A tour in Ireland; with general observations on the present state of that kingdom made in the years 1776, 1777, and 1778. And brought down to the end of 1779 / By Arthur Young.

Contributors

Young, Arthur, 1741-1820.

Publication/Creation

London : Printed for T. Cadell [etc.], 1780.

Persistent URL

https://wellcomecollection.org/works/agqtx77v

License and attribution

This work has been identified as being free of known restrictions under copyright law, including all related and neighbouring rights and is being made available under the Creative Commons, Public Domain Mark.

You can copy, modify, distribute and perform the work, even for commercial purposes, without asking permission.

wellcome collection

Wellcome Collection
183 Euston Road
London NW1 2BE UK
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722
E library@wellcomecollection.org
https://wellcomecollection.org

Case K
Shelf 3

56,209/C

Y.xx.17



LEEDS.





I Taylor. Sculp.

Carmarthen.
1780.

A

TOUR

IN

IRELAND;

WITH

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

ON THE

PRESENT STATE OF THAT KINGDOM:

MADE IN

THE YEARS 1776, 1777, and 1778.

AND

BROUGHT DOWN TO THE END OF 1779.

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

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

LONDON:

PRINTED FOR T. CADELL, STRAND; AND J. DODSLEY, PALL-MALL.

M DCC LXXX.

WELLCOME
HISTORICAL
MEDICAL
LIBRARY

TO THE
IRISH SUBSCRIBERS.

IN the original propoſals, and in my ſucceeding advertiſements, I promiſed to publiſh this work as ſoon as 500 names were received; and afterwards, as ſoon as 400 were gained in Ireland; at the ſame time I mentioned the book being decorated with plates. With that intention I had many drawings executed, ſeveral of which (not inſerted) were in the hands of the engraver; but finding the ſubſcription fall ſo far ſhort of expectation, I was neceſſitated to ſtop all that were not finiſhed. I flatter myſelf my ſubſcribers will not think themſelves neglected, when I very faithfully aſſure them, that if I ſell every book I have printed, I ſhall loſe a ſum to me conſiderable by the undertaking: a circumſtance rendered the more diſagreeable, by there being 100 of my receipts in gentlemen's hands in Ireland, of which the moſt repeated applications have not been ſufficient to procure me any account whatever. I ſhould not have mentioned theſe things but as an apology for the plates being ſo few.

ANOTHER circumſtance which I ſhould not omit is the delivery of the book; in my firſt iriſh advertiſements I engaged to deliver them in Dublin; but I was then an inhabitant of Ireland—to do it now, through the medium of a Dublin bookſeller, would reduce the ſubſcription much lower than the very loweſt price the books will be ſold to the trade at London for. A judgment may be formed of this from Mr. Wilſon, bookſeller, at Dublin, charging 3s. per book for receiving ſubſcriptions though no one in England reckons any more than one third of that money; he alſo charges the ſame price for taking twelve at once from a nobleman, for no other trouble than receiving the money acroſs his counter, for which a London bookſeller would bluſh at making any charge at all. After ſuch experience, I truſt nobody will be ſurprized at my not conſigning the work to a Dublin bookſeller for delivery: I ſhould in ſuch caſe expect a charge to a much greater amount per volume than the whole price of the book. It is for this reaſon that I am neceſſitated to make the ſlight alteration of delivering the books, free of all charges, into the Leverpool packet, and conſigned to any perſon named to me for that purpoſe.

ARTHUR YOUNG.

PREFACE.

NUMEROUS as the publications on huſbandry have become in almoſt every part of Europe, few of them let us into its actual ſtate in any country. Authors ſeem to have diſdained recording the practice, ſo much have they been employed in preſcribing alterations. Several reaſons may be aſſigned for this omiſſion: to deſcribe the agriculture of a province, it is neceſſary to travel into it, and among the writers who have been moſt voluminous upon this ſubject, the greater number have been confined to their own farms,———perhaps to their fire ſides. It was impoſſible for them to have given detailed deſcriptions of what they had never ſeen.

THERE is alſo a greater temptation to the production of ſuch didactic works as are moſt uſual in agriculture, than to the leſs entertaining minutiæ of common management. The man who compoſes a piece for inſtructing others how to conduct their lands, generally includes all ſorts of ſoils, ſituations, and circumſtances; his views are great, his work comprehenſive, round, and complete, and every reader finds ſomething that ſuits him. The ſucceſs which has attended the *complete bodies*, *general treatiſes*, and *dictionaries* of the ſubject, though compiled by men as much acquainted with aſtronomy, as with agriculture, muſt have been owing to theſe circumſtances: as the good reception of well written, though erroneous theories, is, to *the agreeable* bearing away the palm due to *the uſeful* alone. But a reader who would wiſh to receive real information, ſhould readily give up the pleaſure of being amuſed for the uſe of being inſtructed; the number of ſuch however, will always be comparatively ſmall, and the writer who aims ſimply at utility, muſt expect his productions to give place to thoſe of a more amuſing turn. When a long courſe of years has proved the importance of the facts he has collected, his labours will probably have their due eſtimation.

THE details of common management are dry and unentertaining; nor is it eaſy to render them intereſting by ornaments of ſtyle. The tillage with which the peaſant prepares the ground; the manure with which he fertilizes it; the quantities of the ſeed of the ſeveral ſpecies of grain

which he commits to it; and the products that repay his induſtry, neceſſarily in the recital run into chains of repetition, which tire the ear, and fatigue the imagination. Great however is the ſtructure raiſed on this foundation: it may be dry, but it is important, for theſe are the circumſtances upon which depend the wealth, proſperity, and power of nations. The minutiæ of the farmer's management, low, and ſeemingly inconſiderable as he is, are ſo many links of a chain which connect him with the State. Kings ought not to forget that the ſplendour of majeſty is derived from the ſweat of induſtrious, and too often oppreſſed peaſants. The rapacious conqueror who deſtroys, and the great ſtateſman who protects humanity, are equally indebted for their power to the care with which the farmer cultivates his fields. The monarch of theſe realms muſt know, that when he is ſitting on his throne at Weſtminſter, ſurrounded by nothing but ſtate and magnificence, that the pooreſt, the moſt oppreſſed, the moſt unhappy peaſant, in the remoteſt corner of Ireland, contributes his ſhare to the ſupport of the gaiety that enlivens, and the ſplendour that adorns the ſcene.

If ſuch is the importance of theſe little movements in the great machine of the State, to know and to underſtand them, ſurely deſerves the attention of men, who are willing to ſacrifice their amuſement to their information. This is in other words ſaying, that the ſtate of common huſbandry, in all its variations and connections ought to be well underſtood. Of little conſequence muſt precepts, maxims, and directions for a better conduct appear, unleſs we really know the evils that are to be remedied, and the practices that are to be condemned. Without this neceſſary knowledge, the recommendations of the moſt ingenious ſpeculative author, muſt be almoſt uſeleſs; and the labours of the experimentaliſt, want much of the application which is to render his facts important. The object of every writer in rural œconomics is to make huſbandry better. But before they attempt that, ſhould they not know what it is? This idea has often made me, in reading books of agriculture, lament that the firſt chapter of every practical work, was not a plain detailed account of the common management in the pariſh or neighbourhood, where the author lived and wrote.

To render this ſort of knowledge general and complete, it is neceſſary that every gentleman reſiding in the country, and practiſing agriculture, ſhould write and publiſh an account of ſo much as falls within the ſphere of his obſervation: The experience of centuries has ſhewn us how much this may be expected. Were it done, ſuch journies as I have regiſtered and publiſhed, would have been perfectly unneceſſary. A man who has attended ſome years to huſbandry in one place, would have it in his power to gain a far better and more particular account of every circumſtance than it is poſſible a traveller ſhould procure.

THESE accounts however having no exiſtence, ſuch as I have more than once offered to the public, may have their uſe: what ſhould chiefly induce the reader to think ſo, is their being taken on the ſpot, from the mouths of gentlemen or farmers whoreſide in the diſtricts, they deſcribe---that the accounts are however perfect, cannot be expected———they are proportionally ſo to the ſagacity, information, and experience of the perſon who ſpeaks. When my intelligence was received from a company of gentlemen, I always waited for their ſettling among themſelves any difference of opinion before I entered the minute; and if they did not agree, took the average of the ſums or quantities in queſtion.

THE unbounded hoſpitality of a kingdom in which every country gentleman is by neceſſity a farmer, left me under very few difficulties, in gaining intelligence: but I did not truſt entirely to this ſource, having upon moſt occaſions common farmers ſummoned to aſſiſt at the conſultations, the deſign of which was my information. Nor did I neglect opportunities of making enquiries of the cottagers, and of examining into their ſituation and way of living———the information I procured in this line, I apprehend to be of conſequence: in England we know pretty well the ſtate of the poor, but their circumſtances in other countries ought to be one of the firſt objects of a traveller's attention, ſince from their eaſe or oppreſſion, a multitude of concluſions may be drawn relative to government, wealth, and national proſperity.

THAT the agriculture of both theſe iſlands is of the higheſt importance, no one will deny, and perhaps, when the preſent ſtate of Europe is well conſidered, it will in a political light be deemed more ſo than ever it was at any former period. It is true we are at preſent in a war with France, but I muſt own, the period appears to me faſt approaching, when all the weſtern part of Europe will find an abſolute neceſſity of uniting in the cloſeſt bands. If the ſcene which has annihilated Dantzick, was now acting at Hamburgh and Amſterdam, I do not ſee where the power is to be found, to prevent or revenge it. The conſequence of France has been long declining, and the transfer of her exertions from the land to the ſea ſervice, may be fatal to the liberties of Europe. If ever the fatal day comes, when that exertion is to be made, all her neighbours would feel it their common intereſt to ſecond and ſupport her. Much would it then be regretted, that the ſtrength and reſources of thoſe powers ſhould have been ſo exhauſted by wars among themſelves, as to be diſabled in the moment when moſt ſignally wanted. Then it would appear, that France ſhould have directed all her attention to her army, and Britain to her navy, as the beſt united means of reſiſting what Lord Cheſterfield very juſtly terms, "new devils," ariſing in Europe. But from whatever quarter danger may ariſe to Great Britain, it much behoves her, while other powers are riſing ſo incredibly

in force, to take every means that providence permits, to ſtrengthen herſelf; and that the moſt ſecure and ſolid way of doing this, is by carrying all the arts of cultivation in both iſlands, to the higheſt pitch of perfection that is practical, nobody will I apprehend deny.

THAT too much national attention cannot be given to agriculture, never appeared ſo ſtrong as it does in the preſent period. The legiſlature of this kingdom has for a century bent all its endeavours to promote the *commercial ſyſtem*. The ſtatute book is crouded with laws for the encouragement of manufactures, commerce, and colonies, and in ſome inſtances at the expence of the improvement of the national ſoil. Yet in that period only one great agricultural meaſure was embraced, the bounty on the export of corn, frittered down to the preſent ſyſtem, which turns out with or without, but certainly by the connivance of law, to be a conſtant *import ſcheme*, in order to reduce the prices of the earth's products, in favour of thoſe claſſes whoſe monopolizing ſpirit has had the direct tendency to beggar and ruin the kingdom. Whoever conſiders attentively the *commercial* conduct of Great Britain, will not think there is any thing paradoxical in this aſſertion.

THE entire adminiſtration of the colonies has been commercial. It has been made a trader's project, and the ſpirit of monopoly pervaded every ſtep of our progreſs in planting and rearing thoſe ſetttlements. They were governed by the narrow ſpirit of a counting houſe, which in the plantation of countries formed to be the reſidence of great nations, neither ſaw nor permitted any thing better than a monopolized market. It was this ſpirit that ſhackled thoſe countries in ſuch commercial fetters as to render them incapable of contributing to the neceſſities of the general government of the empire. Had a more liberal policy been embraced, ſuch contributions would have been early introduced, with a capability (from a free commerce) of ſupporting them. The commercial government gave up the advantage of all contribution for the greater profit of monopoly: it was evident that *both* could not be had, till thoſe countries became too great and powerful to be forced into new and unjuſt habits. Nothing therefore can be more idle than to ſay, that this ſet of men, or the other adminiſtration, or that great miniſter, occaſioned the american war. It was not the ſtamp act, nor the repeal of the ſtamp act; it was neither Lord Rockingham nor Lord North, but it was that baleful monopolizing ſpirit of commerce that wiſhed to govern great nations, on the maxims of the counter. That did govern them ſo; and in the caſe of Ireland and the Indies does ſtill govern them ſo. Had not the trader's ſyſtem been embraced, America would, in conſequence of taxation, have been long ago united with Britain; but our traders knew very well that a free commerce would follow a union.

NOR

NOR is it only in the loſs of vaſt territories that we feel the direful effects of the monopolizing ſpirit. The greateſt part of the national debt is owing to the two laſt wars, which coſt us one hundred millions ſterling, and aroſe ſolely from mercantile cauſes: that of 1740 was a war for the protection of engliſh ſmugglers: and that of 1756, ſprung from an apprehenſion that the french would divide the american market with our traders: the preſent, which may be as expenſive before it is finiſhed as either of the former, was owing to a determination to ſecure the market we had gained. But all the wars are for markets or ſmuggling, or trade or manufacture. That vaſt debt which debilitates the kingdom, thoſe taxes we pay for having loſt thirteen provinces, and the hazard we now run of loſing or ruining Ireland, are all owing to the former predilection of our government for the trading ſyſtem.

I ſhould go much beyond the line of truth to declare, that trade and manufacture are neceſſarily ruinous. The very contrary is my opinion; extenſive manufactures, and a flouriſhing commerce, are the very beſt friends of agriculture, as I have endeavoured to ſhew more at large in my *Political Arithmetic*. What I would urge here is, that trade is an admirable thing; but a trading government a moſt pernicious one. Protect and encourage merchants and manufacturers in every exertion of their induſtry; but liſten not to them in the legiſlature. They never yet were the fathers of a ſcheme that had not monopoly for its principle. It has been the fatality of our government to attend to them on every occaſion. We are, at this moment, in the full maturity of the evils which a legiſlature, influenced by traders, can bring upon a country. Nor can I without aſtoniſhment view the commercial jealouſy that has ariſen in Europe in the laſt 50 years. Other nations have caught of us the commercial ſpirit. They have attributed the effects of the nobleſt and moſt perfect ſyſtem of freedom the world has ever ſeen, to the *trade* of the country. Deluded mortals! Give your ſubjects the liberty which engliſhmen enjoy, and trade will ſpring up one among the many luxuriant branches of that wide extended tree. LIBERTY, not trade, has been the cauſe of England's greatneſs. Commerce and all its conſequences have been the *effect*, not the cauſe of our happineſs. France has, with the ſame ſort of folly, overlooked the ſimple and obvious advantage of improving her noble territory for the more precarious profits of trade: and what are the conſequences? She too has hazarded thoſe wars for commerce, which have exhauſted her reſources, mortgaged her revenues, and debilitated every principle of her national ſtrength.

WHEN the preſent rage for monopoly (the true characteriſtic of the commercial ſyſtem) has half beggared Europe with the thirſt of wealth; and that nations have grown wiſer by experience, they will, it is to be hoped, found their

their greatneſs in the full cultivation of their territories; the wealth reſulting from that exertion, will remain at home, and be ſecure; nothing in that progreſs will kindle the jealouſy of neighbours—no vile monopolies—no reſtrictions—no regulating duties are wanting: perpetual wars, heavy debts, and ruinous taxes, will not be neceſſary to extend and promote agriculture, inſeparable as they have been from commerce.

To a philoſophical eye the preſent conduct of commercial Europe is an inexplicable enigma. The mercantile ſyſtem of England having graſped at and poſſeſſed the monopoly of the north american market, France, in the tranſactions which preceded the war of 1756, manifeſted the plaineſt jealouſy of our power in North America: the moſt ill founded jealouſy, as experience has ſhewn, that could actuate a nation. The two countries engaged in the war upon a ſubject merely commercial; and it coſt, between them, above an hundred millions ſterling, the one to be driven out of Canada, and the other to loſe America by rebellion. Is it poſſible that the rulers of theſe two kingdoms, if they had an inclination to amuſe themſelves with expending ſuch a ſum, had ſo poor a genius that they could not deviſe the means of doing it *at home*, in the encouragement of agriculture and arts; in incloſures, navigations, roads, harbours, the cultivation of waſtes, draining marſhes, raiſing palaces? &c.

In the Duke de Choiſeul's miniſtry we were on the point of another commercial war, we had a greater trade to India than France, and in order to balance it, that kingdom was ready to expend fifty millions more. Then Spain takes commercial umbrage, at our ſettling with commercial views on a rock, the great products of which are ſeals and penguins; the affair could not coſt leſs than five millions; but that is a trifle in the affairs of trade—For ſee, we are now engaged in a freſh career of commeree with America, and the whole houſe of Bourbon. Upon a moderate computation, France, Spain, and Britain, will each of them ſpend enough in it to improve three or four provinces to the higheſt pitch of cultivation; which inſtead of ſlaughtering three or four hundred thouſand men, and leaving thrice that number of widows and orphans, would render a greater number of families happy for life, and leave a rich and increaſing legacy of eaſe and plenty to their poſterity: and all the ſlaughter, ruin, poverty and deſtruction, that is thus brought on the human ſpecies, is for the ſake of commerce.

It was the commercial ſyſtem that founded thoſe colonies—commercial profits reared them—commercial avarice monopolized them—and commercial ignorance now wars to recover the poſſeſſion of what is not intrinſically worth the powder and ball that are ſhot away in the quarrel. The ſame baneful commercial genius influences France and Spain to exhauſt their revenues, ruin their ſubjects, and ſtagnate every branch of domeſtic induſtry, for diſtant, ideal, and precarious commercial advantages.

But to return—The manufactures, commerce, and fiſheries of Ireland, are objects of much importance to Great Britain, and as the information I procured

procured concerning them, was chiefly gained on the ſpot, and given me without thoſe intentions of deceiving, which are too common, when ſuch particulars are introduced politically to the world, I believe the reader will not be ſorry at my having given them a place.

THE general view of the kingdom I have given from the whole of the intelligence, will I flatter myſelf, throw Ireland into that juſt light, in which ſhe has not hitherto appeared. The many erroneous ideas concerning the rental, wealth, and conſequence of that iſland, with which every book is filled that treats of it, will be here explained. The reader will find the progreſs of national proſperity, its preſent ſtate, and the vaſt field of improvement which Ireland will continue, until it comes to be every thing to Britain which the warmeſt patriot could wiſh. For ſo happy a ſtate to arrive, nothing is wanting but this country to change her policy, and cheriſh that induſtry ſhe has hitherto ſeemed ſo anxious to ſhackle.

AFTER having travelled through the greateſt part of the kingdom, I found, upon ſitting down to give an account of thoſe circumſtances, not immediately ariſing from the huſbandry of the country, that I was in want of many public accounts of trade, manufactures, taxes, &c. not to be procured upon a journey. I was for ſome time in correſpondence with ſome friends in Dublin to gain theſe, but after paſſing near a twelvemonth in expectation, I found it would be impoſſible to procure the neceſſary papers without going thither; I accordingly went and reſided nine weeks in that city, very buſily employed in examining and tranſcribing public records and accounts, which enabled me to give ſuch a detail of thoſe ſubjects, as has not hitherto been laid before the public. I may without exaggeration aſſert, that all theſe objects for want of induſtry in thoſe who have written concerning Ireland, have been treated in the way of gueſs, conjecture, and declamation, to anſwer particular purpoſes, inſtead of any detail of facts. Part of theſe enquiries may be unintereſting to thoſe who do not reſide in the country, but I am nevertheleſs ſo much convinced of their importance to England, as well as to Ireland, that I have determined to explain them as fully as I was able, tedious as they may appear to thoſe, who read rather for amuſement, than information. Perhaps there would be no impropriety in prefixing to all the productions I venture before the public, this caution: I have been reproached for being tedious, but I profeſs, to treat that ſubject which I think (vainly perhaps) I underſtand, in ſo detailed a manner, that if my pieces were not unentertaining, they would very indifferently anſwer the end, to accompliſh which, I have travelled, practiſed and written.

HUSBANDRY is an art that has hitherto owed leſs to reaſoning than I believe any other. I know not of any diſcoveries, or a ſingle beneficial practice that has

has clearly flowed from this ſource. But every one is well acquainted with many that have been the reſult of experiment and regiſtered obſervation. There is no people exiſting ſo backward but have ſome good practices to copy, as well as errors to avoid. To deſcribe both is to give a chain of connected facts that muſt, in the end, prove uſeful to ſuch as will read and digeſt them with attention and reflection: but I am ready to admit that this is a ſtudy very far from amuſing. The regiſters of ſuch journies, as I have employed a great deal of time and expence in making, muſt neceſſarily be exceedingly dull to thoſe who read for pleaſure: ſo diſagreeable, that they will certainly throw down the volume with as much diſguſt as they would tables of arithmetic. The flattering circumſtance of a ſucceſsful publication is not thus to be expected. The preſent age is much too idle to buy books that will not baniſh *l'enuye* from a ſingle hour. Succeſs depends on amuſement. The hiſtorical performances of this age and nation, which have proved ſo honourable to their authors, would have met with a leſs brilliant ſucceſs, had not the charms of ſtile rendered them as amuſive as a romance. Their extreme popularity is perhaps built on rivalling, not only the authors that had before treated the ſame ſubjects, but Sir Charles Grandiſon and Julia. That this obſervation, however, when applied to books of agriculture is juſt, will appear from the very ill ſucceſs met with by authors of capital merit, and the great ſales that have attended the moſt miſerable performances. The merit of Mr. Liſle's huſbandry has, in many years, carried it but into the ſecond edition. Mr. Hitt's treatiſe on huſbandry has not been re-printed, and is very little known, yet there are particulars in it of more merit than half a ſcore volumes that have been ſucceſsful. Even the elegant eſſays on huſbandry of my old and much regretted friend Mr. Harte, have not been re-printed. Proofs to which many more might be added, that the publick reception does not always mark the merit of a book.

ANY real utility that may reſult from this work out of Ireland, can only be from thoſe who determine ſteadily to become acquainted with all the facts they can procure, in order to compare, combine, and draw concluſions from them. To men thus ſcientific, too many facts can never be publiſhed; and with ſuch, I flatter myſelf, I ſhall be readily pardoned for having added ſo many to the number. Indeed I ſometimes ſmile in reading performances, the authors of which think me of importance enough to do me the honour of abuſing for whole pages together, at the very time that they make extremely free with information they never might have known, had my labours been wrought, like their own, at a fire ſide. But while I am happy in the good opinion, and inſtructed in the correſpondence of ſome of the firſt characters in Europe—while my writings will ſtand the teſt with ſuch men as a Harte, a Haller, and an Arbuthnot, I am perfectly indifferent to the ideas of the Moores, Shirleys, Marſhals, and Wimpeys of the age.

THERE

THERE is one part of theſe papers which particularly demands an apology. I have ventured to recommend to the gentlemen of Ireland ſeveral courſes of huſbandry, as improvements upon what I found them practicing, and have given directions how they ſhould be performed. This is going a little out of my way; for it is that ſpecies of writing which I am apt to condemn. Inſtructions in this ſubject ſhould, more than in any other, be gathered ſimply from the regiſter of experiments and repeated obſervations: but having been requeſted by many gentlemen on the journey to do it, I have ſubmitted to their opinion, rather in contradiction to my own. I have reflected attentively on the circumſtances of Ireland before I drew up theſe recommendations; and I believe, that thoſe who are beſt acquainted with the kingdom, will not think what I have propoſed entirely inapplicable.

HAVING given ſuch explanations of the deſign of this work as appeared neceſſary, there only remains to inſert the names of thoſe who were pleaſed to favour me with their aſſiſtance in executing it.

TO the following perſons only I was indebted for recommendations to Ireland:

The Earl of Shelburne.
The Dowager Lady Middleton.
Mrs. Veſey.
Edmund Burke, Eſq;
Samuel Whitbread, Eſq;
John Arbuthnot, Eſq;
Governor Pownal.
Lord Kenmare.
John Baker Holroyd, Eſq;
David Barclay, Eſq;

SUCH were the ſmall number of perſons in England, who, before I went, took the trouble to intereſt themſelves in the undertaking. As to the great body of abſentees, knowing that there was not one but could contribute to my being well informed, by cards to their agents, I took the moſt effectual means of letting them know my intention; but except the few juſt named, the deſign was not happy enough to appear in ſuch a light, as to induce them to contribute to it. Indeed there are too many poſſeſſors of great eſtates in Ireland, who wiſh to know nothing more of it than the remittance of their rents.

THE circumſtance was rather diſcouraging, and I began to apprehend that I might want information; but the reception I met at Dublin immediately removed it; and the following liſt of thoſe who were ſo obliging as to take

every means of having me perfectly well informed, will ſhew that I was not diſappointed.

The Earl of Harcourt, Lord Lieutenant
Earl of Charlemount, *Dublin*
Mr. Machpharland, *Luttrels Town*
Right Hon. Thomas Conolly
——— Clements, Eſq; *Killadoon*
Colonel Marley, *Celbridge*
Duke of Leinſter, *Caſtleton*
——— Jones, Eſq; *Dolleſton*
Right Hon H. L. Rowley, *Summer Hill*
Earl of Mornington
Right Hon. William Burton, *Slaine Caſtle*
——— Jeb, Eſq; *Slaine*
Mr. Gerard, *Gibbſtown*
Earl of Bective, *Heardſort*
Lord Longford, *Packenham*
Captain Johnſton
Rev. Dean Coote, *Shaen Caſtle*
——— Brown, Eſq;
Mr. Butler, near *Carlow*
—— Mercer, Eſq; *Laughlin bridge*
Gervas Parker Buſh, Eſq; *Kilfaine*
Colonel Nun
Earl of Courtown
Lieut. General Cunninghame, *Mount Kennedy*
Baron Hamilton, *Ballybriggen*
Lord Chief Baron Forſter, *Cullen*
Lord Gosfort, *Market Hill*
His Grace the Lord Primate, *Ardmagh*
Mr. William Macgeough, *ditto*
Biſhop of Clonfert
Maxwell Cloſe, Eſq;
——— Richardſon, Eſq;
——— Leſlie, Eſq; *Glaſlough*
——— Workman, Eſq; *Mahon*
Right Hon. William Brownlow, *Lurgan*
——— Warren, *Warrenſtown*
Mr. Clibborn, *ditto*
The Biſhop of Down, *Liſburne*
John Alexander, Eſq; *Belfaſt*
—— Portis, Eſq; *ditto*
Arthur Buntin, Eſq; *ditto*
Mr. Holmes, *ditto*
Dr. Halliday, *ditto*
Patrick Savage, Eſq; *Porta Ferry*
——Ainſworth, Eſq; *Strangford*
John O'Neal, Eſq; *Shaen Caſtle*
James Leſlie, Eſq; *Leſlie Hill*
Rev. Mr. Leſlie
Right Hon. Richard Jackſon, *Coleraine*
Robert Alexander, Eſq; *Derry*
Rev. Mr. Bernard
Rev. Mr. Golding, *Clonleigh*
Alexander Mongomery, Eſq; *Mount Charles*
Thomas Neſbitt, Eſq;
Sir James Caldwell, Bart. *Caſtle Caldwell*
The Earl of Roſs, *Belleiſle*
Lord Viſcount Inniſkilling, *Florence Court*
Earl of Farnham, *Farnham*
W. G. Newcomen, Eſq; *Ballyclough*
Thomas Mahon, Eſq; *Strokeſtown*
The Biſhop of Elphin, *Elphin*
Biſhop of Kilmore
The Hon. Thomas Fitzmaurice, *Ballymoat*
The Rt. Hon. Joſhua Cooper, *Mecra*
Lewis Irvine, Eſq; *Tanrego*
—— Brown, Eſq; *Sortland*
Right Hon. Thomas King, *Ballyna*
Biſhop of Killalla, *Killalla*
—— Hutchinſon, Eſq; *ditto*
The Earl of Altamont, *Weſtport*

Mr.

Mr. Lindſay, *Hollymount*
His Grace the Archbiſhop of Tuam, *Tuam*
Robert French, Eſq; *Moniva*
Mr. Andrew French, *Galway*
Frederic French, Eſq; *Woodlawn*
Robert Gregory, Eſq; *Kiltartan*
Sir Lucius O'Brien, Bart. *Drummoland*
Mr. Robert Fitzgerald
Mr. Singleton
Mr. Thomas Marks, *Limerick*
Richard Aldworth, Eſq; *Annſgrove*
Lord Donneraile, *Donneraile*
Denham Jepſon, Eſq; *Mallow*
Denham Jepſon, jun. Eſq; *ditto*
Robert Gordon, Eſq; *Newgrove*
St. John Jefferyes, Eſq; *Blarney Caſtle*
Dominick Trent, Eſq; *Dunkettle*
The Earl of Shannon, *Caſtle Martyr*
Robert Longfield, Eſq; *Caſtle Mary*
Earl of Inchiquin, *Roſtellan*
Rev. the Dean of Corke, *Corke*
Rev. Archdeacon Oliver
Sir John Croulthurſt, Bart.
——— Herbert, Eſq; *Mucrus*
Arthur Blennerhaſſet, Eſq; *Arbella*
Earl of Glandore, *Ardfert*
Lord Croſbie, *ditto*
Robert Fitzgerald, Eſq; *Woodford*
Edward Leſlie, Eſq; *Tarbat*
Mrs. Quin, *Adair*
Right Hon. Silver Oliver, *Caſtle Oliver*
Earl of Clanwilliam
——— Macarthy, jun. Eſq; *Spring Houſe*
Mr. Allen
Lord de Montalt, *Dundrum*
Right Hon. Sir William Oſborne, Bart. *Newtown*
——— Moore, Eſq; *Marlefield*
Earl of Tyrone, *Curraghmoor*
Cornelius Bolton, Eſq; *Ballycavern*
Cornelius Bolton, jun. Eſq; *ditto*
Richard Nevill, Eſq; *Furneſs*
John Lloyd, Eſq; *Gloſter*
Peter Holmes, Eſq; *Johnſtown*
Michael Head, Eſq; *Derry*
Rev. Mr. Lloyd, *Cullen*
Lord Viſcount Kingſborough, *Mitchelſtown*

Such are the contributors to this work. It is with the utmoſt pleaſure I reflect on the liberal, polite, and friendly manner in which I was received by ſuch a number of perſons, among whom are many of the moſt diſtinguiſhed characters in Ireland—Characters that would reflect a luſtre upon any nation.

The moſt careleſs eye will diſcern at once the great advantages, which the uncommon, but polite hoſpitality of the nation, united with an eagerneſs to do whatever had the moſt diſtant appearance of being ſerviceable to their country, gave me in deſcribing it. If, with all theſe advantages, Ireland is not in future much better known than ever ſhe was before, the fault is entirely mine, and I have little to plead in extenuation of it.

TO

TO THE

IRISH READER.

IN caſe of any errors or omiſſions being diſcovered in the following papers, by readers whoſe ſituation enables them to aſcertain the truth, the author will be particularly obliged by a communication directed to him *at Bradfield Hall, near Bury, Suffolk*; and if the work ſhould hereafter be reprinted, due attention ſhall be paid to ſuch corrections.

JANUARY 24th, 1780.

A

LIST

OF THE

SUBSCRIBERS.

A.

HER Highneſs the Princeſs D'Aſcoff
Right Hon. the Earl of Altamont
Richard Aldworth, Eſq;
Mrs. Aldworth
Thomas Adderley, Eſq;
Mrs. Adderley
Alexander Alcock, Eſq;
James Alexander, Eſq;
Robert Alexander, Eſq; *Derry*
Rev. Mr. Aſpin
Maxey Allen, Eſq; *Lynn*
Rev. Mr. Stephen Allen, two copies
Mrs. Jane Allen

B.

Right Hon. the Earl of Bective
Right Hon. Lord Bangor
Right Hon. William Burton, 20 copies, diſpoſed of to ſundries, but names not come in
Right Hon. William Brownlow
Cornelius Bolton, Eſq; 4 copies
Henry Bolton, Eſq;
James Baillie, Eſq;
——— Burton, Eſq; *Burton Hall*
Samuel Boyce, Eſq;
B. N. Bayly, Eſq;
Ger. Park. Buſhe, Eſq;
Sir James Brown, Bart.
Hon. and Reverend Mr. Beresford
Hugh Boyd, Eſq; *Norfolk-ſtreet*
Robert Brooke, Eſq;
Clifford Boldock, Eſq;
Charles Burney, Muſ. D. F. R. S.
Rev. Mr. Barnwell, *Lawſhall*
William Bray, Eſq;
William Bayntum, Eſq;
A. Baillie, Eſq; *Cradle Hall*
James Brown, Eſq;
John Bathoe, Eſq; *Bath*

C.

Right Hon. the Earl of Carrick
Right Hon. Lord Caſtle Stewart
Right Rev. Lord Biſhop of Cloyne
Right Hon. the Earl of Clanwilliam
Right Hon. the Counteſs of Clanwilliam
Right Hon. the Earl of Charlemont
Right Hon. Lord Croſbie, 3 copies
Right Hon. the Earl of Courtown
Right Hon the Counteſs of Courtown
Right Hon. Lord Viſcount Carlow
Right Hon. Lord Clifden
Right Hon. Joſhua Cooper
Right Reverend the Lord Biſhop of Clonfert
Hon. James Cuff
Lieut General Cunninghame, 3 copies
Colonel Clements
Sir Henry Cavendiſh, Bart.
Miſs Caulfield
Robert Shap. Carew, Eſq;
R. Clements, Eſq;
Colonel Hugh Cane
W. Chetwind, Eſq;
Sir J. C. Colthurſt, Bart.
William Colville, Eſq;
Armar L. Corry, Eſq;
Reverend Dean Coote
Charles Henry Coote, Eſq;
Mrs. Cooper
Andrew Caldwell, Eſq;
Charles Churchil, Eſq;
Richard Charleton, Eſq; *Birdſtown*
Sir James Cotter

Sir

SUBSCRIBERS NAMES.

Sir John Cullum, Bart.
Geo. Keen Hayward Couſſmaker, Eſq; *Brook-ſtreet*
John Couſſmaker, Eſq; *Hackney*
Mrs. Couſſmaker, *Bradfield*
Le Nois Couſſmaker, Eſq; *Hackney*
Rev. Mr. Carter, *Flompton*
Edward Coldham, Eſq; *Bury*
Edward Chamberlaine, Eſq;
Philip Caſe, Eſq; *Lynn*
William Conſtable, Eſq.
Montague Cholmley, Eſq;
William Henry Chancey, Eſq;
Rev. Mr. Chamberlaine
Carlos Cony, Eſq; *Lynn*

D.

His Grace the Archbiſhop of Dublin
Right Hon. Lord Doneraile
Hon. John Dawſon
Mrs. A. Dawſon
Dennis B. Daly, Eſq;
Hannibal Will. Dobbyn, Eſq;
Thomas De Grey, Eſq;
M. G. Davies, Eſq; *Coomb Carmarthenſhire*

E.

Right Hon. the Earl of Ely
Right Hon. Lord Viſcout Inniſkillen
Right Hon. Lady Dowager Erne
Right Rev. the Lord Biſhop of Elphin, F. R. S.
——— Edwards, M. D. *Wigmore Street*
Eton College
Sir John Eden, Bart.
William Eden, Eſq;

F.

Right Hon. the Earl of Farnham
Right Hon. the Counteſs of Farnham
Right Rev. Lord Biſhop of Fernes
Right Hon. Lord Fingall
Right Hon. James Forteſcue
John Fitzgibbon, jun. Eſq;
Mrs. Fitzgerald, 5 copies
Gerald Fitzgerald, Eſq;
——— Fizgerald, Eſq; *Shepperton, county of Clare*, 10 copies diſpoſed of, but names not come in
Rev. Hans. Thomas Fell, L. L. D.
Rev. Archdeacon Flenry
T. Forteſcue, Eſq;
Arthur French, Eſq;
John Thomas Forſter, Eſq;
Keane Fitzgerald, Eſq;
John Ferguſon, M. D.
William Forſter, Eſq; *Monaghan*
Rev. Mr. Funchard, *Fornham*
John Forbes, Eſq; *Hackney*
James Frampton, Eſq;
——— Fearnſide, Eſq;

G.

Right Hon. the Earl of Glerawly
Stand. Grady, Eſq;
Luke Gardener, Eſq;
James Godſell, Eſq;
Mrs. Gage
Nicholas Gay, Eſq;
Joſeph Gulſton, Eſq;

H.

Right Hon. Lord Harrowby
Right Hon. the Earl of Howth
Right Hon. Lady Jane Harman
Reverend Dean Harman
Laurence, Harman, Eſq;
Lady Hales, *Honlets, Kent*, 2 copies
Hon. Martin Bladen Hawke
——— Hamilton, Eſq;
——— Hamilton, Eſq; *Brown Hall*
Sir John Haſlar
Gorges Edm. Howard, Eſq;
Joſhua Hamilton, Eſq; *Newry*
I. H. O'Hara. Eſq;
Henry Hanſon, Eſq;
Rev. Mr. Heathe
John Hare Henley, Eſq;
Rev. Mr. John Harris
H. Hulton, Eſq;
Rev. Mr. Hey, *Wickham, Kent.*
John Baker Holroyd, Eſq;
John Haſſard, Eſq;

J.

Right Hon. Theo. Jones
Right Hon. Richard Jackſon
Mrs. Johnſon, *Norwich*
Mrs. Ingoldſby
H. Jurgonhoſter, Eſq;
John Jones, Eſq;

K.

Right Hon. the Earl of Kingſton
Right Hon. Lord Viſcount Kingſborough, 10 copies
Right Hon. Viſcounteſs Kingſborough, 10 co.
Right. Hon. the Counteſs of Kildare
Right Rev. the Lord Biſhop of Killala
Hon. George King, Eſq;
Thomas Knox, Eſq;
Mrs. Knox
Mrs. Kent, *Fornham*
Rev. Mr. Keddington, *Rougham*

L.

Her Grace the Dutcheſs of Leinſter

Right

Right Hon. the Earl of Laneſborough
William Laſcelles, Eſq;
Sir Nicholas Lawleſs, Bart.
David Latouche, Eſq;
Bolton Lee, Eſq;
Richard Le Hunte, Eſq;
Edward Leſlie, Eſq;
Rev. Thomas Lock
James Leſlie, Eſq;
Major Nicholas Loftus
Rev. Mr. Legrice, *Bury*
J. Lerivan, Eſq;
Rev. Mr. Laurents, *Bury*
Mrs. L'Eſtrange, *Bury*
Rev. Mr. Lord, *Welnetham*
Miſs Lidderdale, *Lynn*
Rev. Mr. John Leach
Mr. Gamaliel Lloyd, *Leeds*

M.

Right Hon. the Earl of Milltown
Right Hon. Lord Viſcount Mountcaſhel
Right Hon. Lord Viſcount Middleton
Right Hon. Viſcounteſs Dowager Middleton
Hon. Hugh Maſſey
Fairfaix Mercer, Eſq;
Rev. Dean Marley
M. Mahon, Eſq; Strokeſtown
——— Monck, Eſq;
Hugh Dillon Maſſey, Eſq;
Barth. M'Naghton, Eſq;
Mr. Francis Macfarland
Hon. General Maſſey
Mrs. Malone

N.

Right Hon. Lord Naas
Richard Nevill, Eſq;
William Gleadowe Newcomen, Eſq;
John O'Niel, Eſq;
——— Norford, M.D. *Bury*
New Society, *Nottingham*

O.

Right Hon. the Earl of Orford
Right Hon. Lord Onſlow
Right Hon. Lady Onſlow
Hon. Thomas Onſlow
Hon. Edward Onſlow
Right Rev. the Lord Biſhop of Oſſory
Right Hon. Silver Oliver
Sir Lucios O'Brien, Bart.
George Ogle, Eſq;
Cornelius O'Callanan, Eſq;
Hugh O'Rielly, Eſq;
Charles O'Conor, Eſq; *Belanagar, Roſcommon*
Ralph Ouſley, Eſq;
Thomas Oſborne, Eſq;
Rev. Archdeacon Oliver
Mrs. Ord, *Queen Anne Street, Cavendiſh Square*

P.

His Grace the Lord Primate, 3 copies
Right Hon. Edmund Sexton Pery, Speaker of the Houſe of Commons
Right Hon. the Earl of Powerſcourt
Rev. Mr. Preſton
Joſhua Paul, Eſq;
Henry Prittie, Eſq;
Major Pepper
Mr. Preſton
Rev. Mr. Samuel Partridge
Rev. Thomas Parkinſon, Fellow of Chriſt College, Cambridge

R.

Right Hon. Counteſs Dowager of Radnor
Right Hon. the Earl of Roſs
Right Hon. H. L. Rowley
Major Rowley
Rev. Dean Ryder
Stephen Ram, Eſq;
——— Ryves, Eſq;
John Richardſon, Eſq;
Edward Roche, Eſq; *Trabulgan*
Martin Folkes Riſhton, Eſq;
Mrs. Riſhton

S.

Right Hon. the Earl of Shelburne, 5 copies
Right Hon. the Earl of Shannon, 6 copies
Right Hon. the Counteſs of Shannon
Right Hon. Lord Viſcount Southwell
Right Hon. Lady Sidney
Right Hon. Lord St. Laurence
Right Hon. Lord Sandys
Sir Anneſley Stewart, Bart.
Andrew Stewart, Eſq;
The Hon. Major Southwell
John Symonds, Eſq; LL.D. Prof. Mod. Hiſt. Univ. Cambridge
Richard Stewart, Eſq;
——— Stewart, Eſq; Killymoon
Mrs. Stewart
——— Staples, Eſq;
J. Stewart, Eſq;
Pendergaſt Smyth, Eſq;
Edward Smyth, M.D.
George Smyth, Eſq;
Thomas Smyth, Eſq;
James Scott, Eſq;
Miſs Heſter Stopford
James Simpſon, Eſq;
Book Club, *Swafham*
Richard Seward, Eſq;
Mr. Sheldon, bookſeller, Bath

Right

SUBSCRIBERS NAMES.

T.

Right Hon. the Earl of Tyrone
Right Hon. Lord Templetown
Hon. Thomas Townſhend
J. Toler, Eſq;
Mrs. Sophia Tipping
Miſs Saliſbury Wilhelmina Tipping
Miſs Sophia Mabella Tipping
Frederick Trench, Eſq;
Edward Tighe, Eſq;
Charles Townſhend, Eſq;
Henry Thraie, Eſq;
Richard Twiſs, Eſq; F. R. S.
Hon. T. Townſhend
Charles Townſhend, Eſq;
Rev. Dr. Tanner, *Hadleigh*
Rev. Mr. Taylor, *Biſrons*
Rev. W. Taylor, Fellow of C. C. College, Camb.
Thomas Tyrer, Eſq; *Inner Temple*
Mrs. Trench
Richard Talbot, Eſq;
William Tonſon, Eſq;

V.

Mrs. Voyce

W.

Right Hon. the Earl of Wandesford
Right Rev. Lord Biſhop of Waterford
Right Hon. Lady Heſter Weſtenra
Right Hon. Lord Walpole
Alexander Wedderburne, Eſq; His Majeſty's Attorney General
Mrs. Walcott
David Walſh, Eſq;
General Welſh
——— Whittingham, Eſq;
William Henry Wall, Eſq;
James Wilſon, Eſq;
Mrs. Ward
Mr. William Wilſon, *Dublin*, 2 copies
——— Wordſworth, of Wordſworth, Eſq;
Miſs Whitaker
Rev. Mr. Whitear
Richard Watſon, D. D. F. R. S. Prof. Div. Univ. Camb.

Y.

John Young, D. D. Fellow of Eton and Preb. of Worceſter
Mrs. A. L. Young, *Bradfield*
Mrs. D. Young, *Lynn*, 2 copies

* * * * * * * * * *

In addition to this laſt I muſt obſerve, that having many receipts unaccounted for in Ireland, there may be omiſſions from the gentlemen who diſpoſed of them not having tranſmitted to me the names.



I. Taylor sculp.

An Irish Cabbin.

A

TOUR, &c.

JUNE 19th, 1776, arrived at Holyhead, after an inſtructive journey through a part of England and Wales I had not ſeen before. Found the packet, the Claremont, captain Taylor, would ſail very ſoon. After a tedious paſſage of twenty-two hours, landed on the 20th, in the morning, at Dunlary, four miles from Dublin, a city which much exceeded my expectation; the public buildings are magnificent, very many of the ſtreets regularly laid out, and exceedingly well built. The front of the parliament-houſe is grand; though not ſo light as a more open finiſhing of the roof would have made it. The apartments are ſpacious, elegant, and convenient, much beyond that heap of confuſion at Weſtminſter, ſo inferior to the magnificence to be looked for in the ſeat of empire. I was ſo fortunate as to arrive juſt in time to ſee Lord Harcourt, with the uſual ceremonies, prorogue the parliament. Trinity college is a beautiful building and a numerous ſociety; the library is a very fine room, and well filled. The new exchange will be another edifice to do honour to Ireland; it is elegant, coſt 40,000 l. but deſerves a better ſituation. From every thing I ſaw, I was

ſtruck with all thoſe appearances of wealth which the capital of a thriving community may be ſuppoſed to exhibit. Happy if I find through the country in diffuſed proſperity the right ſource of this ſplendor! The common computation of inhabitants 200,000, but I ſhould ſuppoſe exaggerated. Others gueſſed the number 140, or 150,000.

JUNE 21ſt, introduced by Colonel Burton to the Lord Lieutenant, who was pleaſed to enter into converſation with me on my intended journey, made many remarks on the agriculture of ſeveral Iriſh counties, and ſhewed himſelf to be an excellent farmer, particularly in draining. Viewed the Duke of Leinſter's houſe, which is a very large ſtone edifice, the front ſimple but elegant, the pediment light, there are ſeveral good rooms; but a circumſtance unrivaled is the court, which is ſpacious and magnificent, the opening behind the houſe is alſo beautiful. In the evening to the Rotunda, a circular room, 90 feet diameter, an imitation of Ranelagh, provided with a band of muſick.

THE barracks are a vaſt building, raiſed in a plain ſtile, of many diviſions, the principle front is of an immenſe length. They contain every convenience for ten regiments.

JUNE 23d. Lord Charlemont's houſe in Dublin, is equally elegant and convenient, the apartments large, handſome, and well diſpoſed, containing ſome good pictures, particularly one by Rembrandt, of Judas throwing the money on the floor, with a ſtrong expreſſion of guilt and remorſe; the whole group fine. In the ſame room is a portrait of Cæſar Borgia by Titian. The library is a moſt elegant apartment, of about 40 by 30, and of ſuch a height, as to form a pleaſing proportion, the light is well managed, coming in from the cove of the ceiling, and has an exceeding good effect; at one end is a pretty anti-room, with a fine copy of the Venus de Medicis, and at the other, two

ſmall

ſmall rooms, one a cabinet of pictures, and antiquities, the other medals. In the collection alſo of Robert Fitzgerald, Eſq; in Merion Square, are ſeveral pieces which very well deſerve a traveller's attention.—It was the beſt I ſaw in Dublin. Before I quit that city, I obſerve, on the houſes in general, that what they call their two-roomed ones, are good and convenient. Mr. Latouche's, in Stephen's Green, I was ſhewn as a model of this ſort, and I found it well contrived, and finiſhed elegantly. Drove to Lord Charlemont's villa at Marino, near the city, where his Lordſhip has formed a pleaſing lawn, margined in the higher part by a well-planted thriving ſhrubbery, and on a riſing ground a banqueting room, which ranks very high among the moſt beautiful edifices I have any where ſeen; it has much elegance, lightneſs, and effect, and commands a fine proſpect; the riſing ground on which it ſtands ſlopes off to an agreeable accompanyment of wood, beyond which, on one ſide, is Dublin harbour, which here has the appearance of a noble river crowded with ſhips moving to and from the capital. On the other ſide is a ſhore ſpotted with white buildings, and beyond it the hills of Wicklow, preſenting an outline extremely various. The other part of the view (it would be more perfect if the city was planted out) is varied, in ſome places nothing but wood, in others, breaks of proſpect. The lawn, which is extenſive, is new graſs, and appears to be excellently laid down, the herbage a fine crop of white clover, *(trifolium repens)*, trefoile, rib-graſs, *(plantage lanceolata)*, and other good plants. Returned to Dublin and made inquiries into other points, the prices of proviſions, &c. (for which ſee the tables at the end of the book). The expences of a family in proportion to thoſe of London are, as 5 to 8.

Having the year following lived more than two months in Dublin, I am able to ſpeak to a few points, which, as a mere traveller I could not have done. The information I before re-

ceived of the prices of living is correct. Fiſh and poultry are plentiful and very cheap. Good lodgings almoſt as dear as they are in London; though we were well accommodated (dirt excepted) for two guineas and an half a week. All the lower ranks in this city have no idea of engliſh cleanlineſs, either in apartments, perſons, or cookery. There is a very good ſociety in Dublin in a parliament winter—a great round of dinners, and parties; and balls, and ſuppers every night in the week, ſome of which are very elegant, but you almoſt every where meet a company much too numerous for the ſize of the apartments. They have two aſſemblies on the plan of thoſe of London, in Fiſhamble-ſtreet, and at the Rotunda; and two gentlemens clubs, Anthry's and Daly's, very well regulated; I heard ſome anecdotes of deep play at the latter, though never to the exceſs common at London. An ill-judged and unſucceſsful attempt was made to eſtabliſh the Italian Opera, which exiſted but with ſcarcely any life for this one winter; of courſe they could riſe no higher than a comic one. La buona Figliuola, la Fraſcatana, and il Geloſo in Cimento, were repeatediy performed, or rather murdered, except the parts of Seſtini. The houſe was generally empty and miſerably cold. So much knowledge of the ſtate of a country is gained by hearing the debates of a parliament, that I often frequented the gallery of the houſe of commons. Since Mr. Flood has been ſilenced with the vice-treaſurerſhip of Ireland, Mr. Daly, Mr. Gratten, Sir William Oſborn, and the prime ſerjeant Burgh, are reckoned high among the Iriſh orators. I heard many very eloquent ſpeeches, but I cannot ſay they ſtruck me like the exertion of the abilities of iriſhmen in the engliſh houſe of commons, owing perhaps to the reflection both on the ſpeaker and auditor, that the attorney general of England, with a daſh of his pen, can reverſe, alter, or entirely do away the matured reſult of all the eloquence, and all the abilities of this whole aſſembly. Before I conclude with Dublin I ſhall only remark, that walking in the ſtreets there, from the narrowneſs

and

and populouſneſs of the principal thoroughfares, as well as from the dirt and wretchedneſs of the canaille, is a moſt uneaſy and diſguſting exerciſe.

JUNE 24th, left Dublin and paſſed through the Phœnix park, a very pleaſing ground, at the bottom of which, to the left, the Liffy forms a variety of landſcapes: this is the moſt beautiful environ of Dublin. Take the road to Luttrell's town through a various ſcenery on the banks of the river. That domain is a conſiderable one in extent, being above 400 acres within the wall, Iriſh meaſure; in the front of the houſe is a fine lawn bounded by rich woods, through which are many ridings, four miles in extent. From the road towards the houſe, they lead through a very fine glen, by the ſide of a ſtream falling over a rocky bed, through the dark woods, with great variety on the ſides of ſteep ſlopes, at the bottom of which the Liffy is either heard or ſeen indiſtinctly; theſe woods are of great extent, and ſo near the capital, form a retirement exceedingly beautiful. Lord Irnham and Colonel Luttrel have brought in the aſſiſtance of agriculture to add to the beauties of the place, they have kept a part of the lands in cultivation in order to lay them down the better to graſs; 150 acres have been done, and above 200 acres moſt effectually drained in the covered manner filled with ſtones. Theſe works are well executed. The drains are alſo made under the roads in all wet places, with lateral ſhort ones to take off the water inſtead of leaving it, as is common, to ſoak againſt the cauſeway, which is an excellent method. Great uſe has been made of lime-ſtone gravel in the improvements, the effect of which is ſo conſiderable, that in ſeveral ſpots where it was laid on 10 years ago, the ſuperiority of the graſs is now ſimilar to what one would expect from a freſh dunging.

MR.

Mr. Macfarlan the ſteward has at ſome diſtance from the grounds a farm which he is bringing into high order. His ditches are large, deep, and well cut, and he has made many drains. Lime he has uſed much, and experimentally againſt ſpots unlimed, and found the benefit very great; the ſoil, a ſtrong, wet, ſtoney loam on lime ſtone. He lays 160 barrels an acre, at the expence of ſeven pence a barrel, and finds that it will laſt as long as the gravel. For meadow lands, he prefers it mixed with earth, but on tillage gravel. Soot he buys at Dublin for ſowing over the wheat in april to kill the red worm, for which it anſwers, and alſo improves the crop. Another circumſtance in which he differs from the farmers, is cutting ſtraw into chaff, and alſo in beginning to plough his fallows in autumn. He much prefers ploughing with oxen to horſes. The following particulars he gave me of the general ſtate of huſbandry in the county of Dublin: farms about 100 l. a year, more above than under, ſome to 300 l. a year. The ſoil on the ſurface a ſtoney yellow clay, 18 inches deep on lime-ſtone gravel, with ſome exceptions of ſlate-ſtone, rents about 1 l. 11 s. 6 d: from 10 s. 6 d. to 3 l. 3 s. courſes moſt general,

1. Fallow.
2. Wheat. Sow 1 barrel, and get on an average 8 barrels.
3. Oats. Sow 2 barrels, get from 12 to 20.

Sometimes 1. Fallow. 2. Wheat. 3. Oats. 4. Clover. 5. Wheat. 6. Oats. They plough four times for wheat, on clover but once, feed their clover the year through. No ſain-foine.

Many potatoes in the ridgeway 7 feet broad, and the furrows 3½. Cut generally 18 to 24 inches deep, in order to throw up ſome lime-ſtone gravel: always dung for them 320 one horſe loads to an acre at about 5 or 6 to a ton, are ſpread over the 7 feet. Lay the ſets upon the dung, dig a ſpit and ſhovel it; then dig another ſpit, and another ſhovelling, the ſetts 12 inches aſunder; from 4 to 5 barrels plant an acre. Weed, but no hoeing;

ing; take them up with the ſpade, and the crop from 60 to 70 barrels: all are planted for home-uſe, but they give their pigs the ſmall ones, boiled; and they will fatten them to be fine bacon, but give ſome butter-milk, and a week or two before they are killed ſome offal corn. For fowls, boil them to a maſh, and mix with butter-milk, which fattens them exceedingly well. The price of potatoes on an average 20d. per cwt. the moſt productive ſorts are the white kidney, and the white Munſter. Limeſtone gravel the general manure of the country; they lay 3 or 400, one horſe-cart loads per acre; it will laſt from 15 to 20 years, and is of the greateſt benefit; it appears immediately: the expence uſually 1l. 11s. 6d. per acre. Spread it on the fallow, after the firſt plowing. They go much to Dublin for fullage of the ſtreets to lay on their hay grounds.

Good graſs-land letts at 40s. an acre; five miles round Dublin from 40s. to 10l. on an average about 3l. 8s. Mow moſt of it for hay; a good crop 20 load at 4 cwt. an acre round Dublin; through the county 12 load an acre. Many dairies kept for letting from 5l. 15s. to 6l. 5s. per cow; the dairyman finds labour, but has horſes enough kept him to draw the milk to Dublin.

On an average a cow will require, for her ſummer and winter food, an acre and an half, but not of the beſt graſs.—Of that an acre would do.—The breed the old Iriſh; the Engliſh cows do not give ſo much milk, from 4 to 6lb. of butter a cow the produce per week: the butter-milk ſells from 4s. to 6s. per barrel. A good cow ſhould give 8 quarts a day, if leſs the cowman rejects her. The winter food hay. Very few ſwine kept, except by cottagers. Sheep they buy in june or july, and ſell them from ſeptember until march; buy in wethers three years old, at 20s. and ſell them out at 1l. 11s. 6d. but give them hay. Plough with oxen four in a plough; but in *goring*, or *croſs-plowing*, ſix, and

and do half an acre a day. To 100 acres arable there muſt be ſix bullocks and eight horſes.

Plough nine inches deep at *goring*; price of ploughing, ſowing, and harrowing, 16s. to 20s. an acre. Lay their fields in 4 foot lands. Keeping horſes, 9l. a year each. No cutting of ſtraw into chaff among the common farmers: the plough oxen they work on ſtraw. They have more horſes than oxen; put them to work at three years old, keep them at it till nine, then fatten them. They break their ſtubbles in may or june. In hireing and ſtocking farms, they will, with 80l. take as many acres, dividing it as follow, on 80 acres.

	£.	s.	£.	s.	d.
6 Horſes at	3	3	18	18	0
4 Oxen	3	0	12	0	0
4 Cows	2	10	10	0	0
2 Pigs		18	1	16	0
4 Iriſh cars	1	7	5	8	0
2 Ploughs			1	1	0
2 Harrows			0	16	0
Harneſs			4	4	0
Sundries			5	0	0
Furniture			5	0	0
Houſe-keeping the firſt year			6	0	0
1 Man 4l. and 1 boy, 2l. wages			6	0	0
1 Maid			1	10	0
Seed 13 acres, wheat 20s. / Oats 13 acres 16s.			23	8	0
			£. 101	1	0

For part of which he will run in debt. Land ſells in general, through the county, at 22 years purchaſe. Till within three years

years it roſe much, from 1762 to 1772; ſince that it has rather fallen. Tythes none taken in kind, compounded by the acre. Wheat and barley 5s. 6d. Oats 2s. 9d. near Dublin 5s. or 6s. Moſt of the people drink tea, and conſume plenty of whiſky and tobacco. Leaſes 41 or 61 years; many on lives, and alſo renewable for ever.

Rent of cottages 26s. to 30s. with a potatoe garden. No emigrations. The religion in general catholic. Labour through the year 10d. a day, about Dublin 1s. A ditch of 6 feet wide 5 feet deep perpendicular, and 2½ at bottom earth all on one ſide 2s. 6d. a perch. Threſhing and cleaning wheat 9d. per barrel; barley 6d ½. Oats 4d ½.

Provisions.

Bread 10lb. of 14 oz. for 12d.
Bacon 6d.
Butter-milk 1d ½. a quart.
New milk 2d. a quart. Potatoes 1s. 6d. per cwt.
Candles 5d ½. per lb. Soap 6d. Firing all ſtolen.

Building.

Iriſh ſlate 15s. per 1000. Engliſh 20s.
Oak timber rather fallen in price in 10 years.
Elm 1s. 4d. Beech 1s. Soft wood 8d. Firs at 60 years growth, 1 ton to 1½ of timber, and worth 2l. 2s. Walling 1s. a perch, for labour of 7 feet high and 18 inch thick. Building a cottage 3l. ditto a farm-houſe, and all offices for 80 acres, 20l.

Leaving Luttrel's town, I went to St. Wolſtans, which Lord Harcourt had been ſo obliging as to deſire I would make my quarters, from whence to view to the right or left.

JUNE 25th, to Mr. Clements, at Killadoon, who has lately built an excellent houſe, and planted much about it, with the ſatisfaction of finding that all his trees thrive well; I remarked the beech and larch ſeemed to get beyond the reſt. He is alſo a good farmer. Cabbages he has repeatedly tried, and uſed them generally for fattening ſheep, and finds them much better for the purpoſe than turneps.

POTATOES he cultivates largely, not only for family uſe, but alſo for fattening ſwine; boils them, and they fat exceedingly well, without any mixture of meal, both porkers and for bacon, giving them oats for three weeks at laſt.

HE has been very attentive to bring his farm into neat order reſpecting fences, throwing down and levelling old banks, making new ditches, double ones ſix feet wide and five deep, with a large bank between for planting, more effectually than ever I ſaw in England: alſo in hollow drains his wet lands.

REMARKING in one of his fields under oats one part, about an acre incomparably beyond the reſt of the field, I enquired into the cauſe of it, and found it ſown with an Engliſh oat, no other difference in the circumſtances.

HIS ſyſtem of ſheep is to buy ewes, in ſeptember, at 14s. 6d. and to fatten both lamb and ewe, ſelling the firſt at 9s. and the latter at 18s. The wool is 4s. They lamb the beginning of march. Obſerving the legs being long, his man aſſured me that the longer the legs, the better the ſheep ſold in Smithfield. A ridiculous prepoſſeſſion! not peculiar to Ireland; Wiltſhire has it.

JUNE 26th, breakfaſted with Colonel Marlay, at Cellbridge, found he had practiſed huſbandry with much ſucceſs, and given great attention to it from the peace of 1763, which put a period to

to a gallant ſcene of ſervice in Germany; walked through his grounds, which I found in general very well cultivated; his fences excellent, his ditches 5 by 6, and 7 by 6; the banks well made, and planted with quicks; the borders dug away covered with lime, till perfectly ſlacked, then mixed with dung, and carried into the fields: a practice which Mr. Marlay has found of very great benefit. He has cultivated the large Scotch cabbage for two or three years, which came to 16 or 17 lb. on an average, applied them to fattening oxen that had been fed on graſs; began to give them in november; has had 2½ acres: they fattened the beaſts very well, full as well as turneps, but did not think they anſwered the expence, as they require in order to have them of a great ſize an immenſe quantity of dung.

Turneps.

He has ſown every year ſince 1763, always had from 4 to 17 acres, has uſually drilled them in rows, the diſtances various; but thoſe which anſwered beſt, were double rows at 12 inches, with intervals of three feet, horſe hoed, hand hoed, and weeded them. Prepared for them by lime and dung; the crops fine, up to 21 lb. a turnep, but on an average about 8 lb. Generally fed beaſts with them that had had the ſummer's graſs, but with both gave ſome hay, and were very fat in four months. Continued them in the ſame ground for ſix or ſeven years together, manuring for them every ſecond year. It is rather to be regretted that he did not every year change the land.

Potatoes.

Plants them with the plough, drawing furrows five feet aſunder, filled with dung, the ſets on the dung, and then covered with the plough, and horſe-hoed them backwards and forwards, the crop 28 barrels per acre of very large ones.

Clover.

Mr. Marlay has introduced this plant ſo generally, that he ſows no corn without it. The profit exceedingly great, more than that of any other improvement.

Lime.

Used much, mixed with earth, and found great ſucceſs from it, even on lime-ſtone land. Burns at 7 d. a barrel; always leaves it on the ditch-earth to ſlack, and then mixes it before dung is put to it.

Draining.

Has drained much in the hollow way, filling with ſtones, and found the benefit exceedingly great, can cart on the wetteſt lands at any time, two years have paid the expence.

Ploughing.

Instead of the common draught of the country, he uſes often only two oxen in a plough, for he has many ſorts of ploughs from Mr. Baker and from England.

Cows.

From three Kerry cows, from the middle of may to the middle of ſeptember, he had 24 lb. of butter a week.

The Colonel favoured me with the following particulars of the common huſbandry about Cellbridge. Farms generally 100 acres; the medium of the county from 20 l. to 100 l. Soil various; ſtoney loams, gravels and clays, and on lime-ſtone quarries. Rents about 1 l. 10 s. on an average. Their courſe,

1. Fallow.
2. Wheat, ſow a barrel and get 7.

3. Oats,

3. Oats, ſow two barrels and get 14.
4. Oats.
A little barley is cultivated.

They plough three or four times for wheat. Turneps were ſown in fields 30 years ago, but left off on account of the poor ſtealing them. Great quantities of potatoes planted in the trenching way, the expence 3 l. in labour only to put in if done by hire, and 40 s. if for themſelves. The cottagers pay the farmers 8 l. an acre for the land ready dunged, and they require three car loads to every ſquare perch.—This great manuring ſwallows up not only all the dung of the farm, but nine tenths of that of the kingdom. They begin to plant in march, and continue it to the end of may, moſt of them weed, the crop upon an average about 100 barrels, at 5 s. each. They are obliged to clear the land by the firſt of november, when the farmer ploughs and ſows wheat and gets fine crops. The apple potatoe is liked beſt, becauſe they laſt till the new ones come in.

In reſpect to manuring they uſe but little lime, but depend principally on lime-ſtone gravel, 300 car loads to an acre; if taken out of the ditch as on the ſpot, it coſts about 18 or 19 s. an acre. It will laſt about five or ſix years good.

As to laying lands to graſs the tenants do it very often; but their only way is to let it cover itſelf with ſuch vegetables as may come, and upon ſome land it forms very good graſs.

But few cows kept. They apply their graſs chiefly to fattening cows; there is ſome good meadow on the river, and in grazing, two acres will fatten three cows, beſides ſome ſheep and winter food. Flocks riſe to 3 or 400—buy in wethers half fat, which turn into after-graſs till chriſtmas, then to hay, and ſell in february and march; buy at 18 to 20, ſell at 30 to 35. They plough with both horſes and oxen, the draft four oxen or

two

two oxen and two horſes. To a farm of 117 acres, ten horſes and two oxen.

They plough five inches deep, and do one half, or three fourths of an acre a day. Lay their lands in three feet ridges—No cutting ſtraw into chaff. The draft oxen have hay when worked. Hire of a boy, a horſe and car, 1 s. 6 d. a day; two cars and one man 1 s. 6 d. In hiring and ſtocking farms—for 50 acres

	£.	s.	d.
4 Horſes, at 3 l. 3 s - -	12	12	0
3 Cows, at 3 l. 3 s. - - -	9	9	0
2 Young cattle, at 16 s. - -	1	12	0
2 Pigs 5 s. - - -	0	10	0
2 Cars 40 s. - - -	4	0	0
1 Plough. - -	0	6	0
Harrows - - -	0	5	0
No harneſs			
Sundries - - -	1	0	0
Furniture - -	1	0	0
Houſekeeping 1 s. 4 d. a day for half a year	12	0	0
Harveſt, labouring, &c. -	10	0	0
Seed, 10 acres, 10 barrels wheat £. 10 0 0			
10 Acres oats, 20 ditto 6 0 0			
5 Ditto bere, 5 ditto - 3 0 0	19	0	0
£.	71	14	0

Produce.

3 Cows 5 lb. butter a week, from 1ſt may to end of ſeptember 100 lb. at 8d. -	3	6	8
2 Pigs - - -	1	4	0
50 Barrels of wheat - -	50	0	0
10 Acres wheat ſtraw -	10	0	0
10———oats, 100 barrels - -	30	0	0
5———bere, 13 ditto - -	48	15	0
£.	143	5	8

Ex-

EXPENCES.

Labour———————	£. 10	
Rent and ceſs———————	80	90 0 0

A FARMER that has a plough, a harrow three cars, four horſes and ſix cows with 50 l. in his pocket, will take a farm of 100 acres. Tythes for wheat 7 s. for oats and bere 3 s. for mowing ground 5 s. Land ſells at 22 years purchaſe, has fallen ſince 1772 one or two years. County ceſs paid by tenant for roads 1 s. an acre. Leaſes uſual three lives or 31 years, ſome renewable for ever. People rather increaſed. Rent of a cabbin and half an acre of land, 40 s. All catholics. Building a new cottage 10 l. which with one half an acre lets at 40 s. for a farm of 50 acres, 40 to 50 l. Building a wall 10 feet high, 18 inches thick, and 21 foot long, 34 s. with mortar daſhed 8 s. leſs, ſlating a guinea a ſquare.

WALKED through Lauglinſtown, the farm of the late Mr. John Whyn, baker, to whom the Dublin ſociety, with a liberality that does them great honour, gave for ſeveral years 300 l. annually in order to make experiments.

I HAD had the pleaſure of correſponding with him ſeveral years, and melancholy it was to ſee the land of a man of ſo much ingenuity no longer his, and more ſo, to hear with all his exertions he was not able to anſwer the expectations raiſed of him. I found what I had ſuſpected from reading his experiments, that he wanted capital; without a ſufficient one it is impoſſible to farm well:—A man may have all the abilities in the world, write like a genius, talk like an angel, and realy underſtand the buſineſs in all its depths, but unleſs he has a proper capital, his farm will never be fit for exhibition;—and then, to condemn him for not being a good farmer in practice as well as theory, is juſt like abuſing the inhabitants of the iriſh cabbins for not becoming excellent

cellent managers. No idea could be more uſeful, than that of encouraging ſuch a man as Mr. Baker, but a capital ſhould have been furniſhed him for bringing his farm into order, and when it was ſo, he ſhould have been directed not to try any experiments; becauſe thoſe trials were for the acquiſition of knowledge in diſputable points, and the ſociety wanted no ſuch diſquiſitions, but the exhibition of a farm, cultivated in a manner which experience has rendered indiſputable in England or elſewhere.

VIEWED Lucan, the ſeat of Agmondiſham Veſey, Eſq; on the banks of the Liffy; the houſe is rebuilding, but the wood on the river, with walks through it, is exceedingly beautiful. The character of the place is that of a ſequeſtered ſhade. Diſtant views are every where ſhut out, and the objects all correſpond perfectly with the impreſſion they were deſigned to raiſe: it is a walk on the banks of the river, chiefly under a variety of fine wood, which riſes on varied ſlopes, in ſome parts gentle, in others ſteep; ſpreading here and there into cool meadows, on the oppoſite ſhore, rich banks of wood or ſhrubby ground. The walk is perfectly ſequeſtered, and has that melancholy gloom which ſhould ever dwell in ſuch a place The river is of a character perfectly ſuited to the reſt of the ſcenery, in ſome places breaking over rocks; in others ſilent, under the thick ſhade of ſpreading wood. Leaving Lucan, the next place is Leixlip, a fine one, on the river, with a fall, which, in a wet ſeaſon, is conſiderable. Then St. Wolſtans, belonging to the dean of Derry, a beautiful villa, which is alſo on the river; the grounds gay and open, though not without the advantage of much wood, diſpoſed with judgment. A winding ſhrubbery quits the river, and is made to lead through ſome dreſſed ground that is pretty and chearful.

MR.

Mr. Conolly's, at Caſtle-town, to which all travellers reſort, is the fineſt houſe in Ireland, and not exceeded by many in England; it is a large handſome edifice, ſituated in the middle of an extenſive lawn, which is quite ſurrounded with fine plantations diſpoſed to the beſt advantage: to the north, theſe unite into very large woods, through which many winding walks lead, with the convenience of ſeveral ornamented ſeats, rooms, &c. On the other ſide of the houſe, upon the river, is a cottage, with a ſhrubbery, prettily laid out; the houſe commands an extenſive view, bounded by the Wicklow mountains. It conſiſts of ſeveral noble apartments. On the firſt floor is a beautiful gallery, 80 feet long, elegantly fitted up.

June 27th, left Lord Harcourt's, and having received an invitation from the Duke of Leinſter, paſſed through Mr. Conolly's grounds to his Grace's ſeat at Cartown, the park ranks among the fineſt in Ireland. It is a vaſt lawn, which waves over gentle hills, ſurrounded by plantations of great extent, and which break and divide in places, ſo as to give much variety. A large but gentle vale winds through the whole, in the bottom of which a ſmall ſtream has been enlarged into a fine river, which throws a chearfulneſs through moſt of the ſcenes: over it a handſome ſtone-bridge. There is a great variety on the banks of this vale; part of it conſiſts of mild and gentle ſlopes, part ſteep banks of thick wood; in another place they are formed into a large ſhrubbery, very elegantly laid out, and dreſſed in the higheſt order, with a cottage, the ſcenery about which is uncommonly pleaſing: and farther on, this vale takes a ſtronger character, having a rocky bank on one ſide, and ſteep ſlopes ſcattered irregularly, with wood on the other. On one of the moſt riſing grounds in the park is a tower, from the top of which the whole ſcenery is beheld; the park ſpreads on every ſide in fine ſheets of lawn, kept in the higheſt order

by 1100 ſheep, ſcattered over with rich plantations, and bounded by a large margin of wood, through which is a riding.

FROM this building his Grace has another ſort of view, not every where to be met with; he looks over a great part of 60,000 acres, which lie around him nearly contiguous; and Ireland is obliged to him for ſpending the revenue on the ſpot that produces it. At a ſmall diſtance from the park is a new town, Manooth, which the duke has built; it is regularly laid out, and conſiſts of good houſes. His Grace gives encouragement to ſettling in it, conſequently it increaſes, and he meditates ſeveral improvements.

REACHED Kilcock.

JUNE 28th, breakfaſted with Mr. Jones of Dolleſtown, who was ſo obliging as to anſwer my enquiries concerning the huſbandry of his neighbourhood. He informed me, that the town of Kilcock contained ſix great diſtilleries for making whiſky, and that all the waſh and grains were uſed in fattening either hogs or beaſts, generally the latter. About november they put them to it, and though quite lean, they will be completely fat by eaſter: thoſe who are more attentive than common, give them alſo ſome bran or hay. Mr. Foſter of Branchale, at ſome diſtance from the town, has a more complete diſtillery, and fats more beaſts than any other perſon.

FARMS here riſe from 20 to 100 acres, at 21s. an acre, except about the town, where they are higher: but they have fallen 5s. an acre in five or ſix years.

THE courſe moſt common is,

1. POTATOES, which yield 60 barrels an acre.

2. Bere

2. Bere ſown in november, ¼ of a barrel per acre, the crop 13 or 14.
3. Oats, 1½ to two barrels ſown, the produce 13.
4. Oats.
5. Summer fallow.
6. Wheat, ſow ¼, get 7.
7. Oats.
8. Oats.

THEY plant ſome potatoes on lays without dung; but for this the land muſt be very good, or the lay old: it is not eſteemed ſo good a way as on ſtubble. The cottars give 5l. 5s. to 6l. an acre dunged for planting potatoes, and their expences are as follow;

RENT - - - - - -	£.	5	15 0
Digging and putting in - - -		3	10 0
10 barrels of ſeed, at 5s. per barrel -		2	10 0
Planting and ſpreading the dung - -		0	10 0
Digging and gathering - - -		3	10 0
	£.	15	15 0

THE cutting the ſetts and weeding done in broken days.

SIXTY barrels at 5s.—15l. Conſequently the prime coſt to them is 5s. a barrel, or 1s. 3d. a buſhel, engliſh, which is an evident proof that this is the worſt mode of planting in the world. They have not done taking them up till chriſtmas.

LIMESTONE gravel is the general manure of the country; it is found at two feet depth, and the worſe the ground is the better the gravel does upon it. They uſe it only for ploughed land.

A good dreſſing of it coſts 50s. an acre, and it laſts ſeven years. But few cattle or ſheep kept, for tillage has increaſed within twenty years very much, owing to the culture of potatoes, not to the bounty on the inland carriage of corn.

They plough entirely with horſes, uſe four in a plough, and do three-fourths of an acre a day. In laying their wheat and bere lands, they are very attentive to do it well; if the ſoil is dry on broad lands, if wet, on narrow; and after it is ſown and harrowed, they go once with the plough in every furrow, and ſhovel out all the looſe moulds: a practice which cannot be praiſed too much. They are ſo far from cutting ſtraw into chaff, that they throw away that of their crops. They are, upon the whole, in much better circumſtances than formerly, have fewer holidays, and more induſtry. Tythes are compounded. Meadow 3s. Wheat 5s. Bere 5s. Oats 3s. Leaſes are from 21 to 31 years. Rent of a cabbin and ſmall garden 40s. Building one 5l. A farm-houſe, and offices for 50 acres, 40l. I remarked, all the way I came, great quantities of poultry in the cabbins and farms.

Mr. Jones, in an attentive practice of agriculture, has tried ſome experiments of conſequence. Potatoes he has cultivated for cattle; and had, at one time, twelve ſtore bullocks keeping upon them—they liked them much, and eat three barrels a day. They weighed 5 cwt. each; and had they been kept long enough on the potatoes, would have been fattened. For his horſes, he boils the potatoes, gives them, mixed with bran, and finds that they do very well on them, without oats.

Mr. Armstrong, of King's-county, had 80 ſheep in the ſnow laſt winter, which got to his potatoes, and eat them freely, upon which he picked 40 of them, and put them to that food regularly;

larly; they fattened very quick, much ſooner than 40 others at hay, and yielded him a great price at Smithfield.

Mr. Jones has improved ſome poor rough land that produced nothing, firſt by hollow draining thoroughly, and then manuring it with limeſtone gravel, which brought up a great crop of white and red clover, and trefoile. He alſo ſpreads this manure on lays he intends breaking up; and obſerves that the uſe of it is very great, for, when dug out of ditches, you gain at once manure, drains and fences. He has ſeen ſome of it dropt on a bog in carting, and where-ever it falls, is ſure to bring up the white clover.

From hence took the road to Summerhill, the ſeat of the Right Hon. H. L. Rowley, the country is chearful and rich; and if the iriſh cabbins continue like what I have hitherto ſeen, I ſhall not heſitate to pronounce their inhabitants as well off as moſt engliſh cottagers. They are built of mud walls 18 inches or 2 feet thick, and well thatched, which are far warmer than the thin clay walls in England. Here are few cottars without a cow, and ſome of them two. A belly full invariably of potatoes, and generally turf for fuel from a bog. It is true they have not always chimneys to their cabbins, the door ſerving for that and window too: if their eyes are not affected with the ſmoke, it may be an advantage in warmth. Every cottage ſwarms with poultry, and moſt of them have pigs. It is to the polite attention of Mr. Rowley, I owe the following information. About Summerhill the ſoil is moſtly ſtrong ſtony land, on clay, but naturally fertile. He lets it at about 20s. an acre, which is the average rent of the whole county of Meath to the occupier; but if the tenures of middle men are included, it is not above 14s. This intermediate tenant, between landlord and occupier, is very common here. The farmers are very much improved in their circumſtances ſince about the year 1752. At a rack-rent, the land

ſells

ſells at 21 years purchaſe; but according to circumſtances, to 26 and 27. Whenever a number of years purchaſe of land is mentioned in Ireland, it implies a neat rent, without any deductions whatever. A courſe of crops very common here is from the lay.

1. Wheat, the crop 6 barrels.
2. Wheat.
3. Oats, the crop 10 barrels.
4. Oats.
5. Clover.
6. Clover.

Potatoes are much planted, the beſt land yields 100 to 120 barrels per acre, but a middling produce 80, at 32 ſtone the barrel. The poor pay 6 l. or 6 l. 6 s. an acre rent for graſs land to plant, and 3 l. or 4 l. for a ſecond crop. They are every where uſed for feeding hogs and poultry. Mr. Rowley has fattened worked oxen of five years old in eight weeks on them parboiled, with hay beſides. Much marle is uſed here on the lighter lands, but for the heavy ſoils lime-ſtone gravel is preferred. In hiring farms, the lower tenants will take them of 50 acres, if they have a few cows and horſes, without a ſhilling in their pockets. Mr. Rowley keeps a very conſiderable domain in his hands; adjoining to it is a black turf bog of admirable uſe for firing. I viewed it attentively, and am clear, that all ſuch bogs as this with a fall from them for draining, might very eaſily be improved into excellent meadow. The ſurface is covered with heath about a foot high, and under that eight or nine feet deep of puffy ſtuff, which when burnt yields no aſhes; then the bog turf ten feet deep cuts like butter, and under that a marley lime-ſtone gravel. They have found at 14 ſeet deep evident marks of the plough in the ſoil at bottom, alſo remains of cabbins, cribs for cattle, mooſes horns, oaks, yews, and fir, being good red deal. In working for fuel, they dig out the black bog and throw the upper ſtratum in its place, through which open drains being kept, the turfs,

turfs, as they are dug are ſpread on it for drying. In many ſpots I remarked the vernal graſs (*anthoxanthum odoratum*), the holcus (*lanatus*), narrow leaved plantain (*plantago lanceolata*), docks (*rumex*), white and red clover; and on the banks of the maſter drains a full crop of fern (*pteris aquilina*). Upon cutting ſmall ſurface drains on the bog the heath (*erica*) doubles its growth. The expence of cutting drains in the bog ſix feet wide at top, ſix deep, and one wide at bottom, is 8d. or 9d. a perch of 21 foot. The plantations and ornamented grounds at Summerhill are extenſive, and form a very fine environ, ſpreading over the hills, and having a noble appearance from the high lands above the bog. The houſe is large and handſome, with an elegant hall, a cube of 30 feet, and many very good and convenient apartments.

Went in the evening to Lord Mornington's at Dangan, who is making many improvements which he ſhewed me; his plantations are extenſive, and he has formed a large water, having five or ſix iſlands much varied, and promontories of high land ſhoot ſo far into it as to form almoſt diſtant lakes, the effect pleaſing. There are above 100 acres under water, and his Lordſhip has planned a conſiderable addition to it. Returned to Summerhill.

June 29th, left it, taking the road to Slaine, the country very pleaſant all the way; much of it on the banks of the Boyne, variegated with ſome woods, planted hedge-rows, and gentle hills: the cabbins continue much the ſame, the ſame plenty of poultry, pigs, and cows. The cattle in the road have their fore legs all tied together with ſtraw to keep them from breaking into the fields; even ſheep, and pigs, and goats are all in the ſame bondage. I had the pleaſure of meeting Colonel Burton at the caſtle, in whom I was ſo fortunate as to find, on repeated occaſions, the utmoſt aſſiduity to procure me every ſpecies of information, entering into the ſpirit of my deſign with the moſt liberal ideas. His partner in Slaine Mills, Mr. Jebb, gave me the

the following particulars of the common huſbandry, which, upon reading over to ſeveral intelligent farmers, they found very little occaſion to correct. Farms riſe from 100 to 300 acres, the ſoil, a ſtoney loam upon a rock, and lets on an average at 25 s. and the whole county throughout the ſame. The courſes of crops,

1. Fallow with lime, 120 barrels an acre, at 7d. beſides carriage.
2. Wheat, ſow a barrel, and get 6 to 7, ſometimes 11.
3. Barley or oats, if barley, ſow 1¼. and get 13.
4. Oats, ſow two barrels, the crop 16. Alſo,

1. Fallow, 2. wheat, 3. barley, 4. oats, 5. clover, for Two Years 6. barley.

Another, 1. fallow, 2. wheat, 3. ſpring corn, 4. ſpring corn, 5. fallow, 6. wheat, 7. barley, and red or white clover or trefoile and hay ſeeds. Another, 1. fallow, 2. wheat, 3. clover, 2 years, 4. barley, 5. oats. A common practice is, for the farmers to hire any kind of rough waſte land, at three guineas, or three pound an acre for three crops, engaging to lime it if the lime is found them; 120 barrels per acre, which comes to 3 l. 10 s. from 9 l. 9 s. leaves ſix for three years. They cultivate it in the common courſe of 1. fallow, 2. wheat, 3. barley, and 4. oats. Turneps not generally come in, but farmer Macguire has 20 acres to 40 every year, but does not hoe them, he feeds ſheep on the land and then ſows barley and clover. Clover would be more general, was it not for the expence of picking the ſtones for mowing, which coſts 10s. or 12s. an acre. Sometimes mow it once, and feed afterwards; the crops exceedingly great. A few tares ſown for the horſes. On the banks of the Nanny water, many white peaſe ſown, inſtead of a fallow, and good crops, wheat ſown after them. They alſo ſow beans about Kilbrue. Every farmer has a little flax, from a rood to an acre, and all the cottages a ſpot, if they have any land, they go through the whole proceſs themſelves, and ſpin and weave it. From hence to Drogheda, there is a conſiderable manufacture of courſe cloth, which is exported

ported to Liverpool, about 1 s. a yard. At Navan there is a fabrick of ſacking for home conſumption; the weavers earn 1 s. a day at theſe works.

POTATOES are a great article of culture; the cottagers take land of the farmers, giving them 4l. 10s. an acre, dunged. All in the trenching way, the ridge ſix feet, the furrow two and a half; always weed them, the beſt ſeaſon for planting the middle of april. The crop 64 barrels on an average, and the price 3 s. 6d. a barrel. They have got much into the apple potatoe.

	£.	s.	d.
Rent - - - -	4	11	0
Spreading dung - -	0	2	0
Seven barrels of ſeed 3 s. 6 d. - -	1	4	6
Cutting and laying - -	0	6	6
Trenching and earthing up - -	4	0	0
Taking up picking 1 d ½. a barrel, 64	0	8	0
	10	12	0

From whence it appears, that the prime coſt of the potatoes is 4s. a barrel. Wheat is ſown after them, and ſometimes barley; the wheat is generally a bad crop and bad grain, but the barley good. For fat hogs they boil them, and at laſt mix ſome bran or oats; a hog of 2 cwt. will fatten in two months, on ſix barrels and one barrel of oats. Much poultry is alſo reared and fed in all the cabbins by means of potatoes.

WASTE lands have been brought in and cultivated at Grange Geath, the ſoil ſtony and over-run with heath *(erica vulgaris)* and whins, *(ulex europæus)* let before the improvement at 4s.

but lets now at 20 s. They ploughed up the ſurface and ſpontaneous growth, ſummer fallowed and lined at 150 barrels an acre, ſowed wheat, and purſued the courſe above mentioned, the crops of oats exceedingly great, 20 barrels an acre; of this land there were 2500 acres. The great manure of the country is lime, which is always laid on fallow; they find the advantage of it ſo clearly as to be ſeen in the effect to an inch: but when land is got much out of heart, then the lime will not do; and they lay it down to clover for ſeveral years till there is ſomething of a turf, after which it will anſwer well. Hollow draining is generally uſed, even by the common farmers, who have found by experience that their lime will do no good till the land is drained. The fences about new incloſed pieces, and thoſe made in general by gentlemen, are ditches ſix feet deep, ſeven feet wide, and 14 inches at bottom, with two rows of quick in the bank, furz ſown on the top, or a dead hedge of bruſh. Good graſs land for meadow lets for 3 or 4 l. an acre; mow it all and get three ton of hay an acre or fifteen iriſh load. Many dairies of cows, up to 50 and 60, kept here for butter. Mr. Kelly, near the obeliſk, Drogheda, has 200 cows let at 5 l. The breed is half engliſh and half iriſh, worth 5 to 7 l. each; the farmers let theirs to dairy-men, who are common labourers, at 4 l. a piece, but if they won't give five to ſeven quarts at a meal they may be rejected; a good one will give ten quarts of milk per meal, the produce about 5 l. conſequently there is 20 s. a head profit. As butter-milk is all the food of the people, the number of ſwine kept is very ſmall: it is carried to Drogheda, and ſold at ſix quarts a penny. The cows are fed in winter on hay alone; all are kept abroad in the day, but houſed at night. They rear almoſt all the calves, weaning them at ſix weeks or two months old: at a fortnight they ſell at 3 or 4 s. Some, but not dairy-men, give them in rearing hay-tea. They fatten many cows, having much graſs; an acre to a cow. Swine fatten from one to two cwt. Many are kept upon potatoes alone, and fattened intirely upon that root, which is thought to be a very profitable

profitable uſe; the potatoe fed pork much firmer than that on pollard. There is a great demand this year, many ſhip loads alive being bought up for England; and the price good, encourages the breed incredibly. Many ſheep are kept, bought in every year in autumn, moſtly ewes, but ſome wethers, at 12 to 15s. Sell the lambs fat in may or june at 10s. cut four or five pound of wool, worth 5s. and fat the ewe to 19 or 20s. profit 1l. 1s. a head. Buy wethers at 20 to 25s. ſell at 30 to 42s. with a fleece of ſeven pound; in winter they have hay, and ſome ſheaf oats. No rot here. Plough all with horſes, ſix to a plough, and do an acre a day, working often from ſix in the morning to eight at night, and ſtiring eight or nine inches deep. They keep 10 or 12 horſes to 100 acres in tillage, and breed them all themſelves. The price of ploughing 8s. an acre. The whole preparation of a fallow worth 25s. an acre; and for barley 12s. The form of lands narrow ridges three or four feet wide; the year's expence to a farmer 5 l. each horſe; very ſeldom give them any oats. They cut no ſtraw into chaff; and as all their corn is winnowed in the road, the chaff of it is loſt. They never break their ſtubbles till about chriſtmas; the plough generally uſed, is an imperfect ſwing one. In hiring and ſtocking farms, they will take 100 acres or more with ſcarce any money; but then they muſt have to the value of

	£.	s.	d.
8 Horſes at 5l.	40	0	0
4 Cows 5 l.	20	0	0
2 Sows 10 s.	1	0	0
6 Cars 3 l.	18	0	0
2 Ploughs 12 s.	1	4	0
2 Harrows	1	13	0
No rollers uſed			
	81	17	0

		Brought over £.	81	17 0
Harneſs	10 s. a horſe		3	0 0
Sundries			10	0 0
Houſhold furniture			5	0 0
1 Sack of oat-meal			1	0 0
Labour ſupplied by letting land to others for potatoes; no ſeed, as he pays the preceding tenant the eighth ſheaf of the winter corn, and the fourth of the ſpring, in lieu of the ſeed and ſowing.				
			100	17 0

A very intelligent labourer, ſent for by Mr. Burton, gave me the following account for 40 acres, 10 of them graſs

		£.	s.	d.
4	Horſes	18	4	0
4	Cows	20	0	0
10	Sheep	7	0	0
1	Sow	0	15	0
1	Plough and harneſs	2	5	6
2	Harrows	1	2	9
10	Sacks	1	0	0
	Winnowing ſheet	0	10	0
	Furniture	10	0	0
15	Acres oats ſeed, two barrels and a half an acre,	18	10	0
6	Acres barley one and a half, 9 barrels 12 s.	5	8	0
	Labourers	20	16	0
2	Boys and a maid ſervant	3	8	3
	Proviſion 8 cwt. of oatmeal	3	4	0
4	Barrels meſlin at 16d.	3	4	0
	Wear and tear	2	5	6
4	Cars	9	2	0
	Poultry	0	13	3
		127	8	3

With

With this expenditure they fare no better than common labourers, and do not improve in their circumſtances. Land ſells at rack rent 22 and 23 years purchaſe, as well now as in 1768; the bankruptcies in 1772 did not affect the purchaſe of land. County ceſs 8d. to 1s. an acre; tythes for wheat 7s. barley 5s. oats 3 to 4s. mowing ground 3s. 6d. nothing for land fed, and no ſmall tythes; no tea drank among the cottagers. Leaſes in general 31 years to catholics; to proteſtants three lives or 31 years. Rent of cabbins 40s. with a potatoe garden; if a cow is kept 40s. more. No emigrations. The catholic religion general among the lower claſſes.

