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THE CASE  
OF  
LABOURERS IN HUSBANDRY

STATED AND CONSIDERED.

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BY  
DAVID DAVIES,  
RECTOR OF BARKHAM, BERKS.

THE CASE  
OF  
LABOURERS IN HUSBANDRY  
STATED AND CONSIDERED,  
IN THREE PARTS.

PART I.  
A VIEW OF THEIR DISTRESSED CONDITION.

PART II.  
THE PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF THEIR GROWING DISTRESS AND NUMBER, AND  
OF THE CONSEQUENT INCREASE OF THE POOR-RATE.

PART III.  
MEANS OF RELIEF PROPOSED.

WITH  
AN APPENDIX;  
CONTAINING  
A COLLECTION of ACCOUNTS,  
SHEWING  
THE EARNINGS AND EXPENCES OF LABOURING FAMILIES,  
IN DIFFERENT PARTS OF THE KINGDOM.

BY  
DAVID DAVIES,  
RECTOR OF BARKHAM, BERKS.

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THE LABOURER IS WORTHY OF HIS HIRE. LUKE x. 7.

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BATH, PRINTED BY R. CRUTTWELL,  
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1795.

To  
THE HONOURABLE

THE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE.

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AFTER spending a great deal of time in examining the circumstances of *Labourers in Husbandry*, I have thought it my duty to lay the following facts and observations before the publick. I hope they will be useful in drawing once more the attention of confiderate persons to what appears to be a case of real, wide-spread, and increasing distress; and be instrumental in procuring for the numerous class of people in question that redress, to which they seem to have the justest claim. At all events the motive will excuse me with the candid and humane for committing this work to the press.

It seems to lie peculiarly within the province of a Board instituted for the improvement of Agriculture, to enquire into the state and condition of that denomination of people, by whom the business of agriculture is carried on. That Board have it more in their power than any private individual, to obtain the most authentick information with respect to labouring families; and I understand that they have notified their intention of making this one object of their  
their

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their particular enquiry. If the result should be, *that the pay of the day-labourer is not adequate to his necessities*; then, on their representation of the matter, a rational plan may easily be devised for his speedy relief. For these reasons I have thought that the present publication might with propriety be addressed to that Board.

To that Board, therefore, I take the liberty to inscribe it; earnestly hoping that, such as it is, it may prove of some service in the farther prosecution of these useful enquiries. Heartily wishing them success in all their views for the publick good,

I remain,

with the greatest respect,

their most obedient

and most humble servant,

BARKHAM, BERKSHIRE,  
MARCH 26TH, 1795.

DAVID DAVIES.

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## SECTION I.

INTRODUCTORY OBSERVATIONS CONCERNING THE POOR  
AND THE POOR LAWS.

IN every nation the welfare and contentment of the lower denominations of people are objects of great importance, and deserving continual attention. For the bulk of every nation consists of such as must earn their daily bread by daily labour. It is to the patient industry of these that the higher ranks are every where indebted for most of their enjoyments. It is chiefly on these that every nation depends for its population, strength, and security. All reasonable persons will therefore acknowledge the equity of ensuring to them at least the necessary means of subsistence.

But of all the denominations of people in a state, *the labourers in husbandry* are by far the most valuable. For these are the men, who, being constantly employed in the cultivation of the earth, provide the staff of life for the whole nation. And it is the wives of these men,

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who rear those hardy broods of children, which, besides supplying the country with the hands it wants, fill up the voids which death is continually making in camps and cities. And since they have thus a peculiar title to public regard, one might expect to see them every where comfortably accommodated. Yet even in this kingdom, distinguished as it is for humanity and political wisdom, they have been for some time past suffering peculiar hardships. To make their case known, and to claim for them the just recompence of their labour, is the chief purpose of this publication.

It has however, indirectly, a respect to the case of the poor in general. For, in tracing the unusual distress of day-labourers to the several causes in which it has originated, I could not but observe that the same causes would also account for that general distress which is so heavily felt, and so much complained of, by all the lower ranks of people. And this led me to conclude, that if means could be devised for removing or lessening the existing evils in the former case, the same would probably be found efficacious for the same purpose universally.

The design of our poor laws is to provide for the employment of the able and industrious, for the correction of the idle and vicious, and for the maintenance of the aged and impotent. They appear in theory admirably calculated to answer these ends. Yet men of learning and judgment have entertained very different opinions concerning them: some regarding them as useful regulations for the government of the poor, though still imperfect and requiring amendment; some, as forming a complete system incapable of further improvement, and only wanting a better execution; and others, as a pernicious code, encouraging idleness and profligacy, and which ought therefore to be abolished.

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It may be admitted that these laws are imperfect, and that they have been but imperfectly executed; yet I think it undeniable that they have on the whole produced a great deal of good. They have undoubtedly saved thousands of families from perishing by hunger and nakedness. The poor themselves are sensible of their excellent tendency; and when their wrongs go unredressed, they do not blame the laws. It seems therefore probable that the repealing them now, or even greatly altering them, would be attended with the most serious consequences. Either of these measures might drive the people to despair, to insurrection, to every evil work.

It has been, however, the general opinion for some time past, that some kind of reform is become necessary. For the *rich* have complained loudly of the great and rapid increase of the poor-rate: and the late returns made to Parliament by the overseers of the poor are full evidence of the fact. In the mean while the *poor* have been more than ever dissatisfied with the relief afforded them by means of this tax; and every body sees that their numbers and distresses have increased amazingly. In consequence of this discontent on both sides, several plans have been offered to the public with the twofold design of providing more effectually for the poor, and of gradually reducing the rate. But either because they appeared impracticable in themselves, or because they innovated too much on our established system of poor laws, none of them has hitherto received the public approbation. Further light seems to be required, before any plan of this kind can be properly adjusted to the present circumstances of the nation.

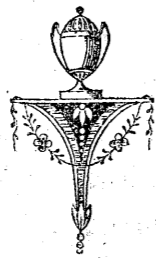
I dare not flatter myself that I am able to furnish all the light that is wanted, well knowing that many wise and benevolent men have employed their talents upon this difficult subject without much success.

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If I should only have the good fortune to point out the right way of proceeding in our enquiries respecting the poor, this will be one material point gained. Hereafter some person of a more sagacious mind may see more clearly how to introduce such improvements of our poor laws, as may give them the greatest efficacy for the valuable purposes they aim at.

Of this, however, I am confident. When the case of labouring families comes to be fully known and considered, it cannot fail to awaken the general compassion in their favour; to silence the absurd complaints so frequently made on account of the great progressive increase of the rate; and to procure for this deserving class of people able and zealous advocates, who will plead their cause with effect, and rescue them from that abject state into which they are sunk.




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 SECTION

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## SECTION II.

AN ENQUIRY INTO THE STATE OF THE POOR, NECESSARY, PREVIOUS TO A REFORM OF THE POOR LAWS—THE MANNER IN WHICH THE FOLLOWING ACCOUNTS OF THE EARNINGS AND EXPENCES OF LABOURING FAMILIES WERE OBTAINED—THE ACCOUNTS THEMSELVES, WITH AN ABSTRACT OF THE SAME.

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WHEN the Parliament in the years 1775 and 1785 ordered returns to be made of the poor-rates throughout the kingdom, another matter, at least equally necessary as a ground of reform, seems not to have been thought of. To render the information complete, an enquiry should at the same time have been directed to be made into the actual circumstances of poor families. For certainly a perfect knowledge of the state of the poor, is the only basis upon which any new regulations respecting them can be safely raised. And as labourers in husbandry form the most numerous, as well as the most useful class of the community, a careful enquiry into *their* circumstances was especially necessary, previous to the framing of such regulations.

I hope that omission will be supplied in some measure, though doubtless very imperfectly, by the *accounts* I am about to produce of the earnings and expences of labouring families in different parts of the kingdom. But as these accounts form the groundwork of what

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I have to advance on the behalf of the poor, it is proper that I should here describe the manner in which they were obtained.

In visiting the labouring families of my parish, as my duty led me, I could not but observe with concern their mean and distressed condition. I found them in general but indifferently fed; badly clothed; some children without shoes and stockings; very few put to school; and most families in debt to little shopkeepers. In short, there was scarcely any appearance of comfort about their dwellings, except that the children looked tolerably healthy. Yet I could not impute the wretchedness I saw either to sloth or wastefulness. For I knew that the farmers were careful that the men should not want employment; and had they been given to drinking, I am sure I should have heard enough of it. And I commonly found the women, when not working in the fields, well occupied at home; seldom indeed earning money; but baking their bread, washing and mending their garments, and rocking the cradle.

These poor people, in assigning the cause of their misery, agreed in ascribing it to the high prices of the necessaries of life. "Every thing (said they) is so dear, that we can hardly live." In order to assure myself, whether this was really the case, I enquired into the particulars of their earnings and expences; and wrote the same down at the time, just as I received them from each family respectively, guarding as well as I could against error and deception. The following accounts are the result of that enquiry, and they shew that the cause assigned is founded in fact.

These accounts of the earnings and expences of labouring families, in my own parish, were collected about *Easter* 1787, when affairs relating to the poor were under the consideration of the Parliament  
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and the public. From what loose information I could then gather near home, I saw sufficient reason to believe, that they presented but too faithful a view of the general distress of such families throughout this and the neighbouring counties. And the vast increase of the poor-rate, at that time every where a subject of complaint, rendered it very probable that the same misery had overspread the kingdom.

On my suggesting this to some friends who interest themselves in the welfare of the poor, we thought this matter deserving of a fuller scrutiny. And in order to collect information, an abstract of these accounts was printed, and many copies were distributed. We supposed that two or three papers returned from every county, carefully filled up, would furnish us amply with the information we desired. I have to regret that a greater number of those distributed papers has not been returned. The few I have received confirm the opinion previously entertained of the general distress of labouring people, and of the insufficiency of their wages for the supply of their wants. But the accounts themselves will evince this much better than many words.

*Accounts*

*Accounts of the Expences and Earnings of Six Labouring Families in the Parish of Barkham in the County of Berks, taken at Easter 1787.*

No. I.

*Weekly Expences of a Family, consisting of a Man and his Wife, and five Children, the eldest eight years of age, the youngest an Infant.*

|                                                                                                                                      |                    |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|
|                                                                                                                                      | <i>s. d.</i>       |
| FLOUR: $7\frac{1}{2}$ gallons, at 10d. <i>per</i> gallon                                                                             | 6 3                |
| Yeast, to make it into bread, $2\frac{1}{2}$ d.; and salt $1\frac{1}{2}$ d.                                                          | 0 4                |
| Bacon, 1lb. boiled at two or three times with greens: the pot-liquor, with bread and potatoes, makes 3 <i>meals</i> for the children | 0 8                |
| Tea, 1 ounce, 2d.; $\frac{3}{4}$ lb. sugar, 6d.; $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. butter or lard 4d.                                                | 1 0                |
| Soap, $\frac{1}{4}$ lb. at 9d. <i>per</i> lb.                                                                                        | 0 $2\frac{1}{4}$   |
| Candles, $\frac{1}{3}$ lb. one week with another at a medium, at 9d.                                                                 | 0 3                |
| Thread, thrum, and worsted, for mending apparel, &c.                                                                                 | 0 3                |
| Total                                                                                                                                | 8 11 $\frac{1}{4}$ |

*Weekly Earnings of the Man and his Wife, viz.*

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |     |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| The man receives the common weekly wages 8 months in the year                                                                                                                                                                   | 7 0 |
| By task-work the remaining 4 months he earns something more: his <i>extra</i> earnings, if equally divided among the 52 weeks in the year, would increase the weekly wages about                                                | 1 0 |
| The wife's common work is to bake bread for the family, to wash and mend ragged clothes, and to look after the children; but at bean-fetting, haymaking, and harvest, she earns as much as comes one week with another to about | 0 6 |
| Total                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 8 6 |

|                                |                    |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| Weekly expences of this family | 8 11 $\frac{1}{4}$ |
| Weekly earnings                | 8 6                |
| Deficiency of earnings         | 0 5 $\frac{1}{4}$  |

No. 2.

No. 2.

*Weekly Expences of a Family, consisting of a Woman, whose Husband is run away, and six Children, the eldest 16 years of age, the youngest 5: four of the Children too young to earn any thing.*

|                                                                                             |                  |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|
|                                                                                             | <i>s. d.</i>     |
| Flour for bread, 6 gallons, at 10d. <i>per</i> gallon                                       | 5 0              |
| Ditto $\frac{1}{2}$ gallon for puddings, and thickening the children's <i>meffes</i>        | 0 5              |
| Yeast for the bread, 2d.;—salt $1\frac{1}{2}$ d.                                            | 0 $3\frac{1}{2}$ |
| Bacon, 2lbs. at 8d. (with sometimes a sheep's head)                                         | 1 4              |
| Tea, $1\frac{1}{2}$ ounce, 4d.;—sugar, $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. 4d.;—butter, $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. 4d. | 1 0              |
| Soap, something more than $\frac{1}{4}$ lb. at 9d. <i>per</i> lb.                           | 0 $2\frac{1}{2}$ |
| Candles, $\frac{1}{3}$ lb. one week with another, at 9d. <i>per</i> lb.                     | 0 3              |
| Thread, worsted, &c.                                                                        | 0 3              |
| Total                                                                                       | 8 9              |

*Weekly Earnings of this Family, with the Parish Allowance.*

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |      |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|
| This family receives from the parish weekly                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 5 0  |
| The eldest boy earns <i>per</i> week                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 2 6  |
| The next, aged 13 years, earns, but not constantly                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 1 6  |
| The mother, whilst an old woman looks after the younger children, earns, one week with another, about                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 1 6  |
| The amount, supposing none of them to lose any time, is                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 10 6 |
| But some deduction must be made from this sum, because they are an unhealthy family, one or other of them being often laid up with the ague or rheumatism; disorders to which poor people, from low living and working in the wet, are very subject. The woman assures me that their earnings with the parish allowance do not exceed 9s. <i>per</i> week on an average; therefore deduct | 1 6  |
| Total of earnings, with the parish allowance                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 9 0  |
| Surplus of earnings                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 0 3  |

C

No. 3.



No. 3.

Weekly Expences of a Family, consisting of a Man and his Wife, with four small Children, the eldest under 6 years of age, the youngest an Infant.

|                                                      | <i>s. d.</i> |
|------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| Flour, 6 gallons, at 10d. per gallon                 | 5 0          |
| Yeast, 2d.—falt 1½d.                                 | 0 3½         |
| Bacon, 1 lb.                                         | 0 8          |
| Tea, 1 ounce, 2d.—fugar, ¾ lb. 6d.—butter, ½ lb. 4d. | 1 0          |
| Soap, ¼ lb. 2½d.—candles, ¼ lb. 3d.—thread, &c. 3d.  | 0 8¼         |
| Total                                                | 7 7¾         |

Weekly Earnings of the Man and his Wife, viz.

|                                                                                     |     |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| The husband, if he has constant health and constant employment, earns on an average | 8 0 |
| The wife, like No. 1, does not earn above                                           | 0 6 |
| Total                                                                               | 8 6 |

|                                |       |
|--------------------------------|-------|
| Weekly earnings of this family | 8 6   |
| Weekly expences                | 7 7¾  |
| Surplus of earnings            | 0 10¼ |

No. 4.

