

the servants' expenditure on dress and strong drink, viz., their desire to resemble their employers; but the true cause may be said to lie more deeply, even in the very recesses of their minds, and in looking for it we are compelled to say, 1st, That the treatment which has generated in the servant carelessness of his master's property, has indirectly produced the same spirit in reference to his own. A man who is not in the habit of caring for his master's property will not take care of his own, and *vice versa*. As a man is in one relation of life, so will he be in another. Extravagance has taken the place of frugality, first in reference to his master's property, next in reference to his own. Remove, then, this primary cause, and you will gradually do away with its effect. 2d. The imposition of poor rates, though loudly called for by the state of society, has still farther fostered extravagance on the part of the servant, in so far destroying that spirit of honest independence for which Scotland was once so highly distinguished. Poor rates now loom in the distance, if not as a very honourable, at least as a perfectly legal, means of subsistence in old age—something between people and great want, upon which they may with safety rely; and many are now found thus looking forward to them, and shamelessly taking advantage of them whenever the necessity arrives, whose forefathers would have scouted the very idea of such foreign aid. The cure for such a disposition would simply be to repeal the Act of Parliament on the subject; but with this obvious disadvantage we would not be so bold as recommend any such course. 3d. One great stimulus to economy, the prospect of rising in the world, has been in a great measure cut off from the farm-servant. The most he can now well aspire to, in this country, is becoming a grieve on some large farm. He can seldom or ever rent a piece of land for himself, crofts are now so reduced in number and often so much rack-rented. But perhaps, since the days when "Adam delved and Eve span," there is no stronger desire in the mind of man, save that of life, than to become possessed of a piece of land, however small. Now, for sometime past, the policy of proprietors, or their factors at least, has been, for reasons best known to themselves, to absorb all the small holdings into the