Athy,	8 14 2	80	3 4	13 7 0	2 2	
Ballynakill,	10 16 0	60	4 6		3 6	
Kilfaine,	5 4 0	40				
Prospect,		80	5 0			
Ardmagh,		45				
Warrenstown,		40				
Shaen Castle,		87				
Lesly Hill,	7 7 0	80	4 0	16 0 0	1 10	
North of ditto,	8 5 6	75	4 0	15 0 0	2 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Newton Limavad- dy,				10 0 0		
Florence court,	7 7 5			12 16 0		
Farnham,	13 0 4	60	7 6	22 10 0	4 4	
Longford,		120	8 0			
Strokestown,		50	8 0	20 0 0		5 5 0
Mercra,	7 4 4			7 10 0		5 0 0
Westport,	5 13 0			12 0 0		
Holymount,						3 15 0
Moniva,		50	4 0	10 0 0		
Woodlawn,		60	4 0	12 0 0		
Drumoland,		100				
Annsgrove,						1 17 6
Mallow,		42				
Dunkettle,		50				4 15 0
Castle Martyr,	6 4 0	70	3 0	10 10 0	1 9	
Coolmore,		50				
Adair,		60	8 0	24 0 0		6 16 6
Castle Oliver,	15 3 2	150	4 0	30 0 0	2 0	4 10 0
Tipperary,		90	5 0			6 0 0
Ballycavan,		60				
Furness,	14 0 0	100	5 0	15 0 0	2 9	
Gloster,	11 5 2	100	3 4	16 13 4	2 3	6 8 0
Johnstown,	11 0 6	90	4 0	18 0 0	2 5	7 0 0
Derry,		35				4 5 0
Cullen,	10 11 8	120	3 0	18 0 0	1 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	6 0 0
Michelftown,	6 0 7	60	4 4	13 0 0	2 0	

Cunningham Acre reduced.

<i>Places.</i>	P O T A T O E S.					
	<i>Expence per acre.</i>	<i>Product Barrels.</i>	<i>Price per Barrel.</i>	<i>Produce value.</i>	<i>Prime cost.</i>	<i>Rent potatoe ground.</i>
Ardmagh,		58				
Warrenstown,		51				
Shaen Castle,		112				
Lefly Hill,	9 90	103	4 0	20 11 0	1 10	
Ditto,	10 12 0	96	4 0	19 5 0	2 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	
<i>English Acre Reduced.</i>						
Mallow,		67				
Dunkettle,		80				7 12 0
Castle Martyr,	9 18 0	112	3 0	16 16 0	1 9	
Coolmore,		80				
Averages,	10 4 9	82	4 9	16 12 6	2 7 $\frac{1}{2}$	5 10 2
Averages per English acre.	6 7 6	52	4 9	10 7 0	2 7 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 8 6

These tables together will enable the reader to have a pretty accurate idea of the expences at which the poor in Ireland are fed. The first column is the total expence of an acre of potatoes, the third is the price at which potatoes are bought and sold, for feed, or food. The prime cost is the price formed by the first and second columns, being the rate at which they are eaten by those who raise them. The last column requires rather more explanation to those who were never in that country. There are a great many cabbins, usually by the road side, or in the ditch, which have no potatoe gardens at all. Ireland being free from the curse of English poor laws, the people move about the country and settle where they will. A wandering family will fix themselves under a dry bank, and with a few sticks, furze, fern, &c. make up a hovel much worse than an English pigstie, support themselves how they can, by work, begging and stealing; if the neighbourhood wants hands, or takes no notice of them, the hovel grows into a cabbin. In my rides about Mitchelstown, I have passed places in the road one day, without any appearance of a habitation, and next morning found a hovel, filled with a man and woman, six or eight children, and a pig. These people are not kept by any body as cottars, but are taken at busy seasons by the day or week, and paid in money, consequently having no potatoe garden, they are necessitated every year, to hire a spot of some neighbouring farmer, and of the preceding table, the last column, is the rent per acre paid for

for it. The cabbins in little towns are in the same situation.

I think 5l. 10s. 2d. for liberty to plant a crop so beneficial to the land as potatoes, a very extravagant rent, and by no means upon a fair level with the other circumstances of the poor. The prime cost of two shillings and seven pence half-penny per barrel, generally of twenty stone, being equal to about eight-pence the bushel of seventy pounds, is not a high price for the root, yet might it be much lower, if they gave up their lazy bad method of culture, and adopted that of the plough, for the average produce of three hundred twenty eight bushels, or eighty-two barrels per acre, compared with crops in England, is perfectly insignificant, yet to gain this miserable produce, much old lay, and nineteen-twentieths of all the dung in the kingdom is employed. A total alteration in this point is therefore much to be wished.

Relative to the cottar system wherever it is found, it may be observed that the recompence for labour is *the means of living*. In England these are dispensed in money, but in Ireland in land or commodities. In the former country paying the poor with any thing but money has been found so oppressive, that various and repeated statutes have been made to prohibit it. Is it to be considered in the same light in Ireland? this is a question which involves many considerations. First let me remark that the two modes of payment prohibited in England, but common in Ireland, are not exactly the same, though upon similar principles. In England it is the payment of manufacturing labourers in necessaries, as bread, candles, soap, &c. In Ireland it is a quantity of land for the support of a labourer a year. The former, it must strike every one, is more open to abuse, involving more complex accounts than the latter. The great question is, which system is most advantageous to the poor family, the payment to be in land for potatoes and milk, or in money, supposing the payment to be fairly made: here lies the discussion.

On one hand the Irish labourer in every circumstance which gives him any appearance of plenty, the possession of cattle is subjected to chances which must be heavy in proportion to his poverty; ill fed cattle, we know from the experience of English commons are very far from being so advantageous to a man as they first seem; accidents happen without a resource to supply the loss, and leave the man much worse than him who being paid in money is independant of such events. But to reverse the medal, there appear advantages, and very great ones by being paid in land, he has plenty of articles of the utmost importance to the sustenance of a family, potatoes and milk. Generally speaking the Irish poor have a fair belly full of potatoes, and they have milk the greatest part of the year. What I would particularly insist on here is the value of his labour being food not money; food not for himself only, but for his wife and children. An Irishman loves whiskey as well

as an Englishman does strong beer ; but he cannot go on Saturday night to the whiskey house, and drink out the week's support of himself, his wife and his children, not uncommon in the ale-house of the Englishman. It may indeed be said that we should not argue against a mode of payment because it may be abused, which is very true, but we certainly may reason against that which carries in its very principles the seed of abuse. That the Irishman's cow may be ill fed is admitted, but ill fed as it is, it is better than the no cow of the Englishman ; the children of the Irish cabin are nourished with milk, which, small as the quantity may be, is far preferable to the beer or vile tea which is the beverage of the English infant, for no where but in a town is milk to be bought. Farther, in a country where bread, cheese or meat are the common food, it is consumed with great œconomy, and kept under lock and key where the children can have no resort ; but the case with potatoes is different, they are in greater plenty, the children help themselves ; they are scarce ever seen about a cabin without being in the act of eating them, it is their employment all day long. Another circumstance not to be forgotten, is the regularity of the supply. The crop of potatoes, and the milk of the cow is more regular in Ireland than the *price* at which the Englishman buys his food. In England complaints rise even to riots when the rates of provisions are high ; but in Ireland the poor have nothing to do with prices, they depend not on prices, but crops of a vegetable very regular in its produce. Attend the English labourer when he is in sickness, he must then have resort to his savings, but those will be nought among nine-tenths of the poor of a country that have a legal dependance on the parish, which therefore is the best off, the Englishman supported by the parish, or the Irishman by his potatoe-bed and cow ?

Money I am ready enough to grant has many advantages, but they depend almost entirely on the prudence with which it is expended. They know little of the human mind who suppose that the poor man with his seven or eight shillings on a Saturday night has not his temptations to be imprudent as well as his superior with as many hundreds or thousands a year. He has his alehouse, his brandy shop, and skittle ground, as much as the other his ball, opera or masquerade. Examine the state of the English poor, and see if facts do not co-incide here with theory ; do we not see numbers of half starved, and half cloathed families owing to the superfluities of ale and brandy, tea and sugar. An Irishman cannot do this in any degree, he can neither drink whiskey from his potatoes, nor milk it from his cow.

But after all that can be said on this subject, the custom of both countries is consistent with their respective circumstances and situations. When great wealth from immense branches of industry has brought on a rapid circulation, and much of
what

what is commonly called luxury, the more simple mode of paying labour with land can scarcely hold. It does not, however, follow that the poor are in that respect better off, other advantages of a different kind attend the evils of such a situation, among which, perhaps, the employment of the wife and all the children, are the greatest. In such a country, also markets and shops will be established in every corner, where the poor may buy their necessaries without difficulty; but in Ireland there are neither one nor the other; the labourer there with his pay in his pocket would find nothing readily but whisky.

I have gone into this enquiry in order to satisfy the people of Ireland, that the mode there common of paying the labouring poor is consistent with the situation of the kingdom: whether it is good or bad, or better or worse than that of England, it is what will necessarily continue until a great increase of national wealth has introduced a more general circulation of money, they will then have the English mode with its defects as well as its advantages.

F O O D.

The food of the common Irish, potatoes and milk, have been produced more than once as an instance of the extreme poverty of the country, but this I believe is an opinion embraced with more alacrity than reflection. I have heard it stigmatized as being unhealthy, and not sufficiently nourishing for the support of hard labour, but this opinion is very amazing in a country, many of whose poor people are as athletic in their form, as robust, and as capable of enduring labour as any upon earth. The idleness seen among many when working for those who oppress them is a very contrast to the vigour and activity with which the same people work when themselves alone reap the benefit of their labour. To what country must we have recourse for a stronger instance than lime carried by little miserable mountaineers thirty miles on horses backs to the foot of their hills, and up the steeps on their own. When I see the people of a country in spite of political oppression with well formed vigorous bodies, and their cottages swarming with children; when I see their men athletic, and their women beautiful, I know not how to believe them subsisting on an unwholesome food.

At the same time, however, that both reason and observation convince me of the justice of these remarks, I will candidly allow that I have seen such an excess in the laziness of great numbers, even when working for themselves, and such an apparent weakness in their exertions when encouraged to work, that I have had my doubts of the heartiness of their food. But here arise fresh difficulties, were their food ever so nourishing I can easily conceive an habitual inactivity of exertion would give them an air of debility compared with a

more

more industrious people. Though my residence in Ireland was not long enough to become a perfect master of the question, yet I have employed from twenty to fifty men for several months, and found their habitual laziness or weakness so great, whether working by measure or by day, that I am absolutely convinced 1s. 6d. and even 2s. a day in Suffolk or Hertfordshire much cheaper than sixpence halfpenny at Mitchelstown; It would not be fair to consider this as a representation of the kingdom, that place being remarkably backward in every species of industry and improvement; but I am afraid this observation would hold true in a less degree for the whole. But is this owing to habit or food? Granting their food to be the cause, it decides very little against potatoes, unless they were tried with good nourishing beer instead of their vile potations of whisky. When they are encouraged, or animate themselves to work hard, it is all by whisky, which though it has a notable effect in giving a perpetual motion to their tongues, can have but little of that invigorating substance which is found in strong beer or porter, probably it has an effect as pernicious, as the other is beneficial. One circumstance I should mention, which seems to confirm this: I have known the Irish reapers in Hertfordshire work as laboriously as any of our own men, and living upon potatoes which they procured from London, but drinking nothing but ale. If their bodies are weak I attribute it to whisky, not potatoes; but it is still a question with me whether their miserable working arises from any such weakness, or from an habitual laziness. A friend of mine always refused Irishmen work in Surrey, saying his bailiff could do nothing but settle their quarrels.

But of this food there is one circumstance which must ever recommend it, they have a belly full, and that let me add is more than the superfluities of an Englishman leaves to his family: let any person examine minutely into the receipt and expenditure of an English cottage, and he will find that tea, sugar and strong liquors, can come only from pinched bellies. I will not assert that potatoes are a better food than bread and cheese; but I have no doubt of a bellyfull of the one being much better than half a bellyfull of the other; still less have I that the milk of the Irishman is incomparably better than the small beer, gin, or tea of the Englishman; and this even for the father, how much better must it be for the poor infants; milk to them is nourishment, is health, is life.

If any one doubts the comparative plenty, which attends the board of a poor native of England and Ireland, let him attend to their meals: the sparingness with which our labourer eats his bread and cheese is well known; mark the Irishman's potatoe bowl placed on the floor, the whole family upon their hams around it, devouring a quantity almost incredible, the beggar seating himself to it with a hearty welcome, the pig taking his share as readily as the wife, the cocks, hens, tur-

kies, geese, the cur, the cat, and perhaps the cow—and all partaking of the same dish. No man can often have been a witness of it without being convinced of the plenty, and I will add the cheerfulness, that attends it.

Is it, or is it not a matter of consequence, for the great body of the people of a country, to subsist upon that species of food which is produced in the greatest quantity by the smallest space of land? One need only state, in order to answer the question. It certainly is an object of the highest consequence, what in this respect is the comparison between wheat or cheese, or meat and potatoes?

The minutes of the journey will enable us to shew this.

- No. 1. At Shaen castle, Queen's county, a barrel of potatoes lasts a family of six persons a week.
 No. 2. At Shaen castle, Antrim, six people eat three bushels, and twenty pounds of oatmeal besides, in a week, twenty pounds of meal are equal to one bushel of potatoes; this therefore is a barrel also.
 No. 3. Leslie hill, a barrel of four bushels six persons a week.
 No. 4. Near Giant's causeway, a barrel six people eight days.
 No. 5. Castle Caldwell, a barrel of eighteen stone six people a week,
 No. 6. Gloster, a barrel five persons a week.
 No. 7. Derry, five persons eat and waste two barrels a week.
 No. 8. Cullen, two barrels six persons a week.

	<i>Barrels.</i>		<i>Persons.</i>		<i>Days.</i>
No. 1	—	1	—	6	7
2	—	1	—	6	7
3	—	1	—	6	7
4	—	1	—	6	8
5	—	1	—	6	7
6	—	1	—	5	7
7	—	2	—	5	7
8	—	2	—	6	7

A barrel is twenty stones, or two hundred and eighty pounds, which is the weight of four English bushels; the average of these accounts is nearly that quantity lasting a family of six people six days, which makes a year's food sixty barrels. Now the average produce of the whole kingdom being eighty-two barrels per acre, plantation measure, one acre does rather more than support eight persons the year through, which is five persons to the English acre. To feed on wheat, those eight persons would require eight quarters, or two Irish acres, which at present, imply two more for fallow, or four in all.

When, however, I speak of potatoes and buttermilk being the food of the poor, the tables already inserted shew, that in some parts of the north that root forms their diet but for a part of

of the year, much oatmeal and some meat being consumed. I need not dwell on this, as there is nothing particular to attend to in it, whereas potatoes, as the staple dependance, is a peculiarity met with in no country but the other parts of Ireland.

C L O A T H I N G.

The common Irish are in general clothed so very indifferently, that it impresses every stranger with a strong idea of universal poverty. Shoes and stockings are scarcely ever found on the feet of children of either sex; and great numbers of men and women are without them: a change however, in this respect as in most others, is coming in, for there are many more of them with those articles of cloathing now than ten years ago.

An Irishman and his wife are much more solicitous to feed than to cloath their children: whereas in England it is surprizing to see the expence they put themselves to, to deck out children whose principal subsistence is tea. Very many of them in Ireland are so ragged that their nakedness is scarcely covered; yet are they in health and active. As to the want of shoes and stockings I consider it as no evil, but a much more cleanly custom than the beastiality of stockings and feet that are washed no oftener than those of our own poor. Women are oftener without shoes than men; and by washing their cloaths no where but in rivers and streams, the cold, especially as they roast their legs in their cabbins till they are *fire* spotted, must swell them to a wonderful size and horrid black and blue colour always met with both in young and old. They stand in rivers and beat the linen against the great stones found there with a beetle.

I remarked generally, that they were not ill dressed of sundays and holidays, and that black or dark blue was almost the universal hue.

H A B I T A T I O N S.

The cottages of the Irish, which are all called cabbins, are the most miserable looking hovels that can well be conceived: they generally consist of only one room: mud kneaded with straw is the common material of the walls; these are rarely above seven feet high, and not always above five or six; they are about two feet thick, and have only a door, which lets in light instead of a window, and should let the smoak out instead of a chimney, but they had rather keep it in: these two conveniencies they hold so cheap, that I have seen them both stopped up in stone cottages, built by improving landlords; the smoak warms them, but certainly is as injurious to their eyes as it is to the complexions of the women, which in general

in the cabbins of Ireland has a near resemblance to that of a smoaked ham. The number of the blind poor I think greater there than in England, which is probably owing to this cause.

The roofs of the cabbins are rafters, raised from the tops of the mud walls, and the covering varies; some are thatched with straw, potatoe stalks, or with heath, others only covered with sods of turf cut from a grass field; and I have seen several that were partly composed of all three; the bad repair these roofs are kept in, a hole in the thatch being often mended with turf, and weeds sprouting from every part, gives them the appearance of a weedy dunghill, especially when the cabin is not built with regular walls, but supported on one, or perhaps on both sides by the banks of a broad dry ditch, the roof then seems a hillock, upon which perhaps the pig grazes. Some of these cabbins are much less and more miserable habitations than I had ever seen in England. I was told they were the worst in Connaught, but I found it an error; I saw many in Leinster to the full as bad, and in Wicklow, some worse than any in Connaught. When they are well roofed, and built not of stones, ill put together, but of mud, they are much warmer, independently of smoke, than the clay, or lath and mortar cottages of England, the walls of which are so thin, that a rat hole lets in the wind to the annoyance of the whole family. The furniture of the cabbins is as bad as the architecture; in very many, consisting only of a pot for boiling their potatoes, a bit of a table, and one or two broken stools; beds are not found universally, the family lying on straw, equally partook of by cows, calves and pigs, though the luxury of sties is coming in in Ireland, which excludes the poor pigs from the warmth of the bodies of their master and mistress: I remarked little hovels of earth thrown up near the cabbins, and in some places they build their turf stacks hollow, in order to afford shelter to the hogs. This is a general description, but the exceptions are very numerous. I have been in a multitude of cabbins that had much useful furniture, and some even superfluous; chairs, tables, boxes, chest of drawers, earthen ware, and in short most of the articles found in a middling English cottage; but upon enquiry, I very generally found that these acquisitions were all made within the last ten years, a sure sign of a rising national prosperity. I think the bad cabbins and furniture the greatest instances of Irish poverty, and this must flow from the mode of payment for labour, which makes cattle so valuable to the peasant, that every farthing they can spare is saved for their purchase: from hence also results another observation, which is, that the apparent poverty of it is greater than the real; for the house of a man that is master of four or five cows, will have scarce any thing but deficiencies; nay, I was in the cabbins of dairymen and farmers, not small ones, whose cabbins

were not at all better, or better furnished than those of the poorest labourer: before, therefore, we can attribute it to absolute poverty, we must take into the account the customs and inclinations of the people. In England a man's cottage will be filled with superfluities before he possesses a cow. I think the comparison much in favour of the Irishman; a hog is a much more valuable piece of goods than a set of tea things; and though his snout in a *crook** of potatoes is an idea not so poetical as

————— *Broken tea cups, wisely kept for shew,
Rang'd o'er the chimney, glisten'd in a row.*

Yet will the cotter and his family, at Christmas, find the solidity of it an ample recompence for the ornament of the other.

L I V E S T O C K .

In every part of the kingdom the common Irish have all sorts of live stock: the tables already inserted shew this in respect of cows. I should add here that pigs are yet more general, and poultry in many parts of the kingdom, especially Leinster, are in such quantities as amazed me, not only cocks and hens, but also geese and turkies; this is owing probably to three circumstances; first, to the plenty of potatoes with which they are fed; secondly, to the warmth of the cabins; and thirdly, to the great quantity of spontaneous white clover (*trifolium repens*) in almost all the fields, which much exceeds any thing we know in England; upon the seeds of this plant the young poultry rear themselves; much is sold, but a considerable portion eaten by the family, probably because they cannot find a market for the whole. Many of the cocks, hens, turkies and geese, have their legs tied together to prevent them from trespassing on the farmers grounds. Indeed all the live stock of the poor man in Ireland is in this sort of thralldom; the horses are all hopping about, the pigs have a rope of straw from around their necks to their hind legs. In the county of down they have an ingenious contrivance for a sheep just to feed down the grass of a ditch, a rope with a stake at each end, and the sheep tied to a ring, through which it passes, so that the animal can move from one end of the rope, to the other, and eat whatever grows within two or three feet of it.

* *The iron pot of an Irish cabin.*

Places.	PRICE OF LABOUR.			Rise in Labour.
	Hay and harvest.	Winter.	Year round.	
	s. d.	s. d.	d.	
Dublin,			10	Twopence in 30 years.
Celbridge,			8	
Kilcock,	1 8	0 8		
Slaine,	1 2		7½	Threepence in 10 years.
Headfort,	0 9	7		
Packenham,	10	6	7½	None.
Tullamore,	8	4	5	None.
Shaen Castle,	10	6	7	Very little.
Carlow,	1 1	7½		One-fifth in 20 years.
Kilfain,	10½	6	7	One-fourth in 20 years.
Taghmon,	1 3	1 0		
Forth,	1 0	0 9	6	A little in 20 years.
Prospect,	10	5		Twopence in 20 years.
Mount Kennedy,	10	8		One-third in 20 years.
Balbriggan,			8½	One-half in 20 years.
Market-hill,	† 8	8	8	Near double in 20 years.
Ardmagh,				One fourth in 20 years.
Warrenstown,	11	8	8	A little.
Portaferry,	10	8	7	
Shaen Castle,	9	8	8½	One-third in 20 years.
Lesly Hill,	1 2		9	Near double in 20 years.
Limmavady,	1 0	8	9	
Innishoen,	7	6	6½	None.
Clonleigh,	† 10		6	One-third in 20 years.
Mount Charles,	7	6		One penny in 20 years.
Castle Caldwell,	7	7	7	
Castle Cool,	† 0	7	7	
Belle Isle,	† 0	† 0	† 6	
Florence Court,	8	6	8	Twopence a day in 20
Farnham,	1 0	6	6	[years.
Strokestown,	† 6	6	6	None.
Ballyna,	6	4	5	One-sixth in 20 years.
Mercra,	8	6	6	
Sortland,	8		5½	
Killala,	6	4½	5½	
Westport,	6	4	5	One-third in 20 years.
Moniva,	6	5		One-sixth in 20 years.

† And board.

Drumoland,

Places.	Hay and barvest.	Winter.	Year round.	Rise in Labour.
	d.	d.	d.	
Drumoland,	6	6	6	None.
Doneraile,	† 8	6½	6½	One-third in 20 years.
Castle Martyr,	8	6	6	One-third in ditto.
Nedeen,	6	6	6	One-third in ditto.
Tarbat,	6	6	6	One-penny in ditto.
Adair,	6	5		One-third in ditto.
Castle Oliver,	6	5	6	One-penny a day in ditto.
Tipperary,	6	5	6	
Curraghmore,	6	5		
Waterford,	6½	6½	6½	
Furness,	8	7		One penny a day.
Gloster,			6	One third in 20 years.
Johnstown,	8	6½	5	Considerable.
Derry,	6½	5		None.
Castle Loyd,			5½	One penny a day.
Mitchel's Town,	6½	6½	6½	1½d. a day in 5 years.
Average,	8¼	6½	6½	1¼ in 20 years.

The rise is very near a fourth in twenty years; and it is remarkable that in my Eastern Tour through England (vol. 4. p. 338.) I found the rise of labour one fourth in eighteen years; from which it appears, that the two kingdoms, in this respect, have been nearly on a par.

Places.	Car- penter.	Ma- son.	Tbat cber.	Places.	Car- penter.	Ma- son.	Tbat cber.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.		s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Dublin,	2 3	2 0		Drumoland,	1 6	1 6	1 0
Lutrel's Town,	2 3	2 0		Donneraile,	1 6	1 6	1 0
Slaine,	2 0	2 0	1 6	Corke,	1 6	1 6	1 6
Packenham,	1 8	1 10		Nedeen,	1 4	1 4	1 0
Shaens Castle,	2 0	2 0		Tarbat,	1 6	1 6	1 0
Kilfain,	1 3	1 3		Castle Oliver,	1 6	1 6	1 0
Forth,	2 0	2 0	2 0	Tipperary,	1 6	1 6	1 6
Prospect,	2 0	2 0	1 0	Curraghmore,	1 9	1 9	0 10
Mount Kennedy,	2 3	2 0		Waterford,	2 0	2 0	0 6
Market Hill,	2 2	1 10		Furness,	2 0	2 0	1 6
Ardmagh,	2 2	2 0		Gloster,	1 6	1 8	
Shaen Castle,	1 9	2 0	3 6	Johnstown,	1 7½	1 7½	
Ljmvady,	2 0	2 0	2 0	Derry,	1 6	1 6	
Clonleigh,	2 0	2 0	5 1	Castle Loyd,	1 8	1 8	1 0
Mount Charles,	2 2	2 2	1 6	Mitchel's Town,	1 6	1 6	1 0
Castle Caldwell,	2 0	1 10	1 6	Average,	1 9	1 9	1 3
Florence Court,	1 9	1 9	1 1				
Faroham,	2 2	2 2	1 6				
Strokestown,	2 0	2 0	1 0				
Ballynegh,	1 4	1 10	1 0				
Mercra,	1 6	1 7	1 7½				
Sortland,		1 6					
Kilalla,	1 6	1 6	1 4				
Westport,	1 6	1 7	0 10				
Moniva,	1 7	1 7	1 4				

When it is considered that common labour in Ireland is but little more than a third of what it is in England, it may appear extraordinary that artizans are paid nearly, if not full, as high as in that kingdom.

† And beard.

O P P R E S S I O N.

Before I conclude this article of the common labouring poor in Ireland, I must observe, that their happiness depends not merely upon the payment of their labour, their cloaths, or their food; the subordination of the lower classes, degenerating into oppression, is not to be overlooked. The poor in all countries, and under all governments, are both paid and fed, yet is there an infinite difference between them in different ones. This enquiry will by no means turn out so favourable as the preceding articles. It must be very apparent to every traveller, through that country, that the labouring poor are treated with harshness, and are in all respects so little considered, that their want of importance seems a perfect contrast to their situation in England, of which country, comparatively speaking, they reign the sovereigns. The age has improved so much in humanity, that even the poor Irish have experienced its influence, and are every day treated better and better; but still the remnant of the old manners, the abominable distinction of religion, united with the oppressive conduct of the little country gentlemen, or rather vermin of the kingdom, who never were out of it, altogether bear still very heavy on the poor people, and subject them to situations more mortifying than we ever behold in England. The landlord of an Irish estate, inhabited by Roman catholics, is a sort of despot who yields obedience in whatever concerns the poor, to no law but that of his will. To discover what the liberty of a people is, we must live among them, and not look for it in the statutes of the realm: the language of written law may be that of liberty, but the situation of the poor may speak no language but that of slavery; there is too much of this contradiction in Ireland; a long series of oppressions, aided by many very ill judged laws, have brought landlords into a habit of exerting a very lofty superiority, and their vassals into that of an almost unlimited submission: speaking a language that is despised, professing a religion that is abhorred, and being disarmed, the poor find themselves in many cases slaves even in the bosom of *written* liberty. Landlords that have resided much abroad, are usually humane in their ideas, but the habit of tyranny naturally contracts the mind, so that even in this polished age, there are instances of a severe carriage towards the poor, which is quite unknown in England.

A landlord in Ireland can scarcely invent an order which a servant, labourer, or cottar dares to refuse to execute. Nothing satisfies him but an unlimited submission. Disrespect or any thing tending towards sauciness he may punish with his cane or his horsewhip with the most perfect security, a poor man would have his bones broke if he offered to lift his hand in his
own

own defence. Knocking down is spoken of in the country in a manner that makes an English man stare. Landlords of consequence have assured me that many of their cottars would think themselves honoured by having their wives and daughters sent for to the bed of their master; a mark of slavery that proves the oppression under which such people must live. Nay, I have heard anecdotes of the lives of people being made free with without any apprehension of the justice of a jury. But let it not be imagined that this is common; formerly it happened every day, but law gains ground. It will strike the most careless traveller to see whole strings of cars whipt into a ditch by a gentleman's footman to make way for his carriage; if they are overturned or broken in pieces, no matter, it is taken in patience, were they to complain they would perhaps be horse-whipped. The execution of the laws lies very much in the hands of justices of the peace, many of whom are drawn from the most illiberal class in the kingdom. If a poor man lodges a complaint against a gentleman, or any animal that chuses to call itself a gentleman, and the justice issues out a summons for his appearance, it is a fixed affront, and he will infallibly be *called out*. Where MANNERS are in conspiracy against LAW, to whom are the oppressed people to have recourse? It is a fact that a poor man having a contest with a gentleman must—but I am talking nonsense, they know their situation too well to think of it; they can have no defence but by means of protection from one gentleman against another, who probably protects his vassal as he would the sheep he intends to eat.

The colours of this picture are not charged. To assert that all these cases are common, would be an exaggeration, but to say that an unfeeling landlord will do all this with impunity is to keep strictly to truth: and what is liberty but a farce, and a jest if its blessings are received as the favour of kindness and humanity, instead of being the inheritance of RIGHT?

Consequences have flowed from these oppressions which ought long ago to have put a stop to them. In England we have heard much of whiteboys, steelboys, oakboys, peep-of-day-boys, &c. But these various insurgents are not to be confounded, for they are very different. The proper distinction in the discontents of the people is into protestant and catholic. All but the whiteboys were among the manufacturing protestants in the north. The whiteboys catholic labourers in the south: from the best intelligence I could gain, the riots of the manufacturers had no other foundation, but such variations in the manufacture as all fabrics experience, and which they had themselves known and submitted to before. The case, however, was different with the whiteboys; who being labouring catholics met with all those oppressions I have described, and would probably have continued in full submission had not very severe treatment in respect of tythes united with a great speculative

lative rise of rents about the same time, blown up the flame of resistance; the atrocious acts they were guilty of made them the object of general indignation, acts were passed for their punishment, which seemed calculated for the meridian of Barbary; this arose to such a height, that by one they were to be hanged under certain circumstances without the common formalities of a trial, which though repealed the following sessions marks the spirit of punishment; while others remain yet the law of the land, that would if executed tend more to raise than quell an insurrection. From all which it is manifest that the gentlemen of Ireland never thought of a radical cure from overlooking the real cause of the disease, which in fact lay in themselves, and not in the wretches they doomed to the gallows. Let them change their own conduct intirely, and the poor will not long riot. Treat them like men who ought to be as free as yourselves: put an end to that system of religious persecution which for seventy years has divided the kingdom against itself; in these two circumstances lies the cure of insurrection, perform them completely, and you will have an affectionate poor, instead of oppressed and discontented vassals.

A better treatment of the poor in Ireland is a very material point to the welfare of the whole British empire. Events may happen which may convince us fatally of this truth—If not, oppression must have broken all the spirit and resentment of men. By what policy the government of England can for so many years have permitted such an absurd system to be matured in Ireland, is beyond the power of plain sense to discover.

E M I G R A T I O N S.

Before the American war broke, the Irish and Scotch emigrations were a constant subject of conversation in England, and occasioned much discourse even in parliament. The common observation was, that if they were not stopped, those countries would be ruined, and they were generally attributed to a great rise of rents. Upon going over to Ireland I determined to omit no opportunities of discovering the cause and extent of this emigration, and my information, as may be seen in the minutes of the journey, was very regular. I have only a few general remarks to make on it here.

The spirit of emigrating in Ireland appeared to be confined to two circumstances, the presbyterian religion, and the linen manufacture. I heard of very few emigrants except among manufacturers of that persuasion. The catholics never went, they seem not only tied to the country but almost to the parish in which their ancestors lived. As to the emigration in the north, it was an error in England to suppose it a novelty which arose with the increase in rents. The contrary was the fact, it had subsisted, perhaps, forty years, insomuch
that

that at the ports of Belfast, Derry, &c. the *passenger trade* as they called it, had long been a regular branch of commerce, which employed several ships, and consisted in carrying people to America. The increasing population of the country made it an increasing trade, but when the linen trade was low, the *passenger trade* was always high. At the time of Lord Donnegall's letting his estate in the North the linen business suffered a temporary decline, which sent great numbers to America, and gave rise to the error that it was occasioned by the increase of his rents: the fact, however, was otherwise, for great numbers of those who went from his lands actually sold those leases for considerable sums, the hardship of which was supposed to have driven them to America. Some emigration, therefore, always existed, and its increase depended on the fluctuations of linen; but as to the *effect*, there was as much error in the conclusions drawn in England as before in the *cause*.

It is the misfortune of all manufactures worked for a foreign market to be upon an insecure footing, periods of declension will come, and when in consequence of them great numbers of people are out of employment, the best circumstance is their enlisting in the army or navy; and it is the common result; but unfortunately the manufacture in Ireland (of which I shall have occasion to speak more hereafter), is not confined as it ought to be to towns, but spreads into all the cabbins of the country. Being half farmers, half manufacturers, they have too much property in cattle, &c. to enlist when idle; if they convert it into cash it will enable them to pay their passage to America, an alternative always chosen in preference to the military life. The consequence is, that they must live without work till their substance is quite consumed before they will enlist. Men who are in such a situation that from various causes they can not work, and won't enlist, should emigrate, if they stay at home they must remain a burthen upon the community; emigration should not, therefore, be condemned in states so ill governed as to possess many people willing to work, but without employment.

S E C T I O N VII,

Of Religion.

THE history of the two religions in Ireland is too generally known to require any detail introductory to the subject. The conflict for two centuries occasioned a scene of devastation and bloodshed, till at last by the arms of King William the decision left the uncontroled power in the hands of the protestants. The landed property of the kingdom had been greatly

greatly changed in the period of the reigns of Elizabeth and James I. Still more under Cromwell, who parcelled out an immense proportion of the kingdom to the officers of his army, the ancestors of great numbers of the present possessors: the colonels of his regiments left estates which are now eight and ten thousand a year, and I know several gentlemen of two and three thousand pounds a year at present which they inherited from captains in the same service. The last forfeitures were incurred in that war which stripped and banished James II. Upon the whole nineteen-twentieths of the kingdom changed hands from catholic to protestant. The lineal descendants of great families, once possessed of vast property, are now to be found all over the kingdom in the lowest situation, working as cottars for the great great grandsons of men, many of whom were of no greater account in England than these poor labourers are at present on that property which was once their own. So entire an overthrow, and change of landed possession, is within the period to be found in scarce any country in the world. In such great revolutions of property the ruined proprietors have usually been extirpated or banished; but in Ireland the case was otherwise: families were so numerous and so united in clans, that the heir of an estate was always known; and it is a fact that in most parts of the kingdom the descendants of the old land owners regularly transmit by testamentary deed the memorial of their right to those estates which once belonged to their families. From hence it results that the question of religion has always in Ireland been intimately connected with the right to and possession of the landed property of the kingdom; and has probably received from this source a degree of acrimony, not at all wanting to influence the superstitious prejudices of the human mind.

Flushed with success after the victory of the Boyne, and animated with the recollection of recent injuries, it would not have been surprizing if the triumphant party had exceeded the bounds of moderation towards the catholic, but the amazing circumstance is that the great category of persecuting laws was not framed during the life of that monarch who wisely was a friend to toleration: if ever such a system as would crush the minds of a conquered people into a slavish submission was necessary, it must have been under that new, and in many respects weak establishment, when the late conflict might have been an apparent justification: but why such a system should be embraced six or seven years after the death of King William is not so easy to be accounted for.

By the laws of discovery as they are called:

1. The whole body of Roman catholics are absolutely disarmed.
2. They are incapacitated from purchasing land.
3. The entails of their estates are broken, and they gavel among the children.

4. If one child abjures that religion, he inherits the whole estate, though he is the youngest.

5. If the son abjures the religion, the father has no power over his estate, but becomes a pensioner on it in favour of such son.

6. No catholic can take a lease for more than thirty-one years.

7. If the rent of any catholic is less than two-thirds of the full improved value, whoever discovers takes the benefit of the lease.

8. Priests who celebrate mass to be transported, and if they return to be hanged.

9. A catholic having a horse in his possession above the value of five pounds, to forfeit the same to the discoverer.

10. By a construction of lord Hardwick's, they are incapacitated from lending money on mortgage*.

The preceding catalogue is very imperfect, but here is an exhibition of oppression fully sufficient. The great national objects in framing laws against the profession and practice of any religion, may be reduced to three heads. 1st. The propagation of the dominant faith. 2d. Internal security. 3d. National prosperity: the fairest way to judge of the laws of Ireland will be to enquire how far they have answered any or all of these ends.

That it is a desirable object in some respects to have a people if not all of one persuasion, at least in good friendship and brotherhood, as to religion, is undeniable. Though I think there are reasons against wishing a whole kingdom to profess only one similar faith. It excludes a variety of disquisitions which exercise and animate the talents of mankind; it encourages the priests of the national religion to a relaxation of their studies, their activity and even their morals, and tends to introduce a lazy, wretched, vicious, and ignorant clergy: it is opposition and contrast that sharpen the wits of men.

But waving these objections, and considering the question only in a political view, I admit that such a similarity of worship as is followed by laws equal to the whole community to be an advantage, let us therefore examine whether the Irish intolerant laws have had the effect or not.

That they have lessened the landed property in the hands of the catholics is certain; their violence could not have had any other effect, but not, however, to such a degree as might have been imagined. There are principles of honour, religion, and ties of blood too powerful for tyrannic laws to overcome, and which have prevented their full effect. I am not convinced that the conversion of the land owners while all the rabble retained their religion, was an advantage to the kingdom.

* Some mitigation of those penal laws has taken place, by an act of the legislature in 1778, in favour of those who take and subscribe an oath framed on the occasion.

kingdom. Great possessions gave those landlords an interest in the public welfare; which in emergencies of danger might induce them to use their influence to keep their dependants quiet; but when none are connected with them richer than themselves, and the whole party consisting of a poor and half ruined peasantry, and priests almost as poor as themselves, what tie, or what call is there upon them to restrain the dictates of resentment and revenge? At this day the best subjects among the catholics, and many there are very much to be depended on, notwithstanding all their oppressions, are the men of landed property: how impolitic to wish to lessen the number! to be desirous of cutting off two millions of peasantry from every possible connection that can influence their submission. The same observation is applicable to mortgages, and in short to all investments of money within the kingdom. Surely the obedience of a man who has property in the realm is much securer than if all he is worth is in the English or Dutch funds! While property lay exposed to the practices of power, the great body of the people who had been stripped of their all were more enraged than converted: they adhered to the persuasion of their forefathers with the steadiest and most determined zeal; while the priests actuated by the spirit of a thousand inducements, made proselytes among the common protestants in defiance of every danger. And the great glaring fact yet remains, and is even admitted by the warmest advocates for the laws of discovery, that the established religion has not gained upon the catholic in point of numbers, but on the contrary that the latter have been rather on the increase. Public lists have been returned in the several dioceses which confirm this fact; and the intelligence I received on my journey spoke the same language.

Now as it is the great body of the common people that form the strength of a country when willing subjects, and its weakness when ill-affected, this fact is a decision of the question: after seventy years undisturbed operation, the system adopted in Queen Anne's reign has failed in this great end and aim; and meets at this day with a more numerous and equally determined body of catholics as it had to oppose when it was first promulgated. Has not the experience of every age, and every nation proved that the effect is invariable and universal? Let a religion be what it may, and under whatever circumstances, no system of persecution ever yet had any other effect than to confirm its professors in their tenets, and spread their doctrines instead of restraining them. Thus the great plea of the Roman catholic priests, and their merit with their congregations are the dangers they hazard, and the persecutions they suffer for the sake of their faith; arguments that ever had and ever will have weight while human nature continues formed of its present materials.

The question of internal security is decided almost as soon as named: the submission of the catholics is yet felt to be so
much

much constrained that no idea has been formed, that their being trusted with arms is consistent with the safety of the kingdom. Laws founded in the very spirit of persecution, and receiving an edge in their operation from the unlimited power assumed by the protestant landlord, are strangely calculated to conciliate the affection, or secure the loyalty of a people. All the emotions of the heart of man revolt at such an idea. It was the opinion of a vast majority of the gentlemen I conversed with on the subject, that no people could be worse affected; all Ireland knows and agrees in the fact, nay, the arguments for a continuation of the laws of discovery are founded on the principle, that the lower classes of the catholics are not to be trusted. Is not this declaring that the disarmed, disgusted multitude, have not lost in their misfortunes the importance of their numbers? The fears of an invasion speak the strength of the oppressed, and the extent of the oppression.

The disturbances of the whiteboys, which lasted ten years in spite of every exertion of legal power, were in many circumstances very remarkable, and in none more so than the surprising intelligence among the insurgents where ever found: it was universal, and almost instantaneous: the numerous bodies of them at whatever distance from each other seemed animated with one soul; and not an instance was known in that long course of time of a single individual betraying the cause; the severest threats, and the most splendid promises of reward had no other effect but to draw closer the bands which connected a multitude, to all appearance so desultory. It was then evident that the iron rod of oppression had been far enough from securing the obedience, or crushing the spirit of the people. And all reflecting men who consider the value of religious liberty, will wish it never may have that effect; will trust in the wisdom of Almighty God for teaching man to respect even those prejudices of his brethren that are imbibed as sacred rights from their earliest infancy, that by dear bought experience of the futility and ruin of the attempt, the persecuting spirit may cease, and TOLERATION establish that harmony and security which fourscore years experience has told us is not to be purchased at the expence of HUMANITY!

But if these exertions of a succession of ignorant legislatures have failed continually in propagating the religion of government, or in adding to the internal security of the kingdom, much more have they failed in the great object of national prosperity. The only considerable manufacture in Ireland which carries in all its parts the appearance of industry is the linen, and it ought never to be forgotten that this is solely confined to the protestant parts of the kingdom; yet we may see from the example of France and other countries that there is nothing in the Roman catholic religion itself that is incompatible with manufacturing industry. The poor catholics in
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the south of Ireland spin wool very generally, but the purchasers of their labour, and the whole worsted trade is in the hands of the quakers of Clonmell, Carrick, Bandon, &c. The fact is, the professors of that religion are under such discouragements that they cannot engage in any trade which requires both industry and capital. If they succeed and make a fortune what are they to do with it? They can neither buy land, nor take a mortgage, nor even fine down the rent of a lease. Where is there a people in the world to be found industrious under such a circumstance? But it seems to be the meaning, wish, and intent of the discovery laws, that none of them should ever be rich. It is the principle of that system that wealthy subjects would be nuisances, and therefore every means is taken to reduce, and keep them to a state of poverty. If this is not the intention of the laws they are the most abominable heap of self-contradictions that ever were issued in the world. They are framed in such a manner that no catholic shall have the inducement to become rich. But if in spite of these laws he should accidentally gain wealth, that the whole kingdom should not afford him a possibility of investing it. Take the laws and their execution into one view, and this state of the case is so true, that they actually do not seem to be so much levelled at the religion, as at the property that is found in it. By the law a priest is to be transported and hanged for reading mass, but the mass is very readily left to them with impunity. Let the same priest, however, make a fortune by his mass, and from that moment he is the object of persecution. The domineering aristocracy of five hundred thousand protestants feel the sweets of having two millions of slaves; they have not the least objection to the tenets of that religion which keeps them by the law of the land in subjection; but property and slavery are too incompatible to live together. Hence the special care taken that no such thing should arise among them.

I must be free to own that when I have heard gentlemen who have favoured the laws as they now stand, urge the dangerous tenets of the church of Rome, quote the cruelties which have disgraced that religion in Ireland, and led them into the common routine of declamation on that side the question; (I cannot call it argument, for I never yet heard any thing that deserved the name) when I have been a witness to such conversations I could not but smile to see subscriptions handed about for building a mass house, at the very time that the heaviest vengeance of the law fully executed fell on those who possessed a landed property, or ventured a mortgage upon it.

It is no superficial view I have taken of this matter in Ireland, and being at Dublin at the time a very trifling part of these laws was agitated in parliament, I attended the debates, with my mind open to conviction, and auditor for the mere purpose

purpose of information : I have conversed on the subject with some of the most distinguished characters in the kingdom, and I cannot after all but declare that the scope, purport, and aim of the laws of discovery as executed are not against the catholic religion which increases under them, but against the industry, and property of whoever professes that religion. In vain has it been said, that consequence and power follow property, and that the attack is made in order to wound the doctrine through its property. If such was the intention, I reply, that seventy years experience prove the folly and futility of it. Those laws have crushed all the industry, and wrested most of the property from the catholics ; but the religion triumphs ; it is thought to encrease. Those who have handed about calculations to prove a decrease, admit on the face of them that it will require FOUR THOUSAND YEARS to make converts of the whole, supposing that work to go on in future, as it has in the past time. But the whole pretence is an affront to common sense, for it implies that you will lessen a religion by persecuting it : all history and experience condemn such a proposition.

The system pursued in Ireland has had no other tendency but that of driving out of the kingdom all the personal wealth of the catholics, and prohibiting their industry within it. The face of the country, every object in short which presents itself to the eye of a traveller, tells him how effectually this has been done. I urge it not as an argument, the whole kingdom speaks it as a fact. We have seen that this conduct has not converted the people to the religion of government ; and instead of adding to the internal security of the realm it has endangered it, if therefore it does not add to the national prosperity, for what purpose but that of private tyranny could it have been embraced and persisted in ? Mistaken ideas of private interest account for the actions of individuals, but what could have influenced the British government to permit a system which must inevitably prevent the island from ever becoming of the importance which nature intended.

Relative to the national welfare it must appear extremely evident to the unprejudiced, that an aristocracy of five hundred thousand protestants, crushing the industry of two millions of poor catholics, can never advance the public interest. Secure the industry of your people, and leave their religion to itself. It is their hands not their faith you want ; but do not tie these behind them, and then ask why they are not better employed. How is agriculture to flourish, manufactures to be established, or commerce to extend in a dependant country labouring under great disadvantages, if the united capitals, industry, activity and attention of the whole community be not employed for such purposes ? When the territory of an island lies in such a wretched state, that though blessed with a better soil it yields on comparison with England as only two to five :

when manufactures are of so sickly a growth as to be confined almost to one province, and when trade is known to exist only by the ships of other countries appearing in the harbours, while a kingdom is in such a situation, is it wisdom to persist in a system which has no other effect than to clog, defeat, or exterminate the capital and industry of four-fifths of the inhabitants! Surely the gentlemen of that country when they complain of restricted commerce, and the remittance of the rentals of the absentees to England, cannot be thought serious in lamenting the situation of their country while they continue wedded to that internal ruin which is the work of their own hands, and the favourite child of their most active exertions. Complain not of restrictions while you yourselves enforce the most enormous restriction; and what are the body of absentees when compared with the absence of industry and wealth from the immense mass of two millions of subjects. I should be well founded in the assertion that both these evils, great and acknowledged as they are, are trifles when compared with the poverty and debility which results from the oppression of the Roman catholics. Encourage the industry of those two millions of idle people, and the wealth arising from it, will make ample amends for most of the evils complained of in Ireland. This remedy is in your hands; you have no rivals to fear; no ministers to oppose you.

Think of the loss to Ireland of so many catholics of small property, resorting to the armies of France, Spain, Sardinia and Austria, for employment. Can it be imagined, that they would be so ready to leave their own country, if they could stay in it with any prospect of promotion, successful industry, or even liberal protection? It is known they would not; and that under a different system, instead of adding strength to the enemies of this empire, they would be among the foremost to enrich and defend it. Upon the whole it appears sufficiently clear, that in these three great objects, of making the religion of government general, internal security, and national prosperity, the laws of discovery have totally failed; a long series of experience enables us to discuss the subject by a reference to facts, instead of a reliance on theory and argument; the language of those facts is so uniform, that private interest must unite with habitual prejudice, to permit it for a moment to be misunderstood.

Upon the general question it has been asserted by the friends of the law, that gentlemen in England are apt very much to mistake the point from being ignorant of Irish popery, which from the ignorance of the people, is more bigoted than any thing known in the sister kingdom; also that the papists in England are not claimants of all the landed property, which is the case in Ireland.

Both these observations are too shallow to bear the least examination; oppression has reduced the major part of the Irish catholics

catholics to a poor ignorant rabble ; you have made them ignorant, and then it is cried your ignorance is a reason for keeping you so ; you shall live and die, and remain in ignorance, for you are too wretched to be enlightened. Take it as argument, or humanity, it is of a most precious kind. In all other parts of Europe the catholic religion has grown mild and even tolerant ; a softer humanity is seen diffused in those countries, once the most bigoted ; Spain and Portugal are no longer what they were. Had property taken its natural course in Ireland, the religion of the catholics there would have improved with that of their neighbours. Ignorance is the child of poverty, and you cannot expect the modern improvements, which have resulted from disseminated industry and wealth, should spread among a sect, whose property you have detached, and whose industry you have crushed : to stigmatize them with ignorance and bigotry, therefore, is to reproach them with the evils which your own conduct has entailed ; it is to bury them in darkness, and villify them because they are not enlightened.

But they claim your estates ; they do so, as steadily at this moment as they did fourscore years ago ; your system therefore has utterly failed even in this respect. Has the rod of oppression obliterated the memory or tradition of better days ? Has severity conciliated the forgiveness of past, perhaps necessary injuries ? Would protection, favour, and encouragement add fresh stings to their resentments ? None can assert it. Ample experience ought to have convinced you, that the harshness of the law has not annihilated a single claim ; if claims could have restored their estates, they would have regained them before now : but here, as I shewed before, the laws have weakened instead of strengthening the protestant interest ; had a milder system encouraged their industry and property, they would have had something to lose, and would, with an enemy in the land, have thought twice before they joined him ; in such a case whatever they had got would be endangered, and the hope of being reinstated in antient possessions, being distant and hazardous, present advantage might have induced them not only to be quiet, but to have defended the government, under whose humanity they found protection and happiness. Compare such a situation with the present, and then determine whether the system you have persisted in, has added a jot to the security of your possessions.

But let me ask, if these catholic claims, on the landed property, were not full as strong an argument in the reign of King William as they are at present ? The moment of conflict was then but just decided ; if ever rancour and danger could arise from them, that certainly was the season of apprehension : but it is curious to observe, that that wise monarch, would permit few acts to pass to oppress the catholics. It was not until the reign of Anne, that the great system of oppression

was opened : if therefore these laws were unnecessary from the revolution to the death of King William, and the experience of that reign tells us they were not, most certainly they cannot be so at present.

The enlightened spirit of TOLERATION, so well understood and practised in the greatest part of Europe, is making progress every day, save in Ireland alone : while the protestant religion enjoys peace and protection in catholic countries ; why should a nation, in all other respects so generous and liberal as the Irish, refuse at home what they receive and enjoy abroad.

As the absurdity of the present system can no longer be doubted, the question is, in what degree it should immediately be changed ? Would it be prudent directly to arm, and put upon a level with the rest of the community, so large and necessarily, so disgusted a body of the people ? Great sudden changes are rarely prudent ; old habits are not immediately laid aside ; and the temper of men's minds, nursed in ignorance, should have time to open and expand, that they may clearly comprehend their true interests : for this reason the alteration of the laws should be gradual, rather than by one or two repealing clauses, at once to overthrow the whole. But all things considered, there ought not to be a single sessions without doing something in so necessary a work. For instance, in one sessions to give them a power of taking mortgages ; in another of purchasing lands ; in a third, to repeal the abominable premiums on the division of a family against itself, by restoring to parents their rights ; in a fourth, mass to be rendered legal ; in a fifth, a seminary, to be established by law, for the education of priests, and a bishop to be allowed, with those powers which are necessary for the exercise of the religion ; by which means the foreign interest from a priesthood, entirely educated abroad, would be at once cut off. Thus far the most zealous friends to the protestant religion could not object upon any well founded principles. When once the operations of the new system had raised a spirit of industry, and attendant wealth among the lower classes of them, no evil consequences would flow from permitting them the use of arms. Give them an interest in the kingdom, and they will use their arms, not to overturn, but to defend it. Upon first principles, it is a miserable government, which acknowledges itself incapable of retaining men to their obedience that have arms in their hands ; and such an one as is to be found in Ireland alone. In like manner I should apprehend that it might be proper to give them a voice in the election of members of parliament. There is great reason to believe, that they will not be treated by gentlemen in the country in the manner they ought to be, until this sort of importance is given them.

