

ship of lands, that yield on the other hand a surplus produce, over which he has the uncontrolled disposal—make up together such a constitution of the moral, combined with such a constitution of the material system, as demonstrates that the gradation of wealth in human society has its deep and its lasting foundation in the nature of things. And that the construction of such an economy, with all the conservative influences by which it is upholden,\* attests both the wisdom and the benevolence of Him who is the Author of nature, may best be evinced by the momentous purposes to which this surplus produce of land (the great originator of all that can be termed affluence in the world) is subservient.—“Had no ground yielded more in return for the labour expended on it, than the food of the cultivators and their secondaries, the existence of one and all of the human race would have been spent in mere labour. Every man would have been doomed to a life of unremitting toil for his bodily subsistence; and none could have been supported in a state of leisure, either for idleness, or for other employments than those of husbandry, and such coarser manufactures as serve to provide society with the second necessities of existence. The species would have risen but a few degrees, whether physical or moral, above the condition of mere savages. It is just

\* See Art. 7, of this Chapter.