No. 4.

Weekly Expences of a Man and his Wife, with three Children, the eldest under 5 years of age, the youngest an Infant.

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | <i>s. d.</i> |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| Flour, 3 gallons <i>per week</i> , at 10d.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 2 6          |
| Yeast, 1d.—falt 1½d.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 0 2½         |
| Bacon: the farmer, of whom they rent their dwelling, lets them have a fatted hog, weight about 14 score, (on condition of their not keeping any pigs or poultry) at 1s. <i>per score</i> under the market price: this at 6s. 6d. <i>per score</i> (1787) comes to 4l. 11s. and as it lasts the family the whole year, it is <i>per week</i> exactly | 1 9          |
| Cheese, about 28lb. at 4½d. <i>per lb.</i> ; 10s. 6d. <i>per ann.</i> — <i>per week</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 0 2½         |
| Tea, ¼ lb. <i>per month</i> , at 3s. <i>per lb.</i> <i>per week</i> 2½d.; fugar 8d.; butter 4d.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 1 2½         |
| The wife having an infant at the breast, and fancying <i>very</i> small beer better than mere water, brews a peck of malt once a month, which costs 1s. 4d.—hops ½ lb. 4d.—this is <i>per week</i>                                                                                                                                                  | 0 5          |
| Soap, 3 lbs. at 9d. <i>per lb.</i> lasts 2 months, this is <i>per week</i> 3d.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 0 3          |
| Candles, ¼ lb. at a medium, 3d.—thread and worsted 2d.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | 0 5          |
| Total                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | 6 11¼        |

Weekly Earnings of this Family, viz.

|                                                                                                                                                     |     |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| The man's business is to follow a farmer's team, for which he has 8s. a week throughout the year                                                    | 8 0 |
| He has, besides, either his diet in his employer's house 6 weeks in harvest, or instead of it 18s.; which divided into 52 parts, is <i>per week</i> | 0 4 |
| The wife earns at a medium about 8d. <i>per week</i>                                                                                                | 0 8 |
| Total                                                                                                                                               | 9 0 |

|                                |       |
|--------------------------------|-------|
| Weekly earnings of this family | 9 0   |
| Weekly expences                | 6 11¼ |
| Surplus of earnings            | 2 0¾  |

No. 5.

No. 5.

Weekly Expences of another Family, consisting of a Man and his Wife, with three Children, the eldest 6 years of age, the youngest an Infant.

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |              |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | <i>s. d.</i> |
| Flour, $\frac{1}{2}$ a sack <i>per</i> month, or nearly 5 gallons per week, say $4\frac{1}{2}$ , at 10d.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 3 9          |
| Yeast and falt                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 0 3          |
| Meat:—bought a pig and fattened it: price of the pig 10s. 6d.; cost 6d. a week for 42 weeks before fattening, 11. 1s.; was fattened with one sack of beans 15s. one sack of pease 16s. and 5 bushels of ground barley 25s.; total 4l. 7s. 6d.—when killed it was estimated to weigh about 14 score pounds; it cost therefore 6s. 4d. <i>per</i> score; this, with a few sheep's heads and skins of beef, will last all the year, and is <i>per</i> week | 1 8          |
| Beer; they seldom brew but against a christening                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | 0 0          |
| Tea, sugar, and butter                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 1 0          |
| Soap, starch, candles, worsted, on an average                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 1 0          |
| Total                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 7 8          |

Weekly Earnings of this Family, viz.

|                                                                                                                                                                  |     |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| The man has, summer and winter, the common pay, 7s.; and he has also a mess of milk for breakfast, and small beer, worth at least 1s. more                       | 8 0 |
| The woman earns, as she believes, by washing and needle-work, by breeding poultry, and at harvest work when she has no child to nurse, about 1s. <i>per</i> week | 1 0 |
| Total                                                                                                                                                            | 9 0 |

|                                |     |
|--------------------------------|-----|
| Weekly earnings of this family | 9 0 |
| Weekly expences                | 7 8 |
| Surplus of earnings            | 1 4 |

No. 6.

No. 6.

Weekly Expences of a Family, consisting of a Man and his Wife, with two young Children, the eldest 7 years of age, the youngest 4.

|                                                                                |                    |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|
|                                                                                | <i>s. d.</i>       |
| Flour, 5 gallons, at 10d.                                                      | 4 2                |
| Yeast and falt                                                                 | 0 3                |
| Bacon, $1\frac{1}{2}$ lb. at 8d.                                               | 1 0                |
| Tea, 1 ounce, 2d.;—sugar, $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. 4d.;—butter, $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. 4d. | 0 10               |
| Soap, $\frac{1}{4}$ lb. $2\frac{1}{4}$ d.;—candles, 3d.;—worsted, 3d.          | 0 8 $\frac{1}{4}$  |
| Total                                                                          | 6 11 $\frac{1}{4}$ |

Weekly Earnings of this Family, viz.

|                                                              |     |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| The man earns, one week with another, if constantly employed | 8 0 |
| The woman, on an average, not more than                      | 0 6 |
| Total                                                        | 8 6 |

|                                |                    |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| Weekly earnings of this family | 8 6                |
| Weekly expences                | 6 11 $\frac{1}{4}$ |
| Surplus of earnings            | 1 6 $\frac{3}{4}$  |

N. B. The weekly expences and earnings of another family, consisting of the same number of persons, are so nearly the same with the above, that it is not worth while to set them down separately.

Note 1.



*Note 1.* It is not easy to come at the exact earnings of a day-labourer, as the farmers keep no regular account of the distinct payments made to each labourer. A great deal of husbandry work is done by the *piece*, or by *task*; such as hoeing turnips, beans, and peas; mowing grafs and spring corn; reaping, threshing, hedging and ditching, draining, coppice work, &c. Intelligent farmers say, that the men are thus employed about four months in the year, and that they then earn from eight to twelve shillings a week, according to circumstances. Suppose them to earn at a medium 10s.

|                                                       | £. | s. | d. |
|-------------------------------------------------------|----|----|----|
| Then a man's work 35 weeks, at 7s. comes to           | 12 | 5  | 0  |
| And ————— 17 weeks, at 10s. - - -                     | 8  | 10 | 0  |
| Amount <i>per annum</i> - - -                         | 20 | 15 | 0  |
| Add the wife's earnings, at 6d. <i>per week</i> - - - | 1  | 6  | 0  |
| Total of earnings <i>per annum</i>                    | 22 | 1  | 0  |

This is at the rate of 8s. 6d. a week nearly: and Nos. 4 and 5 of the foregoing accounts *prove*, that the *men's* earnings on an average do not much, if at all, exceed 8s. a week.

*Note 2.* If any one should think that the *women's* earnings are stated too low in these accounts, he will be convinced they are not, on considering that these women commonly begin the world with an infant, and are mere nurses for ten or twelve years after marriage, being always either with child, or having a child at the breast; consequently incapable of doing much other work besides the necessary business of their families, such as baking, washing, and the like. In winter they earn next to nothing, few of them having in their youth learnt to knit and spin: and if in summer they are able to go to harvest work, they must pay some person a shilling a week out of their earnings for looking after

after their children. It is probable therefore that from 6d. to 9d. a week is as much as labourers' wives in general, hereabout, earn on an average the year through.

THE expences already set down are only the *weekly outgoings*, exclusive of house-rent, fuel, clothing, lying-in, sickness, and burials: these being best allowed for by the year, may be called *annual outgoings*, and are as under:

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | £. | s. | d. |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|----|----|
| <i>Rent</i> of a cottage, or part of an old farm-house, with a small piece of garden ground, for a family, is from two pounds to two guineas: say - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 2  | 0  | 0  |
| <i>Fuel</i> : this is turf from the Common, and when bought costs 12s. <i>per family</i> ; but as a man can cut in a week nearly enough to serve his family all the year, and the farmers (if the distance be not great) will give the carriage for the ashes, let this be charged at a little more than one week's wages - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 0  | 10 | 0  |
| <i>Clothing</i> : 1. The man's: wear of a suit <i>per annum</i> 5s.; wear of a working jacket and breeches 4s.; two shirts 8s.; one pair of stout shoes nailed 7s.; two pair of stockings 4s.; hat, handkerchief, &c. 2s. Sum 11. 10s.—2. The <i>wife's</i> : wear of gown and petticoats 4s.; one shift 3s. 6d.; one pair of strong shoes 4s.; one pair of stockings 1s. 6d.; two aprons 3s.; handkerchiefs, caps, &c. 4s. Sum 11.—3. The <i>children's</i> : their clothing is (usually) partly made up of the parents' old clothes, partly bought at second-hand: what is bought (supposing <i>three</i> children to a family) cannot well be reckoned at less than 11.: where there are more than three children, 7s. may be added; and where there are fewer, 7s. may be deducted, for each.—Let the whole be estimated at | 3  | 10 | 0  |

Carried over 6 0 0

[*Note.*

Brought over  $\begin{matrix} \text{£.} & \text{s.} & \text{d.} \\ 6 & 0 & 0 \end{matrix}$

[*Note.* Very few poor people can afford to lay out this sum in clothes; but they should be enabled to do it: some cottagers breed a few fowls, with which they buy what sheets and blankets they want: but those who live in old farmhouses are seldom allowed (to use their own words) *to keep a pig or a chick.*]

*Lying-in:* the child's linen 3 or 4s.; the midwife's fee 5s.; a bottle of gin or brandy always had upon this occasion, 2s.; attendance of a nurse for a few days, and her diet, at least 5s.; half a bushel of malt brewed, and hops, 3s.; to the minister for churching 1s.;— call the sum 1l. and suppose this to happen but once in two years; this is *per annum* - - - - -  $\begin{matrix} 0 & 10 & 0 \end{matrix}$

*Casualties:* 1. In *sickness* there is the physick to be paid for, and the loss of time to be allowed for:—2. *Burials*; poor people having many children, sometimes lose one:—for both these together it seems moderate to allow *per annum* - - - - -  $\begin{matrix} 0 & 10 & 0 \end{matrix}$

Sum of these annual outgoings  $\begin{matrix} \text{£.} & \text{s.} & \text{d.} \\ 7 & 0 & 0 \end{matrix}$

This sum (7l.) being divided by 52, the number of weeks in a year, gives 2s. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. *per week*. If therefore any one desires to know the *whole* weekly expence of a family, (consisting of a man and his wife with three children) in order to compare it with the *whole* of their weekly earnings, he must add 2s. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to the *current* weekly expence of the family, as before set down at the foot of its account.

Suppose, for instance, it were required to find the whole weekly expence of No. 5, in order to compare the same with the whole of the weekly earnings of that family:

|                                                      |   |   |   |           |                 |
|------------------------------------------------------|---|---|---|-----------|-----------------|
| To the current weekly expence, p. 12,                | - | - | - | <i>s.</i> | <i>d.</i>       |
|                                                      |   |   |   | 7         | 8               |
| Add one 52d part of the <i>annual outgoings</i> , or | - | - | - | 2         | 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
|                                                      |   |   |   | 10        | 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| The whole weekly expence                             | - |   |   | 9         | 0               |
| The whole weekly earnings, p. 12                     |   |   |   | 1         | 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| Weekly deficiency                                    |   |   |   | 1         | 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ |

In other cases: where there are *more* than three children, two-pence more must be added for each; and where there are *fewer*, two-pence must be deducted; the reason of which may be seen under the article *Clothing*, in p. 15. Thus,

|                                                    |   |    |                 |
|----------------------------------------------------|---|----|-----------------|
| To the current weekly expence of No. 3, p. 10      | - | 7  | 7 $\frac{3}{4}$ |
| Add, as in the former instance                     | - | 2  | 8 $\frac{1}{4}$ |
| Add also, towards clothing the <i>fourth</i> child | - | 0  | 2               |
|                                                    |   |    |                 |
| The whole weekly expence                           | - | 10 | 6               |
| The whole weekly earnings, p. 10                   |   | 8  | 6               |
|                                                    |   |    |                 |
| Weekly deficiency                                  |   | 2  | 0               |



PARISH OF BARKHAM, BERKS.  
EASTER, 1787.

An Abstract of the Expences and Earnings of the foregoing six Families of Labourers, by the Week, and by the Year.

|                                                | No. 1.<br>7 Persons. | No. 2.<br>7 Persons. | No. 3.<br>6 Persons. | No. 4.<br>5 Persons. | No. 5.<br>5 Persons. | No. 6.<br>4 Persons. |
|------------------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| <i>Expences per Week.</i>                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |
| Bread or Flour - - - -                         | 0 6 3                | 0 5 5                | 0 5 0                | 0 2 6                | 0 3 9                | 0 4 2                |
| Yeast and Salt - - - -                         | 0 0 4                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 2½               | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                |
| Bacon or other Meat - -                        | 0 0 8                | 0 1 4                | 0 0 8                | 0 1 9                | 0 1 8                | 0 1 0                |
| Tea, Sugar, Butter - - -                       | 0 1 0                | 0 1 0                | 0 1 0                | 0 1 2½               | 0 1 0                | 0 0 10               |
| Cheese (seldom any) - -                        | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 2½               | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                |
| Beer (seldom any) - - -                        | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 5                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                |
| Soap, Starch, Blue, - - -                      | 0 0 2½               | 0 0 2½               | 0 0 2                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 6                | 0 0 2½               |
| Candles - - - - -                              | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                |
| Thread, Thrum, Worsted -                       | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 2                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                |
| Total                                          | 0 8 11               | 0 8 9                | 0 7 7                | 0 6 11½              | 0 7 8                | 0 6 11½              |
| Amount per annum                               | 23 4 9               | 22 15 0              | 19 17 7              | 18 0 9               | 19 18 8              | 18 0 9               |
| <i>Earnings per Week.</i>                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |
| The Man earns at a medium                      | 0 8 0                | Parish pay } 5 0     | 0 8 0                | 0 8 4                | 0 8 0                | 0 8 0                |
| The Woman - - - - -                            | 0 0 6                | 0 1 0                | 0 0 6                | 0 0 8                | 0 1 0                | 0 0 6                |
| The Children - - - - -                         | 0 0 0                | 0 3 0                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                |
| Total                                          | 0 8 6                | 0 9 0                | 0 8 6                | 0 9 0                | 0 9 0                | 0 8 6                |
| Amount per annum                               | 22 2 0               | 23 8 0               | 22 2 0               | 23 8 0               | 23 8 0               | 22 2 0               |
| <i>To the above Amount of</i>                  |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |
| Expences per annum - - -                       | 23 4 9               | 22 15 0              | 19 17 7              | 18 0 9               | 19 18 8              | 18 0 9               |
| Add Rent, Fuel, Clothes, Lying-in, &c. - - - - | 7 14 0               | 7 14 0               | 7 7 0                | 7 0 0                | 7 0 0                | 6 14 0               |
| Total of Expences per annum                    | 30 18 9              | 30 9 0               | 27 4 7               | 25 0 9               | 26 18 8              | 24 14 9              |
| Total of Earnings per annum                    | 22 2 0               | 23 8 0               | 22 2 0               | 23 8 0               | 23 8 0               | 22 2 0               |
| Deficiency of Earnings - -                     | 8 16 9               | 7 1 0                | 5 2 7                | 1 12 9               | 3 10 8               | 2 12 9               |

PARISH OF BARKHAM.