Labour.

Ditching 6 feet by 5, 20d. a perch
4 by 5, 1s. 2d.
6 by 7, 2s. 6d.
Threſhing wheat 1s. a barrel
Barley 8d.
Oats 5d.
No ſervants hired at all.
Women a day in harveſt 8d.
Riſe in the price of labour in ten years, from 5d. and 7d. to 8d. and 10d. but they work harder and better.

Provisions.

Bacon 5d. bread 1d. potatoes 2 ½d. a ſtone, new milk 1d. a quart, ducks 3d. candles 6 ½d. ſoap 6 ½d. firing of the poor furz and coals to a trifling amount. The farmers burn their ſtraw, *for which they deſerve to be hanged.*

Building.

Slate 12s per 1000
Elm 2l. 10s. to 3l. a ton.
Fir 3l.
Dry walls daſhed 2s.
Building a cabbin 5l.
Ditto a farm houſe and offices for 100 acres 50l.

Hire of four cars, one man and a boy 4s. a day; 23 miles from Dublin it takes the whole week to go twice. The price to go there 10s. a week, 4s. of it expences on the road. The load ſix cwt. each car. But Mr. Jebb has ſent 18 cwt. to Dublin with one horſe, and not an extraordinary one, 15 or 16 cwt. often.

In the improvements making about the caſtle, it was neceſſary to move a large hill of lime ſtone, and as the readieſt way, Colonel Burton is burning it to lime. The kiln, like moſt I have ſeen in Ireland, is a very good one. It is in the ſhape of an egg, 19 feet deep, and 9 diameter in the ſwell; when new it burnt 400 barrels in a week, each three buſhels; but as the lining is worn, it is now from 350 to 400. A ton of culm, which coſts at Drogheda 13s. and 2s. freight from thence, burns 50 barrels of lime. Quarrying and burning the ſtone is 1½d. a barrel, expences in all 5½d. and it ſells at the kiln for 7d. The ſtone is laid in in layers eight or nine inches thick, and is always kept ſupplying at top and emptying at bottom. The kiln coſt 35l. building, and it employs three hands.

Lord Conyngham's ſeat, Slaine Caſtle, on the Boyne, is one of the moſt beautiful places I have ſeen; the grounds are very bold and various, riſing around the caſtle in noble hills or beautiful inequalities of ſurface, with an outline of flouriſhing plantations.

tations. Under the caſtle flows the Boyne, in a reach broken by iſlands, with a very fine ſhore of rock on one ſide, and wood on the other. Through the lower plantations are ridings, which look upon ſeveral beautiful ſcenes, formed by the river, and take in the diſtant country, exhibiting the nobleſt views of waving Cultinald Hills, with the caſtle finely ſituated in the midſt of the planted domain, through which the Boyne winds its beautiful courſe.

UNDER Mr. Lambert's houſe, on the ſame river, is a moſt romantic and beautiful ſpot; rocks on one ſide, riſing in peculiar forms very boldly; the other ſteep wood, the river bending ſhort between them like a land-locked baſon.

LORD Conyngham's keeping up Slaine Caſtle, and ſpending great ſums, though he rarely reſides there, is an inſtance of magnificence not often met with; while it is ſo common for abſentees to drain the kingdom of every ſhilling they can, ſo contrary a conduct ought to be held in the eſtimation which it juſtly deſerves.

JUNE 30th, rode out to view the country and ſome improvements in the neighbourhood: the principal of which are thoſe of lord chief baron Foſter, which I ſaw from Glaſton Hill, in the road from Slaine to Dundalk. Adjoining to it is an extenſive improvement of Mr. Forteſcue's; ten years ago the land was let at 3s. 6d. now it is a guinea, which great work was done by the tenants, and lime and fallon the means purſued. Theſe and other improvements, with the general increaſe of proſperity, has had ſuch an effect in employing the people, that Colonel Burton aſſured me, that 20 years ago, if he gave notice at the maſs houſes, that he wanted labourers, in two days he could have 2 or 300; now it is not ſo eaſy to get 20, from the quantity of regular employment

ployment being ſo much increaſed. I obſerved weavers looms in moſt of the cabbins, went into one, and the man informed me that he could weave a web 65 or 66 yards long, and 26 inches wide, at 8d. a yard price, in a week. 34 to 36lb. of yarn makes it, which coſts 15d. per lb. he and his journeyman could earn 7 or 8s. a week by it. He paid 4l. 4s. for the grazing of a cow, a rood of potatoe garden, and the cabbin. They were burning ſtraw, which I forgot to remark I have found very common where there is no turf: a moſt pernicious cuſtom, it is in fact what I have often heard literally reported, that they burn their dunghills in Ireland.

PASSED through ſeveral farms much improved, and found great attention given to fences, the ditches very large, and the banks well planted.

LORD Boyne's eſtate appears to be very rich, and the tenants beyond the common run.

THE country is well wooded, and has an appearance of ſome of the beſt parts of England.

WALKED into Mr. Maurice's fields; he is a conſiderable farmer, buys his fattening cows in may from 3l. to 6l. 6s. ſells fat from auguſt to chriſtmas, with 30s. profit: he has laid down a meadow to graſs with ſo much care that the expence was 10l. an acre. In one of his fields he ſowed red clover, with the third crop of corn, it failed, but an amazing ſheet of white clover came, which I ſaw, and was indeed ſurpriſed at ſuch a proof of the excellency of the ſoil, even under ſuch exceeding bad management; but not a human being that I have met with has any notion of ſowing clover with the firſt crop.

RETURNING

RETURNING to Slaine, dined with Mr. Jebb, and viewed the mill, which is a very large edifice, excellently built; it was begun in 1763, and finiſhed in 1766. The water from the Boyne is conducted to it by a wear of 650 feet long, 24 feet baſe, and 8 feet high, of ſolid maſonry: the water let into it by very complete flood gates.

THE canal is 800 feet long, all faced with ſtone, and 64 feet wide; on one ſide is a wharf completely formed and walled againſt the river, whereon are offices of ſeveral kinds, and a dry dock for building lighters. The mill is 138 feet long, the breadth 54, and the height to the cornice 42, being a very large and handſome edifice, ſuch as no mill I have ſeen in England can be compared with. The corn upon being unloaded, is hoiſted through doors in the floors to the upper ſtory of the building, by a very ſimple contrivance, being worked by the water-wheel, and diſcharged into ſpacious granaries which hold 5000 barrels. From thence it is conveyed, during ſeven months in the year, to the kiln for drying, the mill containing two, which will dry 80 barrels in 24 hours. From the kiln it is hoiſted again to the upper ſtory, from thence to a fanning machine for re-dreſſing, to get out dirt, ſoil, &c. And from thence, by a ſmall ſifting machine, into the hoppers, to be ground, and is again hoiſted into the bolting mills, to be dreſſed into flour, different ſorts of pollard and bran. In all which progreſs, the machinery is contrived to do the buſineſs with the leaſt labour poſſible: it will grind with great eaſe 120 barrels, of 20 ſtone each, every day. Beginning in 1763, for a few years, about 13000 barrels *per ann.* were ground, of late years up to 17000 barrels. It may be obſerved, that this mill is very different from the engliſh ones, they not being under the neceſſity of kiln drying or dreſſing. The expence, per barrel, of the drying in coals and labour is 3d. and the waſte is 1-20th in the weight: but the contrivance reduces the

expence of dreſſing to a trifle. The whole charge of manufacturing the wheat into flour in mere labour, is 9d. a barrel, and the 3d. drying makes 1s. The barrel weighs 20 ſtone, 14lb. to the ſtone, of which

Flour -	14ſt. 8lb.	
Bran, Pollard	4ſt.	
Dirt, waſte, grinding and dreſſing - - -	1ſt. 6lb.	on average of the year
	20ſt.	

The waſte, in re-dreſſing the corn, (which is what the farmers ought to do) is about 3lb. a barrel.

The pollard Mr. Jebb tried, for ſix years, in giving to pigs. Bought in *ſtores* in ſeptember, at 7s. to 20s. each, and put them to pollard given wet, about the thickneſs of gruel; it could have been ſold for 2s. a barrel of 6 ſtone, and in feeding, it did not produce more than 10d. a barrel; pork from 18s. to 20s. per cwt. Thinks it would not more than pay the 2s. a barrel if pork was 40s. per cwt. Tried alſo breeding ſows, bought berkſhire ſows fed upon the pollard, but it did not anſwer better than the other method. The pork fed upon it was ſoft, and not near ſo good as potatoe fed. Mr. Jebb thinks, however, that if he had had plenty of ſtraw litter, as the ſtone-yard foundered them and clover for the ſummer food, that it would have paid the 2s. a barrel, but not more, the dung being then the profit. The ſows did exceedingly well, and the pigs alſo in rearing.

The corn is brought to the mill from all the country round to the diſtance of 10 miles. The farmers ſend it in, and leave the price

price to be fixed. The raiſing the mill and offices, complete, coſt 20,000l. and has eſtabliſhed, in a fine corn country, a conſtant market; and has preſerved the tillage of the neighbourhood, which would have declined from the premium on diſtant carriage.

The flour is ſent to Dublin, and the manufacturing country to the north about Newry, &c.

It employs conſtantly from 10 to 12 hands; the common ones, 6s. 6d. a week.

They ſow much earlier, and the corn is drier of late years than at firſt.

The carriage of all the flour that is not ſent by the navigation is by one horſe cars, which carry 6 cwt. of flour twice a week to Dublin.

The pariſh of Monknewton, in the county of Meath, lying between Drogheda and Slaine, nearly midway, formerly belonging to the rich abbey of Meliſont (whoſe beautiful gothic ruins are in the neighbourhood), conſiſts of very fine corn land, and moſtly belongs to John Baker Holroyd, Eſq; of Sheffield place, in the county of Suſſex: a gentleman, who having favoured me before with excellent intelligence in that country, took pleaſure in repeating it on occaſion of my iriſh tour.

Towards Mattock bridge, the ſoil is a light rich loam, but the north weſtern part is a ſtrong fertile clay. The whole eſtate had been let out to two or three conſiderable people for 61 years, and they under-let in the uſual ſtyle of the country. The leaſes expired in 1762, when Mr. H. viſited the eſtate, and found it as

ill uſed as it poſſibly could be. However, great rents were offered. He declined the propoſals of ſeveral conſiderable men, to take the whole to under-let at rack rents as before, knowing that the ſame wretched huſbandry and poverty muſt continue, if he did, although it would ſecure his rents moſt effectually. He was very well ſatisfied with the rents offered by perſons who would reſide on the eſtate, (dividing with them the profits of the middle man), and voluntarily engaged to pay for the maſonry and principal timber of farm houſes, barns, ſtables, &c. He made large ditches, planting them with quick, round each farm. He allowed half the expence of inner fences. He provided an excellent lime-ſtone quarry in the neighbourhood, beſides lime kilns on different farms. He built about the centre of the eſtate a very large double kiln, calculated to burn 1000 barrels per week. He allows 30s. for every acre on which 100 barrels of unſlacked lime ſhall be laid, within a certain number of years, and on condition that the land hath a winter and ſummer fallow at the ſame time. In ſome inſtances he allows 40s. per acre, which is nearly the whole expence of liming; and in ſome inſtances, when 100l. is laid out on an houſe, he allows 50 or 60l. but as yet, no great advantage is taken of his encouragement to build. He endeavoured to prevent the ſcattered ſtyle of building; to have the barns, ſtables, &c. built round a farm yard, and that the houſe ſhould have a ſtory or floor above. Some objected, that a floor raiſed an houſe too high, and expoſed it too much: the eſtate is rather low as to ſituation, and ſheltered by hills on every ſide, but I underſtand ſome conſiderable houſes are to be built next year. The common farmers, however, prefer living on the ground, ſurrounded by mud walls, have no idea of the chearfulneſs of large windows, but let in barely light enough to do their buſineſs through apertures not much better than loop holes; neither has the encouragement to lime been taken advantage of in the degree it might be expected. Mr. H. is an hearty well-

well-wiſher to Ireland, and ready to embrace any ſcheme of improvement for its advantage. He wiſhed to make ſome return to the country for ſpending the income of the eſtate out of it. He was ready to allow almoſt the whole of every expence that could be laid out on the lands, knowing the poverty of the common iriſh reſiding tenantry, and their characters to be ſuch, that they could not improve them as they ſhould be; yet I underſtand they are not much better ſatisfied than other tenants: and the rent ſeems high. The farms were moſtly let at a time when the ſpirit of taking land was greater than at preſent, but it is far from an high rent for land ſo circumſtanced and ſituated, built and improved at the expence of the landlord. There is much in the neighbourhood, eſpecially towards Drogheda, let at two guineas, and three pounds and upwards, per acre. He is a great friend to agriculture, has conſidered the ſubject much, and was very anxious to introduce ſomething like the beſt engliſh huſbandry on his iriſh eſtate, but that is ſtill at a great diſtance. He endeavoured to break through the barbarous cuſtom of having the whole farm laid waſte at the end of a leaſe, and every inch ploughed up, but could not carry his point further, than by giving great preſent advantages to the tenants, to induce them to agree, that the third part of the farms ſhould not be ploughed the laſt four or five years of the leaſe. The ſoil is ſo good, that if uſed ever ſo ill in that time, it will recover, and there will be a very good ſward. According to the common method of leaſing lands in many parts of Ireland, the country is nearly waſte and unprofitable, to the great prejudice of the public, during ſeven or eight years in every 31 years, the uſual leaſe. For the tenant, not reſtrained by proper clauſes, nor obliged to any particular management, or to manure, ploughs up every thing, and for ſome time before the expiration of his term, purſues the moſt ruinous ſyſtem for the land, diſpoſed even to loſe ſome advantage himſelf,

ſelf, rather than his ſucceſſor ſhould have any benefit; conſequently, the three or four laſt years the crops hardly pay expences, and three or four years more are loſt before it can be brought into any condition. Good and ſtraight roads are made through and acroſs the eſtate, and bridges built where neceſſary. Such a diſpoſition in the landlord to improve, muſt do much for the country.

NOTWITHSTANDING the attention that has been paid to the eſtate, the young white thorn hedges, (of which a great quantity had been planted, and which grew moſt luxuriantly) ſerve as ſpring food for ſheep and other cattle. The eſtate is now divided into farms, from 70 to 150 acres, and let in general for 31 years, at 40s. and 35s. per acre, ſome part at 30s. and a ſmall part at 26s. The lands are tythe-free, and there are no taxes of any kind paid by the tenants, except aſſeſſments for making and repairing the roads of the barony, which ſome years have amounted to 10d. per acre, and is laid on by the grand jury at the aſſizes.

JULY 1ſt, left Slaine, taking the road towards Kells. Called at Gibbs town, where Mr. Gerrard has one of the moſt conſiderable farms in the country. He very kindly ſhewed me it, and explained the management. His bullocks he buys in october at 10l. each, and ſells them in ſummer with 4l. profit: the cows in may, at 5l. 10s. and ſells them before winter from 30s. to 40s. profit. He mows 100 acres of hay for the ſheep and bullocks, and keeps good after-graſs beſides. The bullocks in winter have nothing but hay and graſs, and are always in the fields, there being no ſuch thing in this country as foddering yards for winter feeding. Two bullocks require three acres. The fields being generally large, a proportion of ſtock is thrown to each, which are left to fat; but if any do not ſeem to

to thrive well, they are drawn from them and put into better food.

THE ſheep Mr. Gerard buys in october, three year old wethers, at 25s. he begins to ſell in april, and by auguſt they are generally gone at about 35s. on an average. Fatting, in this manner, he thinks more advantageous than ewes and lambs. The winter ſheep have hay in bad weather.

THE beſt cattle come from Galway, Mayo, and Roſcommon. Mr. Gerard thinks the croſs of the engliſh breeds in Ireland has done good, except in the hides, which are much thinner from them. A good hide is worth 3l. or 4l. but in common from 30s. to 40s.

THE ſoil of this neighbourhood is, much of it, a dry ſtoney loam, which wants no draining; and whenever red clover is ſown and left, the white comes in perfect ſheets, but the bottoms are ſtrong land, wet and bad. All the dry lands would do perfectly well for turneps; Mr. Gerard tried them, and got fine crops: but the poor ſtole them in car loads, which made him leave off the practice.

UNDER the boggy bottoms there is a very fine white marle, of a ſort I have not ſeen in England; it is under four feet of black bog, and lies in a ſtratum, 14 feet thick, on blue gravel; it is always found under the black, not the red bog; it cuts with turf ſpades, quite like white butter, but in the air falls into a ſandy powder to appearance: it is uncommonly light in the hand, and has a very great efferveſcene with acids, as I tried. Mr. G. has marled 109 acres, and found the benefit immenſe. Lays 2 or 300 barrels an acre, and always on tillage.

HE

He has made many covered drains with ſtones, the effect of which is great; and he has his fields fenced in the moſt perfect manner by deep ditches, high banks, and well planted hedges.

One third of the county of Meath, he thinks, is let to ſub-tenants; a farm of 1100 acres near him is ſo, and does not produce a tythe of what it ought to do. For ſtocking, &c. a grazing farm of 1000 acres, 2000l. does; 3000l. would do it well.

Corn-acres are common here, which is to let the land for 3l. 15s. to 4l. an acre to the poor for three or four crops; who generally ſow oats, but ſometimes wheat.

Reached Lord Bective's in the evening, through a very fine country, particularly that part of it from which is a proſpect of his extenſive woods. No perſon could with more readineſs give me every ſort of information than his lordſhip.

The improvements at Headfort muſt be aſtoniſhing to thoſe who knew the place ſeventeen years ago; for then there were neither building, walling, nor plantations: at preſent almoſt every thing is created neceſſary to form a conſiderable reſidence. The houſe and offices are intirely new built; it is a large plain ſtone edifice. The body of the houſe 145 feet long, and the wings each 180. The hall is 31½ by 24, and 17 high. The ſaloon is of the ſame dimenſions, on the left of which is a dining room, 48 by 24, and 24 high: on the right, a drawing room 24 ſquare by 17 high, and, within that, Lady Bective's dreſſing room, 23 by 18. There are alſo, on this floor, a breakfaſt-room, 23 by 18, and a room for Lord B. of the ſame ſize. The firſt floor conſiſts of ſix apartments, one 31½ by 24, two 24 ſquare; a fourth 23 by 19½; a fifth 20 by 18; a

ſixth

ſixth 23 by 19, all 15 high, beſides two dreſſing rooms. From the thickneſs of the walls, I ſuppoſe it is the cuſtom to build very ſubſtantially here. The grounds fall agreeably in front of the houſe, to a winding narrow vale, which is filled with wood, where alſo is a river, which Lord Bective intends to enlarge; and, on the other ſide, the lawn ſpreads over a large extent, and is every where bounded by very fine plantations. To the right, the town of Kells is pictureſquely ſituated, among groups of trees, with a fine waving country and diſtant mountains; to the left, a rich tract of cultivation. The plantations are very numerous, more thriving I have no where ſeen; the larch, ſpruce, and beech, in particular, running beyond the reſt, but the bark of all is clear, and there cannot be a better ſign of a tree's health and vigour.

His Lordſhip tranſplants oaks 20 feet high without any danger, and they appear to thrive perfectly well, but he takes a large ball of earth up with the roots. He confirmed what had been mentioned to me before, that the way to make our own firs equal to foreign, was to cut them in june, and directly to lay them in water for three or four months. This was done by his father 35 years ago, and the buildings raiſed of them are now fully equal to thoſe built of Norway fir.

Besides theſe numerous plantations, conſiderable manſion, and an incredible quantity of walling, his lordſhip has walled in 26 acres for a garden and nurſery, and built ſix or ſeven very large pineries, 90 feet long each. He has built alſo a farm-yard 280 feet ſquare, totally ſurrounded with offices of various kinds.

His Lordſhip's idea is not that of farming, but improving the lands about the houſe for beauty; for if let, they would be deſtroyed and ploughed, and alſo for preſerving the plantations. Other lands he keeps only to bring them into order for re-letting.

He applies his graſs beſides horſes, to fattening cows, which he buys in in may, from 3l. 15s. to 4l. 10s. and in five or ſix months ſells them, with 35s. to 40s. profit. His mules are 16 or 17 hands high, and he finds them of incomparable uſe: they are in their prime at 20 years old, and good even at 35; he has had them 16 years, and in that time, with the work they have done, would have worn out three ſets of horſes, beſides being kept upon leſs food. Of hay he gets 17 or 18 load an acre of 4 cwt.

In the breed of his cattle, Lord Bective is very attentive: he ſent into Craven for a prime bull, and got one, which coſt him 36 guineas at a year old, and he is indeed a very fine beaſt. This is the breed, which from much experience he prefers, as well for milking as for fattening. The Holderneſs he has tried, having a very fine bull, but is determined to have nothing more to do with them: the fleſh is black and coarſe; and though they give more milk than the others, yet it will not make a quantity of butter proportioned. The common cow of the country is as good as any for mere milking.

All Lord Bective's gates are iron, which coſt him 5l. 5s. and as wooden ones come to 3l. 3s. he finds them the greateſt improvement, ſaving the expence very ſoon. In his tillage he purſues the practice of the country, which is, 1. Fallow. 2. Wheat. 3. Oats. 4. Oats, but does not take the laſt crop of oats. He limes 160 barrels an acre on his fallow, but the common quantity only 80, by means of which, and better huſbandry, he has 10 barrels an acre of wheat, and 20 of oats; while the common crops are 7 of the one, and 12 of the other. Marle he has found an excellent manure for dry ſoils.

The general rent of the neighbourhood 20s. Of the whole county 18s. 6d. Land ſells at 21 years purchaſe at rack rent.

The

The cottars plant great quantities of potatoes, giving for rent 4 l. 10 s. the crop from 70 to 100 barrels. This culture has increaſed 20 fold within 20 years. All the hogs in the country are fattened on them half boiled.

In july, auguſt, and ſeptember, they have great numbers of Connaught labourers; they are called *ſpalpeens: ſpal*, in iriſh, is a ſcythe, and *peen* a penny; that is, a mower for a penny a day, but that was 80 years ago.

Lord Bective's father was one of the greateſt improvers I have heard of. He bought 10,000 acres of bog and rough land in the county of Cavan, much at the rent of only 20d. an acre: he drained and improved the bog, though a red one, divided it, and brought it to be ſuch good land, that it is now 15 s. an acre; part of it was dry rocky land, which he divided by walls.

July 3d, took my leave of Lord Bective, and went to Drueſtown, the ſeat of Barry Barry, Eſq; but as I was not fortunate enough to find him at home, I could only obſerve in general, that he had a large lawn very well laid down to graſs, and had made a very pretty lake with a ſhrubberry on the banks of it. About this neighbourhood all the good land is applied to grazing, and lets from 25 to 35 s. an acre, the reſt 20s. But towards Fore I paſſed by much that was greatly inferior, for when laid down, (that is left to itſelf) no white clover, or very little came, and it ſeemed quite unincloſed; yet this I found was at 14 or 15s. I obſerved here that the cottars were not ſo well cloathed as hitherto.

Reached Packenham-hall, pleaſantly ſituated, with much old wood about it, where Lord Longford received me with the moſt friendly attention, and gave me very valuable information. For the following particulars of the neighbouring huſbandry I am

obliged to him. Farms riſe from 20 to 100l. a year, in general 60 or 80l. but few larger. The ſoil heavy, loam eight or nine inches deep upon from 12 to 18 inches of yellow *till*, under which, lime-ſtone gravel 10 feet deep on rock, alſo dry ſound gravel, lets from 15 to 20s. Average rent of the county of Weſtmeath, excluſive of waſte, 9s. including it 7s. The courſes of crops moſt common:

1. Potatoes	1. Potatoes
2. Bere	2. Flax
3. Oats	3. Oats
4. Oats	4. Oats
5. Oats	5. Oats

and oats longer if the land will bear it, even till they do not get three barrels an acre, and then leave it to cover itſelf. Among the better farmers;

1. Fallow manured with lime-ſtone gravel
2. Wheat or bere.
3. Oats
4. Oats.

They ſow one barrel of wheat, and get ſeven per acre; ſow one and a half of bere, and get 15 or 16; of oats one and a half, the crop 10 or 11 at firſt, and decreaſes every year till nothing but weeds. The cottars all ſow flax on bits of land, and dreſs and ſpin it, and it is woven in the country for their own uſe, beſides ſelling ſome yarn. The little farmers keep no ſheep.

The chief improvements of waſtes are the bottoms adjoining to the bogs, which they drain and cover with gravel or earth, that produce good potatoes.

No other way of laying land to graſs, than ſowing red clover, or oftener nothing, and leaving it.

Meadows

MEADOWS for the year let from 3 to 4l. an acre, merely for the hay, upon which they get 10 load an acre. Graſs is moſtly applied to fattening cows which they buy in in may at 4l. and ſell in november at 6l. one acre of good land will do for them, but if not good one and a half.

THE cows give two to three gallons of milk a day, and yield 40s. produce per year by butter and calf. Feed them in winter with oat-ſtraw, and hay. An ox hide, if it weighs 100 lb. three pence per lb. if not two pence halfpenny. A cow hide two pence halfpenny if above 60 lb. if leſs two pence. Dearer than they were.

THE tillage is all done with horſes, uſe four in a plough, and do better than half an acre a day. The price with harrowing 10s. an acre. The depth ſix inches for winter corn; they lay the lands in round ridges four or five feet broad. Keeping a horſe the ſummer at graſs 1l. 10s. No cutting chaff, but throw their own away in the winnowing. The hire of a car, and horſe, and driver, ten pence a day. In hiring and ſtocking farms, they will take one of 50 acres, without any thing but four horſes and ſix cows, depending for food upon what they bring; for labour upon themſelves and the cottars that come with them; and make none or ſcarce any profit.

LAND ſells at 21 years purchaſe rack rent, rents have fallen 25 per cent ſince 1770. In 1768, 1769, and 1770, they were much above their value. Tythes are compounded for, wheat, bere, and barley 7s. oats 5s. meadow 2s. ſheep 3d. No tea drank.

LEASES common are, 31 years to catholicks, and three lives to proteſtants. Great part of the country let to middle men, who re-let it to ſub-tenants, generally with a profit greater than they pay the landlord. Carry their corn to the mill of Carrick five miles

miles off. Rents of cabbins 20 to 25s. with a rood of ground, if land with it, which is generally the caſe, they pay 30s. an acre. For grazing a cow 25s. and for a horſe 30s. No emigrations. Twenty to one of the lower people roman catholics.

Expence of building a cabbin 40s. and for a farm of 50 acres 5l. They will hire farms and take all the buildings upon themſelves. Both cottars and little farmers are in a worſe ſituation than they were 20 years ago. All of them have turf for firing, and one week's labour in a year will ſupply a cabbin.

Cutting turf 3d a kiſh or cubical yard

A ditch ſix feet wide, and five deep 20d.

In burning lime, a kiſh of turf burns 2 barrels of lime.

Sells at the kiln at 6d. a barrel.

Among Lord Longford's farms in this country are the following:

	£.		Let	£.
276 acres	75	rent	1736 worth now	250
410	112		ditto	410
242 150 bog	70		ditto	240
600 400	118		ditto	600
150	49		ditto	140
122	41		ditto	100
270	95		ditto	270
330	100		ditto	100
377	334		1773	334
60	16		1739	40
383	150		1749	300
655 1500 bog	225		ditto	700
303	121		1750	300
325	236		ditto	320
457	186		1756	400
	1928			4504

From which table may be ſeen the comparative value of lands in 40 years: it has more than doubled in 30.

GRASS land, gravelled, will let to the poor at 5l. for potatoes. Very good old graſs, without any manure, 4l. 4s. and as much more for the ſecond year for flax: after that, would give 3l. for oats, and they will give 5l. for dunged ſtubble for potatoes.

THE expences, per acre, of a crop:

	£.	s.	d.
Rent - - - -	5	0	0
4 Barrels of ſeed - -	1	0	0
Planting - - -	3	0	0
Taking up - - -	1	10	0
	10	10	0

The crop 80 barrels. Prime coſt 2s. 6d.

LORD Longford has ſome black bottom land, as it is called here; that is, black red bog partially drained ten or twelve years ago, ſome of it tolerably dry: other parts ſo wet, that a beaſt can ſcarcely venture on it with ſafety. One part is a reddiſh bog, three feet deep, which 12 years ago, was burnt a foot deep; and at the ſame time open drains made 10 feet wide at top, and 7 deep, the bog being formed by the drains into beds 40 feet wide. The ſpontaneous rubbiſh, heath chiefly is now coming faſt again, but it never has been cultivated; where the fires were made are ſpots of fine white clover. This land, at preſent, would let for nothing, but it is highly improveable.

HIS Lordſhip has had two acres and an half of turneps on juſt ſuch, and the crop was exceedingly good: he has always remarked in burning,

burning, that wherever there were many aſhes, there are ſure to be good turneps. The two acres and an half kept ſeven bullocks, each 8 cwt. and ſixty ſheep, three months. On four acres of the ſame ſort, he has now a crop of turneps ſown: it was drained 10 years ago. This ſummer he dug it over, levelled it, and burnt the ſpit in great heaps: this digging coſt 3l. 10s. an acre. The burning 1l. It was harrowed with bullocks, which, with ſeed, &c. he reckons 10s. in all 5l. an acre, which expence he knows by experience is repaid by the crop of turneps. In harrowing, if a bullock in a ſoft place ſinks in, they ſlip the harneſs off him, and ſet the others to drag him out by the horns, fixing the rope round the horns as in hoiſting an ox into a ſhip.

I REMARKED, upon this boggy bottom, a ſmall plantation or ſcotch firs, which did very well, and larch ſtill better. Willows will not thrive. A gentleman incloſed and drained four acres, which he planted with them, and they ſhot away for four years, but then all died. They do, however, very well in the turf itſelf, if the upper ſurface of ſpunge is cleared away. In improving any bogs, Lord Longford thinks the tillage ſhould be renewed alternately with graſs every ſix or ſeven years, or it will cover again with heath *(erica)* burning it the beſt way.

HIS Lordſhip has tried cabbages ſeveral times, and he finds that while they laſt they are better than turneps, but prefers the latter on account of the ſhort duration of the former.

LIMESTONE gravel he has tried on a large ſcale, lays 1000 loads an acre, at 1l. 10s. expence, if it is in the field. The effect prodigious wherever it is laid. On a bare rocky ſpot in the front of the houſe, where the earth had been cleared away, and there was no vegetation but of weeds, ſome gravel was ſpread, and it brought up an exceeding thick coat of white and red clover. It is alſo infallible in deſtroying moſs.

JULY

JULY 4th, Lord Longford carried me to a Mr. Marly's, an improver in the neighbourhood, who has done great things, and without the benefit of ſuch leaſes as proteſtants in Ireland commonly have. He rents 1000 acres; at firſt it was at 20d. an acre, in the next term 5s. or 250l. a year, and he now pays 850l. a year for it. Almoſt the whole farm is mountain-land; the ſpontaneous growth heath, &c. he has improved 500 acres. His method has been to grub up the rubbiſh, and then to ſummer fallow it, and to manure it with limeſtone gravel 1400 load an acre, at the expence of 2l. 2s. Upon this he ſows wheat or bere, gets 9 barrels an acre of wheat, and 19 of bere, then oats 12 to 15 barrels. After which he fallows again, and finiſhes the ſecond or third courſe with red clover, ſown with barley or oats after wheat. If this takes very well, he leaves it to turf itſelf. White clover comes as faſt as the red wears out; for the firſt four or five years it ſupports only ſheep, but as it improves, which it does very faſt, he grazes it with black cattle.

LIME he has tried inſtead of gravel, 160 barrels an acre at 1s. but it did not better than gravel at one-fourth the expence. In gravelling, the beginning of the pit he has found good for nothing; and the deeper it is dug, it is ſo much the better. It will not do twice, but will laſt 8 crops, with 2 fallows.

JUST ſuch an account would be given of marle in Norfolk, if they practiſed ſo bad a courſe of crops. Any manuring with ſo powerful an alcaly as marle leaves the ground, after an exhauſting courſe of crops, in much worſe order than it found it. Would but the iriſh farmers purſue the Norfolk ſyſtem, of never letting two crops of white corn come together, they would not then find their gravel exhauſted in 8 crops: it would probably laſt 20, and in that management they might gravel again and again.

He has the white light marle under boggy bottoms, and has uſed much of it, but does not find it anſwer ſo well as gravel.

He applies his graſs to fattening cows, &c. in the ſyſtem I have mentioned more than once; ſheep he both buys in to fat, and keeps his own breeding ſtock.

He is very attentive in fattening his wethers; he buys in october at 30s. or 32s. each, begins at chriſtmas to feed them with bran and oats, one quart of each per diem, and continues it for three months: has ſold at 3l. 5s. but on an average at 40s. This he thinks better and cheaper than turneps, which he has tried, but finds too dear in the expence of drawing, and if fed in the field, thinks half of them loſt; the oats at 5s. 6d. a barrel, the bran at 1s.

	£.	s.	d.
90 Days oats 1 £. ſay 3 buſhels, at 5s. 6d. a barrel	0	4	1
90 Ditto bran - - - - - -	0	0	9
	0	4	10

It was with regret I heard that the rent of a man who had been ſo ſpirited an improver, ſhould be raiſed ſo exceedingly. He merited for his life the returns of his induſtry. But the cruel laws againſt the roman catholics of this country, remain the marks of illiberal barbariſm. Why ſhould not the induſtrious man have a ſpur to his induſtry whatever be his religion; and what induſtry is to be expected from them in a country where leaſes for lives are univerſal, if they are ſecluded from terms common to every one elſe? What miſchief could flow from letting them have leaſes for life? None; but much good in animating their induſtry. It is impoſſible that the proſperity of a nation ſhould have its natural progreſs, where four fifths of the people are cut off from thoſe advantages which are heaped upon the domineering ariſtocracy of the ſmall remainder.

In

In converſation with Lord Longford I made many enquiries concerning the ſtate of the lower claſſes, and found that in ſome reſpects they were in good circumſtances, in others indifferent; they have, generally ſpeaking, ſuch plenty of potatoes, as always to command a bellyful; they have flax enough for all their linen, moſt of them have a cow and ſome two, and ſpin wool enough for their cloaths; all a pig, and numbers of poultry, and in general the complete family of cows, calves, hogs, poultry, and children, pig together in the cabbin; fuel they have in the utmoſt plenty; great numbers of families are alſo ſupported by the neighbouring lakes which abound prodigiouſly with fiſh; a child with a packthread and a crooked pin, will catch perch enough in an hour for the family to live on the whole day, and his Lordſhip has ſeen 500 children fiſhing at the ſame time, there being no tenaciouſneſs in the proprietors of the lands about a right to the fiſh; beſides perch, there is pike upwards of five feet long, bream, tench, trout of 10 lb. and as red as a ſalmon, and fine eels; all theſe are favourable circumſtances, and are very conſpicuous in the numerous and healthy families among them.

Reverse the medal: they are ill cloathed, and make a wretched appearance, and what is worſe, are much oppreſſed by many who make them pay too dear for keeping a cow, horſe, &c. They have a practice alſo of keeping accounts with the labourers, contriving by that means, to let the poor wretches have very little caſh for their year's work. This is a great oppreſſion, farmers and gentlemen keeping accounts with the poor is a cruel abuſe: ſo many days work for a cabbin—ſo many for a potatoe garden—ſo many for keeping a horſe—and ſo many for a cow, are clear accounts which a poor man can underſtand well, but farther it ought never to go; and when he has worked out what he has of this ſort, the reſt of his work ought punctually to be paid him every ſaturday night. Another circumſtance mentioned was the exceſſive practice they have in general of pilfering. They ſteal every thing they can lay their hands on—and I ſhould remark, that this is an

account which has been very generally given me: all ſorts of iron hinges, chains, locks, keys, &c.—gates will be cut in pieces, and conveyed away in many places as faſt as built; trees as big as a man's body, and that would require ten men to move, gone in a night. Lord Longford has had the new wheels of a car ſtolen as ſoon as made. Good ſtones out of a wall will be taken for a fire-hearth, &c. though a breach is made to get at them. In ſhort, every thing, and even ſuch as are apparently of no uſe to them—nor is it eaſy to catch them, for they never carry their ſtolen goods home, but to ſome bog-hole. Turneps are ſtolen by car loads; and two acres of wheat pluckt off in a night. In ſhort, their pilfering and ſtealing is a perfect nuiſance! How far it is owing to the oppreſſion of laws aimed ſolely at the religion of theſe people, how far to the conduct of the gentlemen and farmers, and how far to the miſchievous diſpoſition of the people themſelves, it is impoſſible for a paſſing traveller to aſcertain. I am apt to believe that a better ſyſtem of law and management would have good effects. They are much worſe treated than the poor in England, are talked to in more opprobrious terms, and otherwiſe very much oppreſſed.

LEFT Packenham-hall.

Two or three miles from Lord Longford's, in the way to Mullingar, the road leads up a mountain, and commands an exceeding fine view of Loch Derrevaragh, a noble water eight miles long, and from two miles to half a mile over; a vaſt reach of it, like a magnificent river, opens as you riſe the hill. Afterwards I paſſed under the principal mountain, which riſes abruptly from the lake into the boldeſt outline imaginable; the water there is very beautiful, filling up the ſteep vale formed by this and the oppoſite hills.

REACHED Mullingar.

It was one of the fair days. I ſaw many cows and beaſts, and more horſes, with ſome wool: the cattle were of the ſame breed that I had generally ſeen in coming through the country.

July 5th, left Mullingar, which is a dirty ugly town, and taking the road to Tullamore, ſtopped at Lord Belvidere's, with which place I was as much ſtruck as with any I had ever ſeen. The houſe is perched on the crown of a very beautiful little hill, half ſurrounded with others, variegated and melting into one another. It is one of the moſt ſingular places that is any where to be ſeen, and ſpreading to the eye a beautiful lawn of undulating ground margined with wood. Single trees are ſcattered in ſome places, and clumps in others; the general effect ſo pleaſing, that were there nothing further, the place would be beautiful, but the canvas is admirably filled. Lake Ennel, many miles in length, and two or three broad, flows beneath the windows. It is ſpotted with iſlets, a promontory of rock fringed with trees ſhoots into it, and the whole is bounded by diſtant hills. Greater and more magnificent ſcenes are often met with, but no where a more beautiful or a more ſingular one.

From Mullingar to Tulleſpace, I found rents in general at 20s. an acre, with much relet at 30s. yet all the crops, except bere, were very bad, and full of weeds. About the latter named place, the farms are generally from 100 to 300 acres, and their courſe, 1. Fallow. 2. Bere. 3. Oats. 4. Oats. 5. Oats. Great quantities of potatoes all the way, crops from 40 to 80 barrels.

The road before it comes to Tullamore leads through a part of the bog of Allen, which ſeems here extenſive, and would make a noble tract of meadow. The way the road was made over it was ſimply to cut a drain on each ſide, and then lay on gravel, which, as faſt as it was laid and ſpread, bore the cars: along the edges is fine white clover.

PART of Tullamore is well built. I paſſed through it to Captain Johnſton's at Charleville, to whom I am indebted for the following account of the huſbandry of the neighbourhood.

FARMS, around Tullamore, are commonly 100 to 300 acres, but ſome ſmaller, and ſome of 5 or 600. The ſoil is generally a dry ſound gravelly loam, lets from 12s. to 18s. average 16s. five miles every way around. Average of land let in the whole county 15s. excluſive of bog. He thinks that one-ſeventh of the county is bog or mountain; but the latter pays from 1s. 6d. to 3s. The courſe of crops:

1. Oats on lay, ſow one barrel and an half, get 10 to 15.
2. Fallow.
3. Wheat, ſow three-fourths to 1 barrel, get 4 to 7 barrels.
4. Oats.

1. Oats.
2. Fallow.
3. Wheat.
4. Oats.
5. Peaſe.

1. Potatoes on graſs with dung, or burn-bating.
2. Bere, ſow three-fourths of a barrel, get 12 to 20 barrels.
3. Wheat.
4. Oats.
5. Fallow.

Some 1. pare, and burn for turneps.
2. Potatoes at 6l. an acre rent.
3. Bere.
4. Wheat.
5. Oats.
6. Fallow.

They are exceedingly late in ſowing, not finiſhing their wheat and bere till after chriſtmas. They ſow rape on low grounds by the edge of bogs, upon paring and burning for ſeed; they get 12 to 15 bar-

15 barrels an acre, worth from 12s. to 20s. a barrel. They ſow it on the ground without covering after ploughing, and the rougher the land the better. Sow rye after it, and then oats, getting good crops; and lay it down with graſs ſeeds from lofts, or ray graſs, or clover and trefoile. For turneps on fallow, plough ſometimes thrice, oftener twice, lay on no manure for them, nor hoe them, get very bad crops. If pare and burn they plough twice; but a penalty is laid of 5l. an acre for doing it. They eat them with ſheep both drawn and on the land. Very little clover ſown. Flax is ſown very generally, from patches up to three or four acres, they do the whole of it themſelves, ſpinning and weaving. About good friday is the time of ſowing; but later ſown is bad. The ſky farmers, (and often the better ſort) that is the petty ones, let potatoe ground for it, at 6l. an acre to cottars.

GREAT quantities of potatoes in the trenching way, and all the dung is uſed for them. A common way is, for the farmers to let them have land for nothing, upon condition of their dunging it, which all do that have not land of their own: if not, they pay from 4l. to 6l. dunged, or turnep land fed with ſheep, which they prefer, the potatoes being drier and better. The apple potatoe is moſt eſteemed, becauſe they are great bearers, laſt through the ſummer, and have been kept two years. Not much lime uſed, having been tried, but has not anſwered; limeſtone gravel on lay to be broken up, has a very great effect. The expence 10s. or 15s. The graſs is chiefly applied to heifers, or ſtore bullocks; the firſt ſold in ſmall parcels at home, the latter at Ballynaſloe or Bannagher. They buy them in at a year or two years old; the firſt 30s. to 50s. the latter from 55s. to 57s. Keep them a year and four or five months, or only a year: in a year they will make, by the firſt, 25s. to 30s. and from 30s. to 40s. by the others.

WHERE-

WHEREVER the land is good enough, a few cows bought in for fattening, in may, at 11. 15s. to 51. and ſold with 40s. a head profit. The poor people all rear calves.

MANY ſheep bred; the beſt farmers breed and ſell them fat in three years old, wethers at michaelmas, from 18s. to 24s. if in ſpring, from 24 s. to 44 s. Clip from 5 to 7 lb. of wool.

THE tillage is done by oxen, four in a plough, not half an acre a day, the ſky farmers ſometimes will put one horſe and a cow in. Oxen are reckoned beſt. They cut no chaff, but winnow in the field.

HIRE of a boy, horſe and car 1s. 1d.

THE ſky farmer will take 40 or 50 acres, with 3 or four cows and a horſe or two, and 51. 5s. in their pockets. Tythes are compounded, 5 s. for winter corn, 3s. for ſpring corn, 25 s. 1000 ſheep. Mowing ground, 5s.

LAND ſells for 20 years purchaſe, rack rent has fallen two years purchaſe in ſeven years, and the rent has fallen from 3 s. to 5 s. in the ſame time. No tea. County ceſs 6d. Very few middle men left. Cottages with half an acre, let for 20s. with two acres, which is common, 40 s. No emigrations, Religion, lower claſſes all roman. Not one cottar in ſix has a cow about towns; but in the country, about half of them have. Moſt of them have a pig, and much poultry. They are not more thieving than for a few turneps and cabbages for their own uſe, nor that to any exceſs. Many of the poor have reclaimed much bog, the premiums of the Dublin Society have induced them to do it: which are now 50s. an acre: by gradual draining, either from cutting turf, or making bounds, or from drainings purpoſely done, they get to peat, and burn it 4 to 6 inches deep, at 20s. an acre, and ſow

bere,

bere, rye, or potatoes; the bere does beſt, and next year another crop of corn; and then another burning, and 2 more crops, the potatoes are wet, but will do for ſeed, and they will eſcape the froſt in a bog, when they are killed in the high lands. They pay nothing for the bog, having land adjoining.

They lay the bits down to graſs, ſowing ſeeds, but the crop is generally very thin and poor, and after a year or two, burn it again; ſometimes put out a little dung or gravel on the graſs, and plant it with potatoes. Some have put potatoes in upon a red bog, with no other preparation, than laying a poor, ſharp, ſandy gravel on it, and got tolerable crops.

Mr. Johnston has cultivated cabbages for ſeveral years. In 1772 he had one acre, in 1773 2½, and ſince that, between 1 and 2 acres every year. The great ſcotch ſort which he ſows in february, and plants out in 4 feet rows, and 18 inches, from plant to plant, the beginning of june. If the plants are not in the ground then, the crop will not be good. Ploughs for them twice, and dungs richly in the furrows. Horſe hoes twice or thrice, and hand weeds them; they come from 5 to 12 lb. but have always began to burſt in ſeptember. Has uſed them for fattening ſheep, that would not fatten on graſs; alſo for bullocks, which throve perfectly well, likewiſe the leaves (with great care in picking) to milch cows, but the butter taſted. Finds that the principal uſe of them is for bringing on cattle that will not finiſh at graſs, and to be uſed all before chriſtmas. Barley that has been ſown upon cabbage land which ſucceeded potatoes, a vaſt crop, 24 barrels an acre. Turneps Mr. Johnſton has had for theſe ten years, from 1 to 4 acres, and has always applied them to fattening ſheep, for which purpoſe he finds them excellent; and beſt to feed in the field, becauſe faſt in the ground for the ſheep to bite at, provided there is ſome graſs for them to lie on.

Has deviated from the common late ſowing of wheat, putting his in the beginning of ſeptember, and finds his harveſt ſo much earlier, that his is in the *haggard* (reek yard) when others are cutting.

His tillage he performs with only 2 horſes. Mr. Johnſton is a great friend to the iriſh cars: He carries 10 to 12 cwt. of turf,

3 ſtatute kiſhes of hard ſtone turf, each horſe 10 turns a day, or 20 miles, and all done on graſs alone.

JULY 6th went to Rathan, where Lord Shelburne has placed a Norfolk bailiff, Mr. Vancover, for the management of a farm he took into his own hands, who brought with him a plowman, plough, harrow and tackle. The deſign does honour to the nobleman who formed it; and Mr. Vancover is not likely to diſappoint him; he is a ſenſible, intelligent active man, who went through all the manual part of farming in a ſeven year's apprenticeſhip to a great farmer in Norfolk. I found him juſt what I could wiſh, diſguſted neither with the country nor the people, pleaſed and animated with the proſpect of improvement before him, and had no doubt of ſucceſs. He was going on perfectly well; ploughing off the turf of a boggy bottom, adjoining to a great bog; burning it into ſmall heaps, and intending immediately to plough and ſow turneps, of which, he will have 12 acres this year, and purpoſes having many more the year after; he has cut ſome very long drains into the bog, deſigns attacking it, and expects to make it excellent land, though inſtead of ploughing it firſt for burning, he muſt dig it; I am clear he will not be diſappointed: he has a fine field to work upon, for Lord Shelburne has 4000 acres of bog here. The high parts of the farm, are a rough lime ſtone land, but very dry and ſound, he deſigns in winter, grubbing the rubbiſh, burning all the ſtone into lime, and ploughing it for turneps the following year. Let me obſerve, that this is the right conduct of rough land, which ſhould always be brought into turnips firſt, and not fallowed for wheat, as all the iriſh improvers do, who follow their wheat with ſo many crops of ſpring corn, that their ſoil is preſently exhauſted. If turneps are had, dung is gained, and the land in order, which paves the way to every thing elſe. Too much cannot be ſaid in praiſe of this undertaking of Lord Shelburne's. An opening is made by it, to a new field in huſbandry, which I foreſee may prove of infinite conſequence to the kingdom in general. Mr. Vancover being acquainted with ſeveral modes of improvement in England, and perfectly verſed in the Norfolk huſbandry, is placed with

with great judgment where he can exert both. Perhaps I was the better pleaſed with this improvement from being inſtrumental in procuring his lordſhip the perſon who is executing it. Near this place is a farm of 150 acres, and 1500 bog, to be let on a leaſe for ever, at 130 l. a year.

WENT from Rathan to the Glebe, a lodge belonging to Dean Coote, and from thence to Shaen caſtle, near Mount-mellick, his reſidence; paſſed near large tracts of mountain, waſte and bog; and not far from a great range of the bog of Allen. Saw but little good corn; they were burning ſome boggy bottoms in order to fallow for bere; but it ſhould be for turneps.

FOR the following particulars I am indebted to the obliging attention of the dean. About Shaen caſtle farms of 40 or 50 acres are very common, ſome few riſe to 3 or 400. The ſoil is either lime ſtone, lime-ſtone gravel, or moor; lets at 13s. an acre on a medium.

THE COURSE.

1. Fallow. 2. Wheat, ſow 1 barrel, produce 5½. 3. Peas, ſow ¾ barrel, and get 5 to 10.

1. Fallow. 2. Wheat. 3. Oats, ſow 2 barrels, get 8 to 15.

Alſo, 1. They burn moors for turneps: no hoeing, draw them for ſheep. 2. Barley or bere, ſow 1 barrel of bere, get 8 to 18. Sow of barley 1 barrel, get as much barley as bere. 3. Oats. 4. Oats; after which they leave it to graze itſelf. Alſo on moory lands, rape or rye inſtead of, or after turneps.

FLAX is ſown by all poor people and little farmers for their own uſe.

POTATOES are ſo much planted that all the dung of the country is applied to them; ſome few plant them with the plough, but it does not well, unleſs the land is ſummer fallowed: the chief culture is in the gardens of the cabbins, for they hire no land of the farmers for potatoes. No ſheep folding. Lime-ſtone gravel is much uſed for tillage land, and the benefit found great for ſix or ſeven crops.

THE graſs is applied to fattening, dairying, and ſheep. Dairies from 30 to 40 cows are common here; they keep them in their own hands. An acre and a half of middling graſs for a cow. Some make butter, but none, if the cheeſe is good. 1½ cwt. of cheeſe is a good produce per cow, price from 25 to 30s per cwt. with 1l. 1s. for the calf, at 5 or 6 weeks old: rear very few.

THE fattening ſyſtem is to buy in at 3l. to 6l. in april, may, and june, and ſell out with 30s. or 42s. ſhillings profit, quite to chriſtmas. Flocks of ſheep riſe to 5 or 600; the profit lamb at 5s. to 9s. and the ewe's wool 4lb. In the winter they are on the walks, unleſs in froſt and ſnow, when they get ſome hay or turneps. Wool 15s. to 17s. a ſtone, but within 15 years was 10s. 6d. It is bought up by combers, who keep ſpinners in the country to ſpin it into yarn, which is ſold to factors for foreign markets. They are much troubled with the rot upon the moors, and a wet ſeaſon will rot them even on lime-ſtone land. Plough moſtly with horſes, uſing 4, often for the ſecond time of fallowing 6: they do ¼ of an acre; 4 bullocks, which gentlemen and good farmers uſe, will do ½, price 7s. an acre. For winter corn they throw the lands narrow, and arched up: no ſhovelling furrows, but ſtrike them with the plough. Keeping a horſe 3l. 3s. a year, and a working bullock 40s. Break their fallows from november to february. Hire of a horſe, boy, and car from 1s. 1d. to 1s. 4d.

IN hiring and ſtocking farms 3l. an acre they reckon neceſſary.

LAND ſells at 20 years purchaſe; has fallen in 5 or 6 years 2s. to 6s. an acre, in general 5. Tythes are compounded for, wheat 7s. bere 6s. barley 5s. oats 3s. 6d. mowing ground 3s. peaſe 2s. 6d. No tea in the cabbins, nor yet a bellyfull of potatoes. They have an acre of land and a cottage for 1l. 1s. to 1l. 10s. and about ¼ of that in potatoes, they buy when they have not of their own, both oats, meal, or potatoes; a barrel of potatoes will laſt a man, his wife, and four children a week; one barrel of oats will yield 1 cwt. of oatmeal, which ſells at 8s. 6d. to 10s. and will in *ſtir-about* laſt them a week, that is

the

the ſame time as a barrel of potatoes. They in general keep a cow at 1l. 1s. to 1l. 10s. but they muſt buy 12s. or 14s. of hay for her. They alſo keep a pig on offal.

STEALING is very common, they take every thing they can lay their hands on, yet are not ſo poor here as in Clare and Tipperary. Corn all carried to Dublin for the premium, that on the malt and flour pays all the expences, but not the wheat. Population evidently increaſes. No emigrations. Religion of the lower claſſes all catholick. A poor man's firing 14s. or 15s.

EXPENCE of building a cabbin 3l. 3s. of ſtone and ſlate 20l. all to a farm of 50 acres, of ſtone and ſlate 300l.

IN converſation upon the ſubject of a union with Great Britain, I was informed that nothing was ſo unpopular in Ireland as ſuch an idea; and that the great objection to it was increaſing the number of abſentees. When it was in agitation, 20 peers and 60 commoners were talked of to ſit in the britiſh parliament, which would be the reſident of 80 of the beſt eſtates in Ireland. Going every year to England would, by degrees, make them reſidents; they would educate their children there, and in time become mere abſentees: becoming ſo they would be unpopular, others would be elected, who, treading in the ſame ſteps, would yield the place ſtill to others; and thus, by degrees, a vaſt portion of the kingdom now reſident would be made abſentees; which would, they think, be ſo great a drain to Ireland, that a free trade would not repay it.

I THINK the idea is erroneous, were it only for one circumſtance, the kingdom would loſe, according to this reaſoning, an idle race of country gentlemen, and in exchange their ports would fill with ſhips and commerce, and all the conſequences of commerce; an exchange that never yet proved diſadvantageous to any country.

THE dean's improvements of bog ground are extenſive; he drained very completely, and then ploughed or dug it for burning, upon which ſowed meſlin, which ſucceeded very well, yielding 13 barrels an acre. Then oats ploughed for, and got 10 barrels; and ſowed hay ſeeds, ray graſs *(colium perenne)* and clover

(tri-

(trifolium pratenſe:) before the improvement began, it was not worth 1s. 6d. an acre, but made it 14s.

Another part of the bog was leveled and burnt, the aſhes ſpread, and turnep ſeed harrowed in, did very well, fed ſheep with them; after which, rubbiſh, clay, and lime-ſtone gravel ſpread on it, 1000 load an acre, or 40s. an acre, and graſs ſeeds ſown, which made it worth 1l. 1s. an acre. Turneps, dean Coote has had theſe 20 years, both in the drill and broad-caſt, and found the drill method much the beſt, but owing, I apprehend, to the hoeing of the broad-caſt not being well performed. Had them always for feeding ſheep, and found the eating equal to a coat of dung.

He folded his ſheep for two years, but could not bring his people to continue it without too much trouble.

Lime he has tried much on the lime-ſtone ground, but did not find it anſwer at all.

Would recommend in the improvement of bogs, to begin with one great drain round the intended improvement, 12 feet wide at top, cut to the gravel, and 4 feet wide at bottom; then to cut croſs drains into that, which alſo ought to go down to the gravel: leave it for a year, if it is bad; then turn it up with the ſpade or plough, burn it, and ſow turneps or rape, and do it again the ſame next year, with a ſecond burning, after which oats may be had, and laid down to graſs, which will be good, but much better if gravelled. Dean Coote has received from the Dublin ſociety ſeveral gold medals for the improvement of bog, culture of turneps, &c.

July 8th, left Shaen Caſtle, and took the road towards Athy; breakfaſted with dean Walſh, at general Walſh's, in that gentleman's abſence.

The general is a conſiderable farmer, and a yet greater improver; he has built 12 new farm houſes, alſo 30 cabbins that have 90 cows, and each 2 to 4 acres, at 20s. an acre.

He has tried potatoes with the plow, inſtead of the trenching way, he manured 2 acres of ſtrong land with 400 load of dung, which he ploughed in, and then dibbled the ſets in, 15 inches ſquare,

ſquare, he hand-hoed them twice, and got 176 barrels per acre. The common crops do not exceed 90 barrels.

He has generally 7 or 8 acres of turneps, and 2 or 3 of cabbages, with which he feeds both cattle and ſheep, and with great ſucceſs. He practices tillage principally to bring his land into order, and throws it into the following courſe.

1. Fallow. 2. Wheat. 3. Clover or trefoile, 2 years.

When he ſows barley on potatoe land, he gets 20 barrels an acre. One article in the management of his eſtate cannot be too much praiſed: wherever he lets a farm that has only a common ordinary cabbin on it, he obliges the new tenant to build a good houſe of ſtone and ſlate, allowing him conſiderably towards the expence. The common courſe of crops here is,

1. Fallow. 2. Wheat, yielding from 7 to 9 barrels. 3. Barley, 15 barrels. 4. Oats, 15 to 20. 5. Left for Graſs.

The poor here have all of them potatoes, as far as their dung will go: when they hire graſs land to plant them on, the account of an acre is as follows:

10 barrels of ſeed, at 3s. 4d. - - - - - -	1	13	4
Planting, cutting, &c. - - - - - - -	1	10	0
Second trenching - - - - - - - - - -	0	15	0
Weeding - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	0	2	6
Taking up, 40 men a day at 7d. - - - -	1	3	4
Rent - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	3	10	0
	£ 8	14	2

The average crop 80 barrels, which is 2s. 2d. a barrel prime coſt.

They have them the year round in plenty; they are cheaper than oatmeal, and they like them better. They ſow very little flax, and ſome none at all. Many of them are maſter of a car and horſe, with which they work for hire; alſo one or two pigs, and much poultry by means of their potatoes.

Leaving General Walſh's, paſſed a fine wood on the right, within a wall. See much good wheat and bere to Athy. Going through that town the road leads on the banks of the river Barrow, which winds through the vale to the right; the verdure beau-

beautiful, and the country pleaſant. Paſs over much light dry ſandy gravelly loam, as fine turnep land as I ever ſaw, but not one cultivated in the country. It is this ſoil all the way from Athy to Carlow; lets from 16s. to 20s. an acre. The courſes are:

1. Fallow. 2. Wheat, yielding 5 or 6 barrels.

Alſo, 1. Fallow. 2. Wheat. 3. Oats, and graſs ſeeds, or left to turf itſelf, they uſe lime with ſucceſs: they have gravel, but that does beſt for ſtrong lands, and this upon land formed for 20 barrels an acre of barley after turneps. Theſe people by the Norfolk huſbandry would make a crown where they now receive ſix pence.

Called on Mr. Vicars at Ballynakill, a conſiderable grazier, who farms near 2000 acres in different counties. His huſbandry conſiſts chiefly of feeding ſheep and bullocks: one ſheep ſyſtem is to keep ewes for breeding, the ſale being 3 year old wethers, ſome of the oldeſt ewes and the wool. The wethers ſell from 20 to 28s. each, and the quantity of wool 2½ to a ſtone, (the ſtone of wool in Ireland 16 lb.) Another ſyſtem is to buy in ewes in autumn, and to ſell the lambs fat, and then the ewes. Grazing, in this country, conſiſts in buying bullocks in october, at 5l. or 6l. each; give them ſome hay in bad weather, and ſell them fat, with 40 s. or 50 s. profit. Cows are bought in in may, and ſold fat from harveſt to autumn. Many dairies, not let to labourers, but kept for making butter; a cow will make 1 cwt. at 2l. 10s. and the calf 4 s. The cabbins let here at 20 s. each, and 30s. they pay for the paſturage of a cow, which they all keep. The account of potatoes is:

Rent - - - -	£.	5	0 0
8 Barrels of ſeed, 4s. 6d. -		1	16 0
Putting in - - - -		2	10 0
Taking up - - -		1	10 0
		10	16 0

The average crop 60 barrels, prime coſt therefore 3s. 6d. Average rent of the whole county of Carlow, 15s.

Passed on to Mr. Browne at Brownſhill, who has built a very good and convenient houſe, in an open ſituation, commanding an

an extenſive proſpect; gained here ſeveral articles of information relative to the ſame neighbourhood as Mr. Vicar is in. They plough chiefly with oxen, four in a plough, but do not half an acre a day, which is a quantity four horſes will do eaſily.

TILLAGE is very much increaſed here, and almoſt intirely owing to the inland premiums; the people alſo increaſe much. Tythes are, Wheat 5s. Bere 4s. Barley 3s. Oats 2s. 6d. Mowing ground 3s. and of ſheep in kind.

THROUGHOUT the county of Carlow the hiring tenant is in general the occupier, except in ſmall pieces.

IN front of Mr. Browne's houſe is a mountain, which I remarked was cultivated very high up the ſides; and upon enquiry found that it was done by cottars, who pay the high rent of 10s. an acre in order to improve: they pare it with a plough, and burn the furrow, lime and fallow it for wheat, of which they get ſix barrels per acre; after which they ſow oats, and get 10 barrels, laying down with graſs ſeeds. Some they reclaim with potatoes. Much of the mountain is wet, ſo that they are forced to drain it with open cuts.

MR. BROWNE keeps 800 ſheep, which conſiſt of 200 ewes; 100 ditto, 2 years old; 100 ditto, 3 years old, wethers; 200 ditto 1 year old, ditto *hoggits*; 200 Lambs. And he ſells every year

120 three year old wethers, at 25s. -	£.	150	0 0
80 culled ewes, at 16s. - - - -		64	0 0
220 ſtone of wool, at 16s. - - -		176	0 0
		390	0 0

In the winter they eat, of hay, 25 ton.

HEARD of a very ſpirited farmer at Carlow, a Mr. Hamilton, on whom I ſhould have called, but was told that he was abſent. He has gone ſo much into the turnep huſbandry as to have 100 acres in a year, and 8 or 10 acres of cabbages; ſows them much on pared and burnt land; keeps by their means a vaſt ſtock of cattle; ſtall feeds many bullocks, buying ſtraw for litter in order to make dung; beſides which he buys all the dung he can, and

burns much lime, taking in ſhort every means to keep his lands clean and in good heart. Such an example ought to be powerful in creating imitators, but I could not find it had any ſuch effect among the common farmers.

JULY 9th, left Brownſhill, and taking the road to Laughlin-bridge, called on Mr. James Butler at Ballybar, a very active and intelligent farmer upon a conſiderable ſcale. He has generally 4 or 5 acres of cabbages, which he uſes for his fat wethers of four years old; the produce of them he finds greater, and the ſheep too like them better than turneps. He has ſometimes 20 acres of turneps, and hoes them all. This year none.—It is a ſign the cultivation is not well underſtood in a country, when a man has one year 20 acres, and another none. A principal part of the advantage of the conſumption is loſt, if the cattle ſyſtem is not regularly arranged with an eye to the turnep crop.

MR. BUTLER buys every year 40 year old beaſts, at from 30s. to 40s. Keeps them till three years and an half old, and then ſells them fat. Alſo 20 bullocks, at 5l. which he ſells fat at 8l. His cows he buys in may, from 3l. to 3l. 10s. each. The profit 40s. a head. The beſt graſs he has will carry a bullock an acre. His ſheep ſyſtem is to buy three year old wethers in october, at 25s. each, which he begins to ſell in the ſpring, and through the ſummer, at 34s. In the winter they have hay.

HIS improved courſe of crops is:

1. Turneps, or cabbages. 2. Barley, yielding 20 barrels an acre. 3. Clover, and upon that graſſes afterwards to lay down.

The courſes general are:

1. Fallow.
2. Wheat 7½ barrels an acre.
3. Barley.
4. Oats.

1. Potatoes.
2. Wheat.
3. Barley, 14 barrels an acre.
4. Oats, 12 ditto.
5. Fallow, and then as above.

Their lands let at 30s. an acre, being a very good ſtony loam. Moſt in this neighbourhood were grazing ones, carrying bullocks and ſheep; but ſince the premiums on land-carriage corn, they have been broken up, and are now as 1 to 20. The number of

ſheep

ſheep particularly is ſo much leſſened, that only four perſons, Mr. Bunbury, the two Mr. Bernards', and Mr. Keef, had, 20 years ago, more ſheep among them than there are now in the whole county.

HAVING taken a ſhort walk with Mr. Butler, paſſed on to Captain Mercer's mill at Laughlin-bridge. I had been told that this was one of the moſt conſiderable mills in Ireland; and had a letter of recommendation to Mr. Mercer, which through careleſſneſs I had loſt. I did not care, however, to paſs without ſeeing the mill, drove down to it, and was in the aukward ſituation of explaining myſelf to be a traveller—what I wanted—from whence I came—and ſo forth: but the good-nature and politeneſs of Mr. Mercer preſently diſſipated the diſagreeableneſs of thoſe firſt explanatory moments. He ſhewed me the mill, and explained every thing with the utmoſt civility. It is a very large and convenient one; grinds 15,000 barrels a year, and if there was a briſker demand could do yet more.

I FOUND the ſame neceſſity of kiln drying here as at Slaine mill, and made the ſame obſervation that the wheat was none of it of a fine bright colour, like what is common in England.

THE farmers alſo dreſs their corn in ſo ſlovenly a manner, that there is the ſame neceſſity of dreſſing it over again, for which very powerful machines are contrived. The whole is very well calculated for ſaving labour in every operation, and only eight hands are employed. After the mill was built, Mr. Mercer made many alterations of his own, to render it more ſimple and effective, which have fully anſwered his expectations. The barrel of bran here is 4 ſtone, and ſells for 8d. Mr. Mercer has tried feeding cattle with it, but could never make more than 6d. by it: has alſo fattened hogs with it, but in no uſe will it pay more than 6d.

NOTHING intereſting from hence to Kilfaine. I ſaw ſome very good crops of wheat, but the country is bleak, and wants wood much. Reached Gervas Parker Buſhe's, Eſq; at that place in the evening, who received me with a politeneſs equalled only by the value of his intelligence.

JULY 10th, accompanied Mr. Buſhe, in a ride through the neighbourhood, to view the country, which is a great corn one. Called at ſeveral farms, and made enquiries into the culture, &c.

VIEWED Mount Juliet, Lord Carrick's ſeat, which is beautifully ſituated on a fine declivity on the banks of the Nore, commanding ſome extenſive plantations that ſpread over the hills, which riſe in a various manner on the other ſide the river: a knole of lawn riſes among them, with artificial ruins upon it, but the ſituation is not in uniſon with the idea of a ruin, very rarely placed to effect, unleſs in retired and melancholy ſpots.

THE river is a very fine one, and has a good accompanyment of well grown wood. From the cottage a more varied ſcene is viewed, chearful and pleaſing; and from the tent, in the farther plantation, a yet gayer one, which looks down on ſeveral bends of the river.

IT was impoſſible for any one to take more pains, that I ſhould be well informed of every particular concerning huſbandry, than Mr. Buſhe; the following particulars I owe to his moſt ample intelligence.

ABOUT Kilfaine, farms riſe generally from 100 to 200 acres, among many very ſmall ones, but ſcarcely any ſo high as 400; the ſoil a dry ſound gravelly loam, with many ſtones, much inclinable to ſand. As fine turnep-land as any in the world; as to rent, there are three-fifths of it good land, at 20s. an acre; one-fifth worſe, and fit for paſture, 15 s. and another mountain and land of little value: the firſt nothing; the other 5s. average 3s. and general average 16 s.

THE courſes of crops are,

1. Fallow. 2. Wheat, ſow 1 barrel, and get on an average 6. 3. Barley, the crop 10 barrels. 4. Oats, the crop 8 ditto, or

1. Fallow.
2. Wheat
3. Oats.

1. Fallow.
2. Wheat, which ſurprized me much, for it is very contrary to the ſpirit of ſucceſſive crops.

1. Po-

1. Potatoes.	1. Potatoes.
2. Wheat.	2. Bere crop, 10 barrels.
3. Barley.	3. Barley.
4. Oats.	4. Oats.

They plough three or four times for wheat, ſow from the end of ſeptember to the middle of november. The firſt ploughing is not till may or june, and ſometimes, as I have ſeen, not till july. They never ſow barley till april, and often may. Peaſe they only ſow on land which they think is not in heart for oats, and the crops miſerable, as may be ſuppoſed. They ſometimes burn low ruſhy bottoms, and ſow rape on them, but not often.

No ſuch thing as turneps among the common farmers, though they have an excellent turnep-ſoil. Mr. Buſhe has ſome every year, with which he feeds his ſheep.

No clover. Mr. Buſhe has had it for ſome time, and found the greateſt advantage from it. A little flax for their own uſe. Potatoes very generally cultivated, and take all the dung of the farm; and the poor, who raiſe what dung they can, have land of the farmers gratis, if they manure it well, in order to plant potatoes, which here is the moſt general culture of that root. The account,

	£.		
Dunging 240 load - -	1	0	0
12 barrels of ſeed, at 3s. - -	1	16	0
Planting with a plough - - -	0	16	0
Weeding - - - - -	0	4	0
Taking up - - - - -	1	8	0
	5	4	0

Plough them in, and then trench the furrows. Crop 40 barrels. The beſt ſort are the yellow potatoe, alſo the *wiſe* for produce. The *Turk*, which is the engliſh *Howard*, they plant on poor land, and never beſtow any dung on it, yet get great crops; but it is a very bad ſort. They are beginning to cultivate the mountains; the incloſures creep up the ſides gradually; they pay 2s. to 4s. an acre, but improve to be worth 8 or 10s. They do it with limeſtone gravel, or begin with potatoes, and dung; the gravel they carry

carry 2 miles to 3. Lime is a common manure; they lay 80 barrels an acre; it does beſt on light land, and gravel on ſtony. They burn it themſelves. One barrel of culm, at 2s. burns 5 barrels of lime; 16 miles from the coal-pits. Quarring and burning 3d. a barrel. Drawing ſtone to the kiln 1d. or 1½ ditto. Lime ſtone gravel is a very general manure, and the benefit prodigious. They have ſome they call lime-ſtone ſand, which is a ſort of ſand-ſtone that breaks very eaſily. They lay 200 to 300 loads, 6 or 7 cwt. each, an acre. Four horſes will draw 120 load a day, each load 1½ barrel, and the diſtance 40 perch: this is 180 barrels, or 720 buſhels, which is 24 loads, at 30 buſhels each; which, I believe, is more than four horſes uſually perform in England, and is a proof, that giving every horſe his own work expedites it. Raiſing and ſcreening the ſand from large ſtone, 1½ d. a car load. It will laſt in ſtrong heart ſeveral years, and be perceived 15. As to laying land to graſs, they in general do it only by leaving the ſoil to cover itſelf with the rubbiſh that happens to come.

Grass land for meadow is very valuable. About the town of Kilkenny, 3l. to 5l. an acre; and at a diſtance there is a cuſtom of the little tillage-farmers hiring the crop of hay of a gentleman or farmer, and giving him, merely for the hay, 3l. to 5l. an acre, they taking all the expences upon themſelves, and not having the after-graſs. Dairies common on the hills on coarſe graſs, at 10s. or 12s. an acre. A good cow will give three gallons and an half of milk a day. As they ſell all the butter-milk, they have little notion of keeping hogs, on account of dairies. In winter, the cows that give milk have hay; the others ſtraw: all run abroad. Few grazing farms, but in the barony of Cranagh there are ſome. Value of a cow's hide 15s. to 18s. per cwt. Sheep are kept in ſmall parcels; they ſell ſtore wethers two and three years old, at 16s. to 20s. in june or july. Wool about 3 to a ſtone. The price of wool 16s. but 20 years ago, 12s. No ſuch thing as folding. They plough generally with 4 horſes, and do above ½ an acre a day, laying their lands on 6 foot ridges. They give their horſes oats. No cutting ſtraw into chaff, and loſe all that

that of the crops. Hire of a car, a horſe, and a driver, 1s. 4d. In hiring and ſtocking a farm, they reckon a year's rent neceſſary; if they have leſs, they never know whether they are to ſink or ſwim.

LAND ſells at 21 years purchaſe; not quite ſo well as it did 5 or 6 years ago, the rents fallen ſince march 1775, a ſeventh. County ceſs not a ſhilling an acre. Tythes compounded generally, wheat 8s. bere 7s. barley 7s. oats 4s. mowing ground 4s. peaſe 4s. No manufactory of conſequence, but blankets are made at Kilkenny. The leaſes are all for 21 or 31 years, as the whole country is roman catholic. Much land is in the occupation of under tenants, who hire of middle men, but generally under old leaſes; when land was at its heighth, many hired alſo on ſpeculation, but the fall of lands has put a great ſtop to it. A cabbin and an acre lets at 3l. 3s. and if more land 40s. or 42s. an acre, the cottars have many of them a cow, and ſome two, and a pig and ſome poultry. In reſpect to their condition, they have their belly full of potatoes, and their children eat them all day long; all cattle lay with them in the cabbins. Scarcity of fuel is the worſt circumſtance. All the lower claſſes are roman catholics. No emigrations. The general ſtate of the poor will appear from the following account of Mr. Buſhe's hay-makers; he was obliging enough to make them all appear in array, and anſwer to the queſtions I put to them. The following are the particulars they gave me.

	No. of ſouls in each cabbin.	Acres of land.	Rent.	Cows.	Horſes.	Hogs.
No. 1.	4	¾	1 18 0	0	0	1
2.	7	0	1 1 0	1	0	1
3.	5	2	1 10 0	0	0	1
4.	5	12	5 0 0	3	0	1
5.	6	0	1 1 0	1	0	1
6.	6	0	0 0 0	0	0	0
7.	8	8	8 0 0	1	0	0
8.	8	8	8 0 0	1	1	2
9.	10	16	16 0 0	2	2	3
10.	8	8	8 0 0	1	1	2
11.	5	6	10 10 0	2	1	0
12.	8	1	1 15 0	1	0	2
13.	2	4	6 0 0	1	1	2
14.	6	6	10 10 0	1	1	3
15.	4	5	6 0 0	2	1	2
16.	6	2	1 8 0	0	0	9
17.	5	0	1 10 0	0	0	2
18.	12	12	17 8 0	2	2	2
19.	7	12	12 0 0	2	1	1
20.	6	0	0 0 0	0	0	0
21.	10	4	6 0 0	1	1	0
22.	6	8	8 0 0	1	1	2
	144	114		23	13	37
Average	6½	5¼		1	½	1¼

6½ ſouls per cabbin, are a population one would not imagine could be reſident in ſuch mean habitations, but they ſwarm with children to the eye of the moſt inattentive obſerver. They have a practice here which much deſerves attention: three, four, five, ſeven, &c. little farmers will take a large farm in partnerſhip. They

They muſt be equal in horſes, cows, and ſheep, and tolerably ſo in other circumſtances; they divide every field among themſelves equally, and do all the labour of it upon their ſeparate accounts; aſſiſting each other mutually: they never throw the whole into one ſtock and divide the profit, from ſuſpicions, I ſuppoſe, they have of one another.

Implements.

A car 1l. 10s. a boarded one 2l. 2s. A plough 1l. 5s. A pair of harrows 15s. Building a labourer's cabbin in the common manner 5l. Ditto, of ſtone and ſlate, 30l. For a farm complete of 50 acres, of ſtone and ſlate 100l. to add 50 acres more 30l. more. Poors firing 1l. 10s. but hedges much broken.

Mr. Buſhe is very attentive in the culture of his domain; he puts his potatoes in with the plough, and finds they anſwer much better than the common manner, making them and turneps the preparation for barley, with which he ſows clover, and upon that wheat: this is the Norfolk huſbandry, and there cannot be better. It ſhould be extended over all the arable land wherever it is practiced. He has this year a very fine crop of wheat ſown upon one earth on an old lay, and no damage from the red-worm. In the ſpring he confines his cattle to the farm yard for making dung, and mixes it in compoſts with ſand and lime. He has an œconomical practice which deſerves attention. It is the ſtew hole in his kitchen being a perpetual lime-kiln. It is a fire kept night and day at leſs than no expence, for the lime more than pays the culm. It is not at all unwholeſome, and the fire for culinary purpoſes is excellent.

July 11, left Kilfaine: Mr. Buſhe accompanied me to Woodſtock, the ſeat of Sir W. Fownes. From Thomaſtown hither is the fineſt ride I have yet had in Ireland. The road leaving Thomaſtown leads on the eaſt ſide of the river, through ſome beautiful copſe woods, which before they were cut muſt have had a moſt noble effect, with the river Nore, winding at the bottom, the country then opens ſomewhat, and you paſs moſt of the way for 6 or 7 miles to Inniſteague, on a declivity ſhelving down to the river, which takes a varied winding courſe, ſometimes lively,

breaking over a rocky bottom, at others ſtill and deep under the gloom of ſome fine woods, which hang down the ſides of ſteep hills. Narrow ſlips of meadow of a beautiful verdure in ſome places form the ſhore, and unite with cultivated fields that ſpread over the adjoining hills, reaching almoſt the mountain tops: theſe are large and bold, and give in general to the ſcenes features of great magnificence. Paſſed Sir John Haſler's, on the oppoſite ſide of the river, finely ſituated, and Mr. Nicholſon's farm on this ſide, who has very extenſive copſes, which line the river. Coming in ſight of Sir W. Fownes's, the ſcenery is ſtriking, the road mounts the ſide of the hill, and commands the river at the bottom of the declivity, with groups of trees prettily ſcattered about, and the little borough of Inneſteague in a moſt pictureſque ſituation, the whole bounded by mountains. Croſs the bridge, and going through the town, take a path that leads to a ſmall building in the woods, called Mount Sandford; it is at the top of a rocky declivity almoſt perpendicular, but with bruſh wood growing from the rocks. At the bottom is the river, which comes from the right from behind a very bold hanging wood, that ſeems to unite with the hill on the oppoſite ſhore: at this paſs the river fills the vale, but it widens by degrees, and preſents various reaches, intermixed with little tufts of trees, the bridge we paſſed over is half hid. Inniſteague is mixed with them, and its buildings backed by a larger wood, give variety to the ſcene. Oppoſite to the point of view there are ſome pretty incloſures, fringed with wood, and a line of cultivated mountain ſides, with their bare tops limit the whole.

TAKING my leave of Mr. Buſhe, I followed the road to Roſs. Paſſed Woodſtock, of which there is a very fine view from the top of one of the hills, the houſe in the centre of a ſloping wood of 500 engliſh acres, and hanging in one noble ſhade to the river, which flows at the bottom of a winding glen. From the ſame hill in front it is ſeen in a winding courſe for many miles through a great extent of incloſures, bounded by mountains. As I advanced, the views of the river Nore were very fine, till I came to Roſs, where from the hill, before you go down to the ferry, is a noble

noble ſcene of the Barrow, a vaſt river flowing thro' bold ſhores, in ſome places trees on the bank half obſcure it, in others it opens in large reaches, the effect equally grand and beautiful. Ships ſailing up to the town, which is built on the ſide of a hill to the water's edge, enliven the ſcene not a little. The water is very deep and the navigation ſecure, ſo that ſhips of 700 tons may come up to the town; but theſe noble harbours, on the coaſt of Ireland, are only melancholy capabilities of commerce: it is languid and trifling. There are only four or five brigs and ſloops that belong to the place.

HAVING now paſſed through a conſiderable extent of country, in which the white boys were very common, and committed many outrages, I ſhall here review the intelligence I received concerning them throughout the county of Kilkenny. I made many enquiries into the origin of thoſe diſturbances, and found that no ſuch thing as a leveller, or white boy, was heard of till 1760, which was long after the landing of Thurot, or the intended expedition of M. Conflans. That no foreign coin was ever ſeen among them, though reports to the contrary were circulated; and in all the evidence that was taken during ten or twelve years, in which time there appeared a variety of informers, none was ever taken, whoſe teſtimony could be relied on, that ever proved any foreign interpoſition. Thoſe very few, who attempted to favour it, were of the moſt infamous and perjured characters. All the reſt, whoſe intereſt it was to make the diſcovery, if they had known it, and who concealed nothing elſe, pretended to no ſuch knowledge. No foreign money appeared; no arms of foreign conſtruction; no preſumptive proof whatever of ſuch a connection. They began in Tipperary, and were owing to ſome incloſures of commons, which they threw down, levelling the ditches; and were firſt known by the name of levellers. After that, they begun with the tythe-proctors, (who are men that hire tythes of the rectors) and theſe proctors either ſcrewed the cottars up to the utmoſt ſhilling, or re-let the tythes to ſuch as did it. It was a common practice with them to go in parties about the country, ſwearing many to be true to them, and forcing them to join, by menaces, which

they very often carried into execution. At laſt they ſet up to be general redreſſers of grievances—puniſhed all obnoxious perſons who advanced the value of lands, or hired farms over their heads and having taken the adminiſtration of juſtice into their own hands, were not very exact in the diſtribution of it. Forced maſters to releaſe their apprentices, carried off the daughters of rich farmers, raviſhed them into marriages, of which four inſtances happened in a fortnight. They levied ſums of money on the middling and lower farmers, in order to ſupport their cauſe, by paying attornies, &c. in defending proſecutions againſt them; and many of them ſubſiſted for ſome years without work, ſupported by theſe contributions. Sometimes they committed ſeveral conſiderable robberies, breaking into houſes and taking the money, under pretence of redreſſing grievances. In the courſe of theſe outrages, they burnt ſeveral houſes, and deſtroyed the whole ſubſtance of men obnoxious to them. The barbarities they committed were ſhocking. One of their uſual puniſhments (and by no means the moſt ſevere) was taking people out of their beds, carrying them naked in winter, on horſe-back, for ſome diſtance, and burying them up to their chin in a hole filled with briars, not forgetting to cut off one of their ears. In this manner the evil exiſted for eight or ten years, during which time the gentlemen of the country took ſome meaſures to quell them. Many of the magiſtrates were active in apprehending them; but the want of evidence prevented puniſhments for many of thoſe who even ſuffered by them, had not ſpirit to proſecute. The gentlemen of the country had frequent expeditions to diſcover them in arms; but their intelligence was ſo uncommonly good by their influence over the common people, that not one party that ever went out in queſt of them was ſucceſsful. Government offered large rewards for informations, which brought a few every year to the gallows, without any radical cure for the evil. The reaſon why it was not more effective was, the neceſſity of any perſon that gave evidence againſt them, quitting their houſes and country, or remaining expoſed to their reſentment. At laſt their violence aroſe to a heighth which brought on their ſuppreſſion. The popiſh inhabitants of Ballyragget, ſix miles from

from Kilkenny, were the firſt of the lower people who dared openly to aſſociate againſt them; they threatened deſtruction to the town, gave notice that they would attack it, were as good as their word, came 200 ſtrong, drew up before a houſe in which were 15 armed men, and fired in at the windows: the 15 men handled their arms ſo well, that in a few rounds they killed 40 or 50. They fled immediately, and ever after left Ballyragget in peace—indeed they have never been reſiſted at all, without ſhewing a great want of both ſpirit and diſcipline. It ſhould, however, be obſerved, that they had but very few arms, thoſe in bad order, and no cartridges. Soon after this they attacked the houſe of Mr. Power, in Tipperary, the hiſtory of which is well known. His murder ſpirited up the gentlemen to exert themſelves in ſuppreſſing the evil, eſpecially in raiſing ſubſcriptions to give private rewards to whoever would give evidence or information concerning them. The private diſtribution had much more effect than larger ſums which required a public declaration; and government giving rewards to thoſe who reſiſted them, without having previouſly promiſed it, had likewiſe ſome effect. Laws were paſſed for puniſhing all who aſſembled, and (what may have a great effect) for recompenſing, at the expence of the county or barony, all perſons who ſuffered by their outrages. In conſequence of this general exertion, above twenty were capitally convicted, and moſt of them executed; and the goals of this and the three neighbouring counties, Carlow, Tipperary, and Queen's-county, have many in them, whoſe trials are put off till next aſſizes, and againſt whom ſufficient evidence for conviction, it is ſuppoſed, will appear. Since this all has been quiet, and no outrages have been committed: but before I quit the ſubject, it is proper to remark that what coincided very much to abate the evil, was the fall in the price of lands, which has taken place lately. This is conſiderable, and has much leſſened the evil of hiring farms over the heads of one another; perhaps alſo the tythe-proctors have not been quite ſo ſevere in their extortions: but this obſervation is by no means general; for in many places tythes yet continue to be levied, with all thoſe circumſtances which originally raiſed the evil.

From Roſs took the road towards Wexford, and found upon enquiry that I was got into quite a different country from what I had left, the ſoil not near ſo high let, for ſeveral miles it is from 5s. to 15s. and is in general dry ſound land. This ſoil, ſo excellent in the turnep-culture, never lets at its real value in unimproved countries: it is the introduction of turneps alone that aſcertains that value. In 8 or 9 miles I found ſome riſing to 20s. The courſe: 1. Fallow. 2. Wheat. 3. Oats. 4. Barley. 5. Oats. 6. Barley. 7. Oats. With ſuch management, no wonder the ſoil is low rented. There is a great quantity of rough land overrun with furze *(ulex europæus)*. They burn them here, and I remarked uncommon quantities of bog-wood at the doors of the cabbins: yet their turf-grounds are rather boggy bottoms than bogs.

Laid at Taghmon, at as good an inn as the appearance of the place could allow of, though I was told it was very good. There was a bed on which I reſted in my cloaths, but the ſtable had neither rack nor manger. I ſhould have gone on to Wexford, but found that Mr. Neville, member for that town, to whom I had a letter of recommendation in order to procure intelligence concerning the baronies of Bargy and Forth, was in England; I therefore determined to turn off here, and make a circuit through them to get to Wexford. The landlord ſeemed to know ſomething of the country. I aſked him what gentlemen were in it that took any pleaſure in huſbandry: he named ſeveral, and from his accounts I determined a call on Mr. Nun, at St. Margaret's.

July 12th, ſallied from my inn, which would have made a very paſſable caſtle of enchantment in the eyes of Don Quixote, in ſearch of adventures in theſe noted baronies, of which I had heard ſo much. They were completely peopled by Strongbow; and from having retained a ſort of ſaxon language peculiar to themſelves, without any of them underſtanding the iriſh, in all probability the country was at that time uninhabited or deſolated. I had been told that they were infinitely more induſtrious and better farmers than in any other part of Ireland, and this account

was

was confirmed to me by ſeveral common iriſh farmers I met with upon the road.—It was not long before I was in the barony of Bargie, and I was much ſurpriſed to ſee no great appearance of any thing better than common. In one reſpect, I remarked the vileſt huſbandry, which was exhauſting the land by ſucceſſive corn corps, and then leaving it to cover itſelf with weeds, and graſs by degrees: for it is to be obſerved, that I have not ſeen, in Wexford, any of that fine land I have mentioned ſo often, which, if thrown by in this manner, is almoſt immediately covered with white clover. Land, I found, let five or ſix miles from Taghmon, from 10s. to 20s. an acre; they have no fallow, but ſow oats and barley, and beans and peaſe, (which they call black corn) in ſucceſſion for many years, and without any ſuch practice as hoeing. And though the land is light, dry and ſound, not a turnep is ſown; ſo that, in 21 miles, I ſaw not a ſingle fallow for them. Sowing beans and peaſe is, however, common, and they have farther a notion that doing ſo refreſhes the land. I ſaw no beans in Ireland till I came here. They told me their crops were: Barley and oats 6 to 12 barrels. Beans 8 to 10 barrels. They uſe both marle and lime; of the former they lay 400 car loads per acre, and it laſts 12 crops. Much of their wheat is ſown on lays, marled and dunged, and the crops were very good. Potatoes not the food of the people the year through, as in other parts of Ireland; they live on them only in the winter, and have oatmeal the reſt of the year. Barley is the crop that ſucceeds them.

Advancing farther I had freſh accounts.—Wheat they ſow on lays, with only one ploughing, and get from 7 to 10 barrels an acre; and of oats and barley on good land ſometimes ſo high as 15 to 17 barrels. They lime much, and uſually take but four or five crops of corn running, upon which they ſeemed to pride themſelves much, as being good farmers. Farms in Bargie generally from 40 to 100 acres. Here I underſtood there was a part of the barony of Shelmal inhabited by quakers, rich men and good farmers. A farmer I talked to ſaid of them:—*the quakers be very cunning, and the devil a bad acre of land will they hire.* From this account I wiſhed for a recommendation to one of theſe ſagacious

ſagacious friends. I obſerved all the way I went, that the cabbins were generally much better than any I had ſeen in Ireland: large ones, with two or three rooms, in good order and repair, all with windows and chimnies and little ſtyes, for their pigs and cattle. As well built as common in England.