Let

Let it in general be remembered, that no country in the world has felt any inconveniences from the most liberal spirit of toleration : that on the contrary, those are universally acknowledged to be the most prosperous, and the most flourishing, which have governed their subjects on the most tolerating principles. That other countries, which have been actuated by the spirit of bigotry, have continued poor, weak, and helpless ; these are circumstances which bear so immediately upon the question, that we may determine, without any hazard of extravagance, that Ireland will never prosper to any great degree until she profits by the example of her neighbours. Let her dismiss her illiberal fears and apprehensions ; let her keep pace with the improvement of the age, and with the mild spirit of European manners, let her transfer her anxiety from the faith to the industry of her subjects ; let her embrace, cherish, and protect the catholics as good subjects, and they will become such ; let her, despising and detesting every species of religious persecution, consider all religions as brethren, employed in one great aim, the wealth, power, and happiness of the general community ; let these be the maxims of her policy, and she will no longer complain of poverty and debility, she will be at home prosperous, and abroad formidable.

S E C T I O N VIII.

Price of Provisions.

IN the speculations of modern politicians, so many conclusions have been drawn from the prices of provisions in different countries, and some of them with so much reason, that every one must readily admit a considerable degree of importance to be annexed to such information : with this view, I was as particular in these enquiries as I had been before in my English journies. The following table shews the result.

Places.

Places.	Beef.		Mutton.		Veal.		Pork.		Butter.		Chick.		Turkey.		Goose.	
	d.	f.	d.	f.	d.	f.	d.	f.	d.	f.	d.	f.	d.	f.	d.	f.
Dublin,	3	2	3	2	5		3	2	8		12		30		18	
Luthelstown,	3	2	3	2	4		3		8							
Kilcock,	2	2	3	1	3	1	2	2	6	2	2	2	12		8	3
Slane,	3	1	3	2	4		1	3	6		3		10		6	
Packenham,	2	2	3	2	4		3		6		3		12		8	
Tullamore,	2	3	2		3		2	1	2		2				8	
Shaen Castle,	2	2	2	2	3		2	1	5	2	2	2	13		7	
Carlow,	2	2	2	3	3		3		6	2	2		12		8	
Kilfaine,	2	2	2	2			2		6	2	2		8		6	2
Taghmon,	2		2	2	2		2				2		8		7	2
Forth,	2		2	2	2	2	2		7							
Prospect,	2	2	2	2					5		2		6		12	
Mount Kennedy,	3	2	3	2	5		3	2	8							
Market Hill,	3		3	2	4		2	2	6		2	2	18		11	
Ardmagh,	2	3	3		3	1	3	1	5	2	2	2	16		13	
Warrenstown,	2	3	3		3		2	2	5		2		15		12	
Portaferry,	2	3	2	2	3		2		5		1	3	13		13	
Shaen Castle,	2	2	2	2	3	1	2	2	5		1	2			13	
Belfast,	2	3	3		2	2	3	2	5		2	2	12		14	
Lesly Hill,	2		3		3	2	2	2	4	2	2		12		12	
Limavaddy,	2	3	3	1	3	1	2		5	1	1	2	12		12	
Innishoen,	2	1	2	2	3		2	2	4	2	2					
Clonleigh,	3		2	2	3	2	2	2	5	2			12		13	
Mount Charles,	2	2	2	2	3	2	2		4		1		12		6	
Castle Caldwell,	2	1	3		3	1	2		3	2	2		10		5	2
Belle Isle,	3		2				1	3	5		1	2	6		6	
Florence Court,	2	2	3				2		4	2	2		12		6	
Farnham,	2	2	3		3	3	1	3	5		1	3	12		8	
Ballynogh,	2	2	2	1			1	2	4	2	2		9		6	
Strokestown,	2		2	3	4		1	2	4		2		7	2	3	2
Macry,	2	1	2		3	2	1	3	5		2		8		8	
Sortland,	3		3		4		2				1	2	8		6	
Kilalla,	2	1	2	2			2		4	3	2		13		8	
Westport,	2	1	3				2		6		1	3	10		3	1
Moniva,	3		3				2		6		2		10		9	
Drumoland,	2	2	2	2			2		7		1	2	6		6	
Limerick,	2	3	2	2			2	1	5		2	2	5		6	
Donnerajle,	2	2	2	2			2	2	7		2	3	8		4	1
Corks,	3		3		3		2	2	7	2	2	6	10		6	
Nedeen,	1	3	2				1	3	6		2				6	
Arbella,	2	3	2	2					4	2	1	2	10	2	6	
Tarbat,	2	2	2	2			2	2	5							
Castle Oliver,	3		3				2	2								
Tipperary,	3		3				2	2			2	3	12		12	
Curraghmore,	3		3		3	3	2	1	6							
Waterford,	3		3		3	2	2	2	7		3		12		10	
Furness,	2	3	2	3	4	3	2	3	8		3		12		12	
Gloster,	2	2	2	3	2	3	2		5	2	2	3	12		12	
Johnstown,	3		3	2	3		3		6		3		11		6	
Derry,	2	2	3		6		3		5		2		10		12	
Castle Lloyd,	3		2	3	2	2	2	2	6		2		7	2	5	
Mitchel's Town,	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	6		2	2	8		8	
Average,	2	2	2	3	3	2	2	1	5	3	2	2	10	3	8	2

In order for a comparison, I shall add the prices of my English tours.

	Butter.	Mutton.	Beef.	Veal.	Pork.
The Southern Tour 1767, —	6½	4¼	4	3¾	
The Northern Tour 1768,	6	3	3	3	3½
The Eastern Tour 1770, —	6½	3½	3½	3½	3½
Average of the three, —	6¼	3½	3½	3¼	3½
Ireland in 1776, — —	5¾	2¾	2½	3½	2¼

Average of the four meats in England, — 3½d.

Ditto in Ireland — — 3¾d.

Ireland to England as 11 to 14.

I should remark, that there has been very little variation in the prices of meat in England since the dates of those journeys; the rates in Ireland are higher than I conceived them, and do not from cheapness afford any reason to conclude that country, as far as cattle extends, to be in a state of backwardness. The whole of these minutes, however, concerns the home consumption only, for as to the immense trade in beef and pork (of which hereafter) their rates are considerably under these, as may be supposed from the greatness of the scale, in like manner as the consumption prices in England are near double those of the victualling office.

Poultry being so extremely cheap is owing to several causes: First, The smallness of the demand; the towns are few, small, and poor; and all gentlemen's families raise a quantity for themselves. Second, The plenty of potatoes, upon which they are fed, being vastly greater, and dispensed with less economy than the corn in England, upon which poultry is there reared. Third, the extreme warmth of the cabbins, in which the young broods are nourished. Fourth, The natural produce of white clover, which is much greater than in England, and upon the seeds of which, young turkies, in particular, are advantageously fed. I know a gentleman in England, who reared an amazing number of turkies and peachicks the year his lawn was sown with white clover, but the soil being improper it lasted but one year, and he neither before nor after had such success with those broods.

SECTION IX.

Roads—Cars.

FOR a country so very far behind us as Ireland, to have got suddenly so much the start of us in the article of roads, is a spectacle that cannot fail to strike the English traveller exceedingly. But from this commendation the turnpikes in general must be excluded, they are as bad as the buy roads are admirable. It is a common complaint, that the tolls of the turnpikes are so many jobs, and the roads left in a state that disgrace the kingdom.

The following is the system on which the cross roads are made. Any person wishing to make or mend a road, has it measured by two persons, who swear to the measurement before a justice of the peace. It is described as leading from one market town to another (it matters not in what direction) that it will be a public good, and that it will require such a sum, per perch of twenty-one feet, to make or repair the same; a certificate to this purpose (of which printed forms are sold) with the blanks filled up, is signed by the measurers, and also by two persons called overseers, one of whom is usually the person applying for the road, the other the labourer he intends to employ as an overseer of the work, which overseer swears also before the justice the truth of the valuation. The certificate, thus prepared, is given by any person to some one of the grand jury, at either of the assizes, but usually in the spring. When all the common business of trials is over, the jury meets on that of roads; the chairman reads the certificates, and they are all put to the vote, whether to be granted or not. If rejected, they are torn in pieces and no farther notice taken, if granted they are put on the file.

This vote of approbation, without any farther form, enables the person, who applied for the presentment, immediately to construct or repair the road in question, which he must do at his own expence, he must finish it by the following assizes, when he is to send a certificate of his having expended the money pursuant to the application; this certificate is signed by the foreman, who also signs an order on the treasurer of the county to pay him, which is done immediately. In like manner are bridges, houses of correction, gaols, &c. &c. built and repaired. If a bridge over a river, which parts two counties, half is done by one, and the other half by the other county.

The expence of these works is raised by a tax on the lands, paid by the tenant; in some counties it is acreable, but in others it is on the *plough land*, and as no two plough lands are of the same size, is a very unequal tax. In the county of Meath it is acreable, and amounts to one shilling per acre, being

being the highest in Ireland ; but in general it is from threepence to sixpence per acre, and amounts of late years, through the whole kingdom, to one hundred and forty thousand pounds a year.

The juries will very rarely grant a presentment for a road, which amounts to about fifty pounds, or for more than six or seven shillings a perch, so that if a person wants more to be made than such a sum will do, he divides it into two or three different measurements or presentments. By the act of parliament all presentment roads must be twenty-one feet wide at least from fence to fence, and fourteen feet of it formed with stone or gravel.

As the power of the grand jury extends in this manner to the cutting new roads, where none ever were before, as well as to the repairing and widening old ones, exclusive, however, of parks, gardens, &c. it was necessary to put a restriction against the wanton expence of it. Any presentment may be traversed that is opposed, by denying the allegations of the certificate ; this is sure of delaying it until another assizes, and in the mean time persons are appointed to view the line of road demanded, and report on the necessity or hardship of the case. The payment of the money may also be traversed after the certificate of its being laid out ; for if any person views, and finds it a manifest imposition and job, he has that power to delay payment until the cause is cleared up and proved. But this traverse is not common. Any persons are eligible for asking presentments ; but it is usually done only by resident gentlemen, agents, clergy, or respectable tenantry. It follows necessarily, that every person is desirous of making the roads leading to his own house, and that private interest alone is considered in it, which I have heard objected to the measure ; but this I must own appears to me the great merit of it. Whenever individuals act for the public alone, the public is very badly served ; but when the pursuit of their own interest is the way to benefit the public, then is the public good sure to be promoted ; such is the case of presentment of roads ; for a few years the good roads were all found leading from houses like rays from a center, with a surrounding space, without any communication ; but every year brought the remedy, until in a short time, those rays, pointing from so many centers, met, and then the communication was complete. The original act passed but seventeen years ago ; and the effect of it in all parts of the kingdom is so great, that I found it perfectly practicable to travel upon wheels by a map ; I will go here. I will go there ; I could trace a route upon paper as wild as fancy could dictate, and every where I found beautiful roads without break or hindrance, to enable me to realize my design. What a figure would a person make in England, who should attempt to move in that manner, where the roads, as Dr. Burn has very well observed, are almost in as bad a state as in the time of Philip and Mary. In a few years there will not be a piece of bad road except turnpikes

piques in all Ireland. The money raised for this first and most important of all national purposes, is expended among the people who pay it, employs themselves and their teams, encourages their agriculture, and facilitates so greatly the improvement of waste lands, that it ought always to be considered as the first step to any undertaking of that sort.

At first, roads in common with bridges, were paid out of the general treasure of the county, but by a subsequent act, the road tax is now on baronies; each barony pays for its own roads. By another act, juries were enabled to grant presentments of narrow mountain roads, at two shillings and sixpence a perch. By another, they were empowered to grant presentments of footpaths, by the side of roads, to one shilling a perch. By a very late act, they are also enabled to contract, at three halfpence per perch per annum, from the first making of a road, for keeping it in repair, which before could not be done without a fresh presentment. Arthur French, Esq; of Moniva, whose agriculture is described in the preceding minutes, and who at that time represented the county of Galway, was the worthy citizen who first brought this excellent measure into parliament: Ireland, and every traveller that ever visits it, ought, to the latest time, to revere the memory of such a distinguished benefactor to the public. Before that time the roads, like those of England, remained impassable, under the miserable police of the six days labour. Similar good effects would here flow from adopting the measure, which would ease the kingdom of a great burthen in its public effect absolutely contemptible; and the tax here, as in Ireland, ought to be so laid, as to be borne by the tenant, whose business it is at present to repair.

Upon the imperfections of the Irish system I have only to remark, that juries should, in some cases be more ready than they are to grant these presentments. In general, they are extremely liberal, but sometimes they take silly freaks of giving none, or very few. Experience having proved from the general goodness of the roads, that abuses cannot be very great, they should go on with spirit to perfect the great work throughout the kingdom; and as a check upon those who lay out the money, it might perhaps be advisable to print county maps of the presentment roads, with corresponding lists and tables of the names of all persons who have obtained presentments, the sums they received, and for what roads. These should be given freely by the jurymen, to all their acquaintance, that every man might know, to whose carelessness or jobbing, the public was indebted for bad roads, when they had paid for good ones. Such a practice would certainly deter many.

At 1,142,642 acres in the kingdom, one hundred and forty thousand pounds a year amounts to just threepence an acre for the whole territory, a very trifling tax for such an improvement,

ment, and which almost ranks in public ease and benefit with that of the post-office.

It is not to this system singly, that Ireland is indebted for the goodness of her roads; another circumstance calls materially for observation, which is the vehicle of carriage: all land-carriage in that kingdom is performed with one-horse cars or carts. Those of the poor people are wretched things, formed with a view to cheapness alone; and the loads they carry on them when working by the day, are such as an Englishman would be ashamed to take in a wheelbarrow, yet they suffer their horses to walk so slow with these burthens, that I am confident, work of this sort, done by hire, is five hundred per cent. dearer than in England. Even when they work for themselves, their loads are contemptible, and not equal to what their *garrens*, miserable as they are, would draw. Cars, however, which work regularly for mills in carrying flour to Dublin, do better; the common load is from six to ten hundred weight, which, considering the horses, is very well; eighteen hundred weight has been often carried thither from Slane mills. The lowness of the wheels suits a mountainous country; but if there is truth in the mechanic powers, is in general a great disadvantage to the animal. Great numbers of these cars consist only of a flat bottom over the axletree, on which a few sacks, logs, or stones, may be laid, or a little heap of gravel in the center. Others have side-boards, and some baskets fixed. But such an imperfect and miserable machine deserves not a moment's attention; the object of importance arising only from one horse for draught.

Some gentlemen have carts very well made in respect of strength, but so heavy, as to be almost as faulty as the common car. Others have larger and heavier two-horse carts; and a few have been absurd enough to introduce English waggons. The well-made roads preserving themselves for so many years, is owing to this practice of using one-horse carriages, which is worthy of universal imitation. Notwithstanding the expence bestowed on the turnpikes in England, great numbers of them are in a most wretched state, which will continue while the legislature permits so many horses to be harnessed in one carriage. A proof how little one-horse carriages wear roads, is the method used in Ireland to construct them; they throw up a foundation of earth in the middle of the space from the outsides, on that they immediately form a layer of limestone, broken to the size of a turkey's egg; on this a thin scattering of earth to bind the stones together, and over that a coat of gravel, where it is to be had. Their carriages considered, no fault is to be found with this mode, for the road is beautiful and durable, but being all finished at once, with very little or no time for settling, an English wagon would presently cut through the whole, and demolish the road as soon as made, yet it is perfectly durable under cars and coaches.

I have weighed common cars in Ireland, and find the lightest weigh 2C. 2qrs. 14lb. good carts for one horse at Mr. O'Neil's, 4C. 2qrs. 21lb. and Lord Kingsborough had larger carts from Dublin, with five-foot wheels, which weighed 7C. but these are much too heavy, in the lightness of the machine consists a great part of the merit. A common English waggon with nine-inch wheels from 55Cwt. to three tons. I built a narrow wheeled one in Suffolk for four horses, the weight of which was 25Cwt.

	Cwt. qrs. lb.		
Every horse in the Irish car draws, weight			
of carriage, — —	2	2	14
In Mr. O'Neil's carts, — —	4	2	21
In Lord Kingsborough's, — —	7	0	0
In a broad wheeled waggon, — —	7	1	0
In a narrow ditto, — —	6	1	0

The extreme lightness of the common car is not to be taken into the question, as it is inapplicable to a profitable load of any thing, except a single block, or sacks. It is absolutely necessary a cart should be capacious enough for a very light but bulky load, such as malt dust, bran, dry ashes, &c. as well as for hay and straw. The Suffolk waggon for four horses is twelve feet long, four broad, and two deep in the sides and ends, consequently, the body of it contains just 96 cubical feet; the end ladders extended for hay or straw four feet more, and there was a fixed side one, which added two feet to the breadth, consequently the surface on which hay was built, extended just ninety-six square feet. In a great variety of uses, to which I applied that waggon, I found four middling horses, worth about twelve pounds each, would draw a full load of every thing in it; viz. from fifty to sixty hundred weight of hay, twelve quarters of wheat, or fifty-five hundred weight, and the fullage of Bury sheets by computation, judging by the labour of the horses to a much greater weight, perhaps above three tons. I have more than once taken these measures as a guide for a one-horse cart, to give one horse an exact proportion of what four did in that waggon, the dimensions of the cart must be as follow: the body of it must be just four feet long, three feet broad, and two feet deep; the end ladders each one foot, and the side ones six inches. This will be upon a par with the waggon; but I gave the carts the advantage, by end ladders being each eighteen inches, and the side ones twelve, which made the whole surface thirty-five square feet, four times which is one hundred and forty instead of ninety-six. The weight of these carts complete were from four to five hundred; the wheels five feet high, and the axle-tree iron, which is essential to a light draft; such carts cost in England, complete and painted, from nine pounds to ten guineas. Whoever tries them will find a horse will draw in them far more than the fourth of the load of a four horse team, or than

than the eighth of an eight-horse one, for he will in a tolerably level country draw a ton.

I have often conversed with the drivers of carriers waggons, as well as with intelligent carters in the service of farmers, and their accounts have united with my own observation, to prove that one horse in eight, and to the amount of half a horse in four, are always absolutely idle, moving on without drawing any weight; a most unremitting attention is necessary even for a partial remedy of this, but with careless drivers the evil is greater; hence, the superiority of horses drawing single, in which mode they cannot fail of performing their share of the work. The expence, trouble and disappointment of an accident, are in proportion to the size of the team; with a broad wheeled waggon and eight horses, they are very great, but with eight carts they are very trifling; if one breaks down, the load and cart are easily distributed among the other seven, and little time lost. When business is carried on by means of single horse carts, every horse in a stable is employed; but with waggons, he who keeps one, two, or three horses, must stand still; and what is to be done with five, six, or seven? It is only four or eight horses that form an exact team; but the great object is the preservation of the roads; to save these the legislature has prescribed wheels, even sixteen inches broad, but all such machines are so enormously heavy, that they are ruinous to those who use them; besides, they form such exact paths for the following teams to walk in, that the hardest road is presently cut into ruts, the most solid materials ground into dust, and every exertion in repairing baffled as fast as tried. Roads, which are made annually at a vast expence, are found almost impassable from the weights carried in waggons. It may be asserted, without exaggeration, that if there were nothing but one-horse carriages in England, half the present highway expence might be saved, and the roads at the same time incomparably better.

It must be admitted, that the expence of drivers would at first be greater, for a man would not drive above three of them; a man and two boys would do for nine: but why they should not be as well managed here as in Ireland I cannot see; a man there will often drive five, six, or even eight cars. I have myself seen a single girl drive six. Even in this respect there is an advantage which does not attend waggons, a boy could any where manage one or two, but twenty boys would not be trusted to drive a waggon. Granting, however, that the expence under this head was something greater, still is it vastly more than counterbalanced by the superior advantages stated above, which render it an equal object to individuals and the public.

SECTION X.

Timber—Planting.

THROUGH every part of Ireland, in which I have been, one hundred contiguous acres are not to be found without evident signs, they were once wood, or at least very well wooded. Trees, and the roots of trees of the largest size, are dug up in all the bogs; and in the cultivated countries, the stumps of trees destroyed shew that the destruction has not been of any antient date. A vast number of the Irish names for hills, mountains, vallies and plains, have forests, woods, groves, or trees for the signification; Lord Kingsborough has an hundred thousand acres about Mitchelstown, in which you must take a breathing gallop to find a stick large enough to beat a dog, yet is there not an enclosure without the remnants of trees, many of them large; nor is it a peculiarity to that estate: in a word the greatest part of the kingdom exhibits a naked, bleak, dreary view for want of wood, which has been destroyed for a century past, with the most thoughtless prodigality, and still continues to be cut and wasted, as if it was not worth the preservation. The Baltic fir supplies all the uses of the kingdom, even those for which nothing is proper but oak; and the distance of all the ports of Ireland from that sea, makes the supply much dearer than it is in England.

In conversation with gentlemen, I found they very generally laid the destruction of timber to the common people; who, they say, have an aversion to a tree; at the earliest age they steal it for a walking-stick; afterwards for a spade handle; later for a car shaft; and later still for a cabbin rafter; that the poor do steal it is certain, but I am clear the gentlemen of the country may thank themselves. Is it the consumption of sticks and handles that has destroyed millions of acres? Absurdity! The profligate, prodigal, worthless landowner cuts down his acres, and leaves them unfenced against cattle, and then he has the impudence to charge the scarcity of trees to the walking-sticks of the poor, goes into the house of commons and votes for an act, which lays a penalty of forty shillings on any poor man having a twig in his possession, which he cannot account for. This act, and twenty more in the same spirit, stands at present a monument of their self-condemnation and oppression. They have made wood so scarce, that the wretched cottars cannot procure enough for their necessary consumption, and then they pass penal laws on their stealing, or even possessing, what it is impossible for them to buy. If by another act you would hang up all the landlords who cut woods without fencing, and destroy trees without planting, you would lay your axe to the root of the evil, and rid the kingdom of some of the greatest pests in it; but in the name of humanity and common sense, let the poor alone, for whose stealing in this, as in most other cases, nobody ought to be

be answerable but yourselves. I was an eye-witness in various parts of the kingdom, of woods cut down and not copsed. The honestest poor upon earth, if in the same situation as the Irish, would be stealers of wood, for they must either steal or go without what is an absolute necessary of life. Instead of being the destroyers of trees, I am confident they may be made preservers of them; recollect Sir William Osborne's mountaineers, to whom he gave a few Lombardy poplars, they cherished them with as much care as his own gardener could have done. At Mitchelstown, I had opportunities of making observations which convinced me of the same thing; I saw in every respect, indeed all over Ireland, the greatest readiness to do whatever would recommend them to their landlord's favour. I had three plans relative to wood, which I have reason to believe would answer in any part of the kingdom: *First*, To give premiums to the cottars who planted and preserved trees, and not to let it depend on the premium alone, but to keep a list of those who appeared as candidates, and upon every other occasion to let them be objects of favour. *Second*, To force all the tenantry to plant under the following clause in their leases:

“ And also, that the said A. B. his heirs and assigns, shall and will, every year, during the continuance of this demise, well and truly plant, and thoroughly secure until the end of the said term, from all injury or damage by cattle, or otherwise, one timber tree for every acres that are contained in the herein demised premises, provided that such trees shall be supplied gratis, on demand, by the said C. D. his heirs and assigns; and in case any trees shall die or fail, that in such case the said A. B. shall and will plant in the year next after such death or failure, an equal number of timber trees in the said demised premises, in the place or stead of such tree or trees so dying or failing as aforesaid; and in case, at the expiration of the said demise, the proper number of trees, of a due age, according to the meaning and intent of these premises, be not left growing and standing upon the said demised premises, or some part thereof, that then the said A. B. his heirs or assigns, shall forfeit and pay unto the said C. D. his heirs and assigns, the sum of five shillings for every tree so deficient by death, failure, injury, or negligence.”

The proportion of acres per tree to be according to circumstances. It should always be remembered, that the clauses of a lease rarely execute themselves; it is the landlord or his agent's attention that must make them efficient. A tenantry every where is very much dependent, unless leases for lives are given, but I suppose them for twenty-one years. In Ireland their poverty makes this dependance still greater. They ask time for the payment of their rent; they run in arrears; they are threatened or driven; if they pay well, still they have some favour to ask, or expect; in a word, they are in such a situation, that *attention* would secure the most entire compliance

compliance with such a clause. If once, or twice, upon an estate, a man was drove for his rent, who neglected the trees, while another in the same circumstances had time given him, because he preserved them, the effect would presently be seen. *Tbird*, To have a magazine of sticks, spade handles, pieces for cars, and cabbins, &c. laid in at the cheapest rate, and kept for selling at prime cost to whoever would buy them. These would want to be purchased but for a few years, as small plantations of the timber willow would in four years furnish an ample supply.

That these three circumstances united, would presently plant a country I am convinced; I saw a willingness among Lord Kingsborough's little tenants do it, some even who made a beginning the very first year; and hundreds assured me of their most assiduous compliance. Such a plan most certainly should not preclude large annual plantations on the land which a gentleman keeps in hand; but the beauty of the country depends on trees, scattered over the whole face of it. What a figure would Ireland make on a comparison with its present state, if one tree now stood by each cabin! but it is the spirit of the Irish nation to attempt every thing by laws, and then leave those laws to execute themselves, which indeed with many of them is not at all amiss. It is by no means clear, whether the act which gives to the tenant a property in the trees he plants, to be ascertained by a jury at the end of the lease, and paid by the landlord, has any great tendency to encrease the quantity of wood. It has unfortunately raised an undecided question of law, whether the act goes to trees, which were originally furnished from the landlord's nursery, or planted in consequence of a clause in a lease. If it should so interfere with such plantations, it would be highly mischievous: Also, for a man to be forced either to buy or to sell his property, at the price fixed by a jury, is a harsh circumstance. To this cause it is probably owing, that the plantations made in consequence of that act, are perfectly insignificant.

I have made many very minute calculations of the expence, growth, and value of plantations in Ireland, and am convinced from them that there is no application of the best land in that kingdom will equal the profit of planting the worst in it. A regard for the interest of posterity call for the oak and other trees which require more than an age to come to maturity, but with other views the quick growing ones are of profit much superior, these come to perfection so speedily that three-fourths of the landlords of the kingdom might expect to cut where they planted, and reap those great profits, which most certainly attend it. There are timber willows (fallies as they are called in Ireland) which rise with incredible rapidity. I have measured them at Mr. Bolton's near Waterford twenty-one feet high in the third year from the planting, and as strait as a larch. With this willow, woods would arise as it were by enchantment, and
all

all sorts of farm offices and cabbins might be built of it in seven years from planting. Is it not inexcusable to complain of a want of wood when it is to be had with so much ease? Larch and beech thrive wonderfully wherever I have seen them planted; and the Lombardy poplar makes the same luxuriant shoots for which it is famous in England; and though a soft wood yet it is applicable to such a multiplicity of purposes, and so easily propagated, that it deserves the greatest attention.

As to oak they are always planted in Ireland; from a nursery I have seen very handsome trees as old as fifteen years, some perhaps older, but even at that age they run incomparably more into head than plants in England which have never been transplanted. It is a great misfortune that a century at least is necessary to prove the mischief of the practice: We know by most ample experience that the noble oaks in England applicable to the use of the large ships of war, were all *sown* where they remained. That tree pushes its tap root so powerfully that I have the greatest reason to believe the future growth suffers essentially from its being injured, and I defy the most skilful nurseryman to take them up upon a large scale without breaking, if it is broke in the part where it is an almost imperceptible thread, it is just the same as cutting it off in a larger part, the steady perpendicular power is lost, and the surface roots must feed the plant, these may do for a certain growth, and to a certain period, but the tree will never become the sovereign of the forest, or the waves. I know several plantations of sown oak in England from twelve to thirty, and some forty years growth, which are truly beautiful, and infinitely beyond any thing I have seen in Ireland.

The woods yet remaining in that kingdom are what in England would be called copses. They are cut down at various growths, some being permitted to stand forty years. Attentive landlords fence when they cut to preserve the future shoots, others do not. But this is by no means the system with a view to which I recommend planting, timber of any kind cut as such will pay double and treble what the shoots from any stubs in the world will do. They may come to a tolerable size, and yield a large value; but the profit is not to be compared with. To explain this, permit me one or two remarks.

If willow, poplars, ash, &c. are planted for timber to be cut at whatever age, ten, twenty or thirty years; when cut the stools will throw out many shoots, but let it not be imagined that these shoots will ever again become timber; they will never be any thing but copse wood, and attended in future with no more than the copse profit, which is not half that of timber, in such a case the land should be new planted, and the old stools either grubbed up for fuel, or else the growth from them cut very often for faggots till the new timber gets up enough to drip on and destroy it. The common practice in Ireland is cutting young trees down when they do not shoot well, this is converting timber to copse wood; attention to cutting

off all the shoots but one will train up a stem, but I question whether it will ever make a capital tree; if the other shoots are not annually cut it will never be any tree at all; and yet it is certainly a fact that the new shoot is much finer than the old one, which perhaps would have come to nothing; but better remove it entirely than depend on new shoots for making timber. The gentlemen in that kingdom are much too apt to think they have got timber, when in fact they have nothing but fine large copse wood. A strong proof of this is the great double-ditches made thirty or forty years ago, and planted with double rows of trees, generally ash, these for two reasons are usually (for the age) not half so good as trees of the same growth in England; one is, many of them were cut when young, and arose from stools; the other is their growing out of a high dry bank, full of the roots of four rows of white thorn or apple quick, besides those of the trees themselves. It is a fact that I never saw a single capital tree growing on these banks: all hedge trees are difficult to preserve, and therefore must have been cut when young. Ash in England growing from a level are generally worth in forty years from forty shillings to three pounds. And I know many trees of fifty to sixty years growth that would sell readily at from four to eight pounds, yet the price in Ireland is higher. Another practice which is common in that kingdom is pruning timber trees, and even oaks. I was petrified at seeing oaks of ten and fifteen feet high with all the side shoots cut off. There are treatises upon planting which recommend this practice as well as cutting down young trees to make the better *timber*. There are no follies which are not countenanced, and even prescribed in some book or other, but unhappy is it for a kingdom when they are listened to. Burn your books, and attend to nature; come to England and view our oak, our ash, and our beech all self sown, and never cursed with the exertions of art. Shew me such trees from the hands of nurseryman and pruners before you waste your breath with shallow reasoning to prove that the most common of the operations of nature must be assisted by the axe or pruning hook.

One reason why both fences and trees in Ireland which have once been made are now neglected and in ruin, is owing to the first planting being all that is thought of; the hedges are suffered to grow for thirty or forty years without cutting; the consequence of which is their being ragged, and open at bottom, and full of gaps whole perches long. But all fences should be cut periodically, for the same reason that trees ought never to be touched, their pushing out many shoots for every one that is taken off; this should be repeated every fifteen years; a proper portion of the thorns should be plashed down to form an impenetrable live hedge, and the rest cut off, and made into faggots. But in the Irish way the fences yield no fuel at all. To permit a hedge to grow too long without cutting, not only ruins it for a fence, but spoils the trees that are planted with it.

Lastly,

Lastly, let me observe, that the amazing neglect in not planting osier grounds for making baskets and small hoops, is unpardonable throughout the kingdom, they no where thrive better; a small one I planted in the county of Corke grew six feet the first year, yet at that port there is a considerable importation of them from Portugal.

S E C T I O N XI.

Manures—Waste Lands.

THE manure commonly used in Ireland is lime; inexhaustible quarries of the finest lime-stone are found in most parts of that island, with either turf, or culm at a moderate price to burn it. To do the gentlemen of that country justice, they understand this branch of husbandry very well, and practice it with uncommon spirit. Their kilns are the best I have any where seen, and great numbers are kept burning the whole year through, without a thought of stopping on account of the winter. Their draw kilns burn up to forty barrels a day; and what they call French kilns, which burn the stone without breaking, have been made even to five thousand barrels in a kiln. Mr. Leslie laying ten thousand barrels on his land in one year, and Mr. Aldworth as much, are instances which I never heard equalled. The following table will shew the general practice.

	<i>Barrels per acre.</i>	<i>Price per barrel.</i>	
		<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Mr. M'Farlan,	160		7
Slaine,	120		7
Headfort,	80		6
Packenham,			6
Mr. Marley,	160	1	0
Kilfaine,	80		6
Mr. Kennedy,	40	2	6
Hampton,	125		7
Ld. Ch. Baron Forster,	160		9
Market Hill,	30	1	6
Warrentown,	140	1	1
Lecale,	115		11
Mr. Leslie,	160		11
Newtown Limavady,	100	1	0
Castle Caldwell,			6
Inniskilling,	80		8
Florence Court,	60		8
Farnham,	150		8
Mr. Mahon,			5
Mr. Brown,			3
Mr. French,			4
Woodlawn,			4
Annsgrove,	100		8
Mr. Aldworth,	160		6

	Barrels per acre.	Price per Barrel.		
		s.	d.	f.
Lord Donneraile,	80		5	2
Mallow,	100	1	1	
Mr. Gordon,	50		7	2
Coolmore,	40		9	
Nedeen,		1	0	
Mucrus,	70		7	
Mr. Blennerhasset,	100		6	
Mr. Bateman,	50		6	
Tarbat,	40	1	0	
Lord Tyrone,	200	1	0	
Average,	100		9	

These quantities are upon the whole considerable. The price shews the plenty of this manure in Ireland. To find any place where it can be burnt for three pence and four pence is truly wonderful, but can only be from the union of turf and limestone at the same place.

I no where heard of any land that had been over limed, or on which the repetition of it had proved so disadvantageous as it has sometimes been found in England*.

Limestone gravel is a manure peculiar to Ireland; and is most excellent. It is a blue gravel, mixed with stones as large as a man's fist, and sometimes with a clay loam; but the whole mass has a very strong effervescence with acid. On uncultivated lands it has the same wonderful effect as lime, and on clay arable, a much greater; but it is beneficial to all soils. In the isle of Anglesea, a country which very much resembles Ireland, there is a gravel much like it, which has also some effervescence; but I never met with it in any other part of England.

Marle in Ireland is not so common as these manures. That which is oftenest found is white, and remarkably light; it lies generally under bogs. Shell marle is dredged up in the Shannon, and in the harbour of Waterford.

In the catalogue of manures, I wish I could add the composts formed in well littered farm yards, but there is not any part of husbandry in the kingdom more neglected than this; indeed I have scarce any where seen the least vestige of such a convenience as a yard surrounded with offices for the winter shelter, and feeding of cattle. All sorts of animals range about the field in winter, by which means the quantity of dung raised is contemptible. To dwell upon a point of such acknowledged importance is needless. Time it is to be hoped will introduce a better system.

WASTE

* See a Letter from the late Earl of Holderness to me, inserted in the second Edition of the Northern Tour.

WASTE LANDS.

Although the proportion of waste territory is not, I apprehend, so great in Ireland as it is in England, certainly owing to the rights of commonage in the latter country which fortunately have no existence in Ireland; yet are the tracts of desert mountains and bogs very considerable. Upon these lands is to be practised the most profitable husbandry in the King's dominions; for so I am persuaded the improvement of mountain land to be. By that expression is not to be understood only very high lands, all waste in Ireland that are not bog they call *mountain*; so that you hear of land under that denomination where even a hillock is not to be seen. The largest tracts, however, are adjoining to real mountains, especially where they slope off to a large extent gradually to the south. Of this sort Lord Kingsborough has a very extensive and most unprofitable range. In examining it, with many other mountains, and in about five months experience of the beginning only of an improvement under my direction there, I had an opportunity of ascertaining a few points which made me better acquainted with the practicability of those improvements than if I had only passed as a traveller through the kingdom. By stating a few of the circumstances of this attempt, others who have mountains under similar circumstances may judge of the propriety of undertaking their improvement. The land has a very gentle declivity from the Galty mountains towards the south, and to a new road Lord Kingsborough made leading from Mitchelstown towards Cahir, which road he very wisely judged was the first step to the improvement of the waste parts of his estate as well as a great public benefit. The South side of this road limestone is found, and on the North side, the improvement was begun in a spot that included some tolerable good land, some exceeding rough and stoney, and a wet bottom where there was a bog two, three, and four feet deep; the land yielded no other profit than being a commonage to the adjoining farm, in which way it might pay the rent possibly of a shilling an acre: Twenty thousand acres by estimation joined it in the same situation which did not yield the fourth of that rent. In June I built a lime kiln which burnt twenty barrels a day, and cut, led, and stacked turf enough to keep it burning a whole twelvemonth, sketched the fences of four inclosures, making thirty-four acres, and finished the first work of them, leaving the rest, and planting till winter*. I cleared two inclosures of stones; pared and burnt them; burnt eight hundred barrels of lime, limed

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* *Where fences must be done by the day and not the perch, which will generally be the case in the beginning of an improvement in a very wild country, from the labourers being totally ignorant of taking work by measure; all that is possible should be executed in summer,*

one inclosure, and sowed one third with wheat, a third with rye, and the other with bere, as an experiment; the other field with turneps, which from the continual drought, failed. Two cabbins were built. And the whole expence in five months, including the price of all ploughing, and carriage, (the latter from the miserable cars and garrens at a most extravagant rate) buying timber, stewards wages, &c. amounted to one hundred and fifty pounds. The moment the neighbours understood the works were at an end, some of them offered me ten shillings an acre for the land to take it as it was, which is just eleven per cent. for the money, but I could have got more. The following were the only data gained: lime burnt for fivepence a barrel. Paring with the graffan in stoney land 30s. to 40s. an acre, and done by the plough at eight shillings much better, burning and spreading the ashes depends on weather, one piece cost above twenty shillings an acre, the other not five, but on an average I should calculate it at ten shillings. The whole operation may be very well done with the plough at twenty shillings. Clearing from stones and carting away, various; I found a very stoney piece could be cleared at twelve shillings an acre. A single ditch seven feet broad, and from three to five deep, the bank nine feet high from the bottom of the ditch, cost one shilling and sixpence; but this expence would have lessened when they were more accustomed to it: consequently a double fence with a space between left for planting, three shillings.

My design was to purchase a flock of mountain sheep in the following spring, and keep them through the summer in the mountains, but folding them every night in the improvement, in which work I could have instructed the people, and when once they had seen the benefit, I do not think the practice would ever have been lost. To have provided plenty of turneps for their winter support, and improved the breed by giving them some better rups, but to have done this gradually in proportion as their food improved. Turneps to be for some years the only crop, except small pieces by way of trial. To have laid down the land to grass after a proper course of turneps in the manner and with the seeds I practised in Hertfordshire, which would have shewn what that operation is. There is not a complete meadow in the whole country. To have proportioned the sheep to the turneps at the rate of from twenty to thirty an acre according to the goodness of the crop: there is a power in such waste tracts of keeping any number in summer; the common people keep them all the year round on the mountains.

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mer, especially in so wet a climate as Ireland; and when no more is paid for a day in July than in December. Some of my banks fell with the Autumn rains, owing to two causes; first, the men, instead of knowing how to make a ditch were mountaineers, who scarcely knew the right end of a spade; and secondly, it proved the driest season that ever was known in Ireland.

The annual product of the improved land is in this system very easily ascertained. Suppose only twenty * sheep per acre, and no more than fifteen lambs from them, worth two shillings and sixpence each, it is thirty-seven shillings and sixpence, and the twenty fleeces at one shilling make fifty-seven shillings and sixpence: about three pound therefore may be reckoned the lowest value of an acre of turneps at first; but as successive crops on the same land improve greatly, they would winter more than twenty, and both lambs and wool be more valuable, so that from a variety of circumstances I have attended to in that country, I am clear the common value of the turneps might be carried to four pounds, and in the course of a few years perhaps to five pounds an acre. And to state the expence of such an improvement completely finished at ten pounds an acre, including every article whatever; three crops of turneps amply repay the whole, and the future produce or rent of the land, neat profit. This would be twenty shillings an acre; twenty-five shillings are commonly paid for much worse land. The real fact of such improvements is a landlord's accepting an estate gratis, or at least paying nothing but trouble for it. Nearly such conclusions must be drawn from lord Altamont's mountain works, of which an account is given in the minutes. I should remark that the people I employed, though as ignorant as any in the kingdom, and had never seen a turnep hoe, hoed the turneps when I shewed them the manner, very readily, and though not skilfully, well enough to prove their docility would not be wanting; it was the same with the paring mattock, and the Norfolk turnep sower. They very readily execute orders, and seem to give their inclination to it.

There are several reasons which make these improvements more profitable and easy in Ireland than they are in England. There are no common rights to encounter, which are the curse of our moors. Buildings, which in England form one of the heaviest articles, are but a trifling expence; make the land good, and you will let it readily without any at all; or at least with an allowance of a roof towards a cabbin; and lastly, the proportionate value of improved land compared with that of unimproved is much higher than it is with us, owing to the want of capital, rendering all improvements so rare, and to the common people so difficult. Three hundred pounds a year steadily employed in such an undertaking, would in a few years create an estate sufficient for the greatest undertakings: but success depends on a regular unbroken exertion, a point I found very few persons in Ireland thoroughly understood, owing to their not being accustomed to large flocks of sheep regularly depending on turneps. At the same time that this work was carrying on, his lordship, by my advice, encouraged the pea-

* It is to be noted that stock sheep are only baited, and that chiefly in bad weather. The winters in Ireland are much milder than in England.

santry to take in small parts of these mountains themselves. The adjoining farms being out of lease, he had a power of doing what he pleased ; I marked a road, and assigned portions of the waste on each side to such as were willing to form the fences in the manner prescribed, to cultivate and inhabit the land, allowing each a guinea towards his cabin, and promising the best land rent free for three years, and the worst for five ; the eagerness with which the poor people came into this scheme, convinced me that they wanted nothing but a little encouragement to enter with all their might and spirit into the great work of improvement. They trusted to my assurance enough to go to work upon the ditches, and actually made a considerable progress. In all undertakings of this sort in Ireland it is the poor cottars, and the very little farmers, who are the best tools to employ, and the best tenants to let the land to ; but this circumstance raises many enemies to the work ; the better sort who have been used to tread upon and oppress, are ill pleased to see any importance or independancy given to them : and the whole race of jobbing gentlemen, whose conversation for ever takes the turn of ridiculing the poverty of the cottar tenants, will always be ready with an equal cargo of falsehood and ignorance to decry and depreciate any undertaking which is not to conduce to their own benefit : if a landlord does not steadily resolve to laugh at all this trash, he had better never think of improvements.

Trifling as they have been on the Irish mountains, yet are the bogs still more neglected. The minutes of the journey shew that a few gentlemen have executed very meritorious works even in these, but as they, unfortunately for the public, do not live upon any of the very extensive bogs, the inhabitants near the latter deny the application of their remarks. Bogs are of two sorts, black and red. The black bog is generally very good, it is solid almost to the surface, yields many ashes in burning, and generally admitted to be improveable though at a heavy expence. The red sort has usually a reddish substance five or six feet deep from the surface, which holds water like a sponge, yields no ashes in burning, and is supposed to be utterly irreclaimable.

In the variety of theories which have been started to account for the formation of bogs, difficulties occur which are not easily solved : yet are there many circumstances which assist in tracing the cause. Various sorts of trees, some of them of a great size, are very generally found in them, and usually at the bottom, oak, fir, and yew the most common ; the roots of these trees are fast in the earth ; some of the trees seem broken off, others appear to be cut, but more with the marks of fire on them. Under some bogs of a considerable depth there are yet to be seen the furrows of land once ploughed. The black bog is a solid weighty mass which cuts almost like butter, and upon examination appears to resemble rotten wood. Under the red

bogs there is always a stratum if not equally solid with the black bog, nearly so, and makes as good fuel. There is upon the black as well as the red ones a surface of that spongy vegetable mass which is cleared away to get at the bog for fuel, but it is shallow on these. Sound trees are found equally in both sorts. Both differ extremely from the bogs I have seen in England in the inequality of the surface; the Irish ones are rarely level but rise into hills. I have seen one in Donnegal which is a perfect scenery of hill and dale. The spontaneous growth most common is heath; with some bog myrtle, rushes and a little sedge grass. As far as I can judge by roads, laying gravel of any sort, clay, earth, &c. improves the bog, and brings good grass. The depth of them is various, they have been fathomed to that of fifty feet, and some are said to be still deeper.

From these circumstances it appears, that a forest cut, burnt, or broken down, is probably the origin of a bog. In all countries where wood is so common as to be a weed, it is destroyed by burning, it is so around the Baltic, and in America at present. The native Irish might cut and burn their woods enough for the tree to fall, and in the interim between such an operation, and successive culture, wars and other intestine divisions might prevent it in those spots, which so neglected afterwards became bogs. Trees lying very thick on the ground would become an impediment to all streams and currents, and gathering in their branches, whatever rubbish such waters brought with them, form a mass of a substance which time might putrefy, and give that acid quality to, which would preserve some of the trunks though not the branches of the trees. The circumstance of red bogs being black and solid at the bottom, would seem to indicate that a black bog has received less accession from the growth and putrefaction of vegetables after the formation than the red ones, which from some circumstances of soil or water might yield a more luxuriant surface vegetation, till it produced that mass of sponge which is now found on the surface. That this supposition is quite satisfactory I cannot assert, but the effect appears to be at least possible, and accounts for the distinction between the two kinds. That they receive their form and increase from a constant vegetation appear from their rising into hills, if they did not vegetate the quantity of water they contain would keep them on a level. The places where the traces of ploughing are found, I should suppose were once fields adjoining to the woods, and when the bog rose to a certain height it flowed gradually over the surrounding land.

But the means of improving them is the most important consideration at present. Various methods have been prescribed, and some small improvements have been effected by a few gentlemen, but at so large an expence that it is a question how far their operations answered. Here, therefore, one must call in theory to our aid from a deficiency of practice. Fortunately for a bog improver, drains are cut at so small an expence, in them, that

that that necessary work is done at a very moderate cost. But in spongy ones it must be repeated annually, according to the substance of the bog, and no other work attended to but sinking the drains lower and lower, by no means till you come to the bottom, (the necessity of which is a vulgar error) but till the spaces between them will bear an ox in boots. Then the surface should be levelled and burnt, and I would advise nothing to be done for a year or two but rollers as heavy as might be, kept repeatedly going over it, in order to press and consolidate the surface. Before any thing else was attempted I would see the effect of this; probably the draining and rolling would bring up a fresh surface of vegetables not seen before, in that case I should have very few doubts of finishing the work with the feeding, treading, and fold of sheep which would encourage the white clover and grasses to vegetate strongly; fortunately for any operation with sheep they can be kept safely, as they never rot in a drained bog. A very ingenious friend of mine thinks the whole might be done with sheep with little or no draining, but from viewing the bogs I am clear that is impossible. During the time of rolling and sheep feeding, the drains I would have kept clean and open, the labour of which would regularly be less and less. When the surface was so hard as to bear cars, marle, clay, gravel, or earth, might be carried on according to distance, which with the sheep feeding would convert it into good meadow. But as carting in a large improvement would probably be too expensive; I should think it worth while to try the experiment whether it would not be practicable to sink a shaft through the bog into the gravel or earth beneath it, boarding or walling, and plastering with terrass or cement, in order to be able to draw up the under stratum, as all the chalk in Hertfordshire is raised, that is, wound up in buckets; chalk is so raised and wheeled on to the land for the price of eight-pence the load of twenty bushels, and is found a cheap improvement at that price, yet the chalk drawers, as they call themselves, earn two shillings and two and sixpence each day. Whatever the means used, certain it is that no meadows are equal to those gained by improving a bog; they are of a value which scarcely any other lands rise to: in Ireland I should suppose it would not fall short of forty shillings an acre, and rise in many cases to three pounds.

SECTION XII.

Cattle—Wool—Winter Food.

THE cattle in Ireland are much better than the tillage; in the management of the arable ground the Irish are five centuries behind the best cultivated of the English counties, but the moisture of the climate, and the richness of the soil, have reared, assisted with importations from England, a breed of cattle and sheep, though not equal to ours, yet not so many degrees below them as might be expected from other circumstances. The following table will shew the prices and profit on fattening bullocks and cows.

Places.	FAT BULLOCKS AND COWS.											
	Price, Bull.			Profit.		Price, Cow.			Profit.			
	l.	s.	d.	l.	s.	d.	l.	s.	d.	l.	s.	d.
Gibbstown,	10	0	0	4	0	0	5	10	0	1	15	0
Lord Bective,							4	2	6	1	17	6
Packenham,							4	0	0	2	0	0
Tullamore,							3	7	6	2	0	0
Shaen Castle,							4	10	0	1	16	0
Ballynakill,	5	10	0	2	5	0						
Mr. Butler,	5	0	0	3	0	0	3	5	0	2	0	0
Belle Isle,							3	15	0	1	11	6
Longford,							4	0	0	1	15	0
Mercra,	4	10	0	2	10	0	3	10	0	1	10	0
Holymount,							2	16	0	1	10	0
Drumoland,							3	10	0	2	0	0
Clare,	6	0	0	4	0	0	3	10	0	2	0	0
Castle Oliver,	5	0	0	3	8	3						
Tipperary,				4	5	0						
Cullen,	6	0	0	3	10	0	4	10	0	2	0	0
Average,	6	0	0	3	7	6	3	16	0	1	16	6

The system pursued in fattening these beasts is explained fully in the minutes of the journey. I think the profit remarkably small. The exportation of beef, and its prices, will be given under the article *Trade*, as it forms a principal branch of the commerce of Ireland.

Places.	S H E E P.		Places.	S H E E P.	
	Fleece.	Profit.		Fleece.	Profit.
	lb. qrs.	s. d.		lb. qrs.	s. d.
Slaine,	4 2		Tipperary,	5 3	10 0
Tullamore,	6		Mr. Moore,	7	
Shaen Castle,	4		Furness,	5 3	
Mr. Vicars,	6 2		Gloster,	5 3	
Mr. Brown,		10 0	Johnstown,	5 3	
Kilfain,	5 3		Mr. Head,		10 0
Prospect,	5 3		Cullen,	5 3	9
Mr. Pepper,	8		Mitchell's Town	3	
Florence Court,	3		Averages,	5	11 0
Strokestown,	5	17 0	Averages of		
Ditto,		10 0	the 'Tour		
Elphin,	5	10 0	thro' the N.	} 5	10 0
Mercra,	4		of England.		
Mr. Brown,	4		Do. E. of Engl.	5 2	11 8
Westport,	5		Average of Engl.	5 1	10 10
Moniva,	4 2		Average of Irel.	5	11 0
Drumoland,	5 3				
Annsgrove,	4				
Lord Donneraile	8				
Adair,	7				

From hence the remark I often made in Ireland is confirmed, that their sheep are on an average better than those in England; the weight of the fleece is nearly equal to it, and profit rather higher, notwithstanding mutton is dearer in England; this is owing to the price of wool being so much higher in Ireland than it is with us. The following table will shew the price of it for fourteen years in both kingdoms.

Wool in the Fleece, Ireland.

	Per stone 16 lb.	
	s.	d.
In the year 1764	—	11 0
1765	—	10 0
1766	—	11 0
1767	—	13 0
1768	—	13 6
1769	—	13 6
1770	—	14 0
1771	—	14 0
1772*	—	0 0
1773*	—	0 0

Wool in the Fleece, Lincolnshire.

	Tod reduced to stone of 16 lb.	
	s.	d.
In the year 1764	—	11 4
1765	—	11 4
1766	—	12 0
1767	—	10 8
1768	—	8 0
1769	—	8 0
1770	—	8 3
1771	—	8 0
1772	—	8 3
1773	—	8 4

* Unsettled but very high.

Wool in the Fleece, <i>Ireland.</i>			Wool in the Fleece, <i>Lincolnshire.</i>		
Per stone 16 lb.			Tod reduced to stone of 16 lb.		
s. d.			s. d.		
In the year 1774	—	14 0	In the year 1774	—	9 0
1775	—	16 0	1775	—	9 6
1776	—	16 6	1776	—	10 0
1777 §	—	17 6	1777	—	9 9
1778	—	0 0	1778	—	8 0
1779	—	0 0	1779	—	6 9
<hr/>			<hr/>		
Average,	—	13 8	Average,	—	9 3

47 per cent higher in Ireland than in England.

From hence it appears, that wool has been amazingly higher in Ireland, which accounts for the superiority in the profit of sheep. There are several reasons for their height of price, but the principal are a decrease in the quantity produced, and at the same time an encrease in the consumption. The bounty on the inland carriage of corn, as I shall shew hereafter, has occasioned the ploughing up great tracts of sheep walk; and at the same time the poor people have improved in their cloathing very much: these reasons are fully sufficient to account for that rise in the price of wool, which has brought it to be higher than the English rate. There is, however, another very powerful reason, which has had a constant operation, and which is the cheapness of spinning; in Ireland this is twopence halfpenny and threepence, but in England fivepence and sixpence. Great quantities are therefore spun into yarn in Ireland, and in that state exported to England, for the price of the labour is so low, that a yarn manufacturer can afford to give a much higher price for wool than an English one, and yet sell the yarn itself, after the expence of freight is added, as cheap as English yarn. The quantities of yarn, &c. exported, will be seen hereafter.

