

grounded in the soil itself we say nothing, because there are at present no means by which the change from the prevailing system could be effected ; but it seems evident, that if our colonies and the States continue to present advantages which cannot be obtained at home, and if our people come to regard emigration, not as a matter of necessity,—not as a change which the indigent are obliged to make for the sake of the necessaries of life,—but as an attractive removal to another sphere, in which they can employ their labour much more satisfactorily than in their native country,—then we must anticipate that a larger and larger portion of our best labourers will seek to establish an independent existence elsewhere, and leave to Britain only the inferior remnants of a class that has fought her battles, cultivated her fields, manned her ships, worked in her manufactories, peopled her colonies, and brought her, ungrateful as she is, up to the highest pitch of power. To those patriotic gentlemen who are about to improve the dwellings of our rural population we particularly recommend the experiment of attaching at least to some of the cottages as much land as would keep a cow, with a rood or two of croft, that would enable the cottar to instruct his children in spade husbandry, and to teach them regular and constant habits of industry from their earliest years. Let those gentlemen read in the “Quarterly Review” for July 1829, how Thomas Rook did his hired work regularly, and yet made £30 a-year out of a little bit of land ; and how Richard Thomson kept two pigs and a Scotch cow on an acre and a quarter, worth, when he got it, five shillings per acre of rent ; and how the widow at Hasketon brought up her fourteen children, and saved them from the degradation of the parish, by being allowed to retain as much land as kept her two cows ; and, above all, let them remark how poor-rates and degradation have always followed the severance of the peasantry from the soil. If they wish to improve