ENTERING Forth I did not perceive any difference, but the ſoil is a reddiſh good loam without ſtones. I went to St. Margaret's, and introduced myſelf to Colonel Nun, who gave me the following particulars, with the aſſiſtance of a neighbouring farmer. Barony of Forth and Bargie farms generally 20 to 80 acres; but many of them hired in partnerſhip, and when the children marry are ſubdivided into ſmaller portions. Rent of the two baronies on an average a guinea. The courſes:

1. Potatoes.	1. Summer fallow.	1. Beans on lay.
2. Flax or barley.	2. Barley.	2. Barley.
3. Leave it for a ſod, but moſt ſow clover and graſſes.	3. Beans.	3. Oats.
	4. Oats.	4. Barley.
	5. Graſſes.	5. Clover or trefoile, for 2, 3, or 4 years.

1. Fallow and marle. 2. Wheat. 3. Barley. 4. Oats. 5. Barley. 6. Clover, &c.

For wheat they plough but once on the lay, harrow in the ſeed and ſhovel the furrows; ſow in october one-half to three-fourths of a barrel: ſome uſe ſpring wheat ſown in march. The crop generally is 10 to 20 barrels. For barley, which is their principal crop, they plough twice; ſow one barrel and an half, get 10 to 15 barrels an acre. For oats they plough but once, ſow one barrel and an half, and get 10 or 12 barrels an acre. For peaſe or beans they plough but once, ſow many beans on a lay on one ploughing, one barrel and an half per acre; chopping and dreſſing the clods fine, get 5 to 20 barrels an acre, and ſow barley after it. No turneps among the common farmers, though much of their land is fine dry and ſound, but ſome is very wet.

FLAX enough for their own uſe. Potatoes they have of late began to put in with the plough, but in common they are in the trenching way. Their crops are very good. Marle is very much uſed;

uſed: it is a blue ſort. They lay large quantities on the ſod, let it lie a year or two before they plough it up, which they find better than ploughing it directly. They marle the ſame land often; they drain only with open cuts, no hollow ones done.

CATTLE very little attended to: only a cow or two for the uſe of their families, and a few ſheep; but they keep a great many pigs. All that live near the ſea, turn their pigs to the ſhore for fiſh, ſea-weed, &c. Manure with ſea-weed, which they lay on for barley; ſome freſh from the ſea, others lay it in heaps to rot, and many reckon it beſt freſh. Ploughing all with horſes, four in a plough; lay their lands round to ſhoot off the water. In ploughing graſs for corn, they leave one-third of every ridge unploughed in the middle, but covered up with the furrows, in order for tilling the year following, and think they get the beſt crops there. Execrable!

LAND ſells from 22 to 25 years purchaſe; nor have rents fallen at all, rather the contrary. County ceſs 8d. an acre. Tythes either gathered or appraiſed every year. Leaſes generally three lives, or 31 years. Carry their corn to Wexford. The people increaſe prodigiouſly. Rent of a cabbin and an acre 3l. generally have a cow and pigs, and plenty of poultry. Religion generally catholic. Many lads go to Newfoundland in may, and come home in october, and bring from 15l. to 24l. pay 3l. paſſage out, and 1l. 10s. home. Poors' firing ſod, furze, and fern, coals very ſcarce. Building a cottage 5l. to 7l. to a farm of 50 acres 150l.

THE people are uncommonly induſtrious, and a moſt quiet race—in 15 or 20 years there is no ſuch thing as a robbery. The little farmers live very comfortably and happily, and many of them worth ſeveral hundred pounds. They are exceedingly attentive in getting mould out of the ditches and banks, to mix a little dung with it, and ſpread it on their land.

PARTICULARS of a farm:

70 acres. 16 cows, 4 to each partner. 20 horſes, each 5. 80 ſheep. 60 ſwine. Stock worth 300l. 4 families.

And this farm by old accounts has had 90 crops of corn without a fallow or graſs, in ſucceſſion, but they manure with ſea-weed and ſea-ſand every year. They are always on the watch for ſea-weed; and when the tide comes in, if it is in the middle of the night, they go out with their cars, and get all they can. Some of the fields are ſo covered with great ſtone rocks, that one would think it impoſſible to plough them, but they manage it by attention.

THEY all ſpeak a broken ſaxon language, and not one in an hundred knows any thing of iriſh. They are evidently a diſtinct people; and I could not but remark, their features and caſt of countenance varied very much from the common native iriſh. The girls and women are handſomer, having much better features and complexions. Indeed the

women, among the lower claſſes in general in Ireland, are as ugly as the women of faſhion are handſome. Their induſtry, as I have mentioned in ſeveral particulars, is ſuperior to their neighbours; and their better living and habitations are alſo diſtinctions not to be forgotten. The poor have all barley-bread and pork, herrings, &c. and potatoes. On the coaſt a conſiderable fiſhery of herrings: every creek has four or five boats—none barreled by the people, but the merchants of Wexford barrel them for the Weſt Indies.

From St. Margaret's I took the road to Wexford, the whole way through the barony of Forth. I ſaw nothing but ſtraw hats for men as well as women, and found afterwards that they were worn through the whole county, and they give a comic appearance to every group one meets. Laid at the King's Arms at Wexford, a very clean and good inn. There are 14 or 15 ſmall ſhips belonging to this port, but a bar at the mouth of the harbour prevents large ones from coming in.

July 13th, Croſſed the harbour in a ferry-boat, in order to take the lower road to Gowry. Paſſed over much ſandy land by the ſea ſide, covered with fern; large tracts of it, and divided into incloſures, as if it had been cultivated. Near the town I obſerved ſome heaps of ſea-weed rotting for manure. At the 60th mile ſtone large ſandy tracts, covered with furze and fern. As profitable land for improvement as any I have ſeen; lets for 6s. or 7s. an acre, but there is much other land at 15s.

Their courſe here is: 1. Oats, 7 or 8 barrels. 2. Barley, 6 ditto. 3. Oats. 4. Barley. 5. Clover and rye-graſs 3 to 6 years. Towards Wells, and from thence to Gowry, land is higher, much of it at 20s. and ſome higher ſtill.

Got to Lord Courtown's, who with an attention highly flattering, took every means to have me well informed. His ſeat at Courtown is a very agreeable place, and in ſome reſpects a very ſingular one; for the houſe is within 600 yards of the ſea, and yet it is almoſt buried in fine woods, which from their growth and foliage, ſhew no averſion to their neighbour, who is ſo often pernicious to all their brethren. His views of the ſea are fine, every where broken by wood, or hilly varied ground. All his environs conſiſt of undulating lands, which give a pleaſing variety to the ſcene: a river enters his garden, and purſuing for ſome diſtance a ſequeſtered courſe, ſhaded on one ſide by a rocky bank well wooded, and on the other by lofty trees, with a very agreeable walk under them, pours itſelf into the ſea at a ſmall diſtance from the houſe.

Lord Courtown is a very good farmer. The firſt field of turneps I *ſaw* in Ireland was here, and he was thinning and weeding them with boys, in order to hoe them with the more effect, the land in order, well dunged, and the plants forward and flouriſhing. He generally has 7 or 8 acres, feeds his cattle with them in a farm-yard, well littered with fern

fern and ſtraw, and ſows barley after, getting very fine crops. His ſandy lands by the coaſt he marles richly, and with ſuch effect that his crops are very great. The fineſt wheat I have ſeen yet in Ireland was on this ſand. Some of his Lordſhip's fields are wet from a ſtratum of clay; theſe he throws into lands gently arched, lays them down ſo, and finds them ſound enough for winter feeding without poaching, whereas when flat, they are quite kneaded if any cattle go into them. On this clay ſoil he finds the beſt manure is ſea-ſand and ſhingle from the beach.

JULY 14, ſunday—to church, and was ſupriſed to find a large congregation: this is not often the caſe in Ireland out of a maſs houſe.—Gallop on the ſtrand; it is a fine firm beautiful ſand for miles. The paddies were ſwimming their horſes in the ſea to cure the mange, or keep them in health.

THE following particulars of the huſbandry of the neighbourhood his Lordſhip brother gave me.

AT Courtown, and around Gowry, farms in general ſmall: but from 40 or 50 to 2 or 3000 acres, yet 200 acres are a large one, but very many ſmall of 30 to 50. The ſoil is a ſkirting of ſand againſt the ſea, the reſt is gravel and gravelly loam: alſo a thin ſtratum of loam on a yellow very miſerable clay, 12 inches thick, and under it univerſally a fine blue marle of great depth. Rents riſe from 10s. to 30s. average 15s. to 20s. and of the whole county 15s. A good deal of mountain, which in its wild ſtate does not let for more than 3s. The little farmers improve it much by fallow and lime, which they bring from Carlow, 25 miles. When improved, it is worth 16s. an acre, and they pay that for it at the expiration of the leaſe.

THEIR courſes are: 1. Potatoes. 2. Barley, yielding 10 or 12 barrels. 3. Oats, the produce 10 or 12: and then more crops of oats, or barley and oats, till the ſoil is exhauſted, when they leave it to turf itſelf, which it will not do under 10 or 15 years. Alſo, 1. Summer fallow. 2. Wheat, 7 barrels; and then ſpring-corn crops, till the land is exhauſted. No peaſe or beans ſown. Not a turnep in the country among common farmers, though the fineſt ſands and grounds imaginable for them: nor clover. A little flax is ſown, generally after potatoes, and the culture of it increaſes gradually.

POTATOES in general put in in the common manner; but I heard of one or two farmers, who on dry ground plant them with the plough: always dung or pare and burn; no hiring of land for them, only in their own gardens and little fields; they do not often raiſe more than enough for half a year, buying for the other half. It is not a ſheep country, and no ſuch thing as folding known.

LIME is not uſed, except in the mountains, from Carlow: but marle is very general, a good blue ſort, which they ſpread amply on the ſod, and plough it for wheat. The good farmers take three crops upon it,

but the little ones will take 8 or 10 as long as the land will yield any thing. The deeper they dig the marle, the better it is. They dairy much here, ſome having 20 cows for butter chiefly. It has been a common idea, that one good cow will make 1 cwt. of butter at 42s. and 1 cwt of cheeſe 25s. and rear her calf. They all keep many pigs, and the more upon account of their dairies. Some calves are fattened for Dublin market, one will ſuck two cows, and be worth 4l. at 3 months old. No large flocks of ſheep, but moſt of the farmers have a few; generally wethers bought in and ſold out every year. Give them hay in bad weather. 3 fleeces to a ſtone of wool, the preſent price 16s. Between 30 and 40 years ago 3s. a ſtone; and 20 years ago 10s. to 11s. Tillage is performed all with horſes, 4 in a plough, and do half an acre a day. All their chaff is loſt in winnowing their corn in the fields. Hire of a car 1s. In hiring and ſtocking farms, they will take them with ſcarce any thing but a few cows and horſes, yet they pay their rents very well, and few of them fail. Land, at rack rent, ſells at 20 years purchaſe, but within theſe 10 years 22 or 23. Rents have been riſing for 15 years: they have not fallen of late years as in other parts of Ireland, though in ſome places are beginning.

Tythes are valued every year, and the 10th taken as a compoſition, wheat at 18s. a barrel. Barley 8s. Oats 6s. The 10th lamb 2s. 6d. No tea in the labourers cabbins, but in thoſe of little farmers they have it, and it increaſes much. Leaſes generally 3 lives to proteſtants, and 31 years to catholics. The ſyſtem of middle men going out—none in new let lands.

Barley carried to Wexford for exportation, and wheat to Dublin by means of bounty on inland carriage. The people increaſe conſiderably. Rent of a cabbin with an acre 40s. if more added 20s. an acre. All keep cows, and generally a horſe and a pig or two, with plenty of poultry reared on potatoes.—They live on oat-cakes when potatoes are not in ſeaſon; the little farmers that have 40 or 50 acres, eat a good deal of meat; fiſh is a great article with the poor, particularly herrings and cod. In general much improving, and more induſtrious than formerly. In about four years, 40 or 50 perſons emigrated to America. They are beginning to improve mountain and bog, which from being worth nothing before, now let at above 20s. an acre. No farms hired in partnerſhip.

The white boys were violent for about three months in 1775, chiefly from Kilkenny and Carlow, but ſuppreſſed immediately by the ſpirited aſſociations of the gentlemen. They were heard of in the ſouth under other names before Thurot or Conflans. Poors' firing, turf ſeven miles off; 20 kiſh at 1s. 6d. a good ſtock; in common it may be reckoned 1l. 1s. Building a cabbin 6l. to 7l. 7s. Of ſtone and ſlate 20l. Ditto for a farm of 50 acres, ſtone and ſlate, 25l. Crammed fowls with potatoes and

and oatmeal and milk 2s. to 2s. 6d. each. Since theſe particulars were taken at Courtown his Lordſhip, by letter, has favoured me with the following, from an intelligent farmer.

COURSE OF CROPS.

1. Wheat.

Number of ploughings, four before ſowing. Firſt in november. Second in april, by croſs cutting. In june harrow it down well, then put on your manure. Third ploughing in july; harrow it down again. Fourth ditto in auguſt, which will leave it prepared for ſowing. Seed to the acre, fourteen ſtone. Crop, at a medium, eight barrels.

2. Barley.

Two ploughings. Firſt in november. Second at the time you ſow, having firſt croſs harrowed. Seed to the acre, fifteen ſtone. Crop, nine barrels.

3. Oats.

Most farmers plough but once. Seed, 22 ſtone. Crop, 9 barrels.

For Potatoes.

Let your ground lie ploughed all winter; to every acre put 500 load of dung. Seed, eight barrels. Crop, 80 ditto. Price, per barrel, 5s. Uſe of lime very profitable on dry ground; quantity, per acre, from 40 to 50 barrels.

Cows' Produce.

One cow will give ten quarts of milk a day; will produce one hundred of butter. Profit, three pound.

Sheep.

Two acres will ſupport one collop, or eight ewes. Each ſheep a lamb, at 5s. each —— —— £. 2 0 0
Wool from the eight ſheep, one ſtone, at — — 0 17 0

2 17 0
Two acres, at 20s. per acre — — — 2 0 0

Profit on eight ſheep, at an average, — — £. 0 17 0

Proportion of the riſe of labour is not more than 2d. per day.

Particulars of a Farm.

Arable 20 acres, 10 of barley, 4 of wheat, 6 of oats. Paſture 67 acres. Meadow 13 ditto.—Total 100 acres.——Stock, 24 Cows, 8 horſes, 7 two-year old heifers, 4 year old ditto, and four calves.——Rent 100l. Three Labourers.

MARLE.

QUANTITY, per acre, on ſtiff clay ground, from 5 to 600 load, of about 600 weight; on dry gravely ground, from 800 to 1000 ditto, according to the ſoil, will laſt 40 years with management.

JULY 15th, leaving Courtown, took the Arklow road; paſſed a finely wooded park of Mr. Rams, and a various country with ſome good corn in it. Flat lands by the coaſt let very high, and mountain at 6s. or 7s. an acre, and ſome at 8s. or 10s. Paſſed to Wicklow, prettily ſituated on the ſea, and from Newrybridge walked to ſee Mr. Tye's, which is a neat farm well wooded, with a river running through the fields.

REACHED in the evening Mount Kennedy, the ſeat of Gen. Cunninghame, who fortunately proved to me an inſtructor as aſſiduous as he is able. He is in the midſt of a country almoſt all his own, for he has 10,000 iriſh acres here. His domain, and the grounds about it, are very beautiful, not a level can be ſeen; every ſpot is toſſed about in a variety of hill and dale. In the middle of the lawn is one of the greateſt natural curioſities in the kingdom; an immenſe arbutus tree unfortunately blown down, but yet vegetating, one branch, which parts from the body near the ground, and afterwards divides into many large branches, is 6 feet 2 inches in circumference. The general buried part of the ſtem as it laid, and it is from ſeveral branches throwing out fine young ſhoots: it is a moſt venerable remnant. Killarney, the region of the Arbutus, boaſts of no ſuch tree as this.

JULY 16th, rode in the morning to Drum; a large extent of mountains, and wood, on the general's eſtate. It is a very noble ſcenery; a vaſt rocky glen; one ſide bare rocks to an immenſe height, hanging in a thouſand whimſical, yet frightful, forms, with vaſt fragments tumbled from them, and lying in romantic confuſion; the other a fine mountain ſide covered with ſhrubby wood. This wild paſs leads to the bottom of an amphitheatre of mountain, which exhibits a very noble ſcenery. To the right is an immenſe ſweep of mountain completely wooded, taken as a ſingle object it is a moſt magnificent one, but its forms are pictureſque in the higheſt degree; great projections of hill, with glens behind all wooded, have a noble effect. Every feature of the whole view is great, and unites to form a ſcene of natural magnificence. From hence a riding is cut through the hanging wood, which riſes to a central ſpot, where the general has cleared away the rubbiſh from under the wood, and made a beautiful waving lawn with many oaks and hollies ſcattered about it; here he has built a cottage, a pretty whimſical oval room, from the windows of which are three views, one of diſtant rich lands opening to the ſea, one upon a great mountain, and a third upon a part of the lawn. It is well placed and forms upon the whole a moſt agreeable retreat.

treat. The following particulars of agriculture I had from General Cunninghame, who took every means of having me well informed

About Mount Kennedy the country is incloſed within various mountains and high lands; farms are generally very ſmall, from 20 acres to 100, except in mountainous tracts, where they are larger, ſome from 300 to 600 acres. The ſoil is in general a dry ſound gravel, hanging to the ſouth eaſt, and protected by mountains from the north weſt. The rent, on an average, from 30s. to 50s. not mountain, which is uſually 8s. or 10s. The ſkirt of the whole county, from the mountain down to the ſea, is from 30s. to 50s. an acre, being a ſixth of it. One third of it, uncultivated and uninhabited, lets for not more than 6d. an acre. Another third lets for 20s. The remaining ſixth at 9s.—Average of the whole 15s. an acre.

The courſes of crops are: 1. Potatoes; all the dung of the country uſed for them. 2. Wheat; ſow one barrel, and get on an average 8 barrels. — All the furrows ſhovelled. 3. Oats; ſow near 2, and get 10 barrels. 4. Oats. 5. Barley; ſow ½ and get 10, and then leave it for lay for 5 years, never ſowing any graſs ſeeds. It produces nothing at all for three years, but after that white clover comes ſlowly.

Barley has been more cultivated upon account of the quantity of ale and beer which is brewed here, being the common beverage through the county, and more famous for it than any other. The barrel, 2-thirds of a hogſhead, ſells at 40s. Malt malted here 14s. a barrel; the barley 10s. 6d.

Another courſe: 1. Marle, or lime-ſtone gravel, on the lay, 1600 loads an acre, and ſow barley. 2. Wheat. 3. Oats or barley. 4. Oats or ditto, till left to lay again. Gravelling they generally conſider as a right to ſix or eight crops. Their wheat after potatoes they ſow ſo late as chriſtmas.

Very few peaſe, and no beans, nor any rape; and not a turnep, though ſaw great tracts perfectly adopted to that crop. They ſow alſo very little of flax, having no ſuch manufacture. Their potatoes they univerſally plant on an old lay; they ſpread their dung in beds for the trenching way, none under the plough. Plant 8 to 10 barrels on an acre, laid at 6 inches from one another. When the plants are about an inch or two high, they cover them a ſecond time from the trenches. They hand weed them. No hiring land of farmers for it, but all on their own account.

There are many copſes on the ſides of mountains of birch, oak, aſh, and holly, which are cut generally at 25 years growth for poles for building cabbins; the bark for tan, and the ſmaller branches for charcoal. They are worth from 12l. to 25l. an acre. Many of them on very ſteep ſides of mountains, and to a great height; but no great oak woods, ſince the Shillaly woods were cut down about 12 years ago.

There are conſiderable tracts of mountain land improved; if dry heath land, they plough, croſs plough, burn, and then ſow rye, getting 8 barrels

rels, after which they have oats, and crop it as long as it will produce. Unimproved mountain, conſiſting of rock, furze, *(ulex europæus)* fern, *(pteris aquilina)* &c. but dry, lets at 8s. an acre, at which rent they have it for 31 years. The improvement is reckoned very profitable. No folding ſheep: there is not ſuch a thing as a hurdle known. They pare and burn the mountain as the only way to improve, though contrary to an abſurd act of parliament againſt it.

LIME they uſe in very ſmall quantities, and no wonder, for it is the Sutton ſtone they bring from the hill of Howth to Wicklow, where it is burnt, and the common farmers bring it from thence at the expence of 2s. 6d. the ſtatute barrel of 32 gallons. They lay from 20 to 60 on an acre, chiefly on mountain ground. Grey marle, with lime-ſtone gravel in ſtrata, abound all over the country, with other ſtrata of ſand, all which have an efferveſcence with acids, and in digging they mix together, and prove of infinite benefit to their fields.

VERY few dairies, ſo that they make ſcarce any butter. Their cows are ſubſervient to their lamb ſuckling, and leave them free only in ſummer, when they fat calves for Dublin market. Four or five quarts of milk at a meal is the common quantity. In the winter they have hay, but only in hard weather. No grazing of oxen. As to ſheep their ſyſtem is particular; it is all ſuckling lambs for Dublin market.

GENERAL Cunninghame carried me to a farmer who is reckoned the moſt able in that buſineſs of any in the country, and the following is the account he gave me of his management. He breeds his own lambs from a ſtock partly bought in every year. The rams he puts to the ewes the middle of may, in order to have them lamb at michaelmas, or a little after. They are left in the field for a week, and then taken into the houſe. The ewes are brought to ſuckle them twice a day in general; but three or four times, while young; they have cows milk given them by women from their mouths, ſquirted down the lambs throats, to the quantity of a *noggin* a day at firſt, and riſes to 1½ and 2. A noggin is one-eighth of a quart. They keep them till three weeks before chriſtmas, and then begin to ſell them. Their ewes are kept on graſs only, unleſs in bad weather, when they have hay. He ſells 75 lambs annually, from a ſtock of 80 rams and ewes, at 33s. on an average, ſome up to 40s. for theſe lambs he has 8 cows, 5 of them in full milk, and if he has not cows enough, buys in for the purpoſe. The ewes are bought in at 9s. each in july, and ſome old ones are ſold every year at 6s. 14 acres of graſs will keep 80 ſheep until the ſtubbles are ready for them.

IN this ſyſtem much depends on having them take the ram in proper time for the Dublin market. In order to accompliſh this ſeemingly difficult buſineſs, they treat the ladies with a cup of generous Wicklow ale, and drive them about the field, in order to create the proper ferment between their blood and the ale, and then at the critical moment let in the gentlemen. Some managers more attentive than common, treat them with claret

claret inſtead of ale: perhaps the ſwarms of children in the cabbins are owing to the prolific quality of this excellent ale of Wicklow.

The wool of the country is all wrought up by the inhabitants, ſpun, combed, and wove into flannel and frizes, and to ſuch an extent, that the mountain farmers pay half their rents by this manufacture. They alſo buy much, not having enough of their own: it is all done by the ſmalleſt farmers going through the whole manufacture employing cottars in it. By ſpinning, a woman can earn 3d. a day. Wool now 14s. to 17s. the ſtone of 16lb. 20 years ago 11s. no rot among the ſheep. On the mountains many goats are kept for the milk, which is drank very much by people from Dublin, who take lodgings for drinking goats whey. Kids fleſh reckoned very fine.

They plough with both horſes and bullocks: two horſes and two bullocks, and one bullock and three horſes, and do from one-half to three-fourths of an acre a day. Stir 5 inches deep. Very few or no oats given to horſes. Chaff all thrown away. They work their draught oxen in winter on ſtraw. Hire of a car, a horſe, and a driver, 1s. 6d. a day. With 4 cows, 2 horſes, a yearling, and 20 ſheep, General Cunninghame has had tenants profeſſedly take 50 acres of land.

Land ſells at rack rent for 18 to 21 years purchaſe; 5 or 6 years ago it was at 22. Rents are fallen in the ſame time 4s. in the pound. Tythes are paid by compoſition; the crops are viewed, and they agree for one year. An acre of wheat 10s. Barley 4s. Oats 4s. No tea in the cabbins on the mountains, but in the towns they have it. Leaſes are three lives, or 31 years; a vaſt proportion re-let 3 or 4 deep. The people increaſe much. Rent of a cabbin in a village, with a very ſmall garden, 2l. 2s. to 3l. if not in a village it is leſs. On a mountain 50s. to 3l. for a cabbin and 5 acres, but generally have a common paſture for their cows, &c. Farms much taken in the mountains by partnerſhip; 3 or 4 will take 100 acres, and divide among themſelves as in Kilkenny. Lower people all roman catholics. No emigrations. No white boys.

They have plenty of potatoes; all keep a cow, ſome more; all a pig or more, and poultry of every kind. Their fuel is turf from the mountains; they are univerſal pilferers of every thing they can lay their hands on: great lyars, but full of quickneſs and ſagacity, and grateful to exceſs.

Kish of turf 10d. delivered. Oak *ribberies* (ſpars) for cabbins 4s. 6d. a dozen. Building a cabbin 25 feet long, 14 feet wide, with a door and 2 windows, 5l. 10s. Ditto ſtone and ſlate 20l. Ditto farm houſe and offices for 50 acres, of ſtone and ſlate 200l.

Expences and produce of General Cunninghame's farm.

Rent	£. 375	0	0
Labour	150	0	0
Wear and tear	30	0	0
	£. 555	0	0

48 acres mown, at 10 loads an acre, at 10s.	£. 240	0	0
5 acres of wheat 10 Barrels, at 1l. 1s.	52	10	0
10 — barley 14 ditto, at 10s. 6d.	73	10	0
17 — oats 13 ditto, at 10s.	110	10	0
2 — peaſe 9 ditto, at 10s.	9	0	0
10 — ſundries, at 5l.	50	0	0
70 ſheep at 15s.	52	10	0
Swine	5	0	0
10 young cattle 40s.	20	0	0
16 horſes, 36 weeks, at 2s. 6d.	72	0	0
5 Oxen, ditto 2s. 6d.	22	10	0
	£. 707	10	0

In two acres of land ſummer-fallowed for wheat, the general was perſuaded not to ſow it, as the red-worm would infallibly deſtroy the crop, he therefore kept it for barley, but manured it with lime, 90 barrels an acre at 21d½ each, from the hill of Howth in auguſt; the barley was eaten notwithſtanding the lime; it was a very poor crop, and in ſome places none at all. Sowed the ſtubble with peaſe, which I ſaw, and were very fine The general tried a very extraordinary experiment upon breaking up an old moſſy graſs lay in an orchard, and laying it down again without having any corn: it was manured with plenty of ſand, then ploughed it up in auguſt; directly croſs-ploughed it; harrowed it thoroughly, and threw about 20 barrels of lime an acre; burnt the roots, weeds, and tufts of graſs, ſpread the aſhes, harrowed it, and upon that, about the beginning of ſeptember, ſowed hay ſeeds. This was done to eſcape the trouble of a courſe of tillage among trees. The ſucceſs was as great as poſſible; I ſaw the crop of hay mown, and it is not leſs than 16 loads an acre. This is a ſyſtem which in many caſes would be of the greateſt uſe in reviving old hide-bound paſtures without the trouble of a courſe of tillage. It ſhould, however, be obſerved, that the climate of Ireland is peculiarly favourable to laying land to graſs at that ſeaſon, for it grows luxuriantly quite till chriſtmas.

Another inſtance of this natural tendency of the ſoil to graſs, is a trial the general accidentally made. He had a ſmall field under turneps, which he hoed well, and were a fine crop; upon being drawn to

to feed the plough bullocks with, he found much graſs upon the land, ſo much, that it induced him to let it ſtand, and the rather as it was laid very flat and ſmooth with the turneps, he rolled in ſome graſs ſeeds, and it turned out a very fine meadow. He was the firſt who ſowed red clover here, and is not yet followed by the farmers. He encouraged his tenants to lime, and lends them money for it. Much land is laid to graſs at Mount Kennedy, and all of it done in a perfect manner, the ſurface laid completely ſmooth, without the leaſt ſign of a furrow, and the graſſes luxuriant; all manured richly with gravel and marle.

I SAW two large compoſt dunghills turning over and mixing, a ſight not common in Ireland. It pleaſed me more than the ſight of a palace would have done. The general's crops I found all exceedingly fine, one field of oats the beſt I had ſeen in Ireland.

JULY 17th.—Took my leave of General Cunninghame, and went thro' the Glen of the downs in my way to Powerſcourt. The Glen is a paſs between two vaſt ridges of mountains covered with wood, which have a very noble effect, the vale is no wider than to admit the road, a ſmall gurgling river almoſt by its ſide, and narrow ſlips of rocky and ſhrubby ground which parts them: in the front all eſcape ſeems denied by an immenſe conical mountain which riſes out of the Glen, and ſeems to fill it up. The ſcenery is of a moſt magnificent character. On the top of the ridge to the right Mr. La Touche has a banqueting room. Paſſing from this ſublime ſcene, the road leads through chearful grounds all under corn, riſing and falling to the eye, and then to a vale of charming verdure broken into incloſures, and bounded by two rocky mountains, diſtant darker mountains filling up the ſcene in front: this whole ride is intereſting, for within a mile and an half of Tinnyhinch (the inn to which I was directed) you come to a delicious view on the right, a ſmall vale opening to the ſea, bounded by mountains, whoſe dark ſhade forms a perfect contraſt to the extreme beauty and lively verdure of the lower ſcene, conſiſting of gently ſwelling lawns riſing from each other, with groups of trees between, and the whole ſo prettily ſcattered with white farms, as to add every idea of chearfulneſs. Kept on towards Powerſcourt, which preſently came in view from the edge of a declivity. You look full upon the houſe, which appears to be in the moſt beautiful ſituation in the world, on the ſide of a mountain, half way between its bare top, and an irriguous vale at its foot. In front, and ſpreading among woods on either ſide, is a lawn whoſe ſurface is beautifully varied in gentle declivities, hanging to a winding river.

LOWERING the hill the ſcenery is yet more agreeable, the near incloſures are margined with trees, through whoſe open branches are ſeen whole fields of the moſt lively verdure. The trees gather into groups, and the lawn ſwells into gentle inequalities, while the river winding beneath renders the whole truly pleaſing.

Breakfasted at the inn at Tinnyhinch, and then drove to the park to ſee the water-fall. The park itſelf is fine; you enter it between two vaſt maſſes of mountain, covered with wood, forming a vale ſcattered with trees, through which flows a river on a broken rocky channel: you follow this vale till it is loſt in a moſt uncommon manner, the ridges of mountain cloſing, form one great amphitheatre of wood, from the top of which, at the height of many hundred feet, burſts the water from a rock, and tumbling down the ſide of a very large one, forms a ſcene ſingularly beautiful. At the bottom is a ſpot of velvet turf, from which riſes a clump of oaks, and through their ſtems, branches, and leaves, the falling water is ſeen as a back ground with an effect more pictureſque than can be well imagined; theſe few trees, and this little lawn, give the finiſhing to the ſcene. The water falls behind ſome large fragments of rock, and turns to the left, down a ſtony channel, under the ſhade of a wood.

Returning to Tinnyhinch, I went to Inniſkerry, and gained by this detour in my return to go to the Dargle, a beautiful view which I ſhould otherwiſe have loſt; the road runs on the edge of a declivity, from whence there is a moſt pleaſing proſpect of the river's courſe through the vale, and the wood of Powers court, which here appear in large maſſes of dark ſhade, the whole bounded by mountains. Turn to the left into the private road that leads to the Dargle, and preſently gives a ſpecimen of what is to be expected by a romantic glen of wood, where the high lands almoſt lock into each other, and leave ſcarce a paſſage for the river at bottom, which rages, as if with difficulty forcing its way. It is topped by a high mountain, and in front you catch a beautiful plat of incloſures bounded by the ſea. Enter the Dargle, which is the name of a Glen near a mile long. Come preſently to one of the fineſt ranges of wood I have any where ſeen: it is a narrow glen or vale formed by the ſides of two oppoſite mountains; the whole thickly ſpread with oak wood, at the bottom (and the depth is immenſe), it is narrowed to the mere channel of the river, which rather tumbles from rock to rock than runs. The extent of wood that hangs to the eye in every direction is great, the depth of the precipice on which you ſtand immenſe, which with the roar of the water at bottom forms a ſcene truly intereſting. In leſs than a quarter of a mile, the road paſſing through the wood leads to another point of view to the right. It is the crown of a vaſt projecting rock, from which you look down a precipice abſolutely perpendicular, and many hundred feet deep upon the torrent at the bottom, which finds its noiſy way over large fragments of rock. The point of view is a great projection of the mountain on this ſide, anſwered by a concave of the oppoſite, ſo that you command the Glen both to the right and left: it exhibits on both, immenſe ſheets of foreſt, which have a moſt magnificent appearance. Beyond the wood, to the right, are ſome incloſures hanging

hanging on the ſide of a hill, crowned by a mountain. I knew not how to leave ſo intereſting a ſpot, the impreſſions raiſed by it are ſtrong. The ſolemnity of ſuch an extent of wood unbroken by any intervening objects, and the whole hanging over declivities is alone great; but to this the addition of a conſtant roar of falling water, either quite hid, or ſo far below as to be ſeen but obſcurely united to make thoſe impreſſions ſtronger. No contradictory emotions are raiſed—no ill-judged temples appear to *enliven* a ſcene that is gloomy, rather than gay. Falling or moving water is a lively object; but this being obſcure, the noiſe operates differently. Following the road a little further, there is another bold rocky projection from which alſo, there is a double view to the right and left. In front ſo immenſe a ſweep of hanging wood, that a nobler ſcene can hardly be imagined: the river, as before, at the bottom of the precipice, which is ſo ſteep and the depth ſo great, as to be quite fearful to look down. This horrid precipice, the pointed bleak mountains in view, with the roar of the water, all conſpire to raiſe one great emotion of the ſublime. You advance ſcarcely 20 yards before a pretty ſcene opens to the left, a diſtant landſcape of incloſures, with a river winding between the hills to the ſea. Paſſing to the right, freſh ſcenes of wood appear; half way to the bottom, one different from the preceding is ſeen; you are almoſt incloſed in wood, and look to the right through ſome low oaks on the oppoſite bank of wood, with an edging of trees through which the ſky is ſeen, which added to an uncommon elegance in the outline of the hill, has a moſt pleaſing effect. Winding down to a thatched bench on a rocky point, you look upon an uncommon ſcene. Immediately beneath is a vaſt chaſm in the rock, which ſeems torn aſunder, to let the torrent through that comes tumbling over a rocky bed far ſunk in a channel emboſomed in wood. Above is a range of gloomy obſcure woods, which half overſhadow it, and riſing to a vaſt height, exclude every object. To the left the water rolls away over broken rocks: a ſcene truly romantic. Followed the path: it led me to the water's edge, at the bottom of the Glen, where is a new ſcene, in which not a ſingle circumſtance hurts the principal character. In a hollow formed of rock and wood (every object excluded but thoſe and water) the torrent breaks forth from fragments of rock, and tumbles through the chaſm, rocks bulging over it, as if ready to fall into the channel, and ſtop the impetuous water. The ſhade is ſo thick as to exclude the heavens, all is retired and gloomy, a brown horror breathing over the whole. It is a ſpot for melancholy to muſe in.

Return to the carriage, and quit the Dargle, which upon the whole is a very ſingular place, different from all I have ſeen in England, and, I think, preferable to moſt. Croſs a murmuring ſtream clear as chryſtal, and riſing a hill, look back on a pleaſing landſcape of incloſures, which waving

waving over hills, end in mountains of a very noble character. Reach Dublin.

JULY 18th, once more to Lord Harcourt's at St. Woolſtan's, where I was ſo fortunate as to meet Colonel Burton: he gave me a freſh packet of recommendations into the north of Ireland, and taking my leave of his excellency, paſſed Manooth to Kilrue. From Celbridge to Manooth is a line of very fine corn. Paſſed Dunboyne, from thence to Kilrue; the ſoil is clay, flat and ſtrong, and I obſerved much hollow draining going on, with very fine crops of wheat and oats The land about Mr. Jones is very fine rich ſtrong loam, called here clay.

MR. LOWTHER, to whom I had a letter, not being at home, I was forced to take refuge in a cabbin, called an inn, at Ratoath. Preſerve me, fates! from ſuch another.

IN their ſtrong lands about Kilrue their courſes are:—1. Fallow. 2. Wheat, yielding 8 to 15 barrels an acre. 3. Oats, 9 to 20 barrels.

1. Potatoes 80 barrels.	1. Potatoes.
2. Beans 7 to 15.	2. Barley 9 to 14.
3. Oats.	3. Oats.

LIMESTONE gravel they uſe in great quantities; lay it on a fallow, and it laſts 7 years, the expence from 4l. to 8l. Lime they alſo have, but find that it will not laſt like gravel. Hollow, called *french* drains, are very general, even among the common farmers: ſome done with ſtones, but much with ſods, laid an edge in the ground, they dig them 2½ or 3 feet deep, at two feet and an half, the expence is 5d. a perch. At 3 feet it is 8d. Clover they ſow pretty much, let it lie two years, and then break it up for oats on one ploughing. They ſow it on both winter and ſpring corn. The poor give 5l. 5s. an acre for lay to plant potatoes on, and the ſame for ſtubbled ground dunged. A cabbin and half an acre of land 30s. rent, and 30s. more for a cow's feed. Farms riſe to 300 acres, and rents from 18s. to 25s. an acre.

JULY 19th, left Ratoath, paſſing Robert's-town, found much of the land a ſtrong loam without ſtones, with all the appearance of being a very fine ſoil. Got to Baron Hamilton's at Hampton, near Balbriggen, by breakfaſt. His houſe is new built, and ſtands agreeably by a fine ſhore, with a full view of the mountains of Mourn, at 16 leagues diſtance, and the iſles of Skerry near him, much improving his view. He favoured me with the following account.

ABOUT Hampton, the ſoil clay or ſtrong loam, and many ſtones in it; lets from 20s. to 30s. Farms riſe from 40 acres to 100 and 150. No taking in partnerſhip. Courſes:

1. Fallow. 2. Wheat, 7 barrels. 3. Barley, 10 to 12. 4. Oats, 10.
1. Fallow. 2. Wheat. 3. Barley. 4. White peaſe.
1. Fallow. 2. Wheat. 3. Barley. 4. Oats. 5. Clover for 2 years. 6. Wheat or fallow.

THE

THE manures lime, ſea ſand, marle, and lime-ſtone gravel got three feet deep. Lime 6d. to 8d. at the kiln; they lay from 100 to 150 barrels, which laſt 8 or 9 years; on the dry ſoils beſt. On clay well drained, they ſpread of lime-ſtone gravel, that has a ſtrong fermentation, 300 to 400 loads, generally out of drains, ditches, &c. draining their lands at the ſame time; laſts long, and is beſt on ſtrong land. Sea ſand on poor clay excellent; lay 300 barrels an acre, which is a good dreſſing; laſts many years, and changes it from ſcutch *(triticum repens)* to white clover; it has an efferveſcence with acids. The marle white under black bottoms; 300 loads an acre. On new lays the Baron has found a very fine effect from it. Flax chiefly after potatoes, and then barley. Sow enough for their own uſe, not enough for manufactures for ſale. For potatoes 4l. an acre for dunged land, or lay on dung and have it for nothing. Much french draining, 4 feet deep, and 5 inches at bottom; fill with ſtones, and the improvement found very great; the common farmers do much of it. Tillage moſtly with horſes. In hiring farms they will take 100 acres with 200l. Tythes are generally compounded. The Baron has 800l. a year in tythes, and they pay upon an average 2s. an acre. If diſtinguiſhed, wheat is 8s. or 9s. Barley 8s. Oats 5s. Peaſe 4s. Meadow 4s. 6d. Many lands are hired to be relet. Population encreaſes very faſt, and the country in every reſpect improves amazingly. A cottage and half an acre 40s. to 3l. for a cow 30s. generally have 2 cows. A belly full of potatoes and oatmeal for *ſtir-about*; keep 2 or 3 pigs, and a great deal of poultry. They are univerſally much better off in every reſpect than 20 years ago. More induſtrious, owing perhaps very much to the high rents; inſomuch that they have been the parent of all improvements. All the manures have been found out within 20 years. Lime has not been uſed more than 10 years. When Baron Hamilton built the pier at Balbriggen, in the year 1763, there was only one ſloop of culm for burning lime in a ſeaſon, but now from 60 to 100.

CATTLE of all ſorts a very inferior object here. This place is in Fingal, which is a territory from near Dublin, extending along the coaſt, inhabited by a people they call Fingalians; an engliſh colony planted here many years ago, ſpeaking nearly the ſame language as the Barony of Forth, but more intermixed with iriſh in language, &c. from vicinity to the capital.

A HORSE and car and driver 1s. two cars to a driver. The riſe of labour great, 20 years, from 4d. to 6d. An extraordinary circumſtance is, that Ireland has been very proſperous on compariſon with former times, and yet intereſt of money now 6 per cent. and 20 years ago 4½ and 5. Land ſells at under 20 years purchaſe, fallen from 24 in 4 or 5 years, owing partly to the rents being run up too high.

BARON HAMILTON has been a conſiderable improver; he took in near Hampton 150 acres, mountain land, covered with ſcutch graſs, *(triticum repens)*

repens) furz, *(ulex europæus)* and a little heath *(erica vulgaris)*; ſtubbed it up, ploughed it 4 times, limed it 140 to 150 barrels each acre. Sowed rye, ſold it on the land 7l. 10s. an acre. For two ſucceſſive years let it at 4l. 10s. an acre for two crops of oats, which yielded from 16 to 20 barrels an acre; then two years more at 3l. 15s. and 3l. 10s. the crops 14 barrels. Fallowed it to deſtroy ſcutch graſs for maſlin, and then a crop of ſpring corn with graſs ſeed. This is the courſe in which the rough ground has been generally improved. This ſoil clay without much ſtone. In its rough ſtate worth only 5s. an acre to remain ſo, but the Baron paid 16s. 6d. The firſt year's expence was, crop included, 10l. an acre, now worth 20s. to 28s. an acre.

The Baron carried me to Balbriggen, a little ſea port of his, which owes its being to his care and attention. It ſubſiſts by its fiſhing boats, which he builds; has 23 of them, each carrying 7 men, who are not paid wages, but divide the produce of their fiſhery. The veſſel takes one ſhare, and the hands one each, which amounts on an average to 16s. a week. A boat coſts from 130l. to 200l. fitted out ready for the fiſhery: they make their own nets. The port owes its exiſtence to a very fine pier which Baron Hamilton built, within which ſhips of 200 tons can lay their broad ſides, and unload in the quay. Such veſſels bring coals and culm from Wales, &c. The baſe of the pier is 18 feet thick, and on the outſide is a conſiderable rampart of great fragments of rock, ſunk to defend the pier againſt the waves. In moving theſe huge ſtones, ſome of which weigh 8 or 10 ton, the Baron made uſe of a contrivance which deſerves to be generally known. They are ſpread along the ſhore, between high and low water mark, but to get them to the place where wanted was a very difficult buſineſs. He laſhed puncheons to them at low water, which floated them when the tide came in, and conveyed them over the ſpot where wanted; but in diſengaging the caſks from the ſtone to ſink the latter, he often had them broken, and found many difficulties. To remedy this, he had a contrivance very ſimple and ingenious, which anſwered the purpoſe completely. The puncheons were hooped ſtrongly with iron near each end, and between theſe irons was a chain, from the center of which went an iron tongue. The ſtones, at low water, were laſhed round with a chain with open irons that correſponded with thoſe tongues in the caſk chains, the one went into the other, and when cloſed had a female ſcrew through all three; through the two jaws of the one, and the tongue of the other, a male ſcrew at the end of a bar was then ſcrewed in when the ſtone was ready to move. One of 8 tons required 10 puncheons upon being floated over the ſpot where wanted; theſe bars were unſcrewed, and the ſtone and caſks diſengaged at once without trouble, the one ſinking, and the caſks floating away with the chain that was laſhed round the ſtone.

own experience he judged them to be remarkably honeſt. In working his improvements, he has lived in his houſe without ſhutters, bolts or bars, and with it half full of *ſpalpeens*, yet never loſt the leaſt trifle—nor has he met with any depredations among his fences or plantations.

RAISING rents he conſiders as one of the greateſt cauſes of the improvement of Ireland; he has found that upon his own eſtates it has univerſally quickened their induſtry, ſet them to ſearching for manures, and made them in every reſpect better farmers. But this holds only to a certain point; if carried too far, it deadens, inſtead of animating induſtry. He has always preferred his old tenants, and never let a farm by advertiſement to receive propoſals. That the ſyſtem of letting farms to be re-let to lower tenants, was going out very much: it is principally upon the eſtates of abſentees, whoſe agents think only of the moſt rent from the moſt ſolvent tenant.

IN converſation upon the popery laws, I expreſſed my ſurpriſe at their ſeverity: he ſaid they were ſevere in the letter, but were never executed. It is rarely or never (he knew no inſtance) that a proteſtant diſcoverer gets a leaſe by proving the lands let under two-thirds of their real value to a papiſt. There are ſevere penalties on carrying arms or reading maſs; but the firſt is never executed, for poaching (which I had heard), and as to the other, maſs-houſes are to be ſeen every where: there is one in his own town. His Lordſhip did juſtice to the merits of the roman catholics, by obſerving that they were in general a very ſober, honeſt, and induſtrious people. This account of the laws againſt them brought to my mind an admirable expreſſion of Mr. Burke's in the engliſh houſe of commons, CONNIVANCE IS THE RELAXATION OF SLAVERY, NOT THE DEFINITION OF LIBERTY.

THE kingdom more improved in the laſt 20 years than in a century before. The great ſpirit began in 1749 and 1750.

HE was aſſured that the emigrations, which made ſo much noiſe in the north of Ireland, were principally idle people, who, far from being miſſed, left the country the better by their abſence. They were generally diſſenters, very few churchmen or catholicks.

IT is found in that manufacture, that it never flouriſhes when oatmeal is cheap—the greateſt exports of linen are when it is deareſt.

JULY 21ſt, took my leave of this prince of improvers, who gave me a letter to Mr. Forſter of Roſſy Park; bent my courſe thither, but being from home, went on to Atherdee; and one of the fineſt ſheets of corn I ever beheld is from the hill which looks down on that town. It is a glorious proſpect, all waving hills of wheat as far as the eye can ſee, with the town of Atherdee in a wood in the vale.

To Dundalk, the view down on this town alſo very beautiful, ſwelling hills of a fine verdure, with many rich incloſures backed by a bold outline of mountain that is remarkable. Laid at the Clanbraſſil Arms, and found it a very good inn. The place, like moſt of the iriſh towns I have been in, full of new

new buildings, with every mark of increaſing wealth and proſperity. A cambrick manufacture was eſtabliſhed here by parliament, but failed; it was, however, the origin of that more to the north.

JULY 22d, left Dundalk—Took the road through Ravenſdale to Mr. Forteſcue, to whom I had a letter, but unfortunately he was in the ſouth of Ireland. Here I ſaw many good ſtone and ſlate houſes, and ſome bleach greens; and I was much pleaſed to ſee the incloſures creeping high up the ſides of the mountains ſtoney as they are. Mr. Forteſcue's ſituation is very romantic on the ſide of a mountain, with fine woods hanging on every ſide, with the lawn beautifully ſcattered with trees ſpreading into them, and a pretty river winding through the vale, beautiful in itſelf, but trebly ſo on information, that before he fixed there, it was all a wild waſte. Rents in Ravenſdale 10s. mountain land 2s. 6d. to 5s. Alſo large tracts rented by villages, the cottars dividing it among themſelves, and making the mountain common for their cattle.

BREAKFASTED at Newry, the Globe, another good inn.—This town appears exceedingly flouriſhing, and is very well built; yet 40 years ago, I was told there were nothing but mud cabbins in it: this great riſe has been much owing to the canal to Loch-Neagh. I croſſed it twice—it is indeed a noble work. I was amazed to ſee ſhips of 150 tons and more lying in it, like barges in an engliſh canal. Here is a conſiderable trade.

TAKE the road to Market-hill: the town parks about Newry let up to 2l. and 3l. an acre, which is here engliſh meaſure. They ſow oats chiefly as I advanced, with a little barley—no fallows, and but little clover. Within 4 miles of Market-hill, the courſe:

1. Oats. 2. Oats. 3. Oats. 4. Oats. 5. Oats, and then leave it to the rubbiſh, which comes for 3 or 4 years: ſome potatoes, and after it flax. I am now got into the linen country, and the worſt huſbandry I have met with; my lord chief baron is right. Rents 10s. to 13s. the engliſh acre; all the farms are very ſmall, let to weavers, &c. They meaſure by the boll of 10 buſhels, a good crop of oats three to four and an half.

THIS road is abominably bad, continually over hills, rough, ſtony, and cut up. It is a turnpike, which in Ireland is a ſynonymous term for a vile road, which is the more extraordinary, as the bye ones are the fineſt in the world. It is the effect of jobs and impoſition which diſgrace the kingdom; the preſentment roads ſhew what may be done, and render theſe villainous turnpikes the more diſguſting.

CALLED at Lord Gosfort's, to whom I had been introduced by Lord Harcourt, but he was not yet come from Dublin; his ſteward, however, gave me the few following particulars. About Market-Hill they meaſure by the engliſh acre, and let from 8s. mountain to 12s. and 14s. The courſes are:

1. Oats. 2. Oats. 3. Oats. 4. Oats. 5. Oats. 6. Oats, then leave it to itſelf to graze 3 or 4 years, this on good ſtrong land; on worſe 3 or 4 of oats, and 3 or 4 of graſs, that is weeds, they reckon the beſt management to lime it on

on the ſod, then 3 crops of oats, and 3 years left, and that one liming will laſt many years.

Measure by bolls, each 10 buſhels; ſow 6 buſhels of oats to an acre; a good crop is 60 buſhels, but that is extraordinary, 4 or 5 bolls common; and the crops will hold good through the whole courſe, the firſt will be the worſt. Another courſe:

1. Potatoes. 2. Flax, or oats. Alſo after ſeveral crops of oats, plough thrice and ſow flax ſeed, 2 buſhels to an acre, and yield 12 to 18 ſtone to every buſhel of ſeed. Never ſow flax twice running. Plant 16 to 18 buſhels of potatoes on an acre; they do not live intirely on them, but have oatmeal, oaten bread, and ſometimes fleſh meat, once or twice a week. In ſpinning a woman will do 5 or 6 hanks a week, and get 30s. for it by hire, as wages for half a year; a girl of 12 years old three halfpence, or two-pence a day. A man will earn, by weaving coarſe linen 1s. 2d. and 1s. 6d, by fine linen. The manufacturers live better than the labourers; they earn 3s. 6d. a week in winter, and 4s. in ſummer. Manufacturers have all from 6 to 15 acres from 6s. to 20s. an acre, and the houſe into the bargain: generally 2 or 3 cows, and a bit of flax enough for half a buſhel or a barrel of ſeed, at 3 buſhels to an acre. The country labourers have alſo from 6 to 10 acres. A cabbin without land 1l. 1s. a year. Cloth and yarn never ſo dear as at preſent, and people all employed—none idle. A cottage-building 5l. ditto ſtone and ſlate 8ol. A great riſe of both labour and proviſions; 20 years ago beef 1d. and 1½d. per lb. and labour 3d. and 4d. a day.

Religion moſtly roman, but ſome preſbyterians and church of England.—Manufacturers generally proteſtants.

The manufacturers wives drink tea for breakfaſt. No cattle but for convenience among the ſmall farmers. No farms above 100 acres, and thoſe ſtock ones, for fattening cows and bullocks. Very few ſheep in the country. Manures are lime, of which 20 to 60 barrels per acre, at 1s. 6d. will laſt for ever: beſt for light land—marle grey and white, beſt on heathy ground. Some ſoapers waſte at Armagh and Newry, but not much.

Reached Ardmagh in the evening; waited on the primate.

July 23d, his Grace rode out with me to Ardmagh, and ſhewed me ſome of the noble and ſpirited works by which he has perfectly changed the face of the neighbourhood. The buildings he has erected in 7 years, one would ſuppoſe without previous information, to be the work of an active life. A liſt of them will juſtify this obſervation.

He has erected a very elegant palace, 90 feet by 60, and 40 high, in which an unadorned ſimplicity reigns. It is light and pleaſing, without the addition of wings or leſſer parts, which too frequently wanting a ſufficient uniformity with the body of the edifice, are unconnected with it in effect, and divide the attention. Large and ample offices are conveniently placed behind a plantation at a ſmall diſtance: around the palace is a large lawn, which ſpreads on every ſide

over

over the hills, and ſkirted by young plantations, in one of which is a terrace, which commands a moſt beautiful view of cultivated hill and dale. The view from the palace is much improved by the barracks, the ſchool, and a new church at a diſtance, all which are ſo placed as to be exceedingly ornamental to the whole country.

THE barracks were erected under his Grace's directions, and form a large and handſome edifice. The ſchool is a building of conſiderable extent, and admirably adapted for the purpoſe: a more convenient or a better contrived one, is no where to be ſeen. There are apartments for a maſter, a ſchool-room 56 feet by 28, a large dining-room and ſpacious airy dormitories, with every other neceſſary, and a ſpacious play-ground walled in; the whole forming a handſome front: and attention being paid to the reſidence of the maſter (the ſalary is 400l. a year), the ſchool flouriſhes, and muſt prove one of the greateſt advantages to the country of any thing that could have been eſtabliſhed. This edifice entirely at the primate's expence. The church is erected of white ſtone, and having a tall ſpire makes a very agreeable object, in a country where churches and ſpires do not abound—at leaſt ſuch as are worth looking at. Three other churches the primate has alſo built, and done conſiderable reparations to the cathedral.

HE has been the means alſo of erecting a public infirmary, which was built by ſubſcription, contributing amply to it himſelf.

A PUBLIC library he has erected at his own expence, given a large collection of books, and endowed it. The room is excellently adapted, 45 by 25, and 20 high, with a gallery, and apartments for a librarian.

HE has further ornamented the city with a market-houſe and ſhambles, and been the direct means, by giving leaſes upon that condition, of almoſt new building the whole place. He found it a neſt of mud cabbins, and he will leave it a well built city of ſtone and ſlate. I heard it aſſerted in common converſation, that his Grace, in theſe noble undertakings, had not expended leſs than 30,000l. beſides what he had been the means of doing, though not directly at his own expence.

WHEN it is conſidered that all this has been done in the ſhort term of 7 or eight years, I ſhould not be accuſed of exaggeration, if I ſaid they were noble and ſpirited works undertaken upon a man's paternal eſtate, how much more then are they worthy of praiſe when executed not for his own poſterity but for the public good? Amidſt ſuch great works of a different nature, it is not to be expected that his Grace ſhould have given much attention to agriculture; yet has he not neglected it. In order to improve the breed of cattle in the country, he brought from England a bull and ſeveral cows of the true Teeſwater breed, of a vaſt ſize, with ſhort Holderneſſe horns; they give a great quantity of milk, and he has preſerved the breed pure and to their ſize, by feeding the calves with much attention: they have a conſiderable quantity of milk given them while at graſs.

IN the huſbandry of the neighbourhood no other corn is raiſed than oats, and they have a notion that wheat will not do here: to convince them of the contrary,

LEFT Balbriggen and went to Bally-garth, the ſeat of ——— Pepper, Eſq; a place very agreeably wooded on a riſing ground above a river.

MR. PEPPER keeps a conſiderable domain in his hands, and has practiced ſeveral parts of huſbandry with much attention; he has laid down large tracts to graſs, which he has made ſo good that he could let it readily for 50s. to 3l. an acre. His courſe of crops has been ſometimes, 1. Turneps. 2. Barley. 3. Clover. 4. Wheat; and has cultivated turneps in conſiderable quantities. In ſeveral particulars, which I ſaw myſelf, Mr. Pepper appears an excellent farmer. His quick fences were in perfect order; his wet lands hollow drained, and the mouths of the drains well faced with ſtone. The old ditch earth on the borders of his fields was carting away to form compoſts; he did it by contract, the men digging and leading it from 20 to 30 perches, driving and finding horſes and cars at 5d. a ſcore loads, each a barrel. This is much *againſt* the iriſh cars, for 4 horſes carry but 16 buſhels of earth, whereas 3 in an engliſh cart would carry double that. Mr. Pepper is much a friend to them for ſome things, but in others thinks that 2 horſe carts are preferable; with 2 horſes in a well made cart, he ſends 10 barrels to Dublin, whereas 2 horſes in 2 cars carry but 5 or 6 barrels, which is a great inferiority; but he likes the little one horſe cart better ſtill, which brings him 3 barrels of coals, lime, &c. A circumſtance in the fattening of cattle, in which he is peculiar, is, not letting his bulls go among his fattening cows; he never does this, and finds that they fat as well without as with it. In breeding ſheep he is attentive, finding it a profitable branch of farming. He keeps his lambs till they are 2-year-old wethers, and ſells them in ſpring at 35s. each on an average; but could not do it without the aſſiſtance of turneps. His ewes clip 8lb. of wool, and his lambs 7lb. 20 acres of graſs will carry 100 through the year, except the turnep ſeaſon. Sea ſand Mr. Pepper ſpreads on his clay meadows, and finds the benefit of it very great.

IN converſation on the common people, Mr. Pepper aſſured me he never found them more diſhoneſt than in other countries. They would thieve ſlightly till they found him reſolute in puniſhing all he diſcovered; even his turneps have ſuffered very little depredation.

JULY 20th, to Drogheda, a well built town, active in trade, the Boyne bringing ſhips to it. It was market day, and I found the quantity of corn, &c. and the number of people aſſembled very great; few country markets in England more thronged. The Rev. Mr. Neſbit, to whom recommended, abſent, which was a great loſs to me, as I had ſeveral enquiries which remained unſatisfied.

To the field of battle on the Boyne.—The view of the ſcene from a riſing ground which looks down upon it is exceedingly beautiful, being one of the completeſt landſcapes I have ſeen. It is a vale, looſing itſelf

in front between bold declivities, above which are ſome thick woods, and diſtant country. Through the vale the river winds and forms an iſland, the point of which is tufted with trees in the prettieſt manner imaginable; on the other ſide a rich ſcenery of wood, among which is Doctor Norris's houſe. To the right on a riſing ground on the banks of the river is the obeliſk, backed by a very bold declivity; purſued the road till near it, quitted my chaiſe, and walked to the foot of it. It is founded on a rock which riſes boldly from the river. It is a noble pillar, and admirably placed. I ſeated myſelf on the oppoſite rock, and indulged the emotions which with a melancholy not unpleaſing filled my boſom, while I reflected on the conſequences that had ſprung from the victory here obtained. Liberty was then triumphant. May the virtues of our poſterity ſecure that prize which the bravery of their anceſtors won! Peace to the memory of the Prince to whom, whatever might be his failings, we owed that day memorable in the annals of Europe!

RETURNED part of the way, and took the road to Cullen, where the Lord Chief Baron Forſter received me in the moſt obliging manner, and gave me a variety of information uncommonly valuable. He has made the greateſt improvements I have any where met with. The whole country 22 years ago was a waſte ſheep walk, covered chiefly with heath, with ſome dwarf furz and fern. The cabbins and people as miſerable as can be conceived; not a proteſtant in the country, nor a road paſſable for a carriage. In a word, perfectly reſembling other mountainous tracts, and the whole yielding a rent of not more than from 3s. to 4s. an acre. Mr. Forſter could not bear ſo barren a property, and determined to attempt the improvement of an eſtate of 5000 acres till then deemed irreclaimable. He encouraged the tenants by every ſpecies of perſuaſion and expence, but they had ſo ill an opinion of the land that he was forced to begin with 2 or 3000 acres in his own hands; he did not, however, turn out the people, but kept them in to ſee the effect of his operations.

THESE were of a magnitude I have never heard before: he had for ſeveral years 27 lime-kilns burning ſtone, which was brought four miles with culm from Milford Haven. He had 450 cars employed by theſe kilns, and paid 700l. a year for culm: the ſtone was quarried by from 60 to 80 men regularly at that work; this was doing the buſineſs with incomparable ſpirit—yet had he no peculiar advantages, but many circumſtances againſt him, among which his conſtant attendance on the courts, which enabled him to ſee Cullen but by ſtarts, was not the leaſt. The works were neceſſarily left to others at a time that he could have wiſhed conſtantly to have attended them.

WHILE this vaſt buſineſs of liming was going forwards, roads were alſo making, and the whole tract incloſed in fields of about 10 acres each, with ditches 7 feet wide, and 6 deep, at 1s. a perch, the banks planted with quick and foreſt trees. Of theſe fences 70,000 perches were done.

IN

In order to create a new race of tenants, he fixed upon the moſt active and induſtrious labourers, bought them cows, &c. and advanced money to begin with little farms, leaving them to pay it as they could. Theſe men he nurſed up in proportion to their induſtry, and ſome of them are now good farmers, with 4 or 500l. each in their pockets. He dictated to them what they ſhould do with their lands, promiſing to pay the loſs, if any ſhould happen, while all the advantage would be their own. They obeyed him implicitly, and he never had a demand for a ſhilling loſs.

He fixed a colony of french and engliſh proteſtants on the land, which have flouriſhed greatly. In Cullen are 50 families of tradeſmen, among whom ſobriety and induſtry are perfectly eſtabliſhed.

Many of theſe lands being very wet, draining was a conſiderable operation: this he did very effectually, burying in the drains ſeveral millions of loads of ſtones.

The mode in which the chief baron carried on the improvement, was by fallowing. He ſtubbed the furze, &c. and ploughed it, upon which he ſpread from 140 to 170 barrels of lime per acre, proportioning the quantity to the mould or clay which the plough turned up. For experiment he tried as far as 300 barrels, and always found that the greater the quantity, the greater the improvement. The lime coſt him 9d. a barrel on the land: his uſual quantity 160, at the expence of 6l. an acre, and the total of that expence alone thirty thouſand pounds! After the liming, fallowed the land for rye, and after the rye took two crops of oats. Throughout the improvement, the lime has been ſo exceedingly beneficial that he attributes his ſucceſs principally to the uſe of it. Without it, all other circumſtances equal, he has got 3 or 4 barrels an acre of oats, but with it 20 and 22 of barley. Has compared lime and white marle on an improved mountain-ſoil for flax, that on the lime produced 1000 lb. well ſcutched, the other 300 lb.

His great object was to ſhew the tenantry as ſoon as he could, what theſe improvements would do in corn, in order to ſet them to work themſelves. He ſold them the corn crops on the ground at 40s. an acre: the three crops paid him therefore the expence of the liming, at the ſame time they were profitable bargains to the tenants. With the third corn-crop the land was laid down to graſs. Upon this operation, after the manuring, ditching and draining, the old tenants very readily hired them. Some ſeeing the benefit of the works, executed them upon their own lands; but their landlord advanced all the money, and truſted to their ſucceſs and honeſty for the payment. This change of their ſentiments induced him to build new farm-houſes, of which he has erected above 30, all of lime and ſtone, at the expence of above 40l. a houſe; the farms are in general about 80 acres each.

After ſix or ſeven years, the chief baron limed much of it a ſecond time on the ſod, and the benefit of it very great. It is all let now on an average at 20s. an acre. Upon the whole, his Lordſhip is clearly of opinion that the improvement has been exceedingly profitable to him, beſides the pleaſure that has attended ſo uncommon a creation. He would recommend a ſimilar undertaking to others who poſſeſs waſtes, and if he had ſuch another eſtate he would undertake it himſelf.

He alſo allotted a conſiderable tract of many acres for plantations, which are well placed and flouriſhing. Ridings are cut in them, and they form a very agreeable ſcenery. Mr. Forſter, his ſon, takes much pleaſure in adding to them, and has introduced 1700 ſorts of european and american plants. The country is now a ſheet of corn: a greater improvement I have not heard of, or one which did more genuine honour to the perſon that undertook it.

This great improver, a title more deſerving eſtimation than that of a great general or a great miniſter, lives now to overlook a country flouriſhing only from his exertions He has made a barren wilderneſs ſmile with cultivation, planted it with people, and made thoſe people happy. Such are the men to whom monarchs ſhould decree their honours, and nations erect their ſtatues.

Some other circumſtances I learnt from his Lordſhip were: more than half the county of Louth, which is one of the beſt in Ireland for tillage, is every year under corn, 25 years ago, it was all at 10s. an acre, now 21s. *Corn-acre* rents, 40 years ago, were 25s.—25 years ago 30s.—now 3l. 12s. Conjectures one family to every 10 acres in the county, excluſive of towns: found this by obſerving generally four families to every farm of 40 acres.

The general courſe of crops in Louth is: 1. Fallow. 2. Wheat, the produce 6 barrels. 3. Oats, ditto 15 barrels. 4. Barley, ditto 15 barrels. 5. Oats. 6. Graſs-ſeeds ſown, or left waſte to turf itſelf.

In his Lordſhip's circuits through the north of Ireland he was, upon all occaſions, attentive to procure information relative to the linen manufacture.

It has been his general obſervation, that where the linen manufacture ſpreads the tillage is very bad. Thirty years ago the export of linen and yarn about 500,000l. a year; now 1,200,000l. to 1,500,000l. The chief baron has taken ſome pains to compare the linen and woollen manufactory for Ireland, and found from the cloſeſt inſpection that the people employed in the linen earned one-third more than thoſe in the woollen. One ſtone of wool is the produce of an acre of graſs, which feeds two and an half, or three ſheep. Raw, it is equal to one-third of the manufactured value, and at 10s. is only 1l. 10s. groſs produce. An acre of flax at 8 cwt. and he has had 12 cwt. wrought into the worſt linens, will amount to ten times the value of the acre under wool.

Respecting the thieving diſpoſition of the common people, which I had heard ſo much of, the chief baron was of an entire different opinion—from his

own

trary, the primate has fallowed a large field, manured it differently for a compariſon, and ſowed wheat. The crop I viewed, and found it a very fine and a very clean one.

In order that I might be well informed about the linen manufacture, his Grace was ſo obliging as to ſend for one of the moſt conſiderable merchants in the city, Mr. Mac-geough, who very intelligently gave me all the particulars I wanted.

The following circumſtances I owe to his information. About Armagh the farms are very ſmall; the principal people occupy from 40 to 60 acres, theſe ſow ſome flax as well as raiſe corn, but in general they are from 5 to 20 acres; the only object the linen manufacture. This is the caſe all the way to Newry; alſo to Monaghan, but in that county the farms are ſomewhat larger. Towards Lurgan, Dungannon, and Stewart's-town, much the ſame. Rents around Armagh are from 7s. to 15s. Much mountain let in groſs by townlands not meaſured; average 10s. The whole county much lower. To Newry 10s. To Dungannon 11s. To Lurgan 10s. The manufacturers, under-tenants on the church-lands, have leaſes of 14 years; on other lands 3 lives, which make a viſible difference in culture. A manufacturer who has 10 acres will keep 2 cows and a horſe, a pig, but not much poultry; he will ſow 1½ or 2 bolls of oats on 3 acres—a buſhel, or 1½ of flax-ſeed on a rood or a rood and a half, and half an acre of potatoes, or as much as he can dung. His courſe is:

1. Potatoes. 2. Flax. 3. Oats, and let it then lay for paſture, not ſowing in general any graſſes—ſome of them a little clover; the benefit of which is very great. When his ſon grows up and marries, he univerſally divides his farm with him, building a new mud cabbin: thus farms are conſtantly growing leſs and leſs. This is found very hurtful, by reducing them ſo low that they will not ſupply the people with neceſſaries. Scarce any of them have potatoes and oats to feed their families; great importations from Louth, Meath, Monaghan, Cavan, and Tyrone, beſides what comes occaſionally from England and Scotland. Their food principally potatoes and oatmeal, very little meat; the better ſort, however, buy ſome beef for winter, but it is not common. Many of them live very poorly, ſometimes having for 3 months only potatoes and ſalt and water. There are few labouring poor unconnected with the manufacture, but when it is not in a very flouriſhing ſtate, they live better than thoſe employed by linen. No flax farmers; ſcarce any but what is raiſed in patches by the cottars. Upon light or mountain lands they prefer the american flax-ſeed. Upon heavy or clay lands they ſow Riga Dutch, or Flanders ſeed; the quantity they get is more and better in quality than from the american, and will laſt 20 years. For fine linens they never ſave ſeed, pulling it green: but for coarſe linens they ſave as much as they can.

I was informed that the produce of the flax depended on the oilineſs of it, and that the goodneſs of the linen on not being too much bleached, which is only an exhalation of the oil. If ſo, it ſhould appear that perfecting the ſeed muſt injure both linen and flax: but ſtill the contrary is the opinion here. The quan-

tity of ſeed from 2½ to 3 buſhels per acre: or 4 buſhels of their own, from the idea that it is not ſo well ſaved.

THEY plough their potatoe-land or barley-ſtubble once the end of march or april, and ſow it. But it is found by ſeveral that the beſt flax, and the greateſt quantity, is by ſowing their pooreſt lands that have been run out by oats, upon 3 ploughings, and the reaſon they do it not more is for want of ability to give the 3 ploughings. They weed it very carefully. They generally pull it the latter end of july and the beginning of auguſt, and immediately ripple it to get the ſeeds off, and then lay it into water from 6 or 7 to 12 days, according to the ſoftneſs of the water, trying it before they take it out: the ſofter the water the ſhorter the time, generally bogs or pools, the bog the beſt. They lay it ſo thick as to fill the pool. When they take it out, they ſpread it on meadow ground from 10 to 15 days, according to weather; if that is very bad, much of it is loſt. Upon taking it up, they dry by laying it in heaps on a hurdle fixed upon poſts, and making a fire of turf under it. As faſt as it dries, they beat it on ſtones with a beetle, then they ſcutch it to ſeparate the heart or the *ſhoves* from the reſt. Mills are invented for this, which if they uſe, they pay 1s. 1d. a ſtone for it, which is cheaper than what their own labour amounts to. They next ſend it to a flax-heckler, which is a ſort of combing it, and ſeparates into two or three ſorts; here generally two, tow and flax. In this ſtate it is ſaleable. The crop is from 18 to 48 ſtones per acre of flax rough after ſcutching. The medium is 30 ſtone, and it ſells from 6s. 8d. to 9s. Much dutch flax is imported, alſo from Riga, Koningſberg and Peterſburg, which generally regulates the price of their own: the 12 head Peterſburg is much the beſt of the common ſort, 12 head Narva not ſo good, but Marienburg better than Narva. The 9 heads to a bunch coarſe. Dutch blay and dutch white, good and wirey; but the beſt of all is the ſilver blay from Briſtol, which comes down the Severn: it is fuller of oil, ſofter and better than any other ſort. The average price of their own 2l. 8s. to 2l. 12s. per cwt. or 7s. to 7s. 6d. a ſtone. It is liked better than the imported.

Expence of an acre of land under flax.

	£.		
Rent [N B. Their 10s. an acre, abovementioned, includes ditch, &c.]	0	14	0
Seed bought from 10s. to 13s. a buſhel. Average 12s. 3 buſhels -	1	16	0
One ploughing - - - - - - - -	0	7	0
Carrying off the clods and ſtones by their wives and children, 6 women, an acre a day - - - - - -	0	2	2
Weeding 10 women an acre in a day, 4d. - - - -	0	3	4
Pulling by women and children, 12 at 4d. - - -	0	4	0
Rippling by men and women, ſay 4 men at 10d. - - -	0	3	4
Laying it in the water according to diſtance, ſay - - -	0	5	0
Taking it out and ſpreading - - - - - -	0	5	0
Taking up, drying and beetling, 42 women a day at 4d. - -	0	14	0
Scutching 30 ſtone at 1s. 1d. - - - - - -	1	12	6
Total £.	6	6	4

30 ſtone at 4s. 2d. - - - - - - £. 6 5 0

If let to a man who ſhould farm flax, the labour would be much higher, as it is here reckoned only at the earning, which they could make by the manufacture, and not the rate at which they work for others. Heckling is 1s. 1d. a ſtone.

We next come to the manufacture. The ſtone-rough after heckling will produce 8 lb. flax for coarſe linen, and 3½ lb. of tow. The 8 lb. will ſpin into 20 dozen of yarn, or 20 hanks or 5 ſpangles fit for a ten hundred cloth, which is the common ſort here; and the earnings in ſpinning will be from 5s. to 6s. 8d. the 5 ſpangles, and it is very good work to do that in 20 days by one woman; in common 25 days, conſequently they earn ſomething better than 3d. a day. Seven and a half ſpangles will weave into a piece of linen (ten hundred ſort) of 25 yards long, and yard wide. Thus one ſtone and a half of flax at 7s. a ſtone, market-price, will make that piece. But the tow remains 4½ lb. which is 2s. 2d. of which they make a coarſer linen. 30 ſtone, the produce of an acre, make therefore 20 ſuch pieces. The price of this cloth is from ten-pence halfpenny to eleven-pence halfpenny a yard brown, the ſtate in which they ſell it. Average eleven-pence. The fixed price for weaving it is two-pence halfpenny a yard. But this is when the poor are not able to raiſe it, and work for hire for thoſe who advance them the yarn. A great deal is done in this manner, as well as by thoſe who raiſe the flax, and go through the whole of the operation. When the weaver has made his piece of cloth, he goes into the market of Armagh, which is every tueſday, and ſells it to the draper as he would any other commodity, always receiving the money on the ſpot, as there is no credit. The draper names the price, and the man takes or refuſes it. There are many drapers, ſo that the man tries whom he pleaſes: there is no combination againſt the ſeller, but rather a competition. The draper generally has the bleach greens; and the expence to him of bleaching is 4l. 10s to 5l. a pack of 30 pieces, or 3s. to 3s. 2d. a piece. Then he either ſends it to factors in London or Dublin, or ſells it at the linen-hall in Dublin. Some go over to Cheſter fair themſelves, and diſpoſe of it there. In London he gives 7 months credit: in Dublin 2 or 3: but if he goes himſelf to the hall, he gets part ready money. The London factor has 6 per cent. for ſelling and advancing the money as ſoon as ſold, and half per cent for warehouſe-room and inſurance from fire. This is the principal part of the trade about Armagh.

In general the manufacture was at the height in 1770 and 1771. In 1772 and 1773 there was a great decline both in price and quantity. In 1774 very low, till may; when a ſudden riſe from a ſpeculation of ſending to America, and for the demand of the ſpaniſh flota, which was detained a year for want of coarſe linens, not being able to be ſupplied from Germany as uſual: and ſince may, 1774, it has continued very flouriſhing, but is not yet equal to what it was. The decline in 1772 and 1773, owing to the deſtruction of credit, and

to the want of a market, but let me obſerve that a convulſion in credit neceſſarily contracts the market. Another circumſtance was the price of bread in England, which they think, was ſo high, that the engliſh could not afford to buy much of theſe coarſe linens, of which they are the great conſumers. Germany they conſider as the great rival, and not Scotland. It is thought that their flax is well cultivated, and admits of no great improvement. The emigrations were chiefly in 1772 and 1773. Many weavers and ſpinners, with all their families, went. Some farmers, who ſold their leaſes, went off with ſums from 100l. to 300l. and carried many with them. They ſtopped going when the war broke out. In 1772 and 1773 many turned farming labourers, which is not the caſe when the trade is high.

The religion generally roman, ſome preſbyterians: proteſtants emigrated moſt. The oak boys and ſteel boys had their riſe in the increaſe of rents, and in oppreſſive county ceſſes.

July 24th, took my leave of his Grace, and breakfaſted with Maxwell Cloſe, Eſq; at ———, who was ſo kind as to mention a few circumſtances in addition, and ſome in contradiction, to what I had learnt at Armagh.

The manufacture at it's greateſt height at preſent; the price greater, and the quantity alſo. The emigrations nothing about Armagh; but Antrim, and Downe and Derry, many, chiefly idle fellows, who have not been the leaſt miſſed: ſome went with money, but the ſums not conſiderable. It was ſaid that Lord Donnegal's high rents were the cauſe, but when they went they ſold their leaſes, and got 20l. 30l. or 40l. for many, and it was this money chiefly carried. A weaver will earn from 1s. to 1s. 4d. a farming labourer 8d.

Course of Crops. 1. Potatoes. All their dung for them, the produce 40 or 50 barrels; the beſt ſorts are the London lady, french white, black ſpaniſh. 2. Bere. 3. Flax, the produce 48 ſtone, ſcutched, at 8s. 4. Oats.

Lime uſed much, the price 10d. to 1s. 6d. a barrel. Marle under the bogs, white and light, but little uſed. Tythes, oats 2s. 6d. to 3s. 6d. Barley 5s. Year's purchaſe of land fell much in 1772 and 1773. There are many middle men.

The oak boys began at Blewſtone upon the county ceſs; but in a moment roſe to rents, tythes, bogs, and every thing elſe: idle raſcals all that went to America.

Mr. Cloſe has had very fine turneps, with which he fed fat wethers from autumn for the ſpring markets, and gained thereby 1½d. a lb. difference in price.

Took a ride to ſee the neigbouring country by Killilean-hill, Fellows-hall, Woodpark-lodge, Liſloony, Tinan, and Glaſlough, which indeed is a round that ſhews the country to advantage; it is a continued picture: ſtop where you pleaſe, you are in the midſt of a beautiful landſcape.

ſcape. The hills are waving in every variety of outline that can be imagined; there is a great plenty of wood, every tree of which is ſeen to advantage from the inequality of ſurface. It is a chearful, beautiful country, and well worth a traveller's time to take this ride, in order to ſee it. Ireland, notwithſtanding her general nakedneſs, contains ſome ſcenes of beauty in which wood bears a conſiderable ſhare.

CALLED in our ride at Mr. Leſly's at Gaſlaugh, viewed ſome of his great improvements: he was abſent, but Mrs. Leſly was ſo obliging as to walk through the woods with us. The lake is a large one, containing 120 acres, and the wood of 100 acres ſpreads over a fine bold hill, and hangs down to the water in one deep ſhade, the effect remarkably beautiful: additional plantations are made, and walks cut through the whole. In the evening Mr. Leſly came to Mr. Cloſe's, and I then had the pleaſure of learning that much of his domain, from being a poor waſte tract of little value, was converted to what I had ſeen, that is, to very fine graſs land. The ſoil is ſtiff cold clay, the ſpontaneous growth ruſhes, &c. ploughed moſt of it firſt, and then manured it with either lime or marle: of lime from 100 to 120 barrels per acre, at 7d. a barrel on the ground from ſtone and turf of his own. Then took a crop of wheat, which proved very fine: after the wheat, laid it down with oats and hay-ſeed, the oats very good. Sowed the ſeeds of a hay-loft with clover: has uſed much compoſt made of ditch ſcowerings, lime, marle, &c. and ſpread it in the ſame manner as the lime; ſome, after the land was laid to graſs, but did it beſt on the fallow. Much of the land ſo wet, that hollow drains were neceſſary, and made ſo as to lay the lands dry, the cuts very numerous, and proved effective. His fences are excellent, 2 rows of quick, and a ditch 6 by 7, a dry hedge at top, and the back dreſſed and planted with foreſt trees paled in. Mr. Leſly has found the buſineſs of improvement profitable, ſo that if a tenant had the money neceſſary, he would find it to be the beſt work he could engage in with a view to profit alone.

JULY 25th, returned through Armagh. Paſſed Sir Capel Molyneux's domain, which ſeems an extenſive and very fine one. Near it I obſerved that the ſoil was one of the fineſt red ſandy loams I have any where ſeen, and ſeveral pieces of potatoes were planted in drills, which is a practice I had not yet remarked. Dined with Mr. Workman, at Mahon; about that place the ſize of their farms are from 10 to 20 acres, at about 12s. to 15s. an acre; and ſome of them hiring 20 acres, will let off 5 or 6 at 18s. to 20s. an acre. They are in general very well off as to living; their food is *ſtir-about*, potatoes, bread of maſlin or wheat, and ſome meat once a fortnight. They are well cloathed, and have plenty of fuel; a man with 20 acres will have 150 kiſhes of turf a year.

A man

A man of 15 acres will have between a rood and half an acre of flax; one acre of potatoes; 2 to 4 acres of oats, and will mow 2 acres; one horſe, 2 or 3 cows, one young beaſt, and a pig, but not much poulry. Pigs depend on potatoes.

THEIR courſe: 1. Potatoes. 2. Flax. 3. Oats, or 4. Oats, and then leave it to graſs itſelf. Scarce any fallow, a few ſow clover, which increaſes, to mow for ſoiling their cows. The weavers univerſally earn much more than the few country labourers there are. The beſt flax ſeed for clay land the dutch, and for light land the american. Scare any of them ſave their own ſeed, conſequently no rippling; it muſt ſtand then till dead ripe, which they think leſſens the quantity, and makes it coarſer. The richer the land the better. Sow generally on one ploughing. They weed it with much care. In watering, clay water reckoned much better than bogs, which they are leaving off. In general they ſcutch it themſelves, and it is cheaper than the mills. Mr. Workman has paid 1s. 6d. for it by hand, and 1s. 1d. to the mills, and found the former cheaper; more flax from hand, and much cleaner. Immediately after ſcutching it is ſaleable in the market. Price of flax 6s. to 13s. ſcutched.

Expences per acre.

	£.		
Rent	0	13	0
Seed 2½ buſhels, at 10s.	1	5	0
One ploughing and harrowing	0	5	0
Weeding	0	0	10
Pulling by women			
Laying in water	0	1	0
Taking it out and ſpreading	0	3	0
Taking up, drying, and beetling	0	8	0
[Some beetle it with *breaks*, which is to the full as good as the beetles, and is done for a third of the money.]			
Scutching 25 ſtone, at 1s. 6d.	1	17	6
Then ready for market.			
	£. 4	13	4
Heckling	1	5	0
Value before heckling, from 6s. to 13s. Average 8s.	10	0	0

THE rough ſtone, after heckling, will produce 8lb. flax for coarſe linen; and 4lb. of dreſſed tow, and ſome for *backens*. The ſpinners earn from 3d. to 4d. a day. The weavers earn 10d. to 1s. 4d. The coarſe cloths and yarn never ſo high as at preſent. Weavers very often turn

turn labourers, which is attributed to ſo many being, contrary to law, bound apprentices for 2 years, inſtead of 5, by which means they are bad hands, and can only do the very coarſeſt work. As to health, from the ſedentary life, they rarely change their profeſſion for that. They take exerciſe of a different ſort, keeping packs of hounds, every man one, and joining, they hunt hares: a pack of hounds is never heard, but all the weavers leave their looms, and away they go after them by hundreds. This much amazed me, but aſſured it was very common. They are in general apt to be licentious and diſorderly; but they are reckoned to be rather oppreſſed by the county ceſſes for roads, &c. which are not of general uſe. There is ſome wheat, and about Kilmore a good deal; a middling crop 5 barrels. Oats yield here 6 barrels on an average. Mr. Workman, 9 years ago, introduced the uſe of lime, and they are ſince coming faſt into it: the effect is very great, though the ſoil is a wet loam on clay without any ſtones. No draining. They are in general very bad farmers, being but the ſecond attention, and it has a bad effect on them, ſtiffening their fingers and hands, ſo that they do not return to their work ſo well as they left it.

In the evening reached Mr. Brownlow's, at Lurgan, to whom I am indebted for ſome valuable information. This gentleman has made very great improvements in his domain: he has a lake at the bottom of a ſlight vale, and around are three walks, at a diſtance from each other; the center one is the principal, and extends 2 miles. It is well conducted for leading to the moſt agreeable parts of the grounds, and for commanding views of Loch Neagh, and the diſtant country; there are ſeveral buildings, a temple, green-houſe, &c. The moſt beautiful ſcene is from a bench on a gently ſwelling hill, which riſes almoſt on every ſide from the water. The wood, the water, and the green ſlopes; here unite to form a very pleaſing landſcape. Let me obſerve one thing much to his honour; he advances his tenants money for all the lime they chuſe, and takes payment in 8 years with rent.

Upon enquiring concerning the emigrations, I found that in 1772 and 1773, they were at the height; that ſome went from this neighbourhood with property, but not many. They were in general poor and unemployed. They find here, that when proviſions are very cheap, the poor ſpend much of their time in whiſky-houſes. All the drapers wiſh that oatmeal was never under 1d. a pound. Though farms are exceedingly divided, yet few of the people raiſe oatmeal enough to feed themſelves; all go to market for ſome. The weavers earn by coarſe linens 1s. a day, by fine 1s. 4d. and it is the ſame with the ſpinners, the finer the yarn the more they earn; but in common a woman earns about 3d. For coarſe linens they do not reckon the flax hurt by ſtanding for ſeed. Their own flax is much better than the imported.

THIS being market day at Lurgan, Mr. Brownlow walked to it with me, that I might ſee the way in which the linens were ſold. The cambricks are ſold early, and through the whole morning; but when the clock ſtrikes eleven, the drapers jump upon ſtone ſtandings, and the weavers inſtantly flock about them with their pieces: the bargains are not ſtruck at a word, but there is a little altercation whether the price ſhall be one-halfpenny or a penny a yard, more or leſs, which appeared to me uſeleſs. The drapers clerk ſtands by him, and writes his maſter's name on the pieces he buys, with the price; and giving it back to the ſeller, he goes to the draper's quarters, and waits his coming. At twelve it ends; then there is an hour for meaſuring the pieces, and paying the money, for nothing but ready money is taken; and this is the way the buſineſs is carried on at all the markets. Three thouſand pieces a week are ſold here, at 35s. each on an average, or 5,250l. and per annum 273,000l. and this is all made in a circumferance of not many miles.

THE town parks about Lurgan let at 40s. an acre, but the country in general at 14s. The huſbandry is exceedingly bad, the people minding nothing but flax and potatoes.

LEAVING Lurgan I went to Warrenſtown, and waiting upon Mr. Waring had ſome converſation with him upon the ſtate of the country. He was of opinion, that the emigrations had not thinned the population, for at preſent they are crowded with people; but he thinks if the war ends in favour of the americans, that they will go off in ſhoals. Very few roman catholics emigrated. The riſing of the ſteel boys was owing, as they ſaid, to the increaſe of rents, and complaints of general oppreſſion; but Mr. Waring remarked, that the pardons which were granted to the oak boys, a few years before, were principally the cauſe of thoſe new diſturbances.

CROSS the road to Mr. Clibborn's, who gave me much information of the greateſt value concerning the linen manufacture. Firſt, in reſpect to the flax: the following is the expence of an acre.

	£.		
Rent	1	1	0
Four buſhels of ſeed 10s.	2	0	0
Two days work, ploughing, &c.	0	10	10
Stoning, one woman, 4 days	0	2	0
Flax ſown on a lay no weeding (the other 12 days of a woman, at 6d.)	0	6	0
Pulling, 12 ditto	0	6	0
Four men carrying out to water, and 2 days of 1 horſe	0	16	0
Taking out and ſpreading, 16 women,	0	8	0
Taking up, lifting, 4 women a day	0	2	0
Beetling, 4 men 2 days beetling, and 4 women to dry it	1	0	0
Twelve kiſh of turf	0	18	0
Scutching	5	0	0
	£. 12	9	10

	£.	s.	d.
Brought over	12	9	10
Some ſold then, and ſome not till heckled, which for 40 ſtone the acre, 1s. 3d. - - - -	2	10	0
	14	19	10
Value after ſcutching, 7s. 6d. a ſtone. - - -	15	0	0
Expences - - -	13	3	10
Profit - - -	£. 1	16	2

After heckling, 2s. 6d.

The ſtone of flax, rough after heckling, will produce 3½ or 3¼lb. of flax for 1800 linen, and the 3¼ will ſpin into 60 hanks fit for an 1800 linen. Spinners are generally hired at 10s. 6d. and 12s. the quarter, beſides board and lodging; and for that they ſpin 4 hanks a week of 6 hank yarn for 1600 linen, and 3 a week of 8 and 9 hank yarn for 1700 linen. As ſoon as the yarn is ſpun it is boiled. The boiling changes it 1 hank in a pound; 6 hank yarn will become 7. If flax is given out to be ſpun, they will get 3d. a hank for 6 hank yarn for ſpinning it, and they do one a day. The linen made here is from 8 hundred to 24; of coarſe linen 10 hundred, the common; and of fine, 13, 14, and 15. The pieces are 25 yards long, and yard wide.——53 Hanks for a web of 1600,—63 for 1800.——49 Hanks will make a piece *(a web)* of 1400, which ſells at 20d. brown. The weaver is paid 10s. for weaving the 14 hundred web, and he will weave it in 9 days. For cambricks the yarn is not boiled, and therefore ſo much finer; they will earn more at it than at linen, but is not ſo ſaleable.

Much done by drapers advancing the yarn, and paying for the weaving at ſo much a yard. For 8 hundred, 2½d. a yard.—10 ditto, 3½d.—13 ditto, 3¾d.—16 ditto, 7d.—18 ditto, 10¼d.—24 ditto, 1s. 7½d.—The finer the linen the more they earn. In fine linen, going from it to the plough or ſpade, &c. hurts their hands ſo much, that they do not recover it for a week; but not common for them to do it.

1 Stone, 3½lb.—60 hanks—15 weeks—1 woman. 2 Stone 30. 3 Stone 45. ¼ Stone 7½. 3¼ Stone 52.——Weaving 63 hanks into a web of 1800, he has 20s. for it, and does it in 12 days; but all preparations, dreſſing, &c. included, it will be three weeks, at which rate he can work for a year.