Many gentlemen have made very spirited attempts in improving the cattle and sheep in Ireland, so that the mixture of the English breed of cattle has spread all over the kingdom; English sheep are also extending. The minutes of the journey shew that the size of the bullocks is much encreased in the last twenty years.

But profitable as sheep are in Ireland, they are not near so as they might be, if turneps were properly attended to: and the reason why oxen and cows yield still less is the same deficiency. The mildness of the climate enables the stock-master to do with but little winter food, and this natural advantage proves

§ Communicated by Mr. Joshua Pine in the woollen trade, Dublin.

|| Communicated by Mr. James Oaks in the woollen trade, Bury, Suffolk.

an artificial evil, for it prevents those exertions, which the farmers in other countries are obliged to make, in order to support their flocks and herds. Mild as the Irish climate is, the graziers in Tipperary, that is in the south of the kingdom, find nothing more profitable than turneps, though hoeing them is quite unknown, and by means of that root, so very imperfectly managed, supply Dublin with mutton in the spring, to their very great emolument. But the want of winter food is more apparent in black cattle, which upon such very rich land, ought to rise to a size which is scarce ever met with in Ireland, the usual weight being from four to eight hundred; but from four hundred and a half to five and six hundred weight, the common size on the rich grounds of Limerick; such land in England is covered with herds that weigh from ten to fifteen hundred weight each; this vast difference is owing to their being reared the two first winters with such a deficiency of food, that their growth is stunted, so that when they come upon the fine bullock land, they are of a size which can never be fattened to the weight of English oxen. The deficiency in turneps, &c. renders hay very valuable in Ireland, which occasions its being given sparingly to cattle; but if they had while young, as many turneps as they would eat in addition to their present quantity of hay, and were protected in warm yards against the wind and rain, they would rise to a size unknown at present in that kingdom. Upon this and a variety of other accounts, there is scarcely any object in its agriculture of so much importance as the introduction of that plant under the right cultivation.

S E C T I O N XIII.

Tythes—Church Lands.

OUR sister kingdom labours under this heavy burden as well as her neighbours, to which is very much owing the uncultivated state of so great a part of her territory. The following are the minutes of the journey:

Places.

Places.	Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.		Bere.		Potatoes.		Mowing.		Sheep.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Cellbridge,	7	0			5	0	5	0			5	0		
Dollestown,	5	0			3	0	5	0			3	0		
Slaine,	7	0	5	0	3	6					3	6		
Packenham,	7	0	7	0	5	0	7	0			2	0	0	3
Tullamore,	5	0	3	0	3	0	5	0			5	0	0	0 $\frac{1}{4}$
Shaen Castle,	7	0	5	0	3	6	6	0			3	0		
Brownshill,	5	0	3	0	2	6	4	0			3	0		
Kilfaine,	8	0	7	0	4	0	7	0			4	0		
Mount Kennedy,	10	0	4	0	4	0								
Hampton,	8	6	8	0	5	0					4	6		
Ardmogh,			5	0	3	0								

Lecale, 2s. 2d. an acre for the whole crop.

Shaen Castle,				2	0									
Clonleigh,			7	0	5	0			5	0	5	0		
Strokestown,	8	0	8	0	3	0	8	0						
Mercra,	8	0	6	0	4	0					3	0		
Drumoland,	5	0	3	0	2	0			10	0			0	2 $\frac{1}{2}$
Annsgrove,	8	0	6	0			6	0	6	0	2	0	0	3
Adair,	6	0	5	0	4	0			9	0	2	0	0	2
Ballycanvan,	5	6	5	6	5	6			5	6			0	6
Johnstown,	6	0	3	0	3	0	6	0	6	0				
Derry,	5	0	5	0	2	6	5	0	5	0	2	0		
Cullen,	8	0	7	0	4	6	7	0	11	0	2	8		
Averages,	6	9	5	4	3	8	5	11	7	2	3	3	0	2 $\frac{3}{4}$

	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Hoy.
Average of the Tour through } the North of England, }	5 2	3 11	3 4	1 10
Eastern ditto, - -	4 8	4 0	2 8	
Average, - - -	4 11	3 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 0	1 10
Ireland, per English acre,	4 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 4	2 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 0

This table does not contain any proof that tythes in Ireland are unreasonably rated; but that there are abuses in the modes of levying them is undoubted: the greatest that I heard of were the notes and bonds taken in some parts of that kingdom by the proctors for the payment of tythes, which bear interest, and which are sometimes continued for several years, principal and interest being consolidated until the sum becomes too great for the poor man to pay, when great extortions are complained of, and formed the grievance which seemed most to raise the resentment of the rioters, called Whiteboys. The great power of the protestant gentlemen render their compositions very light, while the poor catholic is made in too many cases to pay severely for the deficiencies of his betters. This is a great abuse, but not to be remedied till the whole kingdom is animated with a different spirit.

The house of commons some years ago passed a vote, declaring every lawyer an enemy to his country, who in any way whatever was concerned in any case of tythe for fat bullocks and cows; and without its becoming a law was so compleatly obeyed, that it has regulated the business ever since; it was certainly a reproach to that parliament, that potatoes and turf were not the objects; for if any thing called for so violent an exemption, it was certainly the potatoe garden and fuel of the poor cottar.

No objects in both the kingdoms can well be of greater importance than a fixed composition for tythe. It is a mode of payment so disagreeable in every respect to the clergy, and so ruinous to the laity, that a general public improvement would follow such a measure. In Ireland there can be no doubt but the recompence should be land, were it for no other reason but having in every parish a glebe sufficient for the ample and agreeable residence of a rector. Force by the most express penalties by statute law, the residence of the clergy, after which extend that most excellent law which enables any bishop to expend, in a palace, offices, or domain wall, two years revenues of the see, with a power of charging, by his last will, his successor with the payment of the whole of the sum to whatever uses he leaves it, who in like manner is enabled to charge his successor with three fourths, and so on; this law should be extended to parsonage houses, with this assistance, that wherever the rector or vicar proved the expenditure of two years revenue in a house, he should receive a permit from the grand jury, for expending half as much more for offices, walling, &c. and when in like manner he brought his certificate of so doing, the money to be paid him by the county treasurer in like manner as the presentment roads are done at present, not however to leave it at the option of the jury. A resident clergy spending in the parish the whole of their receipts, would in all respects be so advantageous and desirable, that it is fair the county should assist in enabling them to do it in a liberal manner. The expence would

would be gradual, and never amount very high, if churches, when greatly wanted, were built at the same time. If the expence was for a time considerable, still it would be laid out in a manner amply to repay it. Decent edifices rising in all parts of the kingdom, would alone, in the great business of civilization, be advantageous; it would ornament the country, as well as humanize minds, accustomed to nothing better than cabbins of mud; and securing one resident gentleman of some learning and ideas in every parish of the kingdom, living on a property in which he had an interest for life, could scarcely fail of introducing improvements in agriculture and planting; the whole county would profit by such circumstances, and ought to assist in the expence. I must observe, however, that such plans should depend entirely on the clergy accepting a perpetual recompence in lieu of tythes; for as to a public expence, to introduce resident rectors, whose business, when fixed, would be an extension and severity in that tax, and prove a premium on taking them in kind to the ruin of agriculture, common sense would certainly dictate a very different expenditure of the public money. So burthensome is this mode of payment, that where their residence is followed by tythes being paid in kind, the clergyman, who ought to be an object beloved and revered, lives really upon the ruin of all his parishioners, so that instead of giving public money to bring him into a parish, no application of those funds would be more beneficial in such a case, than to purchase his absence. If ever such plans came in agitation, it would certainly be right to establish a provision for parish clerks, to teach the children of all religions to read and write.

The revenues of the clergy in Ireland, are very considerable. Here is a list of the bishoprics with the annual value, which I have had corrected so often in the neighbourhood of each that I believe it will be found nearly exact.

	l.		l.
The Primacy per ann.	8,000	Clonsfert,	— 2,400
Dublin,	— 5,000	Clogher,	— 4,000
Tuam,	— 4,000	Kilmore,	— 2,600
Cashel,	— 4,000	Elphin,	— 3,700
Derry,	— 7,000	Killala,	— 2,900
Limerick,	— 3,500	Kildare,	— 2,600
Corke,	— 2,700	Raphoe,	— 2,600
Cloyne,	— 2,500	Meath,	— 3,400
Ossory,	— 2,000	Kilaloo,	— 2,300
Waterford,	— 2,500	Leighlin and Ferns,	2,200
Down,	— 2,300		
Dromore,	— 2,000		
			<hr/> 73,400 <hr/>

This total does not, however, mark the extent or value of the land which yields it. I was informed in conversation that the lands of the primacy would, if lett as a private estate, be worth near one hundred thousand a year. Those of Derry half as much, and those of Cashel near thirty thousand a year. These circumstances taken into the account will shew that seventy-four thousand pounds a year include no inconsiderable portion of the kingdom. I have been also informed, but not on any certain authority, that these fees have the patronage of an ecclesiastical revenue of above one hundred and fifty thousand pounds a year more.

S E C T I O N XIV.

Absentees.

THERE are very few countries in the world that do not experience the disadvantage of remitting a part of their rents to landlords who reside elsewhere; and it must ever be so while there is any liberty left to mankind of living where they please. In Ireland the amount proportioned to the territory is greater probably than in most other instances; and not having a free trade with the kingdom in which such absentees spend their fortunes, it is cut off from that return which Scotland experiences for the loss of her rents.

Some years ago Mr. Morris published a list of the Irish absentees, and their rentals, but as every day makes considerable alterations, it is of course grown obsolete, this induced me to form a new one, which I got corrected by a variety of persons living in the neighbourhood of many of their respective estates: in such a detail, however, of private property, there must necessarily be many mistakes.

	l.		l.
Lord Donnegal, —	31,000	Lord Abercorn, —	8,000
Lord Courtnay, —	30,000	Mr. Dutton, —	8,000
Duke of Devonshire, —	18,000	Mr. Barnard, —	8,000
Earl of Milton, —	18,000	London Society, —	8,000
Earl of Shelburne, —	18,000	Lord Conyngham, —	8,000
Lady Shelburne, —	15,000	Lord Cahir, —	8,000
Lord Hertford, —	14,000	Earl of Antrim, —	8,000
Marquis of Rocking-		Mr. Bagnall, —	7,000
ham, — —	14,000	Mr. Longfield, —	7,000
Lord Barrymore, —	10,000	Lord Kenmare, —	7,000
Lord Montrath, —	10,000	Lord Nugent, —	7,000
Lord Besborough, —	10,000	Lord Kingston, —	7,000
Lord Egremont, —	10,000	Lord Valentia, —	7,000
Lord Middleton, —	10,000	Lord Grandisson, —	7,000
Lord Hillsborough, —	10,000	Lord Clifford, —	6,000
Mr. Stacpoole, —	10,000	Mr. Sloane, —	6,000
Lord Darnley, —	9,000	Lord Egmont, —	6,000
			Lord

l.		l.	
Lord Upper Ossory, —	6,000	Mr. John Barry, —	3,000
Mr. Silver Oliver, —	6,000	Mr. Edwards, —	3,000
Mr. Dunbar, —	6,000	Mr. Freeman, —	3,000
Mr. Henry O'Brien, —	6,000	Lord Newhaven, —	3,000
Mr. Mathew, —	6,000	Mr. Welsh, (Kerry) .	3,000
Lord Innham, —	6,000	Lord Palmerstown, —	2,500
Lord Sandwich, —	6,000	Lord Beaulieu, —	2,500
Lord Vane, —	6,000	Lord Verney, —	2,500
Lord Dartry, —	6,000	Mr. Bunbury, —	2,500
Lord Fane, —	5,000	Sir George Saville, —	2,000
Lord Claremont, —	5,000	Mrs. Newman, —	2,000
Lord Carbury, —	5,000	Col. Shirley, —	2,000
Lord Clanrickard, —	5,000	Mr. Campbell, —	2,000
Lord Farnham, —	5,000	Mr. Minchin, —	2,000
Lord Dilton, —	5,000	Mr. Burton, —	2,000
Sir W. Rowley, —	4,000	Duke of Dorset, —	2,000
Mr. Palmer, —	4,000	Lord Powis, —	2,000
Lord Clanbrassil, —	4,000	Mr. Whitehead, —	2,000
Lord Maffareen, —	4,000	Sir Eyre Coote, —	2,000
Lord Corke, —	4,000	Mr. Upton, —	2,000
Lord Portsmouth, —	4,000	Mr. John Baker Holroyd,	2,000
Lord Ashbrook, —	4,000	Sir N. Bayley, —	2,000
Lord Villiers, —	4,000	Duke of Chandois, —	2,000
Lord Bellew, —	4,000	Mr. S. Campbell, —	2,000
Sir Laurence Dundas, —	4,000	Mr. Ashroby, —	2,000
Allen family, —	4,000	Mr. Damer, —	2,000
Mr. O'Callaghan, —	4,000	Mr. Whitehead, —	2,000
General Montagu, —	4,000	Mr. Welbore Ellis, —	2,000
Mr. Fitzmaurice, —	4,000	Mr. Folliot, —	2,000
Mr. Needham, —	4,000	Mr. Donellan, —	2,000
Mr. Cook, —	4,000	Mrs. Wilton, —	2,000
Mr. Annesley, —	4,000	Mr. Forward, —	2,000
Lord Kerry, —	4,000	Lord Middlesex, —	2,000
Lord Fitzwilliam, —	4,000	Mr. Supple, —	2,000
Viscount Fitzwilliam, —	4,000	Mr. Nagles, —	2,000
English Corporation, —	3,500	Lady Raneleigh, —	2,000
Lord Bingley, —	3,500	Mr. Addair, —	2,000
Lord Dacre, —	3,000	Lord Sefton, —	2,000
Mr. Murray of Broughton, —	3,000	Lord Tyrawley, —	2,000
Lord Ludlow, —	3,000	Mr. Woodcock, —	2,000
Lord Weymouth, —	3,000	Sir John Millar, —	2,000
Lord Digby, —	3,000	Mr. Baldwin, —	2,000
Lord Fortescue, —	3,000	Dr. Moreton, —	1,800
Lord Derby, —	3,000	Dr. Delany, —	1,800
Lord Fingall, —	3,000	Sir William Yorke, —	1,700
Blundenheiffes, —	3,000	Mr. Arthur Barry, —	1,600
Lady Charleville, —	3,000	Lord Dyfart, —	1,600
Mr. Warren, —	3,000	Lord Clive, —	1,600
Mr. St. George, —	3,000	Mr. Bridges, —	1,500

	l.		l.
Mr. Cavenagh, —	1,500	Mr. Shepherd, —	1,000
Mr. Cuperden, —	1,500	Sir P. Dennis, —	1,000
Lady Cunnigby, —	1,500	Lady Dean, —	1,000
Mr. Annesley, —	1,500	Lord Lisburne, —	1,000
Mr. Hauren, —	1,500	Mr. Ralph Smith, —	1,000
Mr. Long, —	1,500	Mr. Ormsby, —	1,000
Mr. Oliver Tilson, —	1,500	Lord Stanhope, —	1,000
Mr. Plumtree, —	1,400	Lord Tilney, —	1,000
Mr. Pen, —	1,400	Lord Vere, —	1,000
Mr. Rathcormuc, —	1,200	Mr. Hoar, —	1,000
Mr. Worthington, —	1,200	Mrs. Gievill, —	1,000
Mr. Rice, —	1,200	Mr. Nappier, —	1,000
Mr. Ponsonby, —	1,200	Mr. Echlin, —	800
General Sandford, —	1,200	Mr. Taaf, —	800
Mr. Basil, —	1,200	Mr. Alexander, —	800
Mr. Dodwell, —	1,200	Mr. Hamilton, —	800
Mr. Lock, —	1,200	Mr. Hamilton, (Longford)	800
Mr. Cramer, —	1,200	Mr. William Barnard,	800
Mr. W. Long, —	1,200	Sir P. Leicester —	800
Mr. Rowley, —	1,200	Mr. Moreland, —	800
Miss Mac Artney, —	1,200	Mr. Cam, —	700
Mr. Sabine, —	1,100	Mr. Jonathan Lovett,	700
Mr. Carr, —	1,000	Mr. Hull, —	700
Mr. Howard, —	1,000	Mr. Staunton, —	700
Sir F. and Lady Lum,	1,000	Mr. Richard Barry, —	700
Lord Albemarle, —	1,000	Colonel Barrè, —	600
Mr. Butler, —	1,000	Mr. Ashen, —	600
Mr. J. Pleydell, —	1,000	Lady St. Leger, —	600
Mrs. Clayton, —	1,000	Sir John Hort, —	500
Mr. Obins, —	1,000	Mr. Edmund Burke, —	500
Lord M'Cartney, —	1,000	Mr. Ambrose, —	500
Mr. Chichester, —	1,000		

—Total 732,200.

This total, though not equal to what has been reported, is certainly an amazing drain upon a kingdom cut off from the re-action of a free trade, and such an one as must have a very considerable effect in preventing the natural course of its prosperity. It is not the simple amount of the rental being remitted into another country, but the damp on all sorts of improvements, and the total want of countenance and encouragement which the lower tenantry labour under. The landlord at such a great distance is out of the way of all complaints, or which is the same thing, of examining into, or remedying evils; miseries of which he can see nothing, and probably hear as little of, can make no impression. All that is required of the agent is to be punctual in his remittances, and as to the people who pay him, they are too often welcome to go to the devil, provided their rents could be paid from his territories.

territories. This is the general picture. God forbid it should be universally true ! there are absentees, who expend large sums upon their estates in Ireland ; the earl of Shelburne has made great exertions for the introduction of English agriculture. Mr. Fitzmaurice has taken every means to establish a manufacture. The bridge at Lismore is an instance of liberal magnificence in the duke of Devonshire. The church and other buildings at Belfast do honour to lord Donnegall. The church and town of Hillsborough, are striking monuments of what that nobleman performs. Lord Conyngham's expenditure in his absence in building and planting merits the highest praise, nor are many other instances wanting, equally to the advantage of the kingdom, and the honour of the individuals.

It will not be improper here to add, that the amount of the pension list of Ireland, the 29th of September, 1779, amounted to 84,591*l.* per annum ; probably therefore absentees, pensions, offices, and interest of money, amount to above A MILLION !

S E C T I O N XV.

Population.

IT is very astonishing that this subject should be so little understood in most countries ; even in England, which has given birth to so many treatises on the state, causes and consequences of it, so little is known, that those who have the best means of information, confess their ignorance in the variety of their opinions. Those political principles which should long, ere this time, have been fixed and acknowledged, are disputed ; erroneous theories started, and even the evidence of facts denied. But these mischievous errors usually proceed from the rage of condemnation, and the croaking jaundiced spirit, which determines to deduce public ruin from something ; if not from a king, a minister, a war, a debt, or a pestilence, from depopulation. In short, if it was not to be attributed to any thing, many a calculator would be in bedlam with disappointment. We have seen these absurdities carried to such a length as to see grave treatises published, and with respectable names to them, which have declared the depopulation of England itself to take place even in the most productive period of her industry and her wealth. This is not surprising, for there are no follies too ridiculous for wise men sometimes to patronize, but the amazing circumstance is that such tracts are believed, and that harmless politicians sigh in the very hey day of propagation, lest another age should see a fertile land without people to eat the fruits of it. Let population alone, and there is no fear of its taking care of itself, but when such fooleries are made a pretence of recommending laws for the regulation of landed property, which has been the case, such speculations should be treated with contempt and detestation ; while merely speculative, they are perfectly

perfectly harmless, but let them become active in parliament, and common sense should exert her power to kick the absurdity out of doors. To do justice to the Irish, I found none of this folly in that kingdom : many a violent opposer of government is to be found in that country, ready enough to confess that population increases greatly ; the general tenour of the information in the minutes declare the same thing.

There are several circumstances in Ireland extremely favourable to population, to which must be attributed that country being so much more populous than the state of manufacturing industry would seem to imply. There are five causes, which may be particularized among others of less consequence. First, There being no poor laws, Second, the habitations. Third, The generality of marriage. Fourth, Children not being burthenome. Fifth, Potatoes the food.

The laws of settlement in England, which confine the poor people to what is called their legal settlements, one would think framed with no other view than to be a check upon the national industry, it was, however, a branch of, and arose from those monuments of barbarity and mischief, our poor rates, for when once the poor were made, what they ought never to be considered a burthen, it was incumbent on every parish to lessen as much as possible their numbers ; these laws were therefore framed in the very spirit of depopulation, and most certainly have for near two centuries proved a bar to the kingdom's becoming as populous as it would otherwise have done. Fortunately for Ireland, it has hitherto kept free from these evils, and from thence results a great degree of her present population. Whole families in that country will move from one place to another with freedom, fixing according to the demand for their labour, and the encouragement they receive to settle. The liberty of doing this is certainly a premium on their industry, and consequently to their increase.

The cabbins of the poor Irish being such apparently miserable habitations, is another very evident encouragement to population. In England, where the poor are in many respects in such a superior state, a couple will not marry unless they can get a house, to build which, take the kingdom through, will cost from twenty-five to sixty pounds ; half the life, and all the vigour and youth of a man and woman are passed, before they can save such a sum ; and when they have got it, so burthenome are poor to a parish, that it is twenty to one if they get permission to erect their cottage. But in Ireland the cabin is not an object of a moment's consideration ; to possess a cow and a pig is an earlier aim ; the cabin begins with a hovel, that is erected with two days labour, and the young couple pass not their youth in celibacy for want of a nest to produce their young in. If it comes to a matter of calculation, it will then be but as four pounds to thirty.

Marriage

Marriage is certainly more general in Ireland than in England: I scarce ever found an unmarried farmer or cottar, but it is seen more in other classes, which with us do not marry at all; such as servants; the generality of footmen and maids, in gentlemen's families, are married, a circumstance we very rarely see in England.

Another point of importance is their children not being burthensome. In all the enquiries I made into the state of the poor, I found their happiness and ease generally relative to the number of their children, and nothing considered as such a misfortune as having none: whenever this is the fact, or the general idea, it must necessarily have a considerable effect in promoting early marriages, and consequently population.

The food of the people being potatoes is a point not of less importance: for when the common food of the poor is so dear as to be an object of attentive œconomy, the children will want that plenty which is essential to rearing them; the article of milk, so general in the Irish cabbins, is a matter of the first consequence in rearing infants. The Irish poor in the catholic parts of that country are subsisted entirely upon land, whereas the poor in England have so little to do with it, that they subsist almost entirely from shops, by a purchase of their necessaries; in the former case it must be a matter of prodigious consequence, that the product should be yielded by as small a space of land as possible; this is the case with potatoes more than with any other crop whatever.

As to the number of people in Ireland I do not pretend to compute them, because there are no satisfactory data whereon to found any computation. I have seen several formed on the hearth tax, but all computations by taxes must be erroneous, they may be below, but they cannot be above the truth. This is the case of calculating the number in England from the house and window tax. In Ireland it is still more so, from the greater carelessness and abuses in collecting taxes. There is, however, another reason, the exemptions from the hearth-money, which in the words of the act are as follow: "Those who live upon alms and are not able to get their livelihood by work, and widows, who shall procure a certificate of two justices of the peace in writing yearly, that the house which they inhabit is not of greater value than eight shillings by the year, and that they do not occupy lands of the value of eight shillings by the year, and that they have not goods or chattles to the value of four pounds*." It must be very manifest from hence, that this tax can be no rule whereby to judge of the population of the kingdom. Captain South's account is drawn from this source in the last century, which made the people 1,034,102 in the year 1695†; the

* *A Treatise of the Exchequer and Revenue of Ireland.* By G. E. HOWARD, Esq; Vol. 1. p. 90.

† *Abridgment of Phil. Trans.* Vol. iii. p. 665.

number was computed by Sir W. Petty, in the year 1657 to 850,000; in 1688 at 1,200,000; and in 1767 the houses taxed were 424,046. If the number of houses in a kingdom were known, we should be very far from knowing that of the people, for the computation of four or five per house, drawn from only a thousandth part of the total, and perhaps deduced from that of a family rather than a house, can never speak the real fact. I cannot conclude this subject without earnestly recommending to the legislature of Ireland, to order an actual enumeration of the whole people, for which purpose I should apprehend a vote of the house of commons would be sufficient. Such a measure would be attended with a variety of beneficial effects, would prevent the rise of those errors which have been mischievous in England, and would place the great importance of Ireland to the British empire, in that truly conspicuous light in which it ought ever to be viewed, and in which it could not fail to be considered, while we have theorists, who insist that the people of England do not amount to five millions.

The common idea is, that there are something under three millions in Ireland.

S E C T I O N XVI.

Public Works—Dublin Society.

ABOUT twenty years ago Ireland instead of being burthened with a national debt, had at the end of every sessions of parliament from fifty to sixty thousand pounds, surplus revenue in the Exchequer, at the disposition of parliament: this money was voted for public works. The members of the the house of commons, at the conclusion of the sessions, met for the purpose of voting the uses to which this money should be applied; the greater part of it was among themselves, their friends, or dependants; and though some work, of apparent use to the public at large, was always the plea, yet under that sanction, there were a great number of very scandalous private jobs, which by degrees brought such a discredit on this mode of applying public money, that the conclusion of it, from the increase of the real expences of the public, was not much regretted. It must, however, be acknowledged, that during this period, there were some excellent works of acknowledged utility executed, such as harbours, piers, churches, schools, bridges, &c. built and executed by some gentlemen, if not with œconomy, at least without any dishonourable misapplication; and as the whole was spent within the kingdom, it certainly was far from being any great national evil.

But of all public works, none have been so much favoured as inland navigations; a navigation board was established many years ago for directing the expenditure of the sums, granted by parliament for those purposes, and even regular funds fixed

for their support. Under the administration of this board, which consists of many of the most considerable persons in the kingdom, very great attempts have been made, but I am sorry to observe, very little completed. In order to examine this matter the more regularly, it will be proper to lay before the reader the sums which have, from time to time, been granted for these objects.

An account of money, granted for public works by parliament, or the navigation board, from 1753 to 1767, inclusive*.

	l.		l.
Newry river, - - -	9,000	Public Records, - - -	5,000
Drumglafs colliery and navigation, - - -	112,218	Aquæduct Dungarvon, - - -	1,300
Dromreagh, - - -	3,000	Soldiers childrens hosp. - - -	7,000
Lagan River, - - -	40,304	Lying-in hospital, - - -	19,300
Shannon River, - - -	31,500	Mercer's hospital, - - -	500
Grand Canal, - - -	73,646	Shannon bridge, - - -	2,000
Blackwater River, - - -	11,000	Kilkenny ditto, - - -	9,130
River Lee, - - -	2,000	Corke bridges, - - -	4,000
River Barrow, - - -	10,500	Kildare bridges, - - -	600
River Sure & Waterford, - - -	4,500	St. Mark's church, - - -	2,000
River Nore, - - -	25,250	St. Thomas's church, - - -	5,440
River Boyne, - - -	36,998	St. Catherine's church, - - -	3,990
Pier at Skerries, - - -	3,500	St. John's church, - - -	2,000
Pier at Envir, - - -	1,870	Building churches, - - -	12,000
Pier at Dunleary, - - -	18,500	Athlone church, - - -	476
Pier at Balbriggen, - - -	5,252	Cashel church, - - -	800
Pier at Banger, - - -	500	Wexford church, - - -	
Pier at Killyleagh, - - -	1,200	Quay at Dingle, - - -	1,000
Pier at Sligo, - - -	1,300	Minsterkenry collieries, - - -	2,000
Antrim River, - - -	1,359	Marine nursery, - - -	1,000
Ballast-office Wall, - - -	43,000	Road round Dublin - - -	1,500
Widening Dublin streets - - -	41,986	Dundalk, - - - - -	2,000
Trinity College, - - -	31,000	Whale-fishery, - - -	1,000
Baal's Bridge Limerick quays, - - -	7,773	Drydock, - - - - -	2,000
Cork channel harbour, - - -	6,500	Mills at Naul, - - - - -	3,498
Cork Workhouse, - - -	1,500	Balty-castle, - - - - -	3,000
Derry Quay, - - - - -	2,900	Lord Longford, - - - - -	3,000
Shandon Street, Corke, - - -	1,500		<hr/>
Wicklow harbour, - - -	6,850		717,944
St. Patrick's Hospital, - - -	6,000	Or per annum, - - -	<hr/> 47,863

* *Commons Journal*, Vol. xiv. p. 485.

This period of fifteen years, I believe was that of the surplus of the revenue, during which the objects were as various as the inclinations of those individuals who had any interest in parliament. It appears from the list, that the article of navigations swallows up the greatest proportion of it.

Sums paid out of the revenues at large for certain public works, pursuant to the several bills of supply, from 1703 to 1771, inclusive.

Navigations, collieries, docks, &c.	—	—	—	—	379,388
To build churches,	—	—	—	—	17,706
Parliament house,	—	—	—	—	16,270
Dublin workhouse, south wall passages, new road and marshalsea,	—	—	—	—	140,372
Hospitals,	—	—	—	—	44,251
Trinity college,	—	—	—	—	45,000

Also, for the following purposes during the same period.

Rewards and bounties to manufacturers,	—	—	—	—	29,829
Linen manufacture	—	—	—	—	180,546
Cambrick ditto,	—	—	—	—	4,000
Whale fishery,	—	—	—	—	1,500
Incorporated society,	—	—	—	—	96,000
Dublin society,	—	—	—	—	64,000

£1,018,862

It is to be noted however, that this account includes the disbursements neither of the navigation, nor the linen board, for it is upon record, that the grand canal alone has cost above three hundred thousands pounds, by some accounts half a million.

Granted by the navigation board only, from 1768, to 1771.

	1768.	1769.	1770.	1771.	Total.
	l.	l.	l.	l.	l.
Newry canal,	2,216	130		88	2,434
Drumglafs navigation,	1,971	244	2,151	1,200	5,566
Barrow navigation,			3,000	100	3,100
Shannon navigation,	4,162	162	3,336		7,660
Grand canal,	550	1,280	755	2,000	4,585
Boyne navigation,	2,143	2,860	2,000	2,504	9,507
Fergus navigation,	500		350		850
	<u>11,542</u>	<u>4,676</u>	<u>11,592</u>	<u>5,892</u>	<u>33,702</u>

Incomplete

Incomplete as these data are, we find from them, that great sums of money have been granted for inland navigations, and are to this day given for the same purpose; let us therefore enquire how this money has been expended, and what has been the effect of it.

I made some enquiries, and travelled many miles to view some of the navigations, and the only one which appeared to me really completed, is the canal from the town of Newry to the sea, on which I saw a brig of eighty or one hundred tons burthen. The same canal is extended farther than that town, but stops short of the great object for which it was begun and made, viz. the Drumglass and Dungannon collieries; this may therefore be classed as incomplete relative to the object, but as Newry is a place of considerable trade, finishing it so far has merit. The great design was to furnish Dublin with Irish coals, which was probably feasible, for the seams of coals in those collieries are asserted to be of such a thickness, and goodness, as proved them more than equal to the consumption of half a dozen such cities as Dublin; but two great difficulties were to be overcome: first, to make the navigation so, that all land carriage might be saved, which was properly a public work; and secondly, to work the collieries, which was properly private business, but from the utter deficiency of capital in the hands of the individuals concerned, could never have been done without public assistance. To get over these difficulties, parliament went very eagerly into the business; they granted so liberally to the canal, that I think it has been finished to within two or three miles of the collieries; at the same time a private company was formed for working the mines, to whom considerable grants were made to enable them to proceed. The property in the works changed hands several times; among others, the late archbishop of Tuam (Ryder) was deeply concerned in them, entering with great spirit into the design; but what with the impositions of the people employed; the loss of some that were able and honest; the ignorance of others; and the jobbing spirit of some proprietors, parliament, after granting enormous sums, both to the canal and collieries, had the mortification, instead of seeing coals come to Dublin, nothing but gold sent from Dublin, to do that which fate seemed determined should never be done, and so in despair abandoned the design to the navigation board, to see if their lesser exertions would effect what the mightier ones had failed in. A Mr. Dularte, an Italian engineer, and very ingenious architect, has had for a few years the superintendance of the works, but the temper of the nation has been so soured by disappointments, that he has not the support which he thinks necessary to do any thing effectual.

The following Table of the Import of Coal to Ireland, will shew the Importance of the Object.

	<i>Tons.</i>		<i>Tons.</i>
In the year 1764	161,970	In the year 1771	182,973
1765	185,927	1772	211,438
1766	186,612	1773	186,057
1767	172,276	1774	189,237
1768	185,554	1775	203,403
1769	171,323	1776	217,938
1770	197,135	1777	240,893
Average of 7 years	<u>180,113</u>	Average of 7 years	<u>204,566</u>

From this table it appears, that not only the quantity itself is great, but that it is a very rising import, owing to the increase of Dublin, which has arose with the increasing prosperity of the kingdom.

The little effect of all attempts to supply Dublin with Irish coals will be seen by the following table of the bounties paid for that purpose.

	l.	s.	d.		l.	s.	d.
In the year 1761	107	15	6	In the year 1770	169	11	4
1762	220	3	10	1771	105	4	10
1763	125	14	9	1772	113	11	0
1764	218	19	3	1773	209	11	8
1765	135	13	3	1774	204	7	2
1766	81	13	0	1775	213	14	4
1767	75	4	0	1776	86	0	0
1768	150	18	4	1777	88	0	0
1769	164	15	4				

Before I entirely dismiss this undertaking, I cannot but remark, that nothing can more clearly prove the amazing want of capital in Ireland than the present state of these works. The navigation is complete except two or three miles; I will venture to assert, that parliament would grant the money for finishing it without hesitation, provided men of undoubted substance engaged for working the collieries at their own expence: we may therefore assert, there is water carriage from some of the finest seams of coal in the world, and at a very slight depth, directly into the heart of the second market in the British dominions, with the advantage of a parliamentary bounty per chaldron on their import into Dublin. Yet, with all these advantages, nobody has capital enough to undertake the work. This fact seems to call alſo for another observation. I remember in the English House of Commons, in the session 1777-8, when the friends of the Irish trade bills urged, that the want of

of capital in Ireland was such that she could never rival the manufactures of Great Britain: it was replied, that English capitals would go over to do it for them;—but what I have just recited, proves that this remark is perfectly unfounded. If capitals were so readily moved from one country to another, the Drumglass collieries would have attracted them, especially as an interest for ever is to be purchased in them; but the fact is, that removeable capitals are in the hands of men who have been educated, and perhaps have made them *locally* in some trade or undertaking which they will not venture to remove. Prejudice and habit govern mankind as much even as their interest, so that no apprehension can be so little founded as that of a country losing the capital she has made, by transferring it into another for greater seeming advantages in trade. But this point I shall have occasion hereafter to dwell more particularly on.

The grand canal, as it has been ridiculously termed, was another inland navigation which has cost the public still greater sums. The design, as the maps of Ireland shew, was to form a communication by water between Dublin and the Shannon by this cut, most of the way through the immense bog of Allen. The former plan of bringing coals to Dublin was a very wise one, but this of the grand canal had scarcely any object that seemed to call for such an exertion. If the country is examined, through which the intended canal was to pass, and also that through which the Shannon runs, it will be found, considering its extent, to be the least productive for the Dublin market, perhaps of the whole kingdom. Examine Leitrim, Roscommon, Longford, Galway, Clare, Limerick, and those parts of West Meath and Kings, which the line of the canal and Shannon lead through, there are scarcely any commodities in them for Dublin. Nay, the present bounty on the inland carriage of corn to Dublin, proves to a demonstration, that the quantity of corn raised in all these counties for that market is contemptible: What other products are there? Raw wool takes another direction, it goes at present from Roscommon to Corke. Manufactures in that line are very insignificant; there are some in Galway, but the ports of Limerick and Galway are perfectly sufficient for the small exportation of them. There remains nothing but turf; and who at Dublin would burn that while Whitehaven coals are at the present price?

Most of the inland navigations in England have been executed with private funds; the interest paid by the tolls—one strong reason for this mode, is the prevention of unnecessary and idle schemes; the manufactures must be wrought, or the products raised, and feel the clog of an expensive carriage before private persons will subscribe their money towards a cheaper conveyance; in which case, the very application to parliament is generally proof sufficient that a canal ought to be cut. Having something to carry before you, seek the means of carriage. I will venture to say, that if the grand canal was
entirely

entirely complete, the navigation of it, including whatever the country towns took from Dublin, would prove of such a beggarly account, that it would then remain a greater monument of folly if possible, than at present. Some gentlemen I have talked with on this subject, have replied *it is a job; 'twas meant as a job; you are not to consider it as a canal of trade but as a canal for public money*; but even this, though advanced in Ireland, is not upon principle. I answer that something has been done, fourteen miles with innumerable locks, quays, bridges, &c. are absolutely finished, though only for the benefit of eels and skating: Why throw this money away? Half what these fourteen miles have cost would have finished the Newry canal, and perfected the Dungannon collieries. Admit your argument of the job; I feel its weight; I see its force; but that does not account for the sums actually expended. Might not the same persons have plundered the public to the same amount, in executing some work of real utility; from which something else might have resulted than disgrace and ignominy to the nation?

As to the other navigations, there is in general this objection to be made to them all, however necessary they might be, they are useless for want of being completed; three-fourths are only begun. The gentlemen in the neighbourhood of them have had interest enough in the navigation board to get a part only voted, and from the variety of undertakings going on at the same time, and all for the same reason incomplete, the public utility has been more trifling from all, than from a single one finished. Sorry I am to say, that a history of public works in Ireland would be a history of jobs, which has and will prove of much worse consequence, than may be at first apparent: it has given a considerable check to permitting grants of money. Administration seeing the uses to which it has been applied, have viewed these misapplications, as they term them, of the public money with a very jealous eye. They have curtailed much: until another very questionable measure, the bounty on the inland carriage of corn to Dublin demanded so much as to leave nothing for jobs of another sort; that measure may be repealed, and the money applied to it will be at the disposal of parliament, either for the common purpose of government, or applicable to some national improvement of a more decisive nature; the latter may, after so many instances, be rejected for fear of jobs: how melancholy a consideration is it, that in a kingdom which from various causes had been so fortunate as to see a great portion of public treasure annually voted for public purposes, so abominably misapplied, and pocketed by individuals, as to bring a ridicule and reproach upon the very idea of such grants. There is such a want of public spirit, of candour and of care for the interests of posterity in such a conduct, that it cannot be branded with an expression too harsh, or a condemnation too pointed: nor less deserving of severity is it, if flowing from political and secret motives of burthening
the

the *public* revenues to make *private* factions the more important.

Great honour is due to Ireland for having given birth to the DUBLIN SOCIETY, which has the undisputed merit of being the father of all the similar societies now existing in Europe. It was established in 1731, and owed its origin to one of the most patriotic individuals which any country has produced, DR. SAMUEL MADAN. For some years it was supported only by the voluntary subscriptions of the members, forming a fund much under a thousand pounds a year; yet was there such a liberality of sentiment in their conduct, and so pure a love of the public interest apparent in all their transactions, as enabled them with that small fund to effect much greater things than they have done in later times since parliament has granted them regularly ten thousand pounds a sessions. A well written history of their transactions would be a work extremely useful to Ireland; for it would explain much better than any reasoning could do, the proper objects for the patronage both of the society and parliament. I shall confine myself to a few general observations. It was instituted, as their charter expresses, for the improvement of agriculture, and for many years that material object possessed by far the greatest part of their attention; but when their funds by the aid of parliament grew more considerable, they deviated so far into manufactures, (in which branch they have been continually increasing their efforts,) that at present agriculture seems to be but a secondary object with them. During the life time of that ingenious but unfortunate man, *Mr. John Wynn Baker*, his support drew so many friends of agriculture to their meetings, that the premiums in its favour were very numerous; since his death, the nobility and gentry not having the same inducement to attend the transactions of the society, they were chiefly directed by some gentlemen of Dublin, who understand fabrics much better than lands, and being more interested in them, they are attended to, perhaps, in too exclusive a manner. It would be tedious to enter into an examination of many of their measures, there are some, however, which demand a few remarks.

In order to encourage the manufacture of Irish woollen cloths, and Irish silks, the society have two warehouses*, in one of which silk is sold on their account, wholesale and retail, and in the other cloth; both are sent to them by the weaver, whose name is written on the piece, and the price per yard on it: nothing but ready money is taken; the stock of silks generally amounts to the value of twelve or thirteen thousand pounds in hand; and of woollens to ten or eleven thousand more; and the expences in rent and salaries of these warehouses

* *The woollen warehouse was opened May 29, 1773; that for silk Feb. 18, 1765.*

houses amount to five hundred pounds a year each. Call the stock twenty-five thousand pounds at six per cent. the total expence of this measure is just two thousand five hundred pounds a year ; or four times over the whole revenue of the society for the encouragement of arts, manufactures, and commerce at London. I have examined their sales in the weekly returns published, and find that from June 23, 1777, to February 7, 1778, their average weekly receipt was

		l.
	Silk	150
	Wool	339
Or per annum	Silk	7,800
	Wool	17,628

as the society give a premium of 3l. per cent. on all the *Irish wrought silk bought in the kingdom by wholesale for the purpose of retailing, that is above four shillings a yard*, it will help us to form an idea of the silk manufacture. From the first of June 1776, to the first of June 1777, the amount was 34,023l. 8s. 2d. including Corke, Limerick, Belfast, &c. and they paid six hundred and fifty pounds premium on it, from hence we find that their own silk sales must be a large proportion of the wholesale in Dublin. This has been the greatest exertion of the Dublin Society of late years.

The intention of the measure is evidently to take the weavers, both of silk and wool, out of the hands of mercers and drapers, and let their manufactures come to market without any intermediate profit on them. There is one effect certain to result from this, which is taking a great part of the ready money custom from the draper and mercer, which being the most beneficial part of their trade, is to all intents and purposes laying a heavy tax on them : now upon every principle of common sense as well as commerce, it will appear a strange mode of encouraging a manufacture to lay taxes upon the master manufacturers. But all taxes laid upon a tradesman in consequence of his trade, must be drawn back in the sale of his commodities, and this tax must be so as well as others ; whatever he does sell must be so much the dearer, or he can carry on no trade at all ; here therefore is a fresh tax, that of enhancing the prices paid by all who do not buy with ready money, a very great majority of the whole : the dearer a commodity is the less is consumed of it, so the consumption on credit is undoubtedly lessened, in order that those who have ready money in their hands may be served something the cheaper : here is a manifest and self evident mischief, in order to attain a very doubtful and questionable benefit.

Is there under the sun, an instance of a manufacture made to flourish by such measures ? Master manufacturers with that vigour, attention, skill and invention, which are the result of a profitable business, are in all parts of the world, the very soul of prosperous fabrics. It is their profit which animates them to those spirited exertions, upon which the advance of manufactures

manufactures depends. If the Dublin society's conduct is right in part it is right in the whole, which would be attracting *all* the demand to their own warehouses; in which case there would not be a mercer or draper left in Dublin. Their committees, and gentlemen, and weavers, may choose and pay clerks, and discharge their rent, but where are the directors of finer fabrics to come from? Where the men of taste who are to invent? Where the quickness and sagacity to mark and follow the caprice of fashion? Are these to come from weavers? Absurd the idea! It is the active and intelligent master that is to do all this! Go to the weavers in Spitalfields, and see them mere tools directed by their masters. Go to any other fabric upon earth, and see what would become of it if the heads were considered as useless, and rivalled in their profits with public money. If the manufacture is of such a sickly growth, that it will not support the master as well as the man, it is not worth a country's notice. What is it that induces individuals to embark in a fabric their capital and industry? Profit. The greater this is, the greater the capital that will be attracted; but establish a system that shall rival, lessen and destroy this profit, who will bring their capital to such a trade? And can any people be so senseless as to imagine, that a manufacture is to be encouraged by banishing capital from it?

There is another effect, which I should suppose must flow from this extraordinary idea, which is, that of raising great heart-burnings and jealousies among the trade; the drapers and mercers are not probably at all pleased with the weavers, who work for the society's warehouses; this must be very detrimental to the business at large. I may also observe, that master-manufacturers have more ways of encouraging skilful and industrious workmen, than the mere buying their goods and employing them; there are a thousand little points of favour in their power, which the society cannot practice; but how can they be inclined to such things, while steps are taken to deprive them of every workman that can do without their assistance?

Fortunately for the kingdom, it is at Dublin as in other cities, the ready money trade is by no means equal to that of credit, consequently the pernicious tendency of this measure cannot fully be seen. The drapers and mercers do and will support their trade in spite of this formidable rival, backed with a premium of two thousand five hundred pounds a year, appropriated to their ruin, in order to encourage their trade! The tendency of the measure is evidently the destruction of both the manufactures.

This is a fact, which appears so obvious, that I should apprehend it must have done mischief, in direct proportion to the amount of the operation. It is extremely difficult to discover facts that can prove this from the nature of the case; no wonder if the import of foreign silk and woollens should have increased from such a measure. Let us examine this point.

Account of Silk imported into Ireland in Twenty-six Years.*

Years.	Manu- factur- ed.	Raw.	Rib- band.	Years.	Manu- factur- ed.	Raw.	Rib- band.
	lb.	lb.	lb.		lb.	lb.	lb.
1752	14,654	53,705	160	1765	21,582	54,655	1,543
1753	13,360	60,155	184	1766	17,260	54,418	1,724
1754	15,441	42,665	361	1767	19,104	46,067	1,527
1755	9,874	43,947	265	1768	23,446	52,062	1,646
1756	13,715	32,948	140	1769	17,522	57,001	1,401
1757	7,709	41,354	17	1770	20,581	44,273	1,183
1758	17,292	51,303	271	1771	14,095	38,107	650
1759	13,836	44,493	118	1772	15,804	33,611	644
1760	21,878	55,905	365	1773	17,379	53,662	378
1761	14,815	51,348	180	1774	14,665	38,811	553
1762	21,054	70,292	306	1775	13,658	29,578	355
1763	17,741	41,021	469	1776	17,326	41,594	717
1764	23,511	36,581	746	1777	24,187	54,043	1,574
Aver.	15,760	48,132	275	Aver.	18,200	45,990	1,068

Considering the extent of the period, I will not assert that this table is very decisive; whatever conclusions, however, that are to be drawn from it, are as far as they go *against* the late measures that respect the Irish silk manufacture, for the imported fabrics have *increased*, while the raw material worked up in Ireland has *decreased*; a proof that the manufacture has not been of any very healthy growth.

* *M.S. Communicated by Mr. Forster.*

An Account of the Import of Woollen Goods for 14 Years †.

Years.	New Dra- pery.	Old Dra- pery.	Years.	New Dra- pery.	Old Dra- pery.
	Yards.	Yards.		Yards.	Yards.
1764	248,002	220,828	1771	362,096	217,395
1765	239,365	176,161	1772	314,703	153,566
1766	313,216	197,316	1773	387,143	210,065
1767	325,585	189,882	1774	461,407	282,317
1768	337,558	198,664	1775	465,611	281,379
1769	394,553	207,117	1776	676,485	290,215
1770	462,499	249,666	1777	731,819	381,330
Average	331,548	205,662	Average	485,609	259,466
			Last 7 years	485,609	259,466
			Former do.	331,548	205,662
			Increase,	154,061	53,804

The increase is so great that it might justify conclusions against all the late measures, none of which are near so much to be condemned as the establishment of the societies warehouse.

Import of Linen, Cotton, and Silk, British Manufacture.

	Value.		Value.
	l.		l.
In the year 1764	— 18,858	In the year 1771	— 20,282
1765	— 18,037	1772	— 14,081
1766	— 15,557	1773	— 20,472
1767	— 12,710	1774	— 21,611
1768	— 16,021	1775	— 24,234
1769	— 13,402	1776	— 30,371
1770	— 20,907	1777	— 45,411
Average of seven years	16,784	Average of seven years	25,208

† *Parl. Rec. of Exp. and Imp. MS.*

When it is considered, that the undoubted mischief of this system is not submitted to as an unavoidable evil, but purchased with great expence, attention and anxiety; and that the two thousand five hundred a year thus bestowed, as the price of so much harm, might be expended in objects of great consequence to the public, it will surely seem unpardonable in parliament to appear so little solicitous for the welfare of their manufactures, as to give ten thousand pounds a session, at large, and not limit the application of such a liberal grant to purposes of certain advantage. And it surely behoves the society itself to recommit this matter; to extend their views; to consider the principles upon which all the manufactures in the world are carried on, supported and increased; and if they see no vestige of such a policy, as they patronize and practice, in any country that has pushed her fabrics to a great height, at least to be dubious of this favourite measure, and not persist in forcing it at such a considerable expence.

Another measure of the society, which I hinted at before, is to give three per cent. to the wholesale purchasers of Irish silks for retailing, and this costs them above six hundred pounds a year. Upon what sound principles this is done I cannot discover; if the mercers have not a demand for these Irish silks, five times the society's premium will not make them purchasers; on the contrary, if they have a demand for them, they most undoubtedly will buy them without any premium for so doing. It appears therefore to me, that the only end which such a measure could answer, was to discover the absolute insignificance of the whole Irish silk manufacture, which is proved through the whole kingdom to be to the amount only of thirty-four thousand pounds a year, of four shillings a yard and upwards; but the repetition of the premium shews that this was not the design. Of all other fabrics this is the most improper for Ireland, and for any dependant country; it is an absolute manufacture of taste, fancy, and fashion; the seat of empire will always command these, and if Dublin made superior silks, they would be despised on comparison with those of London: we feel something of this in England from France, being the source of most of the fashions in Europe. To force a silk manufacture in Ireland is therefore to strive against whim, caprice, fashion; and all the prejudices of mankind, instead of which, it is these that become a solid support of fabrics when wisely set on foot. There are no linens fashionable in England, but the Irish people will not wear any other, and yet gullie holland is asserted to be much stronger. Should not the Irish, therefore, bend their voice to drive the nail that will go, instead of plaguing themselves with one which never will. This is a general observation, but the particular measure of the society, supposing the object valuable, is perfectly insignificant, it is throwing away six hundred pounds a year to answer no one purpose whatever.

The society offers a great number of other premiums for manufactures, many of which are very exceptionable; but it would take up too much room to be particular in an examination of them. In agriculture they have a great number offered to *poor* renters separately.

Upon the general spirit of these I have to remark, that the design of encouraging poor renters is very meritorious, and does honour to the humanity of the society; but from a great variety of instances which were pointed out to me, as I travelled through the kingdom, I have too much reason to believe, that abuses and deceptions are numerous, that the society has actually paid premiums per acre, to great numbers of claimants, who have, as soon as they received the money, let the land run waste again, so that no person could distinguish it from the adjoining bog or moor. There are two reasons why these premiums must very much fail of their wished-for success; the extreme difficulty, not to say impossibility, of ascertaining the merit of the candidates, or the facts alledged; and the utter impossibility that such very poor fellows should work any improvements worthy the society's patronage. The London society have found, by repeated experience, their utter incapacity of doing any thing by weight of money, in bounties per acre for any object; I am convinced the same fact will hold true with that of Dublin; the funds even of the latter are much too inconsiderable for this mode. The object ought to be to inspire those men, who have the necessary capital to employ it in the way the society thinks for the public good: the premiums should be honorary but considerable, with that degree of variety and novelty that should attract the attention of men of fortune.

But nothing was ever better imagined, than the plan of fixing an English farmer in the kingdom, so much at the society's expence, as to give them a power over a part of his management. This was the case with Mr. Baker; and it was also a very wise measure to enable him to establish a manufactory of husbandry implements. The only errors in the execution of this scheme were: First, Not supporting him much more liberally, when it was found that his private fortune was too inconsiderable to support himself and family; had he been easy in his private circumstances, his husbandry would have been perfect. Second, The not directing him in the choice of his farm, which was not a proper one for an example to the kingdom; it should have been in some mountainous tract, where there was bog, and tolerable soil. Third, In permitting him to make and publish small and trifling experiments, objects of curiosity to a private speculatist, but quite unworthy of the Dublin Society; besides, such a person should be brought to establish what a previous experience has convinced him is right, not to gain his own knowledge at the society's expence.