Account of the Families.

No. 1. A man and his wife, with five children, the eldest eight years of age, the youngest an infant.

No. 2. A woman whose husband is run away, and six children; the eldest a boy of sixteen years of age, the next a boy of thirteen, the youngest five: four of the children too young to earn any thing.

No. 3. A man and his wife, with four small children, the eldest six years of age, the youngest an infant.

No. 4. A man and his wife, with three small children, the eldest under five years of age, the youngest an infant.

No. 5. A man and his wife, with three young children, the eldest six years of age, the youngest an infant.

No. 6. A man and his wife, with two young children, the eldest seven years of age, the youngest four.

Note. Such families as these are numerous in country parishes: in this parish they make above two-fifths of the inhabitants.

Annual Outgoings.

|                                                                                              | £.  | s. | d.  |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|----|-----|
| 1. Rent of a cottage and garden, or of a part of an old farm-house and garden, for a family  | 2   | 0  | 0   |
| 2. Fuel, being turf cut on the common, from 8 to 12s.—say                                    | 0   | 10 | 0   |
| 3. Clothing:—                                                                                |     |    |     |
| The man's                                                                                    | £.1 | 10 | 0   |
| The wife's                                                                                   | 1   | 0  | 0   |
| Allow for three children - - -                                                               | 1   | 0  | 0   |
| 4. Lying-in, one year with another                                                           | 0   | 10 | 0   |
| 5. Casualties, including sickness, loss of time thereby, and burials; estimated at           | 0   | 10 | 0   |
| Sum of these outgoings                                                                       | 7   | 0  | 0   |
| Price of the half-peck loaf of household wheaten bread                                       | 0   | 0  | 11½ |
| Price of the gallon of flour                                                                 | 0   | 0  | 10  |
| — of a week's labour in winter                                                               | 0   | 7  | 0   |
| — of a week's labour, where the labourer is employed constantly all weather the year through | 0   | 8  | 0   |

NOTES.

Few poor families can afford themselves more than 1lb. of meat weekly. The tea used per family is from 1 to 1½ oz. per week, at 2d. per oz. Soft sugar, ½ lb. at 7d. to 8d. per lb. Salt butter, or lard, ½ lb. at 7½ lb. to 8d. per lb. Suckling is here so profitable (to furnish veal for London) that the poor can seldom either buy or beg milk. Poor people reckon cheese the dearest article they can use. Malt is so dear, that they seldom brew any small beer, except against a lying-in or a christening. To eke out soap, they burn green Fern, and knead the ashes into balls, with which they make a lye for washing. In No. 4, the charge for bread is considerably less than in the others, because that family is favoured by its employer in the article of meat: See the Account. In No. 5, the woman washes for one or two single labourers, for which reason 6d. is charged for soap.

SECTION III.

OBSERVATIONS SUGGESTED BY THE FOREGOING ACCOUNTS,  
AND CONFIRMED BY OTHERS RECEIVED FROM DIFFERENT  
PARTS OF THE KINGDOM.



1. THESE accounts suppose that a labouring man may always have work, when he is well and willing to work, without regard to any other loss of time than what may be occasioned by sickness alone: but as this is in reality the case of very few labourers comparatively, most of them losing some time from other accidents, it is certain that in general they must feel additional distress from this circumstance.

2. It deserves to be remarked, that the outgoings called *annual* in these accounts, to distinguish them from those that recur weekly, amount to a *third part* nearly of the whole annual earnings of a labouring family. And they would exceed this proportion, were not the charge for *fuel* here much below what that article costs in many places; for in a great part of the kingdom *thirty shillings* will scarcely purchase such a quantity, as is absolutely necessary for a family.

3. Every body must have observed, that families with four or five young children are common in country parishes. As *bread* makes the principal part of the food of all poor families, and almost the whole of the food of all such large families, it is manifest that whatever causes operate in raising at any time the price of corn, the same must necessarily bring heavy distress upon families of this description.

4. It

4. It appears that in such families as No. 1, in which there are five children, all unable to work, the whole of their earnings nearly goes for *food* alone, even when the price of bread (as here reckoned) is rather low than moderate. Also, that the weekly earnings of such families are not sufficient for supplying them in the scantiest proportion with the common weekly necessaries, exclusive of the annual outgoings.

5. But in most country parishes there are *some* families with even six children, all incapable of earning a maintenance. Consequently the weekly earnings of such as these must fall short in a still greater degree, than in the preceding instance, of what is absolutely necessary for supplying their common weekly necessities.

6. No. 2 is a family deserted by the father, and thereby thrown on the parish; which sometimes happens from the fault of overseers in refusing timely relief. This family has received from the parish, during some years, a weekly pension of 5s.; lives in the parish-house rent free; and is supplied with fuel, and some clothing, at the parish expence. And though the mother is a hard-working woman, the expence of this family to the parish, since the man went away, has been about 15l. a year. Such is the *folly* of bearing hard upon the poor!

7. The weekly surplusses, which appear in Nos. 2 and 3, are so trifling, that if they were expended on the weekly subsistence of those families respectively, no reasonable person could think that they fared too well. It is probable that in most instances those apparent surplusses are so expended by such families. And then the whole amount of the annual outgoings of these (as well as of No. 1) for rent, fuel, clothing, lying-in, and casualties, must either come out of the poor-rate, or these families must necessarily run in debt, steal, or starve.

8. Nos.

8. Nos. 4, 5, 6, have, each, a weekly surplus considerable enough to be applied to some use: but it is observable that the surplus in No. 4 exceeds that of all the rest. This happens, *1<sup>st</sup>*, because that family is favoured in the article of meat;—*2<sup>dly</sup>*, because it has at present credit enough to buy a sack of flour at a time, by which something is gained in bread;—and *3<sup>dly</sup>*, because it has sufficient garden-ground for planting a good patch of potatoes, which also save bread.

9. Let us now suppose all the *weekly surplusses*, which appear in these accounts, really to exist and to be saved. Then, on comparing the *yearly* amount of the earnings with the *yearly* amount of the expences, we shall see in every instance a considerable deficiency: which deficiency, unless it be made up by poaching, stealing, and other bad practices, or be supplied by the charity of individuals, must necessarily come out of the poor-rate.

10. If, omitting Nos. 1 and 2, whose earnings are so inadequate to the supply of their wants, we add together *all* the expences of the remaining *four* families, consisting of twenty persons, the sum 103l. 18s. 9d. divided by 4, the number of families, gives 26l. very nearly for the whole yearly expence of a family of five persons. And if we consider that *three* of these four families have, each, a sucking child who eats but little bread, and that none of them can afford to drink small beer in common, we shall be satisfied that 26l. is the least sum that will suffice for the annual maintenance of such a family, wherever bread made of wheat is commonly eaten. But the sum of the earnings of the same four families, supposing them constantly employed, is only 91l. which, divided by 4, gives 22l. 15s. for the mean amount



amount of the earnings of a family of five persons. Therefore the mean deficiency of the earnings of such a family is at the least 3l. 5s.

11. But if it be thought reasonable (and surely it *is* reasonable) that labouring people should have the ability to brew small beer for themselves; then, supposing each family to use only *one* bushel of malt *per* month of four weeks, which will make about 28 gallons of very small drink; this, reckoning the malt at 5s. 6d. *per* bushel, with three or four shillings worth of hops, will add about 3l. 15s. to the above expences. And if it be also thought right that they should be enabled to give a child or two a little schooling, 10s. more must be added on *this* account. Both these articles together make 4l. 5s. which, added to the 26l. above, makes the total of the expences 30l. 5s. And this sum, I think, labouring families should earn yearly, to enable them to provide for themselves all necessaries, and to live in tolerable comfort, independent of parochial assistance. But it appears that in fact they do not earn above 23l. *per annum*. Therefore the mean deficiency of their earnings is, on this supposition, at least 7l.

12. However, taking the matter as it is stated in Observation 10, the deficiency of 3l. 5s. there shewn, would well maintain one young child. Whence we may infer, that the present wages of a labouring man constantly employed, together with the usual earnings of his wife, are barely sufficient to maintain in all necessaries, independent of parish relief, the man and his wife with two children: And that the sum of their earnings would be insufficient for this, if poor people were to allow themselves *small beer* in common. But it is a fact, in which old people uniformly agree, that the joint earnings of a labouring man and his wife were sufficient to maintain themselves and three children, and  
in

in a better manner too, about the middle of this century. Therefore the price of day-labour has not, in this interval, kept pace with the prices of the necessaries of life; and the condition of a labouring family is now become, from this circumstance alone, worse than it was then, by so much as would suffice for the maintenance of one child.

13. In truth, various causes, as I shall shew presently, have concurred to raise the nominal prices of the necessaries of life a great deal higher than they were forty or fifty years ago. And various causes have likewise concurred, as I shall also shew, to keep down the nominal price of labour nearly as low as it was at that time. Add to this, that the labouring poor have been gradually deprived of some advantages which they formerly enjoyed, and subjected to some hardships from which they were formerly exempt. Thus the *subsistence* of poor families in general is become far more expensive and difficult than it was in the former part of this century: in consequence of which the *number* of the poor depending on parish relief is greatly increased. And this observation (when these facts are proved) will serve to explain that augmentation of the general amount of the poor-rates, which has been continually going on from about the year 1750 to the present day.

14. It is manifest from *Obs.* 10, that the poor-rate is now in part a *substitute for wages*. And a miserable substitute it is, for the following reasons:—1st. Because the distribution of it being left very much in the discretion of the overseers of the poor, who in saving the parish money save their own, and who in distributing it do not always regard strict justice, many modest and deserving families, that cannot live entirely without relief, receive not sufficient relief from it, chusing rather to suffer oppression than to incur the ill-will of their superiors

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by

by applying to a magistrate for redress. 2dly. Because the receiving that from the parish in the precarious way of alms, which they ought to receive in wages as the reasonable recompence of labour, is a great discouragement to the industrious poor, tends to sink their minds in despondency, and to drive them into desperate courses. 3dly. Because sometimes the men, either from resentment at the hard usage they have met with, are provoked to desert their families; or else too often, from mere despair of being able to maintain them honestly, they and their wives betake themselves to wicked courses: the example corrupts their children, whose minds being thus tainted remain ever after dead to all virtuous impressions. 4thly. Because, wherever large sums of money are raised for the use of the poor, a great temptation is laid in the way of unprincipled overseers, who, by embezzling a part of what comes into their hands, rob the poor in the first instance; and afterwards, to cover the villainy, perjure themselves in swearing to their accounts.

15. I have read somewhere, that about the beginning of this century, the poor of this country receiving relief were computed to be about 600,000. I think it probable that their number is now (1787) almost tripled. In this parish the poor-rate is somewhat lower than in any of the contiguous parishes.\* Here is no work-house, nor any manufacture carried on. Tilling the ground is the only occupation. The number of the inhabitants being only 200, every one is known, and no one can well be idle. The overseers, being frugal farmers, keep down the rate as low as they can. No expence for law or entertainments has of late been incurred. The rental of the parish is about 750l.; the poor-

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\* It has risen fast since.

rate

rate 2s. in the pound, or 75l. *per annum*: besides which, the parish-house, consisting of four tenements, saves house-rent to four poor families. The number of poor receiving relief, either individually or by families, (including those in the poor-house) is about forty, besides others assisted occasionally in sickness: that is, the number of individuals assisted by the rate is about *one fifth* of the whole. Supposing this proportion to hold throughout the kingdom, and our population to be 8,000,000, the number of paupers comes out 1,600,000. I give this merely as a *rude guess* at the number of our poor: but on comparing the above-recited circumstances of *this* parish with those of some neighbouring parishes, I am induced to believe that this calculation is not very far from the truth.

16. Two millions of pounds *sterling*, and upwards, raised for the poor (besides *charitable donations*, amounting to a quarter of a million more) sounds largely. And indeed the *net* revenue of the kingdom a little more than a *hundred years* ago did not amount to so much. But, if we consider how small a proportion *this* sum bears to the whole collective income of the nation at present, which probably exceeds 120 millions; this tax must then appear to every humane person to be by no means immoderate. And if we consider further, how wretchedly the poor actually live *with* this aid; far from entertaining the vain hope of the *extinction* of the rate by any plan whatever, we shall see little room even to expect any material *reduction* of it, whilst the price of day-labour remains so low as it now is, and whilst the churchwardens and overseers are permitted, as they have long been, to neglect their duty in setting the poor to work. Under these circumstances it is manifestly impossible to diminish the rate in any great degree, without greatly increasing the miseries of the poor.

17. Since



17. Since labouring families are generally in real distress, (*per* Obs. 12) when they come to have more than *two* children unable to earn their living; it seems indisputable, that such families have then an equitable claim upon their parish, by the very *principle* which forms the basis of our poor laws, for the support of all above two, whilst things continue on the present foot. For it is manifest that our laws consider all the inhabitants of a parish as forming one large family, the higher and richer part of which is bound to provide employment and subsistence for the lower and labouring part.

18. I have said that I found our poor families very meanly clothed. In this respect No. 4 was no exception. And this is visibly the case of the poor in general. In fact it is but little that in the present state of things the belly can spare for the back. Even such persons as may have been provident enough, when single, to supply themselves with a small stock of clothes, are, after marriage, from inability to buy more, soon reduced to ragged garments. And then the women spend as much time in tacking their tatters together, as would serve for manufacturing new clothing, had they the skill to do it, and materials to do it with. One bad consequence of this meanness of dress is, that many of the poor are ashamed to appear among decent people at our churches; they either neglect the duty of public worship altogether, or they assemble at places where they are sure of meeting with people as ill-clothed as themselves.

19. Since the day-labourer can scarcely with his utmost exertions supply his family with the daily bread which is to sustain their bodies, no wonder that he should so seldom strive to procure for them that other bread, which is to nourish their souls, and prepare them for a future state of being. For though the schooling of a child costs but  
two-pence

two-pence or three-pence a week, yet this pittance is wanted for so many other purposes, that it would be missed in the family. And thus the children of the poor are too commonly left to waste those early years in idleness and vice, which they should be made to employ in learning their duties to God and man, and in laying the foundations of a religious and virtuous life.