The prices of the cloth are:

	Market Low.	Market High.
8 hundred - -	8½d. - - -	11½d.
10 ditto - -	1s. - - -	1s. 2½d.
12 ditto - -	1s. 2d. - -	1s. 4½d.
15 ditto - -	1s. 7d. - -	1s. 9d.
17 ditto - -	2s. 4½d. - -	2s. 6d.
20 ditto - -	3s. 10d. - -	3s. 10d.
24 ditto - -	7s. - -	7s.

Bleach greens ſometimes belonging to the drapers, ſometimes not. In bleaching it is ſteeped in cold river water, or ſometimes not at all; then to the waſh-mills for waſhing; then boiled in barilla aſhes, (or America or Ruſſia pot-aſh) imported from Alicant to Newry or Belfaſt; the quantity of the barilla uncertain, about half a buſhel to 100 pieces. Boiling 6 hours. Waſhed thoroughly after this and ſpread on graſs for 4 days; lift it and boil it again as before; then to the graſs again, and repeated till nearly white for rubbing. Next put it into a ſcald of ſoap, and from thence into the rub boards; if coarſe cloth one rub ſufficient, but for fine three or four. After rubbing, waſhed, and put to ſower in vitriol and water, 24 hours will do, but 10 days no injury; fine cloth 3 ſerves, one after every rub, but for coarſe one rub is ſufficient. This ſowering merely for cleanſing and purging. After ſowering it has a ſcald of ſoap, from which well waſhed, wrung, and made ready for ſtarch and blue; then dried and beetled, which is done by a mill, after which done up with a ſcrewing machine for ſale. The expence of bleaching 3s. a piece, for coarſe 4s. middling 5s. fine 6s. Theſe the particulars commonly known among bleachers; there are ſecrets in the trade which they of courſe do not communicate, but not ſo many I apprehend as generally ſuppoſed; for where there are few, or even none, but with an appearance of them, all is ſuppoſed by the vulgar to be myſtery. Upon the above account I have only to remark, that the rubbing appears to me an operation for giving the cloth beauty at the expence of ſtrength. It is a moſt ſevere operation, being drawn between boards full of teeth, which are made for the profeſſed purpoſe of adding to the friction; and the effect is ſuch, that large quantities of knap are conſtantly taken out of the machine. This is a very fine invention for wearing out a manufacture as ſoon as made.

Mr. Clibborn was ready enough to confeſs that this work is carried too far, but the London drapers, he ſays, demand thick cloths, and this operation contracting the breadth of the piece gives it a thick appearance, which they are fond of. The beetling does not appear to me to be near ſo ſevere an operation. It is a continued ſyſtem of perpendicular ſtrokes upon the cloth wound round a cylinder, for the purpoſe of ſmoothing it, and giving it a gloſs. It is ſold at Dublin; half the manufacture to London from Newry, Belfaſt, or Dublin. Cambrick all ſold in Dublin: it encreaſes much. In 1771 more goods made than at preſent. England the great conſumption of iriſh linens. Scotland nor Germany interfere with thoſe above deſcribed. No rivals in the iriſh 7-8ths and 3-4ths yard wide, but in the dowlas and diaper the Germans; and in ſheeting the Ruſſians. The dowlas and ſheeting are made in King's and Queen's County, and Weſtmeath. Diapers here, in which the ſame yarn as above, the breadths various, and the weavers make more by it than by linen. The trade as briſk at preſent as the reſt. Hands are plentiful for the

the demand, notwithſtanding the emigrations; but the men do not work more than half what they might do, owing to the cheapneſs of proviſions making them idle, as they think of nothing more than the preſent neceſſity. A general remark of all who know the trade, that when proviſions are dear the more goods come to market; what they raiſe themſelves not half feeding them. A child 7 years old earns 1d. a day ſpinning. There are as many employed in diaper as in cambricks. Manufacture not doubled in 15 years, about 1-third or 1-fourth increaſe in that time. The preſent high price of linens and yarn attributed to the encreaſed demand at Mancheſter for yarn: it is now 9d. a hank. Alſo to the ſpaniſh market for linen being almoſt a new trade. Likewiſe to foreign linens coming dearer at market than formerly. The weavers and ſpinners generally live upon oatmeal and potatoes, and milk, with meat once a week, and have their belly full.

A FARM 6 acres:—1 ½ Hay. 1. Rood flax. 1. Acre potatoes. 1. Oats. 2. Cows. 1. Horſe. 2. Sheep. Rent, 5l. 12s.

1. POTATOES uſually 160 buſhels to the acre. 2. Flax. 3. Oats. 4. Left 2 years.

1. PLOUGH 3 or 4 times for flax. 2. Wheat, or barley. 3. Oats. 4. Oats. 5. Left.

VERY few ſave their ſeed; but this more than uſual, owing to the import from America falling off. Much damaged by ſtanding for ſeed from *firing*, and a great chance run of looſing the crop; but if the weather good not the worſe for coarſe linen, but will not do at all for fine. Clay land does beſt for it. They uſe much lime, 140 barrels per acre, at 1s. 1d. at kiln, and 6d. more carriage: they lay it on for wheat and barley. It is reckoned to pay ſo well, that all uſe it who are able.

	£.		
Rent of a cabbin and garden - - - -	1	10	0
Graſs for a cow - - - - - - -	1	10	0
Hay for ditto - - - - -	1	10	0
	4	10	0

MANY weavers families have tea for breakfaſt. Rents rather lower than 4 or 5 years ago.

LEAVING Warrenſtown, reached Hillſborough that night; paſſed thro' Dromore, a miſerable neſt of dirty mud cabbins. Lord Hillſborough has marked the approach to his town by many ſmall plantations on the tops of the hills, through which the road leads. The inn of his building is a noble one for Ireland.

JULY 27th, walked to the church built at the expence of Lord Hillſborough; there are few ſuch in Ireland. It is a very handſome ſtone edifice, properly ornamented, and has a lofty ſpire, which is a fine object to the whole country. The form of the church is a croſs, the body of it 160 feet long, and the croſs-iſle 120. The ſtep to the communion table is of one ſtone out of his lordſhip's quarry, 21 feet long,

and 2 broad. To the improvements—the lake, woods, and lawn are pretty; but a well built and flouriſhing town in the hands of an abſentee, whoſe great aim is to improve and adorn it, does him more credit than twenty domains.

REACHED Liſburne, and waited on the biſhop of Downe, who was ſo obliging as to ſend for an intelligent linen-draper, to give me ſuch particulars as I wanted of the manufacture in that neighbourhood. About this place chiefly fine cloth, from 14 to 21 hundred. The ſpinners are generally hired by the quarter, from 10s. to 12s. lodging and board, and engaged to ſpin 5 hanks of 8 hank yarn in a week.

To the 14 hund. linen 46 hanks——18 ditto 58 hanks——21 ditto 66 hanks.

In weaving it is common for one man to have ſeveral looms, at which journeymen weavers work, who are paid their lodging and board, and one-third of what they earn, which may come to 2s. a week on an average.

THE drapers advance the yarn, and pay for the weaving by the yard,

For a 13 hund. 4d.——18 ditto 9d.——21 ditto 1s. 1½d.

For 18 hund. linen, a woman ſpins 6 hanks a week, which 6 hanks weigh about a pound, at the price of 8d. a hank. The manufacture carried on in the country very much by little farmers, who have from 5 to 10 acres, and univerſally it is found, that going to the plough or ſpade for a day or two ſpoils them for their weaving as many more. Think that flax that has ſtood till ſeed is ripe, will not do for more than a 1600 web. Rent for ſowing flax on potatoe land 4d. a perch long of 21 feet and 10 broad. The crop at a medium 10 ſtone from a buſhel of ſeed. The ſtone 16 lb. A ſtone of good flax, rough, will produce 8 lb. after heckling, and ſpin into it as many hanks per lb. as the ſort is, that is, 6 hanks of 6 hank-yarn, 7 of 7. The weavers, ſpinners, &c. live in general on potatoes and milk, and oat-bread, and ſome of them meat once a week.—Will work only for ſupport; meal and cloth never cheap together, for when meal is cheap, they will not work. Rent of land from 10s. to 22s.

LEAVING Liſburne, took the road to Belfaſt, repeating my enquiries; in a few miles I found the average rent 16s. per Cunningham acre. Much flax ſown, three buſhels and a half of ſeed generally ſown to an acre. Eight ſtone of flax, from half a buſhel of ſeed, is reckoned a very good crop. If they have not land of their own for ſowing, they pay 12s. rent for what half a buſhel requires: this is 4l. 4s. per acre, but it includes ploughing, harrowing, and getting ready for the ſeed

Rent, &c. - - - - - -	4	4	0
Weeding - - - - - -	0	5	0
Pulling 12 women, at 8d. a day - - - - -	0	8	0
£.	4	17	0

Brought

Brought over	4	17	0
Watering, damming, and ſtones, 6 men a day at 9d. - -	0	4	6
Taking and graſſing, 6 women a day - - - -	0	4	0
Taking, lifting and drying, generally in the ſun, 6 women 1 day	0	4	0
None rippled.			
Scutching at mills, 1s. 4d. a ſtone, 56 ſtone - - -	3	14	8
£.	9	4	2

PRODUCE.

56 ſtone, at 9s. 4d. - - - - - - -	26	2	8
Expences - - - - - - -	9	4	2
Profit - - - - - - - - £.	16	18	6

Heckling is 1s. 2d. a ſtone, and half the weight is loſt; the produce will be 4 lb. flax and 4 lb. tow, which the ſcotch generally buy at 3 d. a lb. To a ſtone heckled there are 96 hanks; and to the web of cloth there are 28 hanks for the weft, and 30 for the warp. A weaver is three weeks doing it, and is paid 17s. From Liſburne to Belfaſt, on the river Leggon, there are 12 or 13 bleach greens. The counties of Downe and Antrim are computed to make to the amount of 800,000l. a year, and near one-third of it in this vale.

PASSED Lord Dungannon's at Bever, whoſe plantations are got up to a fine ſhade by means of planting very thick; went to Caſtle-hill, Mr. Townley Blackwood's. Rents there are 15s. an acre, Cunningham-meaſure. Average of the county of Downe 10s. Sowing clover with flax is practiced here, coming in much, and found to be very beneficial.

IN the evening to Belfaſt. I had letters to Mr. Portis and Mr. Holmes; but upon calling at their houſes, found the firſt in England and the other in the country: ſo conſiderable a place as Belfaſt demanded a better account than I could give without aſſiſtance. At dinner at Mr. Blackwood's, a Doctor Haliday was mentioned as a gentleman of general knowledge, and at the ſame time of a liberal diſpoſition: it was the only name I knew at Belfaſt after my two letters proved uſeleſs. I determined to make known to this Doctor Haliday my wants, and beg his aſſiſtance in gratifying them, and accordingly wrote a note and ſent it. He alſo in the country. Still I was unwilling to give up all thoughts of Belfaſt; and as I had planned going to Strangford, and from thence to Liſburne in my way north, I determined upon returning again to Belfaſt, in order for a farther chance of meeting with ſomebody that could anſwer me a few queſtions about the progreſs of the commerce of the place.

JULY

JULY 28th, took the road to Portaferry, by Newtown, where I breakfaſted; it is an improving place, belonging to Mr. Stewart, who has built a very handſome market-houſe, and laid out a ſquare around it, which he deſigns building. I was informed here that the linen manufacture is much leſs conſiderable than it was. Since the decline of 1772 and 1773, many weavers they told me had turned labourers, but the ſpinning buſineſs continues as much as ever.

LEAVING the town, the road leads at once to the ſhore of Strangford Loch, where I obſerved heaps of white ſhells, and upon enquiry found that they dig them at low water in the Loch in any quantities: they lay them on their lands, but do not find that they laſt ſo long as lime. Farms riſe to 40 acres; rents 15s. to 21s. Cunningham-meaſure. Wheat yields to 30 buſhels; oats to 40.

As I advanced, making farther enquiries, ſtill I was told that the weaving, at preſent, was not near ſo good as 7 years ago. Flax, in ſome pariſhes, pays no tythe; in others, it is taken in kind. Two buſhels of potatoes, on a ridge 7 yards long and 2 wide, is a very good crop. Rents from 10s. to 21s. A common courſe

1. Oats on lay. 2. Wheat. 3. Oats. 4. Barley. 5. Oats. 6. Barley. 7. Oats. 8. Left for lay, a few ſow clover or rye-graſs for 2 years.

PASS Newtown Stewart, a row of neat ſtone and ſlate cabbins, in the neighbourhood of ſome new plantations which ſurround an improved lawn, where Mr. Stewart intends building. The ſoil is in general light, dry, ſandy or gravelly. Sea-wrack is collected for burning into kelp all along the coaſt of the Loch. There are many lime-kilns all the way to Portaferry; I was told 35, and that 15 years ago there was only one, ſo much is the improvement of land increaſing. The ſtone is brought by ſea from Carlingford, and burnt with coals and turf. The expence reckoned 1s. 1d a barrel. It laſts 10 years. Shells are ſome time before they work, but they laſt longer than lime, directly contrary to what I was told before, from whence one may ſuppoſe the point diſputable. Rents 16s. to 20s. Remarked ſeveral great rocks on the ſhore, which ſeem to have no connection with the coaſt, which is not rocky, nor at all in uniſon with ſuch fragments.

REACHED Portaferry, the town and ſeat of Patrick Savage, Eſq; who took every means of procuring me information concerning that neighbourhood.

JULY 29th, collected ſome concerning the fiſheries. It is a ſummer herring-fiſhery for the home conſumption of the country; they are now taken chiefly off the peninſula of Ards. Formerly the great take was in the Loch, till within theſe 4 years. To the whole coaſt they reckon that there are 400 boats; they are of 4 or 5 ton burthen, and coſt 15l. a boat, the nets coſt 10l. and there are 4 to each boat.

boat. A boat will catch 6 maze of herrings in a night, each 500; and they ſell at 8s. 8d. a maze on an average: it is, however, a precarious fiſhery. In 1774 it was very good: in 1775 very bad; this year it has begun finely. It begins the 12th of july, and finiſhes the end of ſeptember. It is in general carried on by ſhares; the boat and nets have one half, and the 4 men the other half. They earn, upon an average, 1l. 1s. each a week by it: 110 boats belong to Portaferry. The men are chiefly from the country; the whole barony of Ards are fiſhermen, ſailors, and farmers, by turns. This little port has a tolerable ſhare of trade: they have 12 ſhips, which go annually to Loch Swilly herring-fiſhery, which is a winter one on the bounty of 20s. a ton; they have 15 ſhips belonging to the place, from 30 to 150 tons, at 6 men each, and many others trade here. Coals are brought from Whitehaven; and from Gottenburgh and Norway timber and iron. Trade increaſes, and the place is much more flouriſhing than it was.

Rode in the evening to Millen Hill on the coaſt of Ards, to ſee the herring fleet go out. It is in the town-land of Tara, and is an excellent ſpot for a light-houſe, which is much wanted on this coaſt, for it is exceedingly rocky and dangerous from St. John's point to Donaghadee, ſo that no winter paſſes without ſhipwrecks, and in ſome there are a dozen. Under the hill appeared the north and ſouth rock, with foul ground all around. A light-houſe might be built here for 60l. and the annual expence would not exceed 150l.

The barony of Ards is in general a wet, ſtrong, or clay ſoil, with a good deal of bog; lets on an average at 10s. 6d. an acre, the whole county 10s. the ſize of the farms on a medium about 40 acres, a few up to 100, and many down to 5 in weavers hands. Courſe of crops

1. Potatoes dunged for. 2. Wheat, yields from 28 to 40 buſhels, but reckon it by cwts. 3. Barley. 4. Oats. 5. Clover for 3 years, or clover and hay-ſeeds in caſe deſigned to lay longer, 6, 7, and 8. Oats. Alſo,

1. Potatoes. 2. Flax. 3. Corn, &c.

A great deal of lime uſed from Carlingford; the ſtone is brought and burnt with Milford or ſcotch culm, and coſts them, when burnt, about 11d. a barrel. It has been found very beneficial, has been uſed about 10 or 12 years: it does beſt on middling land neither very dry nor wet. Sea-ſand is much uſed for ſtrong clay, and brings the fineſt crops that can be. White marle from under the bogs they prefer to lime; it improves land ſo much that it will never be as bad again. Wherever they can get ſhell ſand, they do, and find the benefit very great: ſea-weed they alſo uſe for their barley lands what they get in winter, but in ſummer they dry and burn it into kelp. Cattle very trifling, only ſmall ſtocks for convenience. The principal religion is preſbyterian.

If a weaver has, as moſt have, a crop of flax, the wife and daughter ſpin it and he weaves it: if he is not a weaver, but employed by his farm,

farm, they carry the yarn to market. The diet of the poor is oaten bread, potatoes, milk, herrings, &c. The little farmers generally have meat once a week in ſummer, and ſalted for winter. All keep cows, pay for ſummer grazing 1l. 7s. and buy hay for the winter to the value of 1l. 10s. They all keep pigs, not much poultry. Their fuel both turf and coals; coals 13s. a ton. Car, horſe, and driver, a day, 1s. 4d. A new car 40s. to 3l. A plough 10s. 6d. A harrow 15s.

A WEAVER, who generally ſows what they call half a peck of flax-ſeed, which is a common peck, gave me the following account of the expence.

Seed 3 buſhels to 1¼ acre, Cunningham-meaſure	0	2	6
Ploughing	0	1	0
Weeding	0	0	9
Pulling 1½ woman, at 8d.	0	1	0
Rippling 1 man, 2 days, at 10d.	0	1	8
Watering 1 man, half a day	0	0	5
Car and horſe	0	0	8
Taking out 1½ man, a day, and 1 woman ditto	0	0	9
Beetling 1 man, 2 days	0	1	8
Carrying to ſcutch mill	0	1	0
Scutching, 1s. 4d. a ſtone, 3 ſtone	0	4	0
Carrying back	0	0	6
Heckling 1s. 4d. ditto	0	4	0
Rent	0	2	0
No tythe of flax.			
£.	1	2	9
At 2½ pecks to a rood this is, per Cunningham acre, about	9	0	0

Eight pound of flax, and three of tow, worth 6d. or ſtone, rough; make 30 hanks of yarn for a 1400 linen: one woman will ſpin it in 30 days, and earn 4d. a day. 42 hanks make a web of 25 yards, which is wove in 2 weeks, and he earns 5d. a yard or 4½d. and will ſell green for 17½d. or 18d. a yard. Not a bleaching green in all Ards for want of water. All along the coaſt of Ards and in Strangford Loch, ſea wrack is collected by the country people with great diligence, for burning into kelp; it yields at preſent from 40s. to 50s. a ton, the bleach greens have much of it, and the reſt of it exported to England. Some gentlemen, who keep their ſhores in their own hands, pay the men 20s. a ton for collecting and burning: at other times they pay rent for the ſhore. In Loch Strangford the kelp is better than on the open ſhore: an inſtance of induſtry in this Loch deſerves to be recorded. It is not uncommon for the men to draw ſtones from their fields, and ſpread them on the ſhores in

in order to make the wrack *(fucus)* grow; a good crop being only obtained from rocks and ſtones. Upon the coaſt of Ards, they have in winter much tangle wrack, which they collect very carefully, form into heaps, and when rotten ſpread it on their barley lands, and get very fine crops, but it is not laſting.

The plentifulneſs of the country about Portaferry, Strangford, &c. is very great: this will appear from the following circumſtances, as well as the regiſter of butchers meat and common poultry elſewhere inſerted.

Pigeons 2s. a dozen. Rabbits 4d. a couple. The fiſh are, turbot 4s. ſole 10d. a pair; bret and haddock 1d. each; lobſters 5s. a dozen; oyſters 19d. a hundred; john dory, gurnet; whiting 4d. a dozen; mackarel, mullet, partridges, and quails in plenty. Wild ducks 10d. to 1s. Widgeon 6d. a couple, barnacle 10d. each; teal 6d. a couple, plover 3d.

This country is in general beautiful, but particularly ſo about the ſtreights that lead into Strangford Loch. From Mr. Savage's door the view has great variety. To the left are tracts of hilly grounds, between which the ſea appears, and the vaſt chain of mountains in the Iſle of Man diſtinctly ſeen. In front the hills riſe in a beautiful outline, and a round hill projects like a promontory into the ſtreights, and under it the town amidſt groups of trees; the ſcene is chearful of itſelf, but rendered doubly ſo by the ſhips and herring-boats ſailing in and out. To the right the view is crowned by the mountains of Mourne, which, wherever ſeen, are of a character peculiarly bold, and even terrific. The ſhores of the Loch behind Mr. Savage's are bold ground, abounding with numerous pleaſing landſcapes; the oppoſite coaſt, conſiſting of the woods and improvements of Caſtle-Ward, is a fine ſcenery.

July 30th, croſſed the ſtreights in Mr. Savage's boat, and breakfaſted with Mr. Ainſworth, collector of the cuſtoms; he gave me the following particulars of the barony of Lecale, of the huſbandry of which I had often heard as ſomething better than common. The ſoil varies near the ſea, ſtoney loam, dry ſound good land, ſome without ſtone between the rocky hillocks, ſome very ſtoney; the land is light, as may be judged from two horſes being uſually in a plough, lets on an average from 12s. to 28s. average 20s. the whole county 10s. The meaſure the plantation acre. The ſouth coaſt is the richeſt. Farms riſe from 5 to 30 acres; the little ones are all manufacturers: there are ſome of 30, and perhaps 40, that are not weavers, but moſt of them employ looms. The diviſion of farms among the ſons, have brought them ſo low that they have been obliged to weave for ſubſiſtence. In the richer parts they ſummer fallow, and the courſe then is;

1. Fallow. 2 Wheat, average produce 18 cwt. 3. Barley ditto, a ton per acre. 4. Oats ditto, 4 hhds. each, 12 buſhels. 5. Peaſe. 6. Barley.

ley. 7. Clover (of which they ſow much) for 2 years. 8. Barley. 9. Oats. 10. Wheat.

1. Potatoes 400 buſhels. 2. Barley, one ton and a half. 3. Barley. 4. Clover for 2 years, much of it ſoiled in the ſtable, a practice which increaſes. Alſo,

1. Plough-lay for oats. 2. Wheat. 3. Barley. 4. Clover or peaſe.

1. Potatoes. 2. Flax. 3. Barley. 4. Barley. 5. Clover two years. Have lately got into the way of eating down a 3 year old lay, and plough it in july, and once or twice more for wheat: but to ſow ſuch with peaſe or beans on one earth, and then take the wheat, would be much better. Peaſe eſteemed a refreſhment, and enables them to have 1 or 2 crops of white corn. Great quantities of barley ſown, being their principal crop. No turneps. Their manures are marle, ſhells, ſea-wrack. Marle has been uſed greatly for many years, it is ſaid for above 60: it is white marle from the bottom of bogs, and ſome of it immediately under the ſurface; they carry it on horſeback in bags, which hold each 4 buſhels, and they lay about 450 to 500 bags per acre. When the farmer has not marle on his own ground, he purchaſes it from his neighbour, and pays from 1l. 1s. to 1l. 10s. for liberty to raiſe it, and if they carry it a mile, or a mile and an half, it coſts them 6l. an acre. They are reckoned very much to have exhauſted their land; for upon the credit of a marling they will take 20 corn-crops running, and as a proof of this I was told, that the deanry of Down, which conſiſts of tythes in Lecale, was 2,200l. a year, 35 years ago, whereas it is now no more than 1600l. owing to the decline of the Lecale crops; and this from the abuſe of marle. Second marlings do not ſucceed, they think, but it has not been tried. Lime they uſe only on dry lands, and not often. They have the ſtone from Carlingford, and they burn it with coals; it coſts them 11d. a barrel, lay from 80 to 150: the lighter the land, the leſs they lay on it: it laſts 8 or 9 crops; does upon old marled lands better than a ſecond marling. Sea ſhelly ſand and gravel they have upon their own ſhore; lay them thick on ſtiff reddiſh clay ſoils, and find great effect from them; lay greater quantities much than of marle, about 800 one-horſe loads, the beſt crops in the barony are gained by it. Parts by ſhelling advanced, from 5s. to 25s. an acre. Very little graſs land, and ſcarce any cattle but cows to every farm for convenience. The farmers are generally not only in Lecale, but the whole county much better and wealthier than formerly.

Tythes generally compounded 2s. 2d. an acre for all under crops. The price of proviſions has riſen in general one-third in 20 years. And a cow which, 40 years ago, was bought for 25s. is now 5l. 5s. and as good a horſe, 25 years ago, for 4 to 5l. as now for 10l. to 12l.

There are ſome cottars who have not farms, only a potatoe garden, a patch of flax, graſs for a cow, and a little ſtraw for the winter, for all which they pay 2l. 2s. a year. Riſe in the price of labour from 4d. and board to 5d. and 6½d. and ditto in 20 years. The fuel generally coals, which

which are 13s. to 18s a ton, and they ſend their children to pick up dung to burn; yet this is the country that I have heard commended for huſbandry. Building a mud farm-houſe 8l. Ditto ſtone and ſlate 30l.

The linen manufacture is carried on very generally through the barony. In Downpatrick there are 500 webs ſold every week, at 1s. 1d. a yard, and 26s. each, being from 800 to 1400, in general 1200 linen; which 1200 web will take 38 hanks of 4 hank yarn, and a woman will on an average ſpin the 38 hanks in as many days, being paid 4d. a hank; a weaver will make it in a fortnight, and has 10s. for it.

Upon the marling coming in, there was a corn-coaſting trade opened from Strangford, and it flouriſhed conſiderably, but fell off pretty much, as has been mentioned with reſpect to the deanry of Downe. The trade has, however, been upon the increaſe for about 4 years; from the 11th of ſeptember, 1775, to July the 1ſt, 1776, there were 100 cargoes of wheat and barley, about 50 tons each on an average, to Liverpool, Whitehaven, Liſbon, &c. and to Dublin. Two-thirds to Dublin, and one-third foreign, which export received the bounty. The export both foreign and coaſting, in 1774, nearly the ſame as 1775. In 1773 about 75 cargoes: in 1772, 60 to 70. The trade in general of Strangford, export, import, ſhips and ſeamen, has been in general increaſing for 10 years laſt paſt; but the year ending the 25th of laſt march higher than ever it was before, having every year been in a regular gradation. The decline of 1772 and 1773, in the linen manufacture, &c. not felt in the trade of this place.

To the port of Strangford, which includes Downpatrick, Dundrum, Killilea, Killoch, Portaferry, Comber, and Newtown, there belong 30 veſſels, from 35 to 150 tons burthen, beſides fiſhing veſſels, of which 27 ſail received the bounty in 1775: the ſame number in 1774, in 1772 twenty-three. The burthen of the veſſels in 1775 from 28 to 75 tons, and the bounty about 700l. All up the channel, to Strangford and Killilea, and into the Loch, there is 30 feet water, and on the bar there is as much in the loweſt ſprings. A ſhip of 100 guns might lie within 15 yards of the ſhore.

Called at Lord Bangor's at Caſtle Ward, to deliver a letter of recommendation, but unfortunately he was on a ſailing party to England; walked through the woods, &c. The houſe was built by the preſent Lord. It is a very handſome edifice with two principal fronts, but not of the ſame architecture, for the one is gothic, and the other grecian From the temple is a fine wooded ſcene; you look down on a glen of wood, with a winding hill quite covered with it, and which breaks the view of a large bay: over it, appears the peninſula of Strangford, which conſiſts of incloſures and wood. To the right, the bay is bounded by a fine grove, which projects into it. A ſhip at anchor added much. The houſe well ſituated above ſeveral riſing woods, the whole ſcene a fine one.

I remarked in Lord Bangor's domains, a fine field of turneps, but *unhoed*. There were ſome cabbages alſo.

I TOOK the road to Downpatrick, through a various country; Down Bay is on the left, and exhibits an amazing variety of iſlands, creeks, and bays, which appear among cultivated hills in a moſt pictureſque manner. Here I ſaw ſheep grazing in a ditch, confined by a line faſtened by two pins, and drove into the ground, and paſſing through rings which hung from a ſtrap round their necks, ſo that they could move only from one end to the other.

To Redemon, the ſeat of Arthur Johnſton, Eſq; got there late in the evening, but being abſent, I deſired the ſervants to give me a bed, dreading being caught again at a village cabbin.

JULY 31ſt, to Saintfield. Rents are 10s. 6d. an acre. Several bogs here; one in particular half cultivated, the reſt unimproved; fine oats, potatoes, and barley, were on it. One piece of oats ſhoots directly into the uncultivated part, and ſhews plainly what might be done with all the bogs of this country.

REACHED Belfaſt in the forenoon, and was then fortunate enough to meet with Mr. Holmes, alſo a letter from Doctor Haliday, who being abſent himſelf recommended me to ſeveral other gentlemen. Gained upon the whole the information I wiſhed; it conſiſted of the following particulars.

THE imports of Belfaſt conſiſt in rum, brandy, geneva, and wines. Till within theſe two years much grain, ſince that none, but have on the contrary exported ſome. Coals from Britain. Iron, timber, hemp, and aſhes, from the Baltic. Barilla from Spain for the bleach greens. Tea, raw ſugars, hops, and porter the principal articles from Great Britain. From North America, wheat, ſtaves, flour, and flax-ſeed, all which cut off at preſent. The exports are beef, butter, pork, to the Weſt-Indies, and France. The great article linen cloth to London; formerly ſome to America. The balance much in favour of the place. Derry, Newry, and Belfaſt, the linen export towns; two thirds from Belfaſt, a little from Derry, the reſt from Newry. There are three ſugar houſes here. The number of ſhips belonging to Belfaſt about 50 ſail from 20 to 300 tons. A veſſel of 200 tons, half loaded, may come to the Quay, there being 9 and a half to 10 feet water; larger veſſels lay 2 miles and a half down. The trade of Belfaſt was at its height in 1770; 1771, 1772, and 1773, were the worſt years; 1774, and 1775 it has been mending; but 1774, and 1775 not equal to 1770, and 1771, by one third. It is curious to ſee from hence how the trade of this place has vibrated with the linen manufacture, that being juſt the account I have received of the progreſs of that fabrick. Calculated that the trade of Belfaſt in general encreaſed one third in fifteen years, ending in 1770, or 1771. The number of people ſuppoſed to amount to from

12 to 15,000. Belfaſt being the place from whence the emigrations were the greateſt, I made many enquiries concerning them, and found that they have for many years had a regular emigration of about 2000 annually, but in 1772 the decline of the linen manufacture encreaſed the number; and the ſame cauſe continuing in 1773 they were at the higheſt, when 4000 went. In 1774 there were but few; and in 1775 there were none, nor any ſince. Some that went had property, and ſo had ſome of thoſe that always went. In general they were the moſt idle and worthleſs, and not reckoned any loſs to the country. In 1771 there were 300 looms in Belfaſt, but in 1774 there were only 180.

THERE is a conſiderable ſlaughter at this place. In 1775 cured 6000 barrels of beef, at 40s. a barrel, in the town; and 5,500 of pork at 50s. The principal part of the grazing land the lower part of Antrim from Ballymena towards Larne, and Ballymony; ſome from Meath and even from Sligo. The hogs from Ardmagh, Down, and Antrim, weigh on an average 2 cwt. fattened moſtly on potatoes; 6 or 7 years ago they exported 500 barrels of pork. In 1775, 7000. In 1776, it will be 10,000. When oatmeal above 1d. or 1½d. a pound, the poor live entirely upon potatoes and milk; no meat; but herrings in the ſeaſon. Price of proviſions, &c. at Belfaſt are; potatoes 9d. a buſhel, pigeons 6d. a couple, rabbits ditto, ſalmon 2d. a pound, lobſters 6d. plaice three farthings per lb. oyſters 1s. to 4s. per hundred, freſh cod 1d. per lb. barnacle 1s. widgeon 1s. a pair, oatmeal three farthings per lb. lime 1s. per barrel, coals 13s. a ton. Labour the year round 1s. 1d. in the town, 8d in the country. Seamen 30s. a month, and ſhip proviſions. Spinners earn 3d. a day. Weavers 1s. 1d. they never go for labourers.

Groſs cuſtom including exciſe upon tobacco and foreign ſpirits.

1763	£.	32,900
1764		35,700
1765		49,600
1766		53,600
1767		50,800
1768		56,200
1769		51,500
1770		63,600
1771		62,100
1772		58,700
1773		59,900
1774		60,100
1775		64,800

IN the year ending the 25th of march 1774, pieces of linen exported 147,218; yards 3,713,822.

From

	Pieces.
From 1ſt. Nov. 1771, to 1ſt May, 1772 - -	85,402
Next half year - - - - -	91,712
	177,114
Firſt half year - - - -	95,928
Second ditto - - - - -	87,089
Total - - - - - -	183,017

Belfast is a very well built town of brick, they having no ſtone quarry in the neighbourhood The ſtreets are broad and ſtrait, and the inhabitants, amounting to about 15,000, make it appear lively and buſy. The public buildings are not numerous or very ſtriking, but over the exchange Lord Donnegal is building an aſſembly room, 60 feet long, by 30 broad, and 24 high; a very elegant room. A card room adjoining, 30 by 22, and 22 high; and a tea room of the ſame ſize. His Lordſhip is alſo building a new church, which is one of the lighteſt and moſt pleaſing I have any where ſeen: it is 74 by 54, and 30 high to the cornice; the iſles ſeparated by a double row of columns; nothing can be lighter or more pleaſing. The town belongs entirely to his Lordſhip. Rent of it 2000 l. a year. His eſtate extends from Drumbridge, near Liſburne, to Larne, 20 miles in a right line, and is 10 broad. His royalties are great, containing the whole of Loch Neagh, which is I ſuppoſe the greateſt of any ſubject in Europe. His eel fiſhery at Tome, and Port-New, on the river Ban, lets for 500 l a year; and all the fiſheries are his to the leap at Colraine. The eſtate is ſuppoſed to be 31,000 l. a year, the greateſt at preſent in Ireland. Inniſhoen, in Donnegal, is his, and is 11,000 l. of it. In Antrim, Lord Antrim's is the moſt extenſive property, being 4 baronies, and 173,000 acres. The rent 8000 l. a year, but relet for 64,000 l. a year, by tenants that have perpetuities, perhaps the crueleſt inſtance in the world of careleſſneſs for the intereſts of poſterity. The preſent Lord's father granted thoſe leaſes

Mr. Portis of Belfaſt, laſt year ſowed 3 acres 2 rood of flax; let it ſtand till quite ripe, then ſtacked it like corn, and threſhed it in march; produce of ſeed 8 hogſheads, which ſold at 41. 4s. or 331. 12s. He watered it then, and went through the whole operation as common. By being kept ſo long, he found it required leſs watering than in the common way. This is not the uſual method of doing it.

Dr.

Dr.				Cr.			
3 A. 2 R. at 15s. per acre	2	12	6	By 8 hogſheads of clear ſeed ſold at 4l. 4s. per hogſhead	33	12	0
Ploughing with 2 horſes, plowman and boy, at 4s. 2d. per day, 4 days	0	16	8	By 896lb. clean flax ſold at 6d. a lb.	22	8	0
Harrowing and ſowing, 5s. 4d. and cleaning the furrows, 4s.	0	9	8	Would have ſold for 7d. if it had been judiciouſly managed, by ſuffering it to lay a day or two longer in the water, which would have made the flax finer.			
One hogſhead of ſeed	4	0	0				
Reaping	1	6	0				
Stacking, thatching and bringing home	0	15	0				
Expences of watering, drying, taking to the mill, and cleaning, at 2d. per lb. 896 lb. a large allowance	7	9	4				
£.	17	9	2				
Net profit	38	10	10				
£.	56	0	0	£.	56	0	0

Note, The ground was rather inclined to clay, was ploughed from lay, but received no manure for two years; ploughed about chriſtmas, furrowed and ſowed the latter end of march, but covered with a ſhovel from the furrows, from an inch to an inch and an half thick.

Some of the expences of an acre of common flax near Belfaſt.

	£.		
Rent	1	0	0
Tythe by modus	0	1	0
Seed, hogſhead, or 7 buſhels, at 8s.	2	16	0
Sowing	0	0	6
Ploughing and harrowing	0	8	8
Stones and clods	0	2	2
Weeding, 8 women 1 day	0	4	4
Pulling, 20 women	0	10	10
Watering	0	3	3
Taking out and graſs-carrying, drying and beetling	1	1	0
Scutching all at mills 1s. 4d. a ſtone.			
Heckling, 1s. 4d. ditto.	6	7	9

I WAS

I WAS informed that Mr. Iſaac, near Belfaſt, had 4 acres, iriſh meaſure, of ſtrong clay land not broken up for many years, which being amply manured with lime rubbiſh, and ſea ſhells, and fallowed, was ſown with wheat, and yield 87l. 9s. at 9s. to 12s. per cwt. Alſo that Mr. Whitley, of Ballinderry, near Liſburne, a tenant of Lord Hertford's, has rarely any wheat that does not yield him 18l. an acre. The tillage of the neighbourhood for 10 miles round, is doubled in a few years. Shall export 1000 ton of corn this year from Belfaſt, moſt of it to the Weſt-Indies, particularly oats.

AUGUST 1ſt, to Arthur Buntin's, Eſq; near Belfaſt; the ſoil a ſtiff clay; lets at old rents 10s. new one 18s. the town parks of that place 30s. to 70s. ten miles round it 10s. to 20s. average 13s. A great deal of flax ſown, every countryman having a little, always on potatoe land, and one ploughing: they uſually ſow each family a buſhel of ſeed. Thoſe who have no land pay the farmers 20s. rent for the land a buſhel of ſeed ſows, and always on potatoe land. They plant many more potatoes than they eat to ſupply the market at Belfaſt; manure for them with all their dung, and ſome of them mix dung, earth, and lime, and this is found to do better. There is much alabaſter near the town, which is uſed for ſtucco plaiſter; ſells from 1l. 1s. to 25s. a ton.

IN my way to Antrim, viewed the bleach green of Mr. Tho. Sinclair; it is the completeſt I had ſeen here. I underſtood that the bleaching ſeaſon laſted 9 months, and that watering on the graſs was quite left off. Mr. Sinclair himſelf was not at home, or I ſhould probably have gained ſome intelligence that might have been uſeful.

CROSSED the mountains by the new road to Antrim, and found them to the ſummits to conſiſt of exceeding good loam, and ſuch as would improve into good meadow. It is all thrown to the little adjoining farms, with very little or any rent paid for it. They make no other uſe of it than turning their cows on. Pity they do not improve; a work more profitable than any they could undertake. All the way to Antrim lands let at an average at 8s. The linen manufacture ſpreads over the whole country, conſequently the farms are very ſmall, being nothing but patches for the convenience of weavers.

FROM Antrim to Shanes Caſtle the road runs at the end of Loch Neagh, commanding a noble view of it; of ſuch an extent that the eye can ſee no land over it. It appears like a perfect ſea, and the ſhore is broken ſand banks, which look ſo much like it, that one can hardly believe the water to be freſh. Upon my arrival at the Caſtle, I was moſt agreeably ſaluted with four men hoeing a field of turneps round it, as a preparation for graſs. Theſe were the firſt turnep hoers I have ſeen in Ireland, and I was more pleaſed than if I had ſeen four emperors.

THE Caſtle is beautifully ſituated on the Lake, the windows commanding a very noble view of it; and this has the finer effect, as the woods,

woods are conſiderable, and form a fine accompanyment to this noble inland ſea. Mr. O'Niel not only received me with the moſt flattering politeneſs, but was extremely aſſiduous for my correct information. He is a very conſiderable farmer, has ſown turneps 3 years, never leſs than 11 acres, and has fattened oxen and cows, and kept milch ones on them, and has found them exceedingly uſeful. The beaſts throve perfectly well, and is well convinced that nothing can be more beneficial; by their means he has carried on his fat bullocks from autumn, when they would ſell for 8l. 10s. being 50s. profit on 6l. the purchaſe price; but from turneps, he ſells at 11l. 11s. to 14l. A clearer teſtimony cannot be given. The cabbages were applied to the ſame uſe when the turneps were gone.

Mr. O'Niel plants his potatoes in the furrows the plough forms as it ſtirs the land, by which a very great ſaving is made in labour, and the crops better than common. Among his woods, he has a great deal of fern, *(pteris aquilina)* all regularly cut and ſtacked for littering the farm horſes, by which means he raiſes great quantities of manure. None of the farmers uſe oxen in ploughing, nor any of the gentlemen, except Mr. O'Niel, and Mr. Leſly. Mr. O'Niel introduced the cuſtom, and has found it uncommonly beneficial. Has manured 13 acres of clay land with gravel from the lake ſhore, 1700 car loads, each 3 barrels per acre. It is not lime ſtone gravel, but ſmall pebbly, without any earth among it. It was laid on in 1775, the year of fallow, and now is under wheat, the beſt crop acknowledged that ever was ſeen upon the land. He has many one horſe carts, which carry 6 barrels, and the common car carries only 3. As I wanted to know the weight of a common iriſh car, Mr O'Niel ordered one to be weighed; it was 2 cwt. 2 qrs. 14lb. One of his carts weighed at the ſame time 4 cwt. 2 qrs. 21lb. Much hollow draining done at Shaens Caſtle, cut three feet and a half deep, and filled with white thorn buſhes; the ſoil ſtrong loam with ſtones on clay; the effect very conſiderable; the land made dry, which before draining was perfectly poaching. Of this great improvement he has done 77 acres. The ſoil in this neighbourhood is in general what is here called ſtiff clay, that is, as I found, a ſtrong ſtony loam on a yellow clay. Some bog, and a little ſandy ſkirt on the ſhore of the Lake. Bog is ſo ſcattered, that none of Mr. O'Niel's tenants are farther than half a mile from it. Rents riſe from 6s. to 10s. average 8s. Farms as in all the linen countries, are generally very ſmall; they riſe from 5 acres to 100, but in general they are from 5 to 30. Scarce any of them but are weavers, or the employers of weavers; but they have ſuch a cuſtom of ſplitting their farms among their children, that one of 6 acres will be divided. Mr. O'Neille has found this to be a ſource of the greateſt miſery and inconvenience, for the portions are ſo ſmall that they cannot live on them; the leaſt accident, ſuch as the death of a cow, &c. reduces them to want, ſo that

neither rent nor any common demand can be paid. They are likewiſe obliged, in order to make their little patch come near to their ſupport, to crop it every year with oats, till the land is become almoſt a caput mortuum; and they are reduced to great diſtreſs with paying a very low rent. This is alſo found in their circumſtances; rents, much under the value, are got from them with great difficulty, depending entirely on their web, and by means of their huſbandry are ſometimes diſappointed even by that. They are by no means in good circumſtances, but much diſtreſſed by every demand. In reſpect to living, their diet is milk, potatoes, and oat bread; very little butter, as they ſell what they make. Not leſs than a 20 acred farmer has a ſide of ſalted beef in a winter. Many of them nothing but potatoes and milk, ſome only water. There is no ſuch thing in common as a labourer unconnected with the manufacture. Every cabbin has a dog regularly. There is a cuſtom here called *rundale*, which is a diviſion of their farms into ſpaces by balks, without fences, which they take here and there exactly like the common fields of England. It is a moſt pernicious cuſtom, which gives to all theſe farms the miſchiefs of our open field ſyſtem in England. I believe it prevails down in Wexford, &c. where I mentioned farms in partnerſhip without ſufficiently explaining this circumſtance. The rent of the county in general is 100,000l. a year, and there are not 400,000 acres, or 5s. 6d. an acre. Land ſells at 21 years purchaſe. The courſes.—1. Potatoes. 2. Oats, the produce 40 buſhels. 3. Oats, 30 buſhels. 4. Oats, 25 buſhels. 5. Left for weeds and rubbiſh 2 years.

1. Potatoes. 2. Flax. 3. Oats. 4. Oats. 5. Lay out to weeds.

No clover, turneps, &c. Alſo, 1. Potatoes. 2. Wheat, 4 to 8 barrels. 3. Oats. 4. Oats. Potatoes are all put in the trenching way; all their dung uſed for them, except now and then a little for barley. They plant 30 to 40 buſhels of ſeed per acre. Weed them by hand, and get on an average about 300 or 400 buſhels. A family conſiſting of a man, his wife, and four children, will eat 3 buſhels of potatoes, and 20lb. weight of oatmeal a week. No natural manure of any kind uſed, nor lime. Some few will burn the ſurface of the bogs to aſhes, and carry them to their lands for oats, on clay, and the effect is found to be conſiderable. Tythes are paid per acre 2s. for oats, potatoes and flax nothing. County ceſs 2d. an acre. No tea drank in the country, or at leaſt very little. The leaſes are 3 lives, or 31 years. No men who hire large tracts in order to relet again, but plenty of them under Lord Antrim, even to 2 or 3000l. a year a man. The increaſe of the people is very great, extravagantly ſo; and is felt ſeverely by emigration being ſtopped at preſent. Meat ½ to 1d. riſe in 20 years. A poor man's firing is 6 days labour cutting, which with all expence, will be 1l. 10s. at a mile diſtance, or 90 kiſh of turf. For flax they plough their potatoe land once.

THE expence of an acre.

Rent		0	8 0
One ploughing and harrowing		0	10 6
Seed, 4½ buſhels, at 12s		2	14 0
Picking ſtones or clods they have left off.			
Tythe 2s. a buſhel		0	9 0
Scarce any weeding.			
Pulling, 9 women a day, at 10d.		0	7 6
And 4 men a day, 1s. 6d.		0	6 0
Taking out ditto		0	6 0
Graſſing, 6 women, at 10d.		0	5 0
Truſt to the ſun only for drying, finding that the fire makes it huſky and bad, loſing by it at the mills. Rippling not common till lately.			
Send it all to the mills for beetling and ſcutching, 1s. 1d. a ſtone, 54 ſtone the average acre		2	18 6
Heckling, by flax dreſſers who go about, at 10d. a ſtone		2	5 0
	£.	10	9 6

After heckling, each ſtone will have 5lb. flax, and three of tow.

5lb. at 1s. 2d.	0	5	10
3lb. at 8d.	0	2	0
£.	0	7	10 the ſtone price to ſell.

54 Stone, at 7s. 10d.	21	3	0
Expences	10	9	6
Profit £.	10	13	6

THE flax is ſpun from 4 to 8 hanks to the pound. Some very curious will ſpin it to 10 and 12, average 6, or 30 to the 5lb. which will ſell from 3s. to 3s. 6d. the ſpangle of 4 hanks, or 10d. a hank. Women are generally hired to ſpin, at from 16s. to 30s. the half year and board, and engage to ſpin for 30s. 6 hanks a week. The 3lb. of tow will make 9 hanks of 3 hanks per lb. of which they make linen for labourers ſhirts, &c. and ſells for 1s. 1d. to 1s. 2d. per yard white. The 6 hank yarn will ſpin into a 1600 web; they make from 14 to 20 hundred. 63 Hanks of 6 hank yarn will make a web of 1600 cloth. The weaver is paid 7d. a yard; he will do 2 yards a day, including dreſſing, &c. and the piece will ſell in the monthly market of Randalſtown for 1s. 11d. to 2s. a yard green.

THE hearts of ſteel laſted 3 years; began in 1770 againſt rents and tythes, and from that went to all ſorts of grievances. All was night work, with many

fire arms. It was in reality owing to the impudence and levelling ſpirit of the diſſenters. The roman catholicks were the moſt quiet. Tythes, however, were a real grievance; the proctors let the firſt, and perhaps the ſecond year with them run by bond, and they oppreſſed them by holding the bond over their heads. Theſe tythe farmers are a bad ſet of people. In the emigrations of 1772 and 1773, many farmers took with them from 30l. to 300l. Near Brochaine, a lodge of Mr. O'Niel's, 10 miles diſtant, there are ſome large grazing farms; a few that fatten 2 or 300 bullocks, but in general on poor hilly land at 3s. to 6s. an acre. The bullocks are 4 cwt. buy in at 4l. and ſell out from 5 to 6l.

AUGUST 3d, paſſing Randalſtown, had a conſtant view of Slamiſh, a remarkable mountain riſing from a range of other mountains. Slamiſh in iriſh is *the mountain*, by way of pre-eminence; under it in the vale, is a bog of great length; and between Aghoghill and Raſharkin another very improveable. Between Raſharkin and Ballymony to the left, a vaſt one many miles in length, chiefly improveable. To Leſly-Hill, where I found Mr. Leſly, a warm admirer of huſbandry, and practiſing it on a ſcale not often met with. I have no where met with any perſon more inclined, or better able to inform me minutely on every object. He has made conſiderable improvements of bog; very near his houſe was one of 20 feet deep, which he has entirely reclaimed. His operation was cutting a main drain 8 feet wide, 5 deep, and 4 wide at bottom, at 9d. a perch; then it was levelled by digging at 8d. a ſquare perch; part of it covered with dung, 320 cars an acre, each 3 cwt. and planted with potatoes. The crop 320 buſhels per acre, and then levelled the trenches and ſowed 20 buſhels of hay ſeeds per acre. The other part marled, 160 cars, 10 buſhels each per acre, and graſſes ſown at once. The potatoe part much the fineſt. In another part of the bog, he improved it by cutting drains 6 perch aſunder, 4 feet wide, and 3 deep, at 4d. a perch; has improved ſome bog by firſt draining, then liming on the ſurface, 160 barrels per acre; ploughing 3 times, and ſowing wheat in the trenching way. The crop 8 to 10 barrels an acre. On a heathy bog, 12 feet deep, drained, then limed, and formed beds 6 feet broad, with trenches of 2; and in the ſpring ſowed oats covered out of the ſame furrows with ſpades; the oats indifferent. Is now digging another bog, and burning it. In general would recommend in this improvement to cut the main drains 8 feet wide, and 5 deep, which muſt be made wherever the fall is; if only one fall, one drain will do. Then at 6 perch aſunder, cut croſs drains, 4 feet wide, and 3 deep; this draining will make it in a year dry enough for cars; carry 160 loads an acre of dung, each 5 cwt. If not dung then marle, and on the manuring, trench in potatoes in the common way. If neither dung nor marle, then clay, and dig it in; ſow hay ſeeds, and roll well. After the potatoes dig or plough, and level, and ſow oats. The crop 40 buſhels, and with the oats the hay ſeeds. Is clear that this ſyſtem will improve any bog.

MR. Leſly's courſe of crops on ſtiff clay is,—1. Fallow and lime. 2. Wheat. 3. Barley. 4. Oats. 5. Oats. 6. Clover for 2 years, plough in the ſecond crop the ſecond year. After two ploughings, he harrows and

and limes, 160 barrels per Cunningham acre; after the lime is well ſlacked, a ſlight harrowing to mix it. Before ſowing a very ſhallow ploughing, and a ſlight harrowing to level. Then line out the lands 8 feet, and furrows 18 inches wide; ſow the land, and cover the ſeed with the trenches, cut 1 foot deep, to cover 1 inch deep. By this means gets immenſe crops. Expences and produce,

1. and 2. Fallow and Wheat.

Rent	1	3	0
County ceſs	0	0	3
Ditto ſecond year	1	3	3
Three ploughings, at 10s.	1	10	0
Two harrowings, at 2s. 6d.	0	5	0
160 Barrels of lime, at 1s. 1d.	8	13	4
Spreading	0	2	6
Seed, 1½ buſhel, at 5s.	0	7	6
Sowing	0	0	2
Trenching, 10 men, at 8d. a day	0	6	8
Weeding, 1 man 1 day	0	0	8
Reaping, 6 men 1 day, at 8d.	0	4	0
Carting to barn, 1 cart and 1 horſe, 3 acres a day, at 100 perch diſtance, all expences	0	2	2
Threſhing 1s. a barrel, 12 barrels	0	12	0
Carriage to market	0	15	0
Expences £.	15	5	6

Produce.

12 Barrels, at 1l. 2s.	13	4	0
Straw	1	0	0
Produce £.	14	4	
Loſs	1	1	0

3. Barley.

Rent and ceſs	1	3	0
2 Ploughings	1	0	0
1 Harrowing	0	2	6
Seed, 2½ buſhels	0	6	3
Sowing	0	0	2
Trenching	0	6	8
Weeding	0	0	8
Reaping	0	4	0
Carting	0	2	0
Threſhing 8 bolls, at 1s. 1d.	0	8	8
Carriage	0	1	4
£.	3	15	3

PRODUCE.

8 Bolls, at 25s.		10	0	0
Straw		0	10	0
Produce		10	10	0
Expences		3	15	3
Profit	£.	6	14	9

4. OATS.

Rent and cefs	1	3	0
One ploughing	0	10	0
One harrowing	0	2	6
Seed, 4 bufhels, at 2s.	0	8	0
Sowing	0	0	2
Trenching	0	6	8
Weeding	0	0	8
Reaping	0	4	0
Carting	0	2	0
Threfhing, 10 bolls, at 1s. 1d.	0	10	10
Carriage	0	1	8
	£.	3	9	6

PRODUCE.

10 Bolls	10	0	0
Straw	1	0	0
	11	0	0

Expences £. 3 9 6 Profit £. 7 10 6

5. OATS.

Expences the fame. Produce 8 bolls.

Eight, at 20s.	8	0	0
Straw	1	0	0
	9	0	0
Expences threfhing 8 bolls, &c.	3	7	6
Profit	£.	5	12	6

6. CLOVER.

Seed, 26 lb. at 4l. per cwt.	1	0	0
Rent, &c.	1	3	0
	£.	2	3	0

Brought over - - -	2	3	0
Soiling 2 men, a horſe and car, at 3s. 2d. a day, 19s. a week, will feed 20 cows, ſay 1s. a cow; begin 1ſt of june, and finiſh middle of october, 18 weeks, 18s. a cow; an acre feeds 8 cows, which is - - -	7	4	0
£.	9	7	0

PRODUCE.

Value of the ſummer-graſs at 2l. 2s. the common pay is 1l. 11s. 6d. in paſtures - - - -	16	16	0
Expences - - - - - - - - -	9	7	6
£.	7	8	6

7. CLOVER.

Rent, &c. - - - - - - - -	1	3	0
Soiling 6 cows, at 18s. - - - - - -	5	8	0
£.	6	11	0

PRODUCE.

6 cows, at 2l. 2s. - - - - - - -	12	12	0
Expences - - - - - - - -	6	11	0
Profit - - £.	6	1	0

Profit, barley - - - - - - -	6	14	9
———Oats - - - - - - -	7	10	6
———Ditto - - - - - - -	5	12	6
———Clover - - - - - - -	7	9	0
———Ditto - - - - - - -	6	1	0
	33	7	9
Loſt by wheat - - - - -	1	1	0
	32	6	9
Average profit - - £.	5	7	9

Twelve acres of clay land he limed 160 barrels an acre on the graſs a year before he ploughed it, then ſummer fallowed it, and ſowed 1½ buſhel of ſeed wheat, and reaped 12 barrels an acre.

I SHOULD

I SHOULD remark, that Mr. Leſlie's crops of wheat were the fineſt I had ſeen in Ireland, nor do I remember finer in England. Mr. Leſly has burned great quantities of marle and clay, (the latter upon the ſurface of the marle pit) into aſhes, and I ſaw two immenſe heaps burned, in ſo complete a manner, that I have not a doubt but the mode in which it is performed is perfect. One contained 7,308 ſolid feet, or 274 cubical yards; the other 6,534 feet, or 242 yards: in all 13,842 feet, or 516 yards, 10 feet. The expence of the whole came to 21l. 19s. 4d. It took 64 kiſhes of turf at beginning, but afterwards burnt itſelf. In the progreſs of the heaps, ſpread bog earth on ſome of the layers, to make it burn quicker, but it will do without. The following paper contains the directions by which Mr. Leſly performed the work.

"A CLAY KILN.

THIS kiln *(See the annexed plate)* is 20 feet by 12, but it may be made longer or ſhorter, according to the quantity you want; it may alſo be of any breadth that will allow men from each ſide to throw clay to the middle. A. A. are the air-pipes in the middle between the ſod walls made, either by cutting a little trench in the ground ſix inches deep, and ſo many broad, covering them with flat ſtones, ſlates or bricks, or by ſtones laid on the ground at the ſame diſtance, and covered in the above manner; the uſe of theſe being to give air to the fire, and make it burn better. The end muſt be brought a foot on each ſide without the ſod walls, and carefully kept from being choaked up with the aſhes or rubbiſh. B. B. are the ſod walls, about 10 or 12 inches thick; they muſt be 3 feet diſtance from each other; the uſe of them is to keep fuel and clay tight, and confine the heat. Raiſe all the ſod walls two feet and an half high, except the ſides next the wind, fill the ſpaces between the walls with turf, furze, wood, or any manner of firing, and thereon lay dry clay 6 or 8 inches thick, very cloſe and even, ſet fire to it on the windward ſide, and then build up that ſide alſo to the level of the other ſod walls; when the clay begins to look red, throw on more by degrees; the greateſt difficulty is to get the firſt clay well on fire, when that is accompliſhed after the firſt day, it wants no other attendance than to throw on ſome freſh clay morning and evening, and it will continue burning as long as you pleaſe, till you can throw the clay no higher. The clay may be uſed juſt as it is dug out of the pit. The ſod walls on the ends and ſides muſt from time to time be raiſed as high as the clay to keep in the heat; if the fire be too weak, it may be helped by giving it vent by a poker from the top, or if it goes out, it may be renewed by putting in ſome freſh fuel and clay. When you fail to ſupply it with freſh clay, the fire will go out; the clay will then appear like the rubbiſh of a brick-kiln. Lay the ſame quantity of it on your land that you would of dung; but as poor and light land requires more than ſtrong ground, experience muſt determine the

the exact quantity. The froſt and rain will diſſolve all the large lumps. It will exceedingly enrich your land either for corn, flax, or graſs; it kills all ſprats, *(juncus)* and produces a fine ſweet herbage, that laſts many years. Chuſe the place for your kiln, where the clay is thick and moſt convenient for carriage to your fields that want manure; it will be well worth your pains to burn any clay or earth in this manner (ſand and gravel only excepted); it is a very cheap manure, and hardly inferior to the marle, ſhells, lime, ſand or ſea weed, that have enriched all the farmers of this kingdom, who have had ſenſe and induſtry enough to make uſe of them. The beſt kiln 16 feet wide."

Mr. Leſly practiced the drill huſbandry ſeveral years, in conſequence of the recommendations of Mr. Wynn Baker. He bought of him a complete ſet of tools for the purpoſe, a drill plough, horſe-hoes, &c. and ſpared neither attention or expence to give it a fair trial, but found that it would not anſwer at all, and then gave it up. Lucerne by tranſplantation he alſo tried, following Mr. Baker's inſtructions exactly; but that did no better than the other, and he ploughed it up.

In cattle, Mr. Leſly has been equally attentive; he procured one of Mr. Bakewell's bulls two years ago, and has bred many calves by him, but they are not yet of an age to judge of the merit of the breed: the bull is a very fine one. In draining he has made conſiderable exertions, principally by hollow ones. Mr. Leſly's granary is one of the beſt contrived I have ſeen in Ireland; it is raiſed over the threſhing floor of his barn, and the floor of it is a hair-cloth for the air to paſs through the heap, which is a good contrivance. The whole building is well executed and very convenient, and contains two large bullock ſheds.

The common huſbandry around Leſly Hill is like that of the reſt of the manufacturing part of Ireland. The country is in very ſmall diviſions, of from 5 to 30 acres, and the rent upon an average 12s. Rent of the whole county not 5s. Londonderry not ſo much.

1. Potatoes. 2. Flax. 3. Oats. 4. Oats. 5. Weeds for 2 years, called a lay.

1 Potatoes. 2. Barley. 3. Oats. 4. Oats. 5. Weeds for 2 years.

An acre of potatoes.

Rent	0	12	0
Three bolls ſeed, 30s.	1	10	0
Dung, 160 loads, at 3d.	2	0	0
Spreading, planting, and trenching	1	5	0
No weeding becauſe lay ground.			
Taking up, &c.	2	0	0
	£.7	7	0

PRODUCE.

320 Buſhels at 1s. - - - - - -	16	0	0
Expences - - - - - -	7	7	0
Profit - -	£. 8	13	0

Prime coſt 5½d. per buſhel.

A man, his wife and 4 children, will eat 4 buſhels a week. If they live upon oatmeal, they will eat 40 lb. or 2 buſhels of oats. Average price of oatmeal 2s. 2d. a ſcore pounds. Of barley ſow 3 buſhels and get 70. Of oats they ſow 7 buſhels and get 40 the firſt crop, and 30 the ſecond, and if they run a third crop, not more than 20. A little lime uſed.

Expence of an acre of flax.

Rent 3s. for 10 perches twice ploughed and harrowed -	2	12	0
Tythe - - - - - -	0	8	0
4 Buſhels of ſeed - - - - -	2	0	0
Taking off ſtones and clods - - - -	0	2	8
Weeding - - - - - -	0	8	0
Pulling - - - - - -	0	4	0
Laying in water - - - - - -	0	2	8
Taking out and graſſing - - - - - -	0	8	0
Lifting and drying with fire - - - -	0	16	4
Beetling and ſcutching, 16 ſtone, at 1s. 4d. - -	1	1	0
Heckling ditto - - - - - - -	1	1	0
	£. 9	3	8

The ſtone of flax will, after heckling, be 5 lb. and 3 lb. of tow.

Flax per acre, 80 lb. at 1s. 1d. - - - - -	4	6	8
48 Pound of tow, 6d. - - - - -	1	4	0
	£. 5	10	8

Expences — — —	9	3	8
Produce — — —	5	10	8
	£. 3	13	0

THIS account ſurprized me ſo much, that I repeated the enquiry, and had it confirmed. The flax is, however, generally ſown on their own land, and in that caſe only the common rent to be reckoned. The 5 lb. of flax will ſpin into 9 hank yarn 45 hanks, and a woman will ſpin 4 a week, the price for ſpinning 6d. a hank. If they are hired, they are paid 3l. a year and board. Of theſe 9 hank yarn, the cloth made takes

50 hanks to a web of 25 yards, but they make double webs generally of twice that length: of 7 hank yarn a web of 48 yards, 32 inch wide, will take 88 hanks; a man weaves it in 15 days, is paid 25s. and ſells it for 3s. a yard green. The tow is ſpun into 2 hank yarn, and wove into coarſe cloth.

The food of the poor people is potatoes, oatmeal, and milk. They generally keep cows; ſome of them will have a quarter or a ſide of beef in winter, but not all. Upon the whole, they are in general much better off than they were 20 years ago, and dreſs remarkably well. The manufacture is at preſent very flouriſhing. When the price of cloth is low or bad, numbers of weavers turn labourers.

The emigrations were conſiderable in 1772 and 1773, and carried off a good deal of money, but it was chiefly of diſſolute and idle people: they were not miſſed at all. There is ſome land yet in the rundale way, but 20 years ago much more; alſo change-dale, which is every man changing his land every year.

Rents have fallen, in 4 years, 3s. an acre, and are but juſt beginning to get up again. Land ſells at 21 years purchaſe. Labour has riſen, in 20 years, from 5d. to 9d. No riſe in the price of proviſions in 20 years, or very little. The religion ten to one preſbyterians.

August 4th, accompanied Mr. Leſly to his brother's at ————, within 3 miles of the Giant's Cauſeway, where I had the pleaſure of learning ſeveral particulars concerning the country upon the coaſt. They meaſure by the Cunningham-acre, and rents are on an average 12s. Along the coaſt there is a tract of clay at from 14s. to 20s. The courſes of crops;

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

1. Potatoes. 2. Barley. 3. Flax. 4. Oats. 5. Oats, and then lay out for 2 years.

Much of the country is in the rundale and likewiſe in the change-dale ſyſtem. The little farmers are all weavers, who weave 10 or 1200 linen, and ſpin great quantities of yarn for the Derry market. Oatmeal and potatoes are the general food of the lower people, who reckon that one barrel of potatoes, to live on, is equal to 2 buſhels of meal. One barrel will laſt a family of ſix eight days, and coſts on an average 3s. 6d. or 4s. Oatmeal 1s. 2d. to 3s. 6d. the 20 lb. but 1½d. per lb. on an average. One buſhel of oats yields 18 lb. of meal. The oats are dried at home with turf on kilns, which coſt from 3l. to 5l. they are then ſent to a mill to be ſhelled, in which operation they loſe half; after which they are ground; the landlord appoints the mill, and they pay 22d for it.

The average crop of potatoes is 300 buſhels on the Cunningham acre, which is 259 to the engliſh. The account they ſtate thus.

Rent - - - - - - -	0	15	0
County ceſs - - - - - -	0	0	6
Seed, 30 buſhels, at 1s. - - - - -	1	10	0
£.	2	5	6

Brought over - - -	2	5	6
300 Load of dung, at 2d. - - - - -	2	10	0
Putting in 40 men a day, at 6d. - - - -	1	0	0
Weeding - - - - - -	0	10	0
Digging, &c. &c. - - - - -	2	0	0
£.	8	5	6

PRODUCE.

300 Buſhels, at 1s. — — — —	15	0	0
Expences — —— —— — —	8	5	6
Profit — £.	6	14	6

Prime coſt, per buſhel, 6¼d.

They are, however, ſometimes ſo low that, inſtead of profit, the account is a loſing one; laſt year they were 4d. a buſhel, and in Coleraine 3d. Oats are now 1s. a buſhel; ſeveral thouſand buſhels have been exported from Coleraine to London at that price.

THERE is a conſiderable ſalmon fiſhery on the coaſt; the fiſh are cured in puncheons with common ſalt, and then in tierces of 42 gallons each, 6 of which make a ton; and it ſells at preſent at 17l. a ton, but never before more than 16l. average for 10 years 14l. This riſe of price is attributed to the american ſupply of the Mediterranean with fiſh being cut off.

RODE from Mr. Leſly's to view the Giant's Cauſeway. It is certainly a very great curioſity, as an object for ſpeculation, upon the manner of its formation; whether it owes its origin to fire, and is a ſpecies of lava, or to chryſtalization, or to whatever cauſe, is a point that has employed the attention of men much more able to decide upon it than I am; and has been ſo often treated, that nothing I could ſay could be new. When two bits of theſe baſaltes are rubbed together quick, they emit a conſiderable ſcent like burnt leather. The ſcenery of the Cauſeway, nor of the adjacent mountains, is very magnificent, though the clifts are bold; but for a conſiderable diſtance there is a ſtrong diſpoſition in the rocks to run into pentagonal cylinders, and even at Bridge, by Mr. Leſly's, is a rock in which the ſame diſpoſition is plainly viſible. I believe the Cauſeway would have ſtruck me more if I had not ſeen the prints of Staffa.

RETURNED to Leſly Hill; and auguſt 5th, departed for Coleraine. There the right hon. Mr. Jackſon aſſiſted me with the greateſt politeneſs in procuring the intelligence I wiſhed about the ſalmon fiſhery, which is the greateſt in the kingdom, and viewed both fiſheries above and below the town, very pleaſantly ſituated on the river Ban. The ſalmon ſpawn in all the rivers that run into the Ban about the beginning of auguſt, and as ſoon as they have done, ſwim to the ſea, where they ſtay till january, when they begin to return to the freſh

freſh water, and continue doing it till auguſt, in which voyage they are taken; the nets are ſet the middle of January, but by act of parliament no nets nor weirs can be kept down after the 12th of auguſt. All the fiſheries on the river Ban let at 6000l. a year. From the ſea to the rock above Coleraine, where the weirs are built, belongs to the London companies; the greateſt part of the reſt to Lord Donnegal. The eel fiſheries let at 1000l. a year, and the ſalmon fiſheries at Coleraine, 1000l. The eels make periodical voyages, as the ſalmon, but inſtead of ſpawning in the freſh water, they go to the ſea to ſpawn, and the young fry return againſt the ſtream; to enable them to do which with greater eaſe at the leap, ſtraw ropes are hung in the water for them; when they return to ſea, they are taken: many of them weigh 9 or 10 lb. The young ſalmon are called *grawls*, and grow at a rate which I ſhould ſuppoſe ſcarce any fiſh commonly known equals; for within the year ſome of them will come to 16 and 18 lb. but in general 10 or 12 lb. ſuch as eſcape the firſt year's fiſhery are *ſalmon*; and at 2 years old will generally weigh 20 to 25 lb. This year's fiſhery has proved the greateſt that ever was known, and they had the largeſt hawl, taking 1452 ſalmon at one drag of one net. In the year 1758, they had 882, which was the next greateſt hawl. I had the pleaſure of ſeeing 370 drawn in at once. They have this year taken 400 ton of fiſh; 200 ſold freſh at 1d. and 1½. a lb. and 200 ſalted, at 18l. and 20l. per ton, which are ſent to London, Spain, and Italy. The fiſhery employs 80 men, and the expences in general calculated to equal the rent.

THE linen manufacture is very general about Coleraine, coarſe ten hundred linen. It is carried to Dublin in cars 110 miles, at 5s. per cwt. in ſummer, and 7s. 6d. in winter.

RENTS in Derry 10s. 6d. the iriſh acre; and farms from 6 to 15 acres. The emigrations from this neighbourhood were in general of idle, looſe, diſorderly people. It is at preſent, I was informed, too populous; and if the emigrations are not renewed, the ill effects will be ſeverely felt. The whole county of Derry belongs to the London companies and the Biſhop, except ſome trifling properties. There is a little trade at Coleraine in hides, butter, and fiſh, and ſome meal is imported, which ſounds ſtrange after hearing that ſo many oats had been exported.

MR. Jackſon has made great improvements to his houſe, which is ſituated in a very pretty domain of 85 acres on the banks of the river, and all the timber he has uſed is out of his bog; he gets very large oak and fir trees: they are found 20 feet deep, and all lie exactly eaſt and weſt.

AUGUST 6th, to Newtown-Limmavaddy; went by Magilligan, for the ſake of ſeeing the new houſe building on the ſea coaſt, by the biſhop of Derry, which will be a large and convenient edifice, the ſhell not finiſhed; it ſtands on a bold ſhore, but in a country where a tree is a rarity.

At Magilligan is a rabbit warren, which yields on an average 3000 dozen per ann. laſt year 4000 and 5000 have been known. The bodies are ſold at 2d. a couple; but the ſkins are ſent to Dublin at 5s. 7d. to 6s. a dozen, ſelling from

from 1500l. to 1800l. a year. The warren is a ſandy tract on the ſhore, and belongs to the biſhop. I was informed, that at Hornhead in Donnegal, Mr. Stewart has a warren of ſand 25 miles long. Mr. Smith of Newtown-Limmavaddy gave me the following particulars of that neighbourhood. Farms riſe ſo high as 60 to 70 acres, and a few to 200, in general about 40 acres; many weavers patches at 3 or 4, but the farmers themſelves have yarn ſpun in their houſes, which they give to the weavers to make into cloth: the farmer himſelf attending to nothing but the management of his land. This appears to me a ſign that I ſhall ſoon quit the linen country; for theſe are more of farmers than any ſet I have met with for ſome time. Rents for a few miles about the town, not including the town parks nor mountain, are at 5s. the parks 30s. the mountains are in great quantities, more than of cultivated land; and all they do is to raiſe ſome young cattle upon them and feed ſome ſheep. The 5s. are old rents, but new are 10s. which is the general average, Cunningham meaſure: of the whole county on an average not more than 4s. including bog and mountain.

1. Potatoes, value on an average 10l. 2. Barley, 3 bolls, at 12 buſhels. 3. Oats, worth 50s. 4. Oats. 5. Flax. 6. Lay 2 or 3 years, ſome ſow graſſes, clover, &c. 7. Oats. 8. Oats. Manures are ſhells from the Loch ſhore and lime; lay 60 barrels of ſhells per acre, at 1s. a barrel on the land, will laſt from 5 to 7 years; the effect very great. Prefer it to lime for light land; but for deep clay ground lime beſt: of which 100 barrels, at 1s. More ſhells uſed than lime. Mountains beginning to be improved; they pay up to 1s. 6d. an acre; lime at 120 barrels an acre; ſow oats in ſucceſſion, as long as the land will bear them, get pretty good crops, but late: the ſoil is very wet, but they drain it with ditches.

The linen manufacture is from 10 hundred to 16. They raiſe their own flax; the crops 28 ſtone per acre; after ſcutching worth 5s. 4d. a ſtone.

	£.	s.	d.
Rent of an acre twice ploughed and harrowed	2	12	0
Seed, 4 buſhels, at 12s.	2	8	0
Clods and ſtones	0	2	0
Weeding	0	2	0
Pulling 10 women, at 8d.	0	6	8
Carrying to water	0	5	0
Taking out and graſſing	0	5	0
Lifting and carrying	0	4	0
Drying 10 kiſhes turf, 10s. labour 2s.	0	12	0
Beetling at home 16 women, at 8d.	0	10	8
Scutching 1s. 4d. a ſtone	1	15	4
Heckling 8d. ditto	0	17	8
	£. 10	0	4

The

The yarn from 2 to 10 hanks a lb. generally 4; ſpin a hank a day: are hired for it at 3l 3s. a year; if done in the cabbin, are paid from 4d. to 4½d. a hank. The poor live on potatoes, milk, and oatmeal, with many herrings and ſalmon; very little fleſh. In 10 or 15 years, their circumſtances are improved; they live and dreſs better, and have better cabbins.

The emigrations were very great from hence of both idle and induſtrious, and carried large ſums with them. Not too populous at preſent. They have a great ſpirit of dividing their farms, however ſmall, from which many inconveniencies ariſe; the farmers will do the ſame with their farms. Rents have fallen, in 5 years, 3s. 6d. in the pound, and are ſtill rather upon the decline. The manufacture flouriſhes moſt when oatmeal is not lower than 1d. a lb. A buſhel of potatoes is reckoned equal to 20 lb. of oatmeal.

From Limmavaddy to Derry there is very little uncultivated land. Within 4 miles of the latter, rents are from 12s. to 20s. mountains paid for but in the groſs. Reached Derry at night, and waited two hours in the dark before the ferry-boat came over for me.

August 7th, in the morning went to the Biſhop's palace to leave my letters of recommendation; for I was informed of my misfortune in his being out of the kingdom. He was upon a voyage to Staffa, and had ſent home ſome of the ſtones of which it conſiſts; they appeared perfectly to reſemble in ſhape, colour, and ſmell, thoſe of the Giant's Cauſeway. I felt at once the extent of my loſs in the abſence of his lordſhip, who I had been repeatedly told was one of the men in all Ireland the moſt able to give me a variety of uſeful information, with at the ſame time the moſt liberal ſpirit of communication.

Waited on Mr. Robert Alexander, one of the principal merchants of Derry, who very obligingly took every means of procuring me ſuch information as I wanted; rode with me to Loch Swilly for viewing the ſcene of the herring fiſhery, and, aſſiſted by the Rev. Mr. Barnard, gave me the following particulars concerning it.

In the barony of Inniſhoen, the courſes are, 1. Barley 8 barrels; 2. oats 10; 3. oats 6; 4. lay for 3 years.

1. Oats; 2. oats; 3. oats; 4. lay 3 years.

1. Potatoes on lay; 2. barley; 3. oats 10 barrels; 4. oats 6; 5. oats 5; 6. lay 3 years.

1. Potatoes 10 l. 2. barley; 3. oats; 4. oats; 5. flax 4 Cwt.

Barley the principal crop, and generally worth 5l. to 6l. Rent of the whole peninſula to Lord Donnegal 11,000l. and to the occupying tenant 22,000l. The meaſure is the plantation acre. The bottoms of Inniſhoen 20s. an acre: the whole county of Donnegal not 1s. The linen is getting

getting in but very ſlowly, but ſpinning very general, and the beſt yarn in all the north: they ſpin all their own flax, and generally into 3 hank yarn; which all goes to Derry, and from thence to Mancheſter. The ſpinners ſpin a hank a day: a pound of flax worth 6d. ſpins into 3 hanks, which ſell at preſent at 1s. 9d. which is 5d. a day earning, but in common only 4d. Flax yields per acre ſcutched 3¼ Cwt. at 6½d. per lb. ſells on foot at 6l. to 8l. expences per acre, ſcutching included, 5l. 14s.

The iſle of Inch belongs to Lord Donnegal; 300l. rent, and 6000l. fine, and the occupying tenants pay 1,100l. a year, there are 2000 acres The ſize of farms in Inniſhoen are from 10 to 20 acres, with a run on the mountains for cattle. They have lime ſtone in many parts of the country, ſhells in great plenty in the lochs, which ſell at 3d. a barrel for burning into lime; other rotten ſhells in whole banks for manure, which they uſe much, laying 40 barrels per acre. The ſoil a ſlaty gravel mixed with clay, with ſprings: the effect of the ſhells not great, except upon mountain land drained, where they throw up white clover. There is a fall in the rent of lands in 4 or five years. Religion generally roman catholic. Sea weed much uſed for potatoes; and excellent for garden cabbages.

Rowed from Fawn to Inch Iſland acroſs the loch, the ſcenery amazingly fine, the lands every where high and bold, with one of the nobleſt outlines any where to be ſeen. Inch is a prodigiouſly fine extenſive iſland, all high lands, with cultivation ſpreading over it, little cluſters of cabbins, with groups of wood: the water of a great depth: and a ſafe harbour for any number of ſhips: here is the great reſort of veſſels for the herring fiſhery; it begins the middle of october, and ends about chriſtmas; it has been 5 years riſing to what it is at preſent; laſt year 500 boats were employed in it: the farmers and coaſt inhabitants build and ſend them out, and either fiſh on their own account, or let them; but the latter moſt common. Five men take a boat, each man half a ſhare, each net half and the boat a whole one. A boat coſts 10 l. on an average, each has 6 ſtand of nets at 2l. In a middling year each boat will take 6000 herrings a night, during the ſeaſon, 6 times a week, the price on an average 4s. 2d. a 1000 from the water, home conſumption takes the moſt, and the ſhipping which lies here for the purpoſe the reſt.

The ſhips on the ſtation for buying are from 20 to 100 tons, and have the bounty of 20s. a ton.

By the act they are to be built ſince the year 1766, each has one or two boats for fiſhing; alſo for the firſt 20 tons they muſt have 8 men, and 2 to every 8 ton above 20. The merchants who have the ſhips, both buy of the country boats and fiſh themſelves; they both cure for barrel and in bulk that is ſalted in the hold of a ſhip; a ton of ſalt will cure, 10,000 herrings 500 herrings in a barrel of thoſe of Loch-ſwilly, but 800 at Killybegs. They made their own barrels of american ſtaves, but now of fir; 1000 ſtaves, Philadelphia, will make 8 ton or 64 barrels,

and

and the price 6l. the 1000, making 11d. each barrel, 20 hoops to the barrel, at 6d.

500 boats, laſt year, at 5 men - - -	£. 2,500
Men on ſhore ſalting - - - -	300
In gutting a little boy, 10 or 12 years old, at a halfpenny a 100, will earn 10d. a day.	
60 ſhips, at 10 men - - - - - -	600

Twine of a 40s. ſtand of nets, 20s. therefore 20s. for labour; 27 lb. of flax, ſpun into 16 or 18 lb. of twine, make a ſtand.

Mr. Alexander began the fiſhery in 1773, when he employed two ſloops only, each of 40 tons. In 1774, he employed the two ſloops and a brig of 100 tons, the latter of which he ſent to Antigua with 650 barrels, beſides what he ſold at home, and loaded the ſloops in bulk for the coaſt trade. In 1775, he had the ſame brig and three ſloops, and loaded all four in bulk for the coaſt trade; one of which on her voyage was put aſhore at Black Sod, in the county of Mayo; and though the ſloop was not the leaſt injured, the country came down, obliged the crew to go on ſhore, threatening to murder them if they did not, and then not only robbed the veſſel of her cargo, but of every portable material. The cargo was 40 ton, or 160,000 herrings. Beſides what was ſent coaſtwiſe this year, he exported on board his ſhip, the Alexander, 340 tons, not in the herring trade. 1750 barrels to the Weſt-Indies. Here has been a vaſt encreaſe of the fiſhery in the hands of one perſon, which ſhews clearly what might be done if larger capitals were employed. Mr. Alexander was prevented laſt year from doing ſo much as he might have done, and what he did was at a very great expence for want of proper houſes, which are not to be had on Loch Swilly; and in order to remedy this inconvenience, has this year, 1776, built on the point of Inch Iſland, called the Downing, a complete ſalting-houſe, conſiſting of a range of houſes for all the operations, divided into four apartments, one of 20 feet by 18 a ſtore-room for coarſe ſalt, which will hold 150 to 200 tons; another of the ſame dimenſions for fine ſalt; a third for receiving the herrings from the boats and gutting them, of the ſame ſize; and a fourth for a cooper's ſhop. Theſe apartments all communicate with a ſecond range, 80 by 18, which is filled with veſſels for ſtriking the herrings, that is, putting them for ſalt for 10 or 12 days; this communicates with a third houſe, 80 by 14, in which the herrings, being taken from the veſſels above mentioned, are barrelled and finiſhed off for the ſhips. Beſides theſe there is a dwelling houſe for the clerks, &c. of 28 by 14. All theſe buildings are ſubſtantially erected of ſtone, and covered with ſlate. The finiſhing-houſe contains the boats when not in uſe, and above it is a light loft for the nets. Over the curing-houſe is a large loft for the empty barrels; and over the cooper's ſhop are apartments for the workmen, and over the gutting-houſe is a hoop ſtore.

But the ſalt-houſes are filled to the roof. All theſe buildings Mr. Alexander expects to finiſh completely for 500l. In 1775 there were about 1800 barrels exported beſides Mr. Alexander's. There were that year fiſh enough in the Loch for all the boats of Europe. They ſwarmed ſo, that a boat which went out at 7 in the evening, returned at 11 full, and went out on a ſecond trip. The fellows ſaid it was difficult to row through them; and every winter the plenty has been great, only the weather not equally good for taking, which cannot go on in a ſtormy night. In the buildings above deſcribed Mr. Alexander will be able to ſave 100,000 herrings a day, which will take 10 tons of ſalt, 17 or 18 boats, and 90 men; 6 men to carry from boats to the gutting-houſe; 40 boys, women, and girls to gut; 4 to carry from gut-houſe to curing-houſe; 10 men firſt ſalting and packing; 8 men to draw from the veſſels, and carry to the barreling-houſe; and 10 packing into barrels, which 10 packers will keep 5 coopers employed; 6 men more will be employed in ranging the barrels and pickling off; 8 men more carrying to the ſhip's boats. If 100,000 herrings come in regularly every day, this would be the courſe of the buſineſs. The buildings are in fact, a market to the country boats to reſort to every day to ſell their herrings, as far as the quantity above mentioned extends.

Calculation of the expences of this buſineſs, ſuppoſing 100,000 *herrings cured every day.*

Buildings, 500l. intereſt of that ſum, at 10 per cent. -			50 0 0
This high rate of intereſt is reckoned on account of the precarioufneſs of all herring-fiſheries, as they frequent and forſake ſeas and bays; and if they were to quit Loch Swilly, the buildings would be of little uſe but to let for a trifle as cabbins.			
18 Boats, at 10l. - - -	180 0 0		
90 ſtands of nets, at 40s. —	180 0 0		
	£. 360 0 0		
Intereſt, at 6 per cent. - - - -			21 12 0
Repairing the boats, 40s. each - - - -			36 0 0
Ditto nets, they laſt but two ſeaſons - - -			90 0 0
Wages of 90 fiſhermen, at 1s. 6d. a day, 8 weeks -			324 0 0
		£.	521 12 0

N. B. At this expence of fiſhing, the prime coſt of the herrings, ſuppoſe 6000 taken by each boat a night, is 2s. per 1000: but it muſt be obvious that the boats cannot always go out, neither will hired men fiſh for

their

				£. 521	12 0
their maſters as they will for themſelves. Hence the merchant may find it more advantageous to buy at 4s. 2d. than to depend entirely on his own boats.					
Wages of 52 men, at 1s. 1d. a day, 8 weeks ——				135	4 0
18 boats, 108,000 herrings a day, are 5,184,000; gutting at 5d. per 1000 - - - - -				108	0 0
Salt 10 tons per 100,000, or 518 tons, at 2l. 10s. for the curing houſe.				1295	0 0
Salt 246 tons, 17 cwt. at 2l. 10s. for the barreling houſe - - - - - - -				617	2 6
9,874 Barrels, at 8 ton, or 64 barrels to the 1000 ſtaves, will require 154,000 ſtaves, at 7l. -	1078	0	0		
164,000 hoops, at 30s. - -	246	0	0		
Making 1s. 2d. per barrel - -	575	19	8		
7 nails to every barrel, which is allowing one for accidents, 58,000, at 2s. 2d.	6	5	8	1976	5 4
Prime coſt, 9s. 5d. a barrel.					
				4653	3 10
Freight of 9,874 barrels to Weſt Indies, at 3s. 4d.				1645	13 4
Duty on export, with gaugers fees, 9d. a barrel -				370	5 6
				6669	2 8
Inſurance and commiſſion, 3 per cent. on that ſum				200	1 5
				6869	4 1
Intereſt on that ſum 8 months, at 6 per cent ——				274	15 2
				7143	19 3
The price in the Weſt Indies riſes from 20s. to 30s. ſterling a barrel.					
Average 25s.——9,874 barrels at that rate - -				12342	10 0
Deduct expences - - - -				7143	19 3
Profit - - - - -				£. 5198	10 9

But as the herrings are not always to be taken in this manner, that is, 6000 a night by the merchants boats; it will be neceſſary to calculate the buſineſs in the more common way of carrying it on, by buying them of the country boats, at 4s. 2d. per 1000.

Intereſt as before - - - - - -				50	0 0
Purchaſe of 5,184,000, at 4s. 2d. per 1000 - -				1080	0 0
				£. 1130	0 0

	1130	0	0
Labour - - - - - -	135	4	0
Gutting - - - - -	108	0	0
Salt - - - - - - - -	1912	2	6
Barrels - - - - - -	1976	5	4
Prime coſt — —— —— £.	5261	11	10
Freight —— —— ——	1645	6	8
Duty — — — — ——	370	5	6
	7277	4	0
Inſurance and commiſſion - - - -	218	6	0
	7495	10	0
Intereſt on that ſum, at 6 per cent. for 8 months -	299	17	2
	7795	7	2
Prime coſt in Weſt Indies 15s. 9¼d. a barrel.			
Sell at - - - - - -	12342	10	0
Expences - - - - -	7796	7	2
Profit - - - - - - -	4546	2	10
4546, on the expences of 7796, is 58 per cent.—bounty of 2s. a barrel - - - -	987	8	0
£.	5533	10	10

HERE appears a very noble profit; but fiſhing upon paper is an eaſier buſineſs than upon Loch Swilly; and it is neceſſary to obſerve, that the merchant who engages in this fiſhery, muſt provide, if he fiſhes himſelf, boats, nets, ſalt, barrels, and ſtores, all which muſt be ready, though not a herring ſhould come into the Loch, or though ſtorms prevent a boat going out. He muſt alſo have the ſum ready in his counting houſe for all the other expences, in caſe the fiſhery proves ſucceſsful, which upon the whole are circumſtances that make great profits neceſſary, or the buſineſs would not be undertaken at all.

THE inveſtment of 8000l. in this fiſhery, employs

	Men	Ships	Tons.
Fiſhermen - - - - -	90	0	0
Gutters - - - - -	40	0	0
Sundries - - - - - -	52	0	0
To bring the ſtaves, a ſhip of 200 tons, ſeamen -	16	1	200
764 tons of ſalt, 3 ſhips - - -	50	3	764
9,874 barrels to the Weſt Indies, 1234 tons, 12 ſhips	120	12	1234
	368	16	2198

Beſides boat-building, net making, and coopers. And the 90 fiſhermen are a ſure nurſery of ſeamen; much of this great ſyſtem of employment is in the depth of winter, when not demanded for other purpoſes.