The scheme, had it, in the case of Mr. Baker, been executed in this manner, or was such an one now to be adopted, would

would tend more to spreading a true practical knowledge of agriculture than any other that could be executed; and the union of a manufactory of implements unites with it perfectly. To inform a backward country of right systems has its use, but it is very weak compared with the actual practice and exhibition of it before their eyes; such an object in full perfection of management, with an annual publication of the result, simply related, would tend more to the improvement of the national husbandry than any other system. The farm should not be less than five hundred acres, it should have a tract of bog and another of mountain; one thousand pounds should be applied in the necessary buildings; five hundred pounds immediately in fences; one thousand pounds a year for five years in stocking it; one thousand pounds for establishing a manufactory of implements, not to be sold but given away by the society as premiums; five hundred pounds a year allowed to the superintendent for his private emolument, that no distresses of his own might interfere with the public views; and in addition, to animate his attention, ten per cent. upon the gross product of the farm. The society to delegate their power over it to a select committee, and no member to be eligible to that committee, who had not in his own occupation one hundred acres of land, or more. The first expence would be seven thousand five hundred pounds, and the annual charge five hundred pounds; this would be an effective establishment that could not fail, if the manager was properly chosen. He should be an active, spirited man, not so low as to have no reputation to lose, but at the same time more a practical than a speculative farmer, and who could teach the common Irish, with his own hands, the operations he wished them to perform. The annual charge of only one of the society's warehouses is equal to this, and the capital appropriated to it near twice as large; how much more beneficial would this application of the money be?

Relative to the premiums for the encouragement of agriculture, I shall venture to hint some which I apprehend would be of great advantage; and by throwing them into the words common in offering premiums, my meaning will be better explained.

1. TURNEP HUSBANDRY, 1779. To the person who shall cultivate the most land, not less than twenty acres, in the following course of crops during four years, viz. 1. Turneps. 2. Barley or oats. 3. Clover. 4. Wheat. The turneps to be twice thoroughly hand-hoed and eaten where they grow by sheep, and to make a full report of the cultivation, expences, produce, and effect of the turneps on the sheep fed, a piece of plate of the value of one hundred pounds, with a suitable inscription. Accounts to be delivered in in the year 1784.

2. For the next greatest quantity of land, not less than ten acres so cultivated, a piece of plate of the value of fifty pounds, with a suitable inscription.

3. To

3. To the person who shall in the year 1780, have the most acres of turneps, not less than twenty, twice thoroughly hand-hoed; to report the effect, a piece of plate of the value of one hundred pounds, with a suitable inscription.

4. For the next greatest quantity, not less than ten acres, a piece of plate of the value of fifty pounds, with a suitable inscription.

5. BEAN HUSBANDRY, 1779. To the person who shall cultivate the most land, not less than twenty acres, in the following course of crops during four years, viz. 1. Beans, 2. Wheat. 3. Beans. 4. Wheat. The beans to be in rows, eighteen inches asunder, and three times thoroughly hoed, and to report the effect to the society. A piece of plate of the value of one hundred pounds, with an inscription. Accounts to be laid in in the year 1784.

6. For the next greatest quantity, not less than ten acres, a piece of plate of the value of fifty pounds, with an inscription.

7. To the person who shall cultivate the greatest quantity of land, not less than twenty acres, in the following course of crops during four years, viz. 1. Beans. 2. Barley or oats. 3. Clover. 4. Wheat. The beans as before, and to report the effect. A piece of plate of the value of one hundred pounds, with an inscription.

8. Next greatest quantity, not less than ten acres. The value of 50l. with an inscription.

9. FLAX HUSBANDRY, 1779. To the person who shall cultivate the most land, not less than twenty acres, in the following course of crops during four years, viz. 1. Turneps. 2. Flax. 3. Clover. 4. Wheat. The turneps to be twice hand-hoed, and the flax to be seeded, stacked and threshed like corn, and then watered and dressed, and to report the effect to the society. A piece of plate of the value of one hundred and fifty pounds, with a suitable inscription.

10. For the next greatest quantity, not less than ten acres. The plate eighty pounds. Accounts to be delivered in in 1784.

11. MOUNTAIN IMPROVEMENT, 1779. To the person who shall improve the largest tract of mountain land, not less than one hundred acres, at present waste, and not let at one shilling an acre, and make a full report of the cultivation, expences and produce to the society in the year 1787. A piece of plate of the value of five hundred pounds, with a suitable inscription. *Conditions.*

The improvement at the time of the certificates being signed to be completely enclosed; to be divided into fields of not more than ten acres each; the fences to be either walls in mortar, or double ditches well planted with white thorns and timber, the gates, piers, &c. to be perfect. The land to have had four crops in the following course: 1. Turneps. 2. Oats, bere or rye. 3. Turneps. 4. Oats, the turneps twice hand-hoed,

hoed, and eaten when green by sheep, and one half of the improvement to be in grafs laid down with the last crop of oats. Not less than one hundred barrels of lime per acre to have been spread on the whole. An orchard of two acres to be well planted; and a fally garden of as much. One good farm house, with a barn, stable, cowhouse, &c. and four cabbins to be built and inhabited, the whole of stone or mortar, and covered with slate. And the tract to be actually let on lease to one or more tenants, not occupying any other land, and residing on the premises. Whoever intends to be claimants to give notice to the society that they may appoint inspectors.

12. To the next greatest quantity, not less than sixty acres, on the like conditions, the plate three hundred pounds.

13. **BOG IMPROVEMENT, 1779.** To the person who shall drain and improve into rich meadow, the greatest quantity of bog, not less than 50 acres, being part of a bog not less than 100 acres, and make a full report to the society of the mode, expences and produce in the year 1788, a piece of plate of the value of 400l. with an honorary inscription. The society leaves to the claimant to pursue whatever mode he pleases, but the land must have a good house, cowhouse and necessary offices, with two cabbins built all of stone and slate, and the improvement let to resident tenants occupying no other land.

14. For the next greatest quantity, not less than thirty acres, the plate two hundred pounds.

15. **PLANTING.** To the person who shall inclose with a wet wall, not less than six feet high, and plant, the greatest quantity of land, not less than fifty acres, in the year 1780, a piece of plate of the value of four hundred pounds, with a suitable inscription. The trees to be ash, elm, poplar, beech, larch, scotch, spruce or silver fir, to be not more than four years old, nor more than four feet asunder, and in the centre of every such space, acorns to be sown and covered.

16. For the next greatest quantity, not less than thirty acres, the plate two hundred pounds.

17. To the person who shall in the year 1780, plant and fence so as to be completely secured from cattle, the greatest quantity of land with the common basket fallow in beds six feet broad, and four rows on each bed, not less than thirty acres, a piece of plate of the value of one hundred pounds, with a suitable inscription.

18. For the next greatest quantity, not less than fifteen acres, the plate fifty pounds. All to be continued by previous notice, every year when once they came into turn.

I have to observe upon them, that the courses of crops here recommended can only have fair justice done them in the infancy of the husbandry by gentlemen, or men of considerable capital; consequently, it is the wisest to offer a premium that shall attract their notice, and not vary it for lesser tenants, who at first would be incapable of executing the conditions. The mountain and bog improvement are great objects, and therefore

therefore well deserve ample encouragement; I have added the condition of *being let* by way of satisfactory proof, that the improvement is completely finished, for if it was kept in hand, it would be a matter of opinion and valuation, which is never satisfactory. The planting premiums would in all probability have many claimants. The stone wall is essential; planting without preservation is trifling.

As to the nature of the premiums, I recommend, viz. pieces of plate, I think they would have a greater effect than any thing else; money would be out of sight and forgotten; a medal that has been prostituted to all sorts of trifles, would be a contemptible reward for such exertions, but a handsome cup, vase, tray, table, &c. would be always in sight, and on every occasion a subject for conversation to animate others to gain the same. The experience of a few years would prove whether the quantities of land required were too high or not. An inspector to view all proceedings would be absolutely necessary, whose reward should be devised in such a manner as to secure his integrity; unless some gentlemen of considerable consequence in the neighbourhood took that office voluntarily upon them.

Some premiums upon these principles, united with such a plan as I have stated for the establishment of a farm, would be attended with all the advantage to the national agriculture, in the power of any society to effect. The expence would not be so large as not to leave a considerable portion of the society's funds for trade and manufactures, and consequently to please those who wished such objects not to be neglected,

S E C T I O N XVII.

Manners and Customs.

*Quid legis sine moribus,
Vana proficiunt!*

IT is but an illiberal business for a traveller, who designs to publish remarks upon a country, to sit down coolly in his closet and write a satire on the inhabitants. Severity of that sort must be enlivened with an uncommon share of wit and ridicule, to please. Where very gross absurdities are found, it is fair and manly to note them; but to enter into character and disposition is generally uncandid, since there are no people but might be better than they are found, and none but have virtues which deserve attention, at least as much as their failings; for these reasons this section would not have found a place in my observations, had not some persons of much more flippancy than wisdom, given very gross misrepresentations of the Irish nation. It is with pleasure, therefore, that I take up the pen, on the present occasion; as a much longer residence there

there enables me to exhibit a very different picture ; in doing this, I shall be free to remark, wherein I think the conduct of certain glasses may have given rise to general and consequently injurious condemnation.

There are three races of people in Ireland, so distinct, as to strike the least attentive traveller : these are the Spanish which are found in Kerry, and a part of Limerick and Corke, tall and thin, but well made, a long visage, dark eyes, and long black lank hair. The time is not remote when the Spaniards had a kind of settlement on the coast of Kerry, which seemed to be overlooked by government. There were many of them in Queen Elizabeth's reign, nor were they entirely driven out till the time of Cromwell. There is an island of Valentia on that coast, with various other names, certainly Spanish. The Scotch race is in the North, where are to be found the features which are supposed to mark that people, their accent, and many of their customs. In a district, near Dublin, but more particularly in the baronies of Bargie and Forth in the county of Wexford, the Saxon tongue is spoken without any mixture of the Irish, and the people have a variety of customs mentioned in the minutes, which distinguish them from their neighbours. The rest of the kingdom is made up of mongrels. The Milesian race of Irish, which may be called *native*, are scattered over the kingdom, but chiefly found in Connaught and Munster ; a few considerable families, whose genealogy is undoubted, remain, but none of them with considerable possessions, except the O'Briens and Mr. O'Neil, the former have near twenty thousand pounds a year in the family ; the latter half as much, the remnant of a property once his ancestors, which now forms six or seven of the greatest estates in the kingdom. O'Hara and M'Dermot are great names in Connaught, and O'Donoghue a considerable one in Kerry ; but I heard of a family of O'Driscal's in Corke, who claim an origin prior in Ireland to any of the Milesian race.

The only divisions which a traveller, who passed through the kingdom, without making any residence, could make, would be into people of considerable fortune and mob. The intermediate division of the scale, so numerous and respectable in England, would hardly attract the least notice in Ireland. A residence in the kingdom convinces one, however, that there is another class in general of small fortune,—country gentlemen and renters of land. The manners, habits and customs of people of considerable fortune, are much the same every where, at least there is very little difference between England and Ireland, it is among the common people one must look for those traits by which we discriminate a national character. The circumstances which struck me most in the common Irish were, vivacity and a great and eloquent volubility of speech, one would think they could take snuff and talk without tiring till doomsday. They are infinitely more chearful and lively than

than any thing we commonly see in England, having nothing of that incivility of sullen silence, with which so many Englishmen seem to wrap themselves up, as if retiring within their own importance. Lazy to an excess at *work*, but so spiritedly active at *play*, that at *burling*, which is the cricket of savages, they shew the greatest feats of agility. Their love of society is as remarkable as their curiosity is insatiable; and their hospitality to all comers, be their own poverty ever so pinching, has too much merit to be forgotten. Pleased to enjoyment with a joke, or witty repartee, they will repeat it with such expression, that the laugh will be universal. Warm friends and revengeful enemies; they are inviolable in their secrecy, and inevitable in their resentment; with such a notion of honour, that neither threat nor reward would induce them to betray the secret or person of a man, though an oppressor, whose property they would plunder without ceremony. Hard drinkers and quarrelsome; great liars, but civil, submissive and obedient. Dancing is so universal among them, that there are every where itinerant dancing-masters, to whom the cottars pay sixpence a quarter for teaching their families. Besides the Irish jig, which they can dance with a most *luxuriant* expression, minuets and country dances are taught; and I even heard some talk of cotillons coming in.

Some degree of education is also general; hedge schools, as they are called (they might as well be termed *ditch* ones, for I have seen many a ditch full of scholars) are every where to be met with, where reading and writing are taught; schools are also common for men; I have seen a dozen great fellows at school, and was told they were educating with an intention of being priests. Many strokes in their character are evidently to be ascribed to the extreme oppression under which they live. If they are as great thieves and liars as they are reported, it is certainly owing to this cause.

If from the lowest class we rise to the highest, all there is gaiety, pleasure, luxury and extravagance; the town life at Dublin is formed on the model of that of London. Every night in the winter there is a ball or a party, where the polite circle meet, not to enjoy but to sweat each other; a great crowd crammed into twenty feet square gives a zest to the *agrèments* of small talk and whist. There are four or five houses large enough to receive a company commodiously, but the rest are so small as to make parties detestable. There is however an agreeable society in Dublin, in which a man of large fortune will not find his time heavy. The stile of living may be guessed from the fortunes of the resident nobility and great commoners; there are about thirty that possess incomes from seven to twenty thousand pounds a year. The court has nothing remarkable or splendid in it, but varies very much, according to the private fortune or liberality of disposition in the Lord Lieutenant.

In the country their life has some circumstances which are not commonly seen in England. Large tracts of land are kept in hand by every body to supply the deficiencies of markets, this gives such a plenty, that, united with the lowness of taxes and prices, one would suppose it difficult for them to spend their incomes, if Dublin in the winter did not lend assistance. Let it be considered, that the prices of meat are much lower than in England; poultry only a fourth of the price; wild fowl and fish in vastly greater plenty; rum and brandy not half the price; coffee, tea and wines far cheaper; labour not above a third; servants wages upon an average thirty per cent. cheaper. That taxes are inconsiderable, for there is no land tax, no poor rates, no window tax, no candle or soap tax, only half a wheel tax, no servants tax, and a variety of other articles heavily burthened in England, but not in Ireland. Considering all this, one would think they could not spend their incomes; they do contrive it however. In this business they are assisted by two customs that have an admirable tendency to it, great numbers of horses and servants. The excess in the latter are in the lower sort: owing, not only to the general laziness, but also to the number of attendants every one of a higher class will have; this is common in great families in England, but in Ireland a man of five hundred pounds a year feels it. As to horses the number is carried quite to a folly; in order to explain this point, I shall insert a table of the demesnes of many of the nobility and gentry, which will shew not only the number of horses, but of other cattle, the quantity of land they keep, and other circumstances explanatory of their country life.

Names.	Acres	Wood	Corn.	Turn. Cabb.	Rent.	Lab ^r rers.	Hor. fes.	Plou. Oxen	Sheep
					l.				
Mr. Clements,	240		14		420	20	22	6	163
Col. Marley,	200		31	1½	300		8	4	40
Mr. Rowley,	700	100		3	700		90		250
Lord Conyngham,	447	120		3			37		44
Lord Bective,	1600		84		2000	140	100	20	500
Mr. Gerard,	1200		64		1300		12		1300
Lord Longford,	320		32	5	300	20	26	12	100
Mr. Johnson,	410	110	10	5	320	9	8	4	200
Dean Coote,	500		35	8	350	30	35	8	200
General Walfh,	700		71	5		50			150
Mr. Brown,	300				460		8		800
Mr. Bushe,	170	30	50	2	330		15	8	70
Lord Courtown,	300		30	7	315	30	21	12	70
General Cuninghame,	150		34		375	20	16	5	70
Lord Gosfort,	300		25	3	450	30	43	4	46
Mr. Clofe,	100		23		135	9	10		40
Mr. Lefly,	350	100	32		350	30	37	20	150
Mr. Savage,	190		35	2	250		32		40
Mr. O'Niell,	733		57	17	549	40	68	24	500
Mr. Leslie,	1026	60	101		790	50	46	24	80
Sir J. Caldwell,	700	300	41	11	900				
Mr. Corry,	1000		68		900	120			500
Lord Ross,	950	125				30	30		120
Lord Farnham,	1000	200	55	10	800	100	108	22	285
Mr. Newcomen,	400		40					18	
Mr. Mahon,	1100	100	60		840	20	30		500
Mr. Cooper,	1000	300	22	8		60	25	12	130
Mr. Brown,	370		18			10	30		300
Mr. Gore,	3300		160		2310	120	170		5000
Lord Altamont,	1500		120	6	1000	100	70	20	200
Mr. French,	1790	252	55			100	20	14	424
Mr. Trench,	1046	100	13		600	80	45	10	980
Sir Lucius O'Brien,	399	30	47		560	60	26	11	138
Mr. Fitzgerald,	3000				2000	26	54	18	1800
Mr. Aldworth,	1270	600	550	12	1010		33	16	500
Lord Donneraile,	1200	200	200	5	1500	60	54	40	400
Colonel Jepson,	300		35		900		24		120
Mr. Gordon,	915		114		700	45	13	15	187
Mr. Jeffries,	304		20		300		32		200
Mr. Trent,	238	24	21				13	5	200
Lord Shannon,	1600	268	81		1500	132	11	36	470
Mr. Longfield,	1100		78		800	20	65	14	200
Rev. Archd. Oliver,	900		136	16	650	50	25	21	100
Mr. Herbert,	1300	780			400		18	30	300
Mr. Bateman,	250		5		250		30		60
Lord Clendour,	1000	100	55		1000		50		200
Mr. Fitzgerald,	200		23	3	200		21	8	60
Mr. Leslie,	250	50	27		230		24	6	60
Mr. Oliver,	500	100	24	10	500	50	30	10	125
Mr. Ryves,	300		25		450	6	20		300
Lord Clanwilliam,	640		34	8	600	30	40		600
Mr. Macartney,	9000				10,000	170	180	80	8000
Lord de Montalt,	1300	300				75	40	40	1500
Mr. Moore,	600		17		1155				1000
Lord Tyrone,	2100	1500	64		1200	200	36	48	400
Mr. Bolton,	200		28		300	40	25	0	70
Mr. Nevill,	220	24			350		22		100
Mr. Lloyd,	200				150		12		182
Mr. Holmes,	540	49	25	15	540	40	50	14	590
Mr. Head,	450	16	27		675	20			400
Lord Kingsborough,	600	100	30	5	400	100	40		200

The intelligent reader will collect something more than mere curiosity from this table; it will necessarily strike him, that a country residence in Ireland demands a much larger quantity of land in hand than in England, from which might be deduced, if not from any thing else, how much backward-er the former is than the latter; where markets are wanting every thing must be had at home, a case stronger still in America. In England such extensive demesnes would be parks around the seats for beauty as much as use, but it is not so in Ireland; the words *deer-park* and *demesne* are to be distinguished; there are great demesnes without any parks, but a want of taste, too common in Ireland, is having a deer-park at a distance from the house; the residence surrounded by walls, or hedges, or cabbins; and the lawn enclosure scattered with animals of various sorts, perhaps three miles off. The small quantity of corn proportioned to the total acres, shews how little tillage is attended to even by those who are the best able to carry it on; and the column of turneps proves in the clearest manner, what the progress of improvement is in that kingdom. The number of horses may almost be esteemed a satire upon common sense; were they well fed enough to be useful, they would not be so numerous, but I have found a good hack for a common ride scarce in a house where there were a hundred. Upon an average, the horses in gentlemen's stables, throughout the kingdom, are not fed half so well as they are in England by men of equal fortune; yet the number makes the expence of them very heavy.

Another circumstance to be remarked in the country life is the miserableness of many of their houses; there are men of five thousand a year in Ireland, who live in habitations that a man of seven hundred a year in England would disdain; an air of neatness, order, dress, and *propreté*, is wanting to a surprising degree around the mansion; even new and excellent houses have often nothing of this about them. But the badness of the houses is remedying every hour throughout the whole kingdom, for the number of new ones just built, or building, is prodigiously great. I should suppose there were not ten dwellings in the kingdom thirty years ago that were fit for an English pig to live in. Gardens were equally bad, but now they are running into the contrary extreme, and wall in five, six, ten, and even twenty Irish acres for a garden, but generally double or treble what is necessary.

The tables of people of fortune are very plentifully spread; many elegantly, differing in nothing from those of England. I think I remarked that venison wants the flavour it has with us, probably for the same reason, that the produce of rich parks is never equal to that of poor ones; the moisture of the climate, and the richness of the soil, give fat but not flavour. Another reason is the smallness of the parks, a man who has three or four thousand acres in his hands, has not, perhaps, above three or four hundred in his deer park, and range

is a great point for good venison. Nor do I think that garden vegetables have the flavour found in those of England, certainly owing to the climate; green peas I found every where perfectly insipid, and lettuce, &c. not good. Claret is the common wine of all tables, and so much inferior to what is drank in England, that it does not appear to be the same wine, but their port is incomparable, so much better than the English, as to prove, if proof was wanting, the abominable adulterations it must undergo with us. Drinking and duelling are two charges which have long been alledged against the gentlemen of Ireland, but the change of manners which has taken place in that kingdom is not generally known in England. Drunkenness ought no longer to be a reproach, for at every table I was at in Ireland I saw perfect freedom reign, every person drank just as little as they pleased, nor have I ever been asked to drink a single glass more than I had an inclination for; I may go farther, and assert that hard drinking is very rare among people of fortune; yet it is certain that they sit much longer at table than in England. I was much surprized at first going over to find no summons to coffee, the company often sitting till eight, nine, or ten o'clock before they went to the ladies. If a gentleman likes tea or coffee, he retires without saying any thing, a stranger of rank may propose it to the master of the house, who from custom contrary to that of England, will not stir till he receives such a hint, as they think it would imply a desire to save their wine. If the gentlemen were generally desirous of tea I take it for granted they would have it, but their slighting is one inconvenience to such as desire it, not knowing when it is provided, conversation may carry them beyond the time, and then if they do *trifle* over the coffee it will certainly be *cold*. There is a want of attention in this, which the ladies should remedy, if they will not break the old custom and send to the gentlemen, which is what they ought to do, they certainly should have a salver fresh. I must however remark, that at the politest tables, which are those of people who have resided much out of Ireland, this point is conducted exactly as it is in England.

Duelling was once carried to an excess, which was a real reproach and scandal to the kingdom; it of course proceeded from excessive drinking; as the cause has disappeared, the effect has nearly followed: not, however, entirely, for it is yet far more common among people of fashion than in England. Of all practices a man who felt for the honour of his country, would wish soonest to banish this, for there is not one favourable conclusion to be drawn from it: as to courage nobody can question that of a polite and enlightened nation, entitled to a share of the reputation of the age; but it implies uncivilized manners, an ignorance of those forms which govern polite societies, or else a brutal drunkenness; the latter is no longer the cause of the pretence. As to the former, they would place the national character so backward, would take
from

from it so much of its pretence to civilization, elegance and politeness of manners, that no true Irishman would be pleased with the imputation. Certain it is, that none are so captious as those who think themselves neglected or despised; and none are so ready to believe themselves either one or the other, as persons unused to good company. Captious people, therefore, who are ready to take an affront, must inevitably have been accustomed to ill company, unless there should be something uncommonly crooked in their natural dispositions, which is not to be supposed. Let every man that fights his one, two, three, or half a dozen duels, receive it as a maxim, that every one he adds to the number is but an additional proof of his being ill educated, and having vitiated his manners by the contagion of bad company; who is it that can reckon the most numerous rencounters? who but the bucks, bloods, landjobbers, and little drunken country gentlemen? Ought not people of fashion to blush at a practice which will very soon be the distinction only of the most contemptible of the people? the point of honour will and must remain for the decision of certain affronts, but it will rarely be had recourse to in polite, sensible, and well bred company. The practice among *real* gentlemen in Ireland every day declining is a strong proof, that a knowledge of the world corrects the old manners, and consequently its having ever been prevalent was owing to the causes to which I have attributed it.

There is another point of manners somewhat connected with the present subject, which partly induced me to place a motto at the head of this section. It is the conduct of juries; the criminal law of Ireland is the same as that of England, but in the execution it is so different, as scarcely to be known. I believe it is a fact, at least I have been assured so, that no man was ever hanged in Ireland for killing another in a duel: the security is such that nobody ever thought of removing out of the way of justice, yet there have been deaths of that sort, which had no more to do with *honour*, than stabbing in the dark. I believe Ireland is the only country in Europe, I am sure it is the only part of the British dominions, where associations among men of fortune are necessary for apprehending ravishers. It is scarcely credible how many young women, have even of late years been ravished, and carried off in order (as they generally have fortunes) to gain to appearance a voluntary marriage. These actions it is true are not committed by the class I am considering at present; but they are tried by them, and **ACQUITTED**. I think there has been only one man executed for that crime, which is so common as to occasion the associations I mentioned; it is to this supine execution of the law that such enormities are owing. Another circumstance which has the effect of screening all sorts of offenders, is men of fortune protecting them, and making interest for their acquittal, which is attended with a variety of evil consequences. I heard it boasted in the county of Fermanagh, that there had not been a man hanged in it for two and twenty years: all I concluded from this was, that there had been many a jury who deserved it richly.

Let me, however, conclude what I have to observe on the conduct of the principal people residing in Ireland, that there are great numbers among them who are as liberal in all their ideas as any people in Europe; that they have seen the errors which have given an ill character to the manners of their country, and done every thing that example could effect to produce a change: that that happy change has been partly effected, and is effecting every hour, insomuch that a man may go into a vast variety of families which he will find actuated by no other principles than those of the most cultivated politeness, and the most liberal urbanity.

But I must now come to another class of people, to whose conduct it is almost entirely owing, that the character of the nation has not that lustre abroad, which I dare assert, it will soon very generally merit: this is the class of little country gentlemen*; tenants, who drink their claret by means of profit rents; jobbers in farms; bucks; your fellows with round hats, edged with gold, who hunt in the day, get drunk in the evening, and fight the next morning. I shall not dwell on a subject so perfectly disagreeable, but remark that these are the men among whom drinking, wrangling, quarreling, fighting, ravishing, &c. &c. &c. are found as in their native soil; once to a degree that made them the pest of society; they are growing better, but even now, one or two of them got by accident (where they have no business) into better company are sufficient very much to *derange* the pleasures that result from a liberal conversation. A new spirit; new fashions; new modes of politeness exhibited by the higher ranks are imitated by the lower, which will, it is to be hoped, put an end to this race of beings; and either drive their sons and cousins into the army or navy, or sink them into plain farmers like those we have in England, where it is common to see men with much greater property without pretending to be gentlemen. I repeat it from the intelligence I received, that even this class are very different from what they were twenty years ago, and improve so fast that the time will soon come when the national character will not be degraded by any set.

That character is upon the whole respectable: it would be unfair to attribute to the nation at large the vices and follies of only one class of individuals. Those persons from whom it is candid to take a general estimate do credit to their country. That they are a people learned, lively and ingenious; the admirable authors they have produced will be

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* *This expression is not to be taken in a general sense. God forbid I should give this character of all country gentlemen of small fortunes in Ireland: I have myself been acquainted with exceptions. —I mean only that in general they are not the most liberal people in the kingdom.*

an eternal monument, witness their Swift, Sterne, Congreve, Boyle, Berkeley, Steele, Farquhar, Southern, and Goldsmith. Their talent for eloquence is felt, and acknowledged in the parliaments of both the kingdoms. Our own service both by sea and land, as well as that (unfortunately for us) of the principal monarchies of Europe speak their steady and determined courage. Every unprejudiced traveller who visits them will be as much pleased with their cheerfulness, as obliged by their hospitality: and will find them a brave, polite, and liberal people.

SECTION XVIII.

Corn Trade of Ireland.—Bounty on inland Carriage.

THE police of corn in Ireland is almost confined to one of the most singular measures that have any where been adopted, which is giving a bounty on the inland carriage of corn from all parts of the kingdom, to the capital. Before it is fully explained it will be necessary to state the motives that were the inducement to it.

Dublin, it was asserted from the peculiarity of its situation, on the eastern extremity without any inland navigations leading to it, was found to be in point of consumption more an English than an Irish city, in corn almost as much as in coals. The import of corn and flour drained the kingdom of great sums at the same time that the supply was uncertain and precarious. It was farther asserted that tillage was exceedingly neglected in Ireland, to the impoverishment of the kingdom, and the misery of the poor. That if some measure could be struck out at once to remedy those two evils, it would be of singular advantage to the community.

This reasoning furnished the hint to a gentleman of very considerable abilities, now high in office, there to plan the measure I am speaking of. It has been perfected by repeated acts giving a bounty on

5 Cwt.	or	40 stone	Flour	three-pence per mile.
ditto	—	ditto	Malt	two-pence halfp. ditto.
ditto	—	ditto	Wheat	three-halfpence ditto.
ditto	—	ditto	Oats	one penny ditto.
ditto	—	ditto	Bere	three-halfpence ditto.
ditto	—	ditto	Barley	three-halfpence ditto.

Oatmeal the same as oats; the ten first miles from Dublin deducted, it amounts, as has been found by experience, to near twenty per cent. more for flour than the real expense of carriage, and one and a half per cent. more for wheat. In consequence of this act many of the finest mills for grinding corn

corn that are to be found in the world were erected, some of which have been built upon such a scale, as to have cost near 20,000l. The effect has been considerable in extending tillage, and great quantities of the produce are carried to Dublin. Before I offer any observations on this system, it will be necessary to insert such tables as are necessary to explain the extent, effect, and expence of the measure which took place in 1762, and in 1776 and 7, arose to above 60,000l. In order to see what the import was before that period, and also what it was before the bounty was in full sway, as well as since, the following table will have its use.

IMPORT OF CORN AND FLOUR.				
		Barley	Flour.	
		and malt.		Wheat.
		Qrs.	Qrs.	
			Ct.	
Year	1744	2,450	329	20,977
	1745	11,305	6,342	24,708
	1746	138,934	129,190	110,832
	1747	85,316	28,973	37,190
	1748	29,015	3,402	
	1749	39,121	8,720	30,502
Average,		51,023	29,492	37,368
Value, £		51,023	44,238	18,684
Year	1750	44,836	16,275	50,637
	1751	47,581	20,317	60,985
	1752	69,861	30,425	78,282
	1753	61,927	18,195	63,527
	1754	109,539	39,635	91,583
	1755	99,386	57,699	89,015
	1756	78,061	20,412	71,343
Average,		73,027	28,994	72,196
Value, £		73,027	43,491	36,098

	Barley and Malt.		Wheat.		Flour.		
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	
	qrs.	l.	qrs.	l.	C.	l.	
Year	1757	59,354	59,354	31,711	47,567	55,975	27,978
	1758	38,123	38,123	27,850	41,775	72,490	36,245
	1759	6,071	6,071	4,718	7,078	27,258	13,629
	1760	34,678	34,678	3,697	5,546	30,093	15,046
	1761	30,208	30,208	2,427	3,641	30,982	15,491
	1762	37,500	37,500	17,129	25,694	51,522	25,761
	1763	44,264	44,264	22,655	33,982	57,048	28,524
Average,		35,742	35,743	15,741	23,612	46,481	23,382

IMPORT OF CORN AND FLOUR.							
		Barley & Malt.		Wheat.		Flour.	
		Quant.	Value.	Quant.	Value.	Quant.	Value.
		qrs.	l.	qrs.	l.	Cwt.	l.
Year	1764	31,587	31,587	25,763	38,645	108,209	54,104
	1765	48,854	48,854	10,529	15,794	67,409	33,704
	1766	40,356	40,356	14,130	21,196	81,371	40,685
	1767	30,681	30,681	39,456	59,184	58,182	29,091
	1768	5,684	5,684	11,802	17,704	22,600	11,300
	1769	4,759	5,948	2,199	3,299	15,447	7,723
	1770	35,514	44,392	43,532	87,065	86,776	52,065
Average,		28,205	29,643	21,059	34,698	62,856	32,667
Year	1771	55,626	69,525	53,448	106,897	125,321	75,193
	1772	22,372	27,965	12,163	24,327	47,754	28,652
	1773	6,970	8,712	2,861	5,722	10,306	6,183
	1774	189	236	4,104	8,893	23,465	14,079
	1775	656	820	3,235	7,009	28,902	17,341
	1776	7,857	8,643	7,547	16,353	26,292	15,775
	1777	43,101	47,451	3,457	7,490	69,838	41,903
Average,		19,538	23,330	12,402	25,242	47,697	28,446*

BARLEY AND MALT.

		Qrs.	Value.
			l.
Average import of the			
First period,	—	51,023	51,023
Second ditto,	—	73,027	73,027
Third ditto,	—	35,742	35,743
Fourth ditto,	—	28,205	29,643
Fifth ditto,	—	19,538	23,330

W H E A T.

		Qrs.	Value.
			l.
Average of the			
First period,	—	29,492	44,238
Second ditto,	—	28,994	43,491
Third ditto,	—	15,741	23,612
Fourth ditto,	—	21,059	34,698
Fifth ditto,	—	11,402	25,242

* M.S. Communicated by the Right Hon. John Beresford, first commissioner of the revenue in Ireland.

FLOUR.

FLOUR.

		<i>Cwt.</i>		<i>Value.</i>
Average of the				l.
First period,	—	37,368	—	18,684
Second ditto,	—	72,196	—	36,098
Third ditto,	—	46,481	—	23,382
Fourth ditto,	—	62,856	—	32,667
Fifth ditto,	—	47,697	—	28,446
				l.
Average value of the three commodities } in the three first periods — }			—	116,436
Ditto of the two last,	—			71,013
				<hr/>
The import in the last fourteen years is } less than in the preceding twenty, by }			—	45,423
				<hr/>
Import of the fourth period	—			97,008
Ditto of the fifth, being the period in } which the bounty hath taken full effect, }			—	77,018
				<hr/>
Difference,	—	—		19,990
				<hr/>

These authentic comparisons differ most surprizingly from the assertions that have been made to me in conversation. I was led to believe that Dublin was no longer fed with English corn and flour, and that the difference of the import since the bounty took effect was not less than 200,000l. a year. What those assertions could mean is to me perfectly enigmatical. Have the gentlemen who are fast friends to this measure, never taken the trouble to examine these papers? Has the business been so often before parliament, and committees of parliament, without having been particularly sifted? We here find that the import into Ireland of foreign barley and malt, wheat and flower have lessened in the last seven years, compared with the preceding seven years, no more than to the amount of about 20,000l. I read with attention the report of Mr. Forster's committee in 1774, the purport of which was to establish the principles whereon this bounty was given, but as the whole of that performance turns on a comparison of fifteen years before 1758, and fifteen years after, though itself contains a declaration (page 7) that the great effect of the measure then concerned only the three last years, very little information of consequence is to be drawn from it, since it assigns a merit to the measure while it admits none could flow from it; nor does the whole report contain one syllable of the decrease in the export of pasturage, which ought to have

been minutely examined. But in order that we may have the whole corn trade before us, let me insert the import of other sorts of corn.

	Wheat Meal.		Oatmeal.		Beans & Pease.		Oats.	
	Quant.	Value.	Quant.	Value.	Quant.	Value.	Quant.	Value.
	Barrels.	l.	Barrels.	l.	Qrs.	l.	Qrs.	l.
Year 1757			4,677	1,559	425	382		
1758			4,038	1,346	647	582	5,985	3,591
1759			10	3	269	242	59	35
1760	9	11			410	369	72	43
1761					285	256	56	33
1762	95	119	1,181	393	497	447	9	5
1763	23	29	7,912	2,637	366	329		
Average,	18	22	2,545	848	414	373	883	529
Year 1764	1,136	1,420	55	18	543	489	139	83
1765	46	57			868	781		
1766	417	521	520	173	579	521	744	446
1767	9,659	12,074	740	246	689	620	2,854	1,712
1768	5,351	6,689			389	350	950	570
1769	1,023	1,278			453	453	115	74
1770	1,854	2,781	104	36	752	752	44	28
Average,	2,355	3,546	202	67	610	566	692	416
Year 1771	3,606	5,529	14,625	5,119	2,356	2,356	1,820	1,274
1772	2,904	4,356	13,599	4,759	836	836	351	246
1773	782	1,173	1,495	523	428	428	56	39
1774	759	1,138	430	150	481	602	333	250
1775	1,600	2,400	1,171	410	1,110	1,388	4	3
1776	682	1,023			781	976	24	18
1777	36	48	1,558	545	6,305	7,882	387	290
Average,	1,492	2,238	4,695	1,644	1,757	2,067	425	303*

Value of the import per annum of } these articles in the last seven years, }	—	6,252
Ditto in the preceding seven years,	—	4,595
Increase,	—	1,657

Here therefore we find that instead of a decrease in the import the contrary has taken place.

Recapitulation of the total Value of Corn, Flour, &c. imported.

In
* M.S. communicated by the Right Hon. Isaac Barré.

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In the year	1757	-	136,860	In the year	1764	-	126,346
	1758	-	121,662		1765	-	98,190
	1759	-	27,058		1766	-	103,898
	1760	-	55,654		1767	-	133,608
	1761	-	49,629		1768	-	42,297
	1762	-	89,919		1769	-	18,776
	1763	-	109,765		1770	-	* 187,119
Average of 7 years, 84,369				Average of 7 years, 101,604			

			l.				l.
In the year	1771	-	265,897	In the year	1775	-	29,371
	1772	-	91,141		1776	-	42,788
	1773	-	22,780		1777	-	105,559
	1774	-	25,348				
Average of seven years - 84,697							

			l.
Second period,			101,604
Last seven years,			84,907
		Decrease,	16,907

Here is the result of the whole import account ; the balance of which in favour of the nation is no more than this trifling sum of sixteen thousand pounds. The account however must be farther examined ; we must take the export side of the question, for there has been an export notwithstanding this great import. We see something of this in the register of our English corn trade, where is a considerable speculative commerce in corn ; but as no such thing exists in Ireland, where the corn trade is a simple import of a necessary of life, it is a little surprizing if any great export appears. Let us however examine the account.

* *The Dublin Society were not very accurate, when in their petition to parliament they set forth, that in two years preceding 1771, the import amounted to upwards of 600,000l.*

VALUE OF ALL THE CORN EXPORTED.

Year	C O R N.							FLOUR AND MEAL.				TOTALS.	
	Barley.	Beans.	Malt.	Meslin.	Oats.	Pease.	Rye.	Wheat.	Flour.	Grain.	Oat.		Wheat.
	l.	l.	l.	l.	l.	l.	l.	l.	l.	l.	l.	l.	l.
1757	44	75	3		5,369	5		4		9	6,576	20	12,105
1758	6,537	128	10		3,120	20		1,037		12	2,231	9	13,104
1759	2,076	312	422		14,281	38	13	3,521	378		12,536	65	31,642
1760	3,701	535	780		1,233	71	143	2,317	92		4,410	257	13,539
1761	2,942	853	1,210		686	53	310	1	30		5,816	26	11,927
1762	1,814	886	665		1,680	70	46	16	573		3,738	54	9,542
1763	2,734	105	70		4,314	13		154	4		4,988	21	12,403
Average,	2,835	413	451		4,097	38	73	1,007	156		5,756	64	14,894
Year 1764	1,785	318	376	64	6,684	78	6	44	158		9,189	166	18,868
1765	874	911	1,056		13,512	67	128	495	35		11,042	27	28,149
1766	8,712	840	1,032		8,365	237	68	351	222		15,701	29	35,557
1767					238	12			2		180	15	447
1768	8,205	108	13		9,300	433	5	3,627			17,897	15	42,470
1769	8,485	677	6,127		29,408	148	33	14,422	20		29,386	7	99,340
1770	1,066	60	1,234		12,924	20		103			13,840		29,268
Average,	4,161	416	1,405	9	11,490	142	34	2,720	62		13,890	37	36,299
Year 1771	168	3	390		3,217	18			6		495		4,326
1772	1,109	56	176		14,079	33	13	1,694	11		20,248		37,616
1773	5,784	428	155		10,250	55	54	4,374	25		10,010		31,280
1774	12,405	643	674		37,330	164	137	1,825	20		41,706		96,048
1775	13,327	13	375		23,347	121	140	8,268	30		18,749		65,894
1776	7,874	775	2		45,668	268	59	30,705	75		19,714	133	114,297
1777	859	2,217			47,911	348		26,158	170		8,574		104,642
Average,	5,932	590	253		25,971	143	57	10,432	48		17,075	19	64,875

§ Drawn from the totals of the export tables in the MS. communicated by Colonel Barré.

	l.
Exported in the last seven years per annum, —	64,871
Ditto in the seven preceding, — —	36,299
	<hr/>
Increase, —	28,572

But as the preceding table includes the export from all the ports in the kingdom, I have inserted it as an object of general information, not as immediately necessary to the enquiry before us, which concerns the port of Dublin only. A measure which draws the corn to that capital from all the ports in the kingdom, can never promote an export from them, but must operate in a contrary manner: for this reason I have drawn the export of the port of Dublin from the general tables for twenty-one years, and find the averages of the three periods, each of seven years, to be in value as follows: the table itself is too voluminous to insert.

	l.	s.	d.
Exported in the first seven years, per annum, —	2692	5	0
———— second ditto, —	3978	2	0
———— last ditto, — —	7550	9	0
The last period greater than the preceding by	3572	7	0

Which sum is the profit to be carried to the account of the inland carriage bounty.

I must here observe, that there was a bounty given on exportation, which took place the 24th of June, 1774. viz. 3s. 2d. on the quarter of wheat, ground wheat, meal, or wheat flour. 2s. 4d. on the quarter of rye, pease or beans ground or unground. 1s. 3d. on the quarter of oats, which act declares the half quarter of wheat, rye, pease, beans, meal, &c. shall be 224lb. barley and malt were left out to enforce the acts passing in England.

The following sessions an additional duty on the import was laid of 2s. a barrel on all wheat, and 1s. per hundred weight on all flour, meal, bread, and biscuit, except of the produce of or manufacture of Great Britain, to be levied when the middle price of wheat at the port where imported shall exceed 23s. English, the barrel of 280lb. The old duty on wheat was 2d. per barrel; on flour 1s. from all ports, Great Britain included.

	l.
Decrease in the import of the last seven years, —	16,907
Increase in the export from Dublin, —	3,572
Total gain per ann. according to this account in the } last seven years, —————	20,479

The reader is not to imagine from hence, that the corn trade of Ireland yields a balance of profit; the advantage to be attributed to the bounty from this account is only a *lessening* of loss, as will appear from the following state of export and import over the whole kingdom.

IMPORT AND EXPORT COMPARED IN VALUE.

	<i>Import.</i>	<i>Export.</i>	<i>Balance profit.</i>	<i>Balance lofs.</i>
	l.	l.	l.	l.
Year 1757	136,860	12,105		124,755
1758	121,662	13,104		108,558
1759	27,058	31,642	4,584	
1760	55,694	13,539		42,155
1761	49,629	11,927		37,702
1762	89,919	9,542		80,377
1763	109,762	12,403		97,359
Average,	84,369	14,894	654	70,129
Year 1764	126,346	18,868		107,478
1765	99,190	28,149		71,041
1766	103,898	35,557		68,341
1767	133,608	447		133,161
1768	42,297	42,470	173	
1769	18,776	99,340	80,564	
1770	187,119	29,268		157,851
Average,	101,604	36,299	11,533	76,838
Year 1771	265,897	4,326		261,571
1772	91,141	37,616		53,525
1773	22,788	31,280	8,493	
1774	25,348	96,048	70,700	
1775	29,371	65,894	36,523	
1776	42,788	114,297	71,509	
1777	105,559	104,642		917
Average,	83,270	64,871	26,746	45,144

Lofs per annum in the middle seven years, --- 76,838

Gain ditto, --- 11,533

Neat lofs per annum, --- 65,305

Lofs per annum in the laft seven years, --- 45,144

Gain ditto, --- 26,746

Neat lofs per annum, --- 18,398

It is a reduction of the lofs of 65,000l. down to 18,000l.

Having thus discovered the advantage of the measure, let us in the next place examine, at what expenfe this benefit has been obtained. The following table fhews the payments of the bounty to each county; the totals; the ftones of corn, and the cwts. of flour brought.

INLAND CARRIAGE.

An ACCOUNT of the Sums Paid as Bounties on the Inland Carriage of Corn to Dublin. From the beginning to 1777.

	1762.	1763.	1764.	1765.	1766.	1767.	1768.	1769.
Antim,	L	L.	L.	L.	L.	L.	L.	L. 21
Armagh,								
Carlow,	160	161	228	94	151	59	197	849
Cavan,				15			5	
Clare,					1			31
Cork,					83	133	587	25
Donegal,		4						133
Dublin,								
Fernanagh,								
Galway,	50	12	107	327	345	18	178	303
Kildare,	748	614	518	387	446	318	518	2,304
Kilkenny,	2,079	2,507	2,647	2,719	4,506	3,172	5,712	9,294
King's	447	327	461	524	389	133	669	1,207
Leitrim,			5				8	41
Limerick,				686	1,383	772	644	799
Longford,	3		12	47	36	16	304	5,341
Louth,				3	2	620	78	42
Mayo,				7	11		6	61
Meath,								
Monaghan,	506	422	396	303	267	461	1,314	2,567
Queen's								
Roscommon,	651	707	756	596	597	48	1,085	2,308
Sligo,	12	6	105	312	159	119	346	653
Tipperary,	191	220	9	14	8	172	93	226
Waterford,			70	232	339		338	806
Wexford,	33	25	62	313	325	15	622	874
Wicklow,	33	30	61	45	143	3	910	1,106
Torals,	21	55	35	25	22		53	124
	4,940	5,096	5,483	6,660	9,212	6,074	13,675	25,225
	4,730,869 lt.	1,592,418 lt.	1,622,933 lt.	1,409,726 lt.	1,464,296 lt.*	945,289 lt.*	2,148,805 lt.*	2,608,910 lt.
								107,986 Ct.

* Flour included.

An ACCOUNT of the Sums paid as Bounties on the Inland Carriage of Corn to Dublin. Continued.

	1770.	1771.	1772.	1773.	1774.	1775.	1776.	1777.
Antrim,	267	l. 433		l. 27				l.
Armagh,	3	4						
Carlow,	800	423	1,025	2,676	2,813	2,425	1,994	2,479
Cavan,	2			6		8	24	18
Clare,	34	4	116	179	199	131	133	
Cork,	979	1,399	1,350	1,491	1,902	783	4,200	2,350
Donegal,								
Dublin,	300	289	400	488	576	460	469	517
Ferriernagh,				2	5			
Galway,	70	13	461	623	812	1,570	1,873	1,200
Kildare,	11,910	2,187	2,939	3,372	2,922	2,603	4,199	3,485
Kilkenny,	8,104	9,752	18,215	16,279	14,966	14,690	16,326	20,816
King's	624	678	2,243	2,021	2,647	1,750	3,138	3,161
Leitrim,	3	1	20	20	3	8	45	17
Limerick,	79	463	714	1,134	2,604	3,066	2,773	607
Longford,	143	15	217	277	170	341	339	311
Louth,	36	27	163	131	66	27	150	212
Mayo,	4	5	85	214	203	339	201	157
Meath,	2,158	1,351	2,333	2,455	2,733	2,739	3,633	4,594
Monaghan,		3	4				13	66
Queen's	1,479	1,781	3,512	3,564	3,511	3,558	4,956	3,161
Roocommon,	193	18	598	958	1,135	1,012	1,892	1,740
Sligo,	202	14	391	433	388	198	320	192
Tipperary,	381	103	2,997	4,963	8,070	10,426	10,577	9,862
Waterford,				110	129	188	46	
Wexmeath,	350	292	877	1,467	1,912	1,415	2,045	1,562
Wexford,	495	293	820	1,437	1,745	2,306	3,172	4,952
Wicklow,	81	28	63	125	204	124	116	318
Totals,	18,706	19,290	39,560	44,465	49,674	53,589	60,745	61,786
	1,920,978 l.	1,641,867 fl.	3,146,960 fl.	3,263,199 ll.	3,553,996 ll.	3,211,214 ll.	3,622,076 ll.	3,240,692 ll.
	79,350 Ct.	87,965 Ct.	153,139 Ct.	175,177 Ct.	190,346 Ct.	213,885 Ct.	255,256 Ct.	317,753 Ct. §

§ Taken from the Journals of the House of Commons. In 1778 the total payment was 71,533 l. and in 1779, 67,864 l. besides 2,500 l. for it coastways, a new bounty.

I N L A N D B O U N T Y .

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Total pay- ment in	l.	Total pay- ment in	l.
1764 -	5,483	1771 -	19,290
1765 -	6,660	1772 -	39,560
1766 -	9,212	1773 -	44,465
1767 -	6,074	1774 -	49,674
1768 -	13,675	1775 -	53,889
1769 -	25,225	1776 -	60,745
1770 -	18,706	1777 -	61,786
<hr/>		<hr/>	
Paid in seven years,	85,038	Paid in seven years,	329,413
<hr/>		<hr/>	
Which is, per ann.	12,148	Which is, per ann.	47,059
<hr/>		<hr/>	

If therefore the account was to be closed here, it appears that forty-seven thousand pounds per annum, have been given of the public money for a gain in the export and import account of corn of twenty thousand pounds a year. Surely this is paying very dear for it! — but the account does not end here.

From this table the reader finds, that the bounty has been continually rising, until it has exceeded sixty thousand pounds a year. It also appears, that the encrease of tillage has been chiefly in the counties of Kilkenny, Tipperary, Carlow, Meath, Kildare, King's, Wexford, Queen's, and Limerick, as will appear by contrasting the first and the last years of those counties.

Counties,	1762 l.	1777 l.
Kilkenny, ———	2,079	20,816
Tipperary, ———	191	9,862
Carlow, ———	160	2,479
Meath, ———	506	4,594
Kildare, ———	748	3,485
King's ———	447	3,161
Wexford, ———	33	4,952
Queen's, ———	651	3,161
Roscommon, ———	12	1,740

And Limerick arose from nothing at all to 2773l. in the year 1776; from hence one fact clearly appears, that the increase of tillage has by no means been in the poor counties, by breaking up uncultivated lands; on the contrary, it has been entirely in the richest counties in the kingdom, which confirms the intelligence I received on the journey, that it was good sheep land that had principally been tilled. The bounty to Tipperary, Carlow, and Roscommon, once the greatest sheep counties in Ireland, was insignificant at the beginning of the measure, but has at last become very great. This circumstance, so essential in the subject, renders it absolutely

lutely necessary to enlarge our enquiry, that we may examine, as well as our materials will permit, whether any national loss, as well as profit, has resulted from converting so much rich pasture land into tillage; and in order to do this, it will be necessary to lay before the reader the exports of the produce of pasturage from Ireland, during these two periods of seven years each, which serve us for a comparison.

An ACCOUNT of the Export of the Produce of Pasturage, from 1753 to 1777. *

Year	Barrils of Beef.	Ct. Butter.	Ct. Candles	No. Hides.	Ct. Tallow	Cows, bull. and horses.	Ct. Cheefe.
1753	180,877	200,060		160,656	29,128		
1754	149,558	107,998		128,739	20,156		
1755	180,980	223,294		154,184	26,029		
1756	142,686	203,876		113,523	21,217		
1757	147,804	181,134		158,822	18,006		
1758	195,789	181,454		161,197	17,960		
1759	136,356	237,169		117,113	22,331		
Average,	162,034	203,569		142,033	22,118		
Year	1764	218,220	257,976	163,812	50,501	1,089	3,466
1765	199,999	301,109	5,564	106,335	52,706	1,767	3,927
1766	190,409	271,946	3,293	121,854	46,543	2,135	3,840
1767	173,484	257,047	2,862	111,895	51,071	1,880	3,541
1768	209,847	304,623	4,222	124,149	51,662	3,505	4,113
1769	205,368	315,153	3,428	113,056	49,089	2,626	2,686
1770	208,269	262,717	1,730	131,130	48,260	1,887	1,815
Average,	200,799	201,510	4,284	124,604	49,976	2,127	3,341
Year	1771	201,010	238,801	2,170	139,759	46,842	1,996
1772	200,829	288,457	2,430	155,966	44,981	1,057	2,406
1773	215,191	272,399	2,183	119,978	39,920	1,476	2,101
1774	187,494	270,096	2,024	108,282	41,350	3,359	2,575
1775	192,452	264,140	2,234	136,782	42,295	7,418	1,953
1776	203,685	272,411	3,155	108,574	50,549	8,035	2,229
1777	168,578	264,181	1,764	84,391	48,502	5,640	1,597
Average,	195,605	267,212	2,280	121,963	44,919	4,040	2,122

* The first seven years from the commons journals, the last fourteen from the parliamentary records of import and export. MS.

The prices of all these commodities must be ascertained, in order to discover the increase or decrease of value.

The custom-house price of beef is 11. 6s. 8d. per barrel; but I find that the average price at Waterford, from 1764 to 1776, was 16s. per cwt. or 11. 12s. the barrel. The custom-house rate of butter is 21. per cwt. but by the same authority, I find the real price on the average of the last fourteen years to be 21. 5s. 6d. Candles at the custom-house 11. 15s. per cwt. the real price 21. 10s. Tallow at the custom-house 21. the true price 21. 4s. 6d.