20. Such being the unhappy condition of poor people, particularly of day-labourers: left, for the most part, destitute of instruction in their early years, and copying as they grow up the example of vicious parents; being, in consequence of this, thoughtless, improvident, and irreligious in youth; unable, when married, by incessant labour, to provide for the necessities of even a moderate family; their spirits sinking, as children come on, under a growing weight of wretchedness and woe; their applications for assistance often treated with contempt by the persons appointed to relieve them; can we wonder, if, thus circumstanced, they receive occasional favours without gratitude, and brood over their miseries in sulky silence? Can we wonder at that wide-spread dishonesty, and profligacy of manners, the fatal effects of which we are daily lamenting? Our astonishment will assuredly cease, if we do but reflect that the very best education will scarcely keep a man honest and virtuous, whose family is perishing for want of necessaries.

21. The preceding observations may suggest one valuable precaution to *Justices of the Peace*, who are the legal guardians and protectors of the poor. When a family, having been denied relief by the overseers of their parish, comes to the magistrate for redress, the magistrate would do well to inform himself minutely, not only of the *weekly* earnings and expences, but also of the *annual* earnings and outgoings of  
such

such family; because it is from a comparison of the *whole* of the one with the *whole* of the other, that he can alone form a right judgment what relief he should order to be given to the party so applying to him.



SECTION

SECTION IV.

AN APOLOGY FOR THE POOR—EATING WHEATEN BREAD—  
NEGLECTING POTATOES—DRINKING TEA.

**P**OOR people are often censured for want of frugality and œconomy in the management of their earnings. In particular, they are accused of extravagance in eating wheaten bread; of being over-nice in neglecting as they do the use of potatoes; and of a luxurious excess in drinking tea. It may be proper to see what force there is in these charges.

*First*; It is asked, Why should our labouring people eat wheaten bread? Were they content, as the poor of this country were formerly, and as the poor of other countries are still, with bread of an inferior quality, they might then spare money for other purposes, and live with more comfort than they usually do. It is wonderful how readily even men of sense give into this censure, neither considering the different circumstances of different countries at the same time, nor the different circumstances of the same country at different times. They assume that the condition of the working people of this kingdom is the same now, in all *other* respects, as it was formerly; which is by no means the case. If the working people of other countries are content with bread made of rye, barley, or oats, have they not milk, cheese, butter, fruits, or fish, to eat with that coarser bread? And was not this the case of our own people formerly, when these grains were the common productions

ductions of our land, and when scarcely wheat enough was grown for the use of the nobility and principal gentry? Flesh-meat, butter, and cheese, were then at such moderate prices, compared with the present prices, that poor people could afford to use them in common. And with a competent quantity of these articles, a coarser kind of bread might very well satisfy the common people of any country.

Time, which changes all things, has gradually changed the circumstances of this kingdom. Our lands have been so much improved, that wheat is as common now as rye and barley were formerly. A sufficient quantity of wheat is now annually produced for the consumption of, probably, three-fourths of our people. In the corn counties it is chiefly on the crop of wheat that the farmer relies for the ability to pay his rent; which causes such care to be taken in preparing the land for this grain, as almost to ensure a plentiful crop. And if the labouring people, of whom the mass of every nation consists, were to cease to eat it when produced, how, let me ask, would the farmer then dispose of his corn? And how could he pay his landlord the high rent now demanded of him? But this is not all. The prices of meat, butter, and cheese, are so much increased, in consequence of the increase of riches, luxury, and taxes, that working people can now scarcely afford to use them in the smallest quantities. So that they depend almost entirely upon the bread they eat for strength to perform their daily labour. That bread should therefore be of a good kind. But it is certain that wheaten bread contains much more nourishment than barley bread\*; and it is probable that the difference in this respect is

\* It is said, however, that the people of *Cornwall*, who eat barley bread, prefer it, saying, that it has more *heart* in it than wheaten bread.

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such as to compensate for the difference of price. (See *Tracts on the Corn Trade*, p. 199.) The old man there mentioned, who fed his family with barley bread in *dear* times, found it as cheap to feed them with wheaten bread, unless he could buy barley at two-thirds of the price of wheat. I believe the price of barley for some years past has been but little, if any thing, short of this proportion: and it is manifest that if this grain were commonly used for bread, as well as for drink, the price of it must still advance considerably. Working people seem therefore to judge rightly in giving wheaten bread the preference, since it is the only good thing of which they can have a sufficiency. And it is obviously not less for the *interest* of the rich, than it is for the *comfort* of the poor, that the latter should eat wheaten bread, wherever wheat is the common produce of the land. In such parts of the kingdom, where the lands have not been so highly improved as to produce plenty of wheat, barley, oatmeal, or maalin bread is still in common use.

It appears then that the economy of eating inferior bread is, in the present state of things, at least very questionable. But, were it otherwise, a change in this respect is scarcely practicable. The corn business is now carried on in a systematical way, from which the dealers will not depart. Formerly the labourer could have corn of different kinds mixed in any proportion, in exchange for his labour, even more readily than he could get money. His wife carried it to the mill, had it ground and dressed, and then brought it home, and baked it for the family. There was no intermediate person except the miller, between the farmer and the consumer, to receive a profit. But now it is out of the course of business for the farmer to retail corn by the bushel to this or that poor man; except in some particular places, as a matter of

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favour, to his own labourers. The great farmer deals in a wholesale way with the miller; the miller with the mealman; and the mealman with the shopkeeper; of which last the poor man buys his flour by the bushel. For neither the miller, nor the mealman, will sell the labourer a less quantity than a *sack* of flour *under* the retail price at shops: and the poor man's pocket will seldom allow of his buying a whole sack at once. Formerly then the wife saved the profits of the mealman and shopkeeper, who now, without adding to the value of the manufacture, do each receive a profit out of the poor man's earnings. It has been asserted by a good judge of these matters, that this is a disadvantage to the poor of at least *ten per cent.* upon this prime necessary of life. (See Mr. Kent's *Hints to Gentlemen of Landed Property*, p. 277.) In short, the poor man buys *every thing* at the highest price; at a higher price than the rich do. He cannot help this; but must submit to the established order. It is not possible for him, nor is it easy for his superiors, to effect a change, where things have gone on for a long time in a certain train.

Upon the whole, labouring people, having neither meat, nor cheese, nor milk, nor beer, in sufficient quantities, eat good bread where every body else eats it. You say, they cannot afford to do this; and you blame their extravagance. But can you, who blame them, give a reason, why they, whose hands have tilled the ground, and sown and reaped the grain, are not as well entitled to eat good bread, as manufacturers? or, as the servants in gentlemen's families? or, as the paupers in houses of industry and parochial work-houses? or, as the felons in your gaols?

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2dly. It is sometimes said that poor people neglect too much the use of potatoes; as potatoes would not only save bread, but, by helping to keep a pig, give them more meat than they can now afford themselves. Though the potatoe is an excellent root, deserving to be brought into general use, yet it seems not likely that the use of it should ever be general in this country. The use of wheat, spreading with improvements in husbandry, will probably supersede it in many places where it is now in request. The potatoe has the advantage in cheapness only: wheat is superior in all other respects. Besides, there are two circumstances which forbid the common people in the richer counties from cultivating potatoes so much as they might otherwise be inclined to do; namely, the want of sufficient garden ground, and the difficulty of procuring milk.

1st. The want of sufficient garden ground. This appears truly strange in a country, where a third part of the land at least lies waste; and where, if every poor family were allowed as much of this waste land as they could, when not otherwise employed, cultivate with the spade and the pick-axe, it would be undoubtedly a great public benefit. Yet such is the fact. In consequence of the law of settlements, it has been, and is, the policy of parishes (in order to ease the rates and check their increase, and also to render labourers entirely dependent on their employers) to destroy cottages, some of which had ground about them. And this destruction has been greatly promoted by the system of engrossing farms. For the engrossing farmer, occupying sometimes half a dozen farms, converts all the farm-houses, except that in which his own family resides, into dwellings for the poor. After taking such part of the garden belonging to each house as he chooses, for his own use,

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he divides the rest, as he had before divided the house, into several portions, allotting to each of his under-tenants about a quarter of a rood of ground, with perhaps an apple-tree or two. The occupier of this scanty bit of ground, desiring some variety in his food, (and variety is known to be wholesome) instead of planting the whole in potatoes, produces from it a little of many things; beans, pease, cabbages, onions, and some potatoes too. He works at it early and late to make it yield him something constantly. And it is hard to say what better use he can possibly put it to.

But, 2dly, If the labouring man has ground enough, as is here and there the case, the want of milk is another impediment to the use of potatoes. Wheaten bread may be eaten alone with pleasure; but potatoes require either meat or milk to make them go down: you cannot make many hearty meals of them with salt and water only. Poor people indeed give them to their children in the greasy water, in which they have boiled their greens and their morsel of bacon: and, blessed be God! children will thrive, if they have but enough of any thing. As to meat, we know very well how little of that they are obliged to content themselves with. Butter-milk is the thing, if they could get it. In Wales and Ireland, (and in some parts of England too) potatoes and butter-milk make one meal a day in most families almost all the year. But taking England in general, butter-milk is too little regarded as an article of diet. The method of churning in the southern counties makes it only fit for swine. Where the method of churning is such as to produce it sweet and good, there a poor family may always either beg or buy a jug of butter-milk; and there too we find potatoes in use. But the use of potatoes must be very limited, where  
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milk cannot be cheaply procured. And, if they were brought into general use, would not this materially affect the interest of the landholder, by lessening the consumption of wheat and other grain? But,

3dly. The topic on which the declaimers against the extravagance of the poor display their eloquence with most success, is *tea-drinking*. Why should such people, it is asked, indulge in a luxury which is only proper for their betters; and not rather content themselves with milk, which is in every form wholesome and nourishing? Were it true that poor people could every where procure so excellent an article as milk, there would be then just reason to reproach them for giving the preference to the miserable infusion of which they are so fond. But it is not so. Wherever the poor can get milk, do they not gladly use it? And where they cannot get it, would they not gladly exchange their tea for it? The truth is, that very few labouring people can afford to purchase a cow; for a cow would cost the earnings of almost half a year. But, were they able to purchase one, where could they find pasture for her? The commons are so covered with the rich farmer's herds and flocks, that the poor man's cow would soon be starved there. And the little ground about their cottages is barely sufficient for garden stuff. They cannot therefore produce milk for themselves. And as to buying milk, it is not to be had in many places for love or money. In such places as are within reach of the capital and other great towns, (and the influence of these now extends a vast way) the farmers find the most profitable use of a cow to be *suckling*, in order to supply the markets with veal. Besides, it is an observation of Mr. Kent, (see *Hints to Gentlemen, &c.*) that there are thousands of parishes, which, since little farms have been swallowed up in greater, do not support so many cows as they  
they

they did by fifty or sixty in a parish. And thus the poor are very much at a loss for due supplies of milk.

Is there any thing else that they can substitute for milk? Time was when *small beer* was reckoned one of the necessaries of life, even in poor families: and it seems to have been designed by Providence for the common drink of the people of this country, being deemed a preservative against some of its worst diseases. Were the poor able to afford themselves this wholesome beverage, it would well enough compensate for the scarcity of milk. But, on account of the dearth of *malt*, which is, most unfortunately for them, a principal subject of taxation, small beer has been these many years far beyond their ability to use in common.

Under these hard circumstances, the dearth of malt, and the difficulty of procuring milk, the only thing remaining for them to moisten their bread with, was *tea*. This was their last resource. Tea (with bread) furnishes one meal for a whole family every day, at no greater expence than about one shilling a week at an average. If any body will point out an article that is cheaper and better, I will venture to answer for the poor in general, that they will be thankful for the discovery.

It was asserted in\* a work of reputation, many years ago, that as much superfluous money was then expended upon tea, sugar, &c. as would, upon a moderate calculation, maintain four millions more of subjects in bread. (Harte's *Essays*, p. 166.) It is not sufficiently clear upon what grounds this calculation was made; but it seems to have been made upon pretty good grounds. Certain it is that the consumption of these articles has increased prodigiously since that time. In the  
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higher and middling ranks it is very great; and in manufacturing families, living in towns, it is considerable. But, though the use of tea is more common than could be wished, it is not yet general among the labouring poor: and if we have regard to numbers, *their* share of the consumption is comparatively small; especially if we reckon the *value* in money.

Still you exclaim, *Tea is a luxury*. If you mean fine hyson tea, sweetened with refined sugar, and softened with cream, I readily admit it to be so. But *this* is not the tea of the poor. Spring water, just coloured with a few leaves of the lowest-priced tea, and sweetened with the brownest sugar, is the luxury for which you reproach them. To this they have recourse from mere necessity: and were they now to be deprived of this, they would immediately be reduced to bread and water. Tea-drinking is not the cause, but the consequence, of the distresses of the poor.

After all, it appears a very strange thing, that the common people of any European nation should be obliged to use, as a part of their daily diet, two articles imported from opposite sides of the earth. But if high taxes, in consequence of expensive wars, and the changes which time insensibly makes in the circumstances of countries, have debarred the poorer inhabitants of this kingdom the use of such things as are the natural products of the soil, and forced them to recur to those of foreign growth; surely this is not *their* fault. I have no pleasure, however, in defending this practice of tea-drinking among the lower people; because I know it is made the occasion of much idle gossiping among the women; and also because the money thus expended, though far from sufficient to supply a family with beer, would yet go some way towards it.

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In fine; this charge of mismanagement made against labouring people, seems to rest upon no solid ground. For a long time past their condition has been going from bad to worse continually. Small indeed is the portion of worldly comforts now left them. Instead therefore of grudging them so small an enjoyment as a morsel of good bread with their miserable tea; instead of attempting to shew how it may yet be possible for them to live *worse* than they do; it well becomes the wisdom and humanity of the present age to devise means how they may be better accommodated. Give to some the ability to keep a cow; and then all will have milk. Give to all the ability to drink small beer at home; and then few will frequent alehouses. He that can procure for them these two benefits, nay, he that can procure for them *one* of these two, will receive the blessing of the grateful poor, and deserve the applause of all good men.



PART

## PART THE SECOND.

THE  
PRINCIPAL CAUSES  
OF THE  
Growing Distress and Number of the Poor,  
AND OF THE  
CONSEQUENT INCREASE  
OF  
THE POOR-RATE.

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## PART II.

## SECTION I.

A VIEW OF THE PROGRESSIVE ADVANCE OF THE  
POOR-RATE.

IT appears from the foregoing accounts and observations, that both the distresses and the numbers of the dependent poor have been increasing rapidly together in the latter half of the present century. And this fact will explain, generally, that vast augmentation of the poor-rate which has taken place within the same space of time. But it is proper, now, to note more particularly the several circumstances which have conspired to bring things into this situation. In doing this, we may perhaps discover what measures ought to be adopted, on the return of peace, for remedying the evils complained of. But as few persons seem to have a distinct notion of the celerity with which the poor-rate has of late advanced, the following view of its progress, though not accurate, may be acceptable to many.

The first general assessment made for the poor was in the 14th of *Q. Elizabeth*, anno 1572: see *Burn's Hist. of P. Laws*, p. 74. It does not appear what the amount was at that time: but from the complaints then made of the burdensemens of the poor, and the endeavours used in preceding reigns to check their growing number, I guess  
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it might be about 200,000. I have accordingly begun the following table with *this* sum.

