

ting to them are in a state of perfect preservation, and bear various dates between the years 1200 and 1400. In 1400, the number of proprietors began to decrease; by the year 1520, they had been reduced to six; in the reign of James the 1st, the six were reduced to two; and soon after the restoration of Charles the 2nd, the whole became the property of one owner, who let it as one farm to one occupier. The population resident on this farm, and subsisting upon its produce between 1300 and 1400, could not have been much less than one hundred persons; the number of persons immediately connected with the tillage of this farm, at the present time, does not probably amount to forty; and supposing ten of them to belong to the farmer's family—there are thirty persons deriving no part of their subsistence from the land—except as wages of daily labour. Taking the history of property in this parish as an illustration of those changes which took place contemporaneously in other districts, we are led to the conclusion, that the system of consolidating landed property, began to come into operation about the close of the fourteenth century, and that it has proceeded gradually and steadily on its course, until it has at length reached a point, which is not to be considered without the most serious reflections. It is also matter of history, that complaints against vagrancy and idleness, and the difficulty of providing for the poor, began for the first time to be heard in this country about the commencement of the fifteenth century, and that these burdens and complaints have, from that period, down to the present time, regularly kept pace with the progress of the system of consolidating farms, and abstracting his crofts, curtilages, and common rights, from the English cottager."

We now proceed to another order of facts, and of a more cheering description, as they point to a remedy for the evils deplored, and may serve as an antidote to those cold-hearted reflections so frequently made upon benevolent attempts to better the condition of the poor.

"The cottagers in Lincolnshire and Rutlandshire, generally, hold their little tenements, not of the farmer, but directly from the owner. This rescues them from all slavish and injurious dependence upon the farmer. The management of this little demesne, never, we believe, for one hour, interferes with the necessary occupations of the labourer; it is managed principally by his wife and younger children. The labourer himself, no doubt, bestows upon his little tenement some extra labour after his daily task is over, or occasionally the labour of a few whole days, whenever he can be spared with the least inconvenience from the work of his regular employer. The effect is, all that the most benevolent heart could desire,—a more comfortable, contented, and moral peasantry does not, we believe, exist on the face of the globe. The farmers are enabled to command the constant services of an industrious, regular, and faithful body of labourers; and in the more busy seasons of spring and harvest, the families of the cottagers furnish an occasional supply of extra assistants always at hand. Long experience has convinced the inhabitants of Burley-on-the-Hill, Hambleton, Eggleton, and Greetham, that the only means of keeping a labourer with a large family off the parish-books, is to let him land enough to keep a cow or two. This expedient has been repeatedly tried, and uniformly found successful. In 1798, a labouring man having a wife and several young children, appeared likely to become burdensome to one of these parishes; it was universally agreed that the only probable means of warding off the burden about to fall on the parish, was to furnish the cottager with a cow. The landlord supplied him with land at a fair rent, and added a few out-buildings to his cottage: a sum of money was advanced to purchase a cow, and he was thus enabled to pay his rent, and support himself and his family, without receiving a farthing from the parish. Some time after, a similar instance occurred in the same district. The influence of the system on the rates of the above parishes, appears very clearly from this fact, that the average of poor's rates on the four parishes did not exceed ninepence in the pound; while the average of four parishes in Sussex, taken at random, viz. Burwash, Mayfield, Shipley, and West Grimstead, averaged at the same time ten shillings and threepence in the pound—but here the labourers are permitted to occupy no land—the wife and children of the working peasant have no employment, and the allowance system appears to advance with rapid strides towards its consummation."

So depressing is this allowance and workhouse system to the human energies, that when actually employed, the labourer scarcely performs half what he is capable of executing; he studies not how to render his services as productive as possible to his employer, but how to get through a given number of hours with the smallest amount of labour. An author of some eminence, writing on this subject, remarks—That there is no better way to encourage the poor, than by inducing them to collect all their waste time in cultivating a small piece of land, and to make use of all their dirt and rubbish to manure it; to do which effectually, it must be contiguous to the cottage. The object should be, to employ the wife and children at times when they would be otherwise idle. A cottager who works for daily wages, has now and then an hour or two to spare in the long days, and by weather partly wet and partly fine, at all seasons: these, if he had an allotment of land, he might be induced to employ; it is, in short, that kind of work which Dr. Franklin advises all persons to keep by them, because it may be taken up, and laid down at any time. When this is not the case,

these scraps of time are spent in lounging about, or else in the ale-house.