Average

Average Price of four and a half hundred Beef per Hundred Weight.

Year	s.	d.	Year	s.	d.	Year	l.	s.	d.
1756	12	3	1764	13	6	1771	0	16	6
1757	11	6	1765	14	0	1772	0	16	0
1758	12	0	1766	16	0	1773	0	16	6
1759	11	6	1767	17	0	1774	0	18	0
1760	12	6	1768	13	0	1775	0	18	0
1761	12	6	1769	15	0	1776	1	0	0
1762	12	0	1770	16	0				
1763	13	0							

Average of the last 13 years, 16s.

Shipping Prices of Butter, Tallow, Candles, and Pork, in Waterford, from the Year 1764 to 1777, both inclusive †.

	Butter per Cwt.		tallow per Cwt.		candles per Cwt.		Pork per Barrel.	
	s.	s. d.	s.	s. d.	s.	s. d.	s.	s. d.
In the year 1764	43	to 36 0	31	to 30 0	41	to 40 0	40	to 39 0
1765	36	- 38 0	39	- 40 0	40	- 41 0	38	- 40 0
1766	38	- 36 0	42	- 41 0	47	- 48 0	38	- 39 0
1767	47	- 38 0	43	- 44 0	49	- 50 0	43	- 45 0
1768	38	- 42 6	44	- 43 0	51	- 52 0	45	- 48 6
1769	42	- 53 0	44	- 45 0	54	- 53 0	42	- 38 0
1770	45	- 48 6	42	- 40 0	54	- 53 0	41	- 45 0
1771	57	- 48 0	44	- 45 0	53	- 54 0	44	- 46 0
1772	54	- 48 0	46	- 52 0	54	- 56 0	53	- 54 0
1773	56	- 54 0	44	- 42 8	51	- 52 0	58	- 60 0
1774	50	- 40 0	40	- 43 0	54	- 55 0	42	- 45 0
1775	53	- 44 0	40	- 41 0	50	- 51 0	45	- 42 0
1776	53	- 43 0	41	- 40 0	50	- 51 0	47	- 49 0
1777	58	- 55 0	41	- 43 0	51	- 52 0	66	- 70 0
Average, -		45 6		44 6		50 0		46 6

Those are the prices as they appeared at the beginning and at the end of the year.

Prices

† MS. Communicated by Cornelius Bolton, Esq; member for that city.

Prices of Ox hides of 112lb. from the Year 1756 to 1776, both inclusive.

Year	l.	s.	d.	Year	l.	s.	d.
1756	1	7	0	1767	1	6	0
1757	1	7	0	1768	1	8	6
1758	1	2	6	1769	1	11	0
1759	1	1	0	1770	1	8	0
1760	1	0	6	1771	1	4	0
1761	1	2	6	1772	1	1	0
1762	1	2	0	1773	1	3	0
1763	0	19	6	1773	1	10	0
1764	0	18	6	1775	1	13	0
1765	1	4	0	1776	1	14	0
1766	1	5	0				

The real price of hides I was disappointed in at Corke, must therefore take that of the custom-house, which is 1l. 13. 4d. tanned, and 1l. 5s. untanned; as more of the latter, I shall suppose 1l. 8s. on an average. Of the cows, bullocks, and horses, I am quite ignorant, shall therefore guess them at 5l. on an average. Cheese at the custom-house 1l. per cwt.

TOTAL EXPORTS OF PASTURAGE.

First Period.	Per annum.
	l.
Export of beef from 1753 to 1759, 162,034 barrels, at 1l. 12s. per, —	259,254
Ditto butter, 203,569 cwt. at 2l. 5s. 6d. per, —	463,119
Ditto hides, 142,033, at 1l. 8s. per, —	198,845
Ditto tallow, 22,118 cwt. at 2l. 4s. 6d. per, —	49,211
Average of the first seven years, —	970,429
Second Period.	
Beef from 1764 to 1770, 200,799 barrels, at 1l. 12s. per, —	321,277
Butter, 281,510 cwt. at 2l. 5s. 6d. per, —	640,434
Candles, 4284 cwt. at 2l. 10s. per, —	10,710
Hides, 124,604, at 1l. 8s. per, —	174,445
Tallow, 49,976 cwt. at 2l. 4s. 6d. per, —	111,196
Live stock, 2,127, at 5l. per, —	10,635
Cheese, 3,341 cwt. at 1l. per, —	3,341
Average export of the second seven years, —	1,272,038
Third Period.	
Beef from 1771 to 1777, 195,605 barrels, at 1l. 12s. per, —	312,967
Butter, 267,212 cwt. at 2l. 5. 6d. per, —	607,907
Candles,	

EXPORTS FROM SHEEP. 129

Candles, 2,280 cwt. at 2l. 10s. per,	5,016
Hides, 121,963, at 1l. 8s. per,	170,747
Tallow, 44,919 cwt. at 2l. 4s. 6d. per,	99,943
Live stock, 4,040, at 5l. per,	20,200
Cheese, 2,122 cwt. at 1l. per,	2,122

Average export of the last seven years, 1,218,902

Second period greater than the first by 301,609
 Second period greater than the last by 53,136

The second period being greater than the first by near three hundred thousand pounds, and Ireland having been throughout all three periods on the advance in prosperity, it follows, that the increase should have continued, had not some other reason interfered, and occasioned, instead of a similar increase of three hundred thousand pounds, a falling off of above fifty thousand. I cannot suppose that the increase of tillage did all this; I should suppose that impossible. Most of these commodities are certainly consumed at home, which perhaps may account for there being no increase; but the increase of tillage must inevitably have had its share, and it is assigning a very moderate one to it, to suppose the amount no more than this decrease of fifty thousand pounds a year. We come next to sheep, and the exports which depend on them. The following table shews the whole at one view:

Year	Wool,	Value	Woolen	Value at	Worsted	Value at	Total	Total
	stones.	at 14s.	Yarn.	17s 6d.	yarn.	40 s.	stones.	value.
		l.	stones.	l.	stones.	l.		l.
Year 1764	10,128	7,089	9,991	8,742	139,412	278,824	159,531	294,655
1765	17,316	12,121	13,450	11,768	149,915	299,830	180,681	323,719
1766	21,722	15,205	7,980	6,982	152,122	304,244	181,824	326,431
1767	48,733	34,113	7,553	6,603	151,940	303,880	208,226	344,596
1768	28,521	19,964	11,387	9,963	157,721	315,442	197,629	345,369
1769	3,840	2,688	5,012	4,385	131,364	262,728	138,216	269,801
1770	2,578	1,804	3,833	3,353	117,753	235,506	124,164	240,663
Average,	18,976	13,283	8,458	7,399	142,889	285,779	170,038	306,462
Year 1771	218	152	4,468	3,909	139,378	278,756	144,064	282,817
1772	2,045	1,431	5,947	5,203	115,904	231,808	123,896	238,442
1773	1,839	1,287			94,098	188,196	95,937	189,483
1774	1,007	704			63,920	127,840	64,927	128,544
1775	2,007	1,404			78,896	157,792	80,903	159,196
1776	1,059	741			86,527	173,054	87,586	173,795
1777	1,734	1,213			114,703	229,406	116,437	230,619
Average.	1,415	990	1,459	1,301	99,060	198,121	101,964	200,413

§ The quantities taken from the Parliament Records of Import and Export, MS. and the value added.

In the last century the quantity of wool, &c. was much larger, indeed it was so great, as will appear from the following table, as to form a considerable proportion of the kingdom's exports.

Year	Wool.		Yarn.		Year	Wool.		Yarn.	
	stones.	stones.	stones.	stones.		stones.	stones.		
1687	256,592	3,668	1703	360,862	36,873				
1697	217,678	13,480	1711	310,136	55,273				
1700	336,292	26,617	1712	263,946	60,108				
1701	302,812	23,390	1713	171,871	68,548				
1702	315,473	43,148	1711	147,153	58,147				

Relative to the prices I have charged, the following table is the authority.

Market Prices of Wool in the Fleece, per Stone of sixteen pounds; and of Bay Yarn, per Pack, containing fourteen great Stones, of eighteen pounds each.

Year	Wool.					Year	Bay Yarn.				
	per ft.		per pack.				per ft.		per pack.		
	s.	d.	l.	s.	d.		s.	d.	l.	s.	d.
1764	11	0	26	5	0	1772	*	0	28	7	0
1765	10	0	24	13	6	1773	§	0	27	6	0
1766	11	0	25	4	0	1774	14	0	25	4	0
1767	13	0	27	6	0	1775	16	0	29	8	0
1768	13	6	26	5	0	1776	16	6	30	9	0
1769	13	6	26	15	6	1777	17	6	30	9	0
1770	14	0	26	15	6	Average is					
1771	14	0	26	15	6	nearly	14	0	27	4	5

Wool is here rated at the market price for combing wool rough in the fleece; but no estimate can be formed from this upon what has been exported, the small quantities whereof have been for the most part wool upon skins or coarse fells, which must have come much lower than the prices herein mentioned.

Woollen yarn for export has not been an article for sale in Ireland, what has been sent out was directly from the manufacturer, I presume in very small quantities, and from the port of Corke only.

Worsted, or bay yarn, is sent principally to Norwich and Manchester, it sells by the skain in Ireland, but in the preceding

* Unsettled, but very high.—The pack of bay yarn is taken to contain 2100 skains.

§ Communicated by Mr. Joshua Pine, in the yarn trade. The custom-house price of wool is 15s. woollen yarn 17s. and worsted yarn 1l. 13s. 4d.

ing table it is rated by the pack; the cost at market is only noticed, the necessary charges on shipping amount to full two per cent. exclusive of commission which is two per cent. more.

Wool, woollen, and bay yarn, are exported by the great stone, containing eighteen pounds weight. A licence for exporting must be procured from the lord lieutenant, the cost of which is nearly fourpence halfpenny per stone $\frac{1}{2}$. From comparing the prices at different periods, exported woollen yarn may pretty safely be rated at seventeen shillings and sixpence per stone, of which five shillings a stone is labour.

	l.	
Exported value in the first period, _____		307,662
Ditto in the last, _____		200,413
		106,049
Decrease, _____		

Whoever recurs to the minutes of the journey, in the counties of Carlow, Tipperary, and Roscommon, the great sheepwalks of Ireland, will have no reason to be surprized at this loss of one hundred thousand pounds a year. There are yet other subjects so connected with the present enquiry, that in order to have a clear and distinct idea of it, we must include in the account. I think it fair to give tillage credit for any increase there may be in pork, bacon, lard, hogs, and bread; it is true they do not entirely belong to it, for dairies yield much; but to obviate objections, I will suppose them totally connected with tillage. The following table includes all these articles.

EXPORTS OF					
	Pork barrels.	Fitches of bacon.	Lard, Cwt.	Bread, Cwt.	Hogs.
Year 1753	23,682				
1754	23,684				
1755	20,930				
1756	51,345				
1757	25,071				
1758	28,746				
1759	40,336				
Average,	30,542*				
Year 1764	35,066	226	1,852	8,783	60
1765	44,361	3,592	3,940	7,417	140
1766	50,155	9,640	1,783	8,228	481
1767	34,995	5,778	1,055	6,876	0
1768	43,041	21,275	1,496	6,791	22
1769	40,039	8,156	1,549	6,792	444
1770	43,947	6,500	1,913	5,597	416
Average,	41,649	7,881	1,869	7,197	223
Year 1771	42,519	5,773	1,841	8,006	76
1772	44,713	14,142	2,235	4,575	90
1773	51,112	19,256	2,156	5,827	135
1774	52,328	26,100	2,379	5,090	882
1775	50,367	32,644	1,686	4,012	680
1776	72,714	24,502	3,216	13,302	1,148
1777	72,931	11,462	2,981	29,627	1,358
Average,	55,240	19,125	2,356	10,062	624§

Export of pork per annum, from 1764 to 1770,	l.
41,649 barrels, at 2l. 6s. 6d. per barrel †,	96,833
Bacon, 788 cwt. at 15s. per cwt.	5,910
Lard, 1869 cwt. at 1 l. per cwt.	1,869
Bread, 7197 cwt. at 10s. per cwt.	3,598
Hogs, 223, at 15s. a piece †,	166
Average export of seven years,	108,376

Export

* Journals of the House of Commons. § Parliament Record
of Export and Import, MS. † Waterford price. || Custom-
House price. ‡ Supposed at that rate for want of authority.

E X P O R T S O F P O R K. 133

Export of pork per annum, from 1771 to 1777,	l.
55,240 barrels, at 2l. 6s. 6d. per barrel, —	128,435
Bacon, 19,125 at 15s. — — —	14,343
Lard, 2356 cwt. at 1l. per cwt. — — —	2,356
Bread, 10,062 cwt. at 10s. per cwt. — — —	5,031
Hogs, 624, at 15s. a piece — — —	468
Average exports of the last seven years, —	
	150,631
Increase in the last seven years, —	
	42,255

The data are now very completely before the reader, from which the merit of this extraordinary measure may be estimated. I will not assert that any custom-house accounts are absolutely authentic; I know the common objections to them, and that there is a foundation for those objections; but the point of consequence in the present enquiry does not depend on their *absolute*, but comparative accuracy; that is to say, if the errors objected to them exist, they will be found as great in one period as in another, consequently their authority is perfectly competent for the comparison of different ones. Whoever will examine the entries with a minute attention, and compare them with a variety of other circumstances, will generally be able to distinguish the suspicious articles. In the present enquiry I will venture to assert that they speak truth, for they correspond exactly (as I shall by and by shew) with many other causes which could hardly have failed without a miracle of producing the effects they display. I should further add, that on the greatest number of the articles inserted in the preceding tables, there are duties paid on the export which exempt them from the common objection to the entries. But to reason against the accuracy of such accounts is perfectly useless, while ministers in defence of their measures, and patriots in opposition to them found their arguments on them alone. Whoever attends either the English or Irish house of commons will presently see this in a multiplicity of instances. All who come to the bar of those houses depend on these accounts; committees of parliament rely on them, and the best political writers of every period, from Child and Davenant to Campbell and Whitworth, have agreed in the same conduct, knowing the errors to which they are liable; but knowing also that there is no better authority, and that they are perfectly competent to comparisons.

Having thus closed my authorities, I shall now draw them into one view, by stating the account of the inland carriage bounty, Debtor and Creditor.

BOUNTY ON THE INLAND CARRIAGE OF CORN.	
Dr.	Cr.
l.	l.
To payments of public money on the average of the last 7 years, — — 47,059	By decrease in the import of corn, &c. - 16,907
To decrease in the export of beef, butter, &c. — — 53,136	By increase in the export of corn, — 3,570
To decrease in the export of wool and yarn, — — 106,049	By increase in the export of pork, hogs, bread, &c. — 42,255
	<u>62,734</u>
	Balance against the bounty, — 143,510
<u>206,244</u>	<u>206,244</u>

Thus far I have laid before the reader a connected chain of such facts as the records of the measure, and the parliamentary accounts would permit : it appears as clearly as the testimony of figures can speak, that it has had very ill effects upon the general national account. Had the effect we have seen taken place of itself without any artificial means to assist it, the friends of the public would perhaps have been well employed to remedy the evil : how absurd therefore must it appear to find that it has been brought about with the utmost care and assiduity, and at an expence of near fifty thousand pounds a year of the public money !

It is the intention and effect of this bounty, to turn every local advantage and natural supply topsy turvy. We have had for several years in England, an importation of foreign corn more than proportioned (the kingdoms compared) to any thing the Irish knew.† If any one to remedy this, proposed a bounty on bringing corn by land from Devonshire and Northumberland, so as to give it a preference in the London market to that of Kent and Essex, with what contempt would the proposer and proposition be treated ! the corn counties of Louth and Kildare in the vicinity of Dublin are not to supply that market, but it is to eat its bread from Corke and Wexford !

It must also be brought by land carriage ! the absurdity and folly with which such an idea is pregnant in a country blessed with such ports, and such a vast extent of coast, are so glaring, that it is amazing that sophistry could blind the legislature to such a degree as to permit a second thought of it.

† In 1774 we imported to the value of 1,023,000l. ; and in 1775 to that of 1,265,562.

it. Why not carry the corn in ships, as well as tear up all the roads leading to Dublin by cars? Why not increase your sailors instead of horses? Are they not as profitable an animal? If you must have an inland bounty, why not to the nearest port from which it could be carried with the most ease, and at the least expence to Dublin? This would have answered the same end. The pretence for the measure was the great import of foreign corn at Dublin; this is granting that there was a great demand at Dublin; and can any one suppose that if the corn was forced to Corke or Wexford, it would not find the way to such a demand as easily as from the east of England, which is the only part of that kingdom which abounds with corn for exportation? But the very pretence was a falshood, for with what regard to truth could it be asserted, that Dublin was fed with English corn before this measure took effect, when it appears by the preceding accounts, that the import of the whole kingdom from 1757 to 1763 was only 84,000*l.* a year, and from 1764 to 1770 no more than 101,604*l.*? This import account does not distinguish like the export one, the ports at which the foreign corn was received; if it did, I should in all probability find but a moderate part of this total belonging to Dublin, as it is very well known that in the north there is always a considerable import of oatmeal. Granting however the evil, still the plan of remedying it by a land carriage of 130 miles was absurd to the last degree. But suppose so considerable a city as Dublin did import foreign corn to a large amount, is it wise to think this so great a national evil, that all the principles of common policy are to be wounded in order to remedy it? Where is the country to be found that is free from considerable importations even of the product of land? Has not Ireland a prodigious export of her soil's produce in the effects of pasturage, for which her climate is singularly adapted? And while she has that, of what little account is a trifling import of corn to feed her capital city? We have seen the undoubted loss that has accrued to the nation from a violent endeavour to counteract this import, yet the measure has only lessened it to an inconsiderable degree.

I was at a mill on Corke harbour above 120 miles from Dublin, and saw cars loading for that market on the bounty, with a ship laying at the mill quay bound for Dublin, and waiting for a loading; could invention suggest any scheme more preposterous than thus to confound at the public expence all the ideas of common practice, and common sense! By means of this measure I have been assured it has happened, that the flour of Slaine mills has found its way to Carlow, and that of Laughlin Bridge to Drogheda: that is to say, Mr. Jebb eats his bread of Captain Mercer's flour, and the latter makes his pudding with Mr. Jebb's assistance; they live

100 miles afunder, and the public pays the piper while the flour dances the hay in this manner.

The vast difference between the expence of land and water carriage should ever induce the legislature, though sailors were not in question, to encourage the latter rather than the former. From Corke there is paid bounty 5s. 6½d. yet the freight at 10s. a ton is only 6d. The bounty from Laughlin Bridge is 2s. 3½d. yet Captain Mercer pays in summer but 1s. 4d. and in winter no more than 1s. 6d. Mr. Moore at Marlesfield receives 4s. bounty, but his carriage cost him only 2s. 6d. in summer, and 3s. in winter; hence therefore we find that the bounty more than pays the expence, and that the profit is in proportion to the distance, i. e. the absurdity.

In the year ending September 1777, there were 34,598 barrels of malt brought from Wexford to Dublin by land, receiving 7077l. 4s. 11d. bounty.

34,598 barrels are 51,897 Cwt. which at 6			
Cwt. per horse, would take for one day,		8,649	horses.
From Wexford to Dublin and back takes seven			
days, or	—	—	60,546 horses.
One man to two horses,	—	—	30,273 men.
			l. s. d.
The horses at 16d. a day,	—	—	4,306 8 0
Men at 9d. a day,	—	—	1,135 4 9
			<hr/>
Seven days men and horses,	—	—	5,171 12 9
The freight of which to Dublin at 8s. a ton			
should be,	—	—	1,037 12 0
			<hr/>
Saving by Sea, †	—	—	4,134 0 9
			<hr/>

It is therefore a loss of about 80 per cent. purchased by the bounty.

In proportion as sailors are lessened horses are increased. Suppose common coasting vessels navigated at the rate of one man to twenty tons, it requires sixty-six horses to draw that burthen, and thirty-three men: so that for every sailor lost, there are above threescore of this worst of all stock kept; which is of itself an enormous national loss. If the number of horses kept at actual work by this bounty, with the mares, colts, &c. to supply them, were known, it might probably be found so large as to lessen a little of the veneration with which this measure is considered in Ireland.

I find that in the sessions of 1769 and 1771, there was a bounty paid on the carriage of corn coastways to Dublin. It amounted

† MS. communicated by Richard Nevill, Esq; member for Wexford.

CONSUMPTION OF DUBLIN.

amounted in the first to 3278l. †, and in the latter to 4973l. §, the act lasted only those four years. It was an experiment which surely ought to have been continued; for if corn is to be forced to Dublin, this most certainly is the only rational way of doing it.

By the following table the amount of this coasting trade will be seen, with and without that bounty.

Corn and Flour brought coastways to Dublin from 1758 to 1777.

	<i>Wheat and Bere and wheat meal</i>		<i>Malt.</i>	<i>Flour.</i>	<i>Oats and oatmeal.</i>	<i>Totals.</i>
	<i>Barrels.</i>	<i>Barrels.</i>				
In the Year 1758	1,424	61,794	2,991	40	22,178	88,427
1759	527	69,326	5,106	37	10,963	85,959
1760	37	75,846	3,812	48	9,273	89,016
1761	43	64,589	3,272	40	9,792	77,736
1762	118	63,980	3,347	52	10,484	77,981
1763	902	66,150	3,505	124	10,762	81,443
1764	1,542	79,710	3,812	161	10,663	95,868
1765	1,611	64,705	3,427	142	10,053	79,938
1766	11,000	39,398	6,610	282	14,276	71,566
1767	8,006	61,346	6,266	1,150	12,006	88,774
					Total,	836,728
1768	2,430	76,684	15,507	39	15,858	110,518
1769	5,669	81,749	14,479	753	21,723	124,373
1770	6,062	68,378	18,522	381	9,130	102,473
1771	5,425	60,530	8,558	232	16,157	90,902
1772	8,130	49,658	18,455	743	14,468	91,454
1773	3,525	48,836	17,106	269	12,117	81,853
1774	4,755	46,724	27,659	76	17,181	96,395
1775	832	49,213	25,165	290	5,615	81,115
1776	1,182	51,778	21,790		6,591	81,341
1777	712	37,511	17,467	630	10,733	67,053*
					Total,	927,477
Average of the } last 7 years, }	3,508	49,178	19,457	320	11,837	84,301

† June 1, 1768. 7th George III. chap. 24.

4d. per Cwt. corn of Irish growth by water coastways to Dublin, southward between Wicklow and the Tuscar; north, between Drogheda or Carrickfergus.

5d. per Cwt. if southward of Tuscar, or north of Carrickfergus.

4d. per Cwt. southward of Cooley point, to Newry, Belfast, or Londonderry. Continued to 24th June, 1771.

§ MS. account of public premiums, communicated by the Right Hon. John Forster, member for the county of Louth.

* MS. communicated by Rich. Nevill, Esq; member for Wexford.

With the assistance of these particulars, united with the quantities on which the inland bounty is paid, given at page 127 and 128, we shall be able to see the principal part of the consumption of the city of Dublin.

Brought by Land-carriage Bounty.

Year	Stones.	Cwt.
1762	1,730,869	
1763	1,592,418	
1764	1,622,933	
1765	1,409,726	
1766	1,464,296	
1767	945,289	
1768	2,148,805	
1769	2,608,910	107,985
1770	1,920,978	79,350
1771	1,641,867	87,965
1772	3,146,960	153,139
1773	3,263,199	175,177
1774	3,553,996	190,346
1775	3,211,214	213,885
1776	3,622,076	255,256
1777	3,240,692	317,753
Average of last 7 years	3,097,143	199,074

By these accounts, [Dublin on an average of the last seven years has consumed

3,097,143 Stones of corn,
 199,074 Cwt. of flour,
 84,301 Barrels of both coastways.

If the average weight of the corn is 14 stone per barrel, the first of these articles

Will make in barrels,	—	—	221,224
The 199,074 Cwt. of flour may be called in barrels of wheat,	—	—	180,000
Add the above barrels coastways,	—	—	84,301
Total,	—	—	<u>485,525</u>

To this should be added the import of foreign corn, which is known to be considerably more than the export, and it will appear that if there are 150,000 inhabitants in Dublin, they must consume above three barrels each of all sorts of corn in a year,

a year, which considering that the mass of the people live very much upon potatoes, is a great allowance, and suggests the idea either that the people are more numerous, or that more money is paid in bounties than there ought to be by the acts, which is probable.

I come now to consider one of the principal arguments used in favour of this measure. It is the increase of tillage being so beneficial to the kingdom. Taken as a general position, there may or may not be truth in the assertion: I am apt to think rather more stress is laid on it than there ought to be, and some reasons for that opinion may be seen in *Political Arithmetic*, p. 363, &c. But not to enter into the general question at present, I have to observe two circumstances upon the state of Ireland; first the moisture of the climate, and secondly the sort of tillage introduced.

That the climate is far moister than that of England I have already given various reasons to conclude; but the amazing tendency of the soil to grass would prove it if any proof was wanting. Let general Cunningham and Mr. Silver Oliver recollect the instances they shewed me of turnep land, and stubble left without ploughing, and yielding the succeeding summer a full crop of hay. These are such facts as we have not an idea of in England. Nature therefore points out in the clearest manner, the application of the soil in Ireland most suitable to the climate. But this moisture which is so advantageous to grass, is pernicious to corn. The finest corn in Europe and the world is uniformly found in the driest countries; it is the weight of wheat which points out its goodness; which lessens per measure gradually from Barbary to Poland. The wheat of Ireland has no weight compared with that of dry countries; and I have on another occasion observed, that there is not a sample of a good colour in the whole kingdom. The crops are full of grass and weeds, even in the best management, and the harvests are so wet and tedious as greatly to damage the produce; but at the same time, and for the same reason cattle of all sorts look well, never failing of a full bite of excellent grass: the very driest summers do not affect the verdure as in England.

I do not make these observations, in order to conclude that tillage will not do in Ireland. I know it may be made to do; but I would leave the vibrations from corn to pasturage, and from pasturage to corn, to the cultivators of the land to guide themselves as prices and other circumstances direct, but by no means force an extended tillage at the expence of bounties.

But what is the tillage gained by this measure? It is that system which formed the agriculture of England two hundred years ago, and forms it yet in the worst of our common fields, but which all our exertions of enclosing and improving are bent to extirpate. 1. Fallow. 2. Wheat; and then spring corn until the soil is exhausted: or else, 1. Fallow. 2. Wheat. 3. Spring

3. Spring corn; and then fallow again. In this course the spring corn goes to horses, &c. the fallow is a dead loss, and the whole national gain the crop of wheat; one year in three yields nothing, and one a trifle, whereas the grass yields a full crop every year. Let it not be imagined, that waste and desert tracts, that wanted cultivation, are only turned to this tillage. Nine tenths of the change is in the rich sheep walks of Roscommon, Tipperary, Carlow, and Kilkenny. I have already proved this fact; the question therefore is reduced to this: Ought you to turn some of the finest pastures in the world, and which in Ireland yielded twenty shillings an acre, into the most execrable tillage that is to be found on the face of the globe? The comparison is not between good grass and good tillage; it is *good* grass against *bad* tillage. The tables I inserted prove, that Ireland has lost fifty-three thousand pounds a year for seven years in the produce of cows and bullocks, and one hundred and six thousand pounds in that of sheep; this is a prodigious loss, but it is not the whole; there is the loss of labour on above fifty thousand stones of woollen yarn annually, which is a great drawback from the superior population supposed, perhaps falsely, to flow from tillage. When these circumstances are therefore well considered, the nation will not, I apprehend, be thought to have gained by having converted her rich sheep walks, which yielded so amply in wool, and in the labour which is annexed to wool, into so execrable a tillage as is universally introduced.

Another circumstance of this measure is, that of sacrificing all the ports of the kingdom to Dublin; the natural trade, which ought to take a variety of different little channels, proportioned to vicinity, was by this system violently drawn away to the capital; a very ill situated capital, the increase of which, at the expence of the out ports, was by no means a national advantage.

A question naturally arises from the premises before us; should the bounty be repealed? Absurd as it is, I am free to declare, I think not at once. Upon the credit of the measure great sums have been laid out in raising mills, most in situations which render them dependant on this forced trade for work. Great loss would accrue in this to individuals, and the public faith rather injured. The following tables will shew that this is not a slight consideration.

The principal mills of Ireland, from June 1773 to June 1774.

			Cwt.
Marlesfield,	—	Stephen Moore, Esq;	15,382
Slane,	—	D. Jebb, Esq; and Co.	11,070
Anner,	—	Mr. J. Grub,	10,395
Rathnally,	—	J. Nicholson, Esq;	9,870
Lodge,	—	Richard Mercer, Esq;	9,826
Kilkarn,	—	Wade and Williams,	9,496
Carrick,	—	D. Tighie, Esq;	6,996
Archer's Grove,	—	Mr. W. Ratican,	5,503
Lock,	—	Mr. H. Bready,	5,446
Ballykilcavan,	—	Doyle and Hoskins,	5,396
Tyronc,	—	H. O'Brien, Esq;	4,967
Newtown Barry,	—	Hon. B. Barry,	4,574

The most distant mill from Dublin is that of Barnahely, Corke, one hundred and thirty miles. A prodigious number of men and horses would be thrown at once out of employment, which would have bad effects; and a sudden diversion of that supply, which has now flowed to Dublin for so many years, would certainly have very ill consequences. The policy therefore to be embraced is this; lower the present bounty to the simple expence of the carriage, and no more; and counteract it by raising the bounty on the carriage of corn coastwise, until it rivalled and gradually put down the land carriage. Perhaps it might be necessary to accompany this measure with a land carriage bounty from the mill to the nearest exporting port, the Dublin bounty would therefore stand in order to prevent the evil of a sudden change, but when the other bounties had got so far into effect, as to lessen the old one considerably, then it should be totally discontinued; and it would then certainly be proper for the other bounties (having performed their office) to be discontinued also. The present system is so undoubtedly absurd, that the rival bounties should be raised higher and higher until they had turned the commerce into the natural channel; an expression I am sensible implies an apparent absurdity, for a natural channel of commerce does not want such bounties, but a bad proceeding has made it so exceedingly crooked, that a mere repeal, leaving the trade to itself, most certainly would not do. You must undo by art the mischief which art has done; and the commercial capital in Ireland is too small to bear any violence.

United with the conduct I have ventured to recommend, in case the tillage system was persisted in, it would be very well worth the attention of parliament, to annex such conditions to the payment of any new bounties, as might have the effect of securing a good tillage instead of a bad one. If it

was found practicable, which I should think it might be, no public money should ever be given for barley, bere, or oats, that did not succeed turneps; nor for wheat, or rye, that did not follow beans, clover, or potatoes; by this means the nation would have the satisfaction of knowing, that if the plough was introduced in valuable pasture land, it would at least be in a good system.

Before I conclude this subject, it may be proper to observe a circumstance, which however ill it may be received in England, has, and ought to have this weight in Ireland. The revenue of that kingdom is under some disadvantages which England is free from; the hereditary revenue is claimed *in property* by the crown; a great pension list is charged on it, and much of the amount paid out of the kingdom; there is no free trade to compensate this; a large part of the military establishment is taken out of the kingdom, and of late years the nation has run very much in debt: in such a situation of affairs, it is thought wise and prudent to secure the payment of such a sum as fifty or sixty thousand pounds a year towards the internal improvement of the kingdom. Nobody can deny there being much good sense in this reasoning; but the argument is applicable to a well founded measure, as strongly as it is to an absurd one; and I should farther observe, that if this or any bounty is the means of running the nation so much in debt that new taxes are necessarily the consequence, this idea is then visionary; the people do not secure an advantage but a burthen. I cannot here avoid a comparison of expending so large a sum annually of the public money rationally, or in a measure at best so very doubtful; for indulge the prejudices of gentlemen, and suppose for a moment, that all the proofs I have given do not amount to an absolute condemnation, they certainly, even then, give it the most dubious complexion that ever measure had. But suppose from the beginning, the money which has been thus advanced, had been given in premiums of ten pounds per acre on all land absolutely waste, which was brought in and reclaimed. That sum I shewed on another occasion, will build excellent dwellings, fence, plant, drain, pare and burn lime, plough, sow, and complete an acre; the premium would therefore pay the whole, and leave to the proprietor no other business than to take the trouble of seeing the conditions of the premium complied with. The following table will shew what the effects of such a premium would have been, calculating the annual produce at four pounds an acre, which is much under what it ought to be. The first column shews the sums paid as bounty, the next the number of acres that sum would have improved at ten pounds per acre, and the third the produce at four pounds per acre, waiting three years at first to give time for operations.

Sums.

	<i>Sums.</i>	<i>Acres.</i>	<i>Produce.</i>
	l.		l.
In the year 1762	4,940	494	
1763	5,096	509	
1764	5,483	548	
1765	6,660	666	8,788
1766	9,212	912	12,436
1767	6,074	607	14,864
1768	13,675	1,367	20,332
1769	25,225	2,522	30,420
1770	18,706	1,870	37,900
1771	19,290	1,929	45,616
1772	39,560	3,956	61,440
1773	44,465	4,446	79,224
1774	49,674	4,967	99,092
1775	53,889	5,388	120,644
1776	60,745	6,074	144,940
1777	61,786	6,178	169,732
		<u>42,433</u>	<u>845,428</u>

From hence we find, that at the end of the year 1777, there would have been 42,433 acres improved in the complete and masterly manner ten pounds an acre effects, the annual produce of which would be at four pounds an acre, 169,732l. all absolute and undoubted profit to the kingdom: there would have been received in this manner no less than 845,000l. If the lands were thrown as they ought to be into the course of — 1. turneps; 2. barley; 3. clover; 4. wheat; and reckoning the barley at ten barrels, and the wheat at six, there would now be a produce every year of 63,649 barrels of wheat, and 186,082 of barley; and this from only half the land; the other half in turneps and clover would undoubtedly keep ten sheep the year through, and yield fifty pounds of wool, or in the whole 106,080 sheep and 33,150 stones of wool, with all the employment and population which would result from such excellent tillage, building, fencing, manuring, and spinning. How different this effect from having in the last seven years lost above a million sterling by the inland carriage; in that period the bounty has just trebled; if it goes on so it will be one hundred and eighty thousand pounds a year in seven years more, and by that time there will be neither sheep nor cows left in the kingdom; but suppose it to stand at sixty thousand pounds a year, that sum in seven years, applied in a bounty on cultivating wastes, would improve forty-two thousand acres, and consequently

consequently be attended with all the effects which would have flowed from a similar number the past bounty would have improved. I have now done with this measure; my English reader will, I hope, pardon so long a detail, which I should not have gone into had I found the facts known in Ireland, or any just conclusions drawn from ideal ones; but in the variety of conversations I have had in that kingdom with all descriptions of men, I found not one who was acquainted with the facts upon which the merit of the measure could alone be decided. It is for their use that I have collected them from very voluminous manuscripts.

Another measure relative to corn, which is in execution in Ireland, is a parliamentary bounty on corn preserved on stands, that is stacked on stone pillars capped, to prevent the depredations of rats and mice. I have been assured that very great abuses are found in the claims; if these are obviated, the measure seems not objectable in a country where little is done without some public encouragement. The following are the payments in consequence of this bounty.

		l.			l.		
In the Year	1766	-	891	In the Year	1772	-	5487
	1767	-	891		1773	-	5487
	1768	-	3442		1774	-	6565
	1769	-	3442		1775	-	6565
	1770	-	4266		1776	-	6866
	1771	-	4266		1777	-	6866*

It would be a proper condition to annex to this bounty, that it be given only to corn preserved as required, and threshed on boarded floors; the samples of Irish wheat are exceedingly damaged by clay floors; an English miller knows the moment he takes a sample in his hand if it came off a clay floor, and it is a deduction in the value. The floors should be of deal plank two inches thick, and laid on joists two or three feet from the ground, for a free current of air to preserve them from rotting.

SECTION XIX.

Manufactures.

THE only manufacture of considerable importance in Ireland is that of linen, which the Irish have for near a century considered as the great staple of the kingdom. The history of it in its earlier periods is very little known; a committee of the house of commons, of which Sir Lucius O'Brien was

* The reason of the sums being the same for two years throughout, is their being returned every second year to parliament.

was chairman, examined the national records with great attention, in order to discover how long they had been in it; all they discovered was that by an act passed in 1542, the 33d. of Henry 8. linen and woollen yarn were enumerated among the most considerable branches of trade possessed by the natives of Ireland in an act made against grey merchants forestalling. The 11th of Queen Elizabeth the same act was revived, and a further law made against watering hemp or flax, &c. in rivers. By the 13th of Elizabeth all persons were prohibited from exporting wool, flax, linen and woollen yarn, except merchants residing in cities and boroughs; and by a further act the same year, a penalty of 12d. a pound was imposed on all flax or linen yarn exported, and 8d. more for the use of the town exported from. In this last act it is recited, that the merchants of Ireland had been exporters of those articles in trade upwards of one hundred years preceding that period: and by many subsequent acts, and proclamations during the reigns of Charles I. and II. those manufactures were particularly attended to; from whence it evidently appeared that the kingdom possessed an export trade in these commodities at those early periods. The Earl of Strafford, Lord Lieutenant in Charles I. reign, passed several laws and took various measures to encourage this manufacture, insomuch that he has by some authors been said to have established it originally. At the end of the last century, in King William's reign, it arose to be an object of consequence, but not singly so, for it appears from a variety of records in both kingdoms, that the Irish had then a considerable woollen manufacture for exportation, which raised the jealousy of the English manufacturers in that commodity so much, that they presented so many petitions to both lords and commons, as to induce those bodies to enter fully into their jealousies and illiberal views; which occasioned the famous compact between the two nations, brought on in the following manner.

Die Jovis 9^o. Junii. 1698.

The Earl of *Stamford* reported from the lords committees (appointed to draw an address to be presented to his Majesty, relating to the woollen manufacture in *Ireland*) the following address, *viz.*

“ WE the lords spiritual and temporal in parliament assembled, Do humbly represent unto your Majesty, that the growing manufacture of cloth in *Ireland*, both by the cheapness of all sorts of necessaries for life, and goodness of materials for making of all manner of cloth, doth invite your subjects of England, with their families and servants, to leave their habitations to settle there, to the increase of the woollen
 Ver. II. K manufacture

manufacture in Ireland, which makes your loyal subjects in this kingdom very apprehensive that the further growth of it may greatly prejudice the said manufacture here; by which the trade of this nation and the value of lands will very much decrease, and the numbers of your people be much lessened here; wherefore we do most humbly beseech your most sacred majesty, that your majesty would be pleased, in the most public and effectual way that may be, to declare to all your subjects of Ireland, that the growth and increase of the woollen manufacture there hath long, and will ever be looked upon with great jealousy, by all your subjects of this kingdom: and if not timely remedied, may occasion very strict laws totally to prohibit and suppress the same, and on the other hand, if they turn their industry and skill to the settling and improving the linen manufacture, for which generally the lands of that kingdom are very proper, they shall receive all countenance, favour, and protection from your royal influence, for the encouragement and promoting of the said linen manufacture, to all the advantage and profit that kingdom can be capable of."

To which the house agreed.

It is ordered by the lords spiritual and temporal in parliament assembled, That the lords with white staves do humbly attend his majesty with the address of this house, concerning the woollen manufacture in Ireland.

Die Veneris 10^o Junij 1698^o.

The Lord Steward reported his Majesty's answer to the address, to this effect, *viz.*

"THAT his Majesty will take care to do what their lordships have desired.

ASHLEY COWPER.

Cler. Parliamentor."

Jovis 30 Die Junii 1698.

"Most Gracious Sovereign,

"WE your majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the commons in parliament assembled, being very sensible that the wealth and power of this kingdom do, in a great measure, depend on the preserving the woollen manufacture as much as possible entire to this realm, think it becomes us, like our ancestors, to be jealous of the establishment and increase thereof elsewhere; and to use our utmost endeavours to prevent it.

"And

“ And therefore we cannot without trouble observe, that Ireland is dependant on, and protected by England in the enjoyment of all they have; and which is so proper for the linen manufacture, the establishment and growth of which there would be so enriching to themselves, and so profitable to England; should, of late, apply itself to the woollen manufacture, to the great prejudice of the trade of this kingdom; and so unwillingly promote the linen trade, which would benefit both them and us.

“ The consequence whereof will necessitate your parliament of England to interpose to prevent the mischief that threatens us, unless your majesty, by your authority and great wisdom, shall find means to secure the trade of England, by making your subjects of Ireland to pursue the joint interest of both kingdoms.

“ And we do most humbly implore your majesty's protection and favour in this matter; and that you will make it your royal care, and enjoin all those you employ in Ireland to make it their care, and use their utmost diligence, to hinder the exportation of wool from Ireland, except to be imported hither, and for the discouraging the woollen manufactures, and encouraging the linen manufactures in Ireland, to which we shall always be ready to give our utmost assistance.”

Resolved, That the said address be presented to his majesty by the whole house.

Sabbati. 2. die Julii.

HIS MAJESTY'S ANSWER.

“ GENTLEMEN,

“ I shall do all that in me lies to discourage the woollen manufacture in Ireland, and to encourage the linen manufacture there; and to promote the trade of England.”

Thursday 27th September, 1698.

Part of the Lords Justices Speech.

“ AMONGST these bills there is one for the encouragement of the linen and hempen manufactures: at our first meeting we recommended to you that matter, and we have now endeavoured to render that bill practicable and useful for that effect, and as such we now recommend it to you. The settlement of this manufacture will contribute much to people the country, and will be found much more advanta-

geous to this kingdom than the woollen manufacture, which being the settled staple trade of England, from whence all foreign markets are supplied, can never be encouraged here for that purpose; whereas the linen and hempen manufactures will not only be encouraged, as consistent with the trade of England, but will render the trade of this kingdom both useful and necessary to England."

The Commons of IRELAND returned the following Answer to the speech from the throne.

"WE pray leave to assure your excellencies, that we shall heartily endeavour to establish a linen and hempen manufacture here, and to render the same useful to England, as well as advantageous to this kingdom, and that we hope to find such a temperament in respect to the woollen trade here, that the same may not be injurious to England."

And they passed a law that session, commencing the 25th of March, 1699, leaving 4s. additional duty on every 20s. value of broad-cloth exported out of Ireland, and 2s. on every 20s. value of serges, baize, kerseys, stuffs, or any other sort of new drapery made of wool or mixed with wool, (frizes only excepted) which was in effect a prohibition. And in the same session a law was passed in England, restraining Ireland from exporting those woollen manufactures, including frize, to any other parts except to England and Wales.

The addresses of the two houses to the king carry the clearest evidence of their source, the jealousy of merchants and manufacturers; I might add their *ignorance* too, they are dictated upon the narrow idea that the prosperity of the woollen fabrics of Ireland was inconsistent with the welfare of those of England; it would at present be fortunate for both kingdoms if these errors had been confined to the last century. There is an equal mixture also of falsehood in the representations; for they assert that the cheapness of necessaries in Ireland drew from England the woollen manufacturers, but they forgot the cheapness of labour in Ireland, to which no workman in the world ever yet emigrated. The Irish were engaged in various slight fabrics not made in England; but had they been employed on broad cloth for exportation, the English manufacture would well have bore it; they did at that time and afterwards bear a rapid encrease of the French fabrics, and yet flourished themselves. We have had so long an experience of markets increasing with industry and inventions, that the time ought to have come long ago for viewing competitors without the eye of jealousy.

The memoirs of the time, as well as the expression in the above transaction, evidently prove, that it was understood by both kingdoms to be a sort of compact, that if Ireland gave up

up her woollen manufacture, that of linen should be left to her under every encouragement. I have however myself heard it in the British parliament *denied* to have been any compact; but simply a promise of encouragement, not precluding a like or greater encouragement to the British linens. This is certainly an error, for so understood, what is the meaning of the *ample encouragements promised* by the British parliament? They could not mean internal encouragement or regulation, for they had nothing to do with either: it could simply mean, as the purport of the words evidently shew, that they would enter into no measures which should set up a linen manufacture to rival the Irish. That woollens should be considered and encouraged as the staple of England, and linens as that of Ireland: it must mean this or it meant nothing. That the Irish understood it so cannot be doubted for a moment; for what did they in consequence? They were in possession of a flourishing woollen manufacture, which they actually put down and crippled by prohibiting exportation. Let me ask those who assert there was no compact, why they did this? it was their own act. Did they cut their own throats without either reward or promise of reward? common sense tells us they did this under a perfect conviction, that they should receive ample encouragement from England in their linen trade: but what moonshine would such encouragement prove if England, departing from the letter and spirit of that compact, had encouraged her own linen manufacture to rival the Irish, after the Irish had destroyed their woollen fabrics to encourage those of England? Yet we did this in direct breach of the whole transaction, for the 23d of George II. laid a tax on sail cloth made of Irish hemp. Bounties also have been given in England without extending fully to Irish linens. Checked, striped, printed, painted, stained, or dyed linens of Irish manufacture are not allowed to be imported into Britain. In which, and in other articles, we have done every thing possible to extend and increase our own linen manufacture, to rival that of Ireland.

I admit readily, that the apprehensions of the Irish at the progress of British linens are in the spirit of commercial jealousy, as well as our violence in relation to their woollens. But with this great difference; we forced them to put down a manufacture they were actually in possession of; and we being the controuling power, do not leave them that freedom of market which we possess ourselves, points which necessarily place the two nations in this respect upon very different footings. Give them as they ought to have, a free woollen trade, and they will then have no objection to any measures for the encouragement of our linens which do not absolutely exclude theirs.

The following table will shew the progress of their linen manufacture through the present century.

An ACCOUNT of the EXPORT of LINEN-CLOTH,
and LINEN-YARN, from IRELAND.

	Linen	Yarn.	Value cloth	Value yarn	Total
	Cloth.		at 1s. 3d. per yard.	at 6l. per 120 lb.	
	Yards.	Cwt.	l.	l.	l.
In the year 1700			14,112		
1710	1,688,574	7,975	105,537	47,853	153,389
1711	1,254,815	7,321	78,425	43,928	122,354
1712	1,376,122	7,916	86,007	47,496	133,504
1713	1,819,816	11,802	113,738	70,815	184,554
1714	2,188,272	15,078	155,002	158,326	313,329
1715	2,153,120	13,931	107,650	146,283	253,939
1716	2,188,105	10,747	109,405	112,847	222,252
1717	2,437,265	18,052	132,018	189,555	321,574
1718	2,247,375	14,050	121,732	147,527	269,260
1719	2,359,352	15,070	127,798	158,239	286,038
1720	2,437,984	15,722	121,899	94,334	216,233
1721	2,520,701	14,696	126,035	88,178	214,213
1722	3,419,994	14,754	170,995	88,524	259,519
1723	4,378,545	15,672	218,927	94,637	312,964
1724	3,879,170	14,594	193,958	87,564	281,522
1725	3,864,987	13,701	193,249	82,207	275,457
1726	4,368,395	17,507	218,419	105,042	323,462
1727	4,768,889	17,287	238,444	103,720	342,171
1728	4,692,764	11,450	234,638	62,975	297,613
1729	3,927,918	11,855	196,395	65,206	261,602
1730	4,136,203	10,088	206,810	55,485	262,295
1731	3,775,830	13,746	220,256	84,194	304,451
1732	3,792,551	15,343	237,034	92,061	309,096
1733	4,777,076	13,357	298,567	82,372	380,939
1734	5,451,758	18,122	340,734	108,733	449,468
1735	6,761,151	15,900	422,571	94,405	517,977
1736	6,508,151	14,743	406,759	88,463	495,222
1737	6,138,785	14,695	409,252	18,173	497,325
1738	5,175,744	15,945	345,049	95,674	440,724
1739	5,962,316	18,200	397,487	129,202	506,690
1740	6,627,771	18,542	441,851	111,256	553,108
1741	7,207,741	21,656	480,516	129,941	610,457
1742	7,074,168	16,330	471,611	97,984	569,595
1743	6,058,041	14,169	403,869	85,016	488,885
1744	6,124,892	18,011	459,366	108,066	567,432
1745	7,171,963	22,066	537,897	132,398	670,295
1746	6,820,786	27,741	511,588	166,451	678,010
1747	9,633,884	28,910	722,541	173,464	896,005
1748	8,692,671	19,418	543,291	116,508	659,800
1749	9,504,338	21,694	594,021	130,164	724,185

An ACCOUNT of the EXPORT of LINEN-CLOTH, and LINEN-YARN, from Ireland. Continued.

	<i>Linen Cloth.</i>	<i>Yarn.</i>	<i>Value Cloth at 1 s. 3 d. per yard.</i>	<i>Value yarn at 6l. per C. 120. lb.</i>	<i>Total value</i>
	<i>Yards.</i>	<i>Cwt.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>l.</i>
In the year 1750	11,200,460	22,373	653,360	134,238	787,598
1751	12,891,318	23,743	751,993	142,459	894,452
1752	10,656,003	23,407	621,600	140,442	762,042
1753	10,411,787	23,238	694,119	139,428	839,018
1754	12,090,903	22,594	806,060	135,567	941,732
1755	13,379,733	27,948	891,982	167,692	1,059,675
1756	11,944,328	26,997	796,288	161,982	1,046,841
Average,	11,796,361	24,328	745,057	145,972	904,479
In the year 1757	15,508,709	31,078	1,033,913	186,473	1,220,387
1758	14,982,557	31,995	998,837	191,970	1,190,807
1759	14,093,431	27,571	939,562	165,426	1,104,988
1760	13,375,456	31,042	891,697	186,254	1,077,951
1761	12,048,881	39,699	803,251	238,198	1,041,457
1762	15,559,676	35,950	1,037,311	215,702	1,253,014
1763	16,013,105	34,468	1,067,540	206,808	1,274,348
Average,	14,511,973	33,114	967,445	198,690	1,166,136
In the year 1764	15,201,981	31,715	1,006,738	190,292	1,197,031
1765	14,355,205	26,127	957,013	156,762	1,233,402
1766	17,892,192	35,018	1,192,806	210,109	1,552,017
1767	20,148,170	30,274	1,343,211	181,648	1,692,761
1768	18,490,019	32,590	1,232,667	195,542	1,382,294
1769	17,790,705	37,037	1,186,047	222,223	1,556,525
1770	20,560,754	33,417	1,370,716	200,502	1,742,559
Average,	17,776,862	32,311	1,184,171	193,868	1,379,512
In the year 1771	25,376,808	34,166	1,691,787	204,996	2,108,257
1772	20,599,178	32,441	1,544,938	194,650	1,739,588
1773	18,450,700	28,076	1,383,802	168,473	1,552,276
1774	16,916,674	29,194	1,127,777	174,864	1,302,641
1775	20,205,087	30,598	1,346,985	183,588	1,530,573
1776	20,502,587	36,152	1,306,838	216,912	1,583,750
1777	19,714,638	29,698	1,314,308	178,188	1,492,496
Average,	20,252,239	31,475	1,390,919	188,810	1,615,654
	Average of 30 years since 1748			—	1,228,148
	Average of 30 years before,			—	417,600

Mr. Henry Archdall, in the year 1771, asserted before a committee of the house of commons, that Ireland manufac-

Exportation

	1.	
Exportation, ———	—————	1,541,200
And for home consumption, ———	—————	658,906
		* 2,200,106

The latter article must be a mere guess; the first we find contradicted in the preceding table, unless he meant cloth only.