*A Table, shewing the Amount of the Poor-Rate in different years, its Increase in the Intervals, and its progressive Annual Increase.*

| Year. |                                                                                                                                                                         | Amount of the Poor-Rate. | Inter-val. | Increase in the Interval. | Annual Increase. |
|-------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|------------|---------------------------|------------------|
|       |                                                                                                                                                                         | £.                       |            | £.                        | £.               |
| 1572  | Supposed amount - - - - -                                                                                                                                               | 200,000                  |            |                           |                  |
| 1685  | At the close of the reign of Charles II. the amount, according to <i>Davenant</i> , was - - - - -                                                                       | 665,362                  | 113        | 465,362                   | 4,118            |
| 1753  | <i>H. Fielding</i> , in his Proposal for making an effectual Provision for the Poor, &c. printed this year, (see <i>Burn's H. P. L.</i> p. 196) reckons it at - - - - - | 1,000,000                | 68         | 334,638                   | 4,921            |
| 1776  | According to the returns made to Parliament by the Overseers of the Poor, the medium annual expence of 3 years, ended at Easter 1776, was net money paid to poor - -    | 1,529,780                | 23         | 529,780                   | 23,034           |
| 1785  | According to the like returns, the medium expence of 3 years, ended at Easter 1785, was* - - -                                                                          | 2,004,238                | 9          | 474,458                   | 52,719           |

This table exhibits an amazing acceleration of the rate between the years 1753 and 1785, and thereby suggests what was undoubtedly the

\* This was exclusive of the charitable donations, the annual amount of which appears, by the returns then made by the clergy, to be 258,711l.

chief

chief though not the sole cause of that acceleration. For it must be ascribed to the quick and powerful operation of events which happened in that interval. And what could those events be, but the two expensive wars in which this nation was involved; and which occasioned such a number of new taxes to be imposed on necessaries as well as luxuries? Notwithstanding this, the progress of luxury in the same period was extremely rapid, and must have contributed greatly to the advancement of the prices of all things. With these two grand causes, many inferior circumstances have co-operated in producing the effect in question.

In the three following sections I shall consider, 1st, Those circumstances which have enhanced directly the *prices* of necessaries, and by consequence increased the *number* of dependent poor, thereby *doubly* augmenting the rate. 2dly, I shall mention such as have augmented the rate by *only* increasing the number of the poor. And, *lastly*, I shall note briefly such prevailing neglects and abuses on the part of overseers of the poor, as have caused a considerable direct augmentation of the rate itself.



## SECTION II.

THE PRINCIPAL CAUSES WHICH HAVE ENHANCED THE NECESSARIES OF LIFE, AND BY CONSEQUENCE INCREASED THE NUMBER OF THE POOR, THEREBY DOUBLY AUGMENTING THE RATE.

I. THAT the NEW TAXES have had a great influence in raising prices, may be fairly inferred from the following sketch, shewing the progress of the Public Revenue, of the National Debt and its Interest, and of the Poor-Rate.

| Year. | Revenue.   | National Debt. | Inter. of N. Debt. | Poor-Rate. |
|-------|------------|----------------|--------------------|------------|
| 1685  | 2,061,856  |                |                    | 665,362    |
| 1703  | 5,561,944  | 16,394,702     | 1,310,942          | 700,000    |
| 1753  | 6,690,000  | 74,571,840     | 2,396,717          | 1,000,000  |
| 1775  | 10,000,000 | 135,943,051    | 4,440,821          | 1,529,780  |
| 1786  | 14,405,702 | 239,154,880    | 9,275,769          | 2,004,238  |

Thus has this nation, in the space of a century, augmented its net revenue from about two millions to near fourteen millions and a half *sterling*. Of this sum near eight millions have been added between the years 1750 and 1786, on account of the debts contracted for carrying on the two last wars. And now (May 1794) the *gross* revenue, or the total of money drawn from the people in taxes, is probably eighteen millions. If therefore we consider the unavoidable effect of taxes in raising prices, we cannot doubt but that the rapid progress of the Poor-Rate from one million to two, in the same space of time, must have been very much owing to *their* accumulation. For it is an unquestionable truth, that

that a tax imposed on any *one* article of general consumption, raises the price not only of the article taxed, but of *all* other articles also. We may be sure, therefore, that the numerous taxes, which have been laid on the nation since the year 1750, have caused a prodigious advance in the prices of all the necessaries of life. And the *experience* of every person, who was a housekeeper then, and is a housekeeper still, will furnish abundant evidence of this fact.

2. LUXURY *attends wealth*. The influx of wealth into this kingdom has for many years been prodigious. And the diffusion of this wealth through the higher and middling ranks has tempted them all into very expensive habits of living. *Luxury* raises the prices of the most necessary articles, by *wasting* on a few what would suffice for the maintenance of many.

It is pretended that moderate luxury is salutary, because it promotes industry and population, by creating employment. But how is luxury to be confined within moderate limits? Is not its progress usually rapid; and does it not soon become excessive? And what is the effect produced by it then? By rendering subsistence dear, it first produces distress, and afterwards depopulation. Many, dreading the expence of a family, avoid marriage; and many emigrate to cheaper countries.

But it is needless to dwell on the bad effects of luxury in general. The following particulars deserve notice, as having contributed materially to raise the price of provisions.

1st. *The greater and more general consumption of Butcher's Meat among us*. Queen Elizabeth, to keep the price low for the poor, issued proclamations against eating flesh in Lent and on fish-days; but every body now eats meat at all times without scruple. In great families the luxury of

of the table wastes vast quantities of flesh-meat in soups and fauces. " And many ranks of people, whose ordinary diet was in the last century prepared almost entirely from milk, roots, and vegetables, now require every day a considerable portion of the flesh of animals. " Hence a great part of the richest lands of the country are converted to pasturage. Much also of the bread-corn, which went directly to the nourishment of human bodies, now only contribute to it by fattening the flesh of sheep and oxen. The mass and volume of provisions are hereby diminished." (See Mr. Dean Paley's *M. Phil.* vol. ii. p. 360, 8vo. ed.) It is manifest that this continually-growing demand for animal food must continually have enhanced the price, not only of butcher's meat, but also of corn and all other necessaries.

2dly. *The great increase in the number of Horses throughout the kingdom.* It was supposed many years ago, by competent judges, that more of our land was then appropriated to the maintenance of horses than of men. It is certain that a vast addition has been made to the number since. Suppose an addition of 200,000 to have taken place in the last forty or fifty years. Many thousand acres of our best land must now be employed in producing food for these additional horses, which would otherwise be employed in producing food for man. And since the maintenance of a horse costs as much as the maintenance of a labouring family does, these additional horses may be said to devour the subsistence of 200,000 families.

3dly. The following circumstances have also operated considerably to the diminution of the quantity of land in tillage. 1st. *The increased number of gentlemen-farmers;* who are in general fond of grass-farms, as requiring the least trouble; and the produce of these is frequently consumed

by the cattle kept on them. 2dly. Husbandry has sustained a loss by the conversion of many thousand acres of good land, arable and pasture, into *roads, canals, parks, and pleasure-grounds.*

4thly. *The Distillation of Wheat:*—a wicked abuse of the greatest blessing that Providence has bestowed on our country. For this process converts a considerable quantity of that most valuable article of human subsistence into a superfluous and pernicious liquor. If only 100,000 quarters of wheat are thus wantonly destroyed in a year, this is the same thing as destroying the bread of the same number of individuals; that is, of 20,000 families. I know no reason why this abuse should be tolerated, except that it contributes something to the excise. It ought surely to be prohibited.

5thly. *Wheaten Bread has been constantly growing more and more into general use among the lower classes of people.* This is their luxury. The increased demand for it has undoubtedly been owing, in a great measure to their inability to buy meat; the want of which they supply with bread of a better quality. For the same money, that will only purchase one pound of raw meat with its proportion of bone, will purchase about three pounds of wheaten bread. But this quantity of bread will go at least twice as far as one pound of meat. It is obvious, that this increased demand for wheaten bread must have raised the price of bread-corn, unless the quantity annually produced has increased proportionably along with it; which there is good reason to believe has not been the case.\*

\* In the Representation of the Lords of the Committee of Council on Corn, (printed for Stockdale, 1790) it is stated, that on an average of 19 years, ending in 1765, the corn exported from this country produced a clear profit of not less than 651,000l. but that on an average of 18 years, ending in 1788, we have paid to foreigners for a supply of corn no less than 291,000l. which makes an annual difference to this country of 942,000l.

Thus wherever *taxes* and *luxury* go on continually increasing together, for a series of years, their combined effect in raising prices (unassisted by other causes) must soon come to be severely felt by the inferior classes of people.

III. DEPRECIATION OF MONEY. By this term I mean simply that decrease in the value of money, which has gradually taken place throughout Europe, in consequence of the greater plenty of it now than formerly. For since the discovery of *America*, many thousand tons of the precious metals have been imported from thence into Europe; and the greater abundance of them has caused their value to sink gradually in this quarter of the world. The effects of this depreciation appear, 1st. in the higher prices of all things; and 2dly, in the lower interest of money. In this kingdom in particular the change in these respects has been considerable, as is well known to those who have attended to these matters. And without doubt this depreciation has been going on during the present century, as well as before.

It is probable, too, that the emission of so much *paper* by banking companies, in almost every great town, has, besides promoting luxury, contributed to *overload* the circulation, and to lower the value of money. These banking companies, coining their credit into this sort of cash, have *forced* a great deal of it upon the publick, thereby banishing not only *specie*, but even the notes of the Bank of England, from their respective neighbourhoods. While this paper passes as money, it is in effect the same thing as so much coin issued out of the mint, only that *it has no intrinsic value*. The use of it may be convenient; but it is evidently attended with much danger.

IV. The

IV. The price of *wheat* (and indeed of every species of grain) has been of late years uniformly higher than it was about the middle of the present century. Whatever circumstances have had a share in producing this effect, the same have an especial claim to our notice. For of nothing are the lower people so apt to complain, as of the dearth of bread. And not without reason. For since, from the excessive dearth of provisions in general, they are reduced to subsist almost entirely on bread; when bread is dear too, their case becomes truly deplorable. They know that the crops have for many years past been apparently plentiful, and yet they experience no *permanent* fall of price. They conclude that large quantities of corn are carried out of the kingdom; and, attributing the dearth of bread to this circumstance, they sometimes proceed to vent their indignation in a riotous manner.

But, as violence commonly increases the evils which it wishes to remedy; so is it obviously mischievous in this particular case. It is therefore of consequence that all people should think rightly on this subject. The observations already made will abundantly account for the advanced price of this chief necessary of life. To which may perhaps be added the *bounties allowed on the exportation of grain*. But, with respect to the influence which *taxes* and *bounties* have on the price of grain, I am desirous of citing here the opinions of two esteemed writers.

*Mr. Soame Jenyns* observes, "No tax is immediately laid upon corn, but the price of it must necessarily be advanced; because, out of that all the innumerable taxes paid by the farmer on windows, soap, candles, malt, hops, leather, salt, and a thousand others, must be repaid; so that corn is as effectually taxed, as if a duty by the bushel had been primarily laid upon it." And *Dr. Smith*, in his celebrated work *On the Wealth*



*of Nations*, has shewn that a bounty granted on exported grain (besides being itself a direct tax on the publick) must necessarily operate *as a tax* on all remaining within the kingdom, and of course enhance the price of this and of all other articles to the consumer.

If these authors argue justly, as they appear to do, we are not to expect, under the existing circumstances of the nation, any *permanent fall* in the price of grain. The present war will unavoidably increase the taxes. And a late Act of Parliament has continued the bounties with some little variations. It is therefore more likely that the price of corn will still go on advancing, unless effectual measures are speedily taken for promoting tillage, and perhaps checking pasturage, so as to render the annual produce of grain at least adequate to the annual consumption.

Without doubt *a high price* is the greatest encouragement to the farmer to raise plenty of corn; and therefore no undue means should be taken to keep the price of it from advancing with that of other things. But, on the other hand, it seems absurd to grant bounties for encouraging the exportation of what we cannot spare. [See the last note.] And let it never be forgotten that the labourer ought to be enabled to subsist his family; and consequently that *his pay* should be made to keep pace with the general advance in the prices of necessaries, of which wheat is now the principal article.

## SECTION

## SECTION III.

CIRCUMSTANCES WHICH HAVE DIRECTLY INCREASED THE  
NUMBER OF THE DEPENDENT POOR, AND BY CONSEQUENCE  
THE AMOUNT OF THE RATE.

I. *OUR progressive population must have added to the Number of dependent poor*:—1st. *Directly*, the history of the poor laws shewing that an increase of population has been always accompanied in this country by an increased number of poor:—And, 2dly, It has perhaps added to it *indirectly* also, by increasing the demand for necessaries, and thereby causing an advance in their price; which of course has forced more and more persons to come for aid to their parishes.

But it has been a matter of controversy between very able and learned men, whether an increase or a decrease of people has been going on in this country during the present century? And the advocates for each side of the question have supported their respective opinions by plausible arguments. The publick, however, seem to have decided in favour of an increased population: and that apparently on reasonable grounds.

For, 1st, though we should admit, what the late *Dr. Price* contended for, that a decrease has actually taken place of the total number of *houses* in the kingdom; yet it is an undoubted fact, that a great many *farm-houses* in the hands of engrossing farmers, each of which was formerly occupied by *one* farming family only, are now divided into *two*, *three*, and even *four* separate dwellings for labouring families. The like happens where cottages are suffered to fall into decay, and no new ones

ones are built: several families are forced to lodge together in one poor cottage. And therefore a *small* decrease in the number of houses does not necessarily imply *any* decrease in the number of families. 2dly. That the decrease in the number of houses (if any) is *but* small, appears probable from a comparison of the number of chargeable houses, given in by the surveyors of the house and window duties, for certain parishes and districts, with the total of houses found by enumeration in the same places. [See the publications of Mr. Wales and Mr. Howlett on this head.] 3dly. The evidence produced from parish registers by the two gentlemen just mentioned, seems, notwithstanding the objections made against it, to afford a *presumptive* proof that our population has advanced in the course of the present century. And, 4thly, Whosoever considers the progressive improvement of our agriculture, manufactures, commerce, and shipping, during this period (as exhibited by Mr. Chalmers in his *Comparative Estimate*) can scarcely forbear concluding, that it has been *really* accompanied by a like improvement of our population also.

II. *Increased number of Manufacturers.* Whatever opinion we may adopt as to the general population of the kingdom, all will acknowledge that *this* class of people is multiplied exceedingly. And depending upon their employers for their daily subsistence, they are in much the same situation with reduced farmers and impoverished labourers; that is, they are very liable to come to want. The caprice of fashion causes by fits and starts a great demand for one species of goods, and a cessation of demand for another: and thus workmen, who to-day are fully employed, may be to-morrow in the streets begging their bread. By living in towns, and associating at publick-houses, they are habitually improvident,

improvident, and mind nothing but present enjoyment; and when flung out of work, they are immediately in want. They are also, from their sedentary occupations and habitual intemperance, more short-lived than day-labourers; and leaving families behind them unable wholly to maintain themselves, these, as the men die off, fall on their parishes. All this will account for the misery visible in manufacturing towns, in most of which the poor are numerous, and the rates higher than in other places. Manufacturers enjoy, however, one advantage over day-labourers, though they seldom make a right use of it. Several manufactories employ women and children, as well as men: and wherever this is the case, these families might earn a great deal more money, and live better, than labouring families do; but by contracting early the vices of towns, they commonly mis-spend those earnings, which, if used with frugality, would render their condition comfortable and themselves happy.