"Thurlby, a small village and parish, to the east of the half-way houses on the road from Newark to Lincoln, is the property of Sir Edward French Bromhead, Bart. who resides at the Hall, amidst the blessings of his tenantry and neighbours.—When Sir Edward came into possession of the estate, he found it divided into large farms, and let but to two or three tenants, consequently his parish had very few inhabitants.—He divided each of these farms and increased his population. What few labourers were in the village had only the meanest and most uncomfortable hovels to reside in; their state was that of complete degradation; and more than half their support was derived from the poor's rate; they now begin to think that they are men, and to enjoy, rather than endure existence."

A letter from Thorne, in Yorkshire, inserted in the Philanthropic Magazine, has the following further proof of the certain advantages of this system. "A neighbour's wife of the labouring class called upon me, and said that her husband was very ill, and was desirous of seeing me about settling his affairs; I went, and was glad to find that he had obtained relief, and was something better. I have since called to see him, and in the course of conversation I remarked, that they had brought up a large family; he said that they had had fourteen children, and that nine now survived, and were capable of maintaining themselves; I asked how they had managed,—he said, 'It is my bit of land that has done it; it is under the reek of the chimney; we were always at it, doing something, we mucked it well; we always had good crops; we kept a cow, we grew potatoes and corn, and there was never no want.' It was originally 3½ acres gravelly soil—an old cottage—his father entered to it near 60 years ago, the rent at that time was 50 shillings a year; he succeeded his father about 40 years ago, at a rent of about £10; there was an addition to the landlord on the inclosure of the common about 17 years ago; within the last six years he purchased the fee simple at £300; he has rebuilt the cottage—brought up his family—and continually repeats, 'It is my bit of land that has done it.'"

Married.

On Monday the 24th ult. in Trinity Church, Boston, by the Right Reverend the Bishop of Massachusetts, the Reverend M. P. Stickney, Rector of Saint Michael's Church, Marblehead, to Jane Frances, youngest daughter of the late William Curry, Esquire, of Saint Andrews, New Brunswick.

Died.

On the 23rd ult. after a long and painful illness, which she endured with meek and patient submission to the Divine will, Fanny Susanna, wife of Mr. Charles M'Pherson, of this place, aged 27 years, leaving an only daughter.

In the Parish of Burton, on the 9th ult. after a severe and protracted affliction, which was borne with great patience and resignation to the will of God, George, son of Moses C. and Margaret Burpe, in the fifteenth year of his age.

At Halifax, on Tuesday the 25th ult. in the 100th year of his age, the Honorable Sampson Salter Blowers, formerly, and for many years, Chief Justice and President of the Council of the Province of Nova Scotia.

At Tremont House, Boston, on the 26th ult. Sir John Caldwell, Bart. late Treasurer General of Canada. The Funeral Service was performed by the Lord Bishop of Newfoundland, and the body was interred at Mount Auburn on the 28th.

At Dunoon, Argyllshire, on the 28th ult., Margaret Birkmyre, aged 74, wife of David Miller, Esquire.

FRENCH.

MR. E. M. CLAY begs to acquaint the Gentry and Inhabitants of Fredericton and environs, that it is his intention to give lessons in the FRENCH LANGUAGE; having been a resident in France for several years, he hopes that his mode of tuition will be favored by their patronage.

For Terms, apply by letter.

Mrs. Jackson's Hotel, Fredericton, Oct. 28, 1842.

ALL Persons having any demands against the Estate of the late MOSES COBURN, Senior, deceased, are hereby requested to render the same duly attested, within three months from the date hereof; and all those who may be indebted to the said Estate, will make immediate payment to the Subscribers.

ISAAC BURPE,

BENJAMIN BARKER, } Executors.

Sheffield, 24th September, 1842.

NOTICE.

ALL Persons who have any demands against the Estate of FREDERICK MOREHOUSE, Esquire, late of this place, deceased, will present their accounts to CHARLES E. BEARDSLEY, Esquire, duly attested, within 18 calendar months from this date. All persons who are indebted to the said Estate will be expected to make immediate payment.

JUDITH MOREHOUSE,

Administratrix of the Estate
of F. Morehouse, Esq.

Woodstock, C. Carleton, 29th July, 1842.

NOTICE.

ALL Persons are hereby forbid purchasing a NOTE OF HAND drawn by the Subscriber, in favor of ISAAC SHEPARD, in the year 1849, and payable in June, 1841, as no value has been received for it, according to bargain.

STEPHEN BURT.