This ample table calls for several observations. It first appears that the manufacture has gone on in a regular increase, until it has arrived in the last seven years to be an object of prodigious consequence. The averages of each period of seven years are of particular importance; as there is one political lesson to be deduced from them which may be of great use hereafter: they prove in the clearest manner that no judgment is ever to be formed of the state of the manufacture from one or two years, but on the contrary from seven years alone. In 1774 it appears that the export was lower than it had been for nine years before, and we very well recollect the noise which this fall made in England. I was repeatedly in the gallery of the English house of commons when they sat in a committee for months together upon the state of the linen trade, and from the evidence I heard at the bar I thought Ireland was sinking to nothing, and that all her fabrics were tumbling to pieces: the assertion of the linen fabrics declining *a third* was repeated violently, and it was very true. But they drew this comparison from 1771, when we find from the preceding table that it was at its zenith, to appearance a very unnatural one, for it rose at once five millions of yards which was unparalleled. It was ridiculous to draw a sudden start into precedent, for what manufacture in the world but experiences moments of uncommon prosperity, the continuance of which is never to be expected; this fall of a third therefore though true *in fact* was utterly false *in argument*. In truth the fall was exceedingly trivial, for the only comparison that ought to have been made was with the average of the preceding seven years, the decline then would have appeared only seven or eight hundred thousand yards, that is, not a *twentieth* instead of a *third*. But because the trade had run to a most extraordinary height in 1771, the manufacturers and merchants felt the fall the more, and were outrageously clamorous because every year was not a jubilee one. If such were to be the consequences of an unusual demand, ministers and legislatures would have reason to curse any extraordinary prosperity, and to prevent it if they could, under the conviction that the grasping avarice of commercial folly, would be growling and dunning them with complaints when the trade returned to its usual and natural course. In the year 1773 and 4, all Ireland was undone; the linen manufacture was

* *Journals of the commons, vol. 16. page 368.*

was to be at an end; but lo! at the end of the period of seven years upon examining the average it is found to be in as great a state of increase as ever known before; for the four periods have all the same rise one above another of three millions of yards each: consequently I say, upon the evidence of the clearest facts that there has been no *declension* but an INCREASE. And I shall draw this manifest conclusion from it to disbelieve commercial complaints as long as I exist, and put no credit in that sort of proof which is carried to parliament in support of such complaints. Falshood and imposition I am confident find their way to the bar of a house, and I do not think it much for the credit of those who supported the Irish complaints at the period above mentioned, that I should find in copying at Dublin part of this table from the parliamentary record of imports and exports, the export of the year 1775 erased; the only considerable erasure there is in those volumes, the total of particulars makes 19,447,250 yards, but it now stands written over that erasure 20,205,087. It is easily accounted for; if the trade had been known to have experienced so immediate a revival, half their arguments, would have had no weight, it might therefore be convenient to sink the truth. If it was merely accidental in the clerk I can only say it was at a most unfortunate *time* and *subject**.

The following table will shew that England is the market for eighteen twentieths of the total Irish exportation.

QUANTITIES of IRISH LINENS imported into ENGLAND from Christmas 1756, to Christmas 1773.

	<i>Yards.</i>	
In the year 1757	—	11,925,290
1758	—	14,383,248
1759	—	12,793,412
1760	—	13,311,674
1761	—	13,354,448

65,768,072 or per Annum 13,153,614.

	<i>Yards.</i>	
In the year 1762	—	13,476,366
1763	—	13,110,858
1764	—	13,187,109
1765	—	14,757,353
1766	—	17,941,229

72,472,915 or per annum 14,494,583.

In

* In the woollen manufacture of England the same spirit of complaint and falshood has at different times pestered both parliament and the public. See this point discussed in my Political Arithmetic, page 152. † Substance of Mr. Glover's evidence before the house of commons 1774, page 60.

Yards.

In the year 1767	—	16,500,755
1768	—	15,249,248
1769	—	16,496,271
1770	—	18,195,087
1771	—	20,622,217

87,063,578 or per annum 17,612,715.

In the year 1772	—	—	19,171,771.
1773	—	—	17,896,994.

The following table will shew the importation of the raw material for this fabric.

IMPORT of FLAX, HEMP, and FLAX-SEED, into IRELAND.

	Hogsbheads † of Flax- seed.	Value.	Undressed flax. §	Value.	Undressed. hemp. †	Value.	Total value.
		l.	Cwt.	l.	Cwt.	l.	l.
Year 1764	32,168	112,588	53,870	129,284	13,195	21,111	262,983
1765	27,769	97,191	12,871	30,870	23,951	38,321	166,382
1766	31,040	108,640	8,047	19,312	14,140	22,624	150,576
1767	43,076	150,766	7,397	17,752	7,780	12,448	180,966
1768	19,161	67,063	9,908	23,779	14,531	23,249	114,091
1769	50,022	175,077	7,090	18,456	12,263	19,620	213,153
1770	19,432	68,012	9,276	22,262	27,842	44,547	134,821
Average,	31,809	111,333	15,608	37,387	16,243	25,988	174,710
Year 1771	45,089	157,811	6,318	15,163	9,131	14,609	187,583
1772	24,230	84,203	6,054	14,529	13,685	21,895	121,229
1773	39,750	139,125	10,551	25,322	9,670	15,472	179,919
1774	25,375	88,812	8,677	20,820	22,361	35,777	145,413
1775	40,218	140,763	10,153	24,367	14,264	2,822	187,952
1776	24,077 †	84,269	5,295	12,706	13,602	21,763	118,740
1777	32,613 *	114,145	18,212	43,708	19,419	31,069	188,922
Average,	33,050	115,675	9,322	22,374	14,590	23,343	161,394

This account is favourable to the state of the manufacture; for the increased import of flax-seed in the second period, implies that the country supplied herself with more flax of her own producing, which accounts for the falling off in the import of undressed flax: the persons who have studied the manufacture,

† At 3l. 10s. a hogshhead from 28s. to 6l. § At 48s. from 45l. to 52l. per ton. † At 32s. from 24l. to 40l. per ton, average 32l. † From the plantations of this 12,441. * Ditto, 4,512.

nufacture in all its branches with the most attention, agree there is no greater improvement to be wished for, than the raising the flax instead of importing foreign. It is much to be lamented, that the flax-husbandry has not made a greater progress in the kingdom; for the profit of it is very great. The minutes of the tour furnish the following particulars :

Places.	Expences.			Stones scutched	At per stone.		Value.		
	l.	s.	d.		s.	d.	l.	s.	d.
Ardmagh,	6	6	4	30	4	2	6	5	0
Near ditto,				48	8	0	19	4	0
Mahon,	4	13	4	25	8	0	10	0	0
Warrenstown,	13	3	10	40	7	6	15	0	0
Lisburne to Belfast,	9	4	2	56	9	4	26	2	8
Ards,	9	0	0						
Shaen Castle,	8	4	6	54	7	10	21	3	0
Lesly Hill,	8	2	4	16					
Newtown Limavaddy,	9	3	0	28	5	4	7	9	4
Innifhoen,	5	14	0						
Clonleigh,				30					
Florence Court,	9	7	4				18	1	2
Ballymoat,	12	7	0						
Mercra,				40					
Averages,	8	13	2	36	7	2	15	8	1

From hence we find, that the profit is near seven pounds an acre, clear, after paying large expences, and that on the Cunningham acre.

There is a notion common in the north of Ireland, which I should suppose must be very prejudicial to the quality as well as the quantity of flax produced; it is, that rich land will not do for it, and that the soil should be pretty much exhausted by repeated crops of oats, in order to reduce it to a proper state for flax. The consequence of this is, as I every where saw full crops of weeds, and of poor half-starved flax: the idea is absurd; there is no land in the north of Ireland that I saw too rich for it. A very rich soil sown thin produces a branching harsh flax, but if very clear of weeds, and sown thick for the stems to draw each other up, the crop will be in goodness, and quantity proportioned to the richness of the land. A poor exhausted soil cannot produce a flax of a strong good staple; it is the nourishment it receives from the fertility of the land which fills the plant with oil, and bleachers very well know that the *oil* is the *strength* of the staple, and unfortunately it is, that bleaching cannot be performed without an exhalation

exhalation of this oil, and consequent weakness. But though it is necessary for colour to exhale a portion of the oil, flax that never had but little from the poverty of the soil it grew in, is of little worth, and will not bear the operation of bleaching like the other. Potatoes kept very clean under the plough are an excellent preparation for flax; and turneps, well hoed, the same.

The following are the EARNINGS of the MANUFACTURERS in LINEN FABRICS.

Places.	Weavers.		Women.			
	Finelinen.		Course lin.			
	s.	d.	s.	d.	d.	f.
Market Hill,	1	6	1	2	3	0
Ardmagh,			1	2		
Mahon,			1	0	3	2
Lurgan,	1	4	1	0	3	0
Warrenstown,	1	6	1	1	3	0
Innishoen,					4	0
Mount Charles,					2	2
Castle Caldwell,					2	2
Inniskilling,					4	0
Belleisle,			1	3	4	0
Florence Court,				10	3	0
Farnham,					4	0
Strokestown,					3	2
Ballymoat,					3	2
Mercra,					2	2
Sortland,					3	0
Westport,			2	0	3	0
Annsgrrove,					2	0
Averages,	1	5	1	0 $\frac{1}{2}$	3	1

These earnings are from double to near treble those of husbandry labour throughout the kingdom, and yet complaints of poverty are infinitely more common among these people than in those parts of the kingdom that have no share of the manufacture. It is so in all countries; and ought to prevent too assiduous an attention to such complaints. Those who for the sake of great earnings will become weavers, must do it under the knowledge that they embrace or continue in a life not of the same regular tenour with the lowest species of labourers. If they will not be more prudent and saving, they ought not to clamour and expect the public to turn things topsy turvy to feed them, who, with any degree of attention, might

might have supported themselves much better than another class that never complains at all.

Having thus endeavoured to shew the rise, progress, and present amount of this manufacture, it will be necessary to lay before the reader some account of the sums of public money which have, according to the fashion of Ireland, been expended in its encouragement. This is not so easy to do fully and accurately as I could wish, but the following papers are the best authorities I could find,

An account of the nett produce of the duties appropriated to the use of the hempen and linen manufactures from their commencement, and also the bounties from parliament.

Nett duties.			Bounties.		
l.			l.		
In the year	1721	2,500	In the year	1758	9,772
	1723	5,500		1759	8,933
	1725	4,000		1760	6,581
	1727	4,000		1761	11,841
	1729	4,000		1762	14,014
				1763	15,064
	1731	5,637	8,000	1764	14,998
	1733	6,328	8,000	1765	15,820
	1734	5,314	8,000	1766	18,634
	1735	6,748	8,000	1767	12,717
	1736	9,181	8,000	1768	10,414
	1737	8,676	8,000	1769	† 2,181
	1738	10,623	8,000	1770	1,635
	1739	10,087	8,000	1771	861
	1740	7,894	8,540	1772	1,348
	1741	13,180	8,540	1773	1,700
	1742	12,561	8,000	1774	580
	1743	13,770	8,000	1775	1,387
	1744	14,844	8,000		
	1745	18,066	8,000	Totals, - -	453,204
	1746	15,046	8,000	Nett tea duties for	
	1747	17,922	8,000	7 years, ending	72,500
	1748	12,657	8,000	1775, - -	184,540
	1749	18,335	8,000		
	1750	17,813	8,000		710,244
	1751	12,477	8,000	Average of the last	
	1752	17,175	8,000	7 years duties	1,385
	1753	12,231	8,000	Ditto of tea duties,	10,357
	1754	12,884	8,000		
	1755	14,292	8,000	Together, -	11,742
	1756	12,239	* 4,000		
	1757	1,722	8,000		

The tea duties were granted for the use of this manufacture. But that this account is not complete appears by another † to the following effect.

An

* By King's Letter.

† Here the tea duties were separated, and produced in $\frac{1}{2}$ year to L. D. 12,500 l. and 10,000 l. a year each year after.

‡ Commons journals, vol. 17. p. 263.

An account of the several sums of money for which the vice-treasurers have claimed credit, as being paid by them for the use of the hempen and linen manufactures, from the 25th of March 1700, to the 25th of March 1775, distinguishing each year, returned to the hon. house of commons pursuant to their order, November 25, 1775.

In the year	l.	In the year	l.	In the year	l.
1700	100	1728	5,154	1754	17,402
1701	372	1729	11,340	1755	16,886
1702	213	1730	10,824	1756	12,762
1703	430	1731	13,711	1757	15,762
1705	3,384	1732	5,149	1758	13,792
1706	1,783	1733	7,422	1759	7,298
1707	1,498	1734	5,670	1760	16,247
1708	1,475	1735	13,103	1761	9,154
1709	1,180	1736	14,785	1762	32,865
1710	1,180	1737	12,927	1763	19,463
1711	1,770	1738	14,931	1764	22,041
1712	2,023	1739	13,085	1765	21,041
1713	1,596	1740	16,973	1766	16,824
1714	789	1741	15,484	1767	15,474
1715	1,597	1742	20,085	1768	17,061
1716	1,641	1743	17,917	1769	16,216
1717	3,981	1744	23,587	1770	19,030
1718	3,337	1745	18,948	1771	15,030
1719	4,784	1746	9,154	1772	12,546
1720	3,369	1747	11,216	1773	12,206
1721	4,421	1748	15,371	1774	16,030
1722	5,173	1749	20,979	1775	15,459
1723	3,439	1750	31,109	1776	14,751
1724	5,678	1751	16,680	1777	15,102
1725	6,290	1752	22,556		
1726	7,779	1753	16,886	Total,	847504
1727	6,701			Average of the last 7 years,	14,446

The expenditure of this money is under the direction of the linen board, upon a similar plan as the navigation board explained above. Their mode of applying it will be seen by the following account.

Disbursements of the Linen Trustees, from 1757, to 1772.

	l.
Spinning schools,	3,634
Flax shops,	2,197
Flax dressers,	4,145
Bleachers,	14,323
Contractors,	5,720
Yarn inspectors,	654
Manufacturers,	55,013
Utensils,	69,445
Raising flax,	5,101
	Flaxseed

BOUNTIES TO LINENS.

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Flax-feed mixed with potatoes,	—	2,818
Fraudulent lapped linens,	—	748
Buildings and repairs,	—	25,936
Clerks, &c. at linen office,	—	11,728
Ditto, linen and yarn halls,	—	7,642
Inspectors, itinerant men, and reed makers,	—	7,723
Incidental charges,	—	11,773

In sixteen years, ————— 225,606

Or per annum, ————— 14,100*

Subsequent to 1698 Ireland, at an enormous expence to the public, made a progress in the linen manufacture, &c†.

The trustees of the linen board expended near half a million of money to extend and promote the linen manufacture before the year 1750 †.

But these accounts do not yet shew the full amount of public money which has been granted for the use of this great manufacture; to have this complete we must take in the bounties on the import of seed, and on the export of canvas and sail cloth, which have been as follow:

Years, ending Lady-day.	Import hemp and flaxseed.	Export canvas and sail-cloth.	Years, ending Lady-day.	Import hemp and flaxseed.	Export canvas and sail-cloth.
	l.	l.		l.	l.
1731	1,211	1,446	1755	10,500	§ 731
1733	2,120	1,207	1757	9,873	
1735	2,658	1,301	1759	11,058	
1737	5,004	1,492	1761	11,273	
1739	6,792	3,664	1763	9,187	
1741	6,112	3,517	1765	11,464	
1743	5,911	1,540	1767	15,894	
1745	7,536	1,367	1769	16,810	
1747	4,482	2,283	1771	16,062	
1749	7,939	3,416	1773	16,279	
1751	8,027	4,802	1775	14,674	
1753	11,481	1,909	1777	14,479	
Totals,	—	—		226,834	28,682
Average of the last seven years.	—	—		15,094	

By

* Journal of the House of Commons, vol. xv. p. 375.

† Report of Sir Lucius O'Brien's committee journals, vol. xv. p. 396.

‡ Ibid. p. 400.

§ This year this bounty ceased.

|| Extracted from an account of national premiums, MS. Communicated by the Right Hon. John Forster.

By one of these accounts the annual net produce of those duties appropriated to this manufacture, on an average of the last 7 years, is —	l. 11,742
But by the other, the treasury charges the manufacture on the same average with, —	14,446
Difference, — — — — —	<u>2,704</u>

The fact however is, that the larger of these sums is paid to this purpose, and the account of the linen boards disbursement amounts to 14,100l.

The total annual sums at present applied appear to be these:

Produce of duties appropriated to the purpose —	l. 14,446
Parliamentary bounty, — — — — —	4,000
Bounty on the import of flax-seed, — — — — —	15,094
Total per annum, — — — — —	<u>33,540</u>

And that the total sums thus applied since the year 1700 have been:

Paid by the vice treasurers, — — — — —	l. 847,504
Parliamentary bounty, — — — — —	192,540
Bounty on flax import, — — — — —	226,834
Ditto on export of canvas, — — — — —	28,682
Total, — — — — —	<u>1,295,560</u>

The most careless observer cannot help remarking, the great amount of this total; and must think that an annual grant of 33,000l. a year in support of a manufacture which works to the annual amount of two millions sterling, an extraordinary measure. I must be free to own, that I cannot, upon any principles, see the propriety of it. They cannot have done any considerable mischief I grant, but if they do no good there is a great evil in the misapplication of so much money. That a manufacture in its very cradle, if it happens to be of a sickly growth, may be benefited by bounties and premiums, is certain; but that even in such a case it is wise to give them, I doubt, very much; for fabrics being sickly in their growth is a reason against encouraging them. The truly valuable manufactures, such as linen in Ireland, wool and hardware in England, and silk in France, want no help but a demand for their produce. Ireland has always hitherto had a demand for her linens, and having so much longer than the beginning of this century been in the trade, would naturally increase

increase it in proportion to the demand; and she would have done that though no linen board nor bounties had existed. It is contrary to all the principles of commerce to suppose, that such an increasing manufacture as this has been, would want flax or flax-seed without bounties on the import; or that manufacturers in it would not earn their bread without a present of 55,000*l.* The only instance in which these bounties would certainly have a considerable effect is, the case of expensive machines; the first introduction of which are difficult to individuals in a poor country. But this article, in its fullest extent, would have demanded but a small sum in the linen trade, for it by no means goes to common spinning wheels, the construction of which is generally known. But if there is any reason to suppose linen would, throughout the century have stood upon its own legs, how much more is there for its doing so at present! I will venture to assert, that there is not one yard of linen more made on account of the thirty-three thousand pounds a year now expended. It is to such a great manufacture a drop of water in the ocean.—An object too contemptible to have any effects attributed to it. It is idle and visionary to suppose, that a fabric which has employed a fourth part of the kingdom for 70 years, and exports to the amount of a million and a half annually, wants boards, and bounties, and premiums, and impertinence to support it. I have heard it said more than once in Ireland, that a seat at the linen board might easily be worth 300*l.* a year; it is very well if the whole becomes a job, for it might just as well as be applied to inspectors, itinerant men, builders and salaries.

I before calculated the extent of waste land, the bounty on the inland carriage of corn would have improved at 10*l.* an acre, let me do the same with the 1,300,000 expended on linen. It would have improved 130,000 acres, which would now be yielding 520,000*l.* a year, or a fourth part of the whole amount of all the linen manufacture of Ireland; so infinitely more productive is money bestowed on the land than on the fabrics of a state.

I do not mean to find fault with the establishment of this manufacture; it has grown to a great degree of national importance, but from some unfortunate circumstances in the police of it (if I may use the expression) that importance is not nearly equal to what it ought to be, from the extent of country it absolutely fills. It will be at least a curious enquiry to examine this point; from the best information I can assert, that the linen and yarn made in Connaught, and part of Leinster, vastly exceed in value all the exports of Ulster exclusive of those two commodities, which makes linen the whole exportable produce of that province, or 1,600,000*l.* a year. Ulster contains 2,836,837 plantation acres; suppose that vast tract under sheep, and feeding no more than two to an acre,

their fleeces only at five shillings each, would amount raw to 1,418,418*l.* and spun into bay yarn, without receiving any farther manufacture, the value would be 2,127,622*l.* reckoning the labour half the value of the wool, that is to say, the amount would be more than the whole value of the linen manufacture both exported and consumed at home.

How exceeding different are the manufactures of England! That of the single city of Norwich amounts to near as much as the whole linen export of Ireland, but very far is that from being the whole exported produce of a province! It is not that of a single county, for Norfolk, besides feeding that city, Yarmouth and Lynn, two of the greatest ports in England, and a variety of other towns, exports I believe more corn than any other county in the kingdom; and whoever is acquainted with the supply of the London markets, knows that there are thousands of black cattle fattened every year on Norfolk turneps, and sent to Smithfield. What a spectacle is this! The agriculture in the world, the most productive of wealth by exportation around one of the greatest manufactures in Europe. It is thus that manufactures become the best friends to agriculture; that they animate the farmer's industry by giving him ready markets, until he is able, not only to supply them fully, but pushes his exertions with such effect, that he finds a surplus in his hands to convert into gold in the national balance, by rendering foreigners tributary for their bread. Examine all the other fabrics in the kingdom, you see them prodigious markets for the surrounding lands; you see those lands doubling, trebling, quadrupling their rents, while the farmers of them increase daily in wealth; thus you see manufactures rearing up agriculture, and agriculture supporting manufactures; you see a reaction which gives a reciprocal animation to human industry; great national prosperity is the effect; wealth pours in from the fabrics, which spreading like a fertile stream over all the surrounding lands, renders them, comparatively speaking, so many gardens, the most pleasing spectacles of successful industry.

Change the scene, and view the North of Ireland; you there behold a whole province peopled by weavers; it is they who cultivate, or rather beggar the soil, as well as work the looms; agriculture is there in ruins; it is cut up by the root; extirpated; annihilated; the whole region is the disgrace of the kingdom; all the crops you see are contemptible; are nothing but filth and weeds. No other part of Ireland can exhibit the soil in such a state of poverty and desolation. A farming traveller, who goes through that country with attention, will be shocked at seeing wretchedness in the shape of a few beggarly oats on a variety of most fertile soils, which, were they in Norfolk, would soon rival the best lands in that county.

But

But the cause of all these evils, which are absolute exceptions to every thing else on the face of the globe, is easily found — a most prosperous manufacture, so contrived as to be the destruction of agriculture, is certainly a spectacle for which we must go to Ireland. It is owing to the fabric spreading over all the country, instead of being confined to towns. This in a certain degree is found in some manufactures in England, but never to the exclusion of farmers; there, literally speaking, is not a farmer in a hundred miles of the linen country in Ireland. The lands are infinitely subdivided, no weaver thinks of supporting himself by his loom; he has always a piece of potatoes, a piece of oats, a patch of flax, and grass or weeds for a cow, thus his time is divided between his farm and his loom. Ten acres are an uncommon quantity to be in one man's occupation; four, five, or six, the common extent. They sow their land with successive crops of oats until it does not produce the seed again, and they leave it to become grass as it may, in which state it is under weeds and rubbish for four or five years. Such a wretched management is constant destruction to the land; none of it becomes improved unless from a state of nature; all the rest is destroyed, and does not produce a tenth of what it would if cultivated by farmers, who had nothing to do but mind their business. As land thus managed will not yield rent, they depend for that on their web; if linen sells indifferently they pay their rents indifferently, and if it sells badly, they do not pay them at all. Rents in general, at their value, being worse paid there than in any other part of Ireland.

Where agriculture is in such a state of ruin, the land cannot attain its true value; and in fact the linen counties, proportioned to their soil, are lower let than any others in Ireland. There has been a great rise on many estates, and so there has all over the kingdom, but not at all owing to the manufacture; and I am confident, from having gone over the whole with attention, that any given tract of land in the linen country, if it could be moved to some other part of the kingdom where there are no weavers, would let twenty per cent. higher than it does at present; and I am so convinced of this, that if I had an estate in the South of Ireland, I would as soon introduce pestilence and famine as the linen manufacture upon it, *carried on as it is at present in the North of that kingdom.* Particular spots may be, and are high let in the North, but I speak of the average of any large tract.

But if, instead of the manufacture having so diffused itself as absolutely to banish farmers, it had been confined to towns, which it might very easily have been, the very contrary effect would have taken place, and all those vast advantages to agriculture would have flowed, which flourishing manufactures in other countries occasion. The towns would have been

large and numerous, and would have proved such ample markets to all the adjacent country, that it could not have failed becoming well cultivated, and letting probably at double the present rent. The manufacturers would have been confined to their own business, and the farmers to theirs; that both trades would have flourished the better for this, the minutes of the journey very generally shew; a weaver who works at a fine cloth, can never take the plough or the spade in hand without injury to his web.

I never heard but two objections to this: first, That the weavers would be unhealthy in towns: and second, That the country would be less populous.

To the first I reply, that ill health is the consequence of a sedentary life and a bended posture; whether the man has his farm or not, it is not a little work now and then that will remedy this evil if he supports himself by the loom. I was in several of the linen markets, and never saw more pallid pictures of disease; I defy any town to shew worse. Robust, healthy, vigorous bodies, are not to be found at looms; if the health of the people is your object, you must give up manufactures, and betake yourselves to agriculture altogether; but this, in the present state of the world is visionary. If the weavers were confined to towns, as I propose, there would be a much greater aggregate of health than at present, for the country would be as healthy as it always is in the hands of farmers and labourers, but at present *all* is unhealthy as *all* are manufacturers.

The second objection I totally deny, for it is against all the principles of population to assert, that a measure, which is beneficial to both agriculture and manufactures, can be prejudicial to the increase of people; more food would be raised from well than from ill cultivated ground; a whole race of farmers and labourers would be employed in feeding the towns: to think that population could be injured by such an arrangement is an absurdity too gross to deserve attention.

That the circumstances of the Irish manufacture are lamentable, when the extent of country is considered, no man of reflection can doubt, for the value of it taken in that light (important as it is in its total amount) appears to be comparatively trivial. Fortunately the evil is not without a remedy; the landlords of the country might, with no great difficulty, effect the change. Let them steadily refuse to let an acre of land to any man that has a loom; the business would and ought to be gradual; but farms should be thrown by degrees into the hands of real farmers, and weavers driven into towns, where a cabbage garden should be the utmost space of their land; and those gentlemen who are introducing the manufacture into other parts of the kingdom, should build the cabins contiguous, and let the inhabitants on no account have any land. All encouragement, all attention, all bounty, all premium,

premium, all reward, should go to those alone who lived by, and attended to their looms alone, not in a separated cabin, but in a street. The more a person attends to the abominable state of land in the North of Ireland, the more he will be convinced of the propriety and even necessity of this measure; and if, contrary to common sense, a paltry board is permitted to exist, by way of promoting a fabric of two millions a year, let them have this object, and this only as their business. Let them devise the means of inducing landlords to drive their weavers into towns, and they will in a few years do more good to their country than all their inspectors, itinerant men, and spinning wheels, will do in a century.

Relative to the other manufactures of Ireland, I am sorry to say they are too insignificant to merit a particular attention; upon the subject of that of wool I must however remark, that the policy of England, which has always hitherto been hostile to every appearance of an Irish woollen manufacture, has been founded upon the mean contractions of illiberal jealousy; it is a conduct that has been founded upon the ignorance and prejudices of mercantile people, who, knowing as they are in the science which teaches that two and two make four, are lost in a labyrinth the moment they leave their counting-houses and become statesmen; they are too apt to think of governing kingdoms upon the same principles they conduct their private business on, those of monopoly, which though the soul of private interest, is the bane of public commerce. It has been the mistaken policy of this country, to suppose that all Ireland gained by a woollen manufacture would be so much loss to England; this is the true monopolizing ignorance. We did not think proper to draw these hands of commercial tyranny so tight as to interdict their linens; we gave them a free trade; nay we import an immense quantity of Russian and German linen, and yet between this double fire of the Irish and foreigners, has our own linen manufacture flourished and increased; it is the spirit and effect of every species of monopoly to counteract the designs which dictate that mean policy. The rivalship of the Irish (if a rivalship was to ensue) would be beneficial to our woollen trade; as a fast friend to the interest of my native country, I wish success to those branches of the Irish woollens which would rival our own; a thousand beneficial consequences would flow from it; it would inspirit our manufacturers; it would awaken them from their lethargy, and give rise to the spirit of invention and enterprize. How long did our old broad cloth trade sleep in the west, without one sign of life strong enough to animate a new pursuit; but a different spirit breaking out in Yorkshire and Scotland, new fabrics were invented, and new trades opened. A free Irish woollen trade would put our manufacturers to their mettle, and would do more for the woollen trade of England than

any other measure whatever. Our merchants think such a rivalship would ruin them; but do they think the French would not reason for such fears also? Have we not lost the Levant and Turkey trade through the obstinacy of our monopolists? And why should not Ireland have a chance for such a branch as well as Languedoc? But such has been our narrow policy with respect to that kingdom, that we have for a century sat down more contented with the successful rivalship of France, than with the chance of an Irish competitor.

Whenever any question, relative to commercial indulgence to Ireland, has come into the British parliament, its friends have always urged the *distressed state of Ireland* as a motive. This is taking the ground of duplicity, perhaps of falsehood, they ought to be more liberal, and avow that their principle is not to relax the present laws as a matter of humanity to Ireland, but of right and policy to themselves; to demand a free trade to Ireland as the best friends to Britain; to demand that France may be rivalled by the subjects of the British empire, if those of one kingdom cannot, or will not do it, that those of another may.

One would have reason to suppose, from the spirit of commercial jealousy among our woollen towns, that whatever Ireland got was lost to England: I shall in a succeeding section insert a table, which will shew that in exact proportion to the wealth of Ireland, is the balance of the Irish trade in favour of England. That kingdom is one of the greatest customers we have upon the globe; is it good policy to wish that our best customer may be poor? Do not the maxims of commercial life tell us that the richer he is the better? Can any one suppose that the immense wealth of Holland is not of vast advantage to our manufactures; and though the Russia trade, upon the balance, is much against us, who can suppose that the increasing wealth of that vast empire, owing to the unparalleled wisdom of its present empress, the first and most able sovereign in the world, is not an increasing fund in favour of British industry?

The tabinets and poplins of Ireland (a fabric partly of woollen, partly of silk) did that island possess a greater freedom in the woollen trade, would find their way to a successful market throughout all the South of Europe. A friend of mine travelled France and Spain with a suit of that pleasing fabric among others, and it was more admired and envied than any thing he carried with him. This is a manufacture of which we have not a vestige in England.

Under another head I inserted the export of wool and yarn, and also the import of woollen goods from England; the following slight minute on the proportionate value of the labour to the material, will conclude what I have to say on a manufacture, which working only for home consumption can never thrive.

Bay yarn. A woman, on an average, spins three skains a day, which weigh a quarter of a pound, the value spun is from ten pence to a shilling, medium ten pence three farthings.

Combing it not quite	_____	d.
Spinning,	_____	1
		<u>2½</u>
Value of the wool,	_____	3½
		<u>7¼</u>
		10¾

The balls are a pound and an half each of twelve skains, the woman spins a ball in four days, being paid ten pence; in Leinster it is ten pence halfpenny, and in Munster it is nine pence; average nine pence three farthings. Combing a ball is about three pence, which with spinning nine pence three farthings, makes twelve pence three farthings labour on a ball; and the price of a ball, both wool and labour, in the year 1778, was three shillings and sixpence. In a war the price of wool generally falls in Ireland. The last French war did not sink prices in Ireland, but the Spanish one did. The silk manufacture of Ireland has been already discussed in Section 16, and is a fabric that merits neither the encouragement of the natives, nor the attention of others.

S E C T I O N XX.

Revenue—Taxes.

THE rise, progress, and present state of the revenue of Ireland, is very little understood in England, though an object of considerable importance to that kingdom. The variations of this revenue are useful marks, among many others, of the prosperity or declension of the island, and every thing which enables us to judge of the real state of a country with which we are so intimately connected, well deserves our attention.

The public revenue in that kingdom stands upon a very different footing from ours in England, owing to the operations of the revolution relative to this object not having extended

tended to Ireland. Before that epoch the two kingdoms were in this respect similar; but the old subsidies and other duties which formed the hereditary revenue of the Stuarts in England, were purchased of the crown at the revolution with the civil list revenue of 700,000 l. no similar bargain took place in Ireland, consequently the old hereditary revenue in that kingdom is at present under the same circumstances as the like funds were in England before the year 1688. It is upon this old revenue that the pensions on the Irish establishment are granted; the crown claims a right to apply the whole of it at its pleasure, but arguments have been urged against that claim.

The following tables will set the progress of late years, and present receipt of the revenue, in a clear light.

Customs

	Customs in	Customs out.	Import excise.	Inland excise.	Additional duty on ale beer and strong waters	Hearth money.
	l.	l.	l.	l.	l.	l.
In the Year 1730	97,821	27,012	78,248	64,360	50,909	42,301
1731	71,671	24,030	66,808	71,410	56,439	42,263
1732	76,880	25,807	74,259	76,473	60,374	42,810
1733	87,395	24,174	76,257	74,835	59,284	43,550
1734	84,542	25,780	75,974	76,076	60,501	43,926
1735	88,321	25,624	77,241	66,851	53,071	44,201
1736	104,580	24,124	84,875	63,636	50,542	44,112
1737	96,218	24,705	74,160	65,653	52,194	43,921
1738	98,086	26,131	87,302	70,787	56,114	44,035
1739	95,428	24,414	79,203	71,731	56,895	44,244
1740	84,912	25,388	73,336	69,675	55,375	45,045
1741	93,381	21,064	79,360	66,956	53,151	44,965
1742	97,630	21,093	72,104	67,156	53,419	41,828
1743	95,893	22,086	76,910	79,785	63,720	41,165
1744	88,451	27,647	69,759	88,874	70,939	41,823
1745	86,531	23,824	72,001	84,398	67,562	42,911
1746	89,685	22,836	63,710	74,626	59,564	41,410
1747	89,824	29,627	64,164	73,347	58,803	40,327
1748	95,819	26,486	84,916	84,282	67,895	40,960
1749	109,840	31,329	88,463	88,817	71,648	42,180
1750	151,279	29,698	123,858	92,294	74,404	43,039
1751	147,366	27,484	110,219	91,596	73,892	44,794
1752	137,731	30,726	105,492	94,802	76,389	51,924
1753	159,813	29,990	108,764	90,556	73,192	52,946
1754	186,990	26,770	131,906	88,694	71,566	53,405
1755	156,764	30,485	119,765	83,311	67,155	53,789
1756	147,469	26,884	98,262	80,728	65,042	54,283
1757	124,428	28,569	84,049	73,296	58,716	54,153
1758	137,570	32,135	95,086	67,622	54,416	52,859
1759	161,578	30,018	111,018	69,301	54,742	53,482
1760	148,445	33,673	116,831	77,411	61,533	54,570
1761	150,997	39,419	103,225	86,504	69,119	55,027
1762	190,553	39,988	132,540	93,543	76,349	55,970
1763	177,834	31,893	122,679	92,842	75,911	56,611
1764	209,999	38,805	144,585	92,745	75,878	56,878
1765	213,128	35,943	152,367	87,754	72,109	57,237
1766	214,985	37,788	173,313	85,752	70,250	57,523
1767	204,864	34,259	147,411	80,094	64,788	57,406
1768	212,743	39,754	155,258	79,765	65,536	57,920
1769	211,049	40,045	157,241	83,557	69,147	58,362
1770	210,490	37,390	152,996	79,631	63,328	58,820
Average, —	211,036	37,712	154,753	84,185	68,718	57,736
1771	200,270	35,712	146,329	70,743	49,160	58,970
1772	199,368	38,850	146,461	70,319	48,971	58,439
1773	232,767	37,397	151,662	74,991	53,274	59,938
1774	229,609	37,169	144,796	77,679	55,419	59,383
1775	203,008	38,010	130,104	77,251	54,894	60,900
1776	248,491	42,488	152,238	79,411	57,353	60,966
1777	251,055	35,883	153,727	80,461	57,750	60,580
Average of last 7 years, }	223,709	37,929	146,473	75,839	53,831	59,868
1778	198,550	36,027	131,284	81,761	58,612	61,646
1779	165,802	31,717	106,070	76,335	54,934	60,617

A very slight examination of these columns will shew a great increase in all (except the inland excise, and customs outward) about the year 1748. The conclusion of the peace of Aix la Chapelle seems from this table, as well as from a variety of others to have been the principal epoch in the prosperity of Ireland. The inland excise is a revenue so wretchedly administered by the confession of the whole kingdom, that no conclusions whatever are to be drawn from it. The customs outwards have risen but little; and not at all in the last seven years, which is to be accounted for from some of the principal articles of the exports, such as linen, &c. being either duty free, or having so small a custom as to be merely with design of ascertaining quantities; and also by the falling off in the export of the produce of pasturage which I have shewed before, most of the articles of it having an ill judged duty on them. But the customs inwards is not a bad one, for an increased import, though at first sight it seems to be against a nation, ought never to be taken in that light. No kingdom ever imports goods which it cannot pay for, and an increased consumption is the strongest proof of an increased ability to pay for it. I must however remark, that the increase in this column the last seven years is very trifling. There are in all the other columns, except hearth money, a decline in this period which very well deserves to be enquired into. That the kingdom has flourished in it I have little or no doubt, it may, therefore, probably be owing to the multiplication of abuses in the collection of the revenues, which being so many cancers in the body politic ought to be remedied with the utmost assiduity.

The increase of the hearth money is a matter of importance, for it proves an increase of population clearly; which indeed could not be doubted from the increased prosperity and wealth of the kingdom, and from the repeated information I received all over it to that purport.

The whole gross revenues offer a different appearance from these particular duties, the following account shews there has been an increase, but owing to an increase of taxes.

<i>Two years ending Lady day.</i>	<i>Hereditary revenue gross.</i>	<i>Old additional duties gross.</i>	<i>For receiving revenue, paying drawbacks and premiums on corn &c.</i>	<i>Nett produce of the hereditary and old additional duties.</i>
	<i>l.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>l.</i>
In the year 1751	1,048,858	366,462	192,513	1,233,943
1753	1,047,062	349,557	185,766	1,210,353
1755	1,127,552	367,980	193,259	1,302,274
1757	954,668	322,568	191,357	1,085,880
1759	989,937	320,415	205,290	1,105,062
1761	1,053,939	346,649	234,077	1,166,511
1763	1,201,300	418,258	260,602	1,358,956
Average,	1,060,474	355,698	208,981	1,209,068
In the Year 1765	1,298,165	452,375	273,010	1,477,529
1767	1,295,317	471,240	318,044	1,448,513
1769	1,309,828	481,998	347,943	1,443,882
1771	1,276,711	454,955	349,275	1,382,391
1773	1,288,094	439,615	398,380	1,329,330
1775	1,279,275	404,415	428,180	1,255,509
1777	1,388,044	419,748	464,762	1,343,120
Average,	1,305,062	446,335	368,786	1,382,896
In the Year 1779	1,175,145	346,696		

These are for sessions not years. Besides these duties there are others appropriated by parliament to particular purposes; these are for paying the interest of loans, for the encouragement of the linen manufacture, of tillage, of protestant schools, and the cambric manufacture.

The whole revenue of the kingdom for twenty years in two periods, of ten each with the averages, will shew the general increase, whether owing to new duties or an increase of old ones.

TOTAL

TOTAL REVENUE OF IRELAND.

	l.		l.
In the year 1758	650,763	In the year 1768	945,520
1759	714,918	1769	977,372
1760	717,022	1770	954,045
1761	746,151	1771	900,913
1762	878,068	1772	897,396
1763	850,895	1773	955,074
1764	939,139	1774	*957,498
1765	948,251	1775	†930,228
1766	990,744	1776	1,040,055
1767	910,780	1777	1,093,881
<hr/>		<hr/>	
Average of ten years,	834,673	Average of ten years,	965,198
<hr/>		<hr/>	
Ditto of the former period,		834,673	
<hr/>		<hr/>	
Increase,		130,525	
<hr/>		<hr/>	

But this revenue, considerable as it is, has not been equal to the national expenditure. In the sessions of 1759, there was a surplus in the treasury of 65,774*l.* yet in the following one a considerable debt was contracted, as will be seen by the progress of the incumbrance.

	l.	
Year 1761	— 223,438	National debt.
1763	— 521,161	ditto.
1765	— 508,874	ditto.
1767	— 581,964	ditto.
1769	— 628,883	ditto.
1771	— 789,569	ditto.
1773	— 1999,686	ditto.
1775	— 976,117	ditto.
1777	— §825,426	ditto.
1779	— 1,062,597	ditto.

Suppose the revenue a million, it is about a sixth part of the land rents of the kingdom. If there are three million of souls in Ireland, they pay exactly 6*s.* 8*d.* a head. It appeared before

* *Additional duties laid.*

† *Stamps ditto.*

‡ *This does not agree with the state in vol. 17 of the journals, nor the following year.*

§ *Extracted from the national accounts laid before parliament every session.*

BRITISH AND IRISH TAXES COMPARED. 173

fore the export of linen, yarn, corn, woollen, pork, beef, &c. &c. amounted to 3,250,471l. suppose all other exports would make it up three and a half millions, the revenue of the kingdom amounts not quite to a third.

It will not be improper here to compare the burthens of Ireland with those of Great-Britain.

British revenue of 13 millions paid by	l.	s.	d.
9 millions of people is,	—	1	9 0 a head.
Irish revenue of 1 million paid by 3			
millions of-people is,	—	0	6 8 a head.
British revenue of 13 millions paid by			
72 millions * of acres is,	—	0	3 6 each.
Irish revenue of 1 million paid by 25			
millions of acres is,	—	0	0 10 each.
British revenue of 13 millions paid by			
a rental † of 24 millions is,		0	10 10 in the pound.
Irish revenue of 1 million paid by a			
rental of 6 millions is,	—	0	3 4 in the pound.
British revenue of 13 millions paid by			
an export of ‡ 16 millions is,		0	16 3 in the pound.
Irish revenue of 1 million paid by an			
export of 3½ millions is,	—	0	5 9 in the pound.
British revenue of 13 millions paid by a			
balance of trade of 5 millions is,	2	12	0 in the pound.
Irish revenue of 1 million paid by a			
balance of trade of 1 million is,	1	0	0 in the pound.

The inferiority of the taxes of Ireland to those of Great-Britain, upon every one of these comparisons is very great; the parallel is, however, certainly not complete: the specie of Ireland is 1,600,000l. but it is difficult to say what that of England is, the gold coinage proved our calculators to be so amazingly out in their reckoning, but in this article, including paper lies, I apprehend the greater ease in England of paying taxes, which are light or heavy, not perhaps so much in proportion to the income of a people as to the ease of circulation; that in England is out of all comparison greater than in Ireland, which would make it impossible for the preceding proportions to be raised in that kingdom as high as they are in Britain. But fair allowances being made for this article, still we may with great safety conclude that this national burthen is vastly lighter there than with us. If the advantages of such a situa-

* The exact number at 640 to a mile is 71,979,848.

† 20l. that of England, and 4l. allowed for Scotland.

‡ The last custom-house account.

a situation are not continued, it will certainly be owing to complaints of poverty, occasioning closer scrutinies into facts than have hitherto happened.

We come next to the expence which absorbs this income.

<i>Two years ending Lady day.</i>	<i>Civil list.</i>	<i>Military list.</i>	<i>Extraordinary charges, includ- ing parliamen- tary grants.</i>	<i>Totals.</i>
	<i>l.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>l.</i>
In the year 1751	146,134	766,151	126,356	1,038,643
1753	143,705	762,571	152,415	1,058,691
1755	144,602	795,182	169,276	1,109,061
1757	161,223	794,364	362,674	1,318,263
1759	181,964	820,383	298,173	1,300,521
1761	202,052	997,072	281,888	1,481,013
1763	221,365	1,124,743	332,934	1,679,043
1765	241,271	988,535	275,955	1,505,761
1767	257,988	971,007	337,646	1,566,642
1769	270,040	954,426	327,094	1,551,561
1771	272,678	976,917	373,997	1,623,593
1773	323,833	1,172,723	389,634	1,886,191
1775	366,838	1,223,326	342,377	1,932,541
1777	410,904	1,112,682	410,172	1,933,758
1779	336,475	937,679	432,474	1,706,628

<i>Two years ending Lady day.</i>	<i>Salaries exclu- sive of hearth- money collectors.</i>	<i>Two years ending Lady day.</i>	<i>Salaries exclu- sive of hearth- money collectors.</i>
	<i>l.</i>		<i>l.</i>
In the year 1751	110,622	In the year 1765	151,655
1753	111,478	1767	156,157
1755	113,721	1769	164,364
1757	115,552	1771	165,374
1759	116,344	1773	169,567
1761	130,274	1775	176,107
1763	144,316	1777	171,578

Some of the particular duties which go towards raising the above revenue will be seen among the following articles.

	<i>Goods exported.</i>	<i>Duty.</i>
		<i>l.</i>
Year 1773.	Beef, —	10,759
	Bulls and cows, —	29
	Butter, —	6,809
	Candles, —	109
	Cheefe, —	52
	Horfes, —	88
	Bacon flitches, —	120
	Hides, —	2857
	Tallow, cwt. —	2,994
	Tongues, —	75
	Total, —	23,892

Goods imported.

Year 1773.	Tobacco, —	121,148
	Rum, —	161,080
	Gin, —	21,935
	Brandy, —	34,206
	Tea, —	16,406
	Salt and salt petre,	11,305
	Silk, —	18,382
	Wine, —	* 104,701
		489,163

To lay a duty of near 24,000 l. a year upon the export of the produce of pasturage is heavy and most unpolitic, and ought to be abolished. The other articles in this list are very proper ones to tax.

The decline in several branches of the revenue having united with an increased expence to run the nation in debt as above mentioned, new taxes are of course in contemplation every session. A LAND TAX has been a matter of conversation in Ireland for some years: some increase must be made to the revenue, but in what mode is an enquiry of the most interesting nature to that kingdom; I shall for this reason offer a few remarks on the state of the country relative to the taxes which would be most proper for it.

There are a variety of objections to land taxes in general, besides the particular ones which apply immediately to Ireland. Taxes ought all to be equal, but an *equal* land tax must be a *variable* one which is at once a *tythe*, the most pernicious burthen to which any nation can submit; it is the *taille*, the equal land tax of France which is so well known to be the ruin of the

* Commons Journals, vol. 16, p. 268.

the agriculture of that kingdom: hence therefore equality must not be thought of in a land tax: and if there were no other objections, this alone ought for ever to preclude them. But suppose a fixed unequal tax as in England, yet there are great evils in it, a man's possessions are rarely to be taken as a proof of his capability to bear a tax; a landlord who receives a thousand pounds a year from his estate, and pays seven hundred interest of mortgages is taxed at his whole rental; what enormity and ruin is this! that the ability to bear the burthen is to be of no consequence in laying the tax. When the amazing amount of mortgages on landed property is considered, the greatness of this oppression must be fully felt. But land taxes when they are unequal are unproductive; hence the oppressions under this name which crush the agriculture of France, Milan, and the states of Austria and Prussia, in most of which actual *valuations* of the land are made periodically, as if no man's improvement should escape taxation: hence also the designs of the English ministry once remarkably manifested, of dropping the present land tax in order to obtain an equal one: these are universal objections to land taxes.

But in Ireland there are others which concern that country singly, and therefore the more deserving attention; a vast proportion of it is under lease for ever; other parts let for five hundred years; others for lives and a hundred years; others for lives and fifty and thirty years; in a word, under leases of every description. How could a land tax be laid in that kingdom consistently with the reigning principle of the English tax, that the landlord only shall pay it? Difficulties innumerable would arise at every step; no gordian knot but the sword of power can cut; but the question is whether all the principles that have directed a similar tax in England would not be cut with them: for the tax to be either equal or productive, it must be laid on some classes of tenantry: it ought certainly to be laid on all who do not occupy; but from that moment there is an end of it as an English land tax, it is a *taille*, a tax on tenantry: break the limits, the great line between the owner of the land and the tenant, and who will say how far the innovation will be carried, the most dangerous that can ever be made in a kingdom? Adieu to all improvements in agriculture wherever such an one takes place.

Evils of this sort rarely make their full appearance at first; a land tax in Ireland would probably come in under a very fair appearance; but the state of the country ought to tell its inhabitants that such a tax would be too unproductive to last; the successive alterations would do the fatal business, and produce the mischief in its full deformity.

Administration have had experience in England of the loss, as it has been called, to the revenue from a fixed tax: if ever
therefore

therefore they introduced it into Ireland, it would be in a form which admitted alterations, in order to avoid the circumstance which has more than once raised a strong inclination to a new assessment. For these and other reasons too numerous to give in detail here, I am convinced that Ireland can never experience a more pernicious tax than that on land.

But as I observed before, government must go on, and must be supported at an increasing expence; new taxes must consequently be had recourse to, and I shall not hesitate a moment in recommending excises as the only ones which can be much extended without any national injury: an entire change in the administration of them should take place; the monstrous abuses in them remedied, and new ones laid. The cheapness of whiskey with which a man may get dead drunk for two pence, is an enormity too great to be borne. The morals, health, peace, industry, agriculture, manufactures, commerce, and wealth of the kingdom, are all materially injured, by the cheapness of this vile beverage: there is not an object in Ireland which would yield a more productive revenue, at the same time that every shilling government got would be half a crown benefit to the public: a judicious, and well collected excise on this liquor would raise an immense revenue. All other spirits, wines and tobacco, are also very well able to bear much heavier taxes than they labour under at present. An excise on tea also might be applicable; but there is no want of objects; and if the legislature of the kingdom will not set themselves very steadily to the business, a land tax will be the consequence, and in it all the mischiefs that must attend the measure.

The proposition for a land tax on absentees was very wisely rejected; the execution of it would have smoothed some of the difficulties, or at least rendered them familiar, and certainly have facilitated a general tax of the same nature.

The mode pursued in Ireland of raising money by tontine, at an exceeding high interest, so high even as 7 per cent. is very mischievous to the kingdom. The great want of that country is *capital*, consequently any measure which tends to lessen capitals that are employed in any branch of industry, is pernicious: seven per cent. interest in national funds must be a severe blow to every branch of industry, for who will lend money on private security at six per cent. while the public gives seven? And what man will undergo the trouble, and run the hazard of manufactures or commerce, while he can sit by his fire side with seven per cent. in his pocket. In England where the capital is so immense, and with all that of Holland at command, similar transactions are found exceedingly detrimental, insomuch that no industry can be carried on which will not yield very large profits; no money to be procured on bond; scarce any on mortgage; vast sums drawing out of the general industry for investment

in the public funds, and a general fall in the value of that great portion of landed property which is obliged to be sold. But the sums borrowed in this country may be too large to raise by taxes; I do not think it is the same in Ireland; and that kingdom had much better raise their supplies within the session than lessen their little capital by tontines.

S E C T I O N XXI.

Commerce — Fisheries — Embargoes.

UNFORTUNATELY for Ireland, the general commerce of it is to be fully treated in a very small compass; and the facts which I have already had occasion to lay before the reader, in the two preceding sections, go very far towards completing the whole that is necessary to explain its state. Being a dependent country, the British legislature has upon all occasions controuled its commerce, sometimes with a very high hand, but universally upon the principles of monopoly, as if the poverty of that country was to form the wealth of Britain, I have on every occasion endeavoured to shew the futility of such an idea, and to prove from the evidence of invariable facts, that the wealth of Ireland has always been, and is, the wealth of England, that whatever she gets is expended in a very large proportion in the consumption of British fabrics and commodities. The increased prosperity of Ireland, which she has experienced in spite of our absurd restrictions on her commerce, has raised her to be one of the greatest and best markets this kingdom possesses in any part of the globe.

It is a remarkable fact which was pointed out to me by that very able politician, the Earl of Shelburne, that the narrowness of our prohibitory laws in England is of late date; from the old English acts of parliament it appears, that before the restoration the true system of commerce was much better understood than it has been of late days: if the transactions of the commonwealth are examined, there will appear great liberality and the soundest principles in Cromwell and the leading men of those times; and that it was the clear determination of the protector as well as of the long parliament, to make the trade of Ireland as free as possible; nay, the act of navigation itself, at the restoration, included Ireland upon the same footing as England; it was not till twelve years afterwards, that the exception crept in by a single clause in another

other act, which probably was passed at the desire of some merchant, without any person's caring about it, which has been the case with many an American act. The next prohibitory law, which declared the importation of Irish cattle a nuisance, was a contested job between the duke of Ormond and the duke of Lauderdale; afterwards it became the fashion to pass acts against Ireland, which nobody had the knowledge or liberality to oppose. In the full perfection of this spirit it was, that a bill, which passed in Ireland in 1759, for restricting the importation of damaged flour, was thrown out in England at the instigation of a single miller at Chichester.

Whenever old prejudices wear out, it will certainly be found for the interest of England to give every freedom possible to the trade of Ireland. I am convinced if this extended to its being an absolute free port, no mischief would result from it; but as to a free export to all the world, not the shadow of a good argument ever yet appeared against it; for upon what principles of policy, or of common sense, can we found a conduct which restrains our own subjects from the free sale of their products and manufactures, when the returns of such sales must flow into our own coffers by that extension of demand which has been inseparably connected with the wealth of Ireland, when the population and the power that rise upon such wealth are our own? A mercantile landlord at London might as well say to his tenant in Yorkshire, You shall not sell your corn to whom you please, you shall ship it to me; you shall not convert your wool to the best purposes, you shall sell it raw to me. This language might be that of his leases, but it would be that of folly. Would he not soon find, that by leaving his tenants to make the best of their own commodities, they would afford to pay him a better rent; their wealth becomes his, if he keeps them poor he must be so himself. The case of Ireland is exactly parallel; the inhabitants of that island, in their public revenue, in their military, by their absentees, and in their commercial balance, pay to this kingdom a direct rent for it, which vibrates in its amount to the variations of their national wealth. While it was a wilderness of savages it paid the rent which deserts every where yield; as it improved our receipt has been proportioned, until it has become a cultivated flourishing estate, and yields a rent which marks to an iota the extent of the cultivation, and the degree of that prosperity. Of what use is the experience of a century of facts, if we are not to open our eyes to the lessons they convey? Long experience has told us what the effects of Irish wealth are; we feel those effects flowing like vital warmth through the whole extent of our own territory, and shall we yet hesitate to encourage and extend a prosperity which is the source and foundation of our own?