III. *The practice of enlarging and engrossing of farms, and especially that of depriving the peasantry of all landed property, have contributed greatly to increase the number of dependent poor.*

1st. The *land-owner*, to render his income adequate to the increased expence of living, unites several small farms into one, raises the rent to the utmost, and avoids the expence of repairs. The rich farmer also engrosses as many farms as he is able to stock; lives in more credit and comfort than he could otherwise do; and out of the profits of *several farms*, makes an ample provision for *one family*. Thus thousands of families, which formerly gained an independent livelihood on those separate farms, have been gradually reduced to the class of day-labourers. But day-labourers are sometimes in want of work, and are some-  
times



times unable to work; and in either case their sole resource is the parish. It is a fact, that thousands of parishes have not now half the number of farmers which they had formerly. And in proportion as the number of farming families has decreased, the number of poor families has increased.

2dly. The depriving the peasantry of all landed property has beggared multitudes. It is plainly agreeable to sound policy, that as many individuals as possible in a state should possess an interest in the soil; because this attaches them strongly to the country and its constitution, and makes them zealous and resolute in defending them. But the gentry of this kingdom seem to have lost sight of this wise and salutary policy. Instead of giving to labouring people a valuable stake in the soil, the opposite measure has so long prevailed, that but few cottages, comparatively, have now any land about them. Formerly many of the lower sort of people occupied tenements of their own, with parcels of land about them, or they rented such of others. On these they raised for themselves a considerable part of their subsistence, without being obliged, as now, to buy all they want at shops. And this kept numbers from coming to the parish. But since those small parcels of ground have been swallowed up in the contiguous farms and inclosures, and the cottages themselves have been pulled down; the families which used to occupy them are crowded together in decayed farm-houses, with hardly ground enough about them for a cabbage garden: and being thus reduced to be mere hirelings, they are of course very liable to come to want. And not only the *men* occupying those tenements, but *their wives and children* too, could formerly, when they wanted work abroad, employ themselves profitably at home; whereas now, few of *these* are constantly employed,

employed, except in harvest; so that almost the whole burden of providing for their families rests upon the *men*. Add to this, that the former occupiers of small farms and tenements, though poor themselves, gave away something in alms to their poorer neighbours; a resource which is now much diminished.

Thus an amazing number of people have been reduced from a comfortable state of partial independence to the precarious condition of hirelings, who, when out of work, must immediately come to their parish. And the great plenty of working hands always to be had when wanted, having kept down the price of labour below its proper level, the consequence is universally felt in the increased number of dependent poor.

IV. *The Desertion of the Country by the rich Families during the greater Part of the Year has increased the Number of the Poor.*—Formerly, when the gentry resided constantly on their estates, the crumbs from their tables fed many families; their humanity comforted and relieved the poor under sickness and misfortune; and their influence and authority secured them from oppression and injustice. But of late, by the non-residence of the rich, the poor have lost that valuable support which they used to receive. When (as is too commonly the case) families of moderate fortunes have expended two-thirds of their income, in winter, upon the amusements and accomplishments in vogue in the capital; and have also dissipated a considerable part of the remainder at bathing and water-drinking places during some of the summer months; they have afterwards but little power to exercise hospitality, employ the industrious, and relieve the sick and needy, on their return to their mansions. And thus numbers of poor families are come to

want parochial assistance, which, but for this change in the manners of the rich, might have made shift without it. This new mode of life has been the fruitful source of numerous evils: the worst of which perhaps is, that it has spread the vices of the capital over the whole kingdom, and infected even farm-houses and cottages.

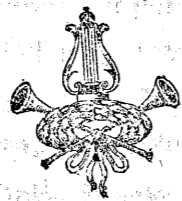
V. *The Improvidence of the Lower Sort of People brings multitudes of them very early to Poverty and Want.*—This carelessness about the future seems to have increased in proportion as the shame of applying for parish-relief has worn off. Few of them, strictly speaking, take any thought for the morrow. Seldom do we see any of them making provision for marriage, sickness, or old age; much less for the relief of infirm parents, or poor relations. Formerly it was not uncommon for young men and women to save in service twenty or thirty pounds in money, besides furnishing themselves with a decent stock of clothes, &c. But now young people are so unfrugal, that few of them have a decent suit to appear in even when they come to be married. And as for money, what in time past was wont to be laid by against a wet day, is all now thoughtlessly spent by the men in drink, and by the women in frippery. “What signifies saving?” say they; “is not the parish obliged to maintain us, when we come to want?” Though they see continually sad instances of coming to the parish, yet have they not the sense to ask themselves this short question, How shall I like to be reduced to this abject condition? The consequence of this inconsiderateness is, that, when married, they come soon to feel very severely the effects of that poverty, which, when single, they took no care to prevent. It is indeed some excuse for them, that the number of farmers being so much decreased, there are not now so many

many opportunities, as formerly, for putting out young persons servants in those families where these savings were chiefly made. Add to this, that these people having contracted the ruinous habit of frequenting ale-houses, seldom can they resolve to forsake it. A great part of their earnings received on Saturday night, is squandered away there on *Sunday*. The wife and children are abandoned to hunger and nakedness, or are left to supply their necessities as well as they can by following profligate courses!

VI. *Ale-houses* have undoubtedly brought many families to want, infamy, and ruin.—As the improvidence of the people encourages these houses, so do these houses encourage that improvidence. Ale-houses would not be so common as they are, if the keepers of them did not find their account in the improvidence of the people: nor would the people be so improvident as they are, if ale-houses did not every where tempt them to drown their senses, and waste their time and money in them. But the loss of sense, time, and money, is not the worst consequence of frequenting these places. There is good reason to believe, that the prevailing corruption of morals in the common people has been very much owing to what is heard, seen, and practised in them. It is in these houses that men, by falling into bad company, get the evil habits of idleness, blasphemy, and drunkenness; which prepare them for the worst crimes. The love of strong drink acquired here drives numbers upon unlawful ways of making money: among which, from the high request that *game* is held in, and from the little risk attending the trade, *poaching* is very generally followed. To be a clever poacher is deemed a reputable accomplishment in the country; and therefore parents take care to instruct their children betimes in this

this art; which brings them on gradually and regularly to pilfering and stealing. For poachers, in prowling about at night, if they miss of game, properly so called, are sometimes suspected of seizing on their neighbours' poultry, and such other things as they can find a vent for. By following these works of darkness, the loss of sleep and excessive drinking in time ruin their health. They get agues and other disorders, which disqualify them from either working or poaching; and then they and their families come on the parish. Every public-house, which is not absolutely necessary, is certainly a nuisance, and ought to be suppressed.

To the several causes and circumstances pointed out in this and the preceding section, we must, I apprehend, ascribe it, that multitudes of families, which about the middle of this century could with difficulty subsist without *any* help, do now require *some* help; and that multitudes of others, which then could not subsist without *some* help, do now require *more* help.



## SECTION IV.

TO THE FOREGOING CIRCUMSTANCES I WILL HERE ADD  
A FEW OTHERS, WHICH HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO INCREASE THE  
AMOUNT OF THE POOR-RATE DIRECTLY.

1st. *THE Negligence of Parishes in setting their Poor to work.*—If constant employment were found for the wives and children of labouring men, as well as for the men themselves, the benefit public and private thence resulting would be great. But from want of attention to this particular, the long winter evenings, and many intervals of spare time, are now wholly lost or mispent in most places. Many of the poor are extremely ignorant: having in youth been taught nothing but the common drudgery of the country within doors and without, they have afterwards no aptitude or inclination to learn any art whereby to earn a penny. Knitting and spinning are well calculated to fill up spare time; but from the incapacity of mothers to teach their children, these easy arts are now become quite unfashionable, even in cottages. Parishes are averse to the purchasing of wool, flax, and other materials and tools for their poor to work upon, both on account of the first expence, and also of the hazard of having goods left on their hands unfit for sale. And the overseers of the poor, having commonly business enough of their own to mind, (especially in country places, since farms have been so much engrossed) either

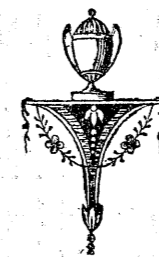
either cannot, or will not, give the time and attention necessary to the educating of the poor, and enforcing industry among them.—When the number of the poor was comparatively small, this neglect in setting them to work might perhaps be of little consequence: but now that their number is so prodigiously increased, it is become, evidently, a matter of very serious concern.

2dly. *Workhouses* (contrary to what might have been expected) *have, in most places where they have been set up, increased the expence of maintaining the poor.*—It appears by the preceding accounts [see *Part I. Obser. 10.*] that labouring families can maintain themselves at their own houses, and pay house-rent and every other necessary expence, for the small sum of five pounds four shillings *per head*. But by the accounts of several workhouses it appears that the poor in them cannot be clothed and kept for less than seven pounds sixteen shillings each, adults and children at an average. [See *Mr. Zouch's Remarks*, p. 55.]—If to this we add the *other* expences of a workhouse, we may well reckon the whole at nine or ten pounds *per head*.—Experience has shewn, that but little work is done in these houses, and that what is done, is so ill-executed, that the goods are scarcely saleable. For proof of this, and also of their ill effects on the *health and morals* of their inhabitants, see *the Treats of Messrs. Zouch, Townsend, Howlett, and M'Farlan, relative to the Poor.*

3dly. *The frauds and abuses, committed both by the poor and their overseers, have augmented the rate.*—In populous parishes, where applications for relief are numerous, some undeferving persons will of course ask assistance; and it is scarcely possible but that the overseers, though honest men, must, from not knowing precisely every one's  
circum-

circumstances, and for want of time to examine narrowly into them, be sometimes imposed upon.—In great parishes too, where the poor-rates amount to many hundred pounds a year, overseers of less scrupulous consciences have frequent opportunities of abusing their trust, and sometimes most iniquitously avail themselves of them, either by embezzling the public money, or by partial indulgence to favourites.

It may be reasonably supposed, that these circumstances, jointly, have contributed in some degree to the augmentation of the poor-rate.



SECTION V.

A COMPARISON OF THE PRICES OF WHEAT AND OF MALT PER QUARTER AT WINDSOR MARKET, AT THREE DIFFERENT PERIODS OF THE PRESENT CENTURY.

THE Prices in the two former periods were extracted from the *Eton Register*: [See *Traacts on the Corn Trade*, or *Smith's Wealth of Nations*.] The prices in the last period were, at my request, extracted from the books of the Dean and Canons of *Windfor*, by the *Rev. E. Wilson*.

| Year. | First Period. |          | Year. | Second Period. |          | Year. | Third Period. |          |
|-------|---------------|----------|-------|----------------|----------|-------|---------------|----------|
|       | Wheat.        | Malt.    |       | Wheat.         | Malt.    |       | Wheat.        | Malt.    |
|       | £. s. d.      | £. s. d. |       | £. s. d.       | £. s. d. |       | £. s. d.      | £. s. d. |
| 1701  | 2 0 0         | 1 11 4   | 1746  | 1 19 0         | 1 2 4    | 1783  | 3 8 0         | 2 12 0   |
| 1702  | 1 9 6         | 1 8 0    | 1747  | 1 14 10        | 1 2 8    | 1784  | 3 6 0         | 2 13 4   |
| 1703  | 1 16 0        | 1 3 4    | 1748  | 1 17 0         | 1 3 4    | 1785  | 2 16 0        | 2 10 8   |
| 1704  | 2 6 6         | 1 8 0    | 1749  | 1 17 0         | 1 5 4    | 1786  | 2 10 0        | 2 0 0    |
| 1705  | 1 10 0        | 1 6 0    | 1750  | 1 12 6         | 1 5 4    | 1787  | 2 6 0         | 2 8 0    |
| 1706  | 1 6 0         | 1 2 0    | 1751  | 1 18 6         | 1 6 0    | 1788  | 2 17 10       | 2 8 0    |
| 1707  | 1 8 6         | 1 3 4    | 1752  | 2 1 10         | 1 7 4    | 1789  | 3 3 0         | 2 6 0    |
| 1708  | 2 1 6         | 1 8 0    | 1753  | 2 4 8          | 1 7 4    | 1790  | 3 7 2         | 2 6 0    |
| 1709  | 3 18 6        | 1 13 4   | 1754  | 1 14 8         | 1 8 0    | 1791  | 3 0 6         | 2 8 0    |
| 1710  | 3 18 0        | 1 16 0   | 1755  | 1 13 10        | 1 5 4    | 1792  | 2 5 6         | 2 10 0   |
| Aver. | 2 3 5½        | 1 7 11½  | Ave.  | 1 17 4½        | 1 5 3½   | Ave.  | 2 18 0        | 2 8 2½   |

*Observation 1.* The average price of wheat and of malt, respectively, appears to have been a little lower in the second period, than it was in the first. But the price of wheat in the third period is a full *third* higher than it was in the second. And the price of malt in the third period is *almost double* what it was in the second.

*Obs. 2.* The prices of barley, beans, and pease, (for feeding and fattening of animals) have been of late nearly, if not quite, double the prices which the same articles bore respectively about the middle of this century.

A COMPARISON

A COMPARISON OF THE PRICES OF THE COMMON NECESSARIES OF LIFE ABOUT THE MIDDLE OF THIS CENTURY, WITH THE PRICES OF THE SAME FOR SOME YEARS PAST, TO 1794, IN THE COUNTY OF BERKS.