August 8th, left Derry, and took the road by Raphoe, to the Rev. Mr. Golding's at Clonleigh, who favoured me with much valuable information. The view of Derry, at the diſtance of a mile or two, is the moſt pictureſque of any place I have ſeen; it ſeems to be built on an iſland of bold land riſing from the river, which ſpreads into a fine baſon at the foot of the town; the adjacent country hilly, the ſcene wants nothing but wood to make it a perfect landſcape. Paſſing Raphoe, found the huſbandry in the neighbourhood of Clonleigh as follows. The ſoil is for the moſt part light loamy land, with ſingle large ſtones, and very wet with ſprings, with conſiderable tracts of bog. Rents are from 15s. to 20s. the Cunningham acre, and ſome to 25s. and about towns ſome up to 30s. and 40s. Average rent of the whole county not more than 1s. Farms vary from 5 to 40 acres, in general 25 or 30, very many from 7 to 10. They are leſſened by the farmers dividing them among their children. They generally ſow flax, dreſs and ſpin it in their families. When cloth ſells well, they get it wove by the weavers, who are alſo little farmers. At other times they ſell the flax in yarn at market, many of them never having any woven at all. The ſpinners in a little farm are the daughters and a couple of maid ſervants, that are paid 30s. a half year, and the common bargain is, to do a hank a day of 3 or 4 hank yarn. Much more than half the flax of the country is worked into cloth; a great deal of flax is imported at Derry, this country not raiſing near enough for its own manufacture: their own is much the fineſt. Their tillage is exceeding bad, the land not half ploughed, and they like to have much graſs among the corn for improving the fodder. Their courſe is;

1. Potatoes on 3 years lay. 2. Barley 10 barrels. 3. Oats 5 to 12 barrels. 4. Oats. 5. Oats. 6. Lay for weeds 3 years.

1. Potatoes. 2. Barley. 3. Oats. 4. Oats. 5. Flax 480 lb. clean ſcutched, or 30 ſtone.

They plant 14 meaſures, each 2 buſhels of potatoe-ſeed an acre, the crop from 8 to 12 ſcore meaſures. The flax I ſaw was nothing but weeds and rubbiſh of all kinds, yet the crop itſelf had an appearance of being good, as if the land was not to blame. As to manuring, they uſe very little more than the trifle they make in their ſtable and cow-houſe. A few uſe lime, but not many; the price is 10d. to 13d. a barrel: a little woollen cloth weaved, but not near enough to cloath themſelves. They import a great deal from Galway. Land ſells at 24 and 26 year's purchaſe.

chaſe. Rents are very much raiſed; but they are fallen within 4 or 5 years; in 40 years conjecture that they are doubled. Tythes are compounded. Oats pay 5s. Barley 7s. Potatoes, flax, and hay, 5s. In ſome places potatoes free. Leaſes uſually for 3 lives. Lord Abercorn only for twenty-one years and no lives, yet his eſtate is well cultivated. The farmers generally re-let ſome of their lands to cottars at a great increaſe of rent. The poor people live upon oatmeal, milk, potatoes, and herrings; but the pooreſt eat very little meat. A farmer of 10l. a year will have a good meal of beef or bacon every ſunday: in general they all live much better than they did formerly. I remarked that the labourers carried with them to their work an oat cake and a bottle of milk. All their milk is kept till ſower, till which they do not make butter. Scarce any ſuch thing as wheeled cars in the country, they are all ſliding ones: a wheeled one 35s. a ſliding one 2s. 6d. A plough 10s. 6d. A harrow of wood 1s. 1d. The fuel all turf, and much of it made by hand; a poor man's is 100 barrels a year, and will coſt him 35s. The common people exceedingly addicted to thieving.

Building a cabbin 5l. they are all of ſtone, which is plentiful: clay-mortar inſtead of lime. Almoſt all the farmers have a man ſervant at 1l. 10s. to 2l. the half year entirely employed in the farm. A farmer of 10l. a year always one. Very little cloth made farther than Ballymaffey, but all over Donnegal much ſpinning.

The county of Tyrone is various; the fineſt parts are about Dungannon, Stewart's Town, &c. on Lake Neagh. From Strabane to Omagh much good; from Omagh to Ardmagh all cultivated. From Strabane to Dungannon almoſt all mountains: rent of the whole 4s. The biſhop of Raphoe is a conſiderable farmer, and cultivates and hoes turneps. The dean has alſo done the ſame.

Mr. Golding has uſed much ſoapers waſte, at 4d. a meaſure of two buſhels, laid them on cold moraſſy ſoils, and found the benefit very great; it brought up quantities of red clover, and deſtroys moſs effectually. Turneps would do excellently here, as beef riſes from one-penny three farthings in november, to three-pence halfpenny and four pence in april. Mr. Golding has uſed ſcotch cabbages for bullocks; generally fats 2 beaſts every year on them. Sows the ſeed early in auguſt, and tranſplants them in april and may for ſucceſſion; has had them in full perfection in february and march; has tried ſpring ſowings, but they do not come to more than 5 or 6 lb. whereas the auguſt ſown plants riſe to 35lb. He has alſo fed ſheep upon potatoes, buys them very forward in october, and puts them to his after-graſs to keep their fleſh, and in the ſevere weather gives them the potatoes with great ſucceſs. He took the hint from ſeeing the ſheep walk over the potatoe grounds, and ſcratching up the remaining roots

roots in hard weather. The only evil reſulting from the emigrations was, the money they carried away with them, which was conſiderable.

AUGUST 9th, to Convoy, where I was ſo unfortunate as to find Mr. Montgomery from home; paſſing on to Ballymaffey, I met that gentleman's oxen, drawing ſledge cars of turf, ſingle with collars, and worked to the full as well as the horſes. They deſerved wheels however. On the other ſide of Ballymaffey, it is curious to obſerve, how, as you advance towards the mountains, cultivation gradually declines, it is chequered with heath, till at laſt the heath is chequered with cultivation, ſpots of green, on the mountain ſides, ſurrounded by the dreary wilderneſs; but there are no incloſures. The waſte is exceedingly improvable, all the tract on the left before I came to the lake, and alſo beyond it, might eaſily be made excellent; it is bog, with a great fall every where, extends beyond the lake to the mountain foot, and is from 10 to 20 feet deep; riſes in perfect hills, yet all bog. Lime is to be had here from 6d. to 8d. a barrel ſix miles off. I had two accounts, one of 6d. and the other of 8d. but clayey gravel is to be had every where on the ſpot. The road leads acroſs the bog, and is made of it. I remarked in ſeveral places, little bogs, forming ſpots of moſs growing on the water, and in ſome places rotting, with other plants growing out of that. Carrs may go three or four times a day for lime, and bring three barrels at a time. I was the more attentive to this bog, becauſe it appeared to me to be one of the moſt improvable I had ſeen, and the ſize of it makes it an object worth the attention of ſome ſpirited improver; it is not every where that ſo deciſive a fall is met with for rendering the drains effective; the diſtance from lime is advantageous. Suppoſe a car, 1s. a day, and to bring eight barrels, carriage of it then is 1½d a barrel, and ſuppoſe the lime 7½d, in all 9d, 160, at that price, comes to 6l. at which rate I am clear it would anſwer to lay any quantity on to ſuch bogs as theſe. I had often heard of roads being made over ſuch quaking bogs, that they move under a carriage, but could ſcarcely credit it; I was, however, convinced now, for in ſeveral places, every ſtep the horſe ſet, moved a full yard of the ground in perfect heaves. Got to a miſerable cabbin on the road, the widow Barclay's, which I had been aſſured was an exceeding good inn, but eſcaped without a cold, or the itch.

AUGUST 10th, got to Alexander Montgomery's, Eſq; at Mount Charles, Lord Conyngham's agent, by breakfaſt; found he was ſo deeply engaged in the fiſheries, on this coaſt, that I could not have got into better hands; with great civility he gave me every intelligence I wiſhed; as an introduction to it, he took me a ride to the bays on the coaſt, where the fiſheries are moſt carried on, particularly Inver bay, Macſwine's bay, and Killibeg's bay. The coaſt is perfectly ſawed by bays; the lands are high and bold, particularly about Killibegs, where the

ſcenery

ſcenery is exceedingly romantic, and if the multiplicity of hills upon hills, and rocks, were planted, would be one of the moſt beautiful ſpots that can be imagined. The ſtate of the fiſheries may be judged from the number of boats employed in the ſeveral ſtations:

	1775.	1776.
Inverbay	52	72
Killibegs and Fintia	50	60
Tilin and Tawney	47	47
Bruckleſs	20	25
Boylagh and Roſſes	50	50
Cloghanlee	18	18
Dunfanachly	20	25
Sheephaven	30	30
	287	327

For a compariſon, I inſert the following liſt of ſeafaring men in Ireland, 1695.

	Seamen.	Fiſhermen.	Boatmen.	Total.	Papiſts.
Baltimore	9	188	84	281	268
Belfaſt, and Carickfergus	194	62	12	268	2
Coleraine	48	233	169	450	209
Cork	58	34	91	183	111
Donaghadee, whereof Maſters, 35	283	28	2	313	0
Drogheda	22	56	0	78	61
Dublin	42	271	99	412	276
Dundalk and Carlingford	2	90	0	92	51
Galway	42	42	88	172	140
Killibegs	5	120	4	129	78
Kinſale	104	79	45	225	106
Limerick	13	0	137	150	132
Londonderry	56	46	22	124	36
Roſſe	20	85	77	182	148
Sligo	11	68	8	87	60
Strangford	69	159	12	240	78
Tralee and Kerry	2	165	0	167	163
Waterford	36	83	50	169	143
Wexford	80	346	0	426	399
Wicklow	22	49	5	76	58
Youghall	40	114	46	200	135
Total	1158	2315	951	4424	2654

In

In Inverbay only of the above, there is a ſummer fiſhery for herrings, which begins the latter end of july, and ends the beginning of ſeptember. All the other places are winter fiſheries, which begin in october, and end early in january, laſting eight weeks. Every boat coſts 18l. to 20l. and has ſix ſhares of nets, at 3l. to 3l. 3s. each: the nets all made of hemp, from the Baltic, which coſt, dreſſed, 8d. a pound, fit for ſpinning: 33lb. of it in a ſhare of nets: 4d. a pound paid for ſpinning it, or 11s. a ſhare: weaving the nets 1d. a yard for one *fling*, or 63 meſhes deep, 200 yards running meaſure, at that depth, in each ſhare. Six hands in each boat, a ſkipper, and five men. In the common practice, a boat is divided into ſeven ſhares, the boat one; each net, half a one, and each man half: in which way they divide the produce, which vibrates between 10l and 100l. average 35l. or per week 10s. a man. Theſe boats belong, in general, to the common inhabitants of the country, farmers, &c. The other way of carrying the fiſhery on is, that thoſe who have veſſels on the bounty, fit them out at their own expence, and pay the ſkipper 1l. 11s. 6d. a month, and the common men 20s. a month; each a pair of trowſers, at 4s. 6d. feed them with as much potatoes, beef, and pork, as they will eat, and plenty of whiſkey, which all together, comes to 20s a month. The repairs of the boat and tackling are large, for all are built of fir, they come to 3l. per annum per boat, and the nets, Mr. Mongomery uſes two ſeaſons, and then ſells them for half price. In this manner of fiſhing, the boats catch each, on an average, 100,000 herrings, which is 1600 herrings a night, but the common boats of the country, not ſo well fitted up, take only 80,000. They are cured in bulk, that is packed into the holds of the veſſels, from 20 to 100 tons each, and are ſold all over the coaſt of Ireland. The quantity of ſalt neceſſary to the 80,000 herrings, which each boat catches, is 7 tons, at the price of 2l. 14s. a ton; this is the price at which Mr. Montgomery ſells, who has eſtabliſhed conſiderable ſalt-works, making 450 tons annually, and has by this means reduced the ſalt, from 3l. 10s to 5l. down to 2l. 14s. The veſſels employed on this fiſhery, for the bounty, are from 30 to 100 tons. A veſſel of 100 tons, carries in bulk 500,000 herrings, or the produce of five boats; theſe calculations are in reference only to the average of nights and ſeaſons; Mr. Neſbit's veſſel, of 60 tons, has been loaded by four boats, in three nights, and Mr. Montgomery has taken 100,000 in one night, with two nets, but theſe are extraordinary inſtances. The parliamentary bounty is 20s. a ton, but there muſt be four men for the firſt 20 tons, and one for every 8 tons over, the owners of the veſſels employ no more boats, than to enable them, by the crews, to draw the bounty; and what theſe men are not able to get, they buy of the country boats, at an average of 5s. a 1000, which all are clear, anſwers much better than having boats of their own.

Account of a veſſel of 100 *tons.*

Building 2 boats, at 19l. - - -		£. 38	0 0
N. B. The veſſel of 100 tons, will be navigated by 7 men, as there muſt be 14, by the act, to draw the bounty; 7 men muſt be ſupplied by boats, which may be called 2.			
Nets - - - -		38	0 0
The boats are 19 to 21 feet keel, 7 feet 4 broad, and 3 feet 4 in depth. The nets are 120 fathom long at the rope, and 7 feet deep.		76	0 0
Building, rigging, and fitting out a veſſel of 100 tons, 700l.			
Intereſt of that ſum, at 6 per cent. - -		4	10 0
Repairing of two boats - - -		6	0 0
Ditto nets - - -		4	10 0
Wages of twelve men, at 20s. two months £. 24 0 0			
Board ditto - - - 24 0 0			
Trowſers - - 2 12 0			
Skippers extra - - - 2 2 0 —		52	14 0
Purchaſe of 300,000 herrings, at 5s. N. B. The two boats are ſuppoſed to catch, each 100,000, remain therefore for the cargo 300,000 - - -		75	0 0
Forty tons of ſalt, at 54s. - -		108	0 0
Packing, ſalting, &c. four men, at 1s. a day, 48 days -		9	12 2
		260	6 0
If veſſels are hired to carry them to markets, the price is 5d. a 100 for freight, or 4s. 2d. a 1000, and £. 104 3s. 2d. per cargo for 100 tons - - -		104	3 2
		364	9 2
Inſurance, 1½ per cent. on 300l. - - -		4	10 0
Supercargo - - - -		20	0 0
		388	19 2
Intereſt on that ſum for ſix months, at 6 per cent. -		11	15 0
		400	14 2
At the ports they ſell from 10s. to 35s. per 1000, on an average at 23s. a 1000, 500,000 at that price - -		575	0 0
Expences - - - -		400	14 2
Profit 43½ per cent. - - -		174	5 10

And

And this account extends only ſix months from the firſt expenditure of the money, to the receipt from the cargo. If the veſſel is the merchant's own, then the account will be as follows:

Expences as above - - -				£. 260	6 0
A veſſel of 100 tons, 700l. Intereſt of which, at 6 per cent. - -		42	0 0		
A year's pay of the captain, at 4l. a month		48	0 0		
Six men, at 30s. - - -		99	0 0		
Repairs and outſets, 10s. a ton -		50	0 0		
Stores for ſeven men, at 15s. a month		63	0 0		
Per annum - - -		302	0 0		
Which for five months - -		125	10 0		
Deduct the bounty	100 0 0				
Fees and charges	5 0 0	95	0 0	30	10 0
Expences - - - -				290	16 0
Inſurance cargo, 1½ per cent.	4 10 0				
Ditto on ſhip - -	10 10 0				
		-	-	15	0 0
				305	16 0
Intereſt on that ſum, for ſix months, at 6 per cent. -				9	3 0
				314	19 0
Produce - - - - -				575	0 0
Expences - - - - -				314	19 0
Profit - -				260	1 0

Here appears to be a loſs of 28 per cent. by accepting the bounty: but the explanation of this lies in the difficulty of being ſure of a veſſel on freight, this is not always certain, which induces them to build, though freighting thoſe of other people is ſo evidently cheaper. Reſpecting the mode of taking the fiſh, the boats, as before mentioned, are provided with all the accoutrements neceſſary; and here it will be proper to mention an improvement of Mr. Montgomery's, by which he has ſaved greatly: in common the nets are tanned with bark, but he mixes tar and fiſh oil, 5 parts of tar, and one of oil, melted together, to incorporate thoroughly, and while quite hot, puts the nets into a tub, and pours it upon them, in quantity ſufficient to wet them; draws it off by a hole

at the bottom of the tub, immediately, in order that too much of it may not ſtick, and make them clammy, which would be the caſe, if it cooled on them; at the bottom of the tub, ſhould be an open falſe bottom, or the nets will ſtop the hole, and the mixture will not run off free enough. By means of this ſimple operation, the nets are prevented from rotting, and the fiſhermen are ſaved the trouble of ever ſpreading and drying them, which in common is done every day, and is a great ſlavery in the ſhort days; the benefit has been found ſo great, that almoſt all the country has come into it, and every net on the coaſt would, this year, have been done, but the ſcarcity of the tar, owing to the american war, prevented it. In working the nets alſo, Mr. Montgomery has made improvements; he has found that corking the line under the ſtrapped buoys is wrong, as it keeps it in an uneven direction; he has a vacancy of corks for three fathom on each ſide the buoy lines, but the middle ſpaces corked thick, which he finds to anſwer exceedingly well. He remarks that the fiſhery ſuffers very much, for want of an admiral being appointed, as in Scotland, to hear and determine differences; there is no order or regularity kept up, but much diſturbance and loſs for want of it. In the ſale of the herrings, the merchant ſuffers greatly, by the competition of the Gottenburg and ſcotch fiſhery. At Corke, great quantities of Gottenburg herrings are imported, which, though they pay a duty of 4s. a barrel, yet, as 2s. 4d. ½ is drawn back on the re-exportation, and with an advantage of packing the herrings, of 20 Gottenburg barrels, into 25 Iriſh ones, and conſequently having the drawback on 25, though the duty is only paid on 20, with all theſe circumſtances, great quantities of them are ſent to the Weſt Indies, to the prejudice of the iriſh fiſhery. Another miſchief is, that though there is a bounty of 2s. 4d. a barrel exported, yet ſuch are the fees, and old duty, that the merchant receives only 11½d. and that ſo clogged and perplexed with forms and delays, that not many attempt to claim it. The drawback on the foreign herrings is paid immediately on the merchants oath, but the iriſh bounty not till the ſhip returns, with I know not how many affidavits and certificates from conſuls and merchants, it may be ſuppoſed perplexing when it is not claimed. The ſcotch have a bounty per barrel, on exportation, which they draw on ſending them to Ireland, by which means they are enabled, with the aſſiſtance of a higher bounty on their veſſels, to underſell the iriſh fiſhery in their own markets, while the iriſh merchant is precluded from exporting to either Scotland or England; this is a very hard caſe, and certainly may be ſaid to be one of the oppreſſions on the trade of Ireland, which a legiſlature, acting on liberal and enlarged principles, ought to repeal. The trade of ſmoaking herrings, which is conſiderable in England, might be carried on here, to much greater advantage, if three was wood to do it with. In the Iſle of Man they have ſmoak houſes, ſupplied with wood from Wales; it is a ſtrange neglect, that

that the landlords do not plant ſome of the monſtrous waſtes in this country with quick growing copſe wood, which would, in five or ſix years, enable them to begin the trade. The plenty of cod on this coaſt is very great, quite from Hornhead to Mount Charles, in winter, when the herrings ſet in, and may then be taken in any quantities. Some wherries come for cod, ling, glaſſen, &c. all which are plentiful; but on the banks they are to be taken in ſummer, and in the winter they follow the herrings.

In all the bays on the coaſt, in march and april, there are many whales, the bone ſort; they appear on the coaſt in february, and go off to the northward the beginning of may; ſometimes they are in great plenty, and in november to february, there are many ſpermaceti whales; this is what induced Thomas Neſbit, Eſq; of Kilmacredon, to enter into a ſcheme for eſtabliſhing a fiſhery on the coaſt, and in executing it, was the inventor of the gun harpoon. Mr. Neſbit firſt uſed the gun harpoon, for killing whales, in the year 1759; he was induced to try this, from great difficulties he met with among the harpooners, who he had engaged for the fiſhery; in this year he began it, with firing lances at them, after they were ſtruck by the hand, in order to kill them the ſooner. From this he paſſed, in 1761, to firing the harpoon itſelf from the gun. He was then engaged with a company, for the purpoſe of carrying on the fiſhery, with ſeveral perſons in Ireland, England, and the Weſt-Indies. In the year 1758, he went to London, and bought a veſſel of 140 tons, and engaged perſons to come over as harpooners. In 1759, one whale was caught by the hand harpoon. In 1760, the Greenland harpooners, dutch, engliſh, ſcotch, and danes, were at it, and not one fiſh taken. This year there were ſeveral Greenland ſhips on the coaſt, not one of whom caught a fiſh. In 1761, with the gun harpoon, killed three whales, and got them all; after which he every year killed ſome, except one year, when he killed 42 ſun fiſh in one week, each of which yielded from half a ton, to a ton of oil. Mr. Neſbit has ſince given it up, not from want of ſucceſs in the mode of taking the whales, but from being put, by his partners, for want of knowledge in the buſineſs, to uſeleſs expences. From many experiments, he brought the operation to ſuch perfection, that, for ſome years, he never miſſed a whale, nor failed of holding her by the harpoon: he had for ſome time ill ſucceſs, from firing when too near, for the harpoon does not then fly true, but at 14 or 15 yards diſtance, which is what he would chuſe, it flies ſtrait; has killed ſeveral at 25 yards.

When the harpoon is fired into the whale, it ſinks to the bottom with great velocity, but immediately comes up, and lays on the ſurface, laſhing it with tail and fins for half or three quarters of an hour, in which time he fires lances into it, to diſpatch it, and when killed, it ſinks for 48 hours, where he leaves a boat, or a caſk, as a buoy to mark the place, to be ready there when the

the whale riſes, that they may tow it into harbour, according as the wind lays. To carry on this buſineſs here, he knows from experience, that nothing more would be wanting, than a ſhip of 130 tons, with 100 tons of caſk: three boats, with each 8 men, ſix to row, one to ſteer, and one with the gun, with ropes, harpoon, lances, &c. the whole very much inferior to the expence of equipping a Greenlandman. I have been the more particular in giving an account of this undertaking, becauſe the ſociety for the encouragement of arts, &c. at London, has long ſince given premiums for the invention of the gun harpoon, ſuppoſing it to be original.

In reſpect to the linen manufacture, it conſiſts in all this country in ſpinning yarn only. Very little cloth woven here, except for the uſe of the people. They raiſe flax enough for their ſpinning in years when ſeed is plentiful and dry ſeaſons, but ſome are ſo wet as almoſt to ſpoil the crop: all the women and children of ten years old and upwards ſpin. They very ſeldom let the ſeed ripen; they have tried it, but found it did not anſwer ſo well as foreign ſeed. It is computed that there are two ſpinners in every family, who ſpin about one hank a day, or a ſpangle and a half a week; the medium is 2 lb. to the ſpangle, or 4 hanks, which is half a pound of flax each day. A woman will earn, by ſpinning, according to the price of flax and yarn, from 2d. to 6d. but in general 2'd. or 3d. beſides doing little family trifles. Moſt of the yarn goes to Derry.

The ſoil about Mount Charles is various; a great deal of ſtiff blue clay, which is perfectly tenacious of water. Much bog, and a great range of high mountains near it, which break the clouds with a weſterly wind, and occaſion much rain. Rents, per acre, are from 5s. to 10s. 6d. arable, ſome up to 1l. 1s. waſtes 2s. 6d. to 3s. 6d. incloſed. Mountains pay ſome rent, but not by the acre. The whole county through does not let for above 2s. 6d. There are very great extents of mountain all the way from Mount Charles to Ards, by Loch Fin, which is 30 iriſh miles in a right line; it is a range of mountains, but moſt of the valleys are ſlightly cultivated, though corn does very bad in them from the wetneſs of the climate. The farms riſe from 5 or 6 acres to 30 cultivated; but mountain farms are more extenſive. The courſes: 1. Potatoes, manured for with dung, or by the coaſt with ſea weed; get good crops, and from the ſea weed rather better than from dung. 2. Barley, if the land is good. 3. Oats. 4. Lay out for graſs; very few ſow graſs ſeeds 2 or 3 years.

1. Potatoes. 2. Oats. 3. Lay out for graſs 2 or 3 years.

Upon dry land they uſe lime, which is ſold at 6d. to 8d. the barrel of 28 gallons, or 3 buſhels and a half, but generally burn it themſelves. There is lime-ſtone at St. John's Point, and other parts towards Killibegs, and beyond it to the weſtward. They burn it with turf, which is plentiful every where. They have grey marle near Donnegal, and find a good effect from the uſe of it. Upon the dry mountains they have flocks of ſheep, not large ones; but every poor man keeps ſome, the wool their profit,

profit, and ſell them at 2 or three year old. In ſtocking a farm they look not farther than having the horſes and cows. Land ſells at 21 or 22 years purchaſe, rack rent; it ſold better from 1762 to 1768, and the rents are fallen. For two years they have been at a ſtand; but the fall has not been felt near the coaſt, the herring fiſhery keeping them up. The farmers here in general pay half a year's rent with fiſh, and half with yarn. Tythes are generally compounded in the groſs. The middle men were common, but not now. The poor people live upon potatoes and herrings 9 months in the year along the coaſt, and upon oat bread and milk the other three. Very little butter, and ſcarce any meat. They all keep cows, moſt of them a pig or two, and a few hens, and all a cat or a dog. No tea. They are in general circumſtances not improved. Rent of a cabbin, with a garden and a cow's graſs, 20 to 30s.

A farm of 20 *acres.*

1½. Potatoes. 1. Flax. 5. Oats. 1. Barley. 2. Mowing ground. 9½. Feeding. Rent 10l. Six cows, 2 horſes, 6 ſheep, 2 pigs. People increaſe. But little emigration. Religion more than half catholic. Riſe in the price of labour 1d. a day in 20 years; and in proviſions, one-third in that time. The following is a return of population, procured by Colonel Burton's orders, on a part of Lord Conyngham's eſtates.

	No. of heads of families.	*Wives.*	*Sons grown up to 14.*	*Other children.*	*Men ſervants*	*Maid-ſervants*	*Total.*	*Proteſtants.*	*Papiſts.*
Manor of Mount Charles. County of Donnegal 15,000 acres.	601	521	322	1478	127	105	3154	1138	2016
Manor of Magherymore ditto county.	699						3887	737	3150
Particulars of part of Magherymore.	367	320	244	1047	45	42	2065	302	1763
Manor of Shana Golden county of Limerick, 4,500 acres ——	282						1460		

Cars generally ſliding ones, on account of the hills.

EXPENCE

Expence of building a mud cabbin 3l. of ſtone and ſlate 40l. In different places in Lord Conyngham's eſtate in Boylagh are many lead mines mixed with ſilver, none of them wrought; miners who have examined them ſay there is much ſilver in the ore. The lead is apparent in many breaches of the rocks.

August 11th, left Mount Charles, and paſſing through Donnegal, took the road to Ballyſhannon; came preſently to ſeveral beautiful landſcapes, ſwelling hills, cultivated with the bay flowing up among them: they want nothing but more wood, and are beautiful without it. Afterwards likewiſe to the left, they riſe in various outlines, and die away inſenſibly into one another. When the road leads to a full view of the bay of Donnegal, theſe ſmiling ſpots, above which the proud mountains rear their heads, are numerous, the hillocks of almoſt regular circular forms; they are very pleaſing, from form, verdure, and the water breaking in their vales.

Before I got to Ballyſhannon, remarked a bleach green, which indicates weaving in the neighbourhood. Viewed the ſalmon-leap at Ballyſhannon, which is let for 400l. a year. The ſcenery of it is very beautiful; it is a fine fall, and the coaſt of the river very bold, conſiſting of perpendicular rocks, with graſs of a beautiful verdure to the very edge: it projects in little promontories, which grow longer as they approach the ſea, and open to give a fine view of the ocean. Before the fall in the middle of the river is a rocky iſland, on which is a curing houſe, inſtead of the turret of a ruined caſtle, for which it ſeems formed. The town prettily ſituated on the riſing ground on each ſide the river.——To Sir James Caldwell's; croſſing the bridge, ſtopped for a view of the river, which is a very fine one, and was delighted to ſee the ſalmon jump, to me an unuſual ſight: the water was perfectly alive with them. Riſing the hill, look back on the town; the ſituation beautiful; the river preſents a noble view. Come to Belleek, a little village, with one of the fineſt waterfalls I remember any where to have ſeen; viewed it from the bridge. The river in a very broad ſheet comes from behind ſome wood, and breaks over a bed of rocks, not perpendicular but ſhelving, in various directions, and foams away under the arches; after which it grows more ſilent, and gives a beautiful bend under a rock, crowned by a fine bank of wood. Reached Caſtle Caldwell at night, where Sir James Caldwell received me with a politeneſs and cordiality that will make me long remember it with pleaſure.

August 12th. The following account of the huſbandry around Caſtle Caldwell, Sir James favoured me with. The ſoil in the vale to Belleek is a yellow clay, 1 to 2 ſpit deep on a lime-ſtone rock; the whole interſperſed with bog and moraſs. Large tracts uncultivated. Rents vary from

from 15s. to 20s. an acre cultivated, but mountain and mountain ſides are not meaſured; wherever the plough goes, will yield 7s. at the loweſt. In the mountains they pay but 3s. for the ſummer food of a cow; and for a horſe 4s. 6d. The county of Fermanagh may be divided into 6 parts; one-ſixth the lake at no rent. Mountains and bogs two ſixths, the reſt of the county at 12s.

The courſe of crops is; 1. Potatoes. 2. Potatoes. 3. Barley or flax. 4. Oats. 5. Oats. 6. Oats. 7. Lay out for graſs. Wherever there are ſpots of meadow, they are mown. Great numbers of farms are taken in partnerſhip in *Rundale*; indeed the general courſe is ſo, upon a farm of 100 acres, there will be 4, 5, or 6 families: but families will take ſuch ſmall ſpots as 5 or 6 acres. Farms in general riſe from 5 acres to 3 or 400; but all the large ones are ſtock farms; in general none ſo high as twenty: all in *Rundale*, partnerſhip or ſtock. Many of the latter part mountain, part arable, and theſe are the only farms of ſubſtance in the country. One of 80l. a year will require 4 or 500l. to ſtock it. Theſe farmers buy year olds—for inſtance, 20; he buys in 20 year olds every year, and every year ſells 20 four year olds: he gives 30s. each, and ſells at 5l. 10s. or 6l. and this he reckons a reaſonable profit. Alſo 3 and 2 year old heifers that have miſſed the bull keep them through the winter, and ſell them in may, and get 18s. to 20s. for wintering them on coarſe graſs without any fodder. In ſummer they feed them all on mountains. Thoſe who buy the miſt heifers are farmers in Monaghan and Cavan, on coarſe farms, who turn them on the mountains, give them the bull, and ſell them out in the ſpring to the weaving farmers in the linen country, who change their ſtock.

The meaſures here are by pecks and barrels; the weight of the peck of potatoes in Ballyſhannon is 5 ſtone, 4 lb. and 10 pecks, make a barrel: in the country they give 6 ſtones. The acre the plantation meaſure. Of potatoes, which they ſet all in the trenching way, they plant 4 barrels an acre, and get on an average 7 or 8 for one, that is, 32 barrels an acre. The price is 8s. a barrel on a medium, or 12l. 16s. an acre; but it is obvious that this peck is a meaſure of their own. They manure generally for them with dung; but often with lime and bog mud mixed, and burnt clay, which they find does very well. In the county of Tyrone, towards Ardmagh and Dungannon, they will bring lime-ſtone 14 or 15 miles, burn it, and ſprinkle their potatoe land with it to prevent the black rot. Rent of Tyrone on an average 7s.

Of barley they ſow 20 ſtone; the barrel of barley is 25 ſtone, and of malt 20. An acre on an average will yield 10 barrels, at 16 ſtone. Of oats they ſow a barrel, at 20 ſtone, and get 8 for one. Of bere they ſow the ſame, and get 9 barrels; barley ſells better than bere generally; for flax they plough once on potatoe land. The expence of an acre they reckon,

Rent — — — — —	0	15	0
County ceſs - - - - -	0	0	3
Tythe modus - - - - - -	0	0	8
Seed, 40 gallons, at 1s. 6d. - - - -	3	0	0
One ploughing - - - - -	0	5	5
Clodding and ſtones 4 women - - - -	0	1	4
Weeding 6 women - - - - -	0	2	0
Pulling 12 women a day - - - -	0	4	0
Watering 3 men and 1 horſe - - - -	0	2	6
Graſſing 6 women - - - - -	0	2	0
Lifting and carrying, 2 women and 2 men, and 1 horſe -	0	2	6
Drying, 2 women and 12 load turf - - - -	0	1	8
Beetling, 24 women - - - - - -	0	16	0
Scutching 1d. a lb.			
	£. 5	13	4

PRICE of lime at the kiln 6d. a barrel. Sir James Caldwell has his ſtone quarried, carried, broke and burnt, and drawn 100 yards, for 4d. a barrel labour; ſix ſcore horſe loads of turf coſt 4s. cutting and ſawing, and leading by water, coſts 5s. more, which 6 ſcore loads will burn at the rate of a load and a half a barrel. They plough all with horſes, 2 or 3 horſes abreaſt.

LAND ſells, at rack rent, at 20 to 24 years purchaſe: has not fallen. Rents are fallen in 5 or 6 years 2s. an acre. There is a great deal of letting lands in the groſs to middle men, who re-let it to others; theſe middle men are called *terny begs*, or *little landlords*, which prevail very much at preſent. Theſe men make a great profit by this practice. The people in all the neighbourhood increaſe very faſt. They are all in general much more induſtrious, and in better circumſtances than they were ſome years ago. Their food, for three-fourths of the year, chiefly potatoes and milk, and the other quarter oatmeal: in the winter they have herrings. They have all a bellyful of food whatever it is, as they told me themſelves; and their children eat potatoes all day long, even thoſe of a year old will be roaſting them. All keep cows, and ſome cocks and hens, but no turkeys or geeſe. Six people, a man, his wife and 4 children, will eat 18 ſtone of potatoes a week, or 252 lb. but 40lb. of oatmeal will ſerve them. Rent of a cabbin, garden, and one acre, 20s. a cow's graſs 30s. a cow requires one acre and a half for ſummer; and they buy a little hay for winter, and give the cow ſmall potatoes and cabbage-leaves, &c.

THE common people are remarkably given to thieving, particularly graſs, timber, and turf, and they bring up their children to *boking* potatoes, that is, artfully raiſing them, taking out the beſt roots, and then replanting them, ſo that the owner is perfectly deceived when he takes up the crop. A poor man's turf from 15s. to 20s. Living is exceedingly cheap here, beſides the common proviſions, which I have every where regiſtered, wild ducks are only 3d.

and

and powder and ſhot: Plover, 1½d. and ditto: woodcocks, 1d. and ditto: Snipes, 1½d. and ditto; teal, 2d. and ditto, and widgeon the ſame; ſalmon, 1½d. a lb. trout, perch, pike, and bream, ſo plentiful as to have no price. Sir James Caldwell has taken 17 cwt. of fiſh, bream and pike, in one day: cod, 3s. a dozen: whiting, from 8d. to 1s. a dozen: herrings, from 3d. to 9d. per 100. lobſters, from 3s. 6d. to 4s. a dozen: oyſters, 6d. to 20d. a 100. eels, 2s. a dozen: crabs, 1s. to 2s. a dozen: wages, 6l. dairy-maids, and others, 4l. There is very little weaving in this country, except what is for their own uſe, but ſpinning is univerſal in all the cabbins. They receive for ſpinning ſpangle yarn, or four hanks, 1s. 2d. a ſpangle, and they will ſpin it in four days. Country ſervants are hired at 3l. a year, who engage to do the work of the houſe, and ſpin a hank, that is a dozen a day, there are 12 cuts to the dozen.

In the mountain tracts, the rents are paid by yarn, young cattle, and a little butter. They ſpin a good deal of wool, which they make into druggets, the warp of tow-yarn, and the weft of wool. The following particulars of 34 of Sir James's labourers will ſhew the ſtate of the poor in this neighbourhood, reſpecting their ſtock, potatoe land, and quantity of flax ſeed ſown:

	Rent.	Cows.	Souls.	Po:	Flax Galls:
No. 1	3 17 6	7	4	¼	6
2	6 0 0	6	6	¼	6
3	3 7 6	7	6	¼	6
4	2 0 0	3	5	¼	3½
5	2 8 9	2	7	¼	5
6	3 0 0	5	7	¼	7
7	1 10 0	0	6	¼	7
8	2 5 0	2	8	¼	3
9	4 0 0	3	10	¼	6
10	4 0 0	4	6	⅓	0
11	1 8 0	4	6	⅓	6
12	3 15 0	6	5	¼	3
13	1 8 0	4	5	¼	6
14	1 8 0	4	6	¼	6
15	2 10 0	5	9	¼	6
16	2 16 8	6	9	⅛	7
17	2 0 0	1	6	½R	4
18	3 8 3	2	8	⅓	4
19	3 15 6	3	9	¾	7
20	5 16 3	4	6	½	4
21	1 5 0	3	4	¼	5
22	2 2 0	3	3	¼	4
23	3 15 0	2	4	¼	8
24	1 17 0	3	4	¼	3
25	1 8 6	2	3	¼	5
26	1 1 0	2	6	¼	1½
27	3 10 0	3	7	½	10
28	3 0 0	3	7	½	0
29	1 8 0	3	2	¼	3
30	1 10 0	3	6	⅓	1
31	1 11 0	3	4	¼	0
32	3 0 0	4	8	¼	7
33	3 0 0	5	4	½	7
34	5 2 6	4	5	½	4
Totals		121	204	=	
Average		3½	= 6	=	

Nothing

NOTHING can be more beautiful than the approach to Caſtle Caldwell; the promontories of thick wood, which ſhoot into Loch Earne, under the ſhade of a great ridge of mountains, have the fineſt effect imaginable: as ſoon as you are through the gates, turn to the left, about 200 yards to the edge of the hill, where the whole domain lies beneath the point of view. It is a promontory, three miles long, projecting into the lake, a beautiful aſſemblage of wood and lawn, one end a thick ſhade, the other graſs, ſcattered with trees, and finiſhing with wood. A bay of the lake breaks into the eaſtern end, where it is perfectly wooded: there are ſix or ſeven iſlands among them, (that of *Bow* three miles long, and one and a half broad) yet they leave a noble ſweep of water, bounded by the great range of the Turaw mountains. To the right, the lake takes the appearance of a fine river, with two large iſlands in it, the whole unites to form one of the moſt glorious ſcenes I ever beheld. Rode to the little hill above Michael Macguire's cabbin; here the two great promontories of wood join in one, but open in the middle, and give a view of the lake, quite ſurrounded with wood, as if a diſtinct water; beyond are the iſlands, ſcattered over its face, nor can any thing be more pictureſque than the bright ſilver ſurface of the water breaking through the dark ſhades of wood. Around the point on which we ſtood, the ground is rough and rocky, wild, and various, forming no bad contraſt to the brilliant ſcenery in view. Croſſing ſome of this undreſſed ground, we came to a point of a hill, above Paddy Macguire's cabbin; here the lake preſents great ſheets of water, breaking beyond the woody promontories and iſlands, in the moſt beautiful manner. At the bottom of the declivity, at your feet, is a creek, and beyond it the lands of the domain, ſcattered with noble woods, that riſe immediately from the water's edge; the houſe, almoſt obſcured among the trees, ſeems a fit retreat from every care and anxiety of the world: a little beyond it the lawn, which is in front, ſhews its lively green among the deeper ſhades, and over the neck of land, which joins it to the promontory of wood, called *Roſs a goul*, the lake ſeems to form a beautiful wood-lock'd baſon, ſtretching its ſilver ſurface behind the ſtems of the ſingle trees; beyond the whole, the mountainy rocks of Turaw, give a magnificent finiſhing. Near you, on every ſide, is wild toſſed-about ground, which adds very much to the variety of the ſcene. From hence we paſſed to the hill in the mountain park, from whence the ſcenery is different; here you ſee a ſhort promontory of wood, which projects into a bay, formed by two others, conſiderably more extenſive, that is *Roſs a goul* and *Roſs-moor eaſt*. The lake ſketching away in vaſt reaches, and between numerous iſlands, almoſt as far as the eye can command. In the great creek, to the right, which flows up under the mountain of Turaw, are two beautiful iſlands, which, with the promontories, ſcattered with trees, give it the moſt agreeable variety.

IN

In another ride, Sir James gave me a view of that part of his domain which forms the promontory of Roſs moor; coaſted it, and croſſed the hills: nothing can exhibit ſcenes of greater variety or more beauty. The iſlands on every ſide are of a different character; ſome are knots or tufts of wood, others ſhrubby. Here are ſingle rocks, and there fine hills of lawn, which riſe boldly from the water; the promontories form equal diſtinctions; ſome are of thick woods, which yield the darkeſt ſhade, others open groves, but every where the coaſt is high, and yields pleaſing landſcapes. From the eaſt point of Roſs moor, the ſcenery is truly delicious. The point of view is a high promontory of wood, lawn, &c. which projects ſo far into the lake as to give a double view of it of great extent. You look down a declivity on the lake which flows at your feet, and full in front is the wood of *Roſs a goul*, at the extreme point of which is the temple: this wood is perfectly a deep ſhade, and has an admirable effect. At the other end it joins another woody promontory, in which the lawn opens beautifully among the ſcattered trees, and juſt admits a partial view of the houſe half obſcured; carrying your eye a little more to the left, you ſee three other necks of wood, which ſtretch into the lake, generally giving a deep ſhade, but here and there admitting the water behind the ſtems and through the branches of the trees; all this bounded by cultivated hills, and thoſe backed by diſtant mountains. Here are no objects which you do not command diſtinctly: none that do not add to the beauty of the ſcene, and the whole forming a landſcape rich in the aſſemblage of a variety of beauties. The other reach of the lake varying under Roſs moor is a different ſcene, bounded by the mountains and rocks of Turaw: to the right theſe reaches join the lake, which opens a fine expanſe of water ſpotted with iſlands. It is upon the whole a ſcene ſtrikingly agreeable. Little of the ſublime, but the very range of beauty, gaiety, and pleaſure, are the characters of the ſpot; nature makes no efforts here but thoſe to pleaſe; the parts are of extreme varieties, yet in perfect uniſon with each other. Even the rocks of Turaw have a mildneſs in their aſpect, and do not break the general effect by abrupt or rugged projections. It was with regret I turned my back on this charming ſcene, the moſt beautiful at Caſtle Caldwell, and the moſt pleaſing I have any where ſeen. Rode round *Roſs a goul*, the promontory in front of the houſe, from which the views are exceedingly beautiful, commanding a noble hanging wood on the banks of Roſs moor, and the woody necks that ſtretch from the land beyond the houſe, with ſeveral iſlands, which give the greateſt variety to the ſcene. On the point, Sir James has built an octagon temple, which takes in ſeveral views that are exceedingly pleaſing; this neck of land is a wood of 40 acres, and a more agreeable circumſtance ſo near a manſion can ſcarcely be imagined.

TAKE my leave of Caſtle Caldwell, and with colours flying, and his band of muſic playing, go on board his ſix-oared barge for Inniſkilling; the heavens were favourable, and a clear ſky and bright ſun, gave me the beauties of the lake in all their ſplendor. Paſs the ſcenes I have deſcribed, which from the boat take a freſh variety, and in all pleaſing.

EAGLE iſland firſt ſalutes us, a woody knole. Others paſs in review; among the reſt, Herring iſland, noted for the wreck of a herring-boat, and the drowning of a fidler; but the boatmen love herrings better than muſic, and gave their name to the iſle, rather than that of the ſon of Apollo. Inniſnakill is all wood. Rabbit iſland is 40 acres of paſture, which riſes bold from the water. Inniſmac Saint alſo 40 acres of graſs. Then comes a cluſter of woody iſlands, which riſe in perfect hills from the waters edge, the wood dipping in the lake, and they are ſo numerous that the lake is cut by them into winding ſtraits, more beautiful than can be thought. The reader may imagine how exquiſite the view muſt be, of numerous hills of dark and complete wood, which riſe boldly from ſo noble a ſheet of water: they form a moſt ſingular ſcene. Wherever the ſhore is ſeen, it is riſing lands; in ſome places woods, in others cultivated hills. Paſſing theſe ſylvan glories, we come next to the Gully iſland, all of wood, and is 100 acres: much of it is bold riſing land, and the oak dips in the water. What a ſpot to build on, and form a retreat from the buſineſs and anxiety of the world! Nature here is blooming. It is in the midſt of a region where one would think ſhe has almoſt exhauſted herſelf in producing ſcenes of rural elegance. It belongs to Lord Ely; I envy him the poſſeſſion. The only thing it yields its owner is a periodical profit from cutting its beautiful woods. Shelter, proſpect, wood and water, are here in perfection; what more can be wiſhed for in a retreat, if an unambitious mind gilds the ſcene with what neither wood nor water can give—content? The ſacrilegious axe has deſolated three parts in four of its noble covering; and it will be 15 years before the rough ground and naked ſtubs are again cloathed.

PASS the hanging grounds of Caſtle Hume; ſome of them very beautifully crowned with wood, and the oppoſite coaſt of the lake, wood and cultivation. Car and Ferny iſlands bold lands cut into fields of corn give a freſh variety, and the woods of Caſtle Hume ſurround a bay to the right, at the bottom of which is the Caſtle half hidden with trees. It opens, however, to the view ſoon after, and accompanied on each ſide by a fine wood, and the ſurrounding ground various. The lake then takes the form of a bay, between ſome pretty cultivated ſlopes on one ſide, and Deveniſh iſland on the other, with its tower full in view. Advancing, the coaſt on the right conſiſts of beautiful cultivated hills, divided into incloſures by hedges, and the waving hills riſing one beyond another

another in a various and pleaſing manner; the oppoſite ſhore is the ſame, but the view more diſtant. The iſland of Deveniſh is part of it very rich land; the poor people pay 5l. an acre for the old graſs for one crop of potatoes. About Ballyſhannon, it is 3l. or 4l. per acre. The barley on the iſland after the potatoes is exceedingly fine. When you come abreaſt of the round tower, look backwards, to the right the ſcenery is very beautiful, the wood at the extremity, the waving hills under graſs and corn, which ſpread over this whole coaſt, form alſo the ſcenery in front, and unite with the lake to make a moſt pleaſing landſcape. Landed at Inniſkilling, and that evening reached Caſtle Cool, the ſeat of A. Lowry Corry, Eſq; who was abſent in the county of Tyrone, but Mrs. Corry was ſo obliging as to procure me the information I wiſhed.

August 15th, rode to the Topped Mountain, from whence is an immenſe proſpect of many counties, and commanding Loch Earne from one end to the other, being above 40 miles long; the great ſheet is towards Caſtle Caldwell, that to Belturbet is ſo thickly ſtrewed with iſlands, that the water has more the appearance of ſeveral woods. Around Inniſkilling, &c. land lets on an average at 10s. to 12s. an acre that is cultivated, but there is ſome mountain and bog that lets for little or nothing. Farms are various, many ſmall ones of a few acres, but the moſt common ſize is 40 to 70 acres, with ſome large ſtock ones of 2 or 300l a year: the ſoil is principally a wet tenacious clay. The ſyſtem of theſe ſtock farms is, to keep cattle of various ages, from year-olds to fat ones of 5 years, according to the quality of the land: they keep but few ſheep. Weaving is but juſt coming in, but increaſes much; the ſpinning is common all over the county in every cabbin, by the women and girls: they do not quite raiſe flax enough to ſupply their own demand.

The courſe of crops moſt general is, 1. Potatoes. 2. Barley. 3. Oats. 4. Flax. 5. Laid out for graſs. Farms very much taken in the rundale way by partnerſhip.

The people increaſe very faſt in this neighbourhood, and are in better circumſtances than they were ſome years ago. Some live on potatoes and milk, for all keep cows, and they eat ſome fleſh meat. The number of little farmers who are ſupported by their farms alone is conſiderable, from whence it is plain that linen has not taken deep root. There are two bleach greens within 7 miles, and all they bleach is made in the country. A woman will earn 4d. a day by ſpinning, and do ſomething in the family beſides. The manure principally uſed is lime, which on an average coſts them about 8d. a barrel, and they lay 80 and upwards per acre.

AUGUST 15th, to Belleiſle, the charming ſeat of the Earl of Roſs. It is an iſland in Loch Earne of 200 iriſh acres, every part of it hill, dale, and gentle declivities: it has a great deal of wood, much of which is old, and forms both deep ſhades, and open chearful groves. The trees hang on the ſlopes, and conſequently ſhew themſelves to the beſt advantage. All this is exceedingly pretty, but it is rendered trebly ſo by the ſituation: a reach of the lake paſſes before the houſe, which is ſituated near the banks among ſome fine woods, which give both beauty and ſhelter. This ſheet of water, which is three miles over, is bounded in front by an iſland of thick wood; and by a bold circular hill, which is his Lordſhip's deer park, this hill is backed by a conſiderable mountain. To the right are four or five fine clumps of dark wood; ſo many iſlands which riſe boldly from the lake, the water breaks in ſtraits between them, and forms a ſcene extremely pictureſque. On the other ſide the lake ſtretches behind wood, in a ſtreight, which forms Belleiſle. Lord Roſs has made walks round the iſland, from which there is a conſiderable variety of proſpect. A temple is built on a gentle hill, commanding the view of the wooded iſlands abovementioned; but the moſt pleaſing proſpect of them is coming out from the grotto: they appear in an uncommon beauty; two ſeem to join, and the water which flows between takes the appearance of a fine bay, projecting deep into a dark wood: nothing can be more beautiful. The park hill riſes above them, and the whole is backed with mountains. The home ſcene at your feet alſo is pretty; a lawn ſcattered with trees that forms the margin of the lake, cloſing gradually in a thick wood of tall trees, above the tops of which is a diſtant view of Cultiegh mountain, which is there ſeen in its proudeſt ſolemnity. To Lord Roſs's very obliging attention I am indebted for the following particulars:—Rents about Belleiſle are upon an average 10s. an acre for graſs and arable, but mountain ſides are ſet by the lump, according to the number of cattle they feed. The ſoil is all of blue clay. Farms are generally 50l. or 60l. a year; where there are weavers they are very ſmall, but the number does not exceed a twentieth of the whole. They, however, increaſe faſt; they have doubled their number in 10 years. Seventeen years ago, there not being one bleach mill, Lord Roſs erected one; after which more were built, but in the whole county not more than ten. Average rent of cultivated land in Fermanagh, 10s. Courſe, 1. Potatoes, 2. Barley, 3. Oats, 4 Oats, 5. Oats. 6. Laid out ſix or ſeven years. 1. Potatoes, 2. Barley, 3. Oats, 4. Flax, 5. Laid out, ſome ſow graſs ſeeds.

Potatoes yield 20 barrels an acre; each 4 buſhels; they plant two and an half to an acre; the price from 2s. 6d. to 20s. generally 10s. on ſtiff land, two crops of potatoes, but not on light. Barley yields from 10 to 15 barrels; oats from 6 to 10 barrels, but ſometimes not 5. Account of flax:

Rent

Rent and tillage - - - - -	3	0	0
Seed, two buſhels, at 12s. - - -	1	4	0
Clodding, 3 boys, at 6d - - -	0	1	6
Pulling, 8 women, at ditto - -	0	4	0
Watering, two men and two horſes, the men, 6d. the horſes, 1s.	0	3	0
Taking out and ſpreading, two men and ſix women -	0	4	0
Lifting, three women, one horſe, and one man -	0	3	0
Drying, two men and two women, 2s. and ſix kiſhes of turf, 6s. - - - - - - £.	0	8	0

Beetling at the mill, by the ſtone.

The linen wove here, is from 6 to 1800, but in general 1200. A woman ſpins one hank, for which ſhe has three half pence and board, if no board, four pence; the length of the webs vary, ſome ten yards, but in general double ones of fifty yards; it takes two hanks of yarn to every yard of the web; the weavers have five pence a yard for weaving it, and they will do three yards a day; they ſell it at monthly markets. They breed up their ſons more and more to weaving, as it increaſes much, and theſe people pay their rents by it, but they ſend off much more yarn than they weave.

The food of the poor is potatoes, butter milk, and oat bread. They all keep cows and pigs. Moſt of the country is under grazing, ſome of which farms riſe to 500l. a year. They generally buy in year-old calves, for which they give, on an average, 1l. 1s. to 1l. 5s. and keep them till they are four years old, and ſell them lean to the graziers of other countries, who have land that will fatten: ſell them 5l. to 6l. a bullock, thus, every year, they buy in, and ſell out a ſtock. Upon a farm in the neighbourhood, of 350l. a year, beſides horſes, cows, and ſheep, the farmer ſells one hundred bullocks every year. Many cows are fattened, bought in in may at 2l. 10s. to 5l. and ſold out in november, at 1l. 11s. 6d. profit, and a good acre will carry one of them, but in general it will take more. No dairies. Some ſheep are kept, the lambs ſold, at three and four months old, at 5s. to 10s. 6d. each, 7s. or 8s. in general; the wool of the ewe, 4s. 4d. Some buy two or three year old wethers, for fattening, in june, at 15s, and ſell them fat in march or april following, at 1l. 1s. to 1l. 6s. Breeding ewes reckoned the moſt profitable, unleſs the land is very good. In moory land, they uſe lime for manuring, at 7d. a barrel, but if the farmer burns it himſelf, and has the ſtone convenient, it is done for 3d. with turf. A good deal of hollow draining, filled with ſtones, ſome with ſods, but done only by gentlemen. Much corn, &c. by poor people, put in with ſpades, which they call *loys*, becauſe they have no horſes, and one acre of oats dug, is worth one and a half ploughed; ſome do it on this account, though they have horſes.

Lord Roſs has generally a ſmall field of turneps and cabbages for feeding ſheep in the winter; finds that cabbages are much the beſt, and laſt the longeſt.

August 17th, rowed to Knockinny, the deer park, three miles acroſs the lake, through a maze of woody iſlands. Land on Lady Roſs's of 40 acres, in which ſhe has cut walks leading through a great variety of ground; in ſome places through open groves of large trees, in others cloſe dark wood; through lawns and rough ground, from ſome of which there are various views of the lake, and from others it is ſo perfectly excluded, that one would not think water was ſo near, a cabbin for a poultryman, a covered bench, and a ſpot marked out for a cottage. As the boat approached Knockinny, a pretty bay opened upon us, round which, on one ſide, is a projecting point of wood, and on the other, the hill of Knockinny, with the wood riſing up its ſide, uniting with that of the point to form one maſs. From the hill the view is very fine; you look down on 11 or 12 wooded iſlands ſcattered over the lake, with others cultivated, and the country riſing around it. Belleiſle appears to ſtand in the midſt of a very large wood. The fiſh, in this part of the lake, are perch, pike to 40 lb. trout, eels, bream, &c. It is extraordinary that perch ſhould appear in all the lakes of Ireland and in the Shannon at the ſame time, which was about 17 years ago. Large flights of ſwans ſometimes appear here in winter, and are ſure ſigns of a ſevere one.

Reached Florence Court, Lord Inniſkilling's ſeat, ſituated on an eminence under a great ridge of mountains. That nobleman procured me with the politeſt attention the following particulars.

The ſoil in general is a thin ſurface, 4 to 8 inches of ſtoney mould, under that a tough yellow clay of 14 to 18 inches, and under that a purple lime ſtone gravelly clay, a good manure for tillage, but bad for graſs. Lets on an average at 10s. an acre the new leaſes; but if there is bog or mountain, it is thrown in at that rent. Mountain ſides of dry lime-ſtone ſoil will let at 6s. heathy ones thrown in. About Inniſkilling, Lord Inniſkilling has a conſiderable property, and heathy mountain within two miles of the town, lets at 9s. The town parks from 40s. to 3l. 3s. The cultivated land, not town parks, from 12s. to 20s. In reſpect to the advance of rents, it will beſt appear by inſerting the particulars of ſome of Lord Inniſkilling's farms, at old and new rents, in various ſoils and ſituations at Florence Court, Inniſkilling, near Swadling-bar, and Ballyſhannon.

Farms.

Farms.		Years let.	Acres.	Old Rent.	New Rent.
No. 1		1731	286	£. 20	£. 150
2		1750	37	6	18
3		1746	283	27	100
4		1740	90	10	37
5		1730	73	5	31
6		1747	150	18	61
7		1737	60	10	42
8		1731	66	8	40
9		1730	86	9	28
10		1731	46	6	20
11		1731	41	6	20
12	A Mountain Farm.	1736	99	9	20
13		1757	191	14	18
14		1747	43	6	18
15		1731	66	12	30
16	Mountain.	1734	107	12	31
17	Ditto.	1750	406	18	25
18	Ditto.	1745	316	34	150
19		1731	118	23	93
20		1752	63	22	36
21		1752	15	5	9
22		1738	223	15	82
23		1759	97	18	87
24		1732	27	6	32
25		1731	53	14	52
26		1731	80	14	60
27		1731	90	14	67
28		1731	97	15	90
29	Mountain.	1734	402	11	100
30		1732	224	27	61
31		1731	66	18	60
32		1731	75	14	56
33		1732	128	22	64
34		1732	314	27	100
35		1731	209	27	94
36		1731	57	10	50
37		1746	132	15	76
37		1744	314	28	82
38		1758	166	16	56
39		1735	91	15	68
40		1734	407	37	164
41		1732	33	9	30
42		1731	61	17	31
43		1731	116	5	48
44		1744	1070	102	350
45		1752	125	18	62
46	Mountain.	1734	190	23	95
47		1742	93	8	45
48		1742	93	8	45
49		1748	235	10	165
50	Mountain.	1733	454	25	70
51		1733	149	20	70
52		1749	116	34	87
53	Mountain.	1751	2371	65	340
			11,000	981	3807

The extremes of date may be called from 1730 to 1770, or 40 years, the average of the period would be 20 years; but we may ſafely ſay that in 30 years the rent is quadrupled. The courſes of crops;

1. Potatoes. 2. Potatoes, reverſing the lands. 3. Oats. 4. Oats. 5. Oats. 6. Lay out for weeds, &c.

1. Potatoes. 2. Potatoes. 3. Oats. 4. Oats. 5. Flax. 6. Oats. 7. Lay it down.

1. Potatoes. 2. Potatoes. 3. Barley. 4. Oats. 5. Oats. 6. Lay it out.

Tillage farms riſe from nine acres ſubdivided, to large tracts in grazing ones. The manures are marle, lime-ſtone, gravel, lime, bog, and ſod aſhes; the marle is white and light, found under bogs, and in banks; that in the banks, about Florence Court, is upon clay, or gravel, with ſprings under it, which makes the marle run into forms like cinders, petrified, and of a reddiſh caſt, as if from vitriolic acid. The whole country abounds with ſulphureous, and other mineral ſprings. Very little of this marle uſed; they uſe the lime ſtone gravelly clay moſt, which gives them very good crops. The expence of lime, carriage included, is 8d. a barrel, ſlacked; they lay ſixty barrels an acre. They burn their mountain land, lime, and marle it, and ſet potatoes. In the year 1774, there were claimants for the Dublin Society's premiums, for 174 acres of bog reclaimed, and 120 of mountain. In 1773, 38 moor, and 120 bog. No draining done by the farmers, but much by the gentlemen.

Potatoes they plant all on lays; plant four barrels per acre, each barrel 6 cwt. they are meaſured by the peck, ſo piled up as to weigh 3 ſtone each: the price from 5s. to 16s. the barrel; average, 8s. No hiring of land merely for planting potatoes, but the farmers will let the cottars take a crop of potatoes, if they dung the land. The produce, on an average, will be 32 barrels: thirty-two men will ſet an acre a day, with five children: when the potatoes appear, they ſhovel the furrows, which four men will do in a day: eight men will weed an acre in a day, and ſixty-four men will take them up.

Expences.

Rent - - - - -	0	10	0
County ceſs - - - - -	0	0	4
Four barrels of ſeed - - - -	1	12	0
Planting, 32 men, at 8d. ditto, five children, at 5d	1	3	5
Shoveling, four men, 8d. - - - -	0	2	8
Weeding, eight men, 8d. - - -	0	5	4
£.	3	13	9

Brought

Brought over - -			3 13 9
Taking up, ſixty-four men, 8d. - - -			2 2 8
Sorting, and picking, ſixteen men, at 8d. -			0 10 8
Drawing home, ſeven horſes - - -			0 7 0
Manuring, 200 loads, at 1d. - -	0 16 8		
Drawing, four cars, 4 men, and 4 boys,	0 6 8		1 3 4
			7 17 5

PRODUCE.

Thirty-two barrels, at 8s. - - -			12 16 0
Expences - - - -			7 17 5
		£.	4 18 7

Of oats, they ſow two barrels an acre, and ſome more, and the crop twelve barrels. Of barley, they ſow five buſhels an acre, each eight gallons, the crop eight barrels. Much ſtubble, and potatoe land, in wet ſoils, is dung for corn, and it takes eighteen men to dig an acre a day. Much flax is ſown, both on the land, by its owner, and hired by cottars, who have no land fit for it; they hire a peck ſowing, at 2 buſhels and a half, or 2l. 14s. 2d. but the land is ploughed and harrowed into the bargain.

Rent and ceſs - - - -		£.	0 10 4
Seed, five buſhels, at 12s. - - -			3 0 0
Clods and ſtones, eight men, 8d - -			0 5 4
No weeding			
Pulling, ſixteen women, at 6d. - - -			0 8 0
Gathering, tying, and rippling, ſixteen men, at 8d.			0 10 8
Watering, eight horſes and cars, and eight men, the horſe and car, at 1s - - - -			0 13 4
Taking out, four men - - -			0 2 8
Spreading, eight women - - -			0 4 0
Lifting and carrying home, 4 cars, 8 women and 4 boys			0 8 0
Drying and beetling by a turf fire, four men and thirty-two women - - - -			0 18 8
Scutching, moſtly at home, by women, but done for three halfpence per lb. 360 lb. the acre - - -			2 5 0
Heckling, thirteen pence a ſtone, twenty-two ſtone			1 3 10
			10 9 10
Produce: 360 lb. or 22 ſtone, clean dreſſed, at 17s. 6d.			19 5 0
Expences - - -			10 9 10
			8 15 2

THEY

They ſpin all the flax they raiſe into three to five-hank yarn, on an average four. Many ſervants are hired for ſpinning, at 12s. a quarter, who do the buſineſs of the houſe, and ſpin a hank a day; if they do it for pay, it is 3d. a hank. A ſtone ſpins into 64 hanks; and when they have done it, it is ſold at the markets and fairs: the tow they ſpin into two-hank yarn, which is wove into ſeven-hundred cloth, for home conſumption. The weavers earn, on an average, 10d. a day. Many cows are kept, and much butter made by every little farmer, which they put into tubs of 1½ cwt. and if one has not cows enough to make it, they join, in order to do it. Two cows will rear two calves, feed the family, and make a tub, which ſells for 40s. per cwt. on an average, or 2l. 10s. the two cows; a cow requires two acres for her ſummer food, or if they have it, more, and her winter's hay, 10s. A good cow, if no milk is taken from her, will make 7lb. of butter a week; a middling one, four pounds and a half, and ſhe will give twelve quarts a day. Many pigs kept, but no proportion obſerved to the number of cows, which are kept in the houſe at night in winter, but out all day. The calves ſuck the cows three months before weaning; many do not ſuck at all, but are weaned in a few days. The management of the grazing farmers, is to buy in year olds, at 20s. on an average, keep them till they are four years old, and ſell them from 4l. to 10l. Some of theſe farmers occupy very large farms, even to 1000l. or 1500l. a year, but theſe are rare. Some buy in at three years old, and ſell out at four; ſome at four, and ſell at five; ſome at yearlings, and ſell out at three, according to their lands. The common farmers buy in *miſt* heifers, in november, and ſell them in may, when they buy dry cows, which they ſell fat in november, and make on the fattening, 30s. a head, and on the miſt heifers, 16s. on an average. The little farmers that have lands fit for ſheep, keep a few for cloathing their families, very many of them ſpinning wool enough, and weaving it for their own cloaths, pettycoats, blankets, &c. alſo ſtuffs for the women. The girls are ſeen in ſummer in their ſtriped linens and whites of their own making, and in winter in their woollen ſtuffs. They clip from a ewe, about 3lb. on an average.

Goats were ſo common that every perſon had them from the eaſe of keeping, as they brouze only on buſhes, and 20 were not reckoned a *ſum*. This term ſhould be explained, it implies a portion of land ſufficient for a given ſtock; for inſtance, keeping a cow is a ſum; a horſe a ſum and an half; 8 ſheep; 6 ewes and 6 lambs; 3 year olds; a 2 year old, and a year old; a 3 year old; 20 geeſe; a barrel of potatoes ſetting; a peck of flax ſowing; a barrel of corn ſowing, and a cow's graſs; all theſe are ſums. They plough all with horſes, except gentlemen, 3 abreaſt, and do half an acre a day. Drawing by the tail not done theſe 7 years. The price per acre 10s. Of digging by the acre 12s. and the crop 10s. an acre more; but they reckon that nothing in the world

wears

wears out the land more than digging. They lay their wet lands in narrow ridges of 5 furrows. The horſes get no oats, yet they are not more than from 6s. to 12s. a ſack, of 2 barrels meaſure; the barrel weighs 9 or 10 ſtone. Average price 9s. In hiring a little farm, no attention given to what ſtock they have. Land ſells at 21 years purchaſe, rack rent, which is lower than 4 or 5 years ago. Rents are fallen in 4 years 2s. an acre. Tythes compounded, ſmall and great ones, by the lump. The leaſes moſt common are 3 lives, or 31 years. *Tierney begs* are now done with. The people increaſe conſiderably, notwithſtanding the emigrations, which were great till within theſe 2 years. Their circumſtances vaſtly improved in 20 years; they are better fed, cloathed, and houſed; more ſober and induſtrious in every reſpect. Their food is potatoes and oaten bread, and a bit of beef or bacon for winter. All keep cows, and moſt of them pigs, and ſome poultry; many turkeys and geeſe. No drinking tea. The religion ſome catholic, but a great many proteſtants. In 20 years there is a riſe of 2d. a day in labour. In proviſions there has been a conſiderable riſe; 20 per cent. in meal. A ſledge car coſts 2s. 2d. Wheel car 1l. 14s. 1½d. A plough 11s. 2½d. A poor man's turf for a year will coſt him 20s. Building a ſod cabbin 2l. Ditto of ſtone and thatch 15l.

August 18th, took the road by Swadling-bar for Farnham. That ſpaw of the north of Ireland is a little village, which appears to be but a poor reſidence for the numbers that reſort to it. I took the Killiſhandra road, from thence to Farnham; in about 3 or 4 miles it leads along the edge of a lake, through a pretty wood which hangs to the water. Paſſed Mr. Henry's, a houſe very agreeably ſituated amidſt woods, which ſpread to the right and left, and above it. Many lakes are in this country; I paſſed ſeveral large ones, which communicate with each other by a river. The road croſſes a variety of bog and moory ground, perfectly improveable; lime cheap, but little ſeems to be done or doing. At Mr. Neſbit's enter a rich woodland country. The biſhop of Kilmore's palace is on a conſiderable hill, yet ſheltered by very fine trees; the country here is beautiful. I had been favoured with an invitation from the biſhop, but he was then at Dublin. The woods of Farnham appear very finely from hence. Reached that place in the evening time enough for a ride with the Earl on the borders of his lakes. Theſe are uncommonly beautiful; they are extenſive, and have a ſhore extremely varied. On one ſide large thick hedge row trees, with meadows behind them; on the other a moſt noble range of hanging wood, which ſpreads on each ſide to a great diſtance, covering a bold ſhore, and to a conſiderable height, nor are they uniform in their outline; the hills over which they ſpread vary greatly; in ſome places preſenting a continued ſweep, in others, breaking the line, and projecting into the lake. In one part the ſhore conſiſts of graſs incloſures, the hedges ſcattered with trees, and mounting

ing

ing upon the ſlopes, form a very fine ſcenery. Nothing can be more pleaſing than the whole to the right of the lake; the meadows are of undulating lands that wave about in a variety of mild forms; a moſt pleaſing ſcenery. Theſe beautiful fields riſe above the lake, which they command in ſome places, and in others retire from. Upon the whole Farnham is one of the fineſt places I have ſeen in Ireland; the water, wood, and hill, are all in a great ſtile, and abound in a variety of capabilities.

Cabbages Lord Farnham has cultivated 3 years; in 1774, he had 4 acres manured with lime and earth, and of different ſorts, flat dutch, early yorkſhire and greenbore cole, the ſeed was ſown in the ſpring, and planted out in june, in rows 3 feet aſunder, and horſe-hoed clean; found them for milch cows much better than turneps; plough bullocks; alſo fattening bullocks, that had the ſummer graſs, fattened very well on them; laſted till the latter end of february; the bore cole longer; the cabbages came to a good ſize, and the crop paid extremely well. Tares and beans were ſown after them, and yielded a great produce.

In 1775, ſix acres, manured with lime and ditch-earth, well mixed, and at planting time, a little dung laid to each root; the ſorts the ſame as laſt year, with ſome red cabbage; the crop very fine, many came to 16 lb. uſed for the ſame purpoſes, and anſwered perfectly well. This year I viewed the crop, and a very fine one it was, clean, well horſe-hoed, and promiſes to be a great produce. Upon the whole, Lord Farnham ſtrongly recommends the culture from experience; if he was to farm 40 years, he would never be without them for his cows, his plough bullocks, and for finiſhing thoſe fat beaſts which have had the ſummer graſs; he thinks them far better than turneps; that an acre will go farther, is eaſier cultivated, and got from the land with leſs damage. Nor is this opinion founded from any ignorance of turneps, his Lordſhip lived ſeveral years in Norfolk, and attended to the immenſe advantages reaped in that county from the cultivation of them; he introduced them at Farnham the ſame time as cabbages; they are difficult to cultivate in Ireland, from the ignorance of the people in hoeing; he has drilled part, and had part broad caſt; the drilled much the beſt, from their being ſo much better hoed; drills in furrows two feet aſunder; I ſaw this year's crop, and found them very fine, clean, and promiſed to be good. Since this was written, Lord Farnham informs me, that in 1777, he had 14 iriſh acres of turneps, which kept 50 working, and fattening oxen, and dairy cows, beſides 60 fat ſheep; ſome of the oxen were ſold fat from them, at from 17l. to 20l. each; the Lancaſhire breed that had been worked. The ſame year he had one acre of carrots, which he applied to feeding horſes, and inſtead of giving 4 barrels of oats a week, they had only one, the reſt being deducted on account of the roots. That in England, he fed his whole ſtud with them, nor would the horſes touch

touch an oat, while they could get carrots. Waſhing he found ſo expenſive, that to leſſen it, he put them in baſkets in a ſtream, and this ſaved half; the ſoil not light. They were left in the ground, and drawn in the winter, as wanted.

Lord Farnham mentioned one circumſtance of turneps, new to me, which was his feeding his horſes in Norfolk with them. His brood mares, and hacks, of which he had a great number, ran in the park at Hunſton, with his bullocks, that were fattening on turneps, and they followed the carts as eagerly as the beaſts; had no other food, and did perfectly well on them. His Lordſhip has made great improvements in ſome of his lands by means of hollow draining. Very wet clays, over-run with ruſhes and other aquatic rubbiſh, he has converted into dry ſound healthy paſtures. The principal drains are filled with ſtones, the leſſer ones with ſod.

In the breed of cattle he has been equally attentive, having been at a conſiderable expence to procure the very beſt Lancaſhires; and what is uncommon, without ſpoiling his dairy: for his cows give much milk. After falling off a good deal, they make 6 or 7 lb. of butter each a week, beſides ſupplying his numerous family with milk and cream. The bull-calves he rears for oxen, works them till they are ſix years old, and then fattens them. Draft oxen he finds infinitely more beneficial than horſes. The breed of ſtrong horſes he has alſo been very attentive to improve, buying a ſtallion of Mr. Bakewell, and has bred many, which ſell readily at 25l. each, at 4 years old.

In planting, Lord Farnham obſerved at Farnham, that no tree grows to ſo large a ſize ſpeedily as the ſilver fir. He has many of a great ſize, planted by his father 40 years ago, in a wet clay ſoil on a rock; we meaſured ſome of them 12 feet in circumference at the ground, and one 7½ at 5 feet high: this tree contains 76 feet of ſolid timber. What is very uncommon, he pointed out many oaks that are deſtroying the ſcotch firs planted with them, having outgrown and riſing completely above them. This I do not remember having noticed before. In the ſame plantation the beech generally beats the ſcotch fir and the aſh, though the latter ſuits the ſoil very well; indeed the beech oak and ſilver fir are the capital trees. One uſe he has put the ſilver fir to, in which it anſwers perfectly, which is boat-building; he has a boat built of it, which has laſted as well as if of the beſt oak. This is a hint which may prove of infinite uſe. I remember Mr. Mitford in Hampſhire flooring his library with ſilver fir, freſh cut down, and the boards not contractingin the leaſt: a quality very valuable in ſhip-building. He can ſell ſcotch fir out of his woods readily at 40s. a ton, even very poor trees.

The ſoil about Farnham is in general a good loam, from 4 to 10 inches deep, and under it a yellow or blue clay 2 feet deep, and under that a flaty gravel, a quarry of lime-ſtone, or blue whin-ſtone. It is in ge-

neral very wet; hollow drains lay it dry, if there is a fall. From Cavan to Belturbet it is dry rough rocky ground. From Killiſhandra to Knockwinn, dry gravel. From Cavan to Virginy, heathy, which yields good corn, with lime. Rents by new leaſes in general, 14s. to 20s. old ones 5s. to 10s. Cavan and Kilmore the higheſt. There is a great deal of bog and mountain, which with lakes, amount to half the county. Average rent about 6s. by another account I had, it is 7s. 6d. Farms are generally about 100 acres, 50 to 100, and theſe relet, from 2 to 10 acres, to the poor people, who are cottars, and pay their high rent by labouring.

Courſes: 1. Summer fallow. 2. Wheat. 3. Oats or Barley. 4. Potatoes. 5. Wheat or barley.

1. Fallow. 2. Wheat. 3. Oats. 4. Oats. 5. Oats. 6. Oats. 6. Oats. 7. Oats. 8. Oats. 9. Lay out for graſs. No ſeeds ſown.

1. Potatoes. 2. Potatoes. 3. Flax. 4. Oats. 5. Oats. 6. Oats. 7. Lay out for graſs.

They ſow 4 buſhels of wheat, or 20 ſtone an acre, and it yields 7 barrels. There is a good deal ſown, and ſeveral flower mills in the country. Of barley they ſow 4 buſhels, and get 9 barrels 16 ſtone to the barrel. They ſow 8 buſhels of oats, and get on an average 10 barrels. Of potatoes they plant 14 barrels to the acre, each 20 ſtone, and the crop is uſually 60, and the price 5s. to 10s. Average 7s. 6d.

Rent	0	16	0
14 Barrels	5	5	0
Planting, 36 men a day, at 1s. no board, 6d. with it	1	16	0
Shovelling, 8 men	0	8	0
Weeding, 10 boys, at 4d.	0	3	4
Taking up, 72 men	3	12	0
Manuring	1	0	0
£.	13	0	4

Produce.

60 Barrels, at 7s. 6d.	22	10	0
Expences	13	0	4
Profit £.	9	9	8

But little lime uſed in the country, though in ſome places lime ſtone is plentiful; the price is 6d. to 10d. the barrel ſlack. Much marle uſed about Ballyconnel and Killiſhandra; the white light ſort from under bogs: they uſe it on heathy moors with ſucceſs, for which purpoſe they uſe lime alſo. Before they plough it, they lay the lime on, 150 barrels roach, and then either ſow oats, or plant potatoes, and this perfectly kills all

all the heath, *(erica vulgaris)* and makes very fine land after it. Upon dry heathy ground at Ballyconnel, Mr. Swan, Lord Farnham's manager, has ſeen heaps of lime ſtone laid on the heath near kilns, and has remarked that where this ſtone was laid without burning or breaking, there the heath was completely killed, and a full crop of white clover *(trifolium repens)* came up, from the duſt that had rubbed off; a ſtrong proof that pounded lime-ſtone would be an admirable manure. The ſtock farmers, who, however, are not large ones, 150 acres being a good farm, are many of them in the ſucceſſion buſineſs of buying in young cattle, and ſelling them out older without fatting; others on better lands, buy in dry cows in may, and ſell them fat in november, making from 30s. to 40s. a head. But few fat bullocks, nor is it a great ſheep country, nor any dairies; but all the little farmers and cottars, keep one, two, or three. If they pay for grazing a cow, it is 20s. to 30s. They keep alſo many pigs, from one to five, in every houſe. They plough all with horſes three or four in a plough, and all abreaſt. Here let it be remarked, that *they very commonly plough and harrow with their horſes* DRAWING BY THE TAIL: it is done every ſeaſon. Nothing can put them beſide this, and they inſiſt, that take a horſe tired in traces, and put him to work by the tail, he will draw better: quite freſh again. Indignant reader! this is no jeſt of mine, but cruel, ſtubborn, barbarous truth. It is ſo all over Cavan.

LAND ſells at 22 years purchaſe, rack rents: it has fallen 2 years. Rents have fallen within 4 or five years conſiderably; thoſe that were taken 7 or 8 years ago, have fallen from 3s. to 8s. an acre. Tythes are generally hired by proctors, who view the farmers crops, and compound with them, making a conſiderable profit by it. They ſcrew up the tenants and poor people very ſeverely. The people are in general in much better circumſtances than ſome years ago; more induſtrious, better fed, cloathed, and lodged: they increaſe very much. Potatoes, and milk and butter, are their food, and oaten bread when the potatoes are not in ſeaſon: ſcarce any fleſh meat among the poor. The linen manufacture conſiſts principally in ſpinning, which is univerſal all over the county for girls and women; but weaving is by no means general, nor does it increaſe in this neighbourhood. A woman, by ſpinning, will earn 4d. on an average. They do not raiſe enough for ſupplying their wheels, for much is brought from Dublin. There are four bleach greens in theſe parts, at Ballyconnel, Ballynagh, Scrabby, and Ardvagh. Building a mud cabbin 4l. 4s. ditto of ſtone, lime and ſlate, 30l. ditching, 6 feet wide and 5 deep, 1s. 1d. a drain 2 feet deep and 3 wide, 2d. to 3d. a perch. Threſhing wheat 1s. a barrel. Oats 7d. Barley 8d. Farming man's wages 5l. A lad 3l. to 4l. A woman in ſummer 6d. a day. A wheeled car coſts 1l. 10s. A plough 9s. A pair of harrows 12s.

AUGUST 20th, took my leave of Farnham, and paſſed by Cavan to Granard; got in that neighbourhood, into a fine tract of dry, ſound,

gravelly land, which lets, on an average, at 1l. 1s. through the barony: uſe it very much for fattening ſome bullocks, cows chiefly, and a few ſheep. The farms are in general large, many about 200 acres. It is all a lime-ſtone gravel. In the town of Granard, is one cloſe of 50 acres, called Granard Kiln, immediately under a mound of earth, an antient daniſh intrenchment, which regularly ſupports 50 fat cows, 100 ſheep, 6 horſes, and is reckoned the beſt ſpot in the county, worth 35s. an acre. The country, all the way from Cavan to near Carrickglaſs, within 2 miles of Longford, is exceedingly bare of trees.

Reached Ballynogh, the ſeat of W. G. Newcomen, Eſq; who has many trees, and well planted hedge-rows, about him; he favoured me with the following particulars: about that neighbourhood, lands let at 13s. 6d. from 7s. to 20s. The rent of the whole county of Longford may be reckoned at 12s. an acre, on an average, of all that is cultivated, and one-ſixth part bog and mountain, which yields no rent. The ſoil is, in general, a tolerable vegetable mould on the ſurface, for three or four inches deep; under that, two-inch thick of blue clay: which retains water under that yellow clay for two or three feet, and then every where lime-ſtone gravel. This is generally the ſoil of the whole county, except the barony of Granard, and a part of the county, called the Callaw, which is a light lime-ſtone rocky ground, producing fine wheat, and good ſheep.

Leitrim lets at 4s. on an average. In Leitrim there are many mountain improvements, by ſetting fire to the heath in ſummer, liming it the following ſpring, marling upon that, and then plant potatoes, get great crops, and make fine land of it. The ſize of farms riſe commonly to 5 or 600 acres, but the general ſize is about 100 acres, with many ſmall ones: *Rundale*, or the hiring of farms in partnerſhip, is very common, three or four families will take 100 acres. A great part of the country is let to tenants, who do not occupy, but re-let at advanced rents to the poor people. The courſe of crops is: 1. Potatoes. 2. Potatoes. 3. Bere. 4. Barley, or Oats. 5. Oats. 6. Lay out for weeds, four or five years.

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

1. Potatoes. 2. Flax. 3. Bere. 4. Oats. 5. Oats.

Of potatoes, they ſow four barrels to an acre, each 64 ſtone, and get 40 in return; the price 5s. to 14s. average 8s. Of bere they ſow 20 ſtone, and get 10 barrels. Of barley ditto, get 12. Oats they ſow 2 barrels, at 14 ſtone, and get 15. The waſte mountains are improving very faſt, by families hiring ſpots of heath, building their cabbins on them, and improving them under a rent of 5s. to 8s. an acre. They bring it all in by potatoes, but uſe no lime, though they could have it cheap, for lime-ſtone is on the ſpot, and plenty of turf to burn it with; this is the caſe with Cornclanew, near Carrick Glaſs. White marle is found under the bogs,

bogs, but ſcarce any of it uſed. The ſyſtem of cattle moſt common, is to buy yearlings, at 40s. and keep them till 3 or 4 years old, and ſell them lean at 5l. to 5l. 10s. buying in ſome every year, and ſelling out the ſame number. Fatting cows is alſo very common, bought in in may, at 3l. to 5l. and ſold out in october, at 30s. to 40s. profit. It is not reckoned bad land, if three acres fatten two. No cows for dairies, they are kept only by little people. Ploughing all with horſes, a pair a-breaſt, but no drawing by the tail; this practice they utterly deny here. Land ſells rack-rent at 18½ years purchaſe. Let for ever and well ſecured, 20 years purchaſe. The price has fallen within four years; rents have alſo fallen three ſhillings in the pound in ſix years, and are at preſent falling, from the low prices of grain. Tythes taken generally by the proctors, who are very civil to gentlemen, but exceedingly cruel to the poor. The country evidently increaſes very much in population: the people are in better circumſtances than they were 20 years ago, better cloathed, better fed, and more induſtrious, yet at preſent it is found, and I have had the ſame remark made to me, at many other places, that they only work to eat, and when proviſions are plenty, will totally idle away ſo much of their time, that there is ſcarce any ſuch thing as getting work done. The religion is principally roman; no emigrations. There is a better yeomanry than is common in Ireland. Many farmers, of from 100 to 250 acres. Rent of a cabbin and garden, 30s. A cow's graſs 1l. 10s. All the cottars have ſome land: all keep cows, and many pigs and geeſe. I remarked for ſome time of late, that the geeſe are plucked, and upon enquiry, that every gooſe yielded three farthings or a halfpenny in feathers per annum. They make a dreadful ragged figure. The poor live upon potatoes and milk, it is their regular diet, very little oat bread being uſed, and no fleſh-meat at all, except on an Eaſter ſunday, or Chriſtmas-day. Their potatoes laſt them through the year; all winter long only potatoes and ſalt. Firing coſts them 30s. a year for labour in the bogs. Building a mud cabbin, 4l. Ditto of ſtone and lime, 37 feet by 15, 17l. Another, 30 feet by 14, 11l. Theſe are the meaſures of two, which Mr. Newcomen has built at that expence. The linen manufacture ſpreads through Longford. It has increaſed conſiderably, from a remarkable circumſtance which happened three years ago, which was a gentleman unknown, giving 500l. to be diſtributed to poor weavers, in loans of 5l. each, to be repaid, at 25s. a quarter, to enable them to carry on their buſineſs with more eaſe. This had great effects. There are three bleach greens in the county; the weaving increaſes; ſpinning is univerſal throughout all the cabbins, and likewiſe through all the county of Leitrim, but there is not ſo much weaving as in Longford.

AUGUST 21ſt, to Strokestown, the ſeat of Thomas Mahon, Eſq; Paſſed through Longford, a chearleſs country, over an amazing quantity of bog, and all improvable; a great one in particular, on the banks of the

the Shannon, two miles over, and I found it reached many miles beyond Lanesbro'. Mr. Mahon has 5000 acres of it. A great fall lies every way, a good road is made over it, and lime is burnt on the edges for 3d. a barrel roach; beſides lime, they have lime-ſtone, gravel and ſand every where, which laid on the bog, drained or not drained, produces a ſheet of white clover; what a field is this for improvement, yet nothing done! Croſſed the Shannon, which is here a conſiderable river, and entered Connaught. The firſt appearance of Strokeſtown woods are very noble, from a hill which looks down on them; they are very extenſive, of a great growth, and give a richneſs to the view, which is a perfect contraſt to the dreary ſcene I had paſſed. Mr. Mahon neglected no means of having me well informed in the following minutes. Land about Strokestown ſets at 25s. The average of the whole county is 11s. including bog; mountain there is very little. The county of Leitrim, 2s. on an average. A great part of Roſcommon, particularly from Athlone to Boyle, 30 miles long, and 10 broad, is ſheep-walk, and lets on an average, 12s. an acre. It is generally walk, only patches of potatoes and corn for the workmen. The ſoil of it lime-ſtone. Theſe ſheep walks I had heard ſo much of, that I was eager in my enquiries concerning them; they were ſome years ago divided into much larger farms than at preſent, for there were men who had 20,000 ſheep, whereas now 6 or 7000 is the greateſt flock. The farms riſe to 3000 acres, few under 4 or 500. They ſtock commonly at the rate of two ſheep an acre, and reckon the profit to be lamb and wool, the lamb ſold in Auguſt, at 12s. and 5 lb. of wool from the ewe, at better than 1s. per lb. or 17s. a head.

They feed them all the year on graſs, having no turneps; but in ſevere weather give them hay. They have much other cattle with them, ſuch as yearlings, two year olds, three year olds, &c. ſelling them four year olds to ſuch as want them for fattening. In wet years they are in ſome places troubled with the rot, but it is not at all common. Theſe ſheep walks decreaſe as the people become more numerous: parts are ploughed up, but very few inſtances of ſheep gaining upon tillage. The cottars are never ſuffered to keep ſheep, but have cows grazed for them, as in other parts.

This part of the country is not populous, but more ſo than it was. Theſe ſheep walks are here reckoned much better than the Curragh of Kildare. They are not regular in ſtocks of ewes, but keep a various ſtock. A man that has 1000 ſheep will have 400 ewes, 200 yearlings having ſold 200 of the worſt lambs, 200 two year olds, and 200 three year old wethers, which he ſells fat; conſequently his annual ſale will be 200 lambs, 200 fat wethers, and 100 of the worſt old ewes.

200 lambs

200 lambs, caſualties and miſſing reducing them to 150, at 10s.	75	0	0
200 fat wethers, at 20s. - - - - - -	200	0	0
100 old ewes 10s. - - - - -	50	0	0
Wool, 1000 ſheep, 4s. - - - - - -	200	0	0
	£. 525	0	0

THE country is divided into incloſures by ſtone walls generally, ſo that one ſhepherd is all that is kept to a flock. The wool goes moſtly to Corke, where it is ſpun into worſted and exported; this is the account I had in this country. All theſe ſheep-maſters mix, as I before obſerved, other ſtock with their flocks; beſides 2 ſheep per acre, they will keep at the rate of 40 yearlings, and 2 or 3 year olds to every 100 acres. The ſoil is brown loam on lime-ſtone gravel. Farms about Stokeſtown conſiſt generally of *Rundale* ones, upon 2 or 300 acres, there will be 10 to 15 families, nor is it thought here a bad ſyſtem. Much the greateſt part of the land is graſs; but what they have in tillage they arrange in the following coarſe:

1. Potatoes. 2. Potatoes. 3. Flax. 4. Barley. 5. Oats. 6. Lay out for 6 or 7 years. None of them ſow graſs ſeeds.

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

MUCH land is let for graſs potatoes at 5l. 5s. 4l. and 4l. 4s. afterwards for a crop of flax. They plant 4 barrels, at 5¼ cwt. each; and they get about 50 barrels an acre, the price from 4s. to 15s. average 8s. To ſell them on the foot growing 10l. is reckoned a high price. Of flax ſeed they ſow 11 pecks per acre, or a hogſhead 2 acres; an acre ſold *on the foot* (that is as it grows) is worth 8l. on an average. They commonly ſow a barrel, or 20 ſtone of wheat to the acre. Mr. Mahon only 12. They get 6 in return. They ſow 2 barrels of barley, and get 9. Of oats they ſow 2 barrels, and get 10. Lime-ſtone gravel the great manure; they put 1500 load, at 5 cwt. each, on an acre, and it coſts 1l. or 1l. 1s. It does beſt on ſtrong land, eſpecially free ſtone; it will laſt 7 years, in which time they will take 7 crops. Of lime they uſe no great quanity; but when they do, lay 50 barrels an acre. Mr. Mahon compared different quantities of it, from 50 to 100, and the more was laid the better it was, but the lime-ſtone gravel better than any of them. About Strokeſtown, Mr. Mahon can have turf in one hole and lime-ſtone in another, and he burns it in arched kilns, with ſeveral eyes, the ſtone 15 deep over them, and 200 barrels of lime to each eye; it burns in 60 hours, each eye takes 10 clamps of turf, at 4s. each, including drawing, each clamp 30 kiſhes. Quarrying and breaking, burning, filling, and building and emptying, 2l. an eye, in all 4l. for 200 barrels roach, or about 5d. a barrel. They have both white and grey marle under the bogs, the light ſort, but the gravel and ſandy lime-ſtone is ſo much better that nobody uſes it. They plough with

with 4 horſes, 2 and 2 abreaſt. Mr. Mahon, with 2 abreaſt by boys, taught by a ploughman he had from Bury in Suffolk, who by ploughing in that manner, without a driver and with a Suffolk plough, did as much in one day as the country people in three: by teaching lads for Mr. Mahon and his neighbours, was the means of very much improving the tillage of the neighbourhood. Land ſells at 21 and 22 years purchaſe: it let within 3 or 4 years at 5 per cent. leſs than 15 years ago, but it is now riſing. Tythes are ſometimes taken in kind, but more commonly ſet to the farmer. Wheat 8s. Flax 8s. Oats 3s. Barley and bere 8s. Much land let to thoſe who do not occupy it, but who re-let it to others at an advanced rent.