I have taken the great line of leading principles; will the littleness of commercial jealousy reply in its true spirit, that this town will be hurt; that that manufacture will be lost; that Manchester will be alarmed; and that Norwich will have apprehensions: it is not a question for the weavers of one place and the merchants of another to decide, it is THE EMPIRE that is concerned; the general interest demands the measure, and ought to absorb every pitiful consideration: but all experience speaks only one language even to these mistaken individuals: I observed it before, and gave instances of manufactures sinking in the possession of a monopoly, and thriving from a rivalry; of markets rising to increasing industry; of the welfare of one country rising from the prosperity of others: truths as universal as the world. And shall we deny the application to a sister, but dependent kingdom, from whom we have so many ways of gaining all the advantages of her wealth? But arguments are little wanted where facts are so numerous; to those I have already inserted, let me add the following state of our imports and exports in the Irish trade.

TRADE OF GREAT BRITAIN WITH IRELAND.

	<i>Imports.</i>		<i>Exports.</i>		<i>Imports excess.</i>	<i>Exports excess.</i>
	<i>l.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>l.</i>	<i>l.</i>		
In the year 1697	223,913	251,262				27,348
1698	333,968	293,813	40,154			
1699	417,475	269,475	147,999			
1700	233,853	261,115				27,262
1701	285,390	296,144				10,753
1702	258,121	215,112	43,008			
1703	324,289	266,324	57,965			
1704	321,847	215,949	105,897			
1705	279,992	244,057	35,934			
1706	266,269	198,176	68,092			
1707	306,423	263,412	43,010			
1708	274,689	251,974	22,715			
1709	276,423	251,519	24,904			
1710	310,846	285,424	25,421			
1711	297,238	261,426	35,811			
1712	291,669	274,845	16,823			

TRADE

TRADE OF GREAT BRITAIN WITH IRELAND,
Continued.

	<i>Imports.</i>	<i>Exports.</i>	<i>Imports excess.</i>	<i>Exports excess.</i>
	l.	l.	l.	l.
In the year 1713	295,926	306,964		11,038
1714	326,391	397,048		70,656
1715	389,437	420,062		30,625
1716	561,673	345,252	216,421	
1717	469,657	429,880	39,776	
1718	326,283	333,988		7,704
1719	380,130	387,460		7,329
1720	282,812	328,583		45,771
1721	332,882	378,838		37,956
1722	356,095	488,370		132,274
1723	360,526	553,945		193,418
1724	367,889	468,257		100,367
1725	333,870	474,836		140,965
1726	332,604	569,553		236,949
1727	307,038	436,012		128,973
1728	318,147	475,762		157,615
1729	287,648	517,198		229,549
1730	294,156	532,698		238,542
1731	308,936	618,684		309,745
1732	294,484	614,754		225,731
1733	386,105	595,251		351,822
1734	401,422	627,154		225,731
1735	417,421	769,244		351,822
1736	447,176	720,555		273,378
1737	346,476	730,910		384,433
1738	381,372	696,590		315,218
1739	411,924	673,621		261,697
1740	390,565	628,288		237,723
1741	404,863	698,715		293,851
1742	346,814	775,650		428,835
1743	816,797	860,178		43,380
1744	390,874	703,227		312,353
1745	1,441,498	910,920	530,578	
1746	532,686	796,157		263,471
1747	541,393	748,677		207,284
1748	464,489	906,424		441,935
1749	567,776	1,006,045		438,268
1750	612,808	1,316,600		703,792
1751	664,484	1,174,493		510,008
1752	563,959	1,140,608		576,648
1753	561,489	1,149,552		588,063
1754	610,466	1,173,829		563,362

TRADE OF GREAT BRITAIN WITH IRELAND, Continued.

		Imports.	Exports.	Imports excess.	Exports excess.
		l.	l.	l.	l.
In the year	1755	643,165	1,070,063		426,897
	1756	827,811	1,111,801		283,990
	1757	687,471	960,843		273,371
	1758	1,050,331	926,886	123,446	
	1759	832,127	931,358		99,231
	1760	904,180	1,050,401		146,220
	1761	853,804	1,476,114		622,310
	1762	889,368	1,528,696		639,328
	1763	769,379	1,640,713		871,333
	1764	777,412	1,634,382		856,969
	1765	1,070,533	1,767,020		696,486
	1766	1,154,982	1,920,015		765,033
	1767	1,103,285	1,880,486		777,201
	1768	1,226,094	2,248,315		1,022,221
	1769	1,265,107	1,964,742		699,634
	1770	1,214,398	2,125,466		911,068
	1771	1,380,737	1,983,818		603,081
	1772	1,242,305	1,963,787		721,481
	* 1773	1,252,817	1,918,802		665,985

The reader will recollect that it was the general tenour of the information received in the journey, that the year 1748 was the epoch of the modern prosperity of Ireland; all agree that after that peace, Ireland advanced greatly, her rise of rental will mark this clearly. The following is a review of the minutes :

R I S E O F R E N T S.

Lord Longford more than doubled in thirty years.—Earl of Iniskilling quadrupled in ditto.—Mr. Cooper almost trebled since 1748.—Mayo trebled in forty years.—King's county two

* *Extracted from the accounts laid before the British parliament.*

It is a circumstance very much to be regretted, that these accounts no longer see the light; they have not been laid before parliament since 1773, why should a practice that had continued for above a century cease just then? If there were any trades like the American which did not offer a pleasing spectacle, there were others like those of Ireland, Russia, &c. to make amends.

two thirds since 1750.—Tipperary doubled in twenty years.—Barony of Owna and Ara doubled in ditto.—Rich lands of Limerick risen a fourth in twenty years, and two thirds since 1748.

In the preceding enquiries the truth of this is confirmed by every proof which authentic records can shew; as the table now before us marks the commercial connection between Great Britain and Ireland, it is necessary to divide it into periods, in order to see the average of each. The table contains twenty-five years since 1748, during which period

	<i>Imports.</i>	<i>Exports.</i>
	l.	l.
The averages are, —	965,050	1,482,513
Ditto in the 25 preceding years,	438,665	657,972
Latter period superior by, —	526,385	824,541

Here is an account that is worth a dozen arguments! It is from hence evident, that our exports to Ireland have in the last twenty-five years considerably more than doubled, almost trebled; and this great rise has been exactly in the period of the internal prosperity of that island. If I did not know persons of very respectable characters in parliament, who think very differently upon this great question of the freedom of Irish trade, I should be ashamed of dwelling a moment on the subject. How would it have been possible for that country to support such an increased importation, unless she had increased in wealth? And having proved that such advances in national prosperity have been attended by this increased demand for the manufactures and products of England, are we not perfectly founded in concluding, that future advantages to Ireland will also be attended by similar effects? The influx of wealth into that country brings a taste for the elegant luxuries with which we abound, and the capability of purchasing them ensures the purchase. An Englishman cannot go into a single house in Dublin, or see a person dressed, of either sex, without having this truth staring him in the face. But there is a circumstance in this account which deserves particular attention, and that is our import trade not having increased so much as the export one, from which this plain conclusion is to be drawn; that let Ireland get her wealth from where she will, it comes infallibly to England. The fourth column of the table which shews the balance she pays us, and which amounts of late years, from six hundred thousand to a million a year, could not possibly be supported with the absentee drain, unless she made by her trade elsewhere.

	Imports.	Exports.
	l.	l.
Average of the last seven years, -	1,240,677	2,012,202
Ditto of the preceding seven years,	917,088	1,573,934
Increase, —	323,569	438,268

From this comparison we find, that the rapid increase of our exports to Ireland is in late years, the stronger reason therefore to expect, that whatever increase of wealth she experiences, it will be England that will receive the full tribute of it. By means of the prosperity of Ireland the trade we carry on with that kingdom is grown to be one of the most important which we possess; and in the last year of this table, nearly equalled the export to the whole continent of North America.

	l.
Exports from England to the continent of North America, from Christmas, 1772, to 1773, -	1,981,544
Ditto to Ireland, —	1,918,802

Freight, insurance and profit on both twelve per cent. Hence therefore this nation has no demand of policy so strong on her at present, as to encourage Ireland to the utmost of her power, in order to increase her own trade to that island; that American losses may be the less sensibly felt; but this can only be done by embracing a system totally it new. And here it is a tribute fairly due to genius long since departed, to observe, that the relative interests of England and Ireland were better understood by Mr. Houghton in 1682, than by any later writer, whose productions have come to my knowledge; and as I have mentioned him on this occasion, I must remark, that he seems to me to have had juster ideas of trade, manufactures, prices of provisions, enclosures, &c. than nine tenths of the authors who have treated of those subjects: "The richer Ireland grows the more wealth will the landlords have, and the more will they that live here spend. I am told by an inquisitive and understanding knight, that hath a great estate there, and very well understands the Irish affairs, that what their gentry spend here, with the pensions and the rent that are paid from thence to the city of London, amounts to about three hundred thousand pounds per annum, and I see no reason why this expence should not increase according to their thriving."—"Even in the woollen manufacture I question whether they could in *cloth* do more than the Dutch; and for other manufactures, why might it not put both nations at strife to find out some new consumptions, and so increase the trades of both? If there must be but a set quantity consumed, seeing England bears up against, and in cloathing outdoth Terra Firma, why may we not, IF IRELAND

BE JOINED TO US, *spoil the trade on the other side, and so be both enriched*?*" Here is the interest of England, relative to that country, explained upon the most enlarged and most liberal principles of freedom and of commerce. This penetrating genius, who saw deeper into the true English interests than half our modern politicians, was sensible of no mischiefs from a free Irish woollen trade: the prevalence of commercial jealousy had not then arisen to the heights we have since seen it. Without any hesitation, Ireland ought to have an absolutely free trade of export and import to all our American colonies, and African settlements; also a very considerable freedom in her exports to Europe: but when this subject was in conversation in the house of commons, I heard the minister mention one circumstance, which seemed to stand in the way of doing justice to Ireland, that is to ourselves: taxes there being so much lower that their manufactures not being equally under the burthen of excises, would have an unfair start of ours †. With great submission, I think this will not be found sound doctrine either in fact or reason. I might here go into the question of a *poor* and *cheap* country robbing a rich one of her manufactures, for the assertion comes directly to this; but Dr. Tucker has treated it in so masterly a manner, and has so clearly proved the absurdity of the idea, that what he has said ought to be considered as conclusive. But why give in linen what you deny in other fabrics? Irish linen has all the advantages of a freedom from a great variety of excises, which the manufacturers of English linen labour under, and yet we not only support the competition but thrive under it, from there being a difference in the fabrics, and as great a difference would be in all other fabrics. Their broad cloth, also, is made under the same advantages, and compare it in both price and quality with that of England; I bought it at seventeen shillings and sixpence a yard at the Dublin society's warehouse, without the master manufacturer's profit and expences, and I will venture to assert, from wearing both, twenty-three shillings for English cloth to be cheaper. The same fact runs through a variety of their fabrics. The fixed trade, capital and skill of England will for ever bid defiance to the no excises of Ireland. But something was forced to be given—had woollens been put down and linens not permitted, the oppressed and ruined people would have sought redress with arms in their hands. The monopolizing spirit of commercial jealousy gave as little as possible, and would not have given that little could she have helped it. But the argument says, that Ireland having few excises will get much trade and wealth: and is it not your design that she should? Ought not this, in common sense, to be your wish and aim? For whom

* *Collection of Husbandry and Trade, vol. 4. p. 48.*

† *Written in June 1779.*

whom does she grow rich? If I have not proved that point there is no proof in fact, nor truth in figures. Why cannot she rival France, Holland and Germany, as well as England? But we have ample experience to tell us that she may rival without impoverishing us; that she may grow rich and we great by her wealth; that she may advance, and we be prosperous. To assert because there are not as many excises in one part of our dominions as another, that therefore their trade shall be cramped is exactly like saying, that labour is cheap there, and for that reason shall never be dear; making the poverty of the kingdom the motive for keeping it poor.

Taxes flow from trade and consumption, give them the wealth to consume, and never fear but taxes will follow.

F I S H E R I E S.

There is scarcely a part of Ireland but what is well situated for some fishery of consequence; her coasts and innumerable creeks and rivers mouths are the resort of vast shoals of herring, cod, hake, mackarel, &c. which might, with proper attention, be converted into funds of wealth; but capital is such a universal want in Ireland, that very little is done. The minutes of the journey contain some valuable information on this head, but the general picture is rather an exhibition of what ought to be done, than any thing that actually is executed; nor have the measures of the legislature been attended with any considerable effect; some of them seem to have done mischief, of which the following is an instance.

By the 3 G. 3. c. 24.—Twenty shillings, per ton on English or Irish built vessels decked, after the commencement of this act, not under twenty tons, nor to be paid for more than one hundred, to proceed from some port in Ireland.

Bounty of two shillings a barrel on export of white herrings.

Ditto of two shillings and sixpence on mackarel.

Ditto of five shillings for six score of ling.

Ditto of three shillings for hake, haddock, glassing, and conger eel.

Ditto of four shillings and three-pence halfpenny for every tierce, of 41 gallons of wet fish exported.

Ditto of three pounds per ton }
for whale oil,

Ditto of thirty shillings ditto } manufactured in Ireland.
for other oil of fish,

Ditto of four pounds per cwt. }
for whale bone,

The following has been the effect of this measure.

B A R R E L S

BARRELS OF HERRINGS IMPORTED INTO IRELAND
FOR EIGHTEEN YEARS.

		From G. Britain	From E. Country	Total.
		Barrels.	Barrels.	Barrels.
In the year —	1756	28,999	1,277	30,276
	1757	28,955	2,080	31,035
	1758	29,960	1,370	31,330
	1759	23,611	113	23,724
	1760	17,038 $\frac{3}{4}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	17,009
	1761	20,411 $\frac{1}{2}$	142	20,554
	1762	21,388	844	22,232
	1763	23,519	2,156	25,675
	1764	14,932	8,661	23,593
Average of 9 years be- fore the bounty,		23,201	1,847	25,048
In the year —	1765	14,587	17,030	31,617
	1766	35,552	24,555	60,107
	1767	12,094	12,618	24,712
	1768	16,640	23,252	39,892
	1769	11,286	25,847	37,133
	1770	22,891	23,655	46,546
	1771	12,952	26,555	39,507
	1772	10,445	34,241	44,686
	1773	13,471	40,539	54,010
Average of 9 years af- ter the bounty,		16,657	25,365	42,022

Import of herrings in the nine years since the bounty exceed the preceding period in 155,156 barrels. Value at fifteen shillings per barrel, — —	l. s. d.
Export less by 16,357 barrels, at twenty shillings per barrel, —	116,367 11 3
Loss also on the export and import of dry cod, 1,298 cwt. at 14s. per cwt. —	973 10 0
Ditto on barrelled cod, —	364 17 6
	<hr/> 134,063 13 9
Hake 9,566 cwt. at fifteen shillings per cwt.	7,115 1 3
Salmon 1,108 tons, at twelve pounds per ton,	14,200 0 0
Mackarel, 2,666 barrels at twenty shillings per barrel, — —	2,666 0 0
	<hr/> *158,604 15 0

Imported

* Manuscript report of the fish committee, 1778, communicated
by the Right Hon. William Burton.

Imported herrings for home consumption are from Scotland, for foreign use from Sweden. The former twenty shillings a barrel. The latter from fourteen to sixteen shillings. And their own from sixteen to twenty shillings.

Prices of other sorts of fish. Dry ling from eighteen to twenty shillings per cwt. Salmon from twelve to thirteen pounds per ton. Hake from fourteen to sixteen shillings per cwt. Dry cod from fourteen to sixteen shillings per cwt. Wet cod from fourteen to eighteen shillings per barrel †.

A STATE of the FISHING TRADE of IRELAND, for Nine Years, since the Commencement of the Bounty, compared with the Nine preceding Years.

	Import in 9 years to the 25th of March 1773	Import in 9 years to the 25th of March 1764	Increase in last 9 years.	Decrease in last 9 years.	Total loss in last 9 years.	Total gain in last 9 years.
Herrings, barrels,	379,631	224,475	155,156		171,514	
Codd, cwt.	4,575	3,235	1,340		1,298	
Codd, barrels,	1,103	236	867		486	
Ling, cwt.	963	1,415		452		391
Salmon, tuns,	149	166		17		
Hake, cwt.		57		57		
Mackarel, barrels,		128		128		
	Export in last 9 years.	Export in first 9 years.				
Herrings, barrels,	34,986	51,344		16,357		
Salmon, ton,	2,759	4,084		1,126	1,108	
Hake, cwt,	8,617	18,241		9,623	9,566	
Ling, cwt.	411	472		61		
Mackarel, barrels,	2,249	5,043		2,794	2,666	
Codd, cwt.	2	42		42		
Codd, barrels,	472	912 ³	381			

	l.	s.	d.
Amount of premiums paid to fishing buffes in the last nine years,	47,062	6	5
Ditto to exported fish,	1,265	4	7
	48,328	4	7

Before I quit this article of Irish fisheries, I shall observe that next to the cultivation of land there is no object in their national

† Manuscript Report Com. communicated by the Right Hon. William Burton.

* Ibid.

national œconomy of so much importance. No manufactures, no trade can be of half the consequence to Ireland, that many of her fisheries might prove if encouraged with judgment. There is no undertaking whatever in which a small capital goes so far; nor any in which the largest will pay such ample profits. Scotland has the herrings somewhat earlier, but they come in good time to Ireland for the Mediterranean trade, and in a plenty that ought to make their capture a favourite object. The bounties hitherto given have been so far from answering that they have in some respects done mischief. I was present more than once at the meetings of the fishery committee of the Irish house of commons, and I found them making anxious enquiries how to avoid great frauds, from which I found that notorious ones had been committed; this is the great misfortune of bounties when they are not given with great judgment and care. Relative to the fisheries the profit is so great, that all acquainted with them will engage as far as their capital will admit, whatever bounties are given therefore should not be with a view to instigate men possessed of capital, for they do not exist, but to put capitals into the hands of those who will certainly make use of them. It appeared in the minutes of the Loch Swilly fishery that one boat and the nets sufficient cost 20l.; the best bounty would be to give boats and nets to men used to the fishery, because few are able to buy or build them. To give a premium on the export of the herrings or upon the tonnage of the boats will not answer, for it supposes them actually taken, and built, that is, it supposes the very difficulty got over which want of money makes perpetual. Before the boat is in the fishery it must be built, and before the fish are exported they must be taken, those who have money to do either will go to work without any bounty, the profit alone being sufficient. In countries so very poor, the first steps in such undertakings are the most difficult; and to assist in overcoming the early difficulties is what the legislature should aim at. Giving boats and nets to men that would certainly use them does this, and would be productive of great national good; always supposing that frauds and jobbing are guarded against; if they are permitted to creep in, as in giving spinning wheels, the mischief would be far more than the benefit. 20,000l. per annum thus expended would give 1000 boats, which would soon accumulate to a vast number, and if the effect was so great as to find the herrings regorge in the home market, then would be the time to drive them out by a bounty on the export, if their own cheapness did not bring the effect without it. I am far from recommending a new system of bounties upon an object that had not received them before, they have been long given or jobbed, all I mean is, that if the public is burthened with such payments, care should be taken that they are given in the mode that promises to be most advantageous.

E M B A R G O E S.

OF all the restrictions which England has at different times most impolitically laid upon the trade of Ireland, there is none more obnoxious than the embargoes on their provision trade. The prohibitions on the export of woollens, and various other articles, have this pretence at least in their favour, that they are advantageous to similar manufactures in England; and Ireland has long been trained to the sacrifice of her national advantage as a dependant country; but in respect to embargoes even this shallow pretence is wanting; a whole kingdom is sacrificed and plundered, not to enrich England, but three or four London contractors! a species of men of an odious cast as thriving only on the ruin and desolation of their country. It is well known that all the embargoes that have ever been laid, have been for the profit of these fellows, and that the government has not profited a shilling by them. Whenever the affairs of Ireland come thoroughly to be considered in England a new system in this respect must be embraced. It may not be proper for the crown directly to give up the prerogative of laying them; but it ought never to be exerted in the cases, and with the views with which we have seen it used. The single circumstance of sacrificing the interests of a whole people to a few monopolizing individuals in another country, is to make a nation the beasts of burthen to another people. But this is not the only point; the interest of England and of government is equally sacrificed, for their object is to have beef plentiful and cheap. But to reduce it so low by embargoes as to discourage the grazier, is to lessen the quantity; he increases his sheep or ploughs more, or is ruined by his business, which necessarily renders the commodity too dear, from the very circumstance of having been too cheap. A steady regular good price, from an active demand encourages the grazier so much, that he will produce a quantity sufficient to keep the price from ever rising unreasonably high, and government would be better supplied. Another consideration is the loss to the kingdom by not taking French money, and sending them to other markets; if it could be proved, or indeed if the fact was possible, that you could keep their fleets in port for want of Irish beef there would be an argument for an embargo, perhaps, twice in half a century; but when all experience tells us that if they have not beef from Ireland they will get it from Holstein, from Denmark and elsewhere, is it not folly in the extreme to refuse their money, and send them to other markets. The Dutch were ridiculed in Louis XIV's reign for selling the French, before a campaign, the powder and ball which were afterwards used against themselves: but they were wise in so doing, they had not the universal monopoly of
iron

iron and gunpowder, as of spices, and if they did not supply the enemy others would, for no army ever yet staid at home in the heart of commercial countries for want of powder and ball: nor will a French fleet ever be confined to Brest for want of beef to feed the sailors. Embargoes therefore cannot be laid with any serious views of that sort, but when contracts are made, the contractors gaping for monopoly, raise a clamour, and pretend that no beef can be had if France is served, directly or indirectly, and in order to make their bargains so much the more profitable, government gives them an embargo on the trade of a kingdom (like a lottery ticket to a fund subscriber) by way of *douceur*. This conduct is equally injurious to the true interest of England, of Ireland and of government.

Before I conclude this section, I must observe one circumstance, which though not important enough to stop the progress of commercial improvement in Ireland, yet must very much retard it, and that is the contempt in which trade is held by those who call themselves gentlemen. I heard a language common in Ireland which if it was to become universal, would effectually prevent her ever attaining greatness. I have remarked the houses of country gentlemen being full of brothers, cousins, &c. idlers whose best employment is to follow a hare or a fox; *why are they not brought up to trade or manufacture?* TRADE! (the answer has been) THEY ARE GENTLEMEN;—to be poor till doomsday: a tradesman has not a right to the point of honour—you may refuse his challenge. Trinity College at Dublin swarms with lads who ought to be educated to the loom and the counting house. Many ill effects flow from these wretched prejudices; one consequence manifest over the whole kingdom, is commercial people quitting trade or manufactures when they have made from five to ten thousand pounds to *become gentlemen*; where trade is dishonourable it will not flourish, this is taking people from industry at the very moment they are the best able to command success. Many quakers who are (take them for all in all the most sensible class of people in that kingdom) are exceptions to this folly: and mark the consequence, they are the only wealthy traders in the island. The Irish are ready enough to imitate the vices and follies of England; let them imitate her virtues; her respect for commercial industry which has carried her splendor and her power to the remotest corners of the earth.

S E C T I O N XXII.

Government———Union.

THERE never was a juster idea than that which I had occasion in another section to quote, that the revolution did not extend to Ireland; the case of the hereditary revenue was

was a remarkable instance, but the whole government of that island is one collective proof of it. The revolution was a moment in which all the *forms* of government were broken through in order to assert the *spirit* of liberty, but Ireland lost that opportunity; meeting security against the Roman catholics in the victorious arms of king William, she rested satisfied with a government which secured her against the immediate enemy. It is certainly more a government of prerogative than that of England, and the law of the empire, the common law of the land is in favour of that prerogative; hence the absurdity of proving the rights of Ireland in the details of common law, as Fitzgibbon and Mc. ——— have done. Ireland from distance and backwardness lost those fortuitous opportunities which proved so important to the liberty of England; she could not claim the letter of the revolution, but she could have claimed the spirit of it.

The contribution of that territory to the general wants of the empire is in two shapes. 1. By the pension list. 2. By the military establishment. The great liberal line for that kingdom to pursue is to examine not only the present amount of these articles, but what might be a fair estimate for the future. To come openly to the English government with an offer of an equal revenue applicable to whatever purposes government should find most beneficial for the interest of the whole empire; with this necessary condition that the military should be absolutely in the power of the crown to remove and employ wherever it pleased. To think of tying down government, to keeping troops in any spot, is an absurdity. Government can alone be the judge where troops are most wanting; it has an unlimited power in this respect in England, and it ought to have the same in Ireland; the good of the empire demands it. It is the fleet of England that has proved, and must prove the real defence of Ireland, and that island should take its chance of defence in common with England. At the same time any apprehensions, that they would be left without troops, would be absurd; since it would be the king's interest to keep a great body of forces there, for several reasons; among others, the cheapness of provisions, which would render their subsistence comparatively easy; also, barracks being built all over the kingdom: another point which induce him, is the assistance their circulation would be of to the kingdom, whereas in England they would be a burthen. But the point might as well be given up cheerfully, as to have it carried by a majority in parliament. Pensions have been always on the increase and will be so; and as to the troops, government carries its point at present, and ought to do so, why not therefore give up the point cheerfully for a valuable consideration? As these things are managed now, government is forced to buy, at a great expence, the concurrence of an Irish parliament to what is really necessary, would

would it not be more for the public interest to have a fixed permanent plan, than the present illiberal and injurious system? The military list of Ireland, on an average of the last seven years, has amounted to 528,544*l.* to which add 80,000*l.* pensions, and the total makes 608,544*l.* Would it not be wise in Ireland to say to the British government—"I will pay you a neat seven or eight hundred thousand pounds * a year, applicable to your annual supplies, or paying off your debt, and leave the defence of the kingdom entirely to your own discretion, on condition that I shall never have any military charge or pensions laid on me; the remainder of the revenue to be at the application of my own parliament, for the uses of interior government only, and for the encouragement of the trade, manufactures and agriculture of the kingdom. That you shall give me a specified freedom of commerce, and come to a liberal explanation of the powers of your attorney general, the privy council, and Poyning's act." It would be the best bargain that Ireland ever made.

If the government was once placed on such a footing, the office of lord lieutenant would be that of a liberal representative of majesty, without any of those disagreeable consequences which flow from difficulties essentially necessary for him to overcome; and the government of England having in Ireland no views, but the prosperity of that kingdom, would necessarily be revered by all ranks of people. The parliament of the kingdom would still retain both importance and business, for all that at present comes before it, would then be within its province, except the military, and complaints of pension lists and restricted commerce. Perhaps the advantages of a union would be enjoyed without its inconveniencies, for the parliament would remain for the civil protection of the kingdom, and the British legislature would not be deluged by an addition of Irish peers and commoners, one reason among others, which made the late Earl of Chatham repeatedly declare himself against such a measure †.

The great object of a union is a free trade, which appears to be of as much importance to England as to Ireland; if this was gained the uses of an entire coalition would not be numerous to Ireland; and to England the certain revenue, without the necessity of buying majorities in parliament, would be a great object. But as to the objections to a union, common in Ireland, I cannot see their propriety; I have heard but three that have even the appearance of weight; these are: 1. The

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increase

* I have mentioned seven hundred thousand pounds, but the sum would depend of course on the liberality of the return, a free trade would be worth purchasing at a much higher rate.

† The Earl of Shelburne has assured me of this fact; nor let me omit to add, that to that nobleman I am indebted for the outline of the preceding plan.

increase of absentees. 2. The want of a parliament for protection against the officers of the crown. 3. The increase of taxation. To the first and last, supposing they followed, and were admitted evils, the question is, whether a free trade would not more than balance them; they imply the impoverishment of the kingdom, and were objected in Scotland against that union which has taken place; but the fact has been, directly otherwise, and Scotland has been continually on the increase of wealth ever since; nay Edinburgh itself, which was naturally expected most to suffer, seems to have gained as much as any other part of the kingdom. Nor can I upon any principles think, a nation is losing, who exchanges the residence of a set of idle country gentlemen, for a numerous race of industrious farmers, manufacturers, merchants, and sailors. But the fact in the first objection does not seem well founded; I cannot see any inevitable necessity for absentees increasing; a family might reside the winter at London without becoming absentees; and frequent journies to England, where every branch of industry and useful knowledge are in such perfection, could not fail to enlarge the views and cure the prejudices which obstruct the improvement of Ireland. As to taxation, it ought to be considered as a circumstance that always did, and always will follow prosperity and wealth. Savages pay no taxes, but those who are hourly increasing in the conveniencies, luxuries, and enjoyments of life, do not by any means find taxes such a burthen as to make them wish for poverty and barbarity, in order to avoid taxation. In respect to the second objection, it seems, to bear nearly as strong in the case of Scotland, and yet the evil has had no existence, the four-courts at Dublin would of course remain, nor do I see at present any great protection resulting to individuals from a parliament, which the law of the land does not give; it seems therefore to be an apprehension not very well founded. So much in answer to objections; not by way of proving that an entire union is absolutely necessary, as without such a measure Ireland might certainly have great commercial freedom, and pay for it to the satisfaction of England.

SECTION XXIII.

General State of Ireland.

IT may not be disadvantageous to a clear idea of the subject at large, to draw into one view the material facts dispersed in the preceding enquiry, which throw a light on the general state of the kingdom, and to add one or two others, which did not properly come in under any of the former heads, that we may be able to have a distinct notion of that degree of prosperity which appears to have been, of late years, the inheritance of her rising industry.

B U I L D I N G S.

These improving, or falling into decay, are unerring signs of a nation's increasing grandeur or declension: the minutes of the journey, as well as observations already made, shew, that Ireland has been absolutely new built within these twenty years, and in a manner far superior to any thing that was seen in it before; it is a fact universal over the whole kingdom; cities, towns, and country seats; but the present is the æra for this improvement, there being now far more elegant seats rising than ever were known before.

R O A D S.

The roads of Ireland may be said all to have originated from Mr. French's presentment bill, and are now in a state that do honour to the kingdom; there has been probably expended in consequence of that bill, considerably above a million sterling.

T O W N S.

The towns of Ireland have very much increased in the last twenty years; all public registers prove this, and it is a strong mark of rising prosperity. Towns are markets which enrich and cultivate the country, and can therefore never depopulate it, as some visionary theorists have pretended. The country is always the most populous within the sphere of great cities, if I may use the expression, and the increased cultivation of the remotest corners, shew that this sphere extends like the circulating undulations of water until they reach the most distant shores. Besides towns can only increase from an increase of manufactures, commerce and luxury; all three are other words for riches and employment, and these again for a general increase of people.

R I S E O F R E N T S.

The minutes of the journey shew, that the rents of land have at least doubled in twenty-five years, which is a most unerring proof of a great prosperity. The rise of rents proves a variety of circumstances all favourable; that there is more capital to cultivate land; that there is a greater demand for the products of the earth, and consequently a higher price; that towns thrive, and are therefore able to pay higher prices; that manufactures and foreign commerce increase; the variations of the rent of land, from the boundless and fertile plains of the Mississippi, where it yields none, to the province of Holland, where every foot is valuable, shews the gradations of wealth, power and importance, between the one territory and the other. The present rental of Ireland appeared to be 5,293,312*l.* and for reasons before given, probably not less than six millions.

MANUFACTURES.

Linens the great fabric of the kingdom for exportation, have increased rapidly.

The export from 1750 to 1756, in value of cloth and yarn was,	—	904,479	1.
Ditto from 1757 to 1763,	—	1,166,136	1.
Increase,	—	—	
From 1764 to 1770,	—	1,379,512	261,657
Increase,	—	—	
From 1771 to 1777,	—	1,615,654	213,376
Increase,	—	—	
From 1771 to 1777,	—	1,615,654	236,142
From 1750 to 1756,	—	904,479	
Increase,	—	—	711,175
Thirty years since 1748 greater than thirty years before, by	—	—	810,548

COMMERCE.

Trade in Ireland, in all its branches, has increased greatly in twenty-five years; this has been a natural effect from the other articles of prosperity already enumerated.

The Irish exports to Great-Britain, on an average of twenty-five years before 1748, were,	—	438,665	1.
Ditto on twenty-five years since,	—	965,050	
Increase,	—	—	526,385

This greatest article of her trade has therefore more than doubled.

Export to Great-Britain per annum for the last seven years,	—	1,240,677
The preceding seven years,	—	917,088
		323,569

The

The greatest exports of Ireland, on an average of the last seven years, are

Linen,	—————	—————	1,615,654
The product of oxen and cows,	—————	—————	1,218,902
Ditto of sheep,	—————	—————	200,413
Ditto of hogs,	—————	—————	150,631
Ditto of corn	—————	—————	64,871
			<hr/>
			3,250,471
			<hr/>

Her total exports are probably three millions and a half. The balance of trade in her favour must be above a million.*

CONSUMPTION.

A people always consume in proportion to their wealth, hence an increase in the one marks clearly that of the other. The following table will shew several of the principal articles of Irish consumption.

Years.

* Mr. Gordon, surveyor general of Munster, favoured me with an account of the trade which made the total exports in 1772 to amount to

		l.	s.	d.
		5,167,159	2	0
The imports,	—	2,147,079	3	2
		<hr/>		
Balance,	—	3,020,079	18	10
		<hr/>		

But the above table clearly proves that this is exaggerated, for the exports not included in my account can never amount to two millions.

If her balance, however, was not above a million, it would be impossible for her to pay 800,000 l. in absentees and pensions, besides offices, interest of money, &c. &c. to do that, and yet increase as she has done in wealth, it should be near 1,200,000 l.

Years.	Beer, ale and porter barrels, at 32 gallons,	Brandy, gallons.	Rum, gallons.	Sugar, Muscov.	Tea, lbs.	Tobacco, lbs.	Wine, tons.
1750			439,302		^ 179,641		
1751			700,905		130,306		
1752			513,266		191,566		
1753			784,945		140,465		
1754			987,122		166,558	* 3,574,037	
1755			507,864		199,938	* 4,154,203	
1756	13,572		815,887		163,693	* 3,424,359	
			678,470		167,451		
1757	10,949		§ 511,682		^ 104,926	† 4,769,975	
1758	15,222		534,692		† 117,111	† 4,958,721	
1759	16,517		820,915		129,673	† 3,662,246	
1760	13,500		249,197				
1761	18,837		341,975				
1762	18,007		656,531				
1763	22,099		691,027				
	16,447		543,717				
1764	28,935	657,037	913,120	167,011	204,891	5,725,777	4,685
1765	27,787	757,105	1,230,840	129,331	236,908	4,431,801	6,416
1766	32,440	651,943	1,480,697	133,249	297,988	6,049,270	5,938
1767	29,487	770,319	1,667,540	133,829	183,267	4,083,379	5,683
1768	40,542	685,661	1,873,273	181,924	239,800	4,346,769	5,786
1769	45,452	420,584	2,100,419	183,337	1,007,693	4,842,197	5,870
1770	38,439	437,437	1,640,791	183,245	1,130,486	5,445,942	5,129
Average,	34,726	525,726	1,558,097	158,846	471,576	4,988,162	5,643
1771	44,104	408,011	2,035,388	176,924	913,296	5,012,979	4,948
1772	47,735	374,144	1,973,731	188,260	741,762	5,525,849	4,630
1773	58,675	310,025	1,704,557	201,109	839,218	5,231,714	5,425
1774	51,995	395,740	1,503,086	171,347	1,207,764	5,434,924	5,709
1775	53,906	556,133	1,322,506	205,858	1,041,517	3,949,740	4,696
1776	† 65,922	103,706	1,888,068	238,746	680,526	5,379,405	4,521
1777	† 70,382	479,996	1,680,233	193,258	704,221	3,916,409	4,646
Average,	56,162	289,679	1,729,652	196,500	875,472	4,921,572	4,941

† These two years are only of beer.

§ The following years differ in another account, Com.

Jour. vol. 14. p. 141.

In the year		Rum,	gallons.
1757	—	513,193	
1758	—	618,945	
1759	—	903,809	
1760	—	275,732	
1761	—	370,011	

† Commons journal, vol. 11. p. 179.

|| Ibid. p. 180.

‡ Ibid. p. 169.

* Ibid. p. 169.

^ Commons journals, vol. p. 318,

The articles of beer, rum, and sugar, are greatly increased; tea quadrupled; wine having lessened, is certainly owing to the increased sobriety of the kingdom, which must have made a difference in the import. The imports of silks and woollen goods given on a former occasion, spoke the same language of increased consumption.

S P E C I E .

The specie of Ireland, gold and silver, is calculated by the Dublin bankers at 1,600,000 l.

P O P U L A T I O N .

This article, which in so many treatises is reckoned to be the only object worth attention, I put the last of all, not as being unimportant, but depending totally on the preceding articles. It is perfectly needless to speak of population, after shewing that agriculture is improved, manufactures and commerce increased, and the general appearance of the kingdom carrying the face of a rising prosperity; it follows inevitably from all this, that the people must have increased; and accordingly the information, from one end of the island to the other, confirmed it: but no country should wish for population in the first instance, let it flow from an increase of industry and employment, and it will be valuable; but population that arises, supposing it possible, without it, such a cause would, instead of being valuable, prove useless, probably pernicious: population therefore, singly taken, ought never to be an enquiry at all; there is not even any strength resulting from numbers without wealth, to arm, support, pay, and discipline them. The hearth tax in 1778 produced 61,646 l. which cannot indicate a less population, exceptions included, than three millions. The minutes of souls, per cabin, at Castle Caldwell, Drumoland, and Kilsane, gave 6 and $6\frac{1}{2}$.

Upon the whole, we may safely determine, that judging by those appearances and circumstances which have been generally agreed to mark the prosperity or declension of a country, that Ireland has since the year 1748 made as great advances as could possibly be expected, perhaps greater than any other country in Europe

Since that period her linen exports have just **TREBLED**.

Her general exports to Great Britain more than **DOUBLED**.

The rental of the kingdom **DOUBLED**.

And I may add, that her linen and general exports have increased proportionably to this in the last seven years, consequently her wealth is at present on a like increase.

S E C T I O N XXIV.

State of Ireland, brought down to the End of the Year 1779—Distresses—Free Trade—Observations—Armed Associations.

THE preceding sections have been written near a twelve-month, events have since happened which are of an importance that will not permit me to pass them by in silence, much as I wish to do it. The moment of national expectation and heat is seldom that of cool discussion. When the minds of men are in a ferment, questions originally simple, become complex from forced combinations. To publish opinions, however candidly formed, at such times, is a most unpleasant business, for it is almost impossible to avoid censure; but as a dead silence upon events of such importance would look either like ignorance or affectation, I shall lay before the reader the result of my own researches.

Upon the meeting of the Irish parliament in October last, the great topic which seemed to engross all their attention was the distress of the kingdom and the remedy demanded—*A free trade*. In the preceding papers Ireland exhibits the picture of a country, perhaps the most rising in prosperity of any in Europe, the data upon which that idea was formed, were brought down to Lady-day 1778. I must therefore naturally enquire into the circumstances of a situation which seems to have changed so suddenly, and to so great a degree. I have taken every measure to gain whatever proofs I could of the real declension in Ireland during this period, and I find the circumstance of the revenue producing so much less than usual, particularly insisted on, the following is the state of it.

The greatest declension is in these articles :

In the years,	1776.	1777.	1778.	1779.
	l.	l.	l.	l.
Customs inwards,	248,491	251,055	198,550	165,802
Customs outwards,	42,488	35,883	36,027	31,717
Import excise,	152,238	153,727	131,284	106,070
Wine, <i>first</i> ,	15,825	16,124	13,497	8,933

The totals are as follow, including the hereditary revenue, old and new additional duties, stamps, and appropriated duties.

In the years,	1776.	1777.	1778.	1779.
	l.	l.	l.	l.
Totals,	1,040,055	1,093,881	968,683	862,823

The

The total decline in the last year amounts to about one hundred thousand pounds, and from the particulars it appears to lie on the import account; for as to the fall of five thousand pounds on the export customs, it is very trivial, those distresses which have, by associations or naturally, so immediate an effect in cutting off the expences of importation, while exports remain nearly as they were, have a wonderful tendency to produce a cure the moment the disease is known; for that balance of wealth, arising from such an account, must animate every branch of industry in a country, whose greatest evil is the want of capital and circulation.

Generally speaking, a declining revenue is a proof of declining wealth; but the present case is so strong an exception, that the very contrary is the fact; the Irish were very free and liberal consumers of foreign commodities; they have greatly curtailed that consumption, not from poverty, for their exports have many of them increased, and none declined comparably with their imports, circumstances marked by the course of exchange being much in their favour, as well as by these and other accounts; this liberal consumption being lessened from other motives, they are necessarily accumulating a considerable superlucration of wealth, which in spite of fate will revive their revenues, while it increases every exertion of their national industry.

In the years -	1776.	1777.	1778.	1779.
In the above account, customs inwards, import excise, and wine duty, added together amount to these sums, being, -	416,554	420,906	343,331	280,802
Customs outwards,	42,488	35,883	36,027	31,717

From 1777 to 1778, the customs on their exports increased, but their customs on imports declined above 77,000 l. From 1778 to 1779 the former fell 4,310 l. or more than a ninth, at the same time the import duty fell 63,000 l. or a fifth; this difference in these articles is very great, and if all the heads of the revenue were included, it would be more still.

It is not surprizing that the national debt should increase while the revenue declines. At lady-day 1779, it amounted to 1,062,597 l. which is more than in 1777, by 237,171 l.

But the decline of the revenue has by no means been general, as will be seen by the following table of articles, which have been upon the rise.

In the Years,	—	1776	1777	1778	1779
		l.	l.	l.	l.
Ale licences,	—	7,272	7,182	7,363	7,511
Wine and strong wa-	}	19,563	19,984	20,823	20,298
ter ditto,					
Hearth money,	—	60,966	60,580	61,646	60,617
Tea duty residues,	—	4,404	4,590	7,300	5,747
Tobacco,	—	58,046	51,453	47,698	52,558
Strong waters, third,	—	5,659	18,586	18,782	18,233
Stamps,	—	19,725	20,784	21,174	21,316
Hops,	—	2,141	3,984	2,427	4,012

All of which, except the article of stamps, are laid upon the great consumption of the common people; whatever distress, therefore, is marked by a falling revenue, the lower classes do not seem, fortunately, to have suffered proportionably with the higher ones. But let us farther enquire how far the declension of revenue is owing to an increase of poverty; and how far to a forced artificial measure, that of associations for non-import. These have been very general in Ireland during 1779, and must have had a considerable effect. In order to understand the question, the facts themselves must be seen; the following tables will explain them. The revenue of Ireland, is raised chiefly on the import of spirits, tea, wine, tobacco and sugar.

	Coals.	Muscova- do sugar.	Brandy.	Geneva.	Rum.
	Tons.	Cwt.	Gallons.	Gallons.	Gallons.
In the Year 1776	217,938	238,746	403,706	153,430	1,888,058
1777	240,893	193,258	479,996	137,474	1,680,233
1778	237,101	139,816	226,434	144,438	1,234,502
1779	219,992	145,540	180,705	87,420	1,183,865

	Tea. Bohea.	Tea. Green.	Wines of all sorts.	Tobacco.
	lb.	lb.	Tons.	lb.
In the Year 1776	308,558	371,968	5,075	5,379,405
1777	359,475	344,726	5,129	3,916,409
1778	336,470	479,115	4,319	3,629,056
1779	402,594	375,269	2,806	4,038,479

The great decline is in spirits and wine. Tea has not fallen upon the whole; and tobacco in 1779 is superior to 1778. Sugar since 1776 is much fallen, but from 1778 to 1779 there is a rise. Coals are tolerably equal. The strongest circumstance

stance is that of wine, which has fallen very greatly indeed. The principal cause of the decline of the revenue is to be found in these imports. The remark I made before seems to be strongly confirmed, that the distress of Ireland seems more to have affected the higher than the lower classes; wine, green tea and brandy, are fallen off considerably, but tobacco, bohea tea, and muscovado sugar, are increased from 1778 to 1779. This is strongly confirmed by the import of loaf sugar having fallen while muscovado has risen: the loaf in 1776 is 8,907 cwt. in 1777 it is 15,928 cwt. in 1778 it is 12,365 cwt. but in 1779 it is only 5,931 cwt. Other instances may be produced: imported millinery, a mere article of luxury for people of fashion, has fallen greatly: English beer, consumed by the better ranks, declines much, but hops for Irish beer, which is drank by the lower ones, has risen exceedingly.

	Hops.	Millenary. ware.	Beer.
	Cwt.	l.	Barrels.
In the year 1776	9,694	13,758	65,922
1777	18,067	16,881	70,382
1778	10,974	15,667	68,960
1779	18,191	8,317	47,437

From this circumstance I draw a very strong conclusion, that rents are not paid as well as they ought, and that tenants and agents make a pretence of bad times to an extent far beyond the fact. The common expression of *bad times* does some mischief of this kind in England, but in Ireland it is much more effective, especially in excuses sent to absentees instead of remittances.

The great decline of the import of British manufactures and goods, which is remarkable, must be attributed to the non-import associations bearing particularly against them; they have dropped so much, that we may hope the Irish manufactures, they have interfered with, may have risen in consequence,

	New drapery.	Old drapery.	Muffin.	Silk manufac.
	Yds.	Yds.	Yds.	lb.
In the year 1776	676,485	290,215	116,552	17,326
1777	731,819	381,330	162,663	24,187
1778	741,426	378,077	121,934	27,223
1779	270,839	176,196	44,507	15,794

In most of these articles we find such a decline of import, that there is no wonder the revenue should have suffered. If it is said, that this decreased import is to be attributed to a preceding poverty, it will only throw back the period of enquiry into the years discussed in a preceding section, and from which no national decline can by any means be deduced.

Some articles of import, however, contain such a decline, as induces me to think there must be more distress than appears from others. The following are the objects I fix on.

Year	Flax-Seed.	Hemp-Seed.	Clover-Seed.	Raw-Silk.	Cotton Wool.	Mohair Yarn.
	Hhds.	Hhds.	Cwt.	lb.	Cwt.	lb.
1776	24,077	150	4,648	41,594	3,860	29,345
1777	32,613	159	5,988	54,043	4,569	27,424
1778	37,211	106	5,664	51,873	4,565	18,327
1779	20,419	69	3,852	29,633	1,345	4,552

These are demanded by the agriculture, or the manufactures of the kingdom, and are the last that ought to fall.

The declension in the trade of Ireland is not, however, in imports only, there is a great decline in many export articles, enough to convince any one that all is not right in that country; the following particulars will shew this.

In the Year	Beef.	Hides.	Tallow.	Butter.	Pork.	Hog's lard.	Candles.
	barrels.	No.	Cwt.	Cwt.	barrels.	Cwt.	Cwt.
1776	203,685	108,574	50,549	272,411	72,714	3,216	3,154
1777	168,578	84,391	48,502	264,181	72,931	2,981	1,764
1778	190,695	79,531	38,450	258,144	77,612	3,428	938
1779	138,918	55,823	41,384	227,829	70,066	3,527	1,827

It is some consolation that hogs have not experienced the declension which has attended oxen and cows. The article beef puzzles me. I have been informed, that for these two years, all government contracts for beef, &c. have not been entered on the customhouse books, by an order of Mr. Gordon, the surveyor general; if this is the fact it accounts for the heaviest articles in this declension. The circumstance that the export of ox horns has scarcely declined at all; that the export of ox guts has greatly increased, and that glew has risen, would justify one in supposing that something of this sort must have affected the accounts of beef, &c.

	Ox horns.	Ox guts.	Glew.
	Cwt.	Barrels.	Cwt.
In the year 1776	577	141	1,025
1777	338	243	1,215
1778	928	171	1,127
1779	896	350	1,154*

I need not observe, that the greatest export of provisions from Ireland by far is to Great Britain, especially in time of war: now the accounts which have been laid on the table of our house of commons do not admit the same conclusions as the Irish accounts, owing probably to some circumstances with which we are not fully acquainted, if not to the identical one I have mentioned. The following particulars are extracted from the accounts brought in by Lord North.

IMPORTS FROM IRELAND.

	Value of beef.	Value of butter.	Value of tallow.	Value of pork.
	l.	l.	l.	l.
In the year 1768	55,802	173,259	52,557	28,609
1769	55,107	260,357	45,635	18,544
1770	51,695	149,464	44,928	22,240
1771	64,072	236,403	43,274	25,504
1772	48,434	204,810	17,419	22,401
1773	45,364	229,528	43,230	30,198
1774	46,064	211,152	38,247	21,836
1775	50,299	245,624	46,398	40,358
1776	95,194	237,926	48,072	42,737
1777	106,915	274,535	41,695	29,575
1778	106,202	210,986	39,209	37,981

As far as this account comes, for the year 1779 is not in it, here is almost every appearance of increase, or at least the decline where there is any, is much too inconsiderable to found any conclusions on. Let us examine manufactured exports from the same account.

In

* The preceding tables in this section are taken from a MS. account of exp. and imp. communicated by William Eden, Esq.

	Linen.		Linen yarn raw.		Bay yarn.	
	Yards.	Value.	lb.	Value.	Cwt.	Value.
In the year 1768	15,249,248	500,778	4,794,926	209,778	21,043	47,426
1769	16,496,271	549,875	4,107,478	179,702	19,332	43,580
1770	18,195,087	606,502	5,240,687	229,280	19,903	44,864
1771	20,622,217	687,407	4,035,756	176,564	18,598	41,894
1772	19,171,771	639,059	3,608,424	157,649	14,828	33,421
1773	17,876,617	595,887	3,082,274	134,869	11,073	24,964
1774	21,447,198	714,906	4,660,833	203,911	12,549	28,289
1775	21,916,171	730,539	4,363,582	190,906	13,882	31,294
1776	20,943,847	698,128	3,914,351	171,252	18,091	40,778
1777	21,132,548	704,418	3,198,437	139,931	17,897	40,269
1778	18,869,447	628,981	3,788,603	165,751	15,053	33,870

From hence we find that these articles have not fallen off so much as might from many reasons have been expected. Linen yarn has risen from 1777 to 1778 considerably. Cloth has fallen, but not enough to give any alarm. From 1770 to 1771 in linen yarn was almost as great a fall without any ill effects ensuing. The following table contains the total export from Ireland.

EXPORT OF LINEN, YARN, &c.

	Linen Cloth.	Linen Yarn.	Worsted Yarn
	Yards.	Cwt.	Stones.
In the year 1776	20,502,587	36,152	86,527
1777	19,714,638	29,698	114,703
1778	21,945,729	28,108	122,755
1779	18,836,042	35,673	100,939

Which does not mark any such decline as happened upon the bankruptcy of Mr. Fordyce. It is remarkable from these two accounts how great a proportion of the exported linen of Ireland is taken off by England, in the year 1776 it absorbed the whole. Indeed it appears to have more than done it, which apparent error arises from the Irish accounts ending at Lady day, and the English ones the 31st of December. But in order to explain this business as much as possible, I shall in the next place insert the English account of all the exports and imports to and from Ireland.

	<i>Exports to Ireland of English manufacture, foreign goods and merchandize, in and out of time, and exported from Scotland.</i>	<i>Goods and merchandize imported from Ireland to England.</i>	<i>Balance against Ireland.</i>
	l.	l.	l.
In the year 1768	2,248,314	1,226,094	1,022,220
1769	2,347,801	1,542,253	805,548
1770	2,544,737	1,358,899	1,185,838
1771	2,436,853	1,547,237	889,616
1772	2,396,152	1,416,285	979,867
1773	2,123,705	1,392,759	730,046
1774	2,414,666	1,573,345	841,321
1775	2,401,686	1,641,069	760,617
1776	2,461,290	1,654,226	807,064
1777	2,211,689	1,639,871	571,818
1778	1,731,808	1,510,881	220,927

In the year 1768, the export and import between Scotland and Ireland is not included, but in the rest it is. This table is drawn from the accounts laid before parliament at the close of the sessions of 1778, relative to the valuation here followed of the customhouse, I should remark it has been supposed, that the *real* balance is in favour of Ireland, notwithstanding the valuation speaks the contrary, and Lord North in December last gave this as his information to the house of commons. But taking the account as it stands here, it must evidently appear that the distresses which have come upon Ireland within the last year or two, do not in the smallest degree originate in her commercial connections with England, for during the last nine or ten years her balance has grown less and less. From 1776 to 77 it sunk 230,000 l.; and from 77 to 78 it fell 350,000 l. If therefore Ireland was prosperous while she paid us a balance of 7, 8, and 900,000 l. a year, surely she ought not to be more distressed under less than a fourth of it? That kingdom must upon the face of this account have had a superlucration of wealth arising of late years upon this trade to a very great amount. But this account does not include the year 1779, of which upon the general payments between the two kingdoms I have no other authority than to mention the course of exchange. Mr. Eden observes (*Four letters to the Earl of Carlisle*) that during the year 1778 and 1779, the exchange of Dublin on London has varied from $5\frac{1}{4}$ to $7\frac{1}{8}$ par is $8\frac{1}{2}$. October 27, 1779 it was at $6\frac{1}{4}$, which is remarkably low, and proves that Ireland must have been accumulating wealth through that period.