NOTE.—The prices in the former of these periods are given from the information of aged persons of good memories, who have resided all their life-time in or near this parish (*Barkham*.) And for the prices of late, I refer to the common experience of such as have been housekeepers the last seven years.

|                                             | Prices about the Middle of this Century. |       | Prices of late Years to 1794. |       |
|---------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|-------|-------------------------------|-------|
|                                             | From                                     | To    | From                          | To    |
|                                             | s. d.                                    | s. d. | s. d.                         | s. d. |
| Flour per bushel, or 56 lbs. <i>seconds</i> | 3 4                                      | 4 0   | 6 8                           | 8 4   |
| Bread per half-peck loaf                    | 0 7                                      | 0 8   | 0 11                          | 1 2   |
| Bacon per lb. in the flitch                 | 0 4                                      | 0 5   | 0 7                           | 0 8   |
| Bacon per fingle pound                      | 0 5                                      | 0 6   | 0 8                           | 0 9   |
| Beef per score, 20 lb.                      | 2 6                                      | 3 0   | 5 10                          | 6 8   |
| Beef and mutton, per lb.                    | 0 3                                      | 0 3½  | 0 4½                          | 0 5   |
| Pork per lb.                                | 0 3½                                     | 0 4   | 0 4½                          | 0 5   |
| Veal per lb.                                | 0 3½                                     | 0 4   | 0 5                           | 0 6   |
| A sheep's head                              | 0 6                                      | 0 6   | 0 10                          | 1 0   |
| Cheese per 112 lbs. at Reading fair         | 17 0                                     | 21 0  | 40 0                          | 46 0  |
| Cheese per lb. a good sort                  | 0 3                                      | 0 3½  | 0 5½                          | 0 6   |
| Cheese per lb. an inferior sort             | 0 2½                                     | 0 3   | 0 4½                          | 0 5   |
| Malt per bushel                             | 3 0                                      | 3 6   | 5 3                           | 6 6   |
| Fresh butter per lb.                        | 0 5                                      | 0 6   | 0 10                          | 1 0   |
| Salt butter per lb.                         | 0 4                                      | 0 5   | 0 7                           | 0 8   |
| Common soft sugar per lb.                   | 0 3                                      | 0 3   | 0 7                           | 0 8   |
| Soap and candles per lb.                    | 0 5                                      | 0 6   | 0 8½                          | 0 9   |
| A pair of men's stout shoes                 | 4 6                                      | 5 0   | 6 6                           | 7 6   |
| A pair of women's strong shoes              | 2 6                                      | 3 0   | 4 0                           | 4 6   |
| Dowlas for shirting per ell                 | 1 0                                      | 1 0   | 1 4                           | 1 6   |
| Check for aprons                            | 0 0                                      | 1 0   | 1 4                           | 0 0   |
| Stuff for gowns per yard                    | 0 9                                      | 0 9   | 1 0                           | 0 0   |
| A foul-weather coat, ready made for sale    | 11 0                                     | 12 0  | 21 0                          | 24 0  |
| Wool per todd, 28 lbs.                      | 14 0                                     | 15 0  | 25 0                          | 35 0  |

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*Observation.*



*Observation.* It is manifest from inspection, that the *retail* prices of the several articles contained in this list, especially of such as are, or should be, daily used by poor families, have been of late *double*, or *nearly double*, the prices which the same articles bore, respectively, about the middle of the present century.

It is probable that the *proportion* between the prices, shewn by the foregoing statements, will hold with respect to the whole-kingdom. However, (keeping *much* within compafs) we may certainly infer from them, that in the last forty or fifty years the advance has been, *generally*, a full *third* of the present prices.

But, in the same space of time, what advance has taken place in the price of *day-labour*?—*Answer:* The advance has been, in some places, from *five* to *six* shillings, in others from *six* to *seven* shillings, a week; and, in some few places, a little more than this: that is, the advance has been *only* a *sixth* or a *seventh* part of the present price. And even this small advance is apparent, not real: for the additional shilling is not equivalent to certain advantages, which labouring people formerly enjoyed, but of which they have been gradually deprived; such, for instance, as a mess of milk or broth for breakfast; an allowance of small beer; and the like.



SECTION VI.

APPLICATION OF THE CONTENTS OF SECTIONS II. AND III.  
TO ACCOUNT FOR THE LATE AUGMENTATION  
OF THE POOR-RATE.

THE Poor-Rate about the year 1750, according to *H. Fielding*, was  $\text{£}1,000,000$   
 Suppose the prices of provisions and other necessaries to have risen  
 (in consequence of the circumstances mentioned in Section II.)  
*one half* of what they were at that time: this rise (though the  
*number* of poor had remained the same) will account for an  
 addition to the rate, of - - - - -  $\text{£}500,000$   
 Suppose also that in consequence of *that rise*, and of the several cir-  
 cumstances mentioned in Section III, the number of the poor  
 depending on parish relief has in the same time increased *one half*:  
 this increase must have added to the rate,

|                                                 |           |                   |                   |
|-------------------------------------------------|-----------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1. On account of that increased number          | -         | $\text{£}500,000$ |                   |
| 2. On account of the increased expence of their |           |                   |                   |
| maintenance                                     | - - - - - | $\text{£}250,000$ | $\text{£}750,000$ |

Therefore, taking these suppositions together, the amount of the  
 Poor-Rate should be, and probably is, at this present time -  $\text{£}2,250,000$

And if it be supposed farther, that the advance in the prices of provision, &c. has been progressive; and that the increase of the number of dependent poor has gone on progressively along with it; these considerations will sufficiently explain that acceleration of the rate which is shewn in Section I.

\* To this sum may perhaps be added, on account of the circumstances mentioned in Section IV, about  $\text{£}100,000$ .

SECTION VII.

THE RELATIVE PROPORTION BETWEEN LABOUR AND THE NECESSARIES OF LIFE AT DIFFERENT PERIODS.

I Have not thought it necessary to copy here the scanty materials from which the following sketch has been drawn up: they may be found in Bishop *Fleetwood's* Chronicon, Dr. *Burn's* History of the Poor-Laws, and Dr. *Price's* work on Reversionary Payments. Nor do I give this comparison as quite exact; but I think it sufficiently so to prove, that the condition of the day-labourer has been growing worse continually from the middle of the fourteenth century to the present time.

*Middle of Fourteenth Century.*

|                               |       |                                                      |
|-------------------------------|-------|------------------------------------------------------|
| Ordinary price of day-labour, | - - - | 2d.                                                  |
| Price of the quarter of wheat | - - - | 3s. 4d. to 4s.                                       |
| Medium                        | - - - | 3s. 8d.                                              |
| 22 days                       | - =   | a quarter of wheat                                   |
| 20 days                       | - =   | a fat hog, two years old                             |
| 20 days                       | - =   | clothing for a year of a common servant of husbandry |
| 6 days                        | - =   | a quarter of beans or pease                          |
| 5 days                        | - =   | a quarter of barley                                  |
| 2 days                        | - =   | a pair of shoes                                      |
| 1 day                         | - =   | two gallons of ale.                                  |

*Middle*

*Middle of Fifteenth Century.*

|                             |       |                                  |
|-----------------------------|-------|----------------------------------|
| Pay of a labourer per day   | - - - | 3d.                              |
| Price of a quarter of wheat | - - - | 5s. to 5s. 6d.                   |
| 20 to 22 days               | =     | a quarter of wheat               |
| 16 days                     | - =   | a quarter of malt                |
| 16 days                     | - =   | clothing for a year of a servant |
| 8 days                      | - =   | a quarter of oats                |
| 7 days                      | - =   | a fitch of bacon                 |
| 4 days                      | - =   | a yard of cloth for shepherd     |
| 1 day                       | - =   | two to three gallons of ale.     |

*Former Part of Sixteenth Century.*

|                                   |       |                                             |
|-----------------------------------|-------|---------------------------------------------|
| Pay of a labourer per day         | - - - | 3½d.                                        |
| Price of a quarter of wheat about | - - - | 7s. 6d.                                     |
| 26 days                           | - =   | a quarter of wheat                          |
| 13 or 14 days                     | =     | a quarter of malt                           |
| 7 days                            | - =   | a quarter of oats                           |
| 1 day                             | - =   | eight or nine lbs. of beef, pork, veal      |
| 1 day                             | - =   | seven lbs. of cheese = four lbs. of butter. |

*About the Middle of Seventeenth Century.*

In *Essex* the medium pay of a labourer (*rated*) was 13d.  
 Price of wheat (per *Fleetwood's Chronicon*, p. 106,) 40s. and of malt 24s. per quarter, as estimated by the bishop

|         |     |                             |
|---------|-----|-----------------------------|
| 37 days | - = | a quarter of wheat          |
| 22 days | - = | a quarter of malt           |
| 7 days  | - = | a quarter of oats           |
| 4½ days | - = | two shirts for a man, made. |

*Latter*

*Latter Part of Eighteenth Century.*

|                             |              |                                                         |
|-----------------------------|--------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| Pay of a labourer per day   | - - -        | 14d.                                                    |
| Price of a quarter of wheat | 48s.—of malt | 42s. 6d.                                                |
| 41 days                     | - - =        | a quarter of wheat                                      |
| 36 $\frac{1}{2}$ days       | - - =        | a quarter of malt                                       |
| 96 days                     | - - =        | a fat hog, fourteen score, at 8s. per score             |
| 27 or 28 days               | - =          | a quarter of beans or pease                             |
| 20 or 21 days               | - =          | a quarter of barley                                     |
| 41 days                     | - - =        | a flitch of bacon, six score, at 8s.                    |
| 9 days                      | - - =        | a yard of cloth for servants                            |
| 6 days                      | - - =        | a pair of men's shoes                                   |
| 1 day                       | - - =        | less than a gallon of ale                               |
| 1 day                       | - - =        | three lbs. ordinary cheese = 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. butter |
| 40 days                     | - - =        | clothing for a year of a common servant of husbandry.   |

I cannot forbear adding here, the following just and striking observation by Dr. Price. [See *Rev. Paym.* vol. ii. p. 273.]

“The *nominal* price of day-labour is at present no more than about four times, or at most five times higher than it was in 1514. But the price of corn is seven times, and of flesh meat and raiment about fifteen times higher. So far therefore has the price of labour been from advancing in proportion to the increase in the expences of living, that it does not appear that it bears now *half* the proportion to those expences that it did bear formerly.”

PART

## PART THE THIRD.

## MEANS OF RELIEF

## PROPOSED.

## PART III.

## INTRODUCTION.

HAVING endeavoured in the preceding part to trace the Distresses and Vices of the Poor to the sources in which they have originated, I come now in the last place to examine, *What are the proper means of removing those Distresses, and curing those Vices?*—This is a question, which, as Sir *Josiah Child* long ago remarked, “deserves the most deliberate consideration of our wisest counsellors: and if a whole Session of Parliament were employed upon this singular concern, “I think,” says he, “it would be time spent as much to the glory of God, and good of this Nation, as in any thing that noble and worthy patriots can be engaged in.”

Since he wrote, many very able men have employed their thoughts on this subject without much success; which is, at once, a discouraging reflection to an enquirer of inferior judgment, and an argument that the question itself is of difficult solution. But though the sagacity of no one individual may be equal to so arduous a task, yet I am persuaded, that the collective wisdom of the legislature, assisted by all the private information to be had in this country, may soon effect what has been so long wished for.

Regarding our code of poor-laws as the Charter of the Poor, now well known and understood from the variety of cases adjudged, and

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therefore

therefore too sacred to be rashly tampered with; and being also aware of the dangerous consequences always to be apprehended from great changes and innovations in matters which concern the body of the people; I shall endeavour in the sequel, keeping these considerations constantly in view, to speak of such measures only as have a tendency to improve the condition and morals of the poor, with the smallest alterations possible of the existing laws.

In forming new regulations, then, for the benefit of labouring families, the following appear to be the principal objects to which we should direct our attention:

I. A reduction of the prices of certain necessary articles, as soon as this shall be practicable.

II. Providing *additional* employment for men and boys in winter, that they may lose no time at that season when they are usually most distressed.

III. Providing *constant* employment for women and girls, to enable them to earn more than they commonly do.

IV. Correcting the improvidence of the lower people, and encouraging frugality among them.

V. Rating the wages of labourers according to the Statute 5 Eliz. cap. 4;—or,

VI. Regulating the price of day-labour by the price of bread, during the winter half year.

VII. Making a specific provision out of the poor-rate for such families as have more than three children unable to work.

SECTION

## SECTION I.

*A Reduction of the Prices of the Necessaries of Life*, were it practicable, would be an effectual measure for relieving the poor. But it is to be feared, that in the present circumstances of the nation, little or nothing can be done to ease them in this way. For the prices of necessaries having risen unavoidably in consequence of taxes, luxury, and other causes, this measure implies such a reduction of taxes, and such a restriction of luxury, as are at this time evidently impracticable.

1st. With regard to the taxes. The whole of the revenue being necessary, either for sinking the principal and paying the interest of the national debt, or for carrying on the government and maintaining the dignity of the kingdom, it is in vain to expect that any speedy reduction should take place, since neither of these objects can be dispensed with. Nay, if our resources would admit of it, it is much to be wished that another million could be added, without farther distressing the lower classes, to the *sinking fund* already provided, in order to accelerate its operation. For though the sinking fund already provided will, if suffered to operate without interruption, certainly produce the effect expected from it in the long run; yet it operates so slowly at first as to create a prejudice against it in the minds of men ignorant of its powers, especially when they reflect that posterity, not themselves, are

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to be benefited by this plan. It seems, therefore, that the prices of necessaries, so far as they have been enhanced by taxes, can no otherwise be lowered, than by transferring some of the heaviest of these, at least in part, from the necessaries of life daily used by the common people, to the luxuries consumed by the higher ranks only.

2dly. This supposed transfer of taxes, if made, would also tend to restrain luxury, and to prevent the waste occasioned by it. But the misfortune is, that, if carried far enough to give relief to the poor, it might restrain luxury too much: for we must never forget that luxury feeds the revenue, the vast improvement of which, under the present administration, has been chiefly owing to the diffusion of it. Our circumstances require that luxury should be gently treated. And of course such a transfer of taxes can hardly be sufficiently extensive to produce any great beneficial effect to the poor, by diminishing the prices of the necessaries of life.

Some daring spirits have talked, very rashly, of wiping out the National Debt with a *sponge*, and so getting rid at once of half our taxes: and they would fain palliate this measure by comparing it to that of lopping off a limb in order to save life. But *first*, the probable consequences of so iniquitous an act, which must ruin thousands of innocent persons, will doubtless prevent its being ever seriously proposed; or, if proposed, will influence the legislature and all good men indignantly to spurn the attempt. And were it practicable to carry this project into execution without overturning the government, which may well be questioned, it is likely, that such a *sudden* annihilation of taxes, instead of contributing to the relief of the inferior classes, would be followed by a more rapid increase of luxury in the higher

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higher than we have yet seen; which would farther augment the prices of all things. *Secondly*, Though the National Debt has created many heavy taxes, severely felt by the middle and lower classes of people; yet is the nation still able to bear the burden, and actually does bear it without much discontent. There is therefore no absolute necessity for having recourse to the sponge: and it is evidently the common interest of all persons of property, to join in the most efficacious measures for preventing such a necessity from ever arising.

When, by the operation of a sinking fund, and other auxiliary means that may be adopted, the finances of this kingdom shall be in such a state as to admit of a gradual reduction or annihilation of taxes; the first step to be taken for the benefit of the labouring people, is to *lower* the excise on *Malt*, in order to bring that article within their ability to purchase. *Malt* is now so dear, that the generality of poor families do not use a peck in a year. It would be not only a most popular, but also a most humane act, if the richer part of the nation would take a *considerable part* of this tax on themselves in some shape or other, that poor people might be enabled to brew wholesome drink at home. The other imposts which press heaviest on the poor, are, it is well known, those on leather, soap, and candles; particularly the first, a pair of shoes now standing a poor man in nearly a week's pay. Nor is it fit that, in so rich a nation as this, his wife and children should be suffered to go barefoot in wet weather, much less in frost and snow.

SECTION

SECTION II.