The linen manufacture of ſpinning is ſpread not only through Roſcommon, but all Connaught, and in Roſcommon they raiſe flax enough for their own uſe; weaving is creeping in by degrees, about a twentieth part of their yarn is woven in the country, into linens of 10 or 12 hundred, and ſheetings half quarter wide, at 10d. to 1s. 4½d. a yard. The yarn ſpun is moſtly 2 hank yarn. A woman will ſpin 6 hanks a week, of 4 hank yarn, at 4d. a hank, 4d. a day by 4 hank yarn, and 3d. a day by 2 hank yarn. The people are upon the increaſe, but not much; they are better fed than 20 years ago, and better cloathed, but not more induſtrious, or better houſed. They live on potatoes and milk, and butter. Scarce any but what keeps a cow or two; they are not allowed to keep pigs in general, but many will a tolerable quantity of poultry. The rent of 1 acre, and a houſe, is 20s. the graſs of a cow 1l. 2s. The men dig turf, and plant potatoes, and work for their landlord, and the women pay the rent by ſpinning. Great riſe in prices, butter one-third, beef one-fourth, poultry one-half Price of a car 1l. 14s. a plough 10s. 6d. Oak timber 3l. 3s. to 5l. a ton, aſh ditto 2l. to 3l. elm ditto. A mud cabbin 5l 5s. ditto ſtone and ſlate 15l. A maſon's perch of a wall 4s. Near Caſtle Plunket, a bog of Mr. Arthur Irvin's, let at 1l. 2s. 9d. a perch, 160l. per acre, it is 21 deep of fine turf.

Mr. Mahon's woods are all of his own planting, and having beſides 100 acres, a vaſt number of hedge-rows well planted round many incloſures, which join thoſe woods, they all take the appearance of uniting into one great range of plantations, ſpreading on each ſide the houſe. It is one of the ſtrongeſt inſtances of a fine ſhade being ſpeedily formed in the midſt of a bleak country that I have any where met with, being a perfect contraſt to all the neighbourhood. He began 35 years ago with aſh, which trees are now 70 to 80 feet high.

But the generality of the plantations are from 17 to 30 years old, and are for that age, I think, the fineſt woods I ever ſaw; they conſiſt of aſh, oak, engliſh and french elm, beech, maple, ſpruce, ſcotch and ſilver fir, larch, &c. Of all theſe the beech are the fineſt trees, and of the

the greateſt growth, many of them 3 and 4 feet in circumference, and 30 to 40 feet high. The bark is bright and beautiful, and every tree gives the ſtrongeſt ſigns of agreeing perfectly with the ſoil. One very particular circumſtance of this tree, Mr. Mahon tried, which deſerves the attention of thoſe who have deer; he made a plantation of all ſorts of foreſt trees in his park, in order to ſee how far the deer would let them eſcape: they eat up every tree he planted, the beech alone excepted, not one of which did they touch either leaf, branch, or bark; it was 18 years ago, and they are all now as fine trees as ever were ſeen. Next to the beech, the largeſt tree is the ſilver fir, of which he has many in 20 years, of a great ſize. After this the oak, which thrives admirably well; then the engliſh elm. But the tree which outgrows theſe and every other he has planted but 5 years, is the Lombardy poplar. The growth almoſt exceeds belief! In 5 years they are 35 feet high, and I ſaw many of 2 years old 12 feet, and the year's ſhoots 5 or 6 feet. His hedge-rows, Mr. Mahon has planted with uncommon attention, the ditches are ſingle, with a row of trees among or above the quick, another row on the back of the bank, and a third on the brow of the ditch; theſe, with a lofty growth of the quick, form ſo thick a ſhelter, that one cannot ſee thro' it, ſo that almoſt every incloſure has the appearance of a field, ſurrounded by a wood. Of theſe incloſures thus planted, he has 16 of from 6 to 20 acres each. Mr. Mahon's breed of both cattle and ſheep are improved by a bull and a tup, which he bought of Mr. Bakewell; and has bred from them with great ſucceſs. He is in the ſucceſſion ſyſtem, which is, buying in a certain number of yearlings every year, and killing the ſame number fat, from 5 to 7 years old: but in common they are only kept till 4 or 5.

At Clonells, near Caſtle rea, lives O'Conner, the direct deſcendant of Rodetick O'Connor, who was king of Connaught 6 or 700 years ago; there is a monument of him in Roſcommon church, with his ſcepter, &c. I was told as a certainty, that this family were here long before the coming of the Mileſians. The poſſeſſions formerly ſo great are reduced to 3 or 400l. a year, the family having fared in the revolutions of ſo many ages, much worſe than the O'Niel's and O'Brien's. The common people pay him the greateſt reſpect, and ſend him preſents of cattle, &c. upon various occaſions. They conſider him as the prince of a people involved in one common ruin.

Another great family in Connaught is Macdermot, who calls himſelf prince of Coolavin; he lives at Coolavin in Sligo, and though he has not above 100l. a-year, will not admit his children to ſit down in his preſence. This was certainly the caſe with his father, and ſome aſſured me even with the preſent chief. Lord Kingſborough, Mr. Ponſonby, Mr. O'Hara,

Mr. Sandford, &c. came to ſee him, and his addreſs was curious: "*O'Hara! you are welcome*; *Sandford, I am glad to ſee your mother's ſon*: (his mother was an O'Brien) *as to the reſt of ye, come in as ye can.*" Mr. O'Hara of Nymphsfield, is in poſſeſſion of a conſiderable eſtate in Sligo, which is the remains of great poſſeſſions they had in that country: he is one of the few deſcendants of the Mileſian race.

SINCE the bounty on the inland carriage of corn to Dublin, much is ſent from the county of Roſcommon, and even farther from Sligo and Mayo; and this buſineſs of carriage was mentioned to me as a proof of the great excellency of the iriſh car. They carry from 9 cwt. to 12 cwt. with a ſingle horſe that is not worth above 5l. The diſtance from hence is 67 miles, and they are 9 days going and returning: they come back loaded. For 16s. 3d. they will carry a load of any thing to Dublin without the advantage of any bounty.

AUGUST 23d, leave Strokeſtown, and take the road to Elphin, through a country principally ſheep walks; the ſoil dry ſound gravel, and ſtoney land. Waited on the biſhop, who was ſo obliging as to procure me ſeveral valuable particulars concerning the neighbourhood.

His Lordſhip ſhewed me the particular of his biſhoprick, which conſiſts of very large tracts of land both in Roſcommon and Sligo, from this the rental appears. The total of his particular are, 18,223 profitable acres, 5,382 unprofitable. Rent 1,742l. Fines 1,216l. 23,000 acres, let for 1,742l. muſt neceſſarily be very moderate. Reſpecting ſheep walks, the following is an account of what a farm of 1000 acres is on an average; 2000 ſheep kept on it worth 14s. 100 bullocks, that is, 60 two year olds, and 40 three year olds.

Annual ſale.

500 wethers, at 20s. to 24s.	550	0	0
100 culled ewes, at 8s.	40	0	0
2000 fleeces, 5 lb. at 10d. average	416	0	0
That is 10s. a head	1006	0	0
Profit on 100 young cattle	200	0	0
£.	1206	0	0
20 acres graſs potatoes let at 3l. 3s. to 4l. ſay	70	0	0
10 acres meadow ſold at 50s.	25	0	0
5 fillies and colts, at 6l.	30	0	0
30 acres of wheat, bere and oats, at 5l.	150	0	0
10 acres flax let at 3l. to 4l.	35	0	0
£.	1516	0	0

Expences.

Expences.

Rent	750	0	0
Ceſs	30	0	0
10 men	80	0	0
Wear and tear	10	0	0
Intereſt 2000l. ſtock, 6 per cent.	120	0	0
Tythe	40	0	0
Loſſes on ſtock 3s. a head on ſheep	100	0	0
£.	1130	0	0

Produce	1516	0	0
Expences	1130	0	0
Profit	£.386	0	0

FARMS in general are from 100 to 1500 acres; and rents from 12s. to 15s. an acre. Ten years ago flocks amounted to 9 or 10,000, but now not above 2000. Average rent of the whole county 10s. From Elphin towards Kingſton, eſpecially near the latter, the ſoil ranks among the fineſt I have any where ſeen. It is a dry ſound mellow ſandy loam, deep and very rich, the herbage excellent. It is generally under ſheep, with many bullocks.

To Lord Kingſton's, to whom I had a letter, but unfortunately for me he was at Spaw. Walked down to Longford Hill, to view the lake; it is one of the moſt delicious ſcenes I ever beheld, a lake of 5 miles by 4, which fills the bottom of a gentle valley almoſt of a circular form, bounded very boldly by the mountains. Thoſe to the left riſe in a noble ſlope; they lower rather in front, and let in a view of Strand mountain, near Sligo, above 20 miles off. To the right, you look over a ſmall part of a bog to a large extent of cultivated hill, with the blue mountains beyond. Were this little piece of bog planted, the view would be more complete; the hill on which you ſtand has a foliage of well grown trees, which form the ſouthern ſhore. You look down on 6 iſlands, all wooded, and on a fine promontory to the left, which ſhoots far into the lake. Nothing can be more pleaſing than their uncommon variety; the firſt is ſmall, (Rock iſland) tufted with trees, under the ſhade of which is an antient building, once the reſidence of Macmerdot. The next a mixture of lawn and wood; the third, which appears to join this, is of a darker ſhade, yet not ſo thick but you ſee the bright lawn under the trees. Houſe iſland is one fine thick wood, which admits not a gleam of light, a contraſt to the ſilver boſom of the lake. Church iſland is at a greater diſtance; this is alſo a clump, and riſes boldly. Rook iſland is of wood; it opens in the center, and ſhews a lawn with a building on it. It is impoſſible to imagine a more pleaſing and chearful ſcene. Paſſed the chapel to Smithfield Hill, which is a fine riſing ground, quite ſurrounded with plantations; from hence the view

is changed; here the promontory appears very bold, and over its neck you ſee another wooded iſland, in a moſt pictureſque ſituation. Nothing can be more pictureſque than Rock iſland, its ruin overhung with ivy. The other iſlands aſſume freſh and varied outlines, and form upon the whole one of the moſt luxuriant ſcenes I have met with.

The views of the lake and environs are very fine as you go to Boyle; the woods unite into a large maſs, and contraſt the bright ſheet of water with their dark ſhades

The lands about Kingſton are very fine, a rich, dry, yellow, ſandy loam, the fineſt ſoil that I have ſeen in Ireland, all graſs, and covered with very fine bullocks, cows, and ſheep. The farms riſe to 500 acres, and are generally in diviſions, parted by ſtone walls, for oxen, cows, young cattle, and ſheep ſeparate. Some of the lands will carry an ox and a wether per acre; rents 15s. to 20s.

Dined at Boyle, and took the road to Ballymoat; croſſed an immenſe mountainy bog, where I ſtopped, and made enquiries; found that it was ten miles long, and three and a half over, containing thirty-five ſquare miles; that lime-ſtone quarries were around, and in it, and lime-ſtone gravel in many places to be found, and uſed in the lands that join it: in addition to this I may add, that there is a great road croſſing it. 35 miles are 22,400 acres. What an immenſe field of improvement! nothing would be eaſier than to drain it, vaſt tracts of land have ſuch a fall, that not a drop of water could remain. Theſe hilly bogs are extremely different from any I have ſeen in England. In the moors in the north, the hills and mountains are all covered with heath, like the iriſh bogs, but they are of various ſoils, gravel, ſhingle, moor, &c. and boggy only in ſpots, but the iriſh bog hills are all pure bog to a great depth, without the leaſt variation of ſoil; and a bog being of a hilly form, is a proof that it is a growing vegetable maſs, and not owing merely to ſtagnant water. Sir Laurence Dundaſs is the principal proprietor of this.

Reached Ballymoat in the evening, the reſidence of the Hon. Mr. Fitzmaurice, where I expected great pleaſure in viewing a manufactory, of which I heard much ſince I came to Ireland. He was ſo kind as to give me the following account of it, in the moſt liberal manner:

Twenty years ago the late Lord Shelburne came to Ballymoat, a wild uncultivated region, without induſtry or civility; and the people all roman catholicks, without an atom of a manufacture, not even ſpinning. In order to change this ſtate of things, his Lordſhip contracted with people in the north, to bring proteſtant weavers, and eſtabliſh a manufactory, as the only means of making the change he wiſhed; this was done, but falling into the hands of raſcals, he loſt 5000 l. by the buſineſs, with only 17 proteſtant families, and 26 or 27 looms eſtabliſhed for it. Upon his death, Lady Shelburne, wiſhed to carry his ſcheme into

into execution, and to do it, gave much encouragement to Mr. Wakefield, the great iriſh factor in London, by granting advantageous leaſes, under the contract of building and colonizing, by weavers from the north, and carrying on the manufactory. He found about 20 looms, working upon their own account, and made a conſiderable progreſs in this for five years, raiſing ſeveral buildings, cottages for the weavers, and was going on as well as the variety of his buſineſs would admit, employing 60 looms. He then died, when a ſtand was made to all the works for a year, in which every thing went much to ruin. Lady Shelburne then employed a new manager to carry on the manufacture upon his own account, giving him very profitable grants of lands, to encourage him to do it with ſpirit. He continued for five years, employing 60 looms alſo; but his circumſtances failing, a freſh ſtop was put to the work.

Then it was that Mr. Fitzmaurice, in the year '774, determined to exert himſelf in puſhing on a manufactory, which promiſed to be of ſuch eſſential ſervice to the whole country. To do this with effect, he ſaw that it was neceſſary to take it intirely into his own hands. He could lend money to the manager to enable him to go on, but that would be, at beſt, hazardous, and could never do it in the complete manner in which he wiſhed to eſtabliſh it. In this period of conſideration, Mr. Fitzmaurice was adviſed by his friends, never to engage in ſo complex a buſineſs as a manufacture, in which he muſt of neceſſity become a merchant; alſo engage in all the hazard, irkſomneſs, &c. of commerce, ſo totally different from his birth, education, ideas and purſuits; but tired with the inactivity of common life, he determined not only to turn manufacturer, but to carry on the buſineſs in the moſt ſpirited and vigorous manner that was poſſible In the firſt place he took every means of making himſelf a compleat maſter of the buſineſs; he went through various manufactures, enquired into the minutiæ, and took every meaſure to know it to the bottom. This he did ſo repeatedly, and with ſuch attention in the whole progreſs, from ſpinning to bleaching, and ſelling, that he became as thorough a maſter of it, as an experienced manager; he has woven linen, and done every part of the buſineſs with his own hands. As he determined to have the works complete, he took Mr. Stansfield, the engineer, ſo well known for his improved ſaw-mills, into his pay; he ſent him over to Ballymoat, in the winter of 1774, in order to erect the machinery of a bleach mill, upon the very beſt conſtruction; he went to all the great mills in the north of Ireland to inſpect them, to remark their deficiencies, that they might be improved in the mills he intended to erect. This knowledge being gained, the work was begun, and as water was neceſſary, a great baſon was formed, by a dam acroſs a valley, by which means 34 acres were floated, to ſerve as a reſervoir for dry ſeaſons, to ſecure plenty at all times. All the machinery of the

mill

mill is perfectly well conſtructed, and worthy of the artiſt who formed it; in general it is upon the common principle of other bleach-mills, only executed in a manner much ſuperior to any other in Ireland, but in ſeveral particulars it is much improved; a waſhing-wheel, on the new conſtruction uſed in England, is added; beetlers are improved in their motion on the cylinder, by giving ſomething more of time to their rebound; the motion given to the rubbing boards is in a manner different from the common, and in general, the wheels are all ſo proportioned, that every operation may go on in the full velocity, without one part being ſtopped at all upon account of another, which is not generally the caſe; the water wheel is alſo formed to work with the leaſt quantity of water poſſible; all the works going on with no larger quantity than will flow through a pipe of a 9-inch bore. Here are two beetling cylinders, three pair of rubbing boards, a pair of ſtocks, a waſhing wheel, two large coppers for boiling or bucking, a room for drying, and another for folding, the whole contained in a well-erected edifice, 81 feet long, by 28 feet broad, and 17 high.

In the firſt year, 1774, not having a bleach green, he only kept the looms going, to ſell the linen green; 65 in that year worked 1730 webs, each 50 yards long and ſeven-eights broad, on an average 10 hundred linen. In 1775, the number of looms was 80, and they worked 2110 pieces of the ſame linen. At preſent the number is 90, and preparations are made for there being 120 by this time twelve-month: and Mr. Fitzmaurice has no doubt of having 300 in two years time. In eſtabliſhing and carrying on this manufactory, the increaſe has been by weavers from the north, for whom he builds houſes as faſt as he can, and has many more applying than he can ſupply by building. They come with nothing but their families, and Mr. Fitzmaurice fixes them in houſes, finds them a loom, and every thing neceſſary for their work, and employs them upon his own account; their rent for their houſe and garden being proportioned to their idleneſs.

The full rent he fixes for a ſtone and ſlate cottage, that coſts him 50l. is 40s. if the weaver is idle; but in proportion to the number of webs he weaves his rent is lowered; beſides which encouragement, he gives premiums for the beſt weaving and ſpinning throughout the manufactory.

In order to ſhew how far this ſyſtem of employment is of importance to the neighbourhood, I may obſerve that the 80 looms, beſides the 80 weavers, employed 80 perſons more, which are uſually women; quilling, warping, and winding; the quilling by children and half as many children for quilling in all 80 men, 80 women and 40 children.

The 2110 pieces worked laſt year conſumed 132,930 hanks of yarn, at 63 to each, allowing for accident and waſte, which is ſpun here, and as

as a woman ſpins a hank a day (it is 3 hank yarn) it employs at 300 days to the year, 443 women.

I ſhould be particular in remarking, that all the houſes he built for the weavers, have no more than half a rood of potatoe-garden to them, Mr. Fitzmaurice finding them a cow's graſs, for which they pay 30s. He does this, becauſe he would not wiſh to have them farmers, which he thinks does not at all agree with their buſineſs of weaving. He has planned much greater works; has procured a patent for a market, which he deſigns to eſtabliſh; to build a large handſome market-houſe, at an expence of 1000l. to pull down all the old cabbins in the town, and rebuild them in regular ſtreets, of good houſes, for weavers and mechanics. To convert a large houſe, at preſent uſed in the manufactory, into a handſome inn; a large houſe for a maſter weaver, and laſtly, a manſion-houſe for himſelf in the ſtile of a caſtle, and ſuitable to the ancient ruins, ſituation, and grounds. For theſe purpoſes, he has employed Mr. Paine, the architect, to give deſigns, and execute the whole. Theſe are great works for the ornament and improvement of a country, and united with the flouriſhing progreſs of the manufactory, promiſe to make Ballymoat a conſiderable place. Too much praiſe cannot be given to a man, who, in the prime of life, when pleaſure alone uſually takes the lead, ſhould turn his attention and expence to objects of ſuch national utility and importance, which have for their aim, the well being, happineſs, and ſupport of a whole neighbourhood.

It may be of uſe to inform thoſe who may entertain thoughts of a ſimilar eſtabliſhment, what the expence of theſe works have been, with this view I requeſted the particulars of Mr. Fitzmaurice, and they are as follow: forming the reſervoir of water, the bleach mill, a green, a boiling houſe, a houſe for the maſter bleacher, and 3 or 4 houſes for bleachers, coſt in the whole 1500l. of this 160l. was for forming the reſervoir. A houſe of ſtone and ſlate ſufficient to contain a family, and four looms, coſts 55l. and the four looms 8l. 8s.

In order to ſhew the full expence of eſtabliſhing a manufactory, that employs 100 looms, the following particulars will be of uſe; they will alſo ſhew, that views of private profit have not actuated Mr. Fitzmaurice to this undertaking, as it is nothing but a very ſkilful management, or fortunate prices can make it advantageous to a gentleman, whoſe views ought to be more diſtant, to the increaſe of uſeful population, and thereby of the rental of his eſtate.

The bleach mill and green - -	1500	0	0
25 cottages for the 100 looms, at 55l. - -	1375	0	0
Other building for a clerk and maſter weaver -	200	0	0
100 looms, yard-wide or under - - -	210	0	0
Total buildings, &c. -	£. 3285	0	0

Intereſt

Brought over - - -	3285	0	0
Intereſt of that ſum, at 6 per cent. for a year -	197	0	0
163,800 hanks of yarn, at 63 to each piece, and 26 pieces to each loom, per annum, at five-pence three farthings per hank - - -	3924	7	6
Purging the yarn, one halfpenny a hank - -	341	5	0
N. B. It is now ſixpence-halfpenny, and even raiſing, but that is very high, 5d. is a low price.			
1 per cent. on ditto, 3900 for carriage and expences -	39	0	0
Pay of 100 weavers at 3½d. a yard for a ten hundred cloth, or 14s. 7d. a piece, ſay 15s. as they run to 51 yards, 2637 - - -	1977	15	0
Pay of a maſter weaver - - -	100	0	0
Pay of a yarn buyer and ſorter - -	25	0	0
Needle marking 2637 pieces, at 1d. each - -	10	19	9
As to bleaching, the faireſt way, is to ſuppoſe, that the expence of it amounts to as much as the bleachers charge, which is 1¼d. a yard, this includes the bleachers profit, 6s. 4½d. a piece - -	840	10	0
Package 5s. per pack, of 100 pieces, each 25 yards -	13	4	0
Carriage to Dublin 20s. a pack of 100 . - -	53	0	0
Commiſſion to the Dubliu factor 2 per cent. on 5274 pieces, at 1s. 3d. a yard, or 1l. 7. 1d. a piece, or 82 9l. two per cent. on this ſum - -	164	15	0
N. B. On fine goods, 5 per cent. owing to the tediouſneſs of ſelling them, and 5 months credit, inſtead of 2.			
Porterage in Dublin 2s. 6d. a pack - -	6	10	0
£.	10,978	6	3

Annual expence.

Intereſt of the firſt ſtock - -	197	0	0
Yarn — — —	3924	7	6
Purging and carriage - -	380	0	0
Weavers - - -	1977	15	0
Overſeers - - -	125	0	0
Marking - - -	10	19	9
Bleaching - - -	840	10	0
Package and carriage - -	66	4	0
Commiſſion - - -	164	0	0
Porterage - - -	6	10	0
£.	7692	6	3

As

As the money is turned juſt twice a year, half this is to be charged as ſtock or - - -	3846	0	0
Buildings - - - -	3285	0	0
Therefore the capital for the undertaking is -	7131	0	0
Intereſt on that, at 6 per cent. - -	427	0	0
Sundry expences on 5274 pieces - -	7692	0	0
£.	8119	0	0

PRODUCE.

5274 pieces, at 1l. 11s. 3d. - -	8239	0	0
Expences - - - -	8119	0	0
Remains — — —	120	0	0

HENCE there appears to be ſome profit on this account, beſides all that is on the bleaching; alſo the rent of 25 houſes, which may be reckoned at 100 l. a year.

BUT if they ſell only at 1 l. 7s. 1d. the account would then be:

Expences - - - -	8119	0	0
Produce 5274, at 27s. 1d. - -	7141	0	0
Loſs - - - - -	978	0	0

LET me obſerve upon this, that ſuch accounts are never accurate, and they ſhould be taken rather for framing general, than particular ideas. At firſt ſight, it might be thought, that proving too much in the little or no profit of ſuch an undertaking, is proving nothing, as the trade could never be carried on; but this would not be a juſt concluſion. The linen buſineſs is not conducted thus; the drapers, who are bleachers, purchaſe the linen, not weave it on their account; and here lies probably much of their profit, they take advantage of the variation of *times*, to uſe a commercial term, and often get the linen under its fair value; they have the opportunity of taking advantage of all temporary neceſſities among the weavers; but at all events, they know to a farthing the value they can give, and they do not buy a piece more than ſuits them. But if the weaving was done on their account, they would be obliged to make the linen, however dead the market, or elſe have their men idle. Another obſervation which goes generally to all undertakings of this ſort is, that the uniting in one perſon ſeveral branches of a manufacture, will rarely be found advantageous. If every ſtep is a diſtinct trade, alone occupying both capital and attention, the fabric is the more like to thrive. That

Mr. Fitzmaurice, with great activity and a good underſtanding, can make himſelf a maſter of the buſineſs, nothing but contraction can doubt; but I queſtion whether the moſt ſagacious draper in Ireland would make conſiderably, if he wove the cloth as well as bleached it; hence therefore, the part of the preceding caculation the moſt applicable to gentlemen, is the detail of the expenditure of 3285l. becauſe for that ſum, 100 weavers and a bleacher would be ſet to work, to whom the landlord might give what encouragement he pleaſed in bounties per piece, made and bleached, but neither the one or the other on his own account. After all, I ſee every reaſon to aſſert, that a gentleman, for a ſhilling he will ever make by manufactory, will profit a guinea by the improvement of land; have raſcals to deal with in one line, and honeſt men in the other.

Mr. Fitzmaurice obſerves, that the art of bleaching depends ſo much on niceties, and not a little on matter of opinion in the drapers, who buy the linen, that it is difficult to lay down any rules for it; there are ſome points however, which deſerve attention; firſt, in reſpect to the uſe of lime, which though great chymiſts have proved to be perfectly harmleſs and uſeful, if uſed with ſkill and caution, yet the bleachers poſitively deny the uſe of it, whether to indulge the prejudice of the common people againſt it, or for profit in making the worſt aſhes equal to the beſt, cannot be well aſcertained. As to bucking and boiling, it is very obſervable that the fineſt linens being made of the hardeſt and toughеſt fibres of the flax, which ſtand the operation of ſcutching, (which by the way is a very ſtrong reaſon why the fineſt linens ſhould be incomparably more laſting than the coarſer ones) make a diſtinction between boiling and bucking, the firſt is the moſt ſevere operation, and therefore neceſſary for the tough materials, the other proper for the coarſe and weaker ones. But they are the ſame thing if done with attention; a thorough bucking is equal to a mild boiling, but depending both on the degree in which they are performed. With regard to rubbing boards, the general prejudice to them being founded on fact, can only ariſe from the bleachers ſaving ſoap; if uſed in a proper quantity, there is not the leaſt objection to them.

Account of flax about Ballymoat. The greater part of the poor people about Ballymoat allot about half a rood of land to the growth of flax, the rent 7s. 6d. this is ſown with about five gallons of ſeed, medium price 5s. 6d. the 5 gallons. From breaking and ſcutching, the above yields to the grower, from 84 to 112 cwt. that is, 6 to 8 ſtone. If the flax be dried, as well as broke and ſcutched at the mill, the charge is 16d. a ſtone; if only the two latter, it is only 14d. or if ſcutched, only 10d. After ſcutching, it is worth, rough, 5s. to 6s. a ſtone.

Dr.

Dr.				Cr.			
Rent	0	7	6	Value of 8 ſtone.	2	0	0
Seed	0	5	6				
Breaking, drying, and ſcutching	0	10	8				
Profit for labour	0	16	4				
£.	2	0	0	£.	2	0	0

After ſcutching, it is heckled or ſplit into ſmall pieces of different qualities; one half produces the beſt ſort, which is ſpun to about three hank yarn, that is, three hanks to the pound: the half of the remaining half, i.e. one quarter of the whole, is called hackled tow, and is ſpun into an inferior ſort, two hank yarn; the remainder is called *backings*, and is ſpun into the coarſeſt ſtuff, of which is made ſacking, coarſe ſheeting for the poor, &c. At this period the weight is not diminiſhed above 4 lb. in the cwt. and the beſt ſort is worth at a medium, 9d. a lb. the ſecond ſort worth 6d. and the coarſeſt about 1½d. after payment of 1d. per lb. for the two firſt ſorts.

Dr.				Cr.			
Rough flax	2	0	0	56 lb. heckled of beſt ſort	2	2	0
Heckling	0	7	0	28 lb. at 6d.	0	14	0
Profit	0	12	0	Backings	0	3	0
£.	2	19	0	£.	2	19	0

The hecklers generally travel about to the houſes of poor people to get this work to do. Four men will be taken up 2 days in doing the above quantity. Spinning is performed by women and children; one diligent perſon will ſpin about one hank, containing 12 *ents*, each ent having 120 rounds, from two yards and a half in circumference in a day. If carried then to market, it generally produces 5d. per hank, or a dozen to the ſpinner, and is generally bought by jobbers or by poor manufacturers. Upwards of 40,000l. per ann. in yarn is exported from Sligo to Manchester and Liverpool. It is ſuppoſed that there is as much yarn exported raw from Ireland, as is manufactured in it. The firſt ſtep taken by the manufacturer is to ſteep the yarn in lukewarm water for a day or two; it is then boiled 12 hours in a ſtrong lee of barilla aſhes, after which it is bleached for 3 weeks or a month, and when dry, is dreſſed and ſoftened by being hung in a frame, and rubbed in a clipped ſtick, after which it is ſorted into different degrees of fineneſs, firſt by weight, and then by the eye, when it is ready to be delivered to the weaver, with the *reed* and *geers* adapted to manufacturing it. The griſt or fineneſs of the yarn, determines the *ſet* or fineneſs of the reed through which it is to be wrought. The reed is divided into *beers*, each beer containing 20 ſplits, each *ſplit* two *threads*. Theſe threads are called the *warp*. The threads

thrown acroſs by the ſhuttle are called the *wooft*. Five beers are what is commonly called a *hundred*, the number of which hundred is regulated by the ſkill of the manufacturer, ſo as to make the cloth thick or thin in the breadth: and the number of theſe hundreds conſtitutes the fineneſs and value of the cloth. N. B. The extremities are from 400 ſplits in the breadth of one yard to 2500. The rule to aſcertain the true value of any given piece of cloth by inſpection with a glaſs. Apply the glaſs to the cloth, reckon the number of threads in the warp, which are magnified by the glaſs, and by as many threads as are ſo counted, ſo many hundreds is the fineneſs of the cloth, which hundreds when doubled, and half of the firſt number added, i. e. 10 threads giving as many hundreds, them doubled make 20, and half added 25. Of ſo many hanks of yarn does a piece of cloth of 20 yards conſiſt of, fairly and honeſtly made. Learn the value of yarn, add the weaving and bleaching, and the addition gives the value out of the manufactory.

An acre.

	£.	s.	d.
Forty gallons ſeed, 1s. 6d.	3	0	0
Two ploughings	1	0	0
Two harrowings	0	6	0
Clodding, four women	0	2	0
Weeding, ten ditto	0	5	0
Pulling, twenty women, a day, 3d. and diet, 3d.	0	10	0
Binding, four men, 6d. and 3d. diet	0	3	0
Carrying, ſix horſes, a day, at 1s. 6d.	0	9	0
Watering and ſodding, ſix men	0	4	6
Taking out, four men	0	1	6
Spreading, twelve women	0	6	0
Lifting, twelve women	0	6	0
Carrying, two cars and four men	0	6	0
Drying, four men and four women	0	5	0
Twelve kiſhes turf, 8d.	0	8	0
Beetling, forty women	1	0	0
Scutching, 1s. a ſtone, fifty-ſix ſtone	2	16	0
Heckling, 8d. a ſtone for the flax, 1d. per lb. for the tow, 4lb. of the firſt to the ſtone, ſcutched, or 14 ſtone, heckled, at 8d.	0	9	4
Three pound of tow to the ſtone, 168 lb. at 1d.	0	14	0
Rent	0	16	0
	£. 13	10	4

If

If the land is hired ready dreſſed - - -	11	8	4
Rent - - - - -	2	0	0
	13	8	4
This if a cottar, but if not the rent is 3l. which will make it - - - - -	14	8	4
Value of the heckled flax, 7d. to 1s. average 9d. a lb or 12s. a ſtone - - - - -	8	8	0
One hundred ſixty-eight pound of tow, at 6d. -	4	4	0
Six pound of Backings to the ſtone, 336 lb. at one halfpenny	0	14	0
£.	13	6	0

Very little weaving in Sligo, but a little ſcattered ſpinning every where; the women earn 3d. or 4d. a day, by a hank a day. 80,000l. of yarn laſt year exported from the port of Sligo. Price of labour, cottars 5d. others 6d. Heaps of weeds burning all over the country for aſhes for boiling the yarn, by poor people. An acre of weeds has been ſold for 6l. 6s. One ſixth of the county bog and mountain, the reſt 15s. an acre. The farms riſe to large ones, that are grazing, but all the tillage is carried on by cottars, or very inconſiderable ones. The courſes are;

1. Potatoes. 2. Flax. 3. Oats. 4. Oats.

1. Potatoes. 2. Potatoes.

Barony of Corra, the beſt in the county; the high lands all lime-ſtone. Rent about Ballymoat, 20s. Potatoes yield 26 barrels, at the average price of ſix ſhillings, it weighs 10 cwt. Wheat yields ſix and a half, or ſeven barrels. Oats 10 ditto. A great plenty of marle, and lime-ſtone, and lime-ſtone gravel in all the country, but none uſed, except by ſuch as are forced to do it by their landlords. Of theſe the moſt generally uſed is the lime-ſtone gravel. A good deal of mountain, improved by little farmers, by their landlord's directions. John Kelly, a little cottar on Mr. Fitzmaurice's eſtate, is a ſtrong inſtance of this, and his mode of doing it, has been by paring and burning, and ſpreading the aſhes. He then puts in potatoes immediately, gets good crops, then good oats, and would, if he was able, ſow graſs ſeeds.

Sunday, auguſt 26th, to the Rt. Hon. Joſhua Cooper's, at Mercra, who not only received me with the utmoſt politeneſs, but was ſo obliging as to ſend for a neighbouring gentleman, in order between them, with other aſſiſtance, to anſwer all my queſtions, which was done in the moſt attentive and ſatisfactory manner. About which place the rent of land, on an average, 15s. Some of the mountains, that are not lime-ſtone, let for very little,

2s. but the lime-ſtone ones are good land univerſally, and yield almoſt as high rent as the reſt of the country. Farms in culture are exceedingly ſmall, the poor people divide and take them in partnerſhip, four or five to a plough land of 100 acres, but they ſubdivide down to five or ſix acres, and in general all the tillage is done by theſe little occupiers. There are ſome large grazing farms up to above 1000 acres, which are under ſheep and bullocks. One ſeventh of the county may be reckoned bog, and unimproved mountain, and the other 6-7ths, 15s. Mayo one third, perhaps half, bog and mountain, and two-thirds, at 12s. Galway more than one-third bog, mountain and lakes. The courſes of crops purſued here;

1. Potatoes. 2. Barley. 3. Oats. 4. Oats. 5. Oats. 6. Oats. 7. Oats. 8. Left out ſeven years to ſheep.

1. Potatoes. 2. Flax, 3. Barley. 4. Oats. 5. Oats. 6. Oats. 7. Oats. 8. Oats. 9. Lay out.

1. Potatoes. 2. Flax. 3. Barley. 4 Oats. 5. Oats. 6. Oats. 7. Potatoes.

1. Potatoes. 2. Barley, which is the beſt courſe I have met with in Ireland. Wheat is coming in in the following courſe,

1. Potatoes. 2. Wheat. 3. Oats, 4 or 5 years. Some wheat on ſummer fallow. Graſs land hired for potatoes, at 5l. if not an acre, is

Rent	0	15	0
Ceſs	0	0	4
Tythe	0	0	0
Manuring labour, 20 men, and 3 horſes	1	5	0
Seed, thirty pecks, each 6d.	0	15	0
Putting in firſt digging, 30 men, at 6d.	0	15	0
Second covering, ſhovelling ditto	0	15	0
Third ditto, fifteen men	0	7	6
Weeding, eight men	0	4	0
Digging up, ſixty men a day	1	10	0
Picking and gathering, one man to four	0	7	6
Carrying home, five men and five horſes	0	5	0
Picking over and ſhifting	0	5	0
£.	7	4	4

PRODUCE.

300 pecks, 56 lb. each, at 6d. per peck	7	10	0
If they, which is very common, hire graſs land for it, the rent is 4l. 4s. on an average, then			
Rent	4	4	0
Other expences as before	6	9	0
	10	13	0

PRODUCE.

PRODUCE.

Three hundred and fifty pecks, at 6d. - - -	8	15	0
Profit - - - £.	1	18	0

MANY are planted in bogs that are drained; they are the firſt thing they plant, manuring with both lime-ſtone gravel and dung, the firſt will not do alone, very little dung will do: the crops are ſuperior in quantity to thoſe from any other land, they will get 50 pecks more than from the graſs land. They feed their cows and pigs with them when plentiful. Mr. O'Hara of Nymphsfield fatted many bullocks with them, and found that they did exceedingly well. Of barley they ſow a barrel per acre, which is here 14 ſtone, and get on an average 14 barrels an acre. In Terrera barony they get great crops, ſometimes 20 barrels an acre. They ſow 2 barrels of 12 ſtone of oats, the mean produce 10 barrels, ſome not above 5 or 6. Of wheat they ſow 12 ſtone, and the crop 6 barrels. Every body ſows a patch of flax; a farming cottar, with 6 or 7 acres, will ſow 6 or 8 gallons. The quantity of ſeed 40 gallons per acre. The value ſold *on the foot* is in general 8l. and the crop is calculated that a gallon of ſeed produces a ſtone of ſcutched flax, or 40 ſtone per acre. The quantity of waſte improved is very conſiderable; it is moory mountain, about 12 inches deep. In much of this, immediately under the moor, is a thin ſtratum of what they call *lack-clay*, which is like baked clay, the thickneſs of a tile, and no water gets through it. Under it lime-ſtone gravel. Trenching the land for potatoes, breaks this ſtratum, and lets the water through at once, and no other drains are neceſſary. In leſs than a century, almoſt the whole country, as well as Roſcommon, was a moor. The mode taken has been by lime-ſtone gravel chiefly, and this goes on ſo much, that the moors are worth a conſiderable rent; the crops they give at firſt are very great. The expence of gravelling is 2l. 2s. an acre. 2000 horſe-loads in baſkets on their backs is the quantity, it changes the nature both of moors and clays intirely, and laſts for ever.

IN this country there are large tracts of graſs land, which will rear the largeſt oxen, but will not fatten them; but if gravelled, will fatten them perfectly. Lime not uſed as a manure in common, though there is an amazing quantity in the country; the price of burning will be four-pence halfpenny a barrel of roach lime. A barrel of turf will burn a barrel of lime; a barrel of turf is one-third of a kiſh. Turf mold laid on a clay meadow will give one good crop. The ſyſtem of cattle is various; the graziers upon good graſs buy in cows in the month of may, at 3l. 10s. average, and ſell out in november and october, at a profit of 1l. 10s. alſo buy oxen 3 year old in october, give them coarſe hay, and ſell them fat or in good order the autumn following; buy in at 4l. 10s. and ſell out at 7l. and he will take for meadow half an acre of hay, and one and a half for ſummer; beſides which there will be one ſheep and a half per acre the year through, which will pay 12s. Upon worſe land

land they go into the ſucceſſion ſyſtem, which is buying year olds at 25s. on an average: theſe, as well as the preceding for cattle, which at 4 year old come to 5 cwt. which is the common ſize of the county. He keeps them 3 years, and ſelling them lean at 4l. 10s. but theſe ſyſtems are always united on the ſame farm, as they have all ſorts of cattle to ſuit different ſoils. No dairies.

The ſheep ſyſtem is not of conſequence, for there are ſcarce any flocks kept. Twenty years ago the baronies of Corra and Terrera were continued ſheep-walks; but now the former is all potatoes and barley, and much of the latter is broken up, ſo that upon the whole tillage has gained very much on graſs. The ſheep there kept are both fattening and breeding; they keep their lambs till three year wethers, and ſell them fat at 16s. that is, 18 lb. a quarter, at 2d. a lb. The ewe lambs will be kept, and old ewes culled and ſold off half fat, at 10s. The fleeces on the average of the whole will be 4 lb. Mr. Ormſby gets 8 and 10 lb. from his wethers. Swine increaſing, no pork exported from Sligo till laſt year, but now they are getting into it. Horſes are uſed for tillage only, 4 in a plough abreaſt, and ſome harrowing ſtill done BY THE TAIL; they will plough half an acre a day, or more commonly three days to an acre. Upon wet lands they plough into ridges arched, but never water furrow. They know nothing of cutting chaff, but let the wind blow that of their crops away. As to hiring and ſtocking farms, they manage ſo as to do without capital; a grazier will re-let to his cottars as much of his land as high as he can; enough to pay his rent or near it, and as to the poor fellow, he manages with very little. 3l. per acre will do for buying the cattle for a grazing farm.

Land ſells at 20 years purchaſe, rack rent. The rents are leſs than 5 or 6 years ago, but are rather riſing at preſent. Tythes are generally taken in kind; they are let to tythe proctors, who are paid wheat 8s. Barley 6s. Oats 4s. Flax 8s. Potatoes none tythed in Connaught. Hay 3s. Leaſes 3 lives, or 31 years. Much of it let on leaſes renewable for ever. Middle men, who occupy none, is a practice declining, but not gone out. Two bolting mills erected, which begin to increaſe the crops of wheat, and promiſe to change the face of the country. The people throughout it increaſe very faſt moſt undoubtedly. Their circumſtances in general are infinitely better than 20 years ago; they are cloathed and fed better, are much more induſtrious; ſpalpeens going from hence declines much, and will ſoon be entirely out. Rent of a cabbin and garden 20s. The graſs of a cow 30s. There were ſome emigrations to America, but not conſiderable, and ſome of them are come back again. The religion in general catholic; but more proteſtants than in any other county in Connaught. In the baronies of Liny and Corra, there are many mileſian iriſh; in Mayo more ſtill, all of the ſpaniſh breed. The food of the poor people is potatoes, milk, and herrings, with oaten bread in ſummer; all keep cows, not pigs, and but a few poultry. They have an abſolute bellyfull of potatoes, and the children eat them as plentifully as they like. The average price of oatmeal ſomething leſs than 1d. a pound. All of them have a bit of cabbages. They prefer oat bread both to potatoes and to wheat bread. All afford

ford whiſky. A year's turf will coſt a family 30s. The common people are ſo amazingly addicted to thieving every thing they can lay their hands on, that they will unſhoe the horſes in the field in the barony of Liny; they are alſo lyars from their cradle, but wonderfully ſagacious, cunning, and artful.

WITHIN 10 miles of this, in Leitrim, is a great country of good coal near the ſurface; but for want of being well worked, ſells at 7s. a ton: and near Ballyſodare is a lead mine, but not worked with ſucceſs, though very rich. As to the linen manufactory, it has made ſome progreſs; there are 6 bleach greens in the county, and there are many weavers. Spinning is univerſal in all the cabbins. A woman will earn two-pence halfpenny at it. The rents are moſtly paid by yarn.

MR. Cooper has reclaimed, and is reclaiming 65 acres of bog, which is 12 feet deep, and was ſo wet and rotten, that no animal could go on it without being ſwallowed up: much of it had been ſo mangled and cut in holes to get turf, that the levelling in order for the plough was put out at 1l. 10s. an acre. A great drain was made round it 9 feet broad at top, 10 deep, and quite narrow at bottom, and repeated theſe drains, but not ſo large at the diſtance of 60 yards from each other. A drain of 9 feet wide at top, and 6 deep, coſts 10d. a perch. The above drains were done by the day. In one year after, the bog was dry enough to plough, which he did, and burnt the furrow and ſowed rape: the crop middling, eat it with ſheep. The ſecond year ploughed and burnt it again, and had a ſecond crop of rape; after which another year of rape and turneps, and it now lies with the graſſes that came of themſelves after theſe operations: it is but indifferent, except in one place where ſome lime-ſtone gravel was ſcattered, and there it is good, promiſing well. Adjoining the bog is a wet ſpringy bank full of ruſhes, from which Mr. Cooper apprehends the water comes that breaks out in the bog, which it does in a few places, for want of the ſurrounding drain on that ſide being completed. To ſuch as have bogs to improve, he would recommend to ſurround the ſpace to be improved with a drain ſo deep as to go to the gravel, which is a point he thinks very neceſſary; as when this is done, if there is any fall at all for the water, the drain will keep open, and not cloſe up, as it will do if not ſo deep, for want of a hard ſurface for the water to run off on. A year after this work, plough it, burn the ſurrow, and ſow rape for ſheep food, levelling the land by ploughing and burning; and repeat this till level, or if there is any dung, potatoes is much the beſt crop, and will be a great produce. As ſoon as the land is level, ſow oats and hay ſeeds, and when there is a ſkin of turf gained, then carry on the lime-ſtone gravel in preference to every thing elſe, if it is to be had: the effect of which is ſo ſtrong as to change heath to white clover at once upon drained land. The more ſoapy the gravel is the better: and Mr. Cooper, from experience, knows that it would then ſet as meadow at 30s. an acre as long as it was kept from returning to its original ſtate. As to the quantity of draining, cutting it into oblongs of 300 yards by 60, would be fully ſufficient: theſe have laid his bog dry.

Turneps Mr. Cooper has cultivated theſe 17 years regularly, with great ſucceſs, for ſtall-feeding oxen, and has found them of great uſe. Cabbages he has had theſe four years, the ſcotch ſort, borecole, and Reynold's turnep-cabbage; theſe he has uſed for fattening ſheep, and never had ſuch ſheep as by this means. He prefers cabbages to turneps much for all uſes, can get larger crops, and what he gets goes farther, and are much preferred by both cattle and ſheep: after them, he has got exceeding fine barley. In the breed of cattle Mr. Cooper has taken pains to improve by means of a lancaſhire bull, of Mr. Parker's breed, and this with ſuch ſucceſs, that his cattle are all very fine, large, and well made; all lancaſhire long horns, with a mixture of the ſtafford and warwick. He has alſo found that this improvement of the breed for fatting has not hurt his dairy, for his cows give 8 quarts of milk at a meal, which is eſteemed very well here: for fattening the breed is excellent. Oxen he has uſed for tillage, &c. 18 years, inſtead of horſes; works them in common yokes, and bows 4 or 6 in a plough; but he thinks that four horſes will do more work in a day than four oxen: yet finds the latter incomparably the moſt profitable. Mules he finds of the greateſt uſe. They are much longer lived than horſes, hardier, eaſier fed, and more profitable: but this is principally applicable to the ſmall iriſh mule, and not the large ones from Spaniſh aſſes, which are not ſo hardy, and more liable to diſorders. They are never fed ſo well as horſes, yet go through more labour: and are much ſuperior to them for carrying burthens. One caution, however, ſhould be uſed in relation to their food. If wheat ſtraw is cut into chaff and given, it will kill them; the late biſhop of Elphin loſt all his mules by it. Mr. Cooper has fattened many hogs on potatoes, and he has found that raw potatoes will fatten them very well, but the fat will be flabby and greaſy; but if the potatoes are parboiled, and well ſprinkled with ſalt, the fleſh will be firm, and perfectly good. He once tried fattening a cow on them, and ſhe did admirably, but eat ſo much, that at the very loweſt price it would not anſwer to give them. He has improved much land by hollow draining, has done it with ſods, and found that it anſwers perfectly.

Sligo is the only ſea-port of this country, and the ſtate of its trade may be taken, as no bad explanation of the improvement of the country around it with which it communicates.

A view of the duties on imports and exports in the port of Sligo for twenty years, ending Lady-day, 1775.

Years.	Imports.			Exports.		
1756	£. 1208	11	4	£. 26	11	7
1757	216	12	0	15	13	10
1758	425	10	1	23	11	11
1759	504	11	6	45	1	0

Years.

Years.	Imports.			Exports.		
1760	£. 518	9	8	£. 45	6	3
1761	384	19	4	51	13	0
1762	640	6	11	73	17	11
1763	1017	11	7	104	17	7
1764	1187	15	3	131	3	2
1765	1458	9	4	102	17	0
1766	406	12	7	120	1	4
1767	486	7	2	92	17	7
1768	1178	12	3	160	8	6
1769	998	14	6	487	17	2
1770	1122	2	4	523	6	7
1771	1554	19	0	309	2	0
1772	841	16	7	471	9	1
1773	2477	17	11	835	11	10
1774	2418	5	4	730	11	4
1775	2256	8	1	956	0	6

Mr. Cooper has remarked, that the great improvement of this part of Ireland commenced about the year 1748, and that rents now are, to what they were before that period, as fifteen to ſix. Some farms bought in 1725, at 5s. 6d. an acre, and twenty years purchaſe, are now lett at 18s.

August 26th, left Mercra, and went to Ballaſadore, when I had great pleaſure in viewing the falls; the river breaks over rocks in the moſt romantic manner, from edge to edge, in many falls, for the ſpace of two hundred yards before it comes to the principal one, which is twelve or fourteen feet perpendicular; the ſcenery about it is bold, the features of the mountains are great, and Knocknaree in full relief; if the falls were through a dark wood, the ſcenery would be among the fineſt in the world.

To Tanrego, the ſeat of Lewis Irwin, Eſq; (who favoured me with ſeveral articles of uſeful intelligence) ſituated in the barony of Tyrera, which is twenty-ſeven miles long, and cultivated from one and an half to three in breadth, by the ſea ſide; lets from 12s. to 17s. an acre, a little for 20s. The ſoil a light ſandy loam, on lime-ſtone, one foot to two deep. Farms are in general from twenty to thirty acres; many taken in partnerſhip, four to eight families take two hundred acres.

1. Manure with wrack for potatoes. 2. Potatoes. 3. Barley. 4. Barley. 5. Oats.

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

1. Potatoes. 2. Barley. 3. Oats. 4. Lay out for graſs.

No ſeeds, in one or two years white clover will come if not over-cropped. For potatoes, from 100 to 150 horſe loads ſea weed, mix no dung with it. Plant twelve pecks, each 56 lb. and get twelve to twenty fold, that is 144 to 249 pecks. Of barley, they get thirteen or fourteen barrels per acre. Of oats, ten barrels. They burn vaſt quantities of kelp, in the whole barony, three hundred tons, all in ſummer; in winter or ſpring they manure with it. The brown alga, which is the more luxuriant, and fuller of the ſaponaceous liquid, they don't manure with, thinking it too ſtrong for the land, burning it up as they call it; but if they would lay it in heaps till rotten, or made compoſts, neither of which they ever do at all, this would not be the caſe. They manure with it every ſix or ſeven years. Mr. Irwin ſpreads it in his pound upon a ſtratum of potatoe ſtalks, and over both one of turf and mould, for cattle to tread on to manure, this is a moſt excellent practice. The mountains neareſt to the ſea, are chiefly ſtocked with ſheep, and farther in, with young cattle near the bog. Upon a part of theſe mountains, of three miles in extent, whatever ſheep feed, are immediately killed by the ſtaggers, and horſes affected; there is a good deal of lime-ſtone, and the land is dry, and to appearance, and in fact, good; it fattens bullocks; it is attributed to the lead mines, which this part is ſuppoſed to be full of. When firſt affected, if brought down to a ſalt marſh, it recovers them immediately. Within a few miles of Tanrego, is Glanſk, and Loch Alt, ſix to ten miles broad, and twenty long, one continued chain of mountain and bog. Three-fourths of Sligo bog, and uncultivated mountain. In the above tract, lime-ſtone every where, in ſome, lime-ſtone gravel, and a good road runs through it; in all this, no cultivation or improvements. Mr. Irwin, upon a part of this country, tried about an acre of boggy, moory mountain, to ſee if paring and burning would do, it anſwered greatly, and the beſt potatoes in the country were there next year. Lime he alſo tried, and with great ſucceſs; he did this in order to ſhew the people that their waſtes were improveable. Upon the ſea-ſhore are immenſe beds of oyſter ſhells, which are burnt into lime for building and plaiſtering, as they take much leſs fuel; theſe hills received no little increaſe from all the gentlemen of the interior country coming to the ſea-coaſt to eat oyſters, where having filled themſelves ſufficiently in the mornings, they got drunk in the evening; this was in the *un*civilized times. Moſt of the gentlemen of this country were Cromwell's ſoldiers, and many welch families, Jones's, Morgan's, Wynn's, &c. In the barony of Tyrera flax is univerſally cultivated; a man with twenty acres will have a rood, which is ſown with five gallons of ſeed; all the females ſpin, but the number of weavers is inconſiderable. Walked down to the coaſt of Tanrego, immediately oppoſite Knocknaree, which riſes very boldy; the bay of Ballyſadore comes up under it, and Ylanabaolane iſland, of

five

five or ſix acres, ſo rich, that it will fatten nine ſheep an acre; it forms Sligo bay.

To Sortland, the ſeat of —— Browne, Eſq; to whom I am obliged for the following particulars.

The barony of Tyreragh, black mold on lime-ſtone 6 inches to a foot deep, lets at 18s. average. The farms are various, generally taken in partnerſhip, which is found a moſt miſchievous cuſtom, and deſtructive to all good huſbandry. The courſe;

1. Potatoes manured with ſea weed. 2. Barley produce 15 barrels. 3. Oats 10 barrels. 4. Oats. Very little ever laid out to graſs.

1. Potatoes. 2. Barley. 3. Oats. 4. Flax on ſpots.

The ſea-weed the only manure, and they depend intirely on it, and apt to do that too much neglecting other parts of management. The circumſtances of the people are not at all improved in 20 years, they are not better fed or cloathed, or in any reſpect better off than formerly. Nor are they at all induſtrious, even of ſea weed they do not make one half the advantage they could, they might get an hundred loads where they get one. They increaſe in number very greatly, ſo as to be evidently crowded; this has been the caſe particularly ſince inoculation was introduced, which was about ten years ago. They live upon potatoes and milk, and for 3 months in the year, on oatmeal. Mr. Browne is convinced from every obſervation, that the potatoes are a very wholeſome and nouriſhing food. The linen manufacture conſiſts only in ſpinning, which is univerſal in all the cabbins, and it is ſo much, that they are aſſiſted by it, in paying their rents. They earn 3d. a day by ſpinning: one lb. of flax for three hank yarn a woman is 4 days ſpinning.

Within a mile of Sortland is a vaſt bog, which ſtretches ten miles in length, and two or three over. It is a black one, 16 ſpit deep. There are hillocks in it of lime-ſtone gravel, but lime-ſtone is not to be found near it in general, tho' not ſearched for with any attention. It is, however, ſo cheap here that any improvements might be worked; Mr. Browne can burn it at 3d. a barrel roach. He hires 1100 acres of this bog, of Mr. King, of Ballina, at 4l. a year, tho' he has not improved it, has no doubt of its being improveable, and remarks that he never yet ſaw a bog that had not a fall enough to drain by. In the barony of Tyreragh, there are a few grazing farmers, but not many. Mr. Neſbit is the greateſt, he farms above 3000 acres. Not a third of the county is bog and mountain, but more than half Mayo is ſo: average rent of the whole county, excluſive of bog and mountain, 16s. an acre. The ſhore is a very fruitful one in ſea weed, which is burnt into kelp in ſummer; they pay a rent for it by the ton of what they get.

From

From the ſlate quarry to Enniſcrone, 9 miles, they make 200 tons of kelp. The men have 17s. to 20s. a ton for ſerving, making, and burning, and it ſells at 2l. 2s. There is not half ſo much uſed in manure as in burning. It is made all the way from this country to Galway. Mules, Mr. Browne thinks ſuperior to horſes, for carrying back loads, but much inferior in drawing ploughs and cars. They are ſo long lived, that the age is ſcarce ever aſked when they are bought; they will live in common, in full work, to 30 years. They will alſo in bog, draw out their legs infinitely better, tho' they go deeper in. From 100 ewes, Mr. Browne ſells 100 three year old wethers, fat, at 18s. to 20s. alſo 20 old ewes at 13s. 300 fleeces at 4lb. at 1s. or 45l. Buys in yearling bullocks at 40s. and ſells out at 7l. gets thereby 5l. for keeping 2 years and a half. No hay given, except in ſnow. He has improved twenty acres of dry moor from heath, it would not yield any rent, but now would let for 15s. an acre. The moor was one foot deep on lack clay; and under that a looſe gravel, not lime-ſtone. Marled it at the rate of 150 barrels an acre, which coſt in labour 5s. white marle from under a bog; ſpread it, and left it for a year, which killed the heath effectually, then ploughed it twice, and took two ſucceſſive crops of potatoes, without dung, the firſt an extraordinary one, the ſecond not bad: then two crops of barley, which were very good: then oats two crops, both very good, and then ſet it at 15s. an acre. If he had ever ſuch quantities of ſuch land, he would never ſtop from the improvement of it, being amazingly profitable.

August the 27th, to Ballyna, where I experienced the moſt polite reception from the Right Honourable Mr. King; the views of the diſtant mountains is very fine; the country is almoſt encompaſſed by them. Thoſe of Donnegal to the right, a great ridge, which ſeparates Tyreragh to the left, Nephin-noble in the front, and Knockaree behind. Many kilns for drying corn in the road. Paſſed 3 miles of paſturage under cattle, before I came to the river leading to Ballyna. The views there are very beautiful, it ſpreads in different reaches. That of Ballina is uncommonly pleaſing; the river a noble bend to a few riſing grounds on which a part of the town is ſeen; beyond it the bridge, and the whole crowned by the Nephin mountain, which riſes with a magnificent regularity from its baſe, and is one of the fineſt mountains I have ſeen.

At Ballyna is a ſalmon fiſhery, let for 520 l. a year, which is one of the moſt conſiderable in the kingdom; generally ſeventy or eighty tons ſalted, beſides the freſh. Cloſe almoſt to this fiſhery is a very pretty, and well-planted farm, belonging to Mr. Jones. Mr. Lindſay, the owner of this fiſhery, improved ſixteen acres of moor, covered with heath, in the following manner: he covered it with lime-ſtone gravel, at the expence of 30s. an acre, left it two years, by which time the heath

was

was all dead; then ploughed it the end of ſummer, and in a month harrowed it; ploughed it, and harrowed it again after Chriſtmas, and in the ſpring ſet it to poor people, for potatoes, at 4l. an acre; they got a very good crop; next year ploughed it, and ſet it for a ſecond crop, reverſing the ridges, at three guineas. After this crop, barley, and got a good crop, ſowing graſs ſeeds with it.

Mr. Gore, of Ballina, had been mentioned to me as one of the moſt conſiderable in cattle of any perſon in Connaught; he was not at home, but his ſon-in-law, the Right Hon. Mr. King, was ſo kind as to procure me the particulars of his domain. Mr. Gore's breed of horned cattle is fine. Some years ago he ſold heifers at 50l. a piece, and now from ten to twenty guineas; the breed not declined, but purchaſers not quite ſo mad as they were. Yearling bulls 20 guineas. This breed he got from Yorkſhire 30 or 40 years ago. His breed of ſheep is alſo excellent, being much improved by rams from England. He improves much moory land and bog, generally 10 or 15 acres every year, by lime-ſtone gravel and marle. Average rent of Tyreragh 12s. Walked in the evening to a moſt noble garden, walled and planted by Mr. King: it is one of the completeſt I have ſeen in Ireland.

August 28th, took my departure from Ballina, and waited on the biſhop of Killala. I wiſhed to have ſome information concerning that vaſt wild and impenetrable tract of mountain and bog, the barony of Erris. His Lordſhip and Mr. Hutcheſon were ſo kind as to give me every particular in their power. The only cultivated part is the peninſula called the Mullet, where they plant a good deal of potatoes, barley, and flax, by means of ſea weed; and there is a rabbit warren, the ſkins of the rabbits yielding 100l. a year. The reſt of it is without cultivation, except in ſmall patches here and there; and it is ſuppoſed, generally ſpeaking, to be without lime-ſtone or lime-ſtone gravel, but probably no great ſearch has been made in ſo dreary a region. It is no eaſy matter to get in or out of it in winter; and very few perſons ever attempt it from november to eaſter, having impaſſable bogs in the way. There were 896 families in the barony in 1765, 400 of which are inhabitants of the Mullet: 47 proteſtant, and 849 popiſh. The biſhop of Killalla has built a houſe in the Mullet for a clergyman, who reſides there; the living is between 50l. and 60l. a year, and 40 acres of land, which the biſhop has given from the ſee lands. This may truly be called a ſphere for content, and the philoſophic virtues to exert themſelves in; there is not a poſt-houſe, market-town, or juſtice of peace, in the whole barony, which is alſo the caſe with another barony in this county Coſtello. A poſt-houſe and a market are excellent things, but a juſtice may very well be diſpenſed with. There are many herds of ſmall cattle, and ſome ſheep kept, which are ſold from thence. There is not a tree in the whole barony of Erris; a man going out of it to pay his rent, &c. his ſon with

with him, a lad of near twenty, when he came near Killalla, and ſaw a tree, "Lord, Father! what is that?" But bare of wood as it is at preſent, it was, in the ſylvan age of Ireland, completely covered: for in no part of the kingdom is there found more or larger in the bogs.

The barony of Tyrawly is among the beſt parts of the county of Mayo; 800 bullocks, moſt of them fat, are ſold from it annually at Ballynaſloe fair, which are kept here from being year olds, and ſold at 4l. The quantity of tillage is very inconſiderable, but what there is, is vaſtly improved by the uſe of ſea weed. Lands near the ſea let at 20s. which at two miles, would yield but 14s. merely from being too far, as they reckon, to carry the ſea weed. The poor people in this barony are not improved in their circumſtances in eighteen years paſt, that the biſhop has reſided at Killalla. There is ſome weaving, ſo that there is ſcarcely a market at Ballina, or Killalla, without ſome linens ſold. Spinning is univerſal in all the cabbins, but the yarn is only four-hank yarn. They ſpin and weave wool enough to cloath themſelves, with drugget, yard-wide, for the women, at 1s. a yard, and frize for the men; at a *ſlatt*, or meaſure, four feet two inches long, and 20 to 23 inches wide, which ſells from 1s. 11d. to 2s. 4d. Their food is potatoes, cockles, herrings, and a little meal; and when the potatoes are out, on oatmeal only. They do not all keep cows, but the majority do, and thoſe who do not, buy milk. Beef 1d. per lb. in autumn, twenty years ago, now three halfpence. Fiſh very plentiful; I partook of three gurnet, two mackarel, and one whiting, at the biſhop's table, which his ſteward bought for ſixpence halfpenny, enough to dine ſix people. Lobſters plentiful. Turbot 3d. a pound. There are 150 boats belonging to the bay of Killalla, or Moy, and to the town, from twenty to twenty-five, five men to a boat, the boat has a fifth, the nets two-fifths, and the crew two-fifths; the two-fifths belonging to the crew, are ſubdivided into ſixths, of which the ſkipper has two. The herrings are caught near the bar, and in the river Moy; the fiſhery begins in october, and laſts only two or three weeks. They judge of the ſhoal being there by the Gant, a bird that purſues the fiſh; they ſometimes get each boat 10,000 herrings, which is a full load, but this is very rare, in general a good night's work is from 3000 to 5000, and the price is from thirteen pence to two and ſixpence, the medium 1s. 8d. per hundred, or 16s. 8d. per thouſand; conſequently a night's work 2l. 10s. The boat is 4 ton, and coſts 20l. and the nets 10l. Seven ſhare of nets to each boat, each ſhare ſixty yards long, and four fathom deep, eight ſcore meſh. The nets are all made here; the poor people uſe flax, but others uſe hemp; they bark them, but none tar and oil. The fiſhery was once much more conſiderable than at preſent. There is no ſhip belonging to this port, they had one, but that wicked fellow, Thurot, took her, and quite unſhipped the harbour.

AUGUST 29th, took my leave of the good biſhop, to whom, and his ſon, Mr. Hutcheſon, I am obliged for the preceding particulars and many civilities. Breakfaſted with the Rev. Mr. Garrat, at Foxford; paſſed over ſome very fine reddiſh ſandy loams, till I came to a hill, from whence an extenſive tract of bog is ſeen. Rents about Foxford are 12s. for cultivated, arable, and paſture, and thence to Caſtle-bar the ſame. From Foxford to Tubbercurry ſixteen miles of bad country; the beſt of the cultivated land 12s. ſome at 8s. and 10s. but theſe rents are only the improved ſpots: they are improving the moors and mountains very faſt, particularly the eſtates of Mr. Rutledge and Lynch. It is done with white marle from under bogs. It muſt not be imagined that when I ſpeak of mountains and moors in Mayo, or its wild barony Erris, that theſe lands yield no rent; they are let in the lump, and applied to feeding cattle. They put on two year old bullocks, and keep them till full three, when they bring them to the good grounds, and from thence take them to Ballynaſloe. Theſe mountains will not do for year olds. Some of them are unhealthy for cattle; for if they are left more than a month or ſix weeks on them, they are diſordered with lumps on their joints, ſo that they cannot riſe from the ground; yet at the ſame time ſhall be in good order, it diſappears on a change of paſture. Red deer run wild in the mountains of Erris.

To Caſtle-bar, over an indifferent country, and a vile ſtoney road; about that town the huſbandry is admirable. They have three cuſtoms, which I muſt begin with; firſt they harrow by the tail, item the fellow who leads the horſes of a plough, walks backward before them the whole day long, and in order to make them advance, ſtrikes them in the face: their heads I trow are not apt to turn. Item, they burn the corn in the ſtraw, inſtead of threſhing it. Among their cuſtoms it may be worth mentioning, that at the wakes or funeral entertainments, in addition to the circumſtances I related at Caſtle Caldwell, both men and women, particularly the latter, are hired to cry, that is, to howl the corps to the grave, which they do in a moſt horrid manner: they are not ſo diſagreeable, however, in Munſter, as I was told. The quantity of whiſky and tobacco conſumed upon theſe occaſions is pretty conſiderable. In the lake of Caſtle-bar, near that town, is the char, and the Gillaroo trout with gizards, and it is remarkable that there are no pike in the lakes of this country. Land lets at 15s. to 20s. cultivated, both graſs and arable: town parks 40s. The mountains are reclaiming by lime-ſtone ſand and gravel; it is the common cottars who do it. There are more than 500 affidavits ſent to the Dublin Society upon this account, in which I was told they are apt to be deceived, as well as in the corn ſtandings. There are very large farms in this neighbourhood, even up to 2000l. a year: but all the great ones are ſtock farms, and moſt of the tillage of the country is performed by little fellows, cottars, and tenants to theſe large farmers. Eight or nine years

ago there were no linens here, but now 300 pieces are ſold in a week, 200 looms are employed in the town and neighbourhood, yet great quantities of yarn are ſent off. The town, which belongs to Lord Lucan, is greatly riſing from manufactures; the houſes are well built, yet only 31 years, or 3 lives granted.

In the evening reached Weſtport, Lord Altamont's, whoſe houſe is very beautifully ſituated, upon a ground riſing gently from a fine river, which makes two bold falls within view of his windows, and ſheltered on each ſide by two large hanging woods; behind, it has a very fine view of the bay, with ſeveral headlands projecting into it one beyond another, with two or three cultivated iſlands, and the whole bounded by the great mountain of Clara Iſland, and the vaſt region of Crow-Patrick, on the right; from the hill above the wood, on the right of the houſe, is a view of the bay, with ſeveral iſlands, bounded by the hummocks, and Clara Iſland, with Crow Patrick immediately riſing like the ſuperior lord of the whole territory, and looking down on a great region of other mountains that ſtretch into Joyce's country.

In Lord Altamont I found an improver, whoſe works deſerved the cloſeſt attention; he very readily favoured me with the following account: he began to improve mountain land in 1768, and has every year ſince done ſome, making it a rule to employ whatever labourers offer for work. All of it covered with heath, *(erica vulgaris)* and the ſoil on the ſurface moor; would let for two ſhillings an acre for turning young cattle on, the only uſe to which it was applied.

Experiment, No. 1.

Improved a piece of mountain land, of the above deſcription, by ſpreading lime-ſtone ſand. (N. B. The marle called here *ſand*, is what I have generally found under the denomination of lime-ſtone *gravel*; the ſtones in it are of the ſize of a man's double fiſt, it is clayey, and very hard bound together in the ſtratum; the harder to raiſe, the better it is. It has a ſtrong fermentation with acids.) Spread the ſand on the heath, and left it for one year, at the expence of 1l. 1s. dunged it, and planted potatoes; found great difficulty in digging it from the roots of a kind of graſs, like a ruſh, called *keeb don*, in engliſh, *black keeb*. The crops very bad. Dunged it the year following for oats; the crop very fine, and repeated them the next year. Left the oat ſtubble, and it covered itſelf ſo with good natural graſs, that the next year mowed a crop of hay, and the ſame two years more. Finding it not well reclaimed from having plouged it too ſoon after the ſanding, gave it a new manuring at nearly the ſame expence; did not plough it any more, but ſuch of the ſtones as had not ſunk of themſelves, were beat in with mallets, at the expence of 2s. 6d. an acre, in order to ſmooth it for mowing. This was very practicable, having two ſpits of boggy turf on the ſurface. Ever ſince it has been excellent meadow, worth 1l. 2s. 9d. an acre.

Expe-

Experiment, No. 2.

In 1764, improved another piece, ſanding it at 40s. an acre, owing to the diſtance; left it two years on the land, and then ſet it at 40s. to the poor people for potatoes; after which took three noble crops of oats. Then left to graſs, and the firſt year mowed a great crop, and ſet it for 16s. an acre.

Experiment, No. 3.

In 1765, began with fifty acres more of mountain land, but full of heath. Firſt drew off the ſtones, and made a wall round it ſix feet high, and the ſtones not wanted for this, threw down the river, ſome of which were ſo large that it took ſixteen bullocks to draw them. Expence 30s. an acre, beſides 1s. 6d. a perch for the wall. Dug and burnt it, and ſpread the aſhes, 2l. 2s. an acre; it was before too rough and coarſe to plough. Then ploughed it with bullocks, and ſowed rape; the crop middling, where the aſhes were yellow, good, where white, bad; feeded the rape, and then dug it, and limed it, 160 barrels an acre. Would not uſe lime had not the hill been too ſteep to lead gravel up: he had nineteen lime-kilns burning at once. Upon this liming ploughed for oats; the crop tolerably good. A ſecond crop of oats, which were very fine, and then let it run to graſs; let it at 15s. an acre. Obſerved that the burning brought up a great quantity of ruſhes, which had not appeared before.

Experiment, No. 4.

Another conſiderable piece, where turf had been cut, was manured, part with lime-ſtone ſand, and part with mortar rubbiſh, and another with *graulagh*, or coralline ſhelly ſand; the expence each about 1l. 2s. 9d. an acre. Ploughed it and burnt it, and ſowed it with turneps: a very noble crop. Drew the turneps, and fed them in a paſture. The ſpring following planted it with potatoes without any other manure, and the crop much the greateſt he ever ſaw in his life; from one ſtalk had 143 potatoes, then took three crops of oats, which all proved exceedingly good. The black Frizeland oat, and the ſecond crop, yielded 26 barrels an acre, each 14 ſtone. Sowed dutch clover with the laſt crop, and could let it at 20s. an acre.

Experiment, No. 5.

Another piece of heath mountain, not entirely dry, worth 1s. an acre, manured very richly with lime-ſtone ſand, and at the expence of 30s. an acre, and left ſo without any other improvement. In three years it was worth 5s. in eight years 10s. an acre, and in twelve years 1l. 1s. and ſo has remained.

Experiment, No. 6.

Another piece, worth five ſhillings an acre, was ſanded at 1l. 2s. 9d. which was left three years on it, and then planted with potatoes, by the country people, who paid 3l. 10s. an acre. After which it was ſown thrice with oats, the crops very good, left for meadow, and let it at 30s. an acre.

Experiment, No. 7.

Sanded another piece, at 1l. 5s. left it three years, and ploughed it up in dry weather, in may; left it till after wheat ſowing, and then croſs-ploughed it, and in the ſpring harrowed it with great ox harrows, and planted it with potatoes; after which two crops of oats, great crops, and then left it for graſs. Worth immediately 1l. 2s. 9d. an acre.

A curragh of one hundred acres, that is a wet quaking bog, which will not do for turf, with a long ſedgy graſs on it. Part of a farm at 30l. a year, Lord Altamont took into his hands, with the conſent of the tenant; he drained it to the amount of 30l. at 7d. a perch, five feet deep, and ten feet wide; this ſimple thing improved it ſo much, that without any other improvement, he ſet it to the ſame tenant, at 70l. a year. Made perfectly ſound, ſo that bullocks of 8 cwt. could graze on it.

Upon the whole, Lord Altamont is of opinion, from a variety of experience, that the beſt method of breaking up heathy mountain land, is by manuring with lime-ſtone ſand, to the thickneſs of an inch, which at preſent coſts 1l. 1s. 6d. per acre. If ſand is not to be had, then the white marle from under moory bottoms; and if there is none of that, then lime. Objects to lime, as it brings the land infallibly to moſs, which is ſo powerful as to choak the graſſes, but marle is an excellent manure. To leave it for three years, or till daiſies *(bellis)* and white clover *(trifolium repens)* appear, then to plough it in may or june, and again in autumn; and in the ſpring to plant potatoes, in the common trenching way, and after the potatoes, would ſow oats ſucceſſively, till the chickweed *(alſine media)* appears, which is a ſign that the tillage has ſo inriched the land, that the crops will be too great, and then leave it for graſs. This is what he has on experience found to be the beſt way. If ſea weed is plentiful, he would manure the potatoes with it, and then would have the firſt crop barley inſtead of oats. A large portion of theſe mountains are wet, owing to the lack clay, but the potatoe trenches break it, and let off the water; after which the land ſettles by degrees, and becomes perfectly dry. There are great tracts of many miles extent of heath mountain in this neighbourhood which are capable of the above improvements.

To

To ſhew what the advantage would be of doing it on a perfect and extenſive ſcale, I ſhall calculate a ſquare mile of ſix hundred and forty acres incloſed in ſixty-four diviſions, ten acres each, and the walls would amount to 5760 perches, two miles of road, at 50l. - 100 0 0

Lord Altamont has found that his walls of ſix feet high, two feet and a half wide at bottom, and ſixteen inches at top, built dry, coſt him on an average, 5s. a perch running-meaſure, of 21 feet, including all expences, 5760 at that rate, - - - - - 1442 10 0

Forty gates of Iron, at 50s. Piers, &c. &c. 5l. 200 0 0

Of wood, they coſt 2l. complete - -

Ten-acre diviſions would completely clear the land of ſtones, Sanding at 1l. 11s. 6d. an acre - - - 984 0 0

2726 10 0

Left for three years intereſt of 1000l. to begin with for that time, at 6l. per cent. - - - 180 0 0

This is an unfair charge; Lord Altamont obſerved that the improved value would more than pay it.

Ten farm-houſes, with offices, at 50l. each - - 500 0 0

Total firſt improvement - - - £. 3406 10 0

The potatoes will pay their own expences, and 40s. an acre profit. The crops of oats, on an average, 40s. an acre profit, after paying all their own expences. Lord Altamont could have this price as rent, for liberty to ſow them.

Profit by potatoes - - - - 1280 0 0

Ditto on oats, three crops, at 40s. - - 3840 0 0

5120 0 0

Deduct ſeven years intereſt at 6 per cent. on 3400l. 1428 0 0

Neat profit 3692 10 0

Original expence - - - - - 3406 10 0

Profit - - - - - - £. 285 10 0

Let, on an average, at 15s. an acre, which is what Lord Altamont is clear is the loweſt price it can be reckoned at, it is per ann. - - - - - £. 480 0 0

An income of 480l. is created without expence. This for a landlord: if hired at 2s. an acre, the account will be the ſame, except the deduction of

of that for rent. I forgot to obſerve, that when the heath dies, which it does in three years, then daiſies appear, and white clover, which are ſigns that the land is fit for culture. There is ſomething very extraordinary in this circumſtance, that laying on a powerful manure for cultivated vegetables, ſhould prove poiſon to the ſpontaneous growth. It is only to be accounted for by ſuppoſing that the heath is nouriſhed by an acid in the ſoil, which being neutralized by the alcali, is no longer the food of that plant, after which it dies for want of its uſual ſupport. It is very remarkable, that all the wild mountains in this country have marks, and to a great height of former culture, mounds of fences, and the ridges of the plough. Lord Altamont's great grandfather found the eſtate a continued foreſt; in 1650, thoſe woods were of much more than a century growth, ſo that no cultivation could have been here probably of 300 years. There is a tradition in the country that it was depopulated by the plague, and upon that the wood ſprung up which formed thoſe foreſts. At preſent, there is no wood on any of the hills, except immediately about Weſtport.

I obſerved, beſides this great range of mountain improvement, that Lord Altamont proſecutes various parts of huſbandry with much ſpirit. He has been at great expences in introducing the beſt breed of engliſh cattle. I had no ſlight pleaſure in ſeeing great compoſts formed of dung and earth, and ſea ore, well mixed together, and then carried into his meadows. Stands were alſo building for corn ſtacks, and under them ſtandings for cows or oxen, and vaults for potatoes: they are executed in the moſt perfect manner. A ſort of oat he has introduced into cultivation, a few grains of which he got by accident, cultivated them carefully in drills, and has got a large quantity now. They are of ſo great a body that he calls them patagonian oats. He favoured me with a few for ſeed. In introducing the linen manufacture, his Lordſhip has made great exertions. He found it to conſiſt principally in ſpinning flax, which was ſent out of the country, without any looms in it, except a very few, which worked only for their own uſe. In order to eſtabliſh it, he built good houſes in the town of Weſtport, and let them upon very reaſonable terms to weavers, gave them looms, and lent them money to buy yarn, and in order to ſecure them from manufacturing goods, which they ſhould not be able readily to ſell, he conſtantly bought all they could not ſell, which for ſome years was all they made; but by degrees, as the manufacture aroſe, buyers came in, ſo that he has for ſome time not bought any great quantity. The firſt year, 1772, he bought as much as coſt him 200l. the next year, 1773, 700l. the next, 1774, as much as 2000l. and in 1775, above 4000l. worth: and this year, 1776, the number of buyers having much increaſed, he will not lay out any more than 4000l. the ſame as laſt year. This year he has alſo given ſuch encouragement as to induce a perſon to build and eſtabliſh a bleach green and mill.

The

The progreſs of this manufacture has been prodigious, for at firſt Lord Altamont was the only buyer, whereas for two years paſt there has not been leſs than 10,000l. a year laid out at this market in linen; yet with all this increaſe, they do not yet weave a tenth part of the yarn that is ſpun in the neighbourhood. The linens made are all coarſe, generally 8 to 1100, from 9d. to 1s. 1d. a yard. They are double webs of 42 yards and upwards, and 32 inches wide; and they earn 1s. a day by weaving it, on an average of workmen. It is of 2½ to 3½ hank yarn, and the ſpinners earn two-pence halfpenny to three-pence halfpenny a day by ſpinning it. The price of it has been in 5 years gradually riſing from four-pence to ſeven-pence a hank. All of it is ſpun of flax raiſed in the country.

The poor in general live on potatoes and milk 9 months out of the 12, the other 3 months bread and milk. All of them have one or two cows; fiſh is exceedingly plentiful, particularly oyſters for 1s. a cart load, and ſand eels, yet they eat none; herrings, however, are an article in their food. In their domeſtic œconomy, they reckon that the men feed the family with their labour in the field, and the women pay the rent by ſpinning. The increaſe of population is very great. Lord Altamont is of opinion that the numbers have doubled on his eſtate in 20 years.

The farms around Weſtport are in general large, from 400 acres to 4 or 5000, all which are ſtock farms; and the occupiers re-let the cultivated lands, with the cabbins, at a very increaſed rent, to the oppreſſion of the poor, who have a ſtrong averſion to renting of theſe tierney begs. The ſoil in general is a cold ſpewy ſtoney clay and loam; the beſt lands in the country are the improved moors. Rents riſe from 2s. for heath, to 16s. for good land. Average 8s. about three-fifths of the country unimproved mountains, bog and lake. Great tracts of mountain, but bogs not very extenſive. Clara iſland 2,400 acres, at 300l. a year; Achill 24,000 acres, at 200l. a year; Bofin 100l. a year, and is above 1200 acres. It belongs to Lord Clanrickard. The courſe of this country, 1. Potatoes, manured with ſea-weed: this is ſo ſtrong that they depend entirely on it, and will not be at the trouble to carry out their own dunghills. On the ſhore, towards Joyce's country, they actually *let their dunghills accumulate, till they become ſuch a nuiſance, that they move their cabbins in order to get from them.* A load of wrack is worth, at leaſt, ſix loads of dung. They do not take half what is thrown in. On the ſhore, open to the Atlantic, there is a leather ſort of Alga, which comes in in the ſpring. The kelp weed grows only where it is ſheltered. The coaſt of Lord Altamont's domain and iſlands let for 100l. a year for making kelp.

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

POTATOES they meaſure by the barrel of 12 cwt. and in each barrel 16 pecks of three quarters each. They plant 10 buſhels, of 3 cwt. each, at the average price of 12s. a barrel, or 1s. per cwt.

Expence of an acre.

Manuring with ſea weed		1	1 0
Rent		0	8 0
County ceſs and pariſh charges		0	1 0
Seed		1	10 0
Planting, 30 men a day		0	15 0
Shovelling 10 ditto		0	5 0
Weeding 3 ditto		0	1 6
Taking up, and carrying home, 60 men		1	10 0
Sorting, &c. 3 men		0	1 6
	£.	5	13 0

They will not carry ſea weed above a mile; if dung is uſed, the expence will be - - - - - 2 2 0

PRODUCE.

Twenty barrels, or twelve tons, at 12s.		12	0 0
Expences		5	13 0
Profit	£.	6	7 0

A man, his wife, and four children, will eat a buſhel of 3 cwt. every week: in 39 weeks, therefore, they eat 117 cwt. or 5 ton, 17 cwt. this is juſt half an acre for the family. Of oatmeal, the common allowance is a quart of oatmeal a day for a labourer. A mower that is fed is allowed that quantity, and 6 quarts of butter milk a day, or as much *bonny clobber*. To explain what this is I muſt obſerve, that they ſet the milk three days for the cream to riſe, and having then ſkimmed it, the milk that remains is as thick as blamange, and as ſour as vinegar, and this is bonny clobber.

OF barley they ſow 6 pecks, each 21 quarts, and the crop is generally from 20 to 30 fold, or at 25 it is 150 pecks. Of oats they ſow a barrel of 24 ſtone per acre, and they get 6 ſuch barrels. Of flax they ſow 40 gallons, and it will ſell in common *on the foot* at 8l. they find that it enriches the land. No wheat ſown but by gentlemen for their own conſumption. *They burn their corn, inſtead of threſhing it.* The grazing ſyſtem is generally the ſucceſſion, buying in at year olds, or if the lands are very bad, two year olds; keep them till four year olds, and then ſell them lean at Ballinaſloe. They give 10s. 6d. to 3l. 10s. for yearlings; average

average 40s. For two-year olds, they give 3l. They ſell for 6l. what they gave 2l. and for thoſe they gave 3l. they will ſell at four-year olds for 6l. They keep but few ſheep, but generally buy year-old wethers; *hoggerills* in may, at 8s. to 10s. each, ſhear them and turn to the mountains; bring them on to their arable lands in winter, ſhear them again the following year, and ſend them to the mountain again, and in the following ſummer ſhear again, putting them on their beſt paſtures, and ſelling fat at Ballinaſloe, at 15s. or 16s. their fleeces 5lb. at 1s. a pound. There are ſome dairies, as far as ten or twelve cows, which are employed for butter. Twenty years ago cows were lett for 1 cwt. of butter for the year, and rearing the calf. Very few ſwine kept, and of a bad kind. They plough all with horſes, four in a plough, directed by a man, walking backwards, who to make them move forward, ſtrikes the beaſts in the face. Young colts they harrow with by the tail. Twelve horſes are neceſſary for one hundred acres in tillage. They winnow their corn in the road, and let the wind blow away the chaff.

Lord Altamont mentioned deſcriptive of Mayo huſbandry, acts of parliament to prevent their pulling the wool off their ſheep by hand; burning their corn; ploughing by the tail; in hiring and ſtocking farms, the common computation is, three rents for a grazing one. Land ſells at twenty-one and twenty-two years purchaſe, at rack rent. Rents have fallen within five years, 1s. in the pound; they are at preſent on a balance, with a tendency to riſe. Tythes are compounded in the lump. Leaſes, three lives, or thirty-one years, alſo twenty-one years. Much land let to thoſe who re-let. The rents in Mayo are trebled in forty years. No emigrations. Farms are generally let in partnerſhip, but the term *Rundale* not known. Labour generally done by cottars, who have land let to them, or graſs for cows, under agreement to work for the landlord. Proviſions, which the poor eat, not riſen, but butchers meat doubled. They pluck their geeſe alive every year. All carriage done by horſes with baſkets: the bottoms of which faſten with ſticks, and let out the load. The induſtry of the people very much increaſed; an aſtoniſhing change in induſtry, ſobriety, &c. and are in much better circumſtances in every reſpect, than twenty years ago. They have a practice common among them, which ſhews an increaſing civility in the change from iriſh names to engliſh ones. Even ſurnames, for inſtances *Stranaghan*, iriſh for *birds*, which they call themſelves. *Markahau*, iriſh for a *rider*, which name they take; *Cullane*, iriſh for a *whelp*, which name they aſſume; others call themſelves *Collins*. *Conree*, iriſh for a *king*, which they call themſelves; *Ruddery*, a *knight*, and many others. Among Lord Altamont's labourers, is one Mowbray Seymour; his great grandfather was maſter-worker of the mint at London. There are many Mortimers, Piercys, &c. and within a few years, a Plantagenet, in the

county of Sligo. Eagles abound very much in this country, and do great miſchief, by carrying away lambs, poultry, &c. they alſo watch the ſalmon jumping, and ſeize them even out of the water, by darting with that celerity, of which they are ſuch maſters; this is ſo common, that men with guns are ſet to kill and frighten them.

AUGUST 30th, rode to Roſshill, four miles off, a headland that projects into the bay of Newport, from which there is a moſt beautiful view of the bay on both ſides; I counted thirty iſlands very diſtinctly, all of them cultivated under corn and potatoes, or paſtured by cattle. At a diſtance, Clara riſes in a very bold and pictureſque ſtile; on the left, Crow Patrick, and to the right, other mountains. It is a view that wants nothing but wood.

AUGUST 31ſt, to Newbrook, over a various country, part waſte, and much cultivated. About Caſtle-Burk, the road croſſed a moſt remarkable ſtoney natural pavement, regularly ſurrounded with graſs trenches, all on a flat. Paſſed the ruins of a very fine abbey; reached Holymount, Mr. Lindſay's, a very conſiderable grazier; about which place, the ſoil is in general, a ſtoney clay, from ſix inches to two feet deep, on lime-ſtone gravel; it is quite dry ſound land, and the ſtones are lime-ſtone. Lets from 12s. to 15s. an acre. Farms are very extenſive, up to three or four thouſand acres, all ſtock ones, with portions re-let to cottars, who are the principal arable men here. They are in the ſucceſſion way, buying in year-olds at 40s. keep them till three or four-year olds, ſometimes only keep them two years, they pay about 20s. per annum, on a medium. They are ſold, at whatever age, for ſtores to the graziers in the rich countries. Another ſyſtem is, to buy in cows in May, at 2l. 12s. 6d. to 3l. and make about 1l. 10s. profit. A cow will take an acre, but there will be an after-graſs, worth 5s. an acre, for ſheep. The ſheep ſyſtem is breeding and ſelling three-year old wethers fat, the wool, and the culled ewes. Above half the county bog, mountain, and lake. Folding ſheep, I ſuppoſe, will come in here, for they have got very near it. They drive their ſheep to a ſpot of graſs, which they let for graſs potatoes, at 3l. 10s. to 5l. an acre, doing this at night, till the land is well dunged. The crops are eight tons on an average:

1. Potatoes. 2. Bere, if ſanded, 8 to 10 barrels. 3. Bere. 4. Oats, 8 to 10 barrels. 5. Oats, 8 barrels. 6. Oats, 8 barrels. 7. Flax. 8. Wheat, 6. Sand for the bere, if for potatoes the ſand does hurt, unleſs it lies two or three years on the graſs. 3 cwt. the barrel of bere, the ſame, which is ſurpriſing. 4 cwt. of wheat.

SEPTEMBER 1ſt. to Tuam; dined with the Archbiſhop. All this country is a good ſound lime ſtone land, and famous for ſheep; but upon enquiry, I found it did not materially vary from the neighbourhood of Holymount, or Moniva, whither I was going in the evening. Reached Mr.

Mr. French's, at that place, to whoſe very obliging attention I am indebted for the following intereſting particulars: he has improved 60 acres of bog, and 290 of moor, which he began in the year 1744, with a great red bog, from 20 to 30 feet deep, ſo wet and ſpongy, that no turf, fit for burning, could be found to cut in it, ſo very wet and looſe, that a man could not go on it without jumping from tuft to tuft; no heath on it, except at the verge; the only ſpontaneous growth red and white moſs.

THE following account of this great improvement, Mr. French ſent to the Dublin Society. It was never publiſhed. I inſert it therefore with the utmoſt ſatisfaction.

BOG RECLAIMED.

Copy of a letter to the Dublin Society, for which they granted him a gold medal.

DEAR SIR,

Moniva, Jan. 24th, 1769.

ALTHOUGH I have not hitherto applied for a medal or premium, yet for above twenty years paſt, during which time the works I deſcribe have been carrying on, I have obſerved the uſeful hints of the Dublin Society, tried many experiments recommended by them, and have followed their inſtructions, which have turned to my pleaſure, profit, and advantage. I obſerve, that it is neceſſary to lay before the Society the quality of the bog, and the method purſued in reducing it, but fear their patience may be tried upon the preſent occaſion.