The

The reader will naturally remark, that these are all external authorities: some of them seem to mark a distress in Ireland, but others speak very strongly a direct contrary language; it remains to be observed, that the interior authorities have been much insisted on. It has been asserted, and by very respectable persons, that rents have fallen, lands untenanted, prices low*, people unemployed, and poverty universal. The misfortune of these circumstances when produced as argument, is that they admit no proof. I ask for figures and you give me anecdote: my lord this is ruined—the duke of t'other cannot afford to live at Dublin, the earl of A. has no remittances, Mr. C. has 18,000l. arrears. This is a repetition of the complaints which the English house of commons heard so much of in 1773. I am very far from denying them, but only desire that *assertions* may not be accepted as *proofs*. They are national complaints when a new system of policy is called for, the palpable consequence of which is, that they are exaggerated—such complaints always were, and always will exceed the truth.

Let it not however be imagined, that I contend Ireland suffers none, or very little distress: while we see very great distresses in England we need not wonder that Ireland should, though in a less degree, suffer likewise. We see the funds have in a few years fallen 27 per cent. The years purchase of land reduced from 33 to 23. The prices of all products fallen from 30 to 100 per cent. Wheat from 7s. to 3s. a bushel; other grain in proportion. Wool from 18s. to 12s. all greatly owing to the scarcity of money arising from the high interest paid for the public loans: I can hardly conceive those operations to have drawn money from the channels of industry in every part of this island, without likewise affecting our neighbour, much of whose national industry was, if not *supported*, at least much assisted by English capitals. Therefore, from reasoning, I should suppose they must have been somewhat distressed, but the preceding facts will not permit me to imagine that distress to be any thing like what is represented,

* January 24, 1780. I have this minute received from my very obliging friend Mr. Bolton (member for Waterford) the following note:

“ Butter has been here (Waterford) all this winter at 42s. per cwt. Pork at the beginning of the winter 23s. to 23s. 9d. from that it rose by degrees, and is now 26s. 6d. per cwt.” The butter is very low, lower than for ten years; but pork keeps up its price. At Limerick the minutes shew that 29s. 3d. is a very high price, and that 12s. was the price only eleven years ago. I am yet in hopes, from an expression in Mr. Bolton's letter, to receive the price of other commodities before the work is entirely finished at press.

sented, at the same time that they shew it is in many articles wearing out even while the complaints are loudest.

Admitting some distress, and connecting it with the general state of the kingdom rather than peculiarly to the present moment, I may be asked *to what is it owing?* The preceding sections have been an answer to that question, but to bring their result into a very short compass I should here observe, that the causes which have impeded the progress of Irish prosperity are,

- I. The oppression of the catholics, which by loading the industry of two millions of subjects have done more to retard the progress of the kingdom than all other causes put together.
- II. The bounty on the inland carriage of corn to Dublin, which by changing a beneficial pasturage to an execrable tillage at a heavy expence to the public, has done much mischief to the kingdom, besides involving it in debt.
- III. The perpetual interference of parliament in every branch of domestic industry, either for laying restrictions or giving bounties, but always doing mischief.
- IV. The mode of conducting the linen manufacture, which by spreading over all the north has annihilated agriculture throughout a fourth part of the kingdom, and taken from a great and flourishing manufacture the usual effect of being an *encouragement* to every branch of husbandry.
- V. The stoppage of emigrations for five years which has accumulated a surplus of population, and thereby distressed those who are rivalled by their staying at home §.
- VI. The ill judged restrictions laid by Great Britain on the commerce of Ireland which have prevented the general industry of the country from being animated proportionably with that of others.

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VII. The

§ *This single circumstance is sufficient to account for any distress that may be found in the north. Men who emigrate are from the nature of the circumstance the most active, hardy, daring, bold, and resolute spirits, and probably the most mischievous also. The intelligence in the minutes, speaks that language; it was every year the loose, disorderly, worthless fellows that emigrated; upon an average of twenty years the number was four or five thousand; but from the great increasing population of the country, the number in the four or five years last past, would have been greater. At any rate here must be from twenty-five to forty thousand of the most disorderly worthless spirits accumulated, much against their wills, at home, and are fully sufficient to account for violence and riots, much more for clamour and complaint.*

VII. The great drain of the rents of absentees estates being remitted to England, which has an effect, but I believe not quite so mischievous as commonly supposed.

Is it upon the whole to be concluded, relative to the present moment, that the freedom of trade now giving to Ireland, is a wrong measure? I by no means either think or assert such an opinion. In the preceding sections I have repeatedly endeavoured to shew, that no policy was ever more absurd than the restricting system of England, which has been as prejudicial to herself as to Ireland; but because a measure is wise and prudent, is it proper to admit for truths facts which do not appear to be founded? The question of political prudence is a question only of the moment; but to admit circumstances to speak a national declension, which prove no such thing, is laying the foundation of future deception; it is bringing false principles into the political science, in a point than which none can be more important, ascertaining the circumstances relative to all future cases as well as the present, which prove the prosperity or declension of a kingdom. And here the reader will, I hope, pardon a digression on the conduct of one set of men in the present noise of distress; it is a circumstance in the state of Ireland, that should make more impression upon the country gentlemen of that kingdom than it does: they have united with merchants and manufacturers in the violent cry for a free trade, and they have regularly in parliament promoted all those visionary and expensive projects set on foot by interested people, for giving premiums and bounties, to the amount of above an hundred thousand pounds a year, and which alone accounts for the whole of that national debt, and declining revenue, which will make many new taxes necessary. The Irish are a grateful and a loyal people, and will not receive this free trade without making a return for it; that can only be in taxation; nay, they already speak in parliament of a return. Thus have the country gentlemen of that kingdom been such dupes, as to agree to measures for running themselves in debt, and have joined in the cry for a favour, which I have shewn cannot be of any considerable use perhaps for half a century, but for which they are immediately to pay a solid return, and if that return takes the shape of a land tax, they have nobody to thank but themselves. What I would conclude from this is, and would urge it as a lesson for the future, that it is always for the benefit of the landed interest TO BE QUIET. Let merchants and manufacturers complain, riot, associate, and do whatever they please, but never unite with them, restrain but never inflame them. The whole tenour of the preceding minutes proves that Ireland has flourished for these last thirty years to an uncommon degree, I believe more than any country

try in Europe. Was not this enough? Was not this a reason for being silent and still? Why submit to a temporary distress, rather than by loud complaints, bring the state and situation of your country into question at all? Why demand useless favours in order to pay solid returns? During the whole flow of your prosperity what have been the additional burthens laid on you in taxation? Every country in Europe has added to those burthens considerably, England immensely, but you not at all, or to so trifling an amount as to be the same thing. Could your most sanguine hopes picture a more happy situation? And yet to yourselves are you indebted for bounties on the carriage of corn, for premiums on corn stands, for ideal navigations through bogs to convey turf to Whitehaven, for collieries where there is no coal, for bridges where there are no rivers, navigable cuts where there is no water, harbours where there are no ships, and churches where there are no congregations †. Party may have dictated such measures, in order to render government poor and dependent; but rely on it, such a conduct was for their own, not your advantage, as the absolute necessity of new taxes will most feelingly convince you. Thus have you been duped by one set into measures, which have impoverished the public and burthened you with a debt; and because another description of men suffer a distress, in its very nature temporary, you join in their cry to buy that, which if any good arose from it, would be theirs §, while you only are to pay the piper. Henceforward, therefore, execrate, silence, confound, and abash the men, who raise clamours at distresses, whether real or imaginary; you know from the progressive prosperity of your country, that such cannot be radical; weighty experience has told you also, that you may have to pay for relief that goes but imaginarily to others, in giving up your solid gold for their ideal profits. Reflect that the great period of your increasing wealth was a time of quiet and silence, and that

O 2

you

† The assertion is not founded on the following charge in the national accounts 1779, though one might presume something upon it:

<i>To the board of first fruits for building new churches,</i>	1.
<i>and rebuilding old churches in such parishes as no divine public service has been performed for twenty years past,</i>	6000

§ I am well aware of what may be here said upon the advantage of landlords being in proportion to the prosperity of manufactures and commerce: in general it certainly is so, and always when things are left to take their natural course, but when they rise above the tenour of that smooth quiet current, the conclusion may not be just: all the measures condemned in the text are forced and artificial.

you did not complain of poverty until you were proved to be a golden object of taxation. Ponder well on these facts and be in future silent.

That the measure of giving freedom to the Irish commerce is a wise one, I have not a doubt; but I must own, I regret its not having been done upon principles of sound policy, rather than at a time when it can bear the construction, true or false, of being extorted; and this leads me to one or two observations on the armed associations, which have made too much noise in England.

If ill founded apprehensions have led the legislature of Britain to do now what it ought to have done long ago, the effect is beneficial to both countries; but I cannot admit that it is merely giving charity to a sturdy beggar, who frightens us by the brandishing and size of his crutch. To suppose that Great Britain is at the mercy of Ireland, and that an Irish congress may arise, supported by forty thousand bayonets, is mere idle declamation; we have the strongest reason entirely to reject such ideas, because it could not possibly end in any thing but the ruin of Ireland; the very conflict would arrest all that prosperity which has been gradually flowing in upon her for these thirty years past, and leave her exposed, a divided †, weakened people, open to the attack of every potent neighbour. What a senseless, military mob, led by men who have nothing to lose, would wish or attempt, may be doubted; but that military associations, officered and commanded by men of the first property, who have not named a grievance without redress following, and who have experienced more favour from three sessions of the British parliament than from three centuries before.—To suppose that such men, having every thing to lose by public confusion, but nothing to gain, would so entirely turn their back to the most powerful pleadings of their own interest and that of their country, is to suppose a case which never did nor ever will happen.

Apprehensions of any extremities are idle, but there is this misfortune in a series of concessions, not given to reason, but to clamour, that they rather invite new demands than satisfy old ones; and from this circumstance results the great superiority of coming at once to a universal explanation, and agreeing either to a union, or to such a modification of one, as I stated in section XXII.

In the next place let me enquire what degree of relief, (supposing the distresses of that kingdom to be as they may) will result from the freedom lately given to the Irish in respect to their woollen and American trades, which will naturally lead me

† Those who are so wild as for a moment to conceive an idea of this sort, must surely have forgot the Roman catholics in that kingdom. It would be easy to enlarge on this point, but for every reason improper.

me to the question, whether any prejudice is likely to result to England.

Whatever the distress may be in Ireland, it appears that these freedoms will not strike immediately at the evil, nor bring any considerable remedy; they are general favours, and not applicable to the distress of the time; this ought to be well understood in Ireland, because false hopes lead only to disappointment. It was highly proper to repeal those restrictions; but it is every day in the power of the Irish to render to themselves much more important services. In order to convert their new situation to immediate advantage, they must establish woollen fabrics for the new markets opened to them; those already in the kingdom I cannot suppose to be exported for this plain reason—they are rivalled in their own markets by similar manufactures from England, I mean particularly fine broad clothes and ratteens; if the Irish fabrics cannot stand the competition of ours in the market of Dublin, while they have a heavy land carriage in England, freight, commission, and duties on landing; and while the Irish cloth has a great bounty by the Dublin Society to encourage it, they certainly will not be able to oppose us in foreign markets, where we meet on equal terms; this removes the expected advantage to *new* fabrics, which, let me observe, require new capitals, new establishments, new exertions, and new difficulties to be overcome, and all this in a country where the old established and flourishing fabric could scarcely be supported without English credit. It may farther be observed, that the reason why that credit and support have been given to the linen of Ireland, is its being a fabric not interfering with those of Britain, it is a different manufacture, demanded for different purposes. Had it been otherwise, the superiority of English capitals, and the advantage of long established skill and industry, would have crushed the competition of the Irish linen; as in future they *will* crush any competition in woollens if of the same kinds we manufacture ourselves. When the capital of Ireland becomes much larger, when new habits of industry are introduced, and when time has established new funds of skill, then new fabrics may be undertaken with advantage, but it must be a work of time, and can no more operate as a remedy to present evils, than any scheme of the most visionary nature. Their West-India trade, I believe, will I believe be of as little service; every thing in commerce depends on capital; in order to send ships freighted with Irish commodities to those colonies, reloaded with West-India goods, capital and credit are necessary; they have it not for new trades; the progressive prosperity of the kingdom has increased all the old branches of their commerce, but they all exhibit a proof that they are still cramped for want of greater exertions, which time is bringing. If new
specu-

speculations change the current of old capitals, the advantage may be very problematical; if this is not done new trades will demand new capitals, and I believe it will be difficult to point out three men in the kingdom with an unemployed wealth applicable to new undertakings.

But it is said that English capitals will be employed; an argument equally used to prove the gain of Ireland and the loss of England; but in fact proving neither one nor the other. If the wealth of England is employed there, it will be for the benefit of England. Before the present troubles three fourths of the trade, industry, and even agriculture of North-America were put in motion by English capitals, but assuredly for our own benefit; the profit was remitted to England, and whenever the fund itself was withdrawn, it was to the same country. Is it for the benefit of Portugal that English factors reside at Oporto? Supposing the fact should happen, that English manufacturers or merchants should establish factors or partners at Corke or Waterford, to carry on woollen fabrics, I see not a shadow of objection; the profit of those undertakings would center most assuredly in England; and if in doing it the Irish were benefited also, who can repine? Were not the Americans benefited in the same manner? That England would suffer no loss if this was to happen is to me clear; but I believe Ireland has very little reason to expect it for many years. I have shewn already that such a plan could never be thought of for such fabrics as are in Ireland rivalled by English goods of the same sort; if it was to happen it must be in *new* fabrics: but let me ask a sensible manufacturer, whether it would not be easier for him to establish such amidst the long established skill and ingenuity of England, rather than go into a country where the whole must be a creation; where cheapness of provisions, and the habit of subsisting on potatoes, at so small an expence, would baffle his endeavours for half an age, to make the people industrious, and where, under that disadvantage, the price of his labour would be as high as in England? I have a right to conclude this, seeing the fact in the linen manufacture, throughout the North of Ireland, where the weavers earn on average 1s. 5d. a day, and where also the cheapness of provisions proves very often detrimental to the fabric.

As a general question, there is nothing more mistaken than dearness and cheapness of labour. Artizans and manufacturers of all sorts are as well paid by the day as in England, but the *quantity* of work they give for it, and in many cases the *quality* differ exceedingly. Husbandry labour is very *low priced*, but by no means *cheap*; I have in a preceding section shewn this, and asserted on experience that two shillings a day in Suffolk is cheaper than sixpence in Corke. If a Huron would dig for twopence, I have little doubt but it might be dearer than the Irishman's sixpence.

If an English manufacturer could not attempt an Irish fabric for cheapness of labour, what other motive could influence him? Not the price of the raw material, for wool is on an average forty-seven per cent. dearer than in England, which alone is a most heavy burthen. Other reasons, were the above not sufficient, would induce me to believe on the one hand, that the Irish will not immediately reap any benefit from English capitals employed in their woollen fabrics; and on the other, that if it was to happen, England would sustain no loss. What time may effect is another question; Ireland has been so fast increasing in prosperity, that she will gradually form a capital of her own for new trades, and I doubt not will flourish in them without the least prejudice to Britain. Those who are apt to think the contrary, cannot consider with too much attention that case in point: North-Britain, which by means of cheap labour and provisions, has not been able to rival, with any dangerous success, one single English fabric, yet has she raised many to a great degree of prosperity; but she has flourished in them without injury to us; and her greatest manufactures, such as stockings, linen, &c. &c. have grown with the unrivalled prosperity of similar fabrics in England; if English capitals have been assistant, have we upon review a single reason to regret it? The plenty of coals in Scotland is an advantage that Ireland does not enjoy, where fuel is dearer than in England.

But let me suppose for a moment, that the contrary of all this was fact, that English capitals would go, that Ireland would gain, and that England would lose. Is it imagined that the account would stop there? By no means. Why would English capitals go? Because they could be employed to more advantage; and will any one convince us, that it is not for the general benefit of the empire, that capitals should be employed where they will be *most productive*? Is it even for the advantage of England, that a thousand pounds should here be employed in a fabric at twelve per cent. profit, if the same could make twenty in Ireland? This is not at all clear; but no position is plainer than another, because it is founded on uniform facts, that the wealth of Ireland is the wealth of England, and that the consumption in Ireland of English manufactures thrives exactly in proportion to that wealth. While the great profit of the linen manufacture centers at last in England, and while English capitals, and English factors, and partners, have gone to the North of Ireland to advance that fabric, so much to the benefit of England, what shadow of an apprehension can arise, that other branches of Irish prosperity may arise by the same means, and with the same effect? Take into one general idea the consumption of British goods in that kingdom; the interest they pay us for money; and the remittances from absentee estates; and then let any one judge, if they can possibly increase in wealth without a vast proportion of every shilling of that wealth at last centering

tering here. It is for this reason that I think myself the warmest friend to Britain, by urging the importance of Irish prosperity; we can never thrive to the extent of our capacity till local prejudices are done away, and they are not done away until we believe the advantage the same, whether wealth arises in Roscommon or in Berkshire.

Upon the whole it appears, that the Irish have no reason to look for relief from this new and liberal system, to any distress peculiar to the present moment; the silent progress of time is doing that for them, which they are much too apt to look for in statutes, regulations and repeals. Their distress will most assuredly be only temporary. The increase of wealth, which has for some time been flowing into that kingdom, will animate their industry; to put it in the future is improper, it must be doing it at this moment, and he is no friend to Britain that does not wish it may continue in the most rapid progression; in this idea I shall not hesitate to declare, that the freedoms granted to Ireland, whenever they shall take effect to the benefit of that kingdom, will prove the wisest measures for enriching this. That all apprehensions of ills arising from them are equally contrary to the dictates of experience, and to the conclusions of the soundest theory.

MODES OF AGRICULTURE

RECOMMENDED TO THE

GENTLEMEN OF IRELAND.

HAVING been repeatedly requested by gentlemen in all parts of the kingdom, to name such courses of crops as I thought would be advantageous; I very readily complied to the best of my judgment with the desire; but as it is necessary to be more diffuse in explanations than possible on the leaf of a pocket-book, I promised many to be more particular in my intended publication; I shall, therefore, venture to recommend such modes of cultivation as I think, after viewing the greatest part of the kingdom, will be found, most advantageous.

T U R N E P C O U R S E*.

1. Turneps.
2. Barley.
3. Clover.
4. Wheat.

D I R E C T I O N S.

Plough the field once in October into flat lands; give the second ploughing the beginning of March; a third in April; a fourth in May; upon this spread the manure, whatever it may be, if any is designed for the crop; dung is the best. About midsummer plough for the last time. You must be attentive in all these ploughings thoroughly to extirpate all root weeds, particularly couch (*tritium repens*) and water grass; the former is the white root, which is under ground,

* For dry and light soils.

ground, the latter, which knots on the surface, and is, if possible, more mischievous than the former. Children, with baskets, should follow the plough in every furrow to pick it all up and burn it, and as fast as it is done sow and harrow in the turnep seed. The best way of sowing is to provide a trough, from twelve to sixteen feet long, three inches wide and four deep, made of slit deal half an inch thick, let it have partitions twelve inches asunder, and a bottom of pierced tin to every other division, the holes in the tin should be just large enough for a seed to fall through with ease, three of them to each tin; in the middle of the trough two circular handles of iron; the seed is to be put, a small quantity at a time, into the bottomed divisions, and a man taking the trough in his hands walks with a steady pace over the land, shaking it sideways as he goes: if he guides himself by the centers and furrows of the beds, he will be sure not to miss any land; cover the seed with a light pair of harrows. A pint and half of seed the proper quantity for a plantation acre: the large globular white Norfolk sort, which grows above ground, yields the greatest produce.

As soon as the crop comes up, watch them well to see if attacked by the fly, and if very large spaces are quite eaten up, instantly plough again, and sow and harrow as before. When the plant gets the third or rough leaf, they are safe from the fly, and as soon as they spread a diameter of three or four inches is the time to begin to hand hoe them, an operation so indispensibly necessary, that to cultivate turneps without it, is much worse management than not to cultivate them at all. Procure hand hoes from England eleven inches wide, and taking them into the field, make the men set out the turneps to the distance of from twelve to eighteen inches asunder, according to the richness of the soil; the richer the greater the distance, cutting up all weeds and turneps which grow within those spaces, and not leaving two or three plants together in knots. Make them do a piece of land perfectly well while you are with them, and leave it as a sample. They will be slow and awkward at first, but will improve quickly. Do not apprehend the expence, that will lessen as the men become handy. On no account permit them to do the work with their fingers, unless to separate two turneps close together, for they will never then understand the work, and the expence will always be great. Employ hands enough to finish the field in three weeks. As soon as they have done it, they are to begin again, and hoe a second time to correct the deficiencies of the first; and for a few years, until the men become skilful in the business, attend in the same manner to remedy the omissions of the second. And if afterwards, when the turneps are closed, and excluded all hoeing, any weeds should rise and shew themselves above the crop, children and women should be sent in to pull them by hand.

In order to feed the crop where they grow, which is an essential article, herdles must be procured; as a part therefore of the system, plant two or three acres of the strait timber fally, in the same manner as for a twig garden, only the plants not quite so close, these at two years growth will make very good sheep herdles, they should be 6 or 7 feet long and 3 feet high, the bottoms of the upright stakes sharpened, and projecting from the wattle work 6 inches, they are fixed down by means of stakes, one stake to each herdle, and a band of year old fally goes over the two end stakes of the herdle, and the moveable stake they are fixed with: the herdles are very easily made, but the best way would be to send over an Irish labourer to England to become a master of it, which he would do in a couple of months.

Being thus provided with herdles, and making some other shift till the fallies are grown, you must feed your crop (if you would apply them to the best advantage) with fat wethers, beginning the middle of November, or first week in December, and herdling off a piece proportioned to the number of your sheep, let them live there, night and day, when they have nearly eaten the piece up, give them another, and so on while your crop lasts: when you come to have plenty of herdles, there should be a double row in order to let your lean sheep follow the fat ones, and eat up their leavings; by which means none will be lost. The great profit of this practice in Ireland is being able to sell your fat sheep in the spring when mutton almost doubles its price. If you fat oxen with turneps they must be given in sheds, well littered, and kept clean, and the beasts should have good hay. Take care never to attempt to fatten either beasts or wethers with them that are lean at putting them to turneps; the application is profitable only for animals that are not less than half fat.

Upon the crop being eaten there is a variation of conduct founded on circumstances not easy fully to describe, which is ploughing once, twice, or thrice for barley; the soil must be dry, loose, and friable for that grain, and as clover is always to be sown on it, it must be fine, but if the first ploughing is hit in proper time and weather, the land will be in finer order on many soils than after successive ploughings. The farmer in his field must be the judge of this: suffice it to say, that the right moment to send the ploughs into a field is one of the most difficult points to be learned in tillage, and which no instructions can teach. It is practice alone that can do it. As to the time of sowing the barley in Ireland I should miss no season after the middle of February if I had my land in order. Sow three quarters of a barrel, or a barrel and quarter of barley to the plantation acre, according to the richness of the land, if it had a moderate manuring for turneps, and fed with fat sheep, three quarters or a whole one would be sufficient, but if you doubt your land being in heart, sow one and a quarter. Plough first, (whether once, twice or thrice) and
then

then sow and cover with harrows of middling weight, finishing with a light harrow. When the barley is three inches high, sow not less than 20lb. of red clover to each plantation acre, if the seed is not very good do not sow less than 25lb. and immediately run a light roller once over it; but take care that this in a dry day, and when the earth does not stick at all to the roller. When the barley is cut, and carried from the field, feed the clover before winter, but not very bare, and do not let any cattle be on it in the winter. Early in the spring before it shoots pick up the stones, clean off where you intend mowing it for hay, but if you feed it this is unnecessary. As to the application of the crop for hay or food it must be directed by the occasions of the farmer; I shall however remark, that it may be made exceedingly conducive to increase the number of hogs in Ireland, as it will singly support, all quarter, half, and full grown pigs. If mown it should be cut as soon as the field looks reddish from the blossoms: it will yield two full crops of hay.

Within the month of October let it be well ploughed, with an even regular furrow, and from half to three quarters of a barrel of wheat seed sown, according to the richness of the land, and harrowed well in. When this crop is reaped and cleared the course ends, and you begin again for turneps as before.

This system is very well adapted to sheep, as the clover fattens them in summer, and the turneps in winter.—Excellent as it is for dry soils, it is not adapted to wet ones; the following is preferable.

B E A N C O U R S E *.

1. Beans.
2. Oats.
3. Clover.
4. Wheat.

D I R E C T I O N S.

WHATEVER the preceding crop, whether corn or old grass, (for the first manure is properly applied, but unnecessary on the latter) plough but once for planting beans, which should be performed from the middle of December to the middle of February, the earlier the better †, and chuse either the mazagan or the horse bean according to your market; the single ploughing given must be performed so as to arch the land up, and leave deep furrows to serve as open drains. Harrow the land after ploughing. Provide slit planed deal poles

* For strong and wet soils.

† In England it is proper to wait till the heavy Christmas frost breaks up, but as such are rare in Ireland the same precaution is not necessary.

poles ten feet long, an inch thick, and two inches broad, bore holes through them exactly at sixteen inches asunder, pass pack-threads through these holes to the length of the lands you are about to plant, and there should be a pole at every fifty yards; four stakes at the corners of the extreme poles, fasten them to the ground, the intention is to keep the lines every where at equal distances and strait, which are great points in the bean husbandry to facilitate horse hoeing. This being ready, women take some beans in their aprons, and with a dibber pointed with iron make the holes along the strings with their right hand, and put the bean in with their left; while they are doing one set of lines, another should be prepared and fixed ready for them. Near London they are paid 3s. and 3s. 6d. a bushel for this work of planting; but where they are not accustomed to it they do it by the day. The beans are put three inches asunder, and two or three inches deep. A barrel will plant a plantation acre. A light pair of harrows are used to cover the seed in the holes, stuck with a few bushes. By the time the cold easterly winds come in the spring they will be high enough to hand hoe, if they were early planted, and it is of consequence on strong soils to catch every dry season for such operations. The hoes should be eight inches wide, and the whole surface of the space between the rows carefully cut, and every weed eradicated. This hoeing costs, near London, from 5s. to 7s. 6d. per English acre, but with unskilful hands in Ireland I should suppose it would cost from 12s. to 14s. per plantation acre, according to the laziness in working I have remarked there. When the beans are about six inches high, they should be horse hoed with a shim, the cutting part ten or eleven inches wide. A plate of this tool is to be seen in my *Eastern Tour*. It is cheap, simple, and not apt to be out of order, one horse draws it, which should be led by a careful person, another should hold the shim, and guide it carefully in the center between the rows. It cuts up all weeds effectually, and loosens the earth two or three inches deep; in a little time after this operation the hand hoe should be sent in again to cut any slips which the shim might have passed, and to extract the weeds that grew too near the plants for that tool to take them. This is but a slight hoeing. If the weather is dry enough a second horse hoeing with the shim should follow when the beans are nine or ten inches high, but if the weather is wet it must be omitted, the hand hoe however must be kept at work enough to keep the beans perfectly free from weeds. Reap the crop as soon as a few of the pods turn darkish, and while many of them are green, you had much better cut too soon than too late. You may get them off in the month of August, (in England the mazagans are reaped in July) which leaves a sufficient season for half a fallow. Plough the ground directly if the weather is dry; and if dry seasons permit (but you must

be guided entirely by the state of the weather, taking care on this soil never to go on it when wet) give it two ploughings more before winter, leaving the lands rounded up so as to shoot off all water, with deep and well cleansed furrows for the winter. It is of particular consequence for an early spring sowing, that not a drop of water rest on the land through winter.

The first season dry enough after the middle of February, plough and sow the oats, harrowing them in, from three fourths of a barrel, to a barrel and a quarter according to the richness of the land. As the sowing must be on this one ploughing, you must be attentive to timing it right, and by no means to lose a dry season; cleanse the furrows, and leave the lands in such a round neat shape that no water can lodge; and when the oats are three or four inches high, as in the case before mentioned of barley, roll in the clover seed as before, taking care to do it in a dry season. I need not carry the direction farther, as those for the turnep course are to be applied to the clover and wheat.

The great object on these strong and wet soils is to be very careful never to let your horses go on them in wet weather, and in the forming your lands always to keep them the segment of a circle that water may no where rest, with cuts for conveying it away. Another course for this land is,

1. Beans.
2. Wheat.

In which the beans being managed exactly as before directed, three ploughings are given to the land, the third of which covers the wheat seed: this is a very profitable course.

P O T A T O E C O U R S E *.

1. Potatoes.
2. Wheat.
3. Turneps.
4. Barley.
5. Clover.
6. Wheat.

D I R E C T I O N S.

I will suppose the land to be a stubble, upon which spread the dung or compost equally over the whole field, in quantity not less than 60 cubical yards to a plantation. If the land be quite dry lay it flat, if inclinable to wetness arch it gently; in this first ploughing which should be given the latter end of February

* For light and dry soil; potatoes never answer on clays or strong wet soils.

February or the beginning of March, the potatoes are to be planted. Women are to lay the sets in every other furrow, at the distance of 12 inches from set to set close to the unploughed land, in order that the horses may tread the less on them. There should be women enough to plant one furrow in the time the ploughman is turning another, the furrows should be not more than 5 inches deep, nor broader than 9 inches, because when the potatoes come up they should be in rows 18 inches asunder. The furrows should also be straight, that the rows may be so for horse hoeing. Having finished the field, harrow it well to lay the surface smooth, and break all the clods, and if the weather be quite dry any time in a fortnight after planting run a light roller over it followed by a light harrow. About a fortnight before the potatoes appear, skim over the whole surface of the field with one whose cutting edge is 2 feet long, going not more than 2 inches deep; this loosens the surface mould, and cuts off all the young weeds that may be just coming up. When the potatoes are three inches high horse hoe them with a skim as directed for beans that cuts 12 inches wide, and go 3 inches deep, and immediately after hand hoe the rows, cutting the surface well between plant and plant, and also the space missed by the skim. Repeat both these operations when the plants are six or seven inches high; and in about three weeks after give a hand hoeing, directing the men gently to earth up the plants, but not to lay the mould higher to their stems than three inches. After this nothing more is to be done than sending women in to draw out any weeds that may appear by hand. Take them up the beginning of October, first carrying away all the stalks to the farm yard to make dung: then plough them up *across* the field; making these new lands very wide, that is 4, 5, or 6 perch over, in order to leave as few furrows that way as possible. Provide to every plough from ten to fifteen men with three pronged forks, and a boy or girl with a basket to every man, and dispose eight or ten cars along the land to receive the crop, I used three wheeled carts, as they do not require a horse while they are idle. Have your wheat seed ready brined, and limed, and the seedsman with his basket in the field; as soon as the ploughman turns a furrow, the seeds man follows him close, spraining the seed not into the furrow just opened, but into the land thrown over by the plough, the fork men then divide themselves at equal distances along it, and shaking the mould which the ploughman turned over with their forks, the boys pick up the potatoes. In using their forks they must attend to leaving the land regular and handsome without holes or inequalities, as there is to be no other tillage for the wheat. They are also always to stand and move on the part unploughed, and never to tread on the other; they are also to break all the land in pieces which the ploughman turns over, not only for getting all the potatoes, but also for covering the wheat. And thus

thus they are to go on till the field is finished. If your men are lazy, and do not work hard enough to keep the plough constantly going, you must get more, for they should never stand still. The treatment of this wheat wants no directions, and the succeeding crops of the course are to be managed exactly as before directed, only you need not manure for the turneps, if the potatoes had in that respect justice done them.

FLAX COURSE.

1. Turneps.
2. Flax.
3. Clover.
4. Wheat.

DIRECTIONS.

This for flax on light and dry soils, the turneps to be managed exactly as before directed, and the remarks on the tillage of the turnep land for barley are all applicable to flax which requires the land to be very fine and friable; I would roll in the clover seed in the same manner, and the weeding and pulling the flax will assist its growth. Let the flax be saved and stacked like corn, threshed in the spring, and the process of watering and dressing gone through the same as in the common way. This husbandry is exceedingly profitable.

1. Beans.
2. Flax.
3. Clover.
4. Wheat.

This for strong soils. The bean land to be prepared for the flax exactly in the same manner as before directed for oats.

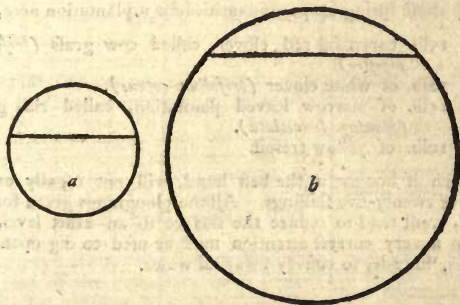
1. Potatoes.
2. Flax.
3. Clover.
4. Wheat.

For any soils except the very strong ones. The potatoes to be managed exactly as before directed, only upon taking them up the land to be left till spring, but if wet no water to be suffered on it in the winter. In the spring to apply more or fewer ploughings as will best ensure a fine friable surface to sow the flax in.

G E N E R A L O B S E R V A T I O N S.

In very stoney soils, the implement called a shim cannot be used to any advantage; in which case the operations directed for it must be effected by extra hand hoeings. By *land* I mean those beds formed in ploughing by the finishing open furrows: the space from furrow to furrow is the *land*.

In ploughing wet soils be attentive to get these lands gradually into a right shape, which is a direct segment of a circle. A large segment of a small circle raises the centers too high, and makes the sides too steep; but a small segment of a large circle is the proper form—for instance.



The segment of *a* appears at once to be an improper shape for a broad land, but that of *b* is the right form; keeping wet soils in that shape very much corrects the natural disadvantages. Permitting the teams to go on to wet soils in wet weather, is a most mischievous practice; but it is much worse in the spring than in the autumn. In all these courses it is proper to remark, that keeping the fallow crops, that is the turneps, beans and potatoes, absolutely free from all weeds, and in a loose friable order, is essential to success. It is not necessary only for those crops, but the successive ones depend entirely on this conduct. It is the principle of this husbandry to banish fallows, which are equally expensive and useless, but then it is absolutely necessary to be assiduous to the last degree in keeping these crops in the utmost perfection of management, not a shilling can be laid out on them that will not pay amply.

There are in the preceding courses several refinements and practices, which I not only approve, but have practised, but omitted here, as I do not think them likely to meet with the necessary attention in Ireland.

LAYING LAND TO GRASS.

There is no part of husbandry in Ireland less understood than this branch, and yet where land is to be laid down, none is more important.

Begin according to the soil, with either turneps, beans or potatoes, and manage them as prescribed in the preceding instructions. If the land has been long under a bad system, by which it has been exhausted and filled with noxious weeds, take a second crop managed exactly like the first, but one only to be manured. After this sow either barley, oats, or flax, according to the tenor of the preceding directions, but instead of clover seed rolled in, harrow in the following seeds, with those spring crops: quantities for a plantation acre,

- 15lb. perennial red clover, called cow grass (*trifolium alpestre*).
- 12lb. of white clover (*trifolium repens*).
- 15lb. of narrow leaved plantation, called rib grass (*plantago lanceolata*).
- 10lb. of yellow trefoil.

Which if bought at the best hand, will not usually exceed above twenty-five shillings. All the ploughings given for this end, must tend to reduce the surface to an exact level, but then a very correct attention must be used to dig open furrows, in order to convey away all water.

APPENDIX.

A P P E N D I X.

The following particulars were omitted under their respective heads.

D E R R Y.

THE shipping of this place in 1760 consisted of sixty-seven sail, from thirty to three hundred and fifty tons.

7 of and above	300 tons,	18 to 20	men and boys.	
21	200	14	16	_____
18	100	12	14	_____
21	under — 100	5		_____
Total, 10,820 tons.				

In 1776 about two thirds of the above; the decline owing to that of the passenger trade, and in the import of flaxseed; for eighteen to twenty years back, two thousand four hundred persons went annually, not more in 1772 and 1773 than usual.

C O R K E.

I was informed that there was no foundation for Dr. Campbell's assertion, that this city suffers remarkably in time of war*.

E X T E N T.

Dr. Grew calculated what the real contents of England and Wales were, not at the rate of the geographic mile, but real statute square, one containing 640 acres, and makes it 46,080,000 acres†, instead of the geographic content of 31,648,000. Ireland measured in the same manner, contains

P 2

about

* *Political Survey of Britain, vol. 1. p. 243.*

† *Phil. Trans. No. 330, p. 266.*

about twenty-five millions of English acres, or fifteen millions and a half Irish, which at nine shillings and seven pence an acre, make the rental 7,427,083l. Those who consider this attentively, will not think I am above the truth at six millions, as all uncultivated bog, mountain and lake, are included in the valuations.

R E N T A L.

The rental of England is stated at page 11 of the second part to be thirteen shillings, but it is not accurate to compare that with the 9s. 7d. Irish rent. The latter is the gross rent of all the island, including every thing *let or not*, deductions being made for the portions of lake, bog, river, &c. But that of England, at 13s. only what is occupied by the farmers or landlords, and does not include large rivers, lakes, royal forests, or common pastures (mountains, bogs, marshes and moors not to be excluded, as they are parts of the lands let, from which the calculation was made). Upon a very large allowance, if these are estimated at an eighth part of the whole, the account will be 7-8ths of England at 13s. and 1-8th at nothing, average 11s. 4d. per acre, instead of 13s. the comparison with Ireland then will be,

Ireland rent and roads	—	s. d.
		9 10
England rent	————	11 4
Rates,	—	1 2½
		12 6½
Irish acre and money,	————	9 10
Which for an English acre and English money is,	—	5 7

Instead of which it is 12s. 6½d. consequently the proportion between the rent of land in England and Ireland is nearly as five to eleven; in other words that space of land, which in Ireland lets for 5s. would in England produce 11s.

D E A N E R I E S O F I R E L A N D.

Raphoe,	—	1600	Down,	—	1700
Derry,	—	1600	Kildare,	—	120
Ardfert,	—	60	Achonry,	—	100
Connôr,	—	200	Killaloe,	—	140
Clonmacnoife,	—	50	Ossory	—	600
Corke,	—	400	Kilmacduagh,	—	120
St. Patrick's,	—	800	Lismore,	—	306
					Ardagh,

	l.		l.
Ardagh, —	200	Leighlin, —	80
Emly, —	100	Ardmagh, —	150
Kilmore, —	600	Waterford, —	400
Elphin, —	250	Christ church, —	2000
Rofs, —	20	Limerick, —	600
Killala, —	150	Cashel, —	200
Cloyne, —	220	Clogher, —	809
Kilfenora, —	210	Tuam, —	300
Dromore, —	400	Ferns, —	300
Clonfert, —	20	Archdeaconry of Kells,	1200

I D L E N E S S.

La sociedad economica de Dublin ha levantado enteramente de nuevo las lencerias de Irlanda; *cuyos habitantes estaban poseidos de gran indolencia.* Han extendido su agricultura, en lugar que antes vivian de ganados y pastos, como los tartaros. See the *Appendice a la Educacion Popular.* Parte Quarta, p. 35. Madrid 1777, by Campomanes.

FALL IN THE PRICE OF THE PRODUCTS OF LAND.

Having in the preceding sheets, mentioned much distress being felt in England from the great fall in the price of all products, I think I may be pardoned one or two observations in defence of opinions I have formerly held, and which then subjected me to much censure from the pens of a variety of pamphleteers.

From the conclusion of the last peace in 1762, to 1775 inclusive, the prices of all the products of the earth were at so high a price, that complaints were innumerable. I have a shelf in my study almost full of publications on the subject, and parliament itself was employed more than once in enquiring into the causes. The suppositions of the public were endless, there was scarcely an object in the kingdom, which was not mentioned as a cause, jobbers, regrators, forestallers, sample felling, export bounty, post horses, stage coaches, hounds, &c. &c. but some respectable complainants fixed on great farms and inclosures. During that period I more than once endeavoured to persuade the public, that the complaint itself was not well founded, that prices were not comparatively so high as had been asserted; that the rise was not owing to any one of the causes mentioned, and that a considerable increase of national wealth was fully sufficient to account for it.

In the years 1776, 1777, and 1778, prices fell considerably; and in 1779 so low, that very general complaints have been heard

heard of ruined farmers and distressed landlords, and at the time I am now writing the fact holds, that there is a very considerable fall in all products, and great numbers of farmers ruined. I have the prices of wool now for forty years before me, and that which from 1758 to 1767 was from 18s. to 21s. a tod, is for 1779 only 12s. and was in 1778 but 14s. We must go back to 1754 to find a year so low as the last. Wheat and all sorts of grain are greatly fallen*.

In addition to these facts let me observe, that great farms and enclosures are now as prevalent as ever. If they were the occasion of high prices before, how come they not to have the same effect now? But it is quite unnecessary to dwell upon a fact, which at the first blush brings with it the most complete conviction.

After the peace of 1762, there was a very great influx of wealth into this kingdom, which had the effect of nominally raising all prices, not of corn and cattle only, but of land itself; prices have declined in 1776, 1777, and 1778, but greatly in 1779. I am very apt to believe, that as the former *deariness*, as we called it, was owing to PLENTY of money, the present *cheapness* is owing to SCARCITY; not to a scarcity, generally speaking, because there is a proof that the specie of the kingdom was never greater than at present, but to a scarcity in these innumerable channels, which like the smaller veins and ramifications of the human body, carry the blood to the least of the extremities. There is no scarcity of money in London, as I am informed by several very considerable bankers and merchants. But why is it so plentiful there? In order to be applied at seven or eight per cent. interest in public loans. This circumstance it is which collects it from every part of the country, from every branch of national industry, and which occasions the effect now so generally complained of, a fall in all prices. The reason why the farmers are ruined, which is really the case with numbers, is their

* The comparison in general must stand thus :

Wheat,	3s. to 3s. 6d.	which 5 years ago was	6s. to 7s.
Barley,	2s.	ditto	3s. 6d.
Oats,	2s.	ditto	2s. 6d.
Beans,	2s. 10d. to 3s.	ditto	3s. 6d.
Wool,	12s. to 15s.	ditto	16s. to 21s.
Lambs,	6s.	ditto	12s.
2 Year old wethers	10s.	which were	20s.
Cows,	5l. to 6l.		7l. to 9l.
Hops,	20s.		26s.
4 Year old steers,	3l. 10s. to 5l.		7l. to 10l.
Oak timber,	3l. to 4l.	3l. 10s. to	4l. 10s.
Ash ditto,	2l. to 2l. 5s.		2l. 10s. to 3l.

their having taken tenures of their lands at a rent proportioned to high prices; nor is this the only circumstance, labour ought to fall with other commodities, but government having four hundred thousand men in pay, and consequently to be recruited, bids high in the market against the farmer. Poor rates also ought to fall, but there is so much folly, knavery, and infatuation, in every part of that abominable administration, that I am not at all surpris'd at seeing them rise, which is the fact. These three circumstances easily account for the distress of the farmer.

We may in future, I apprehend, expect to see more accurate ideas of what has been called *dear* and *cheap* rates of products, and never more to hear of great farms, engrossers of farms, commanding and monopolizing markets, or enclosures condemned for doing that which we now find them so utterly incapable of doing, that the farmers are ruined and in gaol for want of the power to effect matters, for which they were before so execrated. We at least gain something, if the present experience gives the lie direct to all that folly, nonsense and absurdity, with which the public was so repeatedly pestered. And there is the more reason for this, because if such a peace succeeds the present war, as leaves us a wealthy and prosperous people, prices will assuredly rise, when that folly might again be met with, if not at present displayed in the true colours.

I know there are persons, who attribute both the former high, and the present low prices, to difference of crops, speaking much of plentiful and scarce years; I have been uniformly of opinion, that the difference of product, upon an average of all soils, to be extremely small, so small as not to operate upon price; and even upon particular spots the difference is not nearly so great, as to account for any considerable rise or fall. If this was a proper place I could offer many reasons and facts for this opinion; but if we accept the idea, then there is at once an end to great farms and enclosures as the cause of the rise, which are the two circumstances the most insisted on.

“ I have lately received an account of a large common field in Leicestershire, which used to produce annually 800 qrs. of corn, besides maintaining 200 cattle, but which now in consequence of *being inclosed and getting into few hands*, produces little or no corn; and maintains no more cattle than before, though the rents are considerably advanced.” *Dr. Price's Supp. to Obs. on Rev. Pay.* p. 388. “ In Northamptonshire and Leicestershire, enclosing has greatly prevailed, and most of the new enclosed lordships are turned into pasturage, in consequence of which many lordships have not now 50 acres ploughed yearly, in which 1500, or at least 1000 were ploughed
ed

ed formerly; and scarce an ear of corn is now to be seen in some that bore hundreds of qrs. and so severely are the effects of this felt, that more wheat had been lately sold in these counties, on an average, at 7s. and 7s. 6d. the Winchester bushel, than used to be sold at 3s. 6d." *Rev. Mr. Addington's reasons against enclosing open fields.* As enclosures have since proceeded as rapidly as ever—Pray, why is wheat down at 3s. 6d. again, if it was enclosing that raised it to 7s. 6d.

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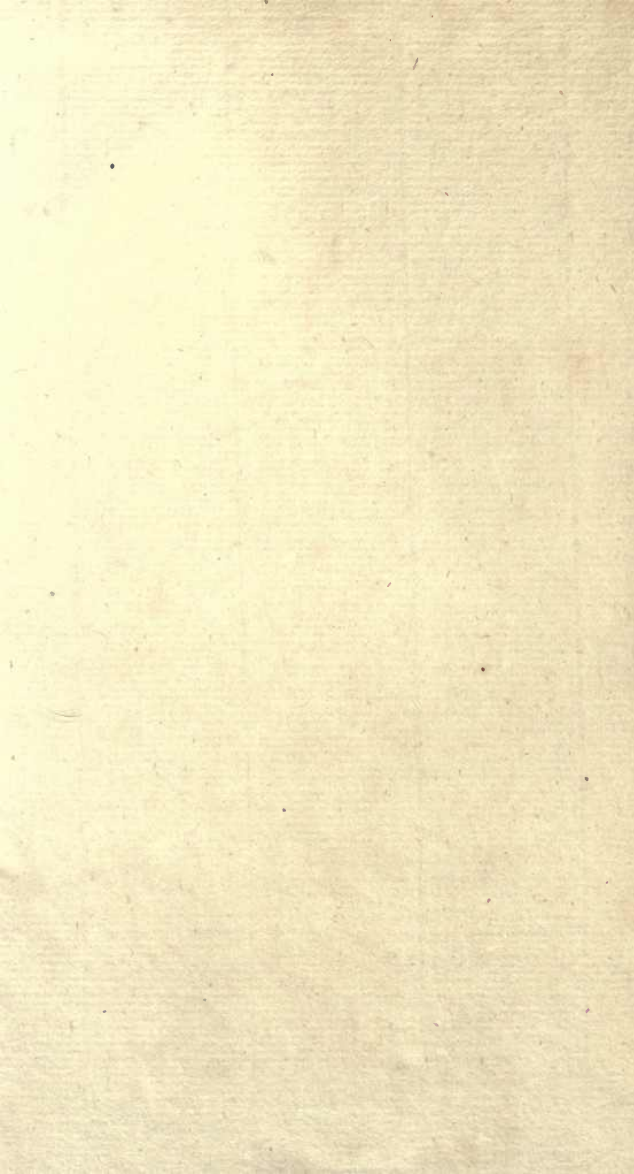
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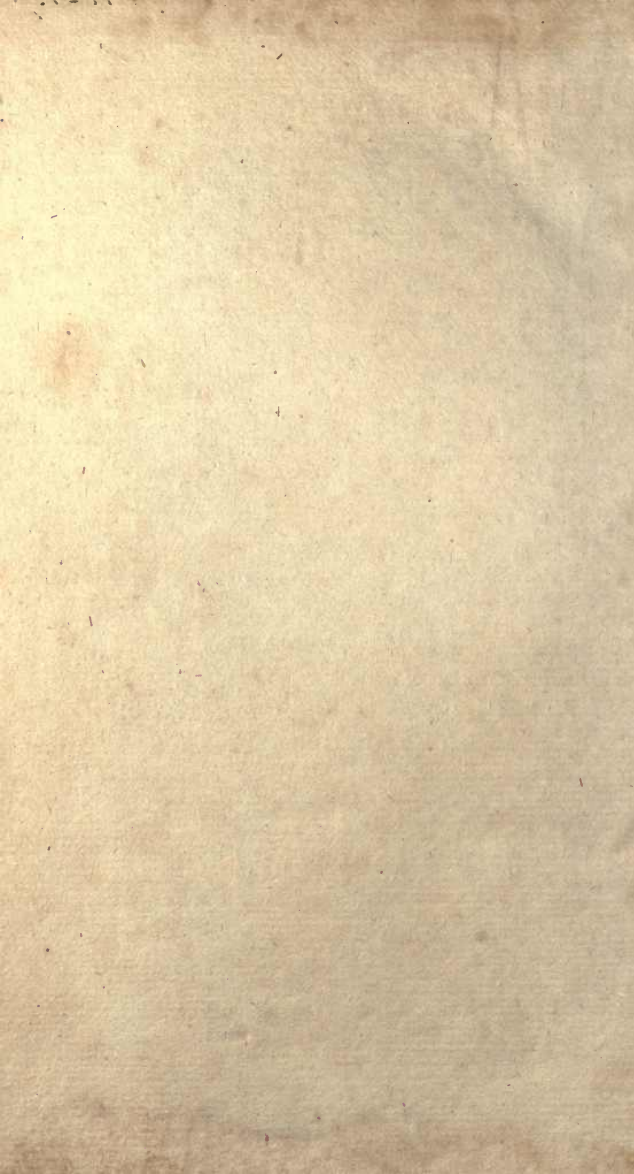
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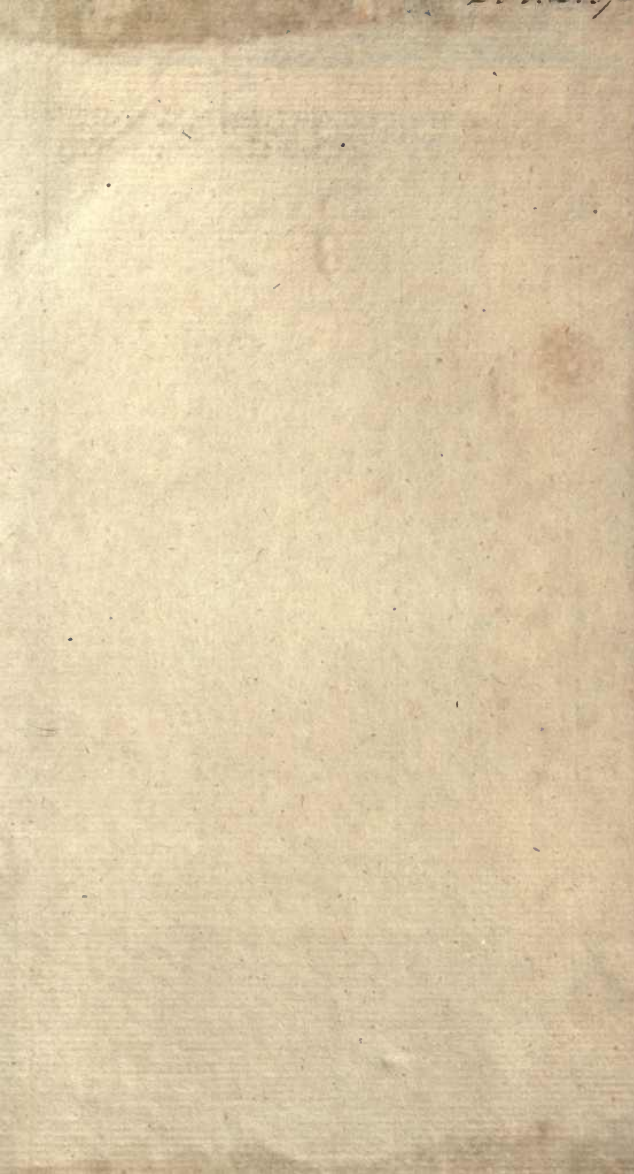
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