THE NEXT POINT IS THE PROVIDING ADDITIONAL EMPLOYMENT FOR MEN AND BOYS IN WINTER, THAT THEY MAY LOSE NO TIME AT THAT SEASON WHEN THEY ARE USUALLY MOST DISTRESSED.

IN a country like this, where so great a proportion of the land lies neglected, and almost useless, one would think it could be no difficult matter to find work for the industrious of every age all the year. It has been lately calculated that this island contains about twenty millions of acres capable of improvement, but remaining at present in an unimproved state. Is all this land condemned, as it were, to perpetual sterility? A great part of our wastes might, it is said, be easily converted into arable farms. And if "The improving a kingdom in "matter of husbandry is better than conquering a new kingdom," as Hartlib has asserted, [Legacy, p. 42.]—"If the culture of the soil is the "greatest of all manufactures, and the truest source of riches," as Montesquieu has affirmed, [Espr. des Loix, l. xxi. c. 18:] "and if one "hundred pounds gained by a farmer, including the work of servants, day-labourers, women, and children, employed by him, "bring more benefit to the community than three hundred, or twice "three hundred pounds acquired by the work of a single artist occupied in things of mere superfluity and ornament," as Harte has said,

said, [Essays on Husbandry, p. 30.] If these are indisputable truths, it is surely a matter of just reproach to this wealthy nation, that almost a third part of the land of the kingdom should be left in its present unprofitable state, when thousands of families are starving for want of a few acres! The bringing into cultivation, and the improvement of twenty millions of acres would be much the same thing as adding twenty-five new counties to the kingdom. And in what way can money be more usefully expended? The expediency of bringing more land into tillage will be still more apparent, if we recollect a fact already mentioned, that this country has not of late produced a sufficient quantity of corn for the subsistence of its inhabitants, but has been obliged to pay annually large sums to foreigners for imported grain. Add to this, that we have at present a wide extent of dominions to protect; and it is well known that peasants make the the hardiest soldiers. This creation of additional employment would at once multiply this useful class of men, and keep them from degenerating. This measure is therefore, in every view of the subject, of the utmost national importance.

But, besides the conversion of our wastes and commons into corn-fields, judicious men have thought, that if husbandry were as much attended to as it deserves, the land already in cultivation might be further improved beyond what the most skilful have any notion of: which would yield employment and subsistence to multitudes of people. The following instance is given of what the perfection of agriculture can do:—The country possessed by the twelve tribes of Israel was only about one hundred and twenty miles in length, and eighty miles in breadth; that is, something more than six millions of acres. When

When *Joab* numbered the people, he found 1,300,000 fighting men; and as the fighting men of a nation are one-fourth of the whole, Palestine must then have contained about 5,200,000 inhabitants: which is at the rate of one person to a little more than one acre. But, supposing Great-Britain to contain sixty-seven millions of acres, and its population to be ten millions, this gives the proportion of only one person to about six acres and a half. Here seems to be, therefore, great room for improvement. This comparatively much greater population of Palestine has been justly ascribed to the following causes:—1st. The soil of that country was naturally somewhat more fertile than the soil of this country is.—2dly. The original division of the land, as established by *Josbua*, was religiously preserved, every particular family, of every tribe, having an interest in preserving it; which prevented the excessive accumulation of landed property in few hands.—3dly. The laws concerning Usury; on which sir *J. Child* has this remark: “*Moses* forbade the Jews to lend money to use to one another, but permitted them to lend to strangers. His laws concerning usury were sufficient to make any barren land fruitful, and a fruitful land “an entire garden.”—4thly. These regulations disposed the people to follow a simple life according to nature, friendly to marriage, and consequently to population; and shut out luxury, the greatest enemy of both. [*Harte.*]—*Lastly*, They had but few horses, and used oxen in husbandry. With us the horse is an expensive servant, even when employed in tilling the ground.—Such was the policy of the wisest of ancient nations, founded on laws of divine appointment. How different the policy of modern states! and how thin the population attending it!

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It will perhaps be said; that numberless acts of inclosure have passed of late years; and that our agriculture has been continually advancing along with our other improvements. Let this be admitted: yet the fact more than once referred to, namely, our being now obliged to buy a great quantity of corn, whereas fifty years ago we used to sell a great quantity, proves, unquestionably, that *tillage* has not advanced fast enough by a great deal. It proves that sufficient attention has not been given to the *grand manufacture*, the production of corn. And as to the numerous inclosures that have been made, I fear the acts themselves will shew, that, in making them, too little regard has been paid to the encouragement and employment of labouring people. Care should be taken to guard against this error in future.

I cannot forbear adding here, that were it even impossible to find additional employment of a *useful* kind, whereby men and boys might at all seasons earn their living; yet it would be obviously better policy to set all such persons, as cannot otherwise be employed, on the *useless* work of building pyramids, than to let them starve in idleness, or become rogues, vagabonds, and beggars, to avoid starving: because by their being *constantly* employed in any work, which requires a great exertion of bodily strength in the open air, sloth would be discouraged, and the people kept from degenerating. But it is manifest, that we are far from being reduced to the necessity of recurring to such an expedient as this; that abundance of the most useful work may easily be found; and that nothing is wanting to banish beggary from among us, but “the spirit to make a right use of our superfluous wealth.”

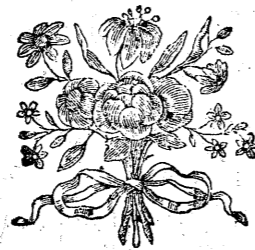
The waste lands seem to be the grand resource of the nation: and their gradual improvement, judiciously conducted, would afford employment

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ployment and subsistence to multitudes of people. But on this head, as well as on other important points, the public has reason to expect a great deal of the most valuable information from the industry and zeal of the *Board of Agriculture*. And when, after full information obtained, the inclosure and improvement of these lands shall be resolved upon, it is earnestly to be wished, that of the various measures which doubtless will then be proposed, such only may receive the sanction of Parliament as shall appear the fittest for giving support and encouragement to labouring families.

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SECTION

## SECTION III.

ANOTHER ESSENTIAL IS THE PROVIDING CONSTANT  
EMPLOYMENT FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS, THEREBY  
TO ENABLE FAMILIES TO EARN MORE  
THAN THEY COMMONLY DO.

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AT present the earnings of the wives and children of day-labourers are, in general, very small. Except what they earn in the time of hay-making, and at harvest, their earnings the rest of the year are insignificant. The greatest part of their time is unprofitably spent, because no care is taken to furnish them with work. Were girls, in particular, instructed betimes in knitting, spinning, and in such other work as they are capable of, this would not only give them a habit of industry, but also add greatly to their domestic comfort as long as they lived.

One might suppose that workhouses, and houses of industry, were calculated to answer this purpose; but experience tells against them. After a little time, these almost always become mere receptacles of idle and vicious persons; many of whom live better there at the public expence, than some honest people can do, who work hard to keep their families from the parish. It has been found too, that the mortality in workhouses is uncommonly great, particularly among the children.

Women and girls should be furnished with work to be done at their own homes. As a proof of what importance it is that they should be thus enabled to bring something into the common stock, here follows an instance of what may be gained by *spinning*, where the mother

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has been well brought up herself, and is capable of instructing her girls. It shews, that, even in the present low condition of the poor, we may find here and there a *large* family making shift to live without parish relief, except on very pressing occasions; such as long sickness, small-pox, and the like. But this happens only where the man is expert at various kinds of work, or where the woman (as in this instance) is more than ordinarily notable and industrious.

WEEKLY EXPENCES OF A FAMILY,

Consisting of a Man, his Wife, and Five Children; the eldest a boy aged twelve years; the next a boy aged nine; the third and fourth, girls aged seven and five; the youngest, an infant.

(This Account was taken at *EASTER* 1787.)

|                                                                                                                                                                                                              | £. | s. | d.   |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|----|------|
| ONE bushel of flour, on an average, at 10d. per gallon                                                                                                                                                       | 0  | 6  | 8    |
| Yeast and salt                                                                                                                                                                                               | 0  | 0  | 3½   |
| A fat hog bought, weight about fourteen score, at 7s. 6d. per score,<br>5l. 5s.—And bacon bought beside, about six score, at 6½d. per lb.                                                                    |    |    |      |
| 3l. 5s.—Total 8l. 10s.—Per week                                                                                                                                                                              | 0  | 3  | 3½   |
| Tea, 1½oz. 4d.—Sugar, ½lb. 4d.—Butter, ½lb. 4d.                                                                                                                                                              | 0  | 1  | 0    |
| Brews a peck of malt once a fortnight, cost 1s. 4d.—Buys 1½ gall,<br>of hopsseed, at 1s. 6d. which serves all the year; a handful of this<br>put into the beer makes it keep well enough for that short time | 0  | 0  | 8½   |
| Soap, Candles, Worsted, &c.                                                                                                                                                                                  | 0  | 0  | 8    |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                              | £. | 0  | 12 7 |

The good woman reckons *small beer and bread* a better and cheaper supper, than *bread and cheese and water*; and says, that *cheese* is the dearest article that a poor family can use.

Her general account was this: that the earnings of her husband and the boys maintained the family in food; and that what she herself and the girls earned by

by spinning, and in harvest, found them in clothes, linen, and other necessaries: with which the account of particulars agrees.

|                                                         | £. | s. | d.   |
|---------------------------------------------------------|----|----|------|
| Twelve shillings and seven-pence per week, is per annum | -  | 32 | 14 4 |
| Add for rent, fuel, clothing, &c.                       | -  | 7  | 0 0  |
| Amount of expences per annum                            | £. | 39 | 14 4 |

WEEKLY EARNINGS OF THE SAME FAMILY, (*EASTER*, 1787.)

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |   |   |     |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|---|-----|
| The husband receives 8s. per week, throughout the year                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | - | 0 | 8 0 |
| The eldest boy                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | - | 0 | 2 6 |
| The next boy                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | - | 0 | 1 6 |
| The wife was taught by her mother to <i>read</i> and <i>spin</i> ; and she teaches her girls the same. Before she went into service, she used to spin a pair of coarse sheets every winter. When she sits closely to her wheel the whole day, she can spin 2 lbs. of coarse flax for ordinary sheeting and toweling, at 2½d. per lb.; therefore, supposing the business of the family to take up two days in the week, the 8lbs. spun in the other four days comes to | - | 0 | 1 8 |
| The eldest girl can earn 2d. per day, spinning near 1 lb. of such flax; and supposing her also to lose two days in the week in going of errands, tending the infant, &c. her earnings will be                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | - | 0 | 0 8 |
| The little girl, aged five, can also spin adroitly; she goes to the wheel when her sister is otherwise employed, but is not kept closely to it, as that might hurt her health.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |   |   |     |
| This family earns something extraordinary in harvest; and as the man does not scruple working over-hours occasionally, and looks after the stock on one of his employer's farms, they are allowed to live rent-free in the farm-house; all which together may be reckoned equal to                                                                                                                                                                                    | - | 0 | 1 0 |

|                              |   |    |      |
|------------------------------|---|----|------|
| Amount of earnings per annum | - | 39 | 17 4 |
| Amount of expences per annum | - | 39 | 14 4 |
| Surplus of earnings          | - | 0  | 3 0  |



*Observations on the preceding Account.*

I. SUPPOSE the wife and girls *not* to have learnt to spin; then, instead of earning 2s. 4d. a-week, which comes to 5l. 17s. a-year, they would only earn, like the common run of women, about 1l. 10s.; and therefore, instead of a surplus at the year's end, there would be a deficiency of 4l. 4s. unless by living harder they curtailed their expences so much. It is owing to the money gained by spinning, that this family is enabled to keep out of debt, and to live so decently.

II. The whole annual expence of this family, (39l. 14s. 4d.) divided by 7, makes the average per head 5l. 13s. 6d.; and as the *extra* earnings of the mother and girls by spinning (as above reckoned) are about 4l. 7s. it is plain that spinning alone maintains *one* of the younger children.

III. The two boys together earn half as much as the father; and as the average expence per head is 5l. 13s. 6d. and the average earnings of the boys 5l. 4s. per annum each, it appears that between them they nearly get their living, the deficiency for each being only 9s. 6d. Therefore, allowing for this deficiency, we may put the two boys out of the question and consider the family as consisting of the remaining *five* persons.

IV. The family then (exclusive of the two boys) consisting of the man, his wife, two girls, aged seven and five, and an infant, their earnings and expences will be as under :

|                                           |       |    |    |   |              |
|-------------------------------------------|-------|----|----|---|--------------|
| From the earnings of the whole family     | - - - | 39 | 17 | 4 |              |
| Deduct the earnings of the two boys       | - - - | 10 | 8  | 0 |              |
|                                           |       |    |    |   | Rem. 29 9 4* |
| And from the expences of the whole family | - - - | 39 | 14 | 4 |              |
| Deduct the expences of the two boys       | - - - | 11 | 7  | 0 |              |
|                                           |       |    |    |   | Rem. 28 7 4  |

And from the former remainder deducting the latter, the surplus is - £. 1 2 0

\* See Observation 11, p. 24.

But if *spinning* were laid aside, instead of this surplus there would be a deficiency of 3l. 5s.

V. Hence appears plainly the great importance of *spinning*, or of some other work at which women and girls may be constantly employed: for this circumstance (accompanied with sobriety and frugality) enables some families to live with credit, which must otherwise have come into difficulties, and in every difficulty have sought help from their parishes.

But we have no reason to expect that such industry as this will become general, unless some new measures are taken to encourage and enforce it. Let us then consider what measures are proper to be adopted for that purpose.

1. The negligence of overseers in setting the poor on work must be corrected. Good laws are but of little use, unless they are well executed. It concerns not only private families and parishes, but the nation at large, that all such persons as are able and willing to work, should have work. And therefore overseers of the poor should not be at liberty to neglect so important a part of their duty with impunity. Yet this is almost universally the case: for according to the returns made to parliament in 1786, the whole annual amount of the money expended in setting the poor on work, is under 16,000l. The penalty which the law threatens, being seldom inflicted, is by no means sufficient to enforce obedience to its injunctions.

The churchwardens, and overseers of the poor, have ample powers given them by 43 Eliz. cap. 2, to set all poor persons on work, who want work. But in country places, farmers and tradesmen are commonly appointed to those offices; and these, having business enough of their

their own to mind, will not bestow the necessary time and attention on the affairs of the poor and of their parish. To this negligence it is owing, that so many women are now quite ignorant of matters which all women should understand, and wholly incapable of bringing up their children in useful and industrious habits. And to this it is also owing, that the sad expedient of *farming* the poor is becoming every year more and more common.

In order, therefore, to *compel* overseers of the poor to a better performance of their duty, I would propose that an *oath* be framed with that view, and that on their appointment they be sworn faithfully to do what the law requires of them, to the best of their knowledge and ability. And that they may not plead ignorance of their duty, in excuse for the non-performance of it, an abstract of the poor-laws, carefully drawn up, should at the same time be given them by the justices, for their direction, at least in the most essential points.

To this I can see but one objection; namely, that being appointed for one year only, they are too short a