THE caſtle of Moniva, now part of my dwelling-houſe, is very ancient, and was built for a place of defence; it ſtands upon a dry gravelly ſoil, which, like a peninſula of five acres, run between two very high, red, deep, wet bogs, impaſſable for any beaſt of burden, very difficult even for men to paſs. The bog, on the north ſide, contained above 13 acres; the other, on the ſouth, is of a great extent. The eaſt ſide of the caſtle was defended by a deep winding river, a few perch beyond which was a large extent of extreme wet red impaſſable bog, ſo high as to prevent, from the lower rooms of my houſe, a view of the country beyond it, and of a great part of an high iſland of land of about 15 acres, which lay towards the middle of the bog. A large old wood, which ſtands on 111 acres, in a ſemicircular form, partly round a lawn of 70 acres, upon a gentle riſing dry ground, defended the weſt of the caſtle. The river, on every heavy rain, overflowed to the verges of the bogs, and very near to the caſtle. That I may not aſſume too much of the following improvements to myſelf, I muſt let you know, that my father formed a ſcheme to turn the courſe of the river through the great eaſt bog, which was from 26 to 28 feet above its level, and made a conſiderable drain through the bog for the purpoſe. He alſo made a deep mearing drain, near a

mile in length from the river, through the large ſouth bog, and divided about 90 acres thereof, by croſs wide and deep drains, into 5 diviſions, and by two drains through the north bog, laid out an approach, 7 perch wide, to his houſe, but his life proved too ſhort to execute his extenſive ſcheme.

Upon his deceaſe, in the year 1744, I firſt purſued his plan to turn the courſe of the river, widened the drain made by him to 27 and 30 feet, according to the height of the bog, and ſunk the drain to the gravel, where I could do ſo, and in ſome parts two and three feet deep into the gravel, which proved exceſſive hard. In other parts of the drain, the bottom of the bog was much lower than the level of the river, in which parts, as the water could not be drained off, there was no digging to the gravel. The ſides of the drain were ſo high, that I was obliged to cut them in ſome parts into benches, in the form of ſtairs, to prevent the men at the bottom from being overwhelmed, which would once have happened, only that a man ſtanding on the ſurface, obſerving the bog to burſt, gave the alarm, by which he ſaved the lives of ſeveral men; for in a few moments many perches in length of the drain were filled up to the top, more difficult to be again ſhovelled out, than if it had not been cut before; it required ſometimes four or five men ſtanding upon different benches, to convey what the loweſt ſhovel took up to the top, beſides the neceſſity of removing the ſtuff from the edge of the drain, to prevent the frequent burſtings in of the bog. The greateſt difficulty was to draw up prodigious large roots of fir trees, which lay firmly fixed and very ſound, juſt over the gravel, at the bottom of the bog all along the drain. This I effected, by laying two large beams from the top, ſo as to form an inclined plain to the bottom; then drove down into the bog above, a ſtrong beam perpendicular, and made it firm by ſtones; to this, I fixed a great pulley, and another pulley to the root below, firſt ſeparating it by hatches and iron crows from its large arms, which run under the bog: then by running a cable through the pulleys, the united ſtrength of 16 or 20 men drew up the largeſt roots along the ſliding plain. The men, as they drew up the roots, uſually ſtood upon the firm gravel at the bottom of the drain, the top being in many places too ſoft for footing.

Having compleated the drain or water-courſe, which is above ninety perches in length, through the great eaſt bog, I ſet about making a ſtrong bank, from the eaſt to the ſouth bog, 20 perches in length, and from 15 to 50 feet broad acroſs the old river, which was 16 feet deep. For this purpoſe I drove down a row of long wooden piles, and a ſecond row acroſs the river, and made the bank by filling up the intermediate ſpace with ſods well rammed and preſſed down.

I had the ſatisfaction to obſerve, when I had made a ſecond bank, at the lower or north end of the new drain, to prevent the water from returning back into the channel of the old river, but at much leſs expence than

than the former coſt, that the river run its new channel, that I immediately gained about 10 acres of fine bottoms for meadows upon each ſide of the old river, and as the new river was three or four feet higher than the old, I obtained a fall for a mill, which I obſerved might be increaſed, by running a deep drain through the north bog for a tail race, which would alſo contribute to reclaim that bog: this I perfected, run it 11 feet wide down to the gravel, 94 perch in length, and in ſome parts into the gravel, to preſerve the level. I built a bleach mill, the firſt built in the province where the fall lay, and the bog ſince reclaimed about it, is part of the green for bleaching linen.

From my new river, to a lake which lay about 230 perch to the eaſt in the great bog, I cut a large drain of that length, to ſupply my mill with water from the lake, when the river ſhould prove low in ſummer. This work was thought to be impracticable, the bog between being many feet higher than either the lake or the river, but I know that the lake was higher than the river; indeed, for the firſt and ſecond year, it proved impracticable, the drain, though laid out above ten feet wide, ſtill filling up as it was made: but by perſeverance, and ſtill opening the drain at the end where the fall lay, at length the lake, to the ſurpriſe of many, run into the river, and gave me a new command of water. The whole bog, in ten years time, ſunk amazingly, and diſcloſed to me, from the windows of my houſe, the proſpect of a country which could not be ſeen from them before; but works of this kind require patience and perſeverance: for at the end of three years, when curioſity led me to ſee the effects of a great flood after a very heavy fall of rain, I had the mortification to ſee the great bank, which I made acroſs the river, float away, like a boat before me. The neighbours, who for years paſt had inſiſted that my father and I had undertaken an impracticable work, applauded their own judgment upon the occaſion, and endeavoured to diſſuade me from any further purſuit; but inſtead of following their advice, I immediately provided a boat, (for horſes and cars could not, without great difficulty, be brought to the place) and with its aſſiſtance conveyed ſtones ſufficient to fill up the channel of the old river, the breadth of the bank, and afterwards, by bog ſtuff brought by boat, and ſunk in the front of the bank, I made it ſtaunch; then raiſed it by ſod work, and planted trees on the top of it, by which means it has remained firm, and anſwered my whole deſign for theſe nineteen years paſt. When I erected my mill, and made ſluices to keep up the water for it, I obſerved that my new river thereby became navigable for a boat, as well as the old river, and that it might prove very advantageous for the conveyance of manures, if a communication was made from one to the other; but this was difficult, as the new river, in time of flood, was four or five feet higher in its level than the old river, yet I overcame the difficulty, by cutting a navigable line 16 perch in length, where was firm gravel at the bottom, from river

to

to river, and built a water lock at the edge of the new river, where I found a firm foundation at the bottom of the bog. It anſwered my purpoſe, gave me a great command of water; for by opening the ſluices of the lock, I can at any time overflow my meadows, which lie on each ſide of the old river: it has ſtood now for about 18 years. When I obſerved the advantages which aroſe from being able to convey manures by boat, I proceeded, and cut a navigable line 30 perch long, 20 feet wide from the new river, above the great bank into the ſouth great bog, and cut another navigable line 32 perch long, 12 feet wide, from the old river northward into the north bog, and another navigable line through the ſame bog weſtward, in a winding direction, for the ſake of beauty, 50 perch long, and 20 feet wide; and cut another line 21 perch long, and 14 feet wide ſouthward, from the weſtern line, which brings my boat into my farm-yard, and enables it to proceed through all the navigable lines which communicate with each other. Several ſprings of water roſe from the uplands, which lye weſt of the north bog, and probably were the cauſe of that bog in the before-mentioned navigable line, which run towards theſe ſprings. I built a ſecond water-lock, and turned an arch over it, as it ſtands in one of the approaches to my houſe; by ſhutting the gates of this lock, the ſprings which run into the river, being intercepted, a ſheet of water overſpreads near two acres in my lawn, which lies between the wood and my houſe, and the boats are thereby enabled to go to the highlands, where there is plenty of gravel to manure the bogs. I made my navigable lines by banking out the water, and keeping the drains empty by ſcrew pumps of about 13 feet long, which were worked by two men relieving each other day and night, which my own carpenter made, and alſo built my locks before he had ſeen any thing of the kind, until he admired his own works. Whilſt I was executing the works which I have deſcribed, I proceeded to reclaim the bogs adjacent to them. The lines I have mentioned divided the north bog into 4 parts, which I incloſed by ſmaller drains into ſo many little parks; it is entirely reclaimed, and has been for ſeveral years paſt under tillage and meadow, and yet, now, though it has ſubſided conſiderably, an iron borer of 18 feet, does not in ſeveral parts thereof reach the bottom of the bog: it was full of holes, out of which turf for fuel had been formerly cut, the levelling of which added much to the expence of reclaiming. The eaſt bog, from the iſland to the old river, is all reclaimed, except two or three acres towards the ſouth, and has likewiſe been under tillage and meadow for ſome years paſt. I reclaimed theſe two bogs, by covering the ſurface with lime-ſtone gravel, then laid a coat of dung over it, and planted potatoes upon the dung; the next year ſowed oats, or rye and graſs ſeeds, and the following year mowed the produce: the bog was ſo wet, that I cut ſeveral ſmall drains, which I ſince filled up, when they had performed their office. To lay the gravel on, I was obliged to make

roads

roads with hurdles, to bear up ſmall horſes, which carried the gravel in baſkets upon their backs, and to remove the hurdles from place to place, as occaſion required; the boats laid the gravel and manures upon the ſides of the rivers and the drains, from whence the horſes conveyed them. The ſubſiding of this bog is remarkable; if I ſhould ſay from fifteen to twenty feet, I think that I ſhould not exceed: when I firſt cut the new river, the bog roſe in a hill between it and the old river; there is now a fall the whole way, except where the hill ſtood, which is the loweſt part. The bog is now ſo firm as to bear a loaded cart. I ſloped the ſides of the hollows, where for ſome years I had cut turfs; being adviſed to cut the bog away, but that would be the work of ages; and where the ſurface was cut off proved moſt barren, and required moſt manure: theſe hollows are now little green vales; and poſterity will puzzle, as ſome do at preſent, to find the cauſe of them. After the firſt crops were taken off, and mowed for two or three years, I obſerved little tufts of heath began to appear in the meadows; where theſe appeared, ſome parts I tilled again; put dung upon others; but lime effectually baniſhed them; and ſo did a mixture of kelp and aſhes, the refuſe of the bleach-green, which proved the richeſt manure. I ſpread river-mud upon one or two acres, which had little effect, only produced a ſedgey ſpirey graſs, until dung was laid over it; marle had ſomewhat a better effect than the river-mud, but marle, mixed with dung, proved very good; lime, dung, or kelp, broke fine into powder, proved the beſt. I reclaimed above one acre, by gravelling, and laying a coat of freſh lime over the gravel, and planted potatoes upon the lime, without any dung; the potatoes were ſmall, and lay thin when dug out, but the corn, which ſucceeded them, proved very good, and the bog was thereby well-reclaimed. It ſhould be obſerved, that all the ſtone and gravel of this country is lime-ſtone. I tried to reclaim part by burning, but the red bogs, which mine were, proved too wet and ſpongy; the aſhes were white, and ſo light that they had little effect. In the manner I have deſcribed, I reclaimed about five acres of the ſouth bog, which lay within the navigable line; but not being able to purſue my navigation into this bog, the gravel at the bottom of the bog riſing above the level of my upper river, without conſiderable expence, and the addition of another water lock, I made a firm gravel road into the bog, firſt dividing one of the large diviſions, made by my father, by two croſs drains ten feet wide, into four diviſions, which made the bog pretty dry; I then laid dung, two or three inches thick, upon the ſurface of the bog, without any gravel or other manures under: I obſerve, that the crops of potatoes, corn, and meadow following, were full as good as thoſe where the gravel was firſt laid on, which in wet bogs ſink too ſuddenly; I would therefore adviſe, and intend to purſue, the laying on of gravel after the bog has been mowed for two or three years: the expence of gravelling an acre at the firſt, is, at the leaſt, from four to ſix pounds;

pounds; and as you proceed further into the bog, the expence muſt increaſe; therefore where dung is to be had in plenty, it is the beſt material for reclaiming a bog; but I think that compoſts made with lime and earth mixed, or lime and moor, may anſwer the end of dung, which I have not yet ſufficiently tried, but intend ſo to do.

To enumerate ſeveral other drains which I made in the eaſt and ſouth bogs, to prepare them for reclaiming, would prove too tedious. I uſually cut them ten feet wide; but it is difficult in a wet bog to aſcertain the depth of a drain until the bog has ſubſided for years. In making the drain, which I have mentioned from the lake to the river, 30 or 40 men working in the ſame part of the drain for four or five days without intermiſſion, except at night, could not bring the drain, in the evenings, to be deeper than from one to two feet deep, and both the overſeer and men were all ſo out of patience, that they were with difficulty perſuaded to continue the work; but as I rode round the bog, I obſerved that the bog was ſubſiding, and that they were gaining the level, though they did not perceive it; for the ſluſh flung by the ſhovels out of the drain preſſed down the bog and ſqueezed out the water into the drain which ran off, as I begun where the fall lay; the bog was ſo ſoft that the men were obliged to ſtand upon boards as they worked, to prevent them from ſinking: the bogs which I firſt reclaimed are ſtill ſubſiding. I had, the laſt ſummer, 32 acres of the bogs, which I have deſcribed all under tillage and meadow; I alſo mowed ten acres of the bottoms on the river ſides, between the reclaimed bogs; and other ten acres of bottoms by the ſame river, made meadow by banks caſt up round them, to guard againſt floods, planted with alder and ſallows: I have ſix acres more of the eaſt bog reclaimed by a coat of gravel only, never tilled, but reſerved for paſture; but they are far inferior to the tilled bogs, and will not be meadow until covered with other manure, and tilled. I cannot aſcertain the depth of ſeveral parts of my reclaimed bogs, as my borer of 18 feet long does not reach the bottom of the north and eaſt bogs; the ſouth bog is all 12 and 13 feet deep: but towards the verge they are ſhallower. The navigable lines which I have deſcribed, encompaſs 31 acres, except on part of the weſt ſide, where my houſe ſtands; theſe I call my garden or ſmall farm, through which the old river winds; clumps of ſpruce fir, beech and alder, grow well on the ſides of the new river, where gravel was thrown on the banks from the bottom when it was firſt made; the broad-leaved elm interſperſed through the meadows reclaimed from the bog, alſo thrive; I have two ſmall groves on each ſide of the water lock, of a ſpontaneous growth, from the deep reclaimed bog, conſiſting of quicken or mountain aſh, birch, holly, and ſallow, ſome of which are from 17 to above 20 feet high. In making my navigable line, which runs weſt to the edge of my lawn, I diſcovered by my borer that a bed of white marle, at the depth of 16 feet, lay under the north bog; the bed

of

of marle proved to be five feet thick, under which lay a ſtratum of gravel, from ſix to nine inches thick, under which ſtratum of gravel lay another bed of marle, four feet thick. In the laſt dry ſummer, by the aid of my ſ crew-pumps, I raiſed a great quantity of this marle, which leads me to claim a medal for reclaiming dry heathy mountain, upon which, after ploughing, I ſpread the marle. But I fear that I have tired you, as I have myſelf, and ſhall, for the preſent, only preſent my reſpects to the Society, and aſſure you that I am,

Dear Sir,

Your moſt obedient ſervant,

ROBERT FRENCH.

It may be objected that the works were begun previous to the publication of the premiums; I doubt whether it be poſſible to reclaim ſuch bogs in leſs than eight or ten years; the water muſt have time to ouze from ſponges, which ſuch bogs are: to reclaim them very expeditiouſly would exceed the expence of a private fortune.

To the Rev. Peter Chaigneau, aſſiſtant
ſecretary to the Dublin Society.

Mr. French remarks, that the expence of improving bogs, equally ſpongy and wet, with this, is very conſiderable, for the drains will for ſome time fill up almoſt as faſt as made. When the draining is finiſhed, the main drains ſhould be left five feet deep, and the breadth juſt ſufficient to keep the banks up: croſs drains, of a ſmaller dimenſion, muſt be made, which, when the bog is perfectly drained, may be filled up again. As to the expence, he obſerves, that it muſt neceſſarily vary greatly: but the very worſt ſort may be completely done for 6l. an acre. Manuring with gravel, lime, or clay, may in general be eſtimated at 6l. Then Mr. French would by all means plant potatoes, in the trenching manner, for the ſake of mixing the manure, which is laid on with the ſurface of the bog, and alſo for the uſe of the trenches, as ſurface drains. The crop of potatoes, if a moderate quantity of dung is ſpread for them, will be equal to any in the country, that is, worth 10l. an acre; but if no dung, they will not more than pay the expence of ſeed, planting, and taking up. In the ſpring after, dig it ſlightly, level the trenches, and ſow oats; the digging will not coſt more than 10s. an acre. The crop of oats will be 12 barrels, or rye, will be a great produce. With this corn, the graſs ſeeds ſhould be ſown; rye graſs *(lolium perenne)* and white graſs *(holcus lanatus)* do well; common hay ſeeds good. The firſt year a car muſt not go on, but the hay brought off by men. The ſecond year it will bear cars, and would then let for 10s. an acre, for three years only; 21s. an acre for hay. After that, a freſh manuring, with a compoſt of lime and earth, or lime and gravel, and then would let at 15s. If

the land for potatoes is well dunged, the poor will pay 4l. an acre for it; and the hay, inſtead of 21s. will let at 3l.

In relation to his mountain-moor improvement, the ſtate of the ſoil before improving was that of continued heath, *(erica vulgaris)* with great quantities of lime ſtones on the ſurface. Mr. French, in the firſt place, ploughed it with ſix bullocks, which did not do more than one-fourth of an acre a day, as the roots of the heath made it ſtrong work. As they turned up the ſtones, or were impeded by them, they were drawn away in cars to make the walls. Left it after the ploughing from half a year to a year, and then broke it, croſs-ploughed, and harrowed it; in all four ploughings; after the laſt, harrowed it ſmooth, and limed. Began with ſixty barrels an acre, but increaſed it to one hundred, and to two hundred, and found the crops better and better, in proportion to the quantity. Upon the liming ſowed the wheat, and harrowed it in. The crop has been generally from five to ſeven barrels an acre. The following year either barley or oats: of barley, the crops have been middling, about eight barrels. If oats, twelve barrels. After either the barley or oats, another crop of oats, equally good, and with that ſowed hay ſeeds, or rye graſs and clover. Before the improvement it let at 4s. 9d. twenty-five years ago, and if the ſame heath was to be ſet out now, it would be worth eight ſhillings. After the oats abovementioned, has ſet it readily at 14s. Dividing the lands into diviſions of from fifteen to twenty-acred pieces, clears them of ſtones, and the expence of the walls, is

	s.	d.	
Drawing the ſtones - - - -	2	6	per perch.
Building dry - - - -	1	1	
	3	7	
If coped and daſhed, the additional expence will be	2	6	
	6	1	

They are all lime ſtone lands, and make very fine ſheep-walks. Before the improvement very many ſheep died on theſe grounds, of the red-water, but ſince the liming this has not happened; nor would it before give flax, but now very fine.

Mr. French burns the lime in perpetual kilns with turf, laying in the turf and ſtone in layers, the ſame as culm, and all expences included, amount to 4d. a barrel roach, of 32 gallons. Two cubical yards of turf will burn one cubical yard of ſtone. If the turf is very good, one and an half will do. He tried French kilns, in which he burned 1500 and 2000 barrels, but found it very uncertain, frequently having the ſtone come out unburnt. A kiln of 1500 barrels, comes to 25l. but often it ran to 40l. he has upon the whole, found it far better to

to uſe the other ſort, which are cheaper, and more certain. Another ſort of mountain land, is the wet, boggy ſort, one to four feet deep, which he improved by digging off almoſt all the bog for lime; then ploughed it with ſix bullocks, and let it to the poor from a guinea to thirty ſhillings an acre, for them to burn, harrow, and plant potatoes; after which they pay as much more for a crop of oats. Then limes it, takes another crop of oats, and ſows graſſes with it; after this improvement, lets as well as the other. White marle, from under a bog, Mr. French tried, for improving fourteen acres of dry mountain land; the effect was much the ſame as that of lime, but more expenſive, from the difficulty of getting it. In the year 1744, when Mr. French came to his eſtate, there was no other linen manufacture than a little *bandle* linen, merely for their own conſumption, with no other ſpinning than for that, and even for this, there was not more than one loom in 100 cabbins. In 1746, he undertook to eſtabliſh a better fabric, and with more extenſive views. He firſt began by erecting ſpinning ſchools, and ſowing flax, twenty-one acres of which he ſowed on his own account. The linen board gave at that time one penny a day to all children that went to any ſpinning ſchools, which was of uſe; but the providing flax Mr. French found of the greateſt uſe. In 1749, he eſtabliſhed eight weavers and their families, and the ſame year built a bleach mill, and formed a green, and to carry it on to advantage, ſent a lad into the north, and bound him apprentice there, in order to learn the whole buſineſs. Upon his return, he managed the manufactory for Mr. French, buying the yarn, paying weavers for weaving it by the yard, bleaching and ſelling it. In this manner it went on for fifteen years; but as in this ſtate it was dependent on Mr. French's life, he enabled this manager to take the whole upon his own account, binding him to keep every weaver on the eſtate employed, whatever might be the number. The progreſs of this undertaking, united with the agricultural improvements, will be ſeen by the following returns of the Moniva eſtate, at different periods.

In 1744. There were three farmers, and ſix or eight ſhepherds and cow-herds.

In 1771. There were two hundred and forty-eight houſes, ninety looms, and two hundred ſixty-eight wheels.

In 1772. Two hundred and fifty-ſeven houſes, ninety-three looms, and two hundred eighty-eight wheels.

In 1776. Two hundred ſeventy-ſix houſes, ninety-ſix looms, and three hundred and ſeventy wheels.

Here, in a few words, is the progreſs of a moſt noble undertaking; and I ſhould obſerve, that it is doubly beneficial from one circumſtance. All theſe weavers are mere cottagers in a town without any

land, except a cabbage-garden, by which means they have nothing to do with farming, but become a market to the farmers that ſurround them, which is what all manufacturers ought to be, inſtead of ſpreading over the country, to the deſtruction of agriculture. Another circumſtance in which Mr. French has given a new face to Moniva, and its environs, is by planting; he found a conſiderable wood of birch, which being a ſhabby tree, and not improving, he cut them gradually down, and planted oak, elm, and beach, with various other ſorts; he began this thirty years ago, and no year paſſes without his making ſome new plantation. By properly managing this wood of 111 acres, he has made it pay him 150l. a year, ever ſince, and there is now more than thrice the value of timber in it, to what there was when he began. Whatever he has planted has anſwered well, but the growth of the beach is the greateſt. That of the oak is very great, and more flouriſhing than ever Mr. French expected to ſee them at the time of planting. The broad-leaved elm thrives very well upon the bogs, after they are cultivated. Mr. French has tried moſt ſorts of trees in rows along the hedges, but none of them have ſucceeded, the weſt winds cut them in pieces; ſince which he makes incloſures, and plants them thick.

I ought not to forget obſerving that Mr. French ſupports a charter-ſchool at his own expence, wherein are from twenty to forty children, conſtantly ſupported, cloathed, and taught to read and write, and to ſpin and weave.

FARMS around Moniva conſiſt, principally, of large ſtock ones, from 200 to 500 acres, with very few cabbins upon them; the tillage of the country is principally carried on by villagers, who take farms in partnerſhip. Mr. French's are generally from 20 to 130 acres. There will ſometimes be from ten to thirty families on a farm of 200 acres; but Mr. French finds that they do not thrive well if there are more than ſix families to one farm. The ſoil to the weſt of Moniva, is a lime-ſtone gravel, mixed with a clay, ſome of it upon clay: to the eaſt it is a deeper and richer clay, and lime-ſtone all the way to the Shannon. The whole county lime-ſtone, except the mountainous tracts on the weſt, beyond Loch Carril, and the mountains to the ſouth of Loch Rea. Rents in this neighbourhood riſe generally from 12s. to 16s. except old leaſes, which are 6s. or 7s. The richeſt part of the county is between Lochrea and Portumne, thence to Eyre-court, Clonfert, and Aghrim. The third of the county is bog, lake, and unimproved mountain; but moſt of the latter yields ſome trifling rent, the whole third, perhaps three-pence an acre; the other two-thirds, 12s. at an average. The iſles of Arran contain 7000 acres, belong to John Digby, Eſq; and let at about 2000 l. a year. The great tract of mountain is the three Baronies of Eyre Connaught, Roſs, Bally-

Ballynahinch and Moycullen; they are forty miles long, and fifteen broad, and are in general uncultivated. The principal proprietors are, Robert Martin, Eſq; Thomas French, of Moycullen, Eſq; and Patrick Blake, Eſq; of Drum; —— Lynch, of Barna; —— Geohagen, Eſq; of Bowown; ——— Lynch, Eſq; Drumrong; Sir John O'Flaharty, &c. Mr. Martin has the largeſt tract; he has let to Mr. Popham, 14,000 iriſh acres, for three lives, at no rent at all; then three lives more at 150 l a year; and after them for ſixty-one years, at the ſame rent; and Mr. Popham has ſome men at work upon improving, from England and Leinſter. There is lime-ſtone gravel upon a part of the land, but not generally in Eyre Connaught, any more than lime-ſtone; at leaſt according to common report.

Courſes of Crops about Moniva.

1. Potatoes. 2. Bere. 3. Oats. 4. Oats.
1. Potatoes. 2. Flax. 3. Oats. 4. Oats.

THERE are ſome good tillage farmers towards the Shannon, who ſow graſs ſeeds. They alſo ſow ſucceſſive crops till the land is exhauſted, and leave it for ſome time to graze itſelf. No ploughing or harrowing by the tail, nor any burning the corn inſtead of threſhing, but theſe practices were very common 30 years ago. The meaſure of potatoes is the barrel of 42 ſtone; five plant an acre, the average price 6s. or 8s. at the beginning of the ſeaſon; to 10s. or 12s. at the latter end. The average produce 25 barrels, or 10l. Oats yield about 8 barrels. Of flax, a hogſhead ſows 2 acres. It is but lately that they have ſaved their ſeed, but it is now coming in; a good common crop is 4 cwt. of ſcutched flax, and the medium price 40s. a cwt. There are conſiderable improvements of mountain, and ſome of bog, that have been carried on by the poor villagers. They dig and burn the mountain, and get by that means very fine potatoes without dung, paying 20s. an acre for it. If they have the land to themſelves, they will, after the potatoes, get good wheat, and after that, ſeveral crops of oats, till the land is exhauſted. Theſe village farmers, I remarked, as I went through the country, were induſtrious in forming compoſts of boggy moor, turf, and lime-ſtone, with what dung they can raiſe. They were now making ready againſt the winter's dung; theſe are for potatoes the following ſpring, and they find it anſwers ſo well that the practice increaſed very faſt. Such of them as are near the bogs, Mr. French gives the bog to them for 10 years rent free, and then they pay him 10s. an acre for it. They drain them, manure with lime-ſtone gravel and a little dung, and plant potatoes, getting fine crops and good corn afterwards. In one of the bogs which a village was cutting away, the men called Mr. French to it, to ſhew him the old ridge and furrow at the bottom, and he found them perfect. It was 4 feet deep: that this country was once generally cultivated, there are other ſigns. There are vaſt numbers of lime-ſtone gravel pits among the mountain heathy lands, though there is not the leaſt tradition when they were uſed.

THE

THE principal ſtock in this country is ſheep for breeding, the ſale being wethers, which they ſell fat at Ballinaſloe; and wool, of which they clip from the ewes 4 lb. and from the wethers 5 lb. ſells now at above 1 s. a lb. Mr. French remembers the price of wool, 50 years ago, at 6s. and 7s. a ſtone; 1744 was reckoned a very high year, and he ſold 27 bags, at 10s. 6d. a ſtone: but as he got out of ſtock, he has not ſince had more than two bags. In 1745, &c. it fell to 8s. a ſtone. The great riſe of the price of wool, Mr. French attributes to the low price of ſpinning and the increaſe of tillage. The ſtock farmers, who are good managers, all have two farms, one as a dry one, in this neighbourhood for winter, and another in the deeper richer lands in the eaſtern part of the county, for ſummer feeding and fatting. Three year old wethers, from the light ſoils here, ſell at from 15s. to 25s. each. It is reckoned good land here that will ſupport three ſheep per acre the whole year round. The ſyſtem of grazing is to buy yearlings, at from 35s. to 3l. 3s. and ſell out at four year old, at from 4l. 4s. to 6l. 6s. They ſometimes ſell them at three year old.

THEY plough with horſes, but the gentlemen moſtly with oxen; they have not the Mayo cuſtom, of walking backwards before them, nor do they harneſs them all abreaſt, but two and two. They winnow all their corn in the field to blow away the chaff. They will take a grazing farm, with three years rent, for ſtock. Land ſells at 21 years purchaſe. The rents have fallen ſince 1772, but are now riſing from the great price of wool, black cattle, and linen. Tythes are compounded by the proctors with gentlemen, but they ſcrew up the poor people to the utmoſt. There are ſtill many men who make it their buſineſs to hire large tracts of land in order to re-let at advanced rents. Population increaſes greatly, yet many of them live very poorly upon potatoes and water, with ſome oatmeal. There are many that have no cows, only a houſe and a garden. The graſs of a cow is 30s. This is not the caſe, however, at Moniva; there they have all cows, and are very rarely without milk. Rent of a cabbin and an acre, 20s. building the cabbin for themſelves; and 30s. if it is built for them. There were many emigrants from Galway to America, but only of the looſe idle people. The general religion is roman catholic, but about Moniva chiefly proteſtant.

MR. Andrew French, of Rathone Galway, who I met at Moniva, favoured me with the following particulars. At Galway there is a ſalmon fiſhery, which lets at 200l. a year; and in the bay of Galway they have a conſiderable herring fiſhery. There are belonging to the town 200 to 250 boats, 40 or 50 of which are employed in the ſpring fiſhery, for cod, hake, mackarel, &c. &c. Theſe boats are from 4 to 6 tons, ſome 9 tons. They coſt building, 20l. a boat, and the nets and tackle, 15l. the nets are of hemp, tanned with bark. There are five or ſix men to a boat; they fiſh by ſhares, dividing into ſixty: they have had this fiſhery time immemorial. The plenty of fiſh has decreaſed theſe 15 years. A middling

dling night's take is 5000 fiſh; all they get is ſold into the country, and the demand is ſo far from being anſwered, that many cargoes are brought in from the north. The fiſh ſell at 1s. 4d. to 2s. 2d. a hundred; but the men are far from being induſtrious in the buſineſs: ſome weeks they do not go out twice.

On the coaſt of Conna Marra there is, from the 10th of april to the 10th of may, a fiſhery of ſun-fiſh, which is done by the herring boats. It is not by ſhares, but the owners of the boats hire the men for the fiſhery. One fiſh is reckoned worth 5l. and if a boat takes three fiſh in the month, it is reckoned good luck. There are 40 or 50 boats employed on this. Along the whole bay there is a great quantity of kelp burnt; 3000 tons are annually exported from Galway: the preſent price is 40s. to 50s. a ton. The ſhore is let with the land againſt it, and is what the people pay their rent by. They uſe a great quantity of ſea weed, drove in by ſtorms for manuring land. In november they carry it on, the field being ready marked out in beds for potatoes, and leaving it on them, it rots againſt the planting ſeaſon, and gives them great crops. They alſo do this with fern, cutting it in autumn, and laying it on to the beds, get good crops. The poor people near Galway are very induſtrious in buying the ſullage of the ſtreets of that town; they give 3d. for a horſe load of two baſkets, and carry it three miles.

One circumſtance, relative to the progreſs of the linen manufacture in this country, the town of Galway can inſtance. Mr. Andrew French of that place, ſixteen years ago, imported the firſt cargo of flax ſeed of 300 hogſheads, and could only ſell 100 of them, whereas now the annual importation riſes from 1,500 to 2,300. Twenty years ago there were only 20 looms in Galway, now there are 180. They make coarſe ſheetings ſeven-eighths wide, at 9½d. to 11d. a yard; dowlas, 28 inches wide, at 7d. Oſnaburgs at 7d. alſo. There are 8 or 9 bleach greens in the county, but they bleach, generally ſpeaking, only for the country conſumption: the great bulk of the linens are ſent green to Dublin. In the town and neighbourhood of Loch-rea, there are 300 looms employed on linens that are called *Lochreas*, of 28 inches in width, which ſell at 7d. a yard. All the flax worked in the county is, generally ſpeaking, raiſed in it. The yarn ſpun is pound yarn, not done into hanks at all. Very many weavers are in the towns, without having any land more than a cabbage garden. The linen and yarn of the whole county has been calculated at 40,000l. a year.

September 3d, left Moniva, and took the road to Woodlawn, the ſeat of Frederick Trench, Eſq; paſſed many bogs of conſiderable ſize, perfectly improveable, and without the uncommon exertions I have juſt deſcribed, none could be more anxious for my information than Mr. Trench.

Woodlawn is a ſeat improved entirely in the modern engliſh taſte, and is as advantageous a copy of it as I have any where ſeen. The houſe ſtands on the brow of a riſing ground, which looks over a lawn ſwelling into gentle inequalities; through theſe a ſmall ſtream is converted into a large river, in a manner that does honour to the taſte of the owner; it comes from behind a hill, at the foot of which is a pretty cottage hid by plantation, and flows into a large maſs of wood in front of the houſe: the grounds, which form the banks of this water, are pleaſing, and are prettily ſcattered with clumps and ſingle trees, and ſurrounded by a margin of wood. The houſe is an excellent one, ſo well contrived, that the ſame diſpoſition of apartments would be agreeable upon almoſt any ſcale of building.

Mr. Trench's improvements of bog made me ſolicitous to view them; he was ſo obliging as to give me a full account, which is as follow. The firſt method of improving he took was with a bog of 12 acres, exceedingly wet, at the bottom of hills 16 feet deep to his knowledge, but he never yet was able to meaſure it to the bottom. A red bog, of a light fuzzy ſubſtance, like a bed of tow, which would not burn in turf; no other product than bog berries. Part of it ſo very wet, that could not cut the drains at firſt wider than four feet and two ſpits deep; repeated this before the hard froſt of 1765; had yet made no progreſs, it being almoſt as wet as ever: but took advantage of that froſt, to cover the ice two inches thick with clayey gravel; when the thaw came, the gravel ſunk, and preſſed out the water. The expence of this manuring was 3l. 10s. an acre. This gravelling had ſuch an effect, that in the may following about half of it bore horſes with baſkets, for carrying on dung, and where it would not bear them, it was carried on by men. The quantity ſix buſhels to the ſquare perch, and immediately planted with potatoes in the common trenching manner. The crop, per acre, 40 barrels each; 44 ſtone, at 8s. each. Levelled the potatoe trenches in digging for barley, in doing which attended minutely to not burying the manure; this digging coſt 30s. an acre, and the barley covered with the ſpade, which they do very faſt, and the expence included in the 30s. The crop of barley 10 barrels an acre, at 8s. After this crop, took no more trouble with it; very rich and luxuriant graſs ſprang up directly, and would let readily in meadow, at 25s. but part of it in a few years would let at 2l. Two acres of it were not perfectly reclaimed; it was of the moory nature; dug and burnt it, and put in turneps, the crop very good: then dug it for barley, the produce 14 barrels an acre, and the meadow very good ever ſince. I was over it, and found it a perfect improvement; the hay was fine, the herbage good, and carried the complete appearance of a meadow, except in the drains, where the heath ſtill appears.

NUMBER 2.

TWENTY-FIVE acres of ſpungy fungous bog, from 8 to 16 feet deep, had been cut into very great turf holes, which holes, though they held water, and had drowned many a cow, yet had ſo far drained the bog as to make the leſs draining neceſſary; effected it, and then levelled the holes; but as they ſunk much, levelled them a ſecond time. Upon this, took the advantage of a froſt to manure it with clay and gravel, at 2l. 10s. an acre; then dunged a part with the quantity mentioned already, and the reſt of it manured with the aſhes of moor, which burnt yellow. Upon this manuring, planted potatoes; the crop 10l. an acre, pretty equal being, as good after the aſhes as after the dung. After the potatoes, levelled the trenches, and dug it and ſowed wheat; the crop 6 barrels an acre; barley 10 barrels, oats 9 barrels: then left it for meadow, the value 2l. an acre.

NUMBER 3.

ANOTHER piece of bog the ſame ſort, light and ſpungy; drained, and then manured with clayey lime-ſtone gravel, mixed with ditch earth. In the ſummer planted potatoes; the crop 15 barrels an acre: then dug for oats 6 barrels an acre, meadow ever ſince, and perfectly good, would let at 1l. 10s. an acre.

NUMBER 4.

ANOTHER bog of the ſame ſort perfectly well drained, manured with lime, 80 barrels an acre, at 4d. a barrel; planted potatoes; the crop not worth digging; dug it for oats, the crop not worth reaping: then left it in graſs, which was indifferent, not worth more than 5s. an acre.

NUMBER 5.

ANOTHER experiment was on the ſame ſort of bog, which, when well drained, was manured in ſpring with lime-ſtone gravel, and then with marle inſtead of dung, and planted with potatoes; the crop 4l. an acre: then dug it for oats; the crop 6 barrels, and then left to graſs; worth 1l. 5s. an acre.

NUMBER 6.

ANOTHER experiment, the ſame as the preceding, except lime laid inſtead of marle: the effect in every reſpect on a par with the marle. Neither of them yielded half the produce which dung or aſhes would have done.

NUMBER 7.

ANOTHER bog of the ſame ſort was, after draining, manured with lime-ſtone gravel, and then with the ſcowering of ditches and earth, to

the amount of 3½ inches deep on the ſurface: expence in all 4l. an acre. Then left, and nothing more done to it; very good graſs came the next ſeaſon, worth for grazing 18s. an acre.

Number 8.

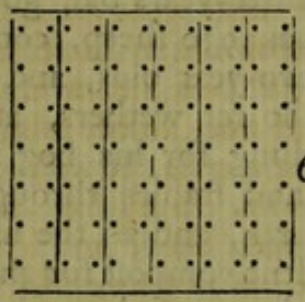
Another ſpongy bog drained, and then well gravelled, at 2l. 10s. Left ſo for three years; ſcarce any graſs came, the heath ſtill remaining: planted potatoes on it without any dung or other additional manure; the crop 4l. an acre; then dug it ſmooth, and nothing ſown in it, but came immediately to very good paſture, worth 15s. an acre.

Mr. French recommends, from his experience, the following mode of improving bogs: firſt, the great object is draining; main drains ſhould be made on each ſide the bog, near the firm land; theſe cuts ſhould be ſix feet deep and eight wide, and will coſt 1s. a perch. Then croſs drains from main drain to main drain, at from 5 to 10 perch from one to the other, at three feet deep and four wide, at the expence of 3d. a perch. Here is the firſt year's work. The next year go into all the drains and ſink them, which will coſt 1d. a perch: if a froſt comes, carry on the lime-ſtone gravel, let it be a coat of two inches thick; if three it will be better; two inches will coſt 3l. if not carried farther than half a quarter of a mile; if carried a quarter of a mile, it will coſt 4l. 10s. if half a mile, 6l. 15s. if a mile 9l. Prefers the clayey lime-ſtone gravel to every other manure: if that is not to be had, clay; and if not clay, other gravel; if no gravel or clay, then lime; if nothing elſe, then the light marle under bogs. Upon this manuring ſpread a compoſt, one-third dung, one-third ditch earth, and one-third lime-ſtone gravel, nine buſhels to the ſquare perch; if dung only, ſix; and upon that plant potatoes in the common manner. The crop will, on an average, be 30 barrels, at 8s. or 12l. an acre. The poor people will readily give three or four guineas an acre for liberty to plant them. Upon this crop of potatoes ſpread two buſhels of dung more to the perch, and plant a ſecond crop of potatoes, making the furrows where the ridges were, and make the ridges of both crops nine feet wide, and the trenches four. This crop of potatoes will be full as good as the firſt. Then dig it, levelling the trenches, ſcooping the ſides, to fill up with, and the manured part on the ſurface; ſow barley; the crop will be 12 barrels on an average; with this barley ſow graſs ſeeds, and it will immediately be worth for meadow 1l. 10s. Let this go on for ſeven years; then give it a light gravelling, at 1l. 10s. an acre; dung it four buſhels per perch; plant potatoes, 12l. an acre; then barley 14 barrels; and then meadow worth 40s. In this circumſtance of letting meadow it ſhould be remarked, that they will hire it at great prices, ſuch as minuted, but the ſame lands would not let at more than 18s. upon a leaſe; for in one caſe you ſtand the chance of keeping the land to its preſent heart, and in the other the tenant has that chance.

THERE is a circumſtance which ſhould be mentioned, the ſkin of the turf ſhould not be broken for ſome years by heavy cattle; for wherever they make a hole, the ruſhes grow at once, which cannot be eaſily deſtroyed. Mr. French does not think it at all neceſſary to keep an improved bog under graſs, as he has found by experience, that the more they are cultivated the better they grow. In the winter he feeds his reclaimed bogs with ſheep; they have a perpetual ſpring of graſs all through that ſeaſon, and are of a nature ſo contrary to that of rotting ſheep, that they will recover thoſe which are threatened with that diſtemper.

HE has planted ſeveral large clumps in his reclaimed bogs, and has found that almoſt every kind of tree thrives well in them: I thought the ſpruce fir ſeemed to get up the quickeſt, but all of them appeared perfectly healthy.

Calculation of improving a ſquare mile upon the preceding plan.



9 miles of main drains.
64 miles croſs ditto.

2881 perches of main drains, at 2s. - - - -	288	0	0
20480 perches of croſs drains, at 6d. - - -	511	19	9
Two miles of road, 10 feet wide, at 75l. - - -	150	0	0
Gravelling, on an average of the diſtance, 6l. per acre -	3840	0	0
Labour on the dunging, 40s. per acre - - -	1280	0	0
	6069	19	9
Deduct rent of the land for potatoes, at 3l.	1920	0	0
	4149	19	9
Manuring ſecond crop of potatoes, labour 20s. an acre -	640	0	0
	4789	19	9
Deduct rent for potatoes, as before - - -	1920	0	0
	2869	19	9
Levelling and digging for the barley, 30s. an acre -	960	0	0
	£.3829	19	9

Brought over - - -	3829	19	9
A barrel an acre of barley ſeed, 8s. an acre - -	256	0	0
Reaping, harveſting, and threſhing, 20s. an acre - -	640	0	0
	4725	19	9
Deduct the value of the crop, 9 barrels, at 8s.—3l. 12s. an acre - - - - - - - - -	2304	0	0
Remain, total expences of the improvement - - £.	2421	19	9

Rent of 640 acres, at 16s. an acre, 512l. which income is 21l. per cent. for the expenditure of 2421l.

SEVERAL very great deductions are made in this account, becauſe the bog is ſuppoſed to be a very large one.

MR. TRENCH buys in year-old bullocks and ſome ſpayed heifers, at 1l. 15s. each; ſells them out at three-years old, good ſtores, but not fat, at 6l. 3s. on an average. He has 930 ſheep, conſiſting of 300 ewes, 180 lambs, 270 yearlings and two-year olds, and 180 fat ſheep. The annual ſlaughter and ſale is 180 fat wethers, at 1 l. 3 s.—60 culled ewes, at 15s. In order to ſave dung for his bog improvement, he has cut a large drain from his yards and ſtables through the garden, paved it, and keeps it filled with bog earth, and all the urine of the cattle, &c. running into it, makes an excellent compoſt for the gardener.

AVERAGE rent of the improved part of the county of Galway, 14s. an acre. About Woodlawn 14s. to 18s. The ſoil all lime-ſtone gravel, or lime-ſtone fine ſound land. The ſize of farms varies; there are many ſmall ones of from 30 to 100 acres, part grazing and part tillage; alſo many ſtock ones, up to 1000 and 1500 acres; and theſe graziers re-let to the cabbins part of it at a very high rent, by whom are carried on moſt of the tillage of the country. Mr. Trench remarks, that if good land is let to the poor people, they are ſure to deſtroy it; but give them heath, or what is bad, and they will make it good.

1. Potatoes on the graſs. 2. Summer fallow. 3. Wheat. 4. Oats. 5. Oats. 6. Lay out.—No ſeeds.

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

1. Potatoes on graſs. 2. Gravel and fallow. 3. Wheat. 4. Barley. 5. Oats. 6. Leave it for graſs.

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

AVERAGE produce of potatoes, 30 barrels, at 42 ſtone, at 8s. or 12l. Of wheat, 8 barrels, at 20 ſtone. Of barley, 12 barrels, at 16 ſtone. Of oats, 12 barrels, at 14 ſtone.

EVERY poor man ſows ſome flax, but ſtill they do not raiſe enough for their ſpinning, for that is univerſal. Lime-ſtone gravel is the general manure. No lime, though it is every where to be had; the price to burn is 4d. a barrel of 3 buſhels roach. Every cabbin has eight or nine acres, and

and two or three cows, or two cows and one horſe; and about half have horſes, two or three pigs, and many poultry; half a rood of flax, one acre potatoes, or half at a medium. They live on potatoes, oats, or barley bread, or butter; like oats much better. Their circumſtances are much improved in 20 years. They pay rent 12s. to 14s. an acre for their lands.

SEPTEMBER 4th, to Kiltartan, the ſeat of Robert Gregory, Eſq. who is engaged in purſuits which, if well imitated, will improve the face of the country not a little. He has built a large houſe with numerous offices, and taken 5 or 600 acres of land into his own hands, which I found him improving with great ſpirit. Walling was his firſt object, of which he has executed many miles in the moſt perfect manner: his dry ones, 6 feet high, 3 feet and a half thick at bottom, and 20 inches at top, coſt 2s. 6d. the perch, running meaſure. Piers in mortar, with a gate and irons complete, 1l. 14s. Walls in mortar, five feet high, coſt 6s. a perch. He has fixed two engliſh bailiffs on his farm, one for accounts and overlooking his walling and other buſineſs; and another from Norfolk, for introducing the turnep huſbandry; he has 12 acres this year; and what particularly pleaſed me, I ſaw ſome iriſhmen hoeing them; the Norfolk man had taught them; and I was convinced in a moment, that theſe people would by practice ſoon attain a ſufficient degree of perfection in it. The ſoil around is all a dry ſound good lime-ſtone land, and lets from 10s. to 12s. an acre, ſome at more. It is in general applied to ſheep. Mr. Gregory has a very noble nurſery, from which he is making plantations, which will ſoon be a great ornament to the country.

SEPTEMBER 5th, to Drumoland, the ſeat of Sir Lucius O'Brien, in the county of Clare, a gentleman who had been repeatedly aſſiduous to procure me every ſort of information. I ſhould remark, as I have now left Galway, that that county, from entering it in the road to Tuam till leaving it to-day, has been, upon the whole, inferior to moſt of the parts I have travelled in Ireland in point of beauty: there are not mountains of a magnitude to make the view ſtriking. It is perfectly free from woods, and even trees, except about gentlemen's houſes, nor has it a variety in its face. I do not, however, ſpeak without exception; I paſſed ſome tracts which are chearful. Drummoland has a pleaſing variety of grounds about the houſe; it ſtands on a hill gently riſing from a lake of 24 acres, in the middle of a noble wood of oak, aſh, poplar, &c. three beautiful hills riſe above it, over which the plantations ſpread in a varied manner; and theſe hills command very fine views of the great rivers Fergus and Shannon at their junction, being each of them a league wide. For the following particulars I am indebted to Sir Lucius O'Brien.

AVERAGE rent of the county of Clare, 5s. The bad tracts of land in the county, are the eaſt mountains, part of the barony of Burrin, and the great peninſula, which forms the north ſhore of the Shannon.

Great

Great tracts are let at nothing at all, but there are 20,000 acres from Paradiſe hill, along the Fergus and Shannon to Limerick, which let at 20s. an acre. Theſe lands are called the *Corcaſſes*. The ſoil of them is either a rich black loam, or a deep rich blue clay; and all the higher lands are lime-ſtone, or lime-ſtone gravel. The mountains are generally grit-ſtone. The ſize of farms is various, Captain Tim. Macnamara farms 7000 acres, but part in other counties. Mr. Singleton, 4000 acres. A farm of 300 l. a year is a very ſmall one; 500l. a year middling; this is ſpeaking of ſtock-farms. The tillage of the country is carried on by little farmers, from 20l. to 100l. a year; but moſt of it by the poor labourers, who are generally under-tenants, not holding of the landlords. The courſes of crops are,

1. Potatoes. 2. Bere. 3. Wheat. 4. Oats. 5. Oats. 6. Oats. 7. Lay it out to graſs.

1. Beans. 2. Bere. 3. Barley. 4. Wheat. 5. Oats. 6. Oats. 7. Oats. 8. Lay it out, or beans again.

Of wheat they ſow 10 to 15 ſtone an acre; the crop, in the corcaſs grounds, 8 barrels, in the other lands 5 or 6: 20 ſtone to the barrel. Potatoes they meaſure by the barrel of 48 ſtone: they plant 6 to the acre, and the average produce 50 barrels. They never plant them on the corcaſs lands, for they will not grow there. Mr. Fitzgerald, of Shepperton, has had 100 barrels per acre; the favourite ſorts are the apple, the Caſtania, the Buck, being a ſpecies of the Howard. They fat pigs on them; but what much amazed me, was fattening hogs on graſs, which they do very generally, and make them as fat as a bullock, but put them up to beans for three weeks to harden the fat. Of barley they ſow 14 ſtone an acre, and get ſix barrels, at 32 ſtone each. Bere, two rowed barley, called *engliſh* here, and four rowed, called *dutch*, and of theſe the bere yields beſt. Mr. Singleton has had 40 barrels of bere per acre, each 16 ſtone on the corcaſs land. Of oats they ſow 21 ſtone to the acre, and get 12 barrels, on an average 14 ſtone each; and on the corcaſs land 16. Of beans they ſow 35 ſtone to the acre, ſow them on the green ſod ſoon after chriſtmas, and plough them in; never hand-hoe or weed them: the average crop 20 barrels, at 20 ſtone; 30 the greateſt; they are uſed for home conſumption in dear years, and for exportation in cheap. The poor people make bread of them, and eat them boiled, and they prefer a buſhel of them to a buſhel of wheat; but they will not eat them, except in a ſcarcity. No peaſe ſown, but rape in conſiderable quantities in mountain grounds, or boggy, both of which are burnt for it. They plough the furrow very ſhallow, and burn it: they never feed it. The crop of ſeed 8 barrels, at 16 ſt. at from 7s. 6d. to 18s. a barrel, generally from 14s. to 17s. It is preſſed into oil at the mills of ſix mile bridge and Scariff, near Killaloe; but the greateſt part is bought up by the merchants of Limerick for exportation for Holland, and laſt year

year ſome part of it has been ſent to Great Britain, in conſequence of the act which paſſed laſt ſeſſions. The rape cakes are all exported to England for manure: the price of them at 45s. or 42s. per ton. The rape and the bean ſtraw are burnt to aſhes for the ſoap boilers; and Mr. Singleton has a kiln contrived on purpoſe for burning lime with it, collecting the aſhes at the ſame time that the lime is burnt. No clover is ſown, except by Sir Lucius O'Brien. Flax is ſown in ſmall quantities by the poor people for their own conſumption; and ſome yarn ſold, but not much from the whole county. Spinning is by no means general; not half the women ſpin. Some linens, bandle cloths, and Clare dowlas, for exportation in ſmall quantities, and other ſorts, enough for home conſumption. Wool is ſpun for cloathing for the people, into worſted yarn for ſerges, and into yarn for ſtockings. Great quantities of frizes are ſold out of the county.

Much heath waſte land, many hundreds of acres every year are brought in by paring and burning for rape, but uſe no manure for it; after that wheat, and get good crops, and then two, three, or four crops of oats, good ones; then left for graſs, and comes tolerable herbage, worth 5s. an acre.

The principal grazing ſyſtem conſiſts in a union of both rearing and fattening; the rearing farms generally at a conſiderable diſtance from the rich lands on the Fergus and Shannon. The moſt profitable management of grazing, is to buy in year-olds upon this ſyſtem, but it can only be done, by hewing a variety of land, commonly at a diſtance. It is found much more beneficial than buying in bullocks in autumn, and cows in may, as the Meath graziers do.

The average price of the year-olds, is from 2l. 2s. to 2l. 10s. and the price ſold at four and a half year-olds, weighing 4¼ cwt. 4¼, to 5¼ cwt. is on an average at 8l. For cows bought in in may, 3l. 3s. to 3l. 12s. and ſell at 5l. 10s. An acre of the corcaſs land will fatten one of theſe bullocks, but then it muſt not be winter-fed at all. Sheep, on an average, ſhear three to a ſtone of 16 lb. and ſell at 1s. per lb. Mr. Macnamara ſold this year 55 bags, beſides his lambs wool; the weight is from ſix hundred, to ſeven and a half, fifty ſtone, and this year's price 17s. 6d. a ſtone. Upon the lime-ſtone ſheep-walks of this county, they keep from one and a half to five; on an average, three. The loſs on ſtock-ſheep, bullocks, &c. will not amount to more than one per cent. on the value. For hiring and ſtocking a grazing farm, three rents are reckoned to do. Thoſe bullocks that are to be fattened the ſummer following, they give hay moſt part of the winter, for four or five months, as much as they will eat, which will be half an acre of good meadow.

There are 4000 bullocks fattened annually in the county of Clare; bought in at 6l. and ſold out at 10l. and 3000 cows, bought in at

3l.

3l. and ſold fat at 5l. alſo 6000 fat wethers, ſold out of the county annually at 20s. each.

THIS country is famous for cyder-orchards, the cakagee eſpecially, which is incomparably fine. An acre of trees yields from four to ten hogſheads per annum, average ſix, and what is very uncommon in the cyder counties of England, yield a crop every year. I never beheld trees ſo loaden with apples as in Sir Lucius O'Brien's orchard; it amazed me that they did not break under the immenſe load which bowed down the branches. He expected a hogſhead a tree from ſeveral.

LAND ſells at twenty years purchaſe. Rents fell in the rearing lands 5s. or 6s. in the pound, but rich lands fell very little. Tythes are compounded by a compoſition made every year by the piece. Fat bullocks nothing. Sheep, 20s. per hundred. Wheat, 5s. Barley, 3s. Oats, 2s. Potatoes, 10s. Middle men, not common, but much land re-let, ariſing from the long tenures which are given of three lives, &c. The poor live upon potatoes ten months of the year; bur if a mild winter, and a good crop, all the year on them. They keep cows very generally, but not ſo many as in the liſt of Sir Lucius's tenants. Labour is uſually paid for with land. Working-days of roman catholics may be reckoned 250 in a year, which are paid for with as much land as amounts to about ſix pounds, and the good and bad maſter is diſtinguiſhed by this land being reckoned at an high or a low rent. The ſtate of the poor, on compariſon with what they were twenty years ago, is that they are much increaſed in numbers, and better clad than they were, and more regularly fed, in being freed from thoſe ſcarcities which were felt before the laws for the increaſe of tillage. Relative to religion, there was a return to the committee of religion, in the houſe of Commons, in 1765, when the return of Clare was as follows, in five diviſions:

No. 1.	896 proteſtants.	16831 catholics
2.	1089	12156
3.	291	2694
4.	99	786
5.	101	4677
	2476	37144
		2476
	Total	3962

16 to 1, and 404 over.

LUCERNE, Sir Lucius cultivated for ſome years, and found while it was attended to, and kept clean, that it was of great uſe for horſes, but his abſence and neglect deſtroyed it. Relative to ſmuggling wool from Clare, he gave me ſeveral ſtrong reaſons for believing that there had

had not been any for ſome years; that county is well ſituated for it, and ſome ſhips ſmuggled brandy and tobacco, and could carry it away with great eaſe, yet not one goes. Sir Lucius was executor to a man who made a fortune by it twenty-five years ago, but he would never ſmuggle when above 10s. a ſtone; I had the ſame account in Galway. The cauſe of the high price of wool, is the admiſſion of woollen yarn in all the ports of England, and the increaſed demand in the Mancheſter fabric for that yarn, which demand would have operated in England as in Ireland, had the cheapneſs of ſpinning been equal. Another cauſe, the increaſe of population, and the people being better clad. Sending a pound of wool to France, ſmugglers compute to be ſixpence, which is fifty per cent. on the preſent prime coſt. Thus the french could get wool much cheaper from England, where the prime coſt is lower. There is none from Cork, for being a manufacturing town, the people would not allow it. A duty of 4d. per ſtone of 18 lb. on woollen and worſted yarn exported, marks the quantity which Ireland grows beyond its own conſumption. Raw wool, two thouſand to 10,000 ſtone, the reſt yarn, which is nearly doubled in value by the manufacture. The quantity of broad-cloth and ſerges, that is, old and new drapery, imported from England, equals the export of woollen yarn. It is remarkable that upon the corcaſs lands in this county, there are ſeveral tools in uſe, which are called *Dutch*, a *Dutch* ſpade, a *Dutch* plough, &c.

PARTICULARS of ſome of Sir Lucius O'Brien's labourers.

Men.	Souls per cabin	Cows	Horſes	Sheep	Potatoes, acres	Corn, acres
No. 1	7	3	1	6	½	3½
2	5	1	2	8	1	4
3	3	2	0	10	1	1
4	6	2	1	9	1¼	3
5	7	2	0	20	¾	3
6	8	3	0	3	½	2½
7	7	1	0	3	1	1½
8	7	3	1	12	1½	1½
9	6	0	1	6	½	1
10	5	1	1	6	¼	1
11	6	1	0	4	¼	1
12	5	0	0	6	½	0
13	5	0	0	0	½	0
14	3	1	0	4	½	½
15	6	1	0	4	½	½
16	3	0	0	6	½	½
17	3	0	0	6	½	1
18	9	3	0	0	0	0
19	3	0	0	0	½	0
20	5	5	1	12	1½	6
21	8	5	1	10	2	4
22	4	4	0	6	1½	2
23	7	3	1	18	¾	4
24	8	2	0	6	1	2
No. 25	5	4	1	6	1	3
26	5	0	0	5	¼	2
27	6	0	0	0	0	0
28	7	1	0	6	¾	2
29	4	1	0	6	1	1½
30	4	1	1	6	½	2
31	8	3	1	12	1½	3
32	9	5	1	10	1½	4½
33	6	6	1	16	1	3½
34	4	2	0	6	½	2
35	7	2	1	6	1	2
36	7	3	1	11	1¾	2
37	8	3	1	12	1¼	2
38	4	3	1	10	1¼	2
39	10	0	1	20	2	2
40	10	4	2	12	1½	2
41	12	8	5	40	4	3
42	7	5	2	20	3	4
43	8	5	2	12	3	3
	267	109	31	381	45¼	89
Average	6	3	1¼	9½	1	2¼

Sir Lucius Obrien introduced me to two of the moſt conſiderable graziers in the county, Mr. Singleton, and Mr. Fitzgerald, and rode through a part of their farms. Mr. Singleton's corkaſs meadows were one continued bed of ruſhes, till he deſtroyed them by a method which alone proved effectual, which is digging up the ruſh, and turning it topſy-turvy into the hole again, this he finds effectually deſtroys them, and the expence is not ſo great as might be imagined. This gentleman has more tillage-land than common upon grazing farms; he ſhewed me a *haggard*, well filled with wheat ſtacks; ſeventeen acres of that grain yielded him 196 barrels. Mr. Fitzgerald is a very attentive farmer, and in ſeveral particulars, conducts his buſineſs upon principles different from thoſe which are common in Ireland. He has built excellent farming-offices; particularly a barn, exceedingly well contrived; the corn may be thrown at once from the part of the barn where it is ſtowed on to two threſhing floors, the one over another, and from the ſtacks through a window into the barn. His hay is alſo thrown in the ſame manner, down into the cow-houſe, and his potatoes into a vault. Theſe conveniencies, which are a great ſaving of labour, are gained by the buildings being raiſed on the ſide of a ſteep hill, cut away for the purpoſe. His cows he keeps in the houſe all winter, by which means they are better wintered, and he raiſes a great quantity of manure. The chaff of his corn crops he ſaves carefully, which is directly contrary to the country; and what is much more, cuts much hay and ſtraw into chaff, with an engine, which he finds to anſwer perfectly well; the man works it with one hand, and ſupplies it with the other, being fixed againſt the wall.

September the 8th, left Drumoland. Sir Lucius rode with me thro' 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 corcaſſes, 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 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

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'Briens, 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, 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 expence. 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 1½ 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 35 s. Cows 24 s. 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 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 10 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.

ſelves. 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 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.
Barley and oats, 5d½. to 6d.
Scotch coals, 18s. Whitehaven, 20s.
A boat load of turf, 20 tons, 45s.
Salmon, three halfpence
Trout, 2d. very fine, per lb.
Eels, 2d. a pound.
Rabbits, 8d. a couple
Wild ducks, 20d. to 2s. a couple
Teal, 10d. a couple
Plover, 6d. a couple
Widgeon, 10d. ditto.
Hares, 1s. each, commonly ſold all the year round
Woodcocks, 20d. to 2s. 2d. a brace
Oyſters, 4d. to 1s. a 100.
Lobſters, 1s. to 1s. 6d. if good.

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 expences 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.		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

A barrel of beef or pork, 200lb. 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 corcaſſes, 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 jacobæa)* 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 up the mountains. Having engaged myſelf to Mr. Oliver, to return from Killarney by his houſe, as he was confined to Limerick by the aſſizes, 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 (Corke) 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 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

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 turneps and clover are creeping in among gentlemen. 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 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 ſheer generally on an average 4 lb. 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

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, ſour milk, pigs, and calf. But ſometimes the rent is in butter a hundred weight per cow delivered in Corke, 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 cabbin and garden, and 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 ½d. per cwt. a mile. In hiring farms, they will manage to take a 100 acres without a 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 fell 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 in partnerſhip in rundale; and they have changedale alſo. Moſt of them have only a cabbin 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

thiers, 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 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, turneps 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 turneps 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 turneps 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 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 limeſtone, from nine inches to three feet deep on it; but what is remarkable, all the looſe ſurface ſtones are grit, and all the quarries limeſtone. Upon this ſoil he has found the benefit ſurprizingly 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 expence 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 turnep-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, remarked, 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 chearful, 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 expence, 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 Cork 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 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	0	0
The ſaid combers would comb 800 balls a week, at 3d. per ball, comes to 10l. in the year - - -		520	0	0
20	Carried over - - -	£.4520	0	0

20	Brought over - - - -	4520	0	0
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	0	0
60	weavers would weave up the ſaid worſted, at 8d. each a day, 24l. a week, the year - - -	1248	0	0
50	little boys and girls employed in ſaid weaving, at 3d. a day each, comes to 3l. 15s. per week, in the year	195	0	0
430				
	Oil and ſoap would coſt in the year - - -	368	0	0
	Carriage of wool, woollen goods, &c. - - -	100	0	0
	Sorting wool, waſhing it, &c. - - - -	80	0	0
		8071	0	0
	The year's profit I ſuppoſe to be - - -	350	0	0
	The yearly ſum brought into the country where ſuch trade is carried on - - - - -	£.8421	0	0

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
		£.8071

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

grounds 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 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. Turneps 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 turneps 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, inſomuch 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, 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 expence. 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 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

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 acred 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 compleateſt 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 5½d. a barrel. The culm 2s. 5d. a 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 graſs 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 00 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 milk; good cows give 4 gallons. Colonel Jephſon had a cow half bred, between the engliſh long horned and Holderneſſe, 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 graſs 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 cabbin, and 20s. for one acre for potatoes; 2l. 2s. for graſs for a cow, and 10s. for the winter's hay. They live upon potatoes generally the year-

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 limeſtone; 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, 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 Mallow; even ſpinning is not general. Mr. Jephſon manures his lands very highly with all ſorts of dung and fullage of the ſtreets of Mallow, 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 appearance of a *ferme orné*. The quantity of tillage is not conſiderable, but his crops very great, barley up to twenty barrels per acre. Mules he finds more uſeful and hardy than 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

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, 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 231 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 improvement was profitable, beſides the increaſe of rent alſo improved. At Carrick-duff, 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 1l. 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. Turneps he has had, and got very fine crops of 6lb. the average turnep; they thin them by hand, which he thinks upon this land is preferrable to hoeing; uſed the crop in ſtall-feeding 30 bullocks, which had, beſides the turneps, half a hundred weight of hay to ſix each day, and found that they throve exceedingly well on ſuch turneps 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 turneps till ſtarved to them. 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 Cork, 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 Cork 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 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 cabbins; 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 Cork, 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 linens, 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's 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 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 fifteen acres, at a guinea an acre, upon which they have expended 5000l. 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 500l. to this work, and Mr. Jefferys repaid them 1400l. of the 5000l. The old rent of the premiſes was 40l. a year, the new rent 71 l. Another bleach mill, which coſt Mr. Jefferys 300 l. to which the board added 300l. and the perſon to whom it is let, 600l. 40 acres of land, formerly let at 10l. a year, go with them. The whole rent now 80l. To this mill is ſince added an oat-mill, which coſt 300l. two tuck-mills, 200l. a leather mill and kilns, 150l. two dwelling-houſes, 300l. A ſtamping mill, which coſt Mr. Jefferys 2,300l. to which the board added 300l. promiſing 1000l. 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 tub-men. 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 ſix acres of land are advanced, from 2l. 8s. to 9l. They have three looms going, which make 102 pieces a day of 36 yards each. The Dublin Society gave 20 l. to it. A paper mill, which has coſt Mr. Jefferys 1100l. and is not yet let. A bolting mill, on which he has expended 1100 l. 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 of land, before let at 54l. the new rent is 74l. Twelve cottages, and a lime-kiln, which coſt 280l. Two dwelling-houſes and a forge, which coſt him 150l. and to which parliament granted 250l. more. Upon the whole, therefore, Mr. Jefferys has expended 7,630l. in theſe eſtabliſhments. Of public money there has been added 2,170l. and the tenants themſelves laid out 9,050l. in all, expended here 18,850l. beſides what Mr. Jefferys laid out on bridges, &c. in the whole, very near, if not

not full, 20,000l. 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 Cork 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 it ſold for in Cork. 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 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

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 Cork 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, particularly 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 1½ to 3 tons of hay per acre, at 40s. to 45s. per ton on an average. Dairies are let to darymen 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 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 Cork, form the fineſt ſhore imaginable, leading to Cork the city appearing in full view, Dunkettle wooded incloſures, a fine

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 chearful circumſtance of lively commerce, has all together a great effect. Advancing to Paſſage the ſhores are various, and the ſcenery enlivened by fourſcore 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 baſon 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 and lawn. The high ſhore of the harbour's mouth opens gradually. The whole ſcene is landlocked. The firſt view of Hawl-bowling-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 accompanyment 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 Cork 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 that 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 thick woods that ſpread a deep ſhade; in others the vale opens to form the ſcite of a pretty chearful village, overhung 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,

face, 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 baſon, 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 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, 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 Cork 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 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

glen winds up the hill. Returning to the houſe I was conducted to the hill, where the grounds ſlope off to the river of Cork, 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 Hemſkerk. 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 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 room, 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 conſiſts of many circumſtances. I ſhall begin with

TURNEPS,

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 turneps, 16½ feet, drilled in rows three feet apart; there were 84 turneps 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 turneps had failed, that would have held at leaſt ten large turneps more. I then pulled 84 turneps, the largeſt I could ſee, within about fifteen yards of the above perch, and they weighed 15 cwt. 15 qrs. 17 lb. which is about 125 ton, 29 cwt. 20 lb. I weighed two of the above turneps ſeparately, one of them a white tankard, they each weighed 32 lb. The white 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 turneps 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 turneps 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. Sea weed 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 fed, and took every pains to make them come into the culture, but in

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.

CABBAGES

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 turneps, but would not laſt longer than chriſtmas, otherwiſe would have preferred them. The crops of corn after them neither better nor worſe than after turneps. Tried alſo the ſcotch and other ſorts, but preferred the flat dutch to any other. One great objection to both cabbages and turneps is the mildneſs of the ſeaſon in Ireland, which is ſo great as to burſt the cabbages, and make the turneps 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.

POTATOES.

Lord Shannon planted eighteen acres of potatoes with the plough, manuring only the furrows; 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 expence, 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 turneps alſo he prefers very much the broad-caſt mode, and never began the drill method but as an eaſe of hoeing.

SOILING.

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 dung.

SEA-SAND AND LIME.

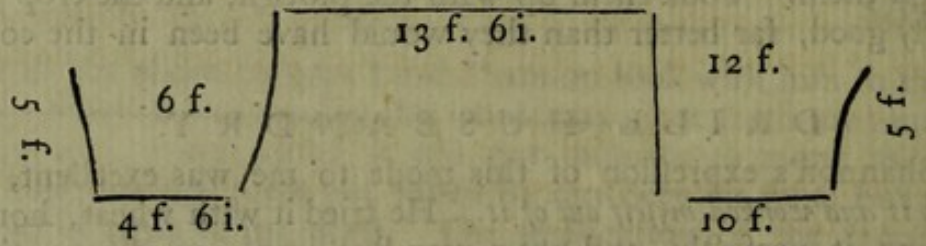
THE manures which Lord Shannon uſes are ſea-ſand and lime. He prefers the latter for brown flaty ſtone land, and ſand for lime-ſtone land: has uſed great quantities of it, though four to ſix miles from the ſea. In one month he has brought 6719 barrels of it, at 5d. a barrel; or 139l. 19s. 9½d. for 67 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.

BOUNTIES.

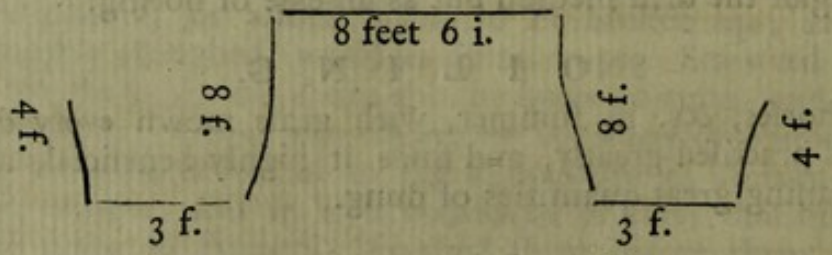
LORD Shannon's bounties to labourers amount to 50l. a year. He gives them by way of encouragement; but only to ſuch as can ſpeak engliſh, and do ſomething more than fill a cart.

DITCHES.

HIS lordſhip has made ſome ditches of an extraordinary dimenſion; the following ſegment:



The center of 13 feet 6 inches, is a terraſs 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

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

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, 100 l. 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.

COMPOSTS.

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 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 4 s. 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,

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 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 expence 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 practiced 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. According, a bullock of the beſt ſort, that had been worked three years, was purchaſed; alſo a hay-cart, 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 livres a year, with board, &c. The bullock, 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

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 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 251 lb. 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 yaers 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 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 turnep 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 3 l. plant ſix barrels at two and a half cwt. produce 50 to 100 barrels; potatoes ſell 2s. to 4s. a barrel.

2. Wheat,

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

3. Oats, on one ploughing, ſow a barrel of fourteen ſtone, crop eight barrels. Some poor people take one or two more crops of oats.

4. Lay out for graſs 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
£.	6	4	0

PRODUCE.

Seventy barrels, at 3s.	10	10	0
Expences	6	4	0
Profit £.	4	6	0

A diſpute ariſing upon the produce of potatoes, Lord Shannon ordered ſome ſpades ſquare (each 5½ feet) to be taken up, and weighed them; the weight, on an average, 19 lb. per ſpade, or 108 barrels per acre, each 252 lb. that is, 12 weights to the barrel, each 21 lb. Theſe were his own potatoes, and not an extra crop at all. Barley is ſometimes put in inſtead of oats, and bere inſtead of wheat. A crop of bere produces 10 barrels; barley yields 8. No turneps 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 graffing, 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 cloath themſelves. They plough generally

rally 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 valued by the proctor by the acre. No emigrations from the county of Corke. The religion is almoſt univerſally catholic. Building a common cabbin 5l. two of ſtone, &c. for 3 l. 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 5 lb. Carlow 6 lb. Connaught 4½ lb. 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 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 7 s. 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 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 ſurprizing 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 turneps, 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. 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 Cork 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

and the two others which guard the opening of the harbour. It appears here a noble baſon 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 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 1l. 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, ſerges, &c.	40,000
Candles	34,220
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
£.	1,100,190

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 im-

ports

ports 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 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 beef.

Export of woollen yarn from Corke, 300,000l. 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 40,000l. a year.

PRICES.

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

CORKE labourers. Cellar ones 20,000; have 1s. 1d. 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, 40s. Maſon and Carpenters labourers 10d. a day. Sailors, now, 3l. 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 18s. 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 10s. and 12s. a yard; if they might export to 8s. they are very clear that they could get a great trade for the woollen manufacturers of Corke; the wool comes from Galway and Roſcommon, combed here by combers, who earn 8s. to

to 10s. 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, 30l. a pack, to 33l. never before ſo high; average of them 26l. to 30l. Some they work up at home into ſerges, ſtuffs, and camblets; the ſerges at 12d. a yard, 34 inches wide; the ſtuffs ſixteen inches, at 18d. 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 Killarny; the weavers earn 1s. a day on an average. Full three-fourths 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 ratteens 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 20l. 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 40l. 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 the Levant trade. Frizes which is now ſupplied from Carcaſſone 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 linen, 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

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 linens, 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 turneps 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 turneps, 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 turneps 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 lime-ſtone 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 turneps 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

harrows made on purpoſe; about the latter end of may it was 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 turneps were in four leaves there appeared more fern and potatoes than turneps, which were weeded out by hand, at a great expence; and in about three weeks after, when the turneps 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 turneps 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 turnep. 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, turnep 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 turneps 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 manures 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 turneps is	-	8 a. 1 r. 10 p.
Under cabbages	- -	2 a. 1 r. 10 p.

The turnep 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 turneps he ſowed barley, and with the barley, graſs ſeeds; before this improvement the land was worth 10s. an acre, but after it would let for 25s. the graſs 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 turneps, except Reynold's turnep-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.

vation. 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 ½ 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 at 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, 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 turneps, 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 expence had been as follows:

364 barrels of culm, at 4s. - - - -	73	0	0
The quarry is 1 ½ 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
Total £.	192	1	0

THE quantity of lime drawn from february 1777 to february 1778 was 5824 barrels, the expence 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 archdeacon truſt to lime alone; he buys great quantities of dung and ſoap aſhes in Corke. At the ſame time I viewed his turnep 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 graziers ſell their bullocks with difficulty, he puts his to turneps, and doubles and trebles their value. In 1777 he had 23 acres of turneps. 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 limeſtone. Farms riſe from 50l. to 300l. The courſes are,

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

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 cabbin 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 1cd. 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 cabbin, 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 Macroom 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 Suſſex farmers, to improve a ſtoney mountain. I ſaw the land, and ſome of the buildings, and 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

with that view called at his houſe, but unfortuately 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 Suſſex 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 bog. I was unfortuate 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 Nedeen, 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 cabbin, and a ſpot of culture yielding ſurprize to find human beings the inhabitants of ſuch a ſcene of wildneſs, altogether keep the traveller's mind in an agitation and ſuſpence. 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 Nedeen 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 Ivragh. The country is all a region of mountains, incloſed by a vale of flat land on the river; 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;

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 cabbins, and ſome farms are taken by labourers in partnerſhip. Their tillage conſiſts of potatoes meaſured by the peck of 84 lb. 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. 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 dairymen's privilege is two collops to 20 cows; a cabbin, 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 Nedeen 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 31 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 nnmbers 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 9 lb a quarter, and are admirable mutton. A ewe's fleece, one pound and a half to two

pound

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 proctor every year values the tythe of the whole farm. Leaſes are, ſome for ever, others 31 years, and ſome 21. The rent of a cabbin, 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 cabbin, 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 ſlane, each ſlane four feet long, by two feet broad. Price of building a cabbin, 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. 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 coſts 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

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 Nedeen, 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 cabbin, 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 clearcd of ſtones, a ſtone cabbin 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 Killarny, came to a tract of mountain-bog, one of the moſt improveable 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 lime-ſtone 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 Mucraſs. 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

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 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 graſs 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 baſon 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 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 accompanyment, 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

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 feet, and forms a beautiful ſhore to the lake. Tomis and Glena are a 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 VIths time, and ſo entire, that if it were more ſo, tho' 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 ſculls 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 touch'd it—melancholy is the impreſſion which ſuch ſcenes ſhould kindle, and it is here raiſed moſt powerfully.

From the abbey we paſſed to the terraſs, 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 terraſs 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: theſe riſe in an outline, ſo varied, and at the ſame time ſo magnificent, that nothing greater can be imagined; Tomys and Glená 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 terraſs theſe ſcenes are viewed in numberleſs varieties.

Returned to breakfaſt, and purſued Mr. Herbert's new road, which he has traced through 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.

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 bethrown acroſs a bottom into Dyniſs.

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: 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 Dyniſs, 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 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

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, all are 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, 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 an 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 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 ſacriligious 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 Dyniſs 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 Mucruſs; 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 Mucruſs 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 Ardnagluggen, (in engliſh where the water daſhes 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*.

MUCRUSS 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 Mucruſs is uncommonly pleaſing.

PASS

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 Mucruſs Abbey, half obſcured by wood, the whole chearful, and backed by Turk. The lake is of a triangular form, Roſs iſland and Innisfallen its limits, the woods of Mucruſs and the iſlands take a new poſition.

RETURNING, took boat again towards Roſs iſle, and as Mucruſs retires from us, nothing can be more beautiful than the ſpots of lawn 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 valies let in views of the 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

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; 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 terreſtial 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

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 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 Glená, they are upon the whole much the moſt beautiful ones I have any where ſeen; Glená woods having more oak, and ſome arbuttus'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 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 out-

line 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 Glená; 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 a moſt forceable impreſſion.——Returned to Mucruſs.

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 Glená 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 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 Mucruſs, and the iſle of Inisfallen; the character of the iſlands; the ſingular circumſtance of the arbuttus, 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,

miſerable, and the lodgings little better. I am ſurpriſed 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, muſick, &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, 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 much 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 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 reclaimed. 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 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, ſtuck 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

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 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 Mucruſs 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, ſow eight pecks, at 70 lb. and get 80 lb. 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 ar 40s. to 50s. a cow. Three acres allowed to a cow; ſome paid in butter. The dairyman has his privilege, which is a cabbin, potatoe 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 56 lb. 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

tirely upon potatoes, yet are they better than twenty years ago, particularly in cloathing. Price of proviſion the 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 muſick 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 turneps, or oats, the turneps 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 turneps, and found them to anſwer perfectly, in fattening ſheep infinitely better than any winter or ſpring graſs

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 improveable as ever I ſaw, covered with bog myrtle *(myricagale)* and coarſe graſs: it might be drained at very little expence, 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 and bog. The remainder at 10s. an acre.

1. Pe-

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 cabbin; 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 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 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

to three-pence per hundred; near Tradee 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 grouſs, one ſhilling. Whitings, one penny each. Herrings, three a penny. Plaice, turbots, 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 cabbin 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 ſour 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.

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,

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 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. 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 ſcite 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 clifts, 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 improveable, ſaw ſome little ſpots taken in with heaps of ſea ſand for carrying it on.

Lord Glendour 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 Glendour's houſe there are extenſive plantations exceedingly flouriſhing, many fine aſh and beech; about a beautiful ciſtertian 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.

Wood-

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 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 two 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 Leſlie, 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 mag-

nificent. 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 60 lb. or 26,880 lb. 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 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 cabbin 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 cabbins. 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, of paying for labour by aſſigning ſome land to each cabbin. The country is greatly more populous than twenty years ago, and is now increaſing; and if ever ſo many cabbins were built by a gradual increaſe, tenants would be found for them A cabbin, and five acres of land, will let for 4l. 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

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 unentertaining 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 neigbourhood. 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 Corcaſſes on the Maag, which let 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 mold. The graſs 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 they plant on graſs 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 graſs ſeeds ſown.

Farms

Farms riſe from forty acres to 2000l. a year; ſome few of the little ones are taken by cottars, in partnerſhip, but not common; the large farms are all ſtock ones. Turneps 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 cabbin, in order for a little ſpinning for their own uſe.

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 weathers, and ſell them fat at 20s. each; the fleeces 7lb. Tythes, wheat 6s. barley 5s. Oats 4s. Rape no tythe. Potatoes 8d. to 1cd. 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, 50s.

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

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 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 ſour 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 manner to work, and finiſhed a journey at plough. The induſtry of the women is a perfect contraſt to the iriſh ladies in the cabbins, 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

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 anunciation, 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 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 Pompeio Battoni. A piece in an uncommon ſtile, done on oak, of Eſther and Ahaſuerus: the colours tawdry, but the grouping attitudes and 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 ſeat, 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 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.

nerſhip. 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 cabbin 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 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 limeſtone 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 1s. 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, 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 farms 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, 5l. 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	8
Mowing and making one-third of an acre hay	0	3	0
A bullock 5l. intereſt at 6 per cent.	0	6	0
Labour 1s. 6d an acre	0	2	3
£.	3	4	5
Profit on a bullock	3	3	0
Winter food, two ſheep at 5s.	0	10	0
	3	13	0
Expences	3	4	5
Profit £.	0	8	7

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

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 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 Harpſon 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 cabbin 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 cabbin; and for the graſs of a cow, 40s. to 45s. They are, if any thing, worſe off than they were twenty years ago. A cabbin, an acre of land, at 40s. and the graſs of two cows, the recompence of the year's labour: but are paid in different places by an acre of graſs 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 ½ or ¼ 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 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.

POTATOES.

	£.	s.	d.
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
Houſing	0	6	0
Picking	0	10	0
Tythe	0	12	0
	£. 15	3	2

CROP.

One hundred and fifty barrels, at 4s. each	30	0	0
Expences	15	3	2
Profit	14	16	10
One hundred barrels, at 4s. each	20	0	0
Expences	15	3	2
Profit	£. 4	16	10

The Briſtol barrel, which is here charged at 4s. is heaped, and weights 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 3¼ acres ſowed nine buſhels of bere, from which

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 cakaggee is at Mr. Waller's, Mr. Maſſey's, Mr. Weſtrope's, Mr. Monſon's, &c. The ſoil of the orchards thin, on lime-ſtone.

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 turneps: 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 practiced 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 expence of above 500 l. 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 cloathed, 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 ſour crout.

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, ſur-

rounded

rounded 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 banks. Mr. Oliver has conducted a ſtream through this vale, and formed many little water-falls in an exceeding good taſte, chiefly over-hung 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 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, ſurrounded 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 viſtos 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 Scipio'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 Kilfennan and Duntreleague, 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. Matthew at home; the domain is 1500 engliſh acres, ſo well planted,

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 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 16 lb. or 6s. a head. From hence to Clonmell, there are many ſheep; to Cullen in Killkenny, 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 Ballynafloe, 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 ſtock 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 ſold 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
	£.	1174	18	0

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

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-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 turneps—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,cool 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 cabbin, and three acres of garden, and as much hay as they like for their cattle.

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 turnep huſbandry often upon burnt land, ſome on lime and fallow, and ſome on fallow alone.

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

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

1. Burn for rape ſeed. 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 ſeed, pay the ſame price for the ſecond; they pay this price for turnep land burnt; graſs potatoes not generally known. The quantity 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

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. 90 hogſheads 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 30s. an acre. Reſpecting the ſtate of the poor in this country they are paid by a cabbin, and one acre and a half of land, for which they are reckoned 4l. and for graſs 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 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 clipt 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,

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 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 Tip-

perary, 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 Marlefield, 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 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 6d. 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. 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 overſtocked 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

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 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 fatting 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 experience 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 Holderneſſe. 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

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 80 l. 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, 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

houſes have all been built at 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 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 honeſter 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 expence 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

of iriſh mountains leave them, as they received them, from the hands of their anceſtors, in the poſſeſſion of grous 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 5os. 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 Dungarvon, 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 Clonmel 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. 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, ſelling 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 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

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 Curraghmoro 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 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 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 ſort 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 ſea weed 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 indented 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 a quart; five quarts of buttermilk in ſummer for a halfpenny.

Lord Tyrone has improved 127 acres of hill, the ſoil reddiſh dry loam, on a ſlaty 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. expence, 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 ſeeds. 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 Leitrun, 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;

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.

CURRAGHMORE is one of the fineſt places in Ireland, or indeed that I have any where ſeeen. 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 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 Cummeragh mountains. For a diſtinct extent of view, the parts of which are all of a commanding 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 chearfulneſs 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 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 color, 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 melancholly, 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

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 ſlops, for every thing there is exceedingly dear, one 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 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 1ſt 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

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 heighth 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 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 unrivaled 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 heighth 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, overgainſt 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 pacquet, in full expectation of ſailing immediately, as the wind was fair, but I ſoon found the difference of theſe private veſſels and the poſt-office pacquets 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

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 outline. To the eaſt, there is the long mountain, eighteen miles diſtant, and ſeveral leſſer Wexford 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 outline 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 receives 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 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 ſlaty 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

of a few miles towards Paſſage, &c. they are from 20s. to 40s. and ſome higher, but the country in general does not riſe ſo high, uſually 10s. to 20s. for dairying 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 furrows 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 fro 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 harbour at low water; it is of a blueiſh colour, very ſoapy, and ferments ſtrongly with acids: a boat load is 18 tons, and coſts 6s. 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. Sometimes 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 forever 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 cabbin, 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 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 heighth 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 careleſly, 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, Pidgeons, 1s. a couple. A hare, 1s. Partridges, 9d. Turbots, 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 ſand 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 catholicks 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 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 13 lb. top and bottom. An experiment on carrots I viewed, of which Mr. Bolton, junior, has ſince favoured me with the following account.

"When

"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 4 lb. 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 burned, 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-ſeed; 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 1½ 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 Wyſe, 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 burned 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 oc-

tober, 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 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 ſanding) 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 abridgement of the account.

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

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, 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 compleated 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 hogſheads, ſmoaked with brimſtone matches; the hogſheads ſhould not be bunged or ſtopt cloſe till all ſymptons of fermentation ceaſe; and in three weeks or a month it ſhould be a ſecond time racked, ſtill obſerving to ſmoak the hogſheads with brimſtone, then the hogſheads 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 Wilkinſon, near Ballycanvan, ſeems to be very attentive to the orchard huſbandry; from two acres he had twenty-one hogſheads 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 apples (each 6 buſhels) made a hogſhead 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 cabbin 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

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 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 cabbin 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, 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 aſſuracce 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 publick 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,

A four-

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 ſundry ſmall charges - -	1	15	5
£.	15	5	0

* * * * * * * * * * *

1777.

Upon a ſecond journey to Ireland this year, I took the opportunity of going from Dublin to Mitchelſtown, by a rout 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 expence 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 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 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 expence. 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-

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 21 lb. per acre, generally half clover and half trefoile; 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 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

one

PRODUCE.

One hundred ſacks, at 5s. - - - - -	25	0	0
Expences - - - - - -	14	0	0
Clear profit - £.	11	0	0

One hundred ſacks coſting 14l. gives the prime coſt of 2s. 9d. a ſack. 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 the other times ſhallower, price per acre, with a 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 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. - - - - - - -	30	0	0
Two ſows - - - - - - - -	2	10	0
Six Ploughs, at 13s. - - - - -	3	18	0
Three ſetts of geers - - - - - -	3	0	0
£.	209	8	0

Brought over - - -			209 8 0
Six Cars, at 25s. - - - - -			7 10 0
Sundry tools, &c. - - - - - - - -			10 0 0
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 - - - -			40 0 0
County ceſs, 4d. an acre - - - -			3 10 0
Tythe, 40 wheat, 6s. - - - -	12 0 0		
20 oats 4s. - - - -	4 0 0		
4 barley 6s. - - -	1 4 0		
10 hay 4s. - - -	2 0 0		
			19 4 0
		£.	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 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 cabbin.

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
		£.	3 15 0

Brought

	Brought over - - -	3	13 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. Reaping, 6s. 6d. Mowing graſs, 2s. 6d. to 3s. Pidgeons, 3d. each. Rabbits, 8d. a couple.

To Kildare, croſſing the Curragh, ſo famous for its turf. It is a ſheep walk of above 4000 engliſh acres, forming a more beautiful lawn than the hand of art ever made. Nothing can exceed the extreme ſoftneſs of the turf, which is of a verdure that charms the eye, and highly ſet off by the gentle inequality of ſurface. The ſoil is a fine dry loam on a ſtoney 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 conſiderable common in the kingdom. The ſheep yield very little wool, not more than 3 lb. per fleece, but of a very fine quality.

FROM Furneſs 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 obſerve, that Mr. Coote was ſo kind as to ſhew me the improved grounds of Dawſon's Court, the ſeat of Lord Carlow, which I had not ſeen before. The principal beauties of the place are the well grown and extenſive plantations, which form a ſhade not often met with in Ireland. There is in the back grounds a lake well accompanied with wood, broken by ſeveral iſlands that are covered with underwood, and an ornamented walk paſſing on the banks, which leads from the houſe. This lake is in the ſeaſon perfectly alive with 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 Roſſerea, 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 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 monopolized 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
Egliſh	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
Kilcourſy	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 on it. A curragh ſheep, from giving 3 lb. carried there, will yield 12 lb. but the quality is coarſe.

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

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 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 3 s. 4 d. - - - -	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
	11	5	2

PRODUCE.

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

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 fourth of auguſt, but a fortnight or three weeks earlier upon a fallow, the

the quantity of ſeed 1½lb. 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 lime-ſtone 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 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 prejudicial. Reſpecting the labour of a farm, the ſtanding buſineſs is done by cottars; a cottar is one who has a cabbin, 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 cabbin has a pig, a dog,

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 for more than ten ſundays in a year. Their fuel coſts them about 14s. a year, or eighty kiſh turf, an ample allowance. There is in every cabbin, 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
		11 16	0

The Receipt.

The year	365 days		
Deduct ſundays	52		
Bad weather	30		
Holydays	10		
	92		
	273 at 6d	6 16	6
Two calves	1 10 0		
Pig	1 0 0		
Poultry	0 5 0		
		2 5	0
		9 1	6
303 days ſpinning between the wife and daughter at 3d.		3 15	3
		12 16	9
Expences		11 16	0
Remains for whiſky, &c. &c.		£. 1 0	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 Bannagher 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, with 40s. profit. Sheep they either breed, or buy *boggits* in may, at 12s. to 15s. each in the fleece, and ſell them fat, at three years and an half old, from 1l. 1s. to 1l. 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 1½ 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 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

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 8s. 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 graſs, by the acre, 2s. 8½d. two men do it in a day. Threſhing wheat, 6d. a barrel. Bere, 4d. Oats, 3d. Cutting turf, footing, &c. 12s. the 120 kiſh.

Building.

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
	0	3	4
Feet high			5
£.	0	16	8

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 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, 1l. 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 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

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
	11	0	6

PRODUCE.

Ninety barrels, at 4s. - - - - - -	18	0	0
Expences - - - - - -	11	0	6
Profit - - - £.	6	19	6

Prime coſt, 2s. 5d. a barrel.

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 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 oflate 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 expence 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 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.

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

Labour is done by cottars, who have a cabbin and a garden of one acre, if only one man in family, but if the ſon is grown, two acres. The cabbin 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 halfpenny 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
	£. 8	0	0

Receipt.

Two pigs	2	0	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 ſundays			
15 holydays			
20 bad weather			
48 ſickneſs and their own work			
135 ———			
230 at 5d. - - -		4	16 0
		9	11 0
Expences - - - - -		8	0 0
Remains for unſpecified articles - -	£.	1	11 0

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, 3 s. Potatoes, 6s. They are generally let to proctors, who are ſevere to the poor, and very indulgent to gentlemen. The rigor, however, does not extend beyond thoſe prices.

The

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 cabbin of ſtone and ſlate, 25l. Walling the maſon's perch, 4s. Lime, per barrel, ſeven-pence halfpenny; at Nenagh, 1s. Culm, per barrel, 3s. one burns nine of lime, in ſome places only ſix.

Quarrying the ſtones - - - -	0	0	0½
Breaking and burning - - - - -	0	0	3
Culm - - - - - -	0	0	4
£.	0	0	7½

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 5 lb. for 1s. Salmon, 2d. per lb. Freſh water fiſh in general, 2d½. a lb. Oyſters, 2s. per 120.

THE Shannon adds not a little to the convenience and agreeableneſs of a reſidence ſo 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 50 lb.. 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 40 lb. I eat of one of 27 lb. ſo taken; I had alſo the pleaſure of ſeeing a fiſherman bring three trouts, weighing 14 lb. 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 9 lb. 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 6 lb. Eels very plentiful. There are many gillaroos in the river, one of 12 lb. 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 chear the mind, render this neighbourhood one of the moſt enviable ſituations to live in that I have ſeen in Ireland. The face of the country gives every circum-

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 *Duharrow 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 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.

Rape Cake,

Mr. Holmes has uſed as a manure, with great ſucceſs: in 1775, he dreſſed two acres of worn out meadow, with a ton and a half an acre, at 2l. 2s. per ton; and in 1776, he laid on ſeven tons, at 1¼ 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 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

of the rape, except in the deſtruction of moſs, which was deſtroyed by both methods.

Clover.

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 24 lb. 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, 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 expence 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 20 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, 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 a 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.

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 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, without either hay or turnips. The marled land has a remarkable ſpring of graſs 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 Limerick; 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 graſs 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
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 bandles, 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 4 pair ſoles, 1s. 10d. each, 7s. 4d.	0	17	1
A pair of woman'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
£.	12	3	6

His receipt.

Deduct from ———	365 days				
Sundays -	52				
Holyday	1				
Bad weather	10				
Own work	48				
———	111				
Remain at 5d.	254	- - -		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
£.				11	4 11

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

When

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 cabbin. Dancing-maſters of their own rank travel through the country from cabbin to cabbin, with a piper or blind fidler; and the pay is ſix pence a quarter. It is an abſolute ſyſtem of 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 cabbin 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, 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

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

BUILDING.

A mud cabbin, 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
	0	3	5

Beſides 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	16	0
Iron - - - - -	0	10	0
£.	1	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. 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

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 ſeeds: 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 wood-land 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

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 baſon, 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 accompanyment 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

ESTATES are generally very large, but ſome ſo low as 300l. a year. Farms riſe 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, Bannagher, 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 fatting 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 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, 23s.	—	—	—	—	57	10	0
400 fleeces, 133 ſtone of wool, at 15s.	—	—	—		99	15	0
500 Total flock					£. 219	15	0

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 *hoggit* 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 ceſs, at 9d.	0	1	0
Mowing, making, carting, and ſtacking hay	0	3	0
Herdſman, at 12l. a year	0	2	0
Loſſes on ſtock, ½ per cent.	0	0	6
	8	6	6
Intereſt of 8l. at 6 per cent	0	9	7
	£. 8	16	1

PRODUCE.

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

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 5¼cwt. twenty years ago it was 4¼ cwt. the additional ¼ cwt. is owing not 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. 1½ acre, herdſman's garden. 2 acres of orchard. 246l. rent, or 41s. per acre.

The

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, 1½ acre, or 1¼, 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, ¼ 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 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 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		
				0	14 8

Carried over £. 8 1 8

			£.	s.	d.
Brought over			8	1	8
Trenching, 12 men	0	8 0			
Cutting ſets, eight women, at 4d.	0	2 8			
Second trenching, ſix men	0	4 0			
			1	9	4
			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
			10	11	8

PRODUCE.

One hundred and twenty, at 3s.	18	0	0
Expences	10	11	8
Profit	£. 7	8	4

Prime coſt, 1s. 2½d. per barrel.

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 s. 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 lime-ſtone 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.

lives. 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 1½ acre					3	8	3
Graſs of two cows					5	0	0
Turf					0	15	0
Tythe					0	11	0
Seed flax, four pottles					0	3	4
20 bandles of cloth for the man							
20 ——— for the woman					0	3	8
7 ——— for three children							
47 weaving, at ½d.							
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		
						0	5	0
					£.	11	18	11

His

His Receipt.

Days		365		
Sundays	52			
Holydays	30			
Bad weather	10			
His own garden	20			
	112			
	253 at 5d. - -		£. 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
Remains for unſpecified demands, caſualties, &c. -			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 graſs 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

tral 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 burned; 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 ſpits deep were cleared, and a foundation of rammed clay laid: this coſt 1000l. 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 improveable, 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 heighth, 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 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

Scotland eſtates of greater extent may be found, but lying within twenty miles of Corke, the moſt ſoutherly part of Ireland, admits a rational propheſy 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 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 have ſeen 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, from one to four miles acroſs; and more improveable 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, *(ulex 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,

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 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.	0	7	7
Trenching, fourteen ditto	0	7	7
Leading the dung	1	0	0
Spreading, ſix men	0	3	3
Eight barrels ſeed	1	14	8
Weeding by the women	0	0	0
Taking up, ſixty men	1	12	6
Carting home, &c.	0	15	0
	£.6	0	7

Produce:

Sixty, at 4s. 4d.	13	0	0
Expences	6	0	7
	£.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 is 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 blowing 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 crouded for this reaſon, for there is nothing too trifling to carry; a yard of linen, a fleece of wool, a 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 cabbin 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 cabbins 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 a year that I was employed in letting his farms, I never omitted any opportunity of confirming

ing him in this ſyſtem, as far as was in my power, from a conviction that he was equally ſerving himſelf and the publick 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 cabbin, 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 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, 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 publick.

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 iſicles. 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 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

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 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 Galty more, 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 Galty beg 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 Galty beg, as the firſt mentioned was the origin of Galty more. 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 ſcoop'd 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

cularly Bull hill, and Round hill, each a mile over, yet riſing out of circular vales, with the regularity of 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 Galty more; The Limeſtone river, between Galty more 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 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 vigor 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 Mallow road, to Mitchelſtown, and from thence by Lord Kingſborough's new one, to Skeheenrinky, there to take one of the Glens, to Galty beg, and Galty more, and return to Mitchelſtown by the Wolf's track, Temple hill, and the Waterfall: or, if the Cork 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

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 improveable. 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 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 cabbins, 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 drained for that purpoſe by deep cuts on either ſide. I ſhould apprehend this bog to be among the moſt improveable 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

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 gentlemens 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.

A

TOUR, &c.

PART 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.

SECTION 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.

		Acres.
Ulſter	Antrim, —	383,020
	Armagh, —	170,620
	Cavan, —	274,800
	Down, —	344,658
	Donnegal, —	630,157
	Fermanagh,	224,807
	Londonderry, —	251,510
	Monaghan, —	170,090
	Tyrone, —	387,175
Total, —		2,836,837
Leinſter.	Carlow, —	116,900
	Dublin, —	123,784
	Kildare, —	228,590
	Kilkenny, —	287,650
	King's County,	257,510
	Longford, —	134,700
	Louth, —	111,180
	Meath, —	326,480
	Queen's County,	238,415
	Weſtmeath, —	249,943
	Wexford, —	315,396
	Wicklow, —	252,410
Total, —		2,642,958
Munſter,	Clare, —	428,187
	Corke, —	991,010
	Kerry, —	636,905
	Limerick, —	375,320
	Tipperary, —	599,500
	Waterford, —	259,010
Total, —		3,289,932
Conaught,	Galway, —	775,525
	Leitrim, —	206,830
	Mayo, —	724,640
	Roſcommon,	324,370
	Sligo, —	241,550
Total, —		2,272,915
In all Ireland, —		11,042,642

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 69½; 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 filled 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,

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 moiſteſt 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 canot uſe with propriety, the terms clay, loam, ſand, &c. it muſt be a *ſtoney* clay, a *ſtoney* 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 *Corcaſſes*. 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 Peterſburgh, 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 at 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 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. Tranſ.* Vol. lxvii. part i. p. 244.

SECTION 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.

Places.	*Rent per Acre.*	*Rent at Iriſh Acre.*	*Fall.*	*Year's purchaſe of land.*	*Leaſes, years or lives.*
County of Dublin,				22	41 61 L.
Celbridge,	1 10 0			22	31 or L
Dolleſtown,	1 1 0		5 0		
Summerhill,	1 0 0			23	
Slaine Caſtle,	1 5 0			22½	31 or L

* I have had this happen myſelf with a pair of wet gloves.

The myriads of flies alſo which buz about ones ears, and are ready to go in ſhoals into ones 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.

Headfort,

Places.	*Rent per acre.*	*Rent at iriſh acre.*	*Riſe.*	*Fall.*	*Year's purchaſe land.*	*Leaſes, years or lives.*
			s. d.	s. d.		
Headfort,	1 0 0				21	
Drueſtown,	1 6 0					
Fore,	0 15 0					
Packenham Hall,	0 17 6			4 4	21	
Mullengar to Tulleſpace	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
Roſs 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,	1 5 0				20	
Cullen,	1 0 0					
Ravenſdale,	0 7 0					
Market-hill,	0 11 6	14 9				
Ardmagh,	0 10 0	13 0				
Ardmagh 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 0 0					
Redemon to Saintfield	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 Cauſway,	0 12 0	15 0				
Colrain,	0 10 6					
Newtown 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 1 0					
Longford,	0 13 6		2 0		18½	
Strokeſtown,	1 5 0					
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 6					

Places.	*Rent per acre.*	*Rent at iriſh acre.*	*Fall.*	*Year's purchaſe land.*	*Leaſes, years or lives.*
		s. d.	s. d.		
Weſtport,	0 8 0		1 0	21½	21 31 L
Holymount,	0 13 6				
Moniva,	0 14 0			21	
Wood Lawn,	0 16 0				
Drumoland Corcaſſes,	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				
Barrymore,	0 7 0	11 0			
Barrets,	0 4 0	6 0			
Muſhery,	0 4 0	6 0			
Kinclea,	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			
Kilnatalton,	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 ſheepland Tipperary,	1 2 6		4 6	20	
Ballycavan,	0 15 0			19½	
Furneſs,	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
Mitchels 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.

The

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.

Counties.	*Different minutes.*	*Average.*	*Reduced to plantation.*	*Total rental of the County.*
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 1½	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,	0 12 6			
Ditto,	0 12 10			
Ditto,	0 10 10			
		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

Counties.	*Different minutes.*	*Average.*	*Reduced to plantation.*	*Total rental of the County.*
Corke,	0 7 0			
Ditto,	0 3 1			
Ditto,	0 5 8			
Ditto,	0 5 4			
Ditto,	0 5 0			
		0 5 2	0 5 2	256,010
Kerry,	0 2 0			
Ditto,	0 2 11			
Ditto,	0 1 7			
Ditto,	0 4 10			
		0 2 10	0 2 10	90,226
Limerick,	1 0 0			
Ditto,	1 0 0			
Ditto,	0 10 6			
		0 16 10	0 16 10	315,893
Tipperary,	0 16 3			
Ditto,	0 17 4			
Ditto,	1 0 0			
Ditto,	0 12 6			
		0 16 6	0 16 6	494,587
Waterford,	0 5 0			
Ditto,	0 6 10			
		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			
		0 5 6	0 5 6	106,472

Since the journey I have procured the information for the following:

Kilkenny,		0 16 0	0 16 0	230,119
Monnaghan,		0 11 0	0 11 0	93,549
Queen's,		0 13 0	0 13 0	154,968
Total,	—	—	—	5,293,312

11,042,642 plantation acres, giving the rent of 5,293,312 l. is at the rate of 9 s. 7 d. *per* acre. The average of all the minutes made it 16 s. 6 d. 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 occupyer, 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 700,000 l. to this rental on that account.

The difference of money and meaſure included 35 s. iriſh makes juſt 20 s. engliſh. Suppoſe therefore the rental of Ireland 9 s. 7 d. per acre, it makes 5 s. 6 d. engliſh.

If Ireland is 10 s. it would be 5 s. 9 d. engliſh.

Suppoſe it 11 s. or the total of ſix millions, it is per engliſh acre 6 s. 4 d.

It

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 13 s. an acre *. Poor rates in the ſame 1 s. 10½ d. in the pound, or 1 s. 2½ d. per acre. || The information I received in Ireland concerning the amount of the money raiſed for preſentments throughout the kingdom, made the total 140,000 l. or 3 d. 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 of which is 14 s. 2½ d. 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 2 s. would in England produce 5 s.

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 88,341,136 l. 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 20 s. 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 ſolution 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

* Eaſtern Tour through England, Vol. iv. p. 229.

|| The average of the Eaſtern and Northern Tours which make a total of 1,926,666 l. By the returns laid before parliament it appeared to be actually 1,720,316 l. 14 s. 7 d.; but that return was 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.

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 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	
Delleſtown,	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	
Kilfaine,	6	10	8	10
Bargie,		9	9	
Ditto,	8½	12		

Bargy

Places.	*Wheat, Barrels.*	*Barley, Barrels.*	*Oats, Barrels.*	*Bere, Barrels.*
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	
Shaen 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	
Mercra,	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		7¾	
Ards,	9			
Shaens Caſtle,	7¾		10	
Engliſh acre reduced.				
Mallow,	12		19	19
Dunkettle,	13			
Averages.	7½	11½	11½	14

Theſe quantities per engliſh acre are:

	Qrs.	*Buſh.*	*Pecks.*
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:

	Qrs.	*Buſh.*	*Pecks.*
Wheat	3	0	0
Barley	4	0	0
Oats	4	6	0

Of the Six Months Tour through the North of England:

	Qrs.	*Buſh.*	*Pecks.*
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, clover, &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 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

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

SECTION 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

* Taken from the Records of imports and exports kept by order of the Houſe of Commons. MS.

applicable

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 reimburſe-"ment until the market riſes. Can my lord do that?" A very common plea, but the moſt unfortunate that could be uſed to any one whoever remarked that portion of human nature

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 cannot 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* (diſtrained) 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 diſmiſſion 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 there-

fore

fore 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 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 catholicks.

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

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 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 burthen of the intermediate 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 in this manner; 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 ſuperintendent 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

portion 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 cabbin; 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 treatment of Ireland. When truth is likely to be thus warped, a traveller muſt be very circumſpect to *believe*, and very aſſiduous to *ſee*.

Places.	*Rent of cabbin and garden.*	*Cow's graſs rent.*	*Cows per family.*
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
Warrenſtown,	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	
Gloſter,	1 10 0	1 5 0	
Johnſtown,	1 0 0	1 0 0	
Derry,	1 10 0	1 10 0	
Mitchel's Town.	1 10 0	1 10 0	
Average.	1 13 10	1 11 3	

From

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 an 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
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 be ſo poorly kept as to make it very unreaſonable. I believe, from what I ſaw, that ſuch inſtances are not uncommon.

	POTATOES.											
Places.	*Expence per acre.*			*Product 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
Slaine 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
Mullengar to Tulleſpace				60								
Tullamore,												6 0 0
General Walſh,				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	0½	
Newton Limavaddy,							10	0	0			

Florence

POTATOES.

Places.	*Expence per acre.*	*Product Barrels.*	*Price per acre.*	*Produce value.*	*Prime coſt.*	*Rent potatoe ground.*
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
Ballycanvan,		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 2½	6 0 0
Mitchelſtown,	6 0 7	60	4 4	13 0 0	2 0	
Cunningham Acre reduced.						
Ardmagh,		58				
Warrenſtown,		51				
Shaen Caſtle,		112				
Leſly Hill,	9 9 0	103	4 0	20 11 0	1 10	
Ditto,	10 12 0	96	4 0	19 5 0	2 0½	
Engliſh Acre reduced.						
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 7½	5 10 2
Averages per engliſh acre,	6 7 6	52	4 9	10 7 0	2 7½	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 ſed. 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 ſeed, 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

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 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 halfpenny 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 at 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 whiſky as well as an engliſh man does ſtrong beer; but he cannot go on ſaturday night to the whiſky 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 cabbin 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 nowhere 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

the children help themſelves; they are ſcarce ever ſeen about a cabbin 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 whiſky 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 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.

FOOD.

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 back 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 bellyfull, 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, turkies, 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 chearfulneſs, 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 to 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.

Barrels.

	Barrels.	*Perſons.*	*Days.*
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 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.

CLOATHING.

The common iriſh are in general cloathed 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 cloathe 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.

HABITATIONS.

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 cabbin 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 ſmoak, 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, cheſts 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 *crock* * 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 cottar and his family, at chriſtmas, find the ſolidity of it an ample recompence for the ornament of the other.

LIVE STOCK.

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

* The iron pot of an iriſh cabbin.

quantities

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 cabbins; 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 thraldom; 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.

Places:	PRICE OF LABOUR. *Hay and harveſt.*	*Winter.*	*Year round.*	*Riſe in Labour.*
Dublin,		s. d.	10d.	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.
Ballybriggin,			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 years
Farnham,	1 0	6	6	
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.

Drumolan

Places.	*Hay and harveſt.*	*Winter.*	*Year round.*	*Riſe in Labour.*	
	d.	d.	d.	None.	
Drumoland,	6	6	6		
Doneraile,	‡ 8	6½	6½	One third in 20 years.	‡ and board.
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	1½ d. a day in 5 years.	
Average,	8¾	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.	*Carpenter.*	*Maſon.*	*Thatcher.*	*Places.*	*Carpenter.*	*Maſon.*	*Thatcher.*
	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	
Limavaddy,	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				
Florence Court,	1 9	1 9	1 1	Average,	1 9	1 9	1 3
Farnham,	2 2	2 2	1 6				
Strokeſtown,	2 0	2 0	1 0				
Ballynogh,	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.

OPPRES-

OPPRESSION.

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 catholicks, 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 defence. Knocking down is ſpoken of in the country in a manner that makes an engliſhman 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 muſt 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 horſewhipped. 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

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 catholick. All but the whiteboys were among the manufacturing proteſtants in the north. The whiteboys catholick 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 catholicks 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 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 entirely, 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.

EMIGRATIONS.

Before the american war broke out, 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 catholicks 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 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:

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.

SECTION 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 uncontrouled power in the hands of the proteſtants. The landed property of the kingdom had been 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

bounds of moderation towards the catholick, 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 catholicks 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 catholick can take a leaſe for more than thirty one years.
7. If the rent of any catholick 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 catholick having a horſe in his poſſeſſion above the value of five pound, 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 intollerant laws have had the effect or not.

That they have leſſened the landed property in the hands of the catholicks 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 powerfull 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. 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 catholicks, and many there are very much to be depended on, notwithſtanding all their oppreſſions, are the men of landed property: how impolitick 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

verted: 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 catholick 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 catholicks 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 catholick 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 catholicks is yet felt to be ſo 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 catholicks 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 ſurprizing 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 catholick religion itſelf that is incompatible with manufacturing induſtry. The poor catholicks in the ſouth of Ireland ſpin wool very generally, but the purchaſers

chaſers 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 catholick ſhall have the inducement to become rich. But if in ſpite of theſe laws he ſhould accidently 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 leveled 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 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 catholick 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 perſued in Ireland has had no other tendency but that of driving out of the kingdom all the perſonal wealth of the catholicks, 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 argugument, 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

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 inforce 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 catholicks of ſmall property, reſorting to the armies of 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 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 catholick 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 catholicks. 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 catholick 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

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 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.

SECTION 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. per lb.*	*Mutton. per lb.*	*Veal. per lb.*	*Pork. per lb.*	*Butter. per lb.*	*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	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 0	2 2	2 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	2	12	13
Mount Charles,	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,	2	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
Dorneraile,	2 2	2 2		2 2	7	2 3	8	4 1
Corke,	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	3¼	
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	2¾

Average of the four meats in England, — 3½d.
Ditto in Ireland, — — — 2¾d.
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 journies; 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 œconomy 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 bye 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

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 the higheſt in Ireland; but in general it is from three pence 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 above 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 in all Ireland. The money raiſed for this firſt and moſt important of all national purpoſes,

is

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 adviſeable 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 11,42,642 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, 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 *garrons*, 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 them-

ſelves 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 waggon 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-feet 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 ſullage 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 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.

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, that 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 Mithelſtown, 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 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 con-*
" *tinuance 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's, 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 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. *Third*, 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 to 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

whole face of it. What a figure would Ireland make on a compariſon with its preſent ſtate, if one tree now ſtood by each cabbin! 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 for 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 (ſallies 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 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 fewel, or elſe the growth from them cut very often for faggots till the new timber gets up enough to

drip

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 nurſerymen 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 fewel 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, 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.

SECTION XI.

Manures—Waſte Lands.

THE manure commonly uſed in Ireland is lime; inexhauſtible quarries of the fineſt limeſtone 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

hought 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.

	Barrels per acre.	*Price per barrel.* s.	d.	f.
Mr. M'Farlan,	160		7	
Slaine,	120		7	
Headfort,	80			
Packenham,			6	
Mr. Marley,	160	1	0	
Kilfaine,	80			
Mr. Kennedy,	40	2	6	
Hampton,	125		7	
Ld. Ch. Baron Forſter,	160		9	
Market Hill,	30	1	6	
Warrenſtown,	140	1	1	
Lecale,	115		11	
Mr. Leſlie,	160			
Newtown Limavady,	100	1	0	
Caſtle Caldwel,			6	
Inniſkilling,	80		8	
Florence Court,	60		8	
Farnham,	150			
Mr. Mahon,			5	
Mr. Brown,			3	
Mr. French,			4	
Woodlawn,			4	
Annſgrove,	100		8	
Mr. Aldworth,	160		6	
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 *.

* See a Letter from the late Earl of Holderneſs to me, inſerted in the ſecond Edition of the *Northern Tour*.

Limeſtone

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 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 deſart mountains and bogs very conſiderable. Upon theſe lands is to be practiced 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 Kingſbrough 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 publick 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

* 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, 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 dryeſt ſeaſon that ever was known in Ireland.

barrels

barrels of lime, limed 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, ſteward's 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 ſtony land 30 s. to 40 s. 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 tups, 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. 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

* 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.

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 regulary depending on turneps. At the ſame time that this work was carrying on, his lordſhip, by my advice, encouraged the peaſantry 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 cabbin, 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 falſhood 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 publick, 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 ſpunge, 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 ſpungy 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 ſedgy 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 ſathomed 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 Baltick, 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 ſpunge 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 neceſſary work is done at a very moderate coſt. But in ſpungy 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 leveled 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 plaiſtering 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 eightpence the load of twenty buſhels, and is found a cheap improvement at that price, yet the chalk drawers, as they call themſelves, earn two ſhilling 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 fatting 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.

Places.	SHEEP. Fleece.	Profit.	Places.	SHEEP. 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				
Strokeſtown,	5	17 0	Averages,	5	11 0
Ditto,		10 0			
Elphin,	5	10 0	Averages of the Tour through the North of England,	5	10 0
Mercra,	4				
Mr. Brown,	4				
Weſtport,	5		Ditto Eaſt of England,	5 2	11 8
Moniva,	4 2				
Drumoland,	5 3		Average of England,	5 1	10 10
Annſgrove,	4				
Lord Donneraile,	8		Average of Ireland,	5	11 0
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.	Wool in the Fleece, *Lincolnſhire.*	Tod reduced to ſtone of 16 lb. s. d.
In the year 1764 ——	11 0	In the year 1764 ——	11 4
1765 ——	10 0	1765 ——	11 4
1766 ——	11 0	1766 ——	12 0
1767 ——	13 0	1767 ——	10 8
1768 ——	13 6	1768 ——	8 0
1769 ——	13 6	1769 ——	8 0
1770 ——	14 0	1770 ——	8 3
1771 ——	14 0	1771 ——	8 0
1772* ——	0 0	1772 ——	8 3
1773* ——	0 0	1773 ——	8 4
1774 ——	14 0	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
Average, —	13 8	Average, —	9 3

47 per cent. higher in Ireland that in England.

* Unſettled but very high. § Communicated by Mr Joſhua Pine in the woollen trade, Dublin.
‖ Communicated by Mr. James Oaks in the woollen trade Bury, Suffolk.

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 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 ſtinted, 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.

SECTION XIII.

Tythes—Church Lands.

OUR ſiſter kingdom labours under this heavy burthen 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.
Celbridge,	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 0¼
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	
Ardmagh,		5 0	3 0				
Leeale, 2 s. 2 d. 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 2½
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 2¾

	Wheat.	*Barley.*	*Oats.*	*Hay.*
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 11½	3 0	1 10
Ireland, per engliſh acre, — —	4 2½	3 4	2 3½	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 catholick is made in too many caſes to pay ſeverely

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 completely 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 object 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 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 biſhopricks 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 annum, —	8,000	Brought over, —	21,000
Dublin, — — — —	5,000	Derry, — — —	7,000
Tuam, — — —	4,000	Limerick, — — —	3,500
Caſhel, — — —	4,000	Corke, — — —	2,700
Carried over, —	21,000	Carried over, —	34,200

	l.
Brought over —	34,200
Cloyne; — — —	2,500
Oſſory, — — —	2,000
Waterford, — — —	2,500
Down, — — —	2,300
Dromore, — — —	2,000
Clonfert, — — —	2,400
Clogher, — — —	4,000
Kilmore, — — —	2,600
Carried over, —	54,500

	l.
Brought over, —	54,500
Elphin, — — —	3,700
Killala, — — —	2,900
Kildare, — — —	2,600
Raphoe, — — —	2,600
Meath, — — —	3,400
Kilalloo, — — —	2,300
Leighlin and Ferns, — —	2,200
	74,300

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 ſees have the patronage of an eccleſiaſtical revenue of above one hundred and fifty thouſand pounds a year more.

SECTION 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 the reſpective eſtates: in ſuch a detail, however, of private property there muſt neceſſarily be many miſtakes.

	l.
Lord Donnegal, — —	31,000
Lord Courtenay, — —	30,000
Duke of Devonſhire, —	18,000
Earl of Milton, — —	18,000
Earl of Shelburne — —	18,000
Lady Shelburne, — —	15,000
Lord Hertford, — —	14,000
Marquiſs of Rockingham, —	14,000
Lord Barrymore, — —	10,000
Lord Montrath, — —	10,000
Lord Beſborough, — —	10,000
Lord Egremont, — —	10,000
Lord Middleton, — —	10,000
Lord Hiſborough, — —	10,000

	l.
Brought over, —	218,000
Mr. Stackpoole, — —	10,000
Lord Darnley, — —	9,000
Lord Abercorn, — —	8,000
Mr. Dutton, — —	8,000
Mr. Barnard, — —	8,000
London Society, — —	8,000
Lord Conyngham, — —	8,000
Lord Cahir, — —	8,000
Earl of Antrim, — —	8,000
Mr. Bagnall, — —	7,000
Mr. Longfield, — —	7,000
Lord Kenmare, — —	7,000
Lord Nugent, — —	7,000

	l.
Lord Kingſton,	7,000
Lord Valentia,	7,000
Lord Grandiſſon,	7,000
Lord Clifford,	6,000
Mr. Sloane,	6,000
Lord Egmont,	6,000
Lord Upper Oſſory,	6,000
Mr. Silver Oliver,	6,000
Mr. Dunbar,	6,000
Mr. Henry Obrien,	6,000
Mr. Mathew,	6,000
Lord Irnham,	6,000
Lord Sandwich,	6,000
Lord Vane,	6,000
Lord Dartry,	6,000
Lord Fane,	5,000
Lord Claremont,	5,000
Lord Carbury,	5,000
Lord Clanrickard,	5,000
Lord Farnham,	5,000
Lord Dillon,	5,000
Sir W. Rowley,	4,000
Mr. Palmer,	4,000
Lord Clanbraſſil,	4,000
Lord Maſſareen,	4,000
Lord Corke,	4,000
Lord Portſmouth,	4,000
Lord Aſhbrook,	4,000
Lord Villiers,	4,000
Lord Bellew,	4,000
Sir Laurance Dundaſs,	4,000
Allen family,	4,000
Mr. O'Callagan,	4,000
General Montagu,	4,000
Mr. Fitzmaurice,	4,000
Mr. Needham,	4,000
Mr. Cook,	4,000
Mr. Anneſley,	4,000
Lord Kerry,	4,000
Lord Fitzwilliam,	4,000
Viſcount Fitzwilliam,	4,000
Engliſh Corporation,	3,500
Lord Bingly,	3,500
Lord Dacre,	3,000
Mr. Murray of Broughton,	3,000
Lord Ludlow,	3,000
Lord Weymouth,	3,000
Lord Digby,	3,000
Lord Forteſcue,	3,000
Lord Derby,	3,000
Lord Fingall,	3,000
Blundenheireſſes,	3,000
Lady Charleville,	3,000
Mr. Warren,	3,000
Mr. St. George,	3,000
Mr. John Barry,	3,000
Mr. Edwards,	3,000
Mr. Freeman,	3,000
Lord Newhaven,	3,000
Mr. Welſh, (Kerry)	3,000
Lord Palmerſtown,	2,500
Lord Beaulieu,	2,500
Lord Verney,	2,500
Mr. Bunbury,	2,500
Sir George Saville,	2,000
Mrs. Newman,	2,000
Col. Shirley,	2,000
Mr. Campbell,	2,000
Mr. Minchin,	2,000
Mr. Burton,	2,000
Duke of Dorſet,	2,000
Lord Powis,	2,000
Mr. Whitſhead,	2,000
Sir Eyre Coote,	2,000
Mr. Upton,	2,000
Mr. John Baker Holroyd,	2,000
Sir N. Bayley,	2,000
Duke of Chandois,	2,000
Mr. S. Campbell,	2,000
Mr. Aſhroby,	2,000
Mr. Damer,	2,000
Mr. Whitehead,	2,000
Mr. Welbore Ellis,	2,000
Mr. Folliot,	2,000
Mr. Donellan,	2,000
Mrs. Wilſon,	2,000
Mr. Forward,	2,000
Lord Middleſex,	2,000
Mr. Supple,	2,000
Mr. Nagles,	2,000
Lady Raneleigh,	2,000
Mr. Addair,	2,000
Lord Sefton,	2,000
Lord Tyrawley,	2,000
Mr. Woodcock,	2,000
Sir John Millar,	2,000
Mr. Baldwyn,	2,000
Dr. Moreton,	1,800
Dr. Delany,	1,800
Sir William Yorke,	1,700
Mr. Arthur Barry,	1,600
Lord Dyſart,	1,600
Lord Clive,	1,600
Mr. Bridges,	1,500

Mr.

	l.		l.
Mr. Cavanagh,	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. Grevill,	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. Aſhon,	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. 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 Hilſborough, 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.

SECTION 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 publick 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 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 burthenſome. 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

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 burthenſome are poor to a pariſh, that it is twenty to one if they get permiſſion to erect their cottage. But in Ireland the cabbin is not an object of a moment's conſideration; to poſſeſs a cow and a pig is an earlier aim; the cabbin 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 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 catholick 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 chattels 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 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

* A Treatiſe of the Exchequer and Revenue of Ireland. By G. E. Howard, Eſq; Vol. i. p. 90.
† Abridgement of Phil. Tranſ. Vol. iii. p. 665.

been

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.

SECTION XVI.

Publick 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 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 publick, 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 publick 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	Pier at Skerries,	3,500
Dromgláſs colliery and navigation,	112,218	Pier at Envir,	1,870
Dromreagh,	3,000	Pier at Dunleary,	18,500
Lagan River,	40,304	Pier at Balbriggen,	5,252
Shannon River,	31,500	Pier at Bangor,	500
Grand Canal,	73,646	Pier at Killyleagh,	1,200
Blackwater River,	11,000	Pier at Sligo,	1,300
River Lee,	2,000	Antrim River,	1,359
River Barrow,	10,500	Ballaſt-office Wall,	43,000
River Sure and Waterford,	4,500	Widening Dublin ſtreets,	41,986
River Nore,	25,250	Trinity College,	31,000
River Boyne,	36,998	Baal's Bridge Limerick quays,	7,773

* Common's Journal, Vol. xiv. p. 485.

Corke

	l.		l.
Corke channel harbour, -	6,500	Building churches, - -	12,000
Corke Workhouſe, - -	1,500	Athlone church, - - -	476
Derry Quay, - - -	2,900	Caſhel church, - - -	800
Shandon Street, Corke, - -	1,500	Wexford church, - - - -	
Wicklow harbour, - -	6,850	Quay at Dingle, - -	1,000
St. Patrick's Hoſpital, - -	6,000	Minſterkenry collieries, - -	2,000
Publick Records, - -	5,000	Marine nurſery, - -	1,000
Aquæduct Dungarvon, - -	1,300	Road round Dublin, - -	1,500
Soldiers childrens hoſpital, - -	7,000	Dundalk, - - -	2,000
Lying-in hoſpital, - -	19,300	Whale-fiſhery, - - -	1,000
Mercer's hoſpital, - -	500	Drydock, - - -	2,000
Shannon bridge, - -	2,000	Mills at Naul, - - - -	3,498
Kilkenny ditto, - - -	9,130	Balty-caſtle, - -	3,000
Corke bridges, - - -	4,000	Lord Longford, - - -	3,000
Kildare bridges, - -	600		
St. Mark's church, - -	2,000		717,944
St. Thomas's church, - -	5,440		
St. Catherine's church, - -	3,990	Or per annum, - - -	47,863
St. John's church, - -	2,000		

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.

	l.
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 thouſand pounds, by ſome accounts half a million.

Granted

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
Drumglaſs 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
	11,542	4,676	11,592	5,892	33,702

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 publick 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

The following Table of the Import of Coal to Ireland, will ſhew the Importance of the Object.

	Tons.		Tons.
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 ſeven years	180,113	Average of ſeven years	204,566

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 capital in Ireland was ſuch that ſhe could never rival the manufactures of Great Britain: it was replied, that ngliſh 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 publick 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 the 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. Have ſomething to carry before you, ſeek the means of carriage. I will venture to ſay, that if the grand canal was 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 publick 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 navition 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 *publick* 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 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 woollen warehouſe was opened May 29, 1773; that for ſilk Feb. 18, 1765.

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 fabricks. It is their profit which animates them to thoſe ſpirited exertions, upon which the advance of 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 fabricks 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 fabrick upon earth, and ſee what would become of it if the heads were conſidered as uſeleſs, and rivalled in their profits with publick 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 fabrick 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 encreaſed from ſuch a meaſure. Let us examine this point.

Account

Account of Silk imported into Ireland in Twenty-ſix Years*.

Years.	*Manufactured.*	*Raw.*	*Ribband.*	*Years.*	*Manufactured.*	*Raw.*	*Ribband.*
	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	366	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
Average,	15,760	48,132	275	Average,	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 fabricks 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.

An Account of the Import of Woollen Goods for Fourteen Years †.

Years.	*New Drapery.*	*Old Drapery.*	*Years.*	*New Drapery.*	*Old Drapery.*
	Yards.	*Yards.*		*Yards.*	*Yards.*
1764	248,062	220,828	1771	362,096	217,395
1765	239,365	176,161	1772	314,703	153,566
1766	315,216	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 ditto,	331,548	205,662
			Increaſe,	154,061	53,804

* MS. Communicated by Mr. Forſter. † Parl. Rec. of Exp. and Imp. MS.

The

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 ſociety's warehouſe.

Import of Linen, Cotton, and Silk, Britiſh Manufacture.

	Value. l.		*Value.* 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

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 publick, it will ſurely ſeem unpardonable in parliament to appear ſo little ſollicitous 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 fabricks 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 premiums 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 fabricks 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 fabricks when wiſely ſet on foot. There are no linens faſhionable in England, but the iriſh people will not wear any other, and yet gulic hollands are aſſerted to be much ſtronger. Should not the iriſh, therefore, bend their force 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

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 publick 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 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 ſuperintendant for his private emolument, that no diſtreſſes of his own might interfere with the publick 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

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 clutivation, 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 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 the perſon who ſhall in the year 1780, have the moſt acres of turneps, not leſs than twenty, twice thoroughly land hoed; to report the effect, a piece of plate of the value of one hundred pounds, with a ſuiſable 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 as under, 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 incloſed; 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, and eaten when green by ſheep, and one half of the improvement to be in graſs 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 ſally 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

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 400 l. 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. Th mountain and bog improvement are great objects, and 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 an 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, vaze, 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.

SECTION XVII.

Manners and Cuſtoms.

Quid leges ſine moribus,
Vana proficiunt!

IT is but an illiberal buſineſs for a traveller, who deſigns to publiſh remarks upon a country, to ſit down cooly 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 enables me to exhibit a very different picture; in doing this, I ſhall be free to remark, wherein I think the conduct of certain claſſes 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'Donnohue a conſiderable one in Kerry; but I heard of a family of O'Driſchal'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

till doomſday. They are infinitely more chearful and lively 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 *hurling*, 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 reparee, 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 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 cotilions 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 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 *agrémments* 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. and Cabb.*	*Rent.*	*Labourers.*	*Horses.*	*Plough 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	32	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 Walsh,	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. Close,	100		23		135	9	10		40
Mr. Lesly,	350	100	32		350	30	37	20	150
Mr. Savage,	190		35	2	250		32		40
Mr O'Niel,	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 Glendour,	1000	100	55		1000		50		200
Mr. Fitzgerald,	200		23	3	200		21	8	60
Mr. Leslie,	250	50	24		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. Macartey,	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	6	70
Mr. Nevill,	220	24			350		22		100
Mr. Lloyd,	200				150		12		182
Mr. Holmes,	540	49	25	15	540	40	30	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 backwarder 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 ſurprizing 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 a 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 *triſle* 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

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 drunkeneſs; the latter is no longer the cauſe or the pretence. As to the former, they would place the national character ſo backward, would take 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 rencontres? 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 Fermannagh, 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

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 an eternal monument, witneſs their Swift, Sterne, Congreve, Boyle, Berkeley, Steele, Farquhar, Southerne, 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 chearfulneſs, 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

* 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.

ſtruck

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 expence 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 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 play, as well as ſince, the following table will have its uſe

IMPORT OF CORN AND FLOUR.

		Barley and malt. Qrs.	*Wheat. Qrs.*	*Flour. Ct.*			*Barley and malt. Qrs.*	*Wheat. Qrs.*	*Flour. Ct.*
Year	1744	2,450	329	20,977	Year	1750	44,836	16,275	50,637
	1745	11,305	6,342	24,708		1751	47,581	20,317	60,985
	1746	138,934	129,190	110,832		1752	69,861	30,425	78,282
	1747	85,316	28,973	37,190		1753	61,927	18,195	63,527
	1748	29,015	3,402			1754	109,539	39,635	91,583
	1749	39,121	8,720	30,502		1755	99,386	57,699	89,015
						1756	78,061	20,412	71,343
Average,		51,023	29,492	37,368	Average,		73,027	28,994	72,196
Value,		51,023	44,238	18,684	Value,	*L.*	73,027	42,491	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 and Malt.		*Wheat.*		*Flour.*	
	Quantity.	*Value.*	*Quantity.*	*Value.*	*Quantity.*	*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	55,620	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	47,411	3,457	7,490	69,838	41,903
Average,	19,538	23,330	12,402	25,242	47,697	28 446 *

BARLEY AND MALT.

Average import of the	*Qrs.*	*Value.* l.
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

WHEAT.

Average of the	*Qrs.*	*Value.* l.
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, ——	12,402	25,242

FLOUR.

Average of the	*Cwt.*	*Value.* l.
First period, ——	37,368	18,684
Second ditto, ——	72,196	36,098
Third period, ——	46,481	23,382
Fourth ditto, ——	62,856	32,667
Fifth ditto, ——	47,697	28,146

	l.
Average value of the three commodities in the three first periods,	116,436
Ditto of the two last, ——	71,013
The import in the last fourteen years is less than in the preceding twenty, by ——	45,423
Import of the fourth period —	97,008
Ditto of the fifth, being the period in which the bounty hath taken full effect, ——	77,018
Difference, — —	19,990

* MS. Communicated by the Right Hon. John Beresford, first commissioner of the revenue in Ireland.

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 ænigmatical. 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 flour 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 wereon 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 and Peaſe.*		*Oats.*	
	Quantity.	*Value.*	*Quantity.*	*Value.*	*Quantity.*	*Value.*	*Quantity.*	*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	3,686	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 *

* MS. communicated by the Right Hon. Iſaac Barrè.

Value

	l.
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, —	1657

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.

	l.		l.
In the year 1757 ——	136,860	In the year 1764 ——	126,346
1758 ——	121,662	1765 ——	99,190
1759 ——	27,058	1766 ——	103,898
1760 ——	55,694	1767 ——	133,608
1761 ——	49,629	1768 ——	42,297
1762 ——	89,919	1769 ——	18,776
1763 ——	109,765	1770 ——	* 187,119
Average of ſeven years, —	84,369	Average of ſeven 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, — — — — —	84,697
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.

	CORN.								FLOUR AND MEAL.				
	Barley.	*Beans.*	*Malt.*	*Meſlin.*	*Oats.*	*Peaſe.*	*Rye.*	*Wheat.*	*Flour.*	*Groat.*	*Oat.*	*Wheat*	TOTALS.
	l.	l.	l.	l.	l.	l.	l.	l.	l.	l.	l.	l.	l.
Year 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		12,281	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	1,058		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	2,867		17,897	15	42,470
1769	8,485	677	6,127		29,408	148	33	14,422	10,627	20	29,386	7	99,340
1770	1,066	60	1,234		12,924	20		103	12	3	13,840		29,268
Average,	4,161	416	1,405	9	11,490	142	34	2,720	1,929	62	13,890	37	36,299
Year 1771	168	3	390		3,217	18			29	6	495		4,326
1772	1,109	56	176		14,079	33	13	1,694	197	11	20,248		37,616
1773	5,784	428	155		10,250	55	54	4,374	115	25	10,040		31,280
1774	12,405	643	674		37,330	164	137	1,825	1,144	20	41,706		96,048
1775	13,327	13	375		23,347	121	140	8,268	3,524	30	18,749		65,894
1776	7,874	775	2		45,668	268	59	30,705	9,024	75	19,714	133	114,297
1777	859	2,217			47,911	348		26,158	18,405	170	8,574		104,642
Average,	5,932	590	253		25,971	143	57	10,432	4,634	48	17,075	19	64,871*

* Drawn from the totals of the export tables in the MS. communicated by Colonel Barrè.

	l.
Exported in the laſt ſeven years per annum, — — —	64,871
Ditto in the ſeven preceding, — — — —	36,299
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 than 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 224 lb. barley and malt were left out to enſure 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 280 lb. 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 annum 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

IMPORT AND EXPORT COMPARED IN VALUE.

	Import.	*Export.*	*Balance profit.*	*Balance loſs.*
	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

	l.
Loſs per annum in the middle ſeven years,	76,838
Gain ditto,	11,533
Neat loſs per annum,	65,305
Loſs per annum in the laſt ſeven years,	45,144
Gain ditto,	26,746
Neat loſs per annum,	18,398

It is a reduction of the loſs of 65,000l. down to 18000l.

Having thus diſcovered the advantage of the meaſure, let us in the next place examine, at what expence this benefit has been obtained. The following table ſhews the payments of the bounty to each county; the totals; the ſtones of corn, and the cwts. of flour brought.

Total

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.
	l.	l.	l.	l.	l.	l.	l.	l.
Antrim,								21
Armagh.				1				
Carlow,	160	161	228	94	151	59	197	849
Cavan,				15			5	
Clare,					1			31
Cork,					83	133	587	907
Donegal,								25
Dublin,		4						133
Fermanagh,								
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
Kings,	447	327	461	524	380	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,			3	7	11		6	61
Meath,	506	422	396	303	267	461	1,314	2,567
Monaghan,								
Queen's,	651	707	756	596	597	48	1,085	2,308
Roscommon,	12	6	105	312	159		346	653
Sligo,			9	14	8	119	93	226
Tipperary,	191	220	70	232	339	172	338	806
Waterford,								
Weſtmeath,	33	25	62	313	325	15	622	874
Wexford,	33	30	61	45	143	3	910	1,106
Wicklow,	21	55	35	25	22		53	124
Totals,	4,940	5,096	5,483	6,660	9,212	6,074	13,675	25,225
	1,730,869 ſt.	1,592,4.8 ſt.	1,622,933 ſt.	1,409,726 ſt.	1,464,296 ſt. *	945,289 ſt. *	2,148,805 ſt. *	2,608,910 ſt. 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.
	l.	l.	l.	l.	l.	l.	l.	l.
Antrim,	267	133	7	27				
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	119	131	133	
Corke,	979	1,399	1,350	1,491	1,902	783	4,200	2,350
Donegall,								
Dublin,	300	289	400	488	576	460	469	517
Fermanagh,				2	5			
Galway,	70	13	461	623	812	1,570	1,873	1,200
Kildare,	1,910	2,187	2,939	3,372	2,922	2,603	3,199	3,485
Kilkenny,	8,104	9,752	18,215	16,279	14,996	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	4,056	3,161
Roſcommon,	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	
Weſtmeath,	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	53,889	60,745	61,786
	1,920,978 ſt. 79,350 Ct.	1,641,867 ſt. 87,965 Ct.	3,146,960 ſt. 153,139 Ct.	3,263,199 ſt. 175,177 Ct.	3,553,996 ſt. 190,346 Ct.	3,211,214 ſt. 213,885 Ct.	3,622,076 255,256 Ct.	3,240,692 ſt. 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 for it coaſtways, a new bounty.

		l.			l.
Total payment in 1764	—	5,483	Total payment in 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
Paid in ſeven years,	—	85,038	Paid in ſeven years,	—	329,413
Which is, per annum,	—	12,148	Which is, per annum,	—	47,059

If therefore the account was to be cloſed here, it appears that forty-ſeven thouſand pounds per annum, have been given of the publick 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 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*.

		Barrels of Beef.	*Ct. Butter.*	*Ct. Candles.*	*No. Hides.*	*Ct. Tallow.*	*Cows, bull. and horſes.*	*Ct. Cheeſe.*
Year	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	8,895	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	1,298	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 1l. 6s. 8d. per barrel; but I find that the average price at Waterford, from 1764 to 1776, was 16s. per cwt. or 1l. 12s. the barrel. The cuſtom-houſe rate of butter is 2l. per cwt. but by the ſame authority, I find the real price on the average of the laſt fourteen years to be 2l. 5s. 6d. Candles at the cuſtom-houſe 1l. 15s. per cwt. the real price 2l. 10s. Tallow at the cuſtom-houſe 2l. the true price 2l. 4s. 6d.

Average

Average Price of four and a half hundred Beef per Hundred Weight.

		s.	d.			s.	d.			l.	s.	d.
Year	1756 ——	12	3	Year	1764 ——	13	6	Year	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,		16 s.					

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 — 44 0	44 — 42 0	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.

* MS. Communicated by Cornelius Bolton, Eſq; member for that city.

Prices of Ox Hides of 112lb. from the Year 1756 to 1776, both inclusive.

	l.	s.	d.		l.	s.	d.		l.	s.	d.
Year 1756 ——	1	7	0	Year 1763 ——	0	19	6	Year 1770 ——	1	8	0
1757 ——	1	7	0	1764 ——	0	18	6	1771 ——	1	4	0
1758 ——	1	2	6	1765 ——	1	4	0	1772 ——	1	1	0
1759 ——	1	1	0	1766 ——	1	5	0	1773 ——	1	3	0
1760 ——	1	0	6	1767 ——	1	6	0	1774 ——	1	10	0
1761 ——	1	2	6	1768 ——	1	8	6	1775 ——	1	13	0
1762 ——	1	2	0	1769 ——	1	11	0	1776 ——	1	14	0

The real price of hides I was diſappointed in at Corke, muſt therefore take that of the cuſtom-houſe, which is 1l. 13s. 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 export 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. 5s. 6d. per, —	607,907
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.

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.

	Wool, ſtones.	*Value at 14 s.*	*Woollen yarn ſtones.*	*Value at 17s. 6d.*	*Worſted yarn ſtones.*	*Value at 40 s.*	*Total ſtones.*	*Total value.*
		l.		l.		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

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.

	Wool. ſtones.	*Yarn.* ſtones.		*Wool.* ſtones.	*Yarn.* ſtones.
Year 1687	256,592	3,668	Year 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.

	Wool. per ſt.		*Bay Yarn.* per pack.				*Wool.* per ſt.		*Bay Yarn.* per pack.		
	s.	d.	l.	s.	d.		s.	d.	l.	s.	d.
Year 1764	11	0	26	5	0	Year 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						
1771	14	0	26	15	6	Average is nearly	14	0	27	4	5

* Unſettled, but very high.——The pack of bay yarn is taken to contain 2100 ſkains.

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 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*. 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, — — — —	306,462
Ditto in the laſt, — — — — — — —	200,413
Decreaſe, — — — —	106,049

* 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.

Whoever

Whoever recurs to the minutes of the journey, in the counties of Carlow, Tipperary, and Roſcommon, the great ſheep-walks 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.*	*Flitches 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 ‡

	l.
Export of pork per annum, from 1764 to 1770, 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

* 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.

Export

Export of pork per annum, from 1771 to 1777, 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 or 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 relie 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.

Dr. BOUNTY ON THE INLAND CARRIAGE OF CORN. 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
			62,734
		Balance againſt the bounty, —	143,510
	206,244		206,244

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

of the publick 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 publick 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 amaizing that ſophiſtry could blind the legiſlature to ſuch a degree as to permit a ſecond thought of 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 84,000l. a year, and from 1764 to 1770 no more than 101,604l.? 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 publick 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 aſunder, and the publick 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

* In 1774 we imported to the value of 1,023,000 l.; and in 1775 to that of 1,265,562.

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 Marlefield 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
Seven days men and horſes,	5171	12	9
The freight of which to Dublin at 8s. a ton ſhould be,	1,037	12	0
Saving by ſea *,	4,134	0	9

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 in the firſt to 3278 l. †, 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.

* MS. Communicated by ——— Nevill, Eſq; member for Wexford.

† June 1. 1768. 7th George III. Chap. 24.

4 d. per Cwt. corn of iriſh growth by water coaſtways to Dublin, ſouthward between Wicklow and the Tuſcar; north, between Drogheda or Carrickfergus.

5 d. per Cwt. if ſouthward of Tuſcar or north Carrickfergus.

4 d. per Cwt. ſouthward of Cooley point to Newry, Belfaſt or Londonderry.

Continued to 24th June 1771.

‡ MS. Account of publick premiums communicated by the Right Hon. John Forſter, member for the county of Louth.

Year

Corn and Flour brought coaſtways to Dublin from 1758 to 1777.

		Wheat and wheat meal.	*Bere and barley.*	*Malt.*	*Flour.*	*Oats and oatmeal.*	*Totals.*
		Barrels.	*Barrels.*	*Barrels.*	*Barrels.*	*Barrels.*	*Barrels.*
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	95,888
	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

With the aſſiſtance of theſe particulars, united with the quantities on which the inland bounty is paid, given at page 87 and 88, we ſhall be able to ſee the principal part of the conſumption of the city of Dublin.

Brought by Land-carriage Bounty.

	Stones.	*Cwt.*
Year 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	107,986
1770	1,920,978	79,350

	Stones.	*Cwt.*
Year 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 ſeven years,	3,097,143	199,074

* MS. Communicated by —— Nevill, Eſq; member for Wexford.

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, —		485,525

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, 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 enclоſing 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

2. Wheat. 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 deſart 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.
Marlefield,	—	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
Tyrone,	—	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

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 publick 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 publick 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 complection 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.

	Sums.	*Acres.*	*Produce.*
	l.		l.
In the year 1762	4,940	494	
1763	5,096	509	
1764	5,483	548	
1765	6,660	666	8,788
1766	9,112	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
		42,433	845,428

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 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 publick encouragement. The following are the payments in conſequence of this bounty.

In

		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 Obrien 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 Lieutenent 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.

* The reaſon of the ſums being the ſame for two years throughout, is their being returned every ſecond year to parliament.

Die

Die Jovis 9°. *Iunij.* 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.*)

" WEE 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 cheap- " neſs 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 manufacture in Ireland, which " makes your loyal ſubjects in this kingdom very apprehenſive that the further growth of it " may greatly prejudice the ſaid munufacture 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 publick 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 jealouſie, 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 incouragement 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 doe humbly attend his majeſty with the addreſs of this houſe, concerning the woollen manufacture in Ireland.

Die Veneris 10° *Iunij* 1698°.

" The lord Steward reported his Majeſty's anſwere to the addreſs, to this effect. (*viz.*)

THAT his Majeſty will take care to do what their lordſhips have deſired.

ASHLEY COWPER.

Clerk Parliamentor."

Jovis 30 *Die Junij* 1698.

" *Moſt Gracious Sovereign*,

" WE your majeſty's moſt dutiful and loyal ſubjects, the commons in parliament aſſem- " bled, 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 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 imploy 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 woolen 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 advantageous 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 25th of March, 1699, laying 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

theſe errors had been confined to the laſt century. There is an equal mixture alſo of falſhood 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 fabricks 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 increaſe of the french fabricks, 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 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 encourgement 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 fabricks 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 objecton 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 Cloth.	*Yarn.*	*Value cloth at 1 s. 3 d per yard.*	*Value yarn at 6 l. per 120 lb.*	*Total value.*
	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

An ACCOUNT of the EXPORT of LINEN-CLOTH, and LINEN-YARN, from IRELAND. Continued.

	Linen Cloth.	*Yarn.*	*Value cloth at 1 s. 3 d. per yard.*	*Value yarn at 6 l. per C. 120 lb.*	*Total value.*
	Yards.	*Cwt.*	l.	l.	l.
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	15,201,081	31,715	1,006,738	190,292	1,197,031
1765	14,355,205	26,127	957,013	156,762	1,233,402
1766	17,892,102	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	28,078	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	1,366,838	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

Mr. Henry Archdall, in the year 1771, aſſerted before a committee of the houſe of commons, that Ireland manufactured for

	l.
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 fabricks were tumbling to pieces: the aſſertion of the linen fabricks 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 unparallelled. 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 clamourous 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 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 conve-

* Journals of the commons, vol. 16. page 368.

nient

nient 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.

		Yards.
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.

		Yards.
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.

		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 fabrick.

* In the woollen mauufacture of England the ſame ſpirit of complaint and falſhood has at different times peſtered both parliament and the publick. See this point dicuſſed in my *Political Arithmetic*, page 152.

† Subſtance of Mr. Glover's evidence before the houſe of commons 1774. page 60.

IMPORT

IMPORT of FLAX, HEMP, and FLAX-SEED, into IRELAND.

	Hogſheads * 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	9,988	23,779	14,531	23,249	114,091
1769	50,022	175,077	7,690	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	20,824	22,361	35,777	145,413
1775	40,218	140,763	10,153	24,367	14,264	22,822	187,952
1776	24,077 ‡	84,269	5,295	12,708	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

* At 3 l. 10 s. a hogſhead from 28 s. to 61.
† At 48 s. from 45 l. to 52 l. per ton.
‡ At 32 s. from 24 l. to 40 l. per ton, average 32 l.
‡ From the plantations of this 12,441.
§ Ditto, 4,512.

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 in all its branches with the moſt attention, agree that 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.

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
Leſley Hill,	8 2 4	16		
NewtownLimavaddy,	9 3 0	28	5 4	7 9 4
Inniſhoen,	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 the 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 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 FABRICKS.

Places.	*Weavers.*		*Women.*
	Fine linen.	*Courſe lin.*	*Spin.*
	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,		1 0	3 0
Annſgrove,			2 0
Averages,	1 5	1 0½	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 publick to turn things topſy turvy to feed them, who, with any degree of attention, 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 publick 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

An account of the net 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.*		*Nett duties.*	*Bounties.*
	l.	l.		l.	l.
In the year 1721		2,500	In the year 1758	9,772	
1723		5,500	1759	8,933	8,000
1725		4,000	1160	6,581	
1727		4,000	1761	11,841	8,000
1729		4,000	1762	14,014	
			1763	15,064	8,000
1731	5,637	4,000	1764	14,998	
1733	6 328	8,000	1765	15,820	8,000
1734	5,314		1766	18,634	
1735	6,748	8,000	1767	12,717	8,000
1736	9,181		1768	10,414	
1737	8,676	8,000	1769	† 2,181	8,000
1738	10,623		1770	1,635	
1739	10,087	8,000	1771	861	8,000
1740	7,894		1772	1,348	
1741	13,180	8,540	1773	1,700	8,000
1742	12,561		1774	580	
1743	13,770	8,000	1775	1,387	8,000
1744	14,844				
1745	18,066	8,000	Totals, - -	453,204	184,540
1746	15,046		Nett tea duties for		
1747	17 922	8,000	7 years, ending	72,500	184,540
1748	12,657		1775, - -		
1749	18,335	8,000			
1750	17,813			710,244	
1751	12,477	8,000			
1752	17,175		Average of the laſt	1,385	
1753	12,231	8,000	7 years duties		
1754	12,884		Ditto of tea duties,	10,357	
1755	14,292	8,000			
1756	12,239	*4,000	Together, - -	11,742	
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.

* By King's Letter.
† Here the tea duties were ſeparated, and produced in ½ 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.

	l.		l.		l
In the year 1700	100	In the year 1728	5,154	In the year 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	13,030
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,	847,504
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

	l.
Flaxſeed 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, itinerent 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 publick, 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 publick 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 feed, 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	

* 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

	l.
By one of theſe accounts the annual net produce of thoſe duties appropriated to this manufactnre, on an average of the laſt ſeven years, is	11,742
But by the other, the treaſury charges the manufacture on the ſame average with, — — — —	14,446
Difference, — — — — —	2,704

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 14,100 l.

The total annual ſums at preſent applied appear to be theſe :

	l.
Produce of duties appropriated to the purpoſe — —	14,446
Parliamentary bounty, — — — — —	4,000
Bounty on the import of flax-ſeed, — — —	15,094
Total per annum, — — — — —	33,540

And that the total ſums thus applied ſince the year 1700 have been :

	l.
Paid by the vice treaſurers, — — —	847,504
Parliamentary bounty, — — — —	192,540
Bounty on flax import, — — — —	226,834
Ditto on export of canvas, — — — —	28,682
Total, — — — — —	1,295,560

The moſt careleſs obſerver cannot help remarking, the great amount of this total ; and muſt think that an annual grant of 33,000 l. 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 fabricks 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 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

tributed to it. It is idle and viſionary to ſuppoſe, that a fabrick 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, itinerent men, builders and ſallaries.

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 fabricks 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 fabricks 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 fabricks, 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 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

deſtruction of agriculture, is certainly a ſpectacle for which we muſt go to Ireland. It is owing to the fabrick 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 prejudical 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

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 in other parts of the kingdom, ſhould build the cabbins contiguous, and let the inhabitants on no account have any land. All encouragement, all attention, all bounty, all premium, all reward, ſhould go to thoſe alone who lived by, and attended to their looms alone, not in a ſeparated cabbin, 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 fabrick 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, itinerent 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 publick 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 bands 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 fabricks 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 falſhood, 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 fabrick 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 fabrick 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.

	d.
Combing it not quite — — — — —	1
Spinning, — — — — — — —	2¼
	3¼
Value of the wool, — — — — —	7¼
	10½

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 fabrick that merits neither the encouragement of the natives, nor the attention of others.

SECTION

SECTION 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 publick 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 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 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 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	78,671	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	159,313	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	35,941	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	57,930
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 le 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 conteſſion 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 politick 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.

Two years ending Lady day.	*Hereditary revenue groſs.*	*Old additional duties groſs.*	*For receiving revenue, paying drawbacks and premiums on corn, &c.*	*Nett produce of the hereditary and old additional duties.*
	l.	l.	l.	l.
In the Year 1751	1,048,858	366,462	192,513	1,233,943
1753	1,047,062	349,557	185,766	1,210,853
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	1,358,056
Average,	1,060,474	356,698	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	347,913	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	464,672	1,343,120
Average,	1,305,062	446,335	368,786	1,382,896
In the Year 1779	1,175,145	346,696		

Theſe

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 cambrick 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 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
Average of ten years,		834,673	Average of ten years,		965,198
			Ditto of the former period,		834,673
			Increaſe,		130,525

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.			l.
Year	1761	223,438 National debt.	Year	1771	789,569 National debt.
	1763	521,161 ditto.		1773	‡ 999,686 ditto.
	1765	508,874 ditto.		1775	976,117 ditto.
	1767	581,964 ditto.		1777	§ 825,426 ditto.
	1769	628,883 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 6s. 8d. a head. It appeared before the export of linen, yarn, corn, woollen, pork, beef, &c. &c. amounted to 3,250,471 l. 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.

* 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 ſeſſions.

	l.	s.	d.	
Britiſh revenue of 13 millions paid by 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 1,600,000 l. 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 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.

Two years ending Lady day.	*Civil liſt.*	*Military liſt.*	*Extraordinary charges, including parliamentary grants.*	*Totals.*
	l.	l.	l.	l.
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

* 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.

Two

Two years ending Lady day.	*Salaries exclusive of hearth money collectors.*	*Two years ending Lady day.*	*Salaries exclusive of hearth money colectors.*
	l.		l.
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	165,574
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.

	Goods exported.	*Duty.* l.		*Goods imported.*	*Duty.* l.
Year 1773.	Beef, — —	10,759	Year 1773.	Tobacco, —	121,148
	Bulls and cows, —	29		Rum, —	161,080
	Butter, — —	6,809		Gin, — —	21,935
	Candles, — —	109		Brandy, — —	34,206
	Cheeſe, — —	52		Tea, — —	16,406
	Horſes, — —	88		Salt and ſalt petre, —	11,305
	Bacon fitches, —	120		Silk, — —	18,382
	Hides, — —	2857		Wine, —	* 104,701
	Tallow, cwt. —	2,994			
	Tongues, — —	75			489,163
	Total, —	23,892			

To lay a duty of near 24,000 l. a year upon the export of the produce of paſturage is heavy and moſt unpolitick, 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 ſeſſions. 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 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

* Commons Journals, vol. 16, p. 268.

at

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 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 whiſky 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 publick: 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 he 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 publick gives ſeven? And what man will undergo the trouble, and run the hazard of manufactures, or commerce, while he can ſet 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 publick 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.

SECTION 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 fabricks 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 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

ing 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 extention 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 publick 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 deſarts 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, or 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.

	Imports.	*Exports.*	*Imports exceſs.*	*Exports exceſs.*
	l.	l.	l.	l.
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	

TRADE OF GREAT BRITAIN WITH IRELAND. Continued.

		Imports.	*Exports.*	*Imports exceſs.*	*Exports exceſs.*
		l.	l.	l.	l.
In the year	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	
	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 excefs*	*Exports excefs.*
	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 profperity of Ireland; all agree that after that peace, Ireland advanced greatly, her rife of rental will mark this clearly. The following is a review of the minutes:

RISE OF RENTS.

Lord Longford more than doubled in thirty years.——Earl of Inniſkilling quadrupled in ditto.——Mr. Cooper almoſt trebled ſince 1748.——Mayo trebled in forty years.——King's county two thirds ſince 1750.——Tipperary doubled in twenty years.——Barony of Owna

* 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.

and

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

	Imports. l.	*Exports.* l.
The averages are, — — — —	965,050	1,482,513
Ditto in the twenty-five 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. l.	*Exports.* 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

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 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 manu-"facture I queſtion whether they could in *cloth* do more than the dutch; and for other manu-"factures, 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 fabricks? 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 fabricks, and as great a difference would be in all other fabricks. 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 fabricks. 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 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

* Collection of Huſbandry and Trade, vol. 4. p. 48. † Written in June 1779.

England?

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.

FISHERIES.

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 for other oil of fiſh, } manufactured in Ireland.
Ditto of four pounds per cwt. for whalebone,

The following has been the effect of this meaſure.

BARRELS

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	17,038¾	¼	17,0 9
1761	20,411½	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 before 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 after the bounty,	16,657	25,365	42,022

	l.	s.	d.
Import of herrings in the nine years ſince the bounty exceed the preceding period in 155,156 barrels. Value at fifteen ſhillings per barrel,	116,367	11	3
Export leſs by 16,357 barrels, at twenty ſhillings per barrel, — —	16,357	15	0
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
	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
Increaſed import ſince the bounty, — — —	*158,604	15	0

* 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		1,125	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	91⅔	381			

	l.	s.	d.
Amount of premiums paid to fiſhing buſſes 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 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.

† Manuſcript Report Com. communicated by the Right Hon. William Burton.
* Ibid.

I was

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 judgement 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 netts ſufficient coſt 20 l.; the beſt bounty would be to give boats and netts 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. 20,000 l. 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 publick is burthened with ſuch payments, care ſhould be taken that they are given in the mode that promiſes to be moſt advantageous.

EMBARGOES.

OF all the reſtrictions which England has at different times moſt impolitickly 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 embargoe, 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 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 embargoe 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.

SECTION 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 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 catholicks 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

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 ſubſiſtance comparatively eaſy; alſo, barracks being built all over the kingdom: another point which would 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 chearfully, 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 chearfully 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 it not be more for the publick 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 528,544l. to which add 80,000l. penſions, and the total makes 608,544l. Would it not be wiſe in Ireland to ſay to the britiſh goverment——— "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, manu- "factures 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, cand 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 inconveniences, 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 ma-

* 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.

jorities

jorities 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 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.

BUILDINGS.

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.

ROADS.

ROADS.

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.

TOWNS.

The towns of Ireland have very much increaſed in the laſt twenty years; all publick 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.

RISE of RENTS.

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 Miſſiſſipi, 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 5,293,312l. and for reaſons before given, probably not leſs than ſix millions.

MANUFACTURES.

Linens the great fabrick of the kingdom for exportation, have increaſed rapidly;

	l.	l.
The export from 1750 to 1756, in value of cloth and yarn was, —	904,479	
Ditto from 1757 to 1763, — — — — — —	1,166,136	
Increaſe, — — — — — — — — —		261,657
From 1764 to 1770, — — — — —	1,379,512	
Increaſe, — — — — — —		213,376
From 1771 to 1777, — — — — —	1,615,654	
Increaſe, — — — — — —		236,142
From 1771 to 1777, — — — — —	1,615,654	
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.

	l.
The iriſh exports to Great-Britain, on an average of twenty-five years before 1748, were, — — — — — —	438,665
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 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
	3,250,471

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.

* 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
Balance, —	3,020,079	18	10

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.

Years,	*Beer, ale and porter barrels at 32 gallons.*	*Brandy, gallons.*	*Rum, gallons.*	*Sugar, Muscov.*	*Tea lbs.*	*Tobacco, lbs.*	*Wine, tons.*
1750			439,302		ᴀ 179,641		
1751			700,905		130,306		
1752			513,266		191,556		
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		ᴀ 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	1,667,54	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	625,726	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	4,634
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	4,698
1776	ǂ65,922	403,706	1,888,068	238,746	680,526	5,379,405	4,521
1777	ǂ70,382	479,996	1,680,233	193,258	704,221	3,916,409	4,646
Average,	56,102	289,679	1,729,652	196,500	875,472	4,921,572	4,941

ǂ These two years are only of beer.

§ The following years differ in another account, Com. Jour. vol. 14. p. 141.

		gallons.			*gallons.*
In the year 1757	Rum,	513,193	In the year 1760	Rum,	275,732
1758	——	618,945	1761	——	370,011
1759	——	903,809			

† Commons journal, vol. 11. page 179. ‖ Ibid, page 180. ‡ Ibid, page 169. * Ibid, p. 169.
ᴀ 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.

SPECIE.

The ſpecie of Ireland, gold and ſilver, is calculated by the Dublin bankers at 1,600,000l.

POPULATION.

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 61,646l. which cannot indicate a leſs population, exceptions included, than three millions. The minutes of ſouls, per cabbin, at Caſtle Caldwell, Drumoland, and Kilfane, gave 6 and 6½.

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.

SECTION 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 twelvemonth, 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

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, *firſt*,	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 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, — — —	l. 416,554	l. 420,906	l. 343,331	l. 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 1,062,597l. which is more than in 1777 by 237,·71l.

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 water ditto,	19,563	19,984	20,823	20,298
Hearth money, — —	60,966	60,580	61,645	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.	*Muſcovado ſugar.*	*Brandy.*	*Geneva.*	*Rum.*
	Tons.	*Cwt.*	*Gallons.*	*Gallons.*	*Gallons.*
In the year 1776	217,938	238,746	403,706	153,430	1,888,068
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	87,423	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 is that of wine, which has fallen very greatly indeed. The principal cauſe of the decline of the revenue is to be found in

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 7[illegible]8 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 millenery, 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.	*Millenery ware.*	*Beer.*
		Value.	
	Cwt.	l.	*Barrels.*
In the year 7776	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.*	*Muſlin.*	*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.

	Flax-ſeed.	*Hemp-ſeed.*	*Clover-ſeed.*	*Raw ſilk.*	*Cotton wool.*	*Mohair yarn.*
	Hhds.	*Hhds.*	*Cwt.*	*lb.*	*Cwt.*	*lb.*
Year 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

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.

	Beef.	*Hides.*	*Tallow.*	*Butter.*	*Pork.*	*Hog's lard.*	*Candles.*
	barrels.	*No.*	*Cwt.*	*Cwt.*	*barrels.*	*Cwt.*	*Cwt.*
In the year 1776	203,685	108,574	50,549	272,411	72,714	3,216	3,155
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.

* The preceding tables in this ſection are taken from a MS. account of exp. and imp. communicated by William Eden, Eſq.

IMPORTS

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.

	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	18,588	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

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.

	Exports to Ireland of Engliſh manufacture, foreign goods and merchandize, in and out of time, and exported from Scotland.	*Goods and merchandize imported from Ireland to England.*	*Balance againſt Ireland.*
	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	730,946
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 $177\frac{8}{9}$, 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

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 $8\frac{1}{4}$. 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 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 18,000 l. 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 publick 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, 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 catholicks, 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 publick, has done much miſchief to the kingdom, beſides involving it in debt.

* 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 hope, from an expreſſion in Mr. Bolton's letter, to receive the price of other commodities before the work is entirely finiſhed at preſs.

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.

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 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 what ever 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

* 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.

country

country in Europe. Was notthis 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 publick 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 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,

* The aſſertion is no founded on the following charge in the national accounts 1779, though one might preſume ſomething upon it:

	l.
To the board of firſt fruits for building new churches, and rebuilding old churches *in ſuch parijhes as no divine publick ſervice has been performed for* 20 *years paſt*,	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.

‖ Thoſe who are ſo wild as for a moment to conceive an idea of this ſort, muſt ſurely have forgot the roman catholicks in that kingdom. It would be eaſy to enlarge on this point, but for every reaſon improper.

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 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 fabricks 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 cloths and ratteens; if the iriſh fabricks 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* fabricks, 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 fabrick 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 fabrick 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 fabricks 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 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 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 fabricks, I ſee not a ſhadow of objection; the profit

of

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 fabricks as are in Ireland rivalled by engliſh goods of the ſame ſort; if it was to happen it muſt be in *new* fabricks: 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 an average 1s. 5d. a day, and where alſo the cheapneſs of proviſions proves very often detrimental to the fabrick.

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 fabrick 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 fabricks; 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 fabrick, 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 fabricks 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 fabrick 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 fabrick, 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

poſſibly increaſe in wealth without a vaſt proportion of every ſhilling of that wealth at laſt centering 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

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.

TURNEP COURSE*.

1. Turneps.
2. Barley.
3. Clover.
4. Wheat.

DIRECTIONS.

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 (*tritiam repens*) and water graſs; the former is the white root, which is under 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

* For dry and light ſoils.

ſeed

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 indiſpenſably 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 aukward 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 then never 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 exclude 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 ſally, 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 ſally 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 ſallies 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

a quarter. Plough firſt, (whether once, twice or thrice) and 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 is 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.

BEAN COURSE*.

1. Beans.
2. Oats.
3. Clover.
4. Wheat.

DIRECTIONS.

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 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

* 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.

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 febru.ry, 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.

POTATOE COURSE*.

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

DIRECTIONS.

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 as it is, if inclinable to wetneſs arch it gently; in this firſt ploughing which ſhould

* For light and dry ſoil; potatoes never anſwer on clays or ſtrong wet ſoils.

be

be given the latter end of 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, ſhim 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 ſhim 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 ſhim. 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, ſprairing 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 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.

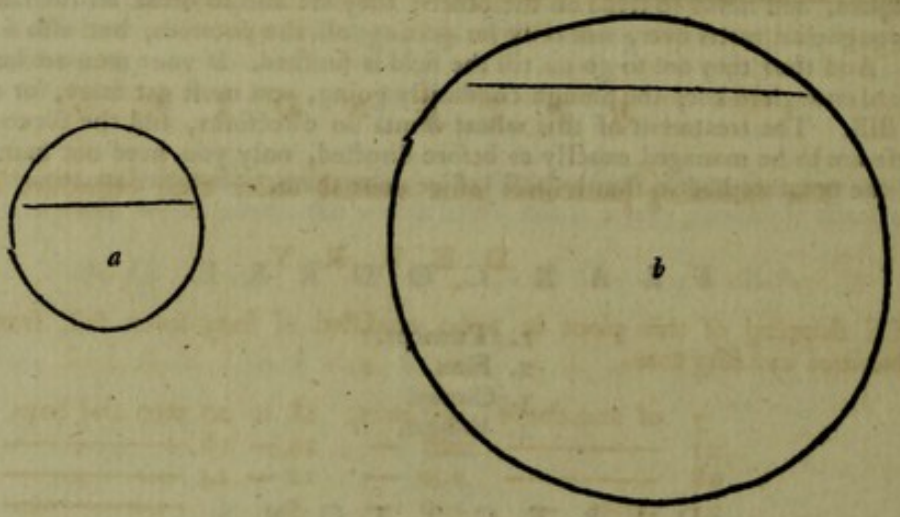
1. Potatoes.
2. Flax.
3. Clover.
4. Wheat.

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.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

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

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, (*plantage lanceolata.*)
10lb. of yellow trefoile.

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.

The following particulars were omitted under their reſpective heads.

DERRY.

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 flax-ſeed; for eighteen to twenty years back, two thouſand four hundred perſons went annually, not more in 1772 and 1773 than uſual.

CORKE.

CORKE.

I was informed that there was no foundation for Dr. Campbell's aſſertion, that this city ſuffers remarkably in time of war *.

EXTENT.

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 geographick content of 31,648,000. Ireland meaſured in the ſame manner, contains 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.

RENTAL.

The rental of England is ſtated at page 9 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,

	s.	d.
Ireland rent and roads,	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.

DEANERIES OF IRELAND.

	l.		l.
Raphoe,	1600	Down,	1700
Derry,	1600	Kildare,	120
Ardfert,	60	Achonry,	100
Connor,	200	Killaloe,	140
Clonmacnoiſe,	50	Oſſory,	600
Corke,	400	Kilmacdaugh,	120
St. Patrick's.	800	Liſmore,	306

* Political Survey of Britain, vol. 1. p. 243.

† Phil. Tranſ. No. 330, p. 266.

Ardagh,

	l.		l.
Ardagh,	200	Leighlin,	80
Emly,	100	Ardmagh,	150
Kilmore,	600	Waterford,	400
Elphin,	250	Chriſt church,	2000
Roſs,	20	Limerick,	600
Killala,	150	Caſhel,	200
Cloyne,	220	Clogher,	800
Kilfenora,	210	Tuam,	300
Dromore,	400	Ferns,	300
Clonfert	20	Archdeaconry of Kells,	1200

IDLENESS.

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 publick were endleſs, there was ſcarcely an object in the kingdom, which was not mentioned as a cauſe, jobbers, regrators, foreſtallers, ſample ſelling, 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 publick, 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 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.

* The compariſon in general muſt ſtand thus:

Wheat, 3s. to 3s. 6d.	which 5 years ago was	6s. to 7s.	2 year old wethers 10s.	which were	20s.
Barley, 2s.	ditto	3s. 6d.	Cows, 5l. to 6l.		7l. to 9l.
Oats. 2s.	ditto	2s. 6d.	Hogs, 20s.		26s.
Beans, 2s. 10d. to 3s.	ditto	3s. 6d.	4 year old ſteers, 3l. 10s. to 5l.		7l. to 10l.
Wool, 12s. to 15s.	ditto	16s. to 21s.	Oak timber, 3l. to 4l.		3l. 10s. to 4l. 10s.
Lambs, 6s.	ditto	12s.	Aſh ditto, 2l. to 2l. 5s.		2l. 10s. to 3l.

After

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 *dearneſs*, 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 publick 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 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 ſurpriſed 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 publick 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 cat- " tle 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 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.

INDEX.

INDEX.

Thoſe marked thus * refer to the pages in Part II.

A.

ARDMAGH, 103.
Arran (iſles) 228.
Annſgrove, 246.
Abſentees, liſt of, 57 *.
Ardfert, 305.
Adair, 309.

B.

Bogs, 22. 47. 61. 132. 151. 188. 201. 205. 219. 232. 50 *. means of improving, 51 *.
Ballyſhannon, 160.
Belleiſle, 168.
Ballynogh, 180.
Ballymoat, 189.
Ballyna, 206.
Baker, Whyn, 15. 71 *.
Ballynakil, 64.
Brownſhill, 66.
Bargie and Forth, 80.
Ballygarth, 97.
Boyne, battle of, 97.
Belfaſt, 124.
Blarney, 259.
Beans in Ireland, 279. 338.
Bullocks, profit on, 314. 52 *.
Biſhopricks, value of, 56 *.
Bucks, 79 *.
Bounty on inland carriage of corn, 80 *. 87 *. Its account ſtated Dr. and Cr. 96 *. Ill effects, 97 *.
Beef, price of, 91 *.
Butter, price of, 91 *.
Ballycanvan, 335.
Buildings, 142 *.

C.

Cellbridge, 10.
Cartown, 17.
Caſtletown, 17.
Cars, utility of, 30. 129. 186. 253. 41 *.
Courtown, 82.
Cullen, 98.
Caſtle Ward, 123.
Clay, burning of, 136.
Colerain, 140.
Clonleigh, 149.
Caſtle Caldwell, 160.
Carrots, 176.
Corn burned inſtead of threſhing, 209. 216.
Conna Marra, 231.
Corcaſſes, 238. 242.
Caſtle Oliver, 246. 312.
Caſtle Martyr, 265.
Caſtle Mary, 274.
Corke, 275. Neighbourhood, 282.
Coolmore, 278.
Climate of Ireland, 2.
Cloathing of the poor, 25 *.
Cabbins, 25 *.
Catholicks, ſtate of, 31.
Clergy, propoſed improvements for them, 56 *.
Coals, import of, 65 *.
Cotton, import of, 70 *.
Caſtle iſland, 302.
Candles, price of, 91 *.
Character of the iriſh, 75 *
Corn trade, 79 *.
—— exported, 84 *.
—— imported, 80 *. 81 *.
—— on ſtands, 104 *.
—— Brought coaſtways to Dublin, 99 *.
Curraghmore, 331.
Compact with Ireland relative to linens and woollens, 105 *.
Cyder, 340.
Cullen, 368.
Conſumption, 144 *.

D.

Dublin inhabitants in p. 2. Lodgings, 4. Opera, 4. Dublin ſociety, 67 *. Conſumption of, 100 *.
Dolleſtown, 18.

Dangan, 23.
Drueſtown, 43.
Dargle, 92.
Derry, 143.
Drumoland, 237.
Donneraile, 251.
Dunkettle, 261.
Demeſnes, 76 *.
Drinking, 77 *.
Duelling, 78 *.
Dawſon court, 347.

E.

Emigrations, 108. 125. 30 *.
Eyre Connaught, 228.
Extent of Ireland, 1 *.
Education, 75 *.
Embargoes, 139 *.

F.

Forſter, baron, his vaſt improvement, 98.
Flax, culture of, 126. 195. 231. 113 *.
Fiſheries, 141. 144. 152. 230. 337. 137 *.
Florence court, 170.
Farnham, 175.
Families, old, 185, 217.
Foxford, 209.
French, Mr. his bog improvement, 220.
Food of the poor, 23 *.
Folding ſheep, 300.
Furneſs, 343.

G.

Gibbſtown, 38.
Gowry, 82.
Glen of Downs, 91.
Glaſslaugh, 109.
Grant's cauſeway, 141.
Gun harpoon for whales, 157.
Graſs, tendency of the ſoil to, 90.
Gillaroo trout, 209.
Gloſter, 348.
Government, 140 *.

H.

Headfort, 40.
Hampton, 94.
Hillſborough, 115.
Hearts of ſteel, 131.
Horſes drawn by the tail, 179. 209.
Hollymount, 218.
Hops, 250.
Hearth-money, exemptions from, 61 *.
Houſes, 77 *.
Hides, price of, 92 *.

I.

Improvement of the kingdom in the laſt twenty years, 101. State of, compared with England, 9 *.
Juries, 78 *.
Johnſtown, 354.

K.

Killadoon, 10.
Kilfaine, 68.
Killrue, 94.
Kingſton, 187.
Kilalla, 207.
Kiltartan, 237.
Kildining, 273.
Killarney, 288.
Kingſborough, Lord, his mountain improvement, 49 *.
Luttrel's town, 5.
Lucan, 16.
Laughlin mills, 67.
Linen manufacture, account of, 105. 110. 113. 191. 214, 227.
——— export of, 108 *.
——— pretended decline in 1773, 110 *.
——— import to England, 111 *.
——— wretched conduct of, 119 *.
Lurgan, 111.
Liſburne, 116.
Lecale, 121.
Leſlyhill, 132.
Loch Swilly, 144.
Loch Earne, 166.
Limerick, 243.
Living, cheapneſs, 243. 75 *.
Lime, 249. 281. 47 *. Kilns, 255.
Lota, 262.
Labour, payment of, 22 *. Price of, 27.
Lixnaw, 306.
Limerick, grazing, 313.

M.

Mahon, 109.
Magilligan, 141.
Mount Charles, 151.
Mercra, 197.
Mules, 206. 256.
Moniva, 219.
Mallow, 255.
Marino, 3.
Monknewtown, 35.
Mullingar, 53.
Mount Juliet, 68.
Mount Kennedy, 86.
Mountains, improvement of, 96. 98. 210. 280. 304. 49 *.
Market-hill, 102.
Middle men, 14 *.
Mountains, height of, 298.
Manners, 74 *.
Mahaghree iſlands, 305.
Macarthy, of Spring-houſe, his farm the greateſt in the world, 320.
Mills of Ireland, 101 *.
Manufactures, 104 *.
Mitchelſtown, 375.

N.

Newry, 102.
Newtown Stewart, 118.
Newtown Limmovaddy, 142.
Newgrove, 257.

Nedeen, 284.
Navigations, 64 *. 66 *.
National debt, 126 *.

O.

O'Connor, 185.
Orchards, 240.
Oxen drawn by the horns, 270. 253.
Oppreſſion, 29.

P.

Packenham, 44.
Poor, ſtate of, 51. 72. 97. 100. 163. 239. 18 *. 26 *. 29 *. 351. 357. 364.
Portaferry, 118.
Products in Ireland, quantity of, 11 *.
Proviſions, price of, 37 *.
Penſions, amount of, 60 *.
People, number in Ireland, 62 *.
Potatoes, oxen fattened on, 22. 199.
——— hogs ditto, 25,
——— ſort, 254. 274.
——— review of intelligence, 20.
——— proportion of to wheat, 24.
Population, 72. 163. 239. 60 *.
Powerſcourt, 92.
Planting, 184. 44 *.
Publick works, money granted for, 62 *.
Premiums propoſed, 72 *.
Palatines, colonies of, 303. 310. 317.
People, race of. 74 *.
Paſturage, exports, 90 *. 92 *.
Pork, price of, 91 *. Export of, 95 *.
Paſſage from Waterford to Milford, 342. Expence of, 343.

R.

Rents, riſe of, 46. 171. 306. 315.
Rathan, 58.
Roſs, 74.
Ravenſdale, 102.
Roſtellan, 274.
Rental of Ireland, 4 *.
Roads, 39 *.
Rapes, 78 *.
Revenue, 123 *.

S.

Summer-hill, 21.
Slaine, 23. Mills, 33.
Suckling lambs, 88.
Sheep walks, 182. 186.
Strokeſtown, 181,
Sligo, 202.
Shaen caſtle, 59.
Shaen caſtle, O'Neil, 128.
Silver firs, 197.
Sheep, review of, 53 *.
Sea weed, 205.
Soil of Ireland, 2 *.
Society, Dublin, 67 *. Their ridiculous conduct, 68 *.
Silk, import of, 69 *.
Stones, means of breaking, 299.
Sheep, exports from, 93 *.
Shannon, fiſh in, 359.

T.

Tullamore, 53.
Taghmon, 78.
Tinnyhinch, 92.
Turneps, 176. 237. 258. 266. 278.
Tanrego, 203.
Tuam, 218.
Tallow, price of, 91 *.
Townſhend, Mr. his eſtabliſhment of engliſh farmers, 282.
Tillage, 12 *. Increaſe of, where, 89 *.
Tenantry, 12 *. Poverty of, 17 *. Proper encouragement for, 18 *.
Timber, want of, 43 *. To what owing, 45 *. Means of preſerving, 44 *.
Tythes, 55 *.
Tarbat, 307.
Tipperary, ſheep huſbandry, 319.
Tabinets, 122 *.
Taxes of Ireland compared with thoſe of Britain, 127 *.

U.

Union, 61.

W.

Woodſtock, 73.
Whiteboys, 75. 84.
Wexford, 82.
Warrenſtown, 112.
Weſtport, 210.
Woodlawn, 232.
Wool, ſmuggling, 239, 276.
Woollen manufacture, 251. 260. 273. 276.
Waſte lands, 48.
Wool, price of, 94 *. In Ireland compared with England, 53 *.
Woollen goods, import of, 69 *.
Woodpark, 302.
Woodford, 307.
Waterford, 332.
Weavers earnings, 114 *.

Y.

Yarn, export of, 93 *. Price of, 94 *.
Yelverton, his famous crop of wheat, 355.

F I N I S.

Lately publiſhed by the ſame Author,

And ſold by T. CADELL, in the STRAND,

In One Volume, Octavo, Price 5s.

POLITICAL ARITHMETIC:

PART I.

CONTAINING,

ENQUIRIES into the State of Population——Induſtry——Manufactures——The Poor——The Prices of Labour and Proviſions——Size of Farms——Incloſures, &c. &c.———Alſo, the Dependency of Agriculture on national Liberty and Proſperity, being in Relation to theſe Circumſtances, A PRESENT STATE OF GREAT-BRITAIN.

POLITCAL ARITHMETIC:

PART II. Price 1s. 6d.

OR,

CONSIDERATIONS on the MEANS or RAISING the SUPPLIES within the YEAR:

INCLUDING

An ENQUIRY into the PRESENT STATE

OF THE

LANDED INTEREST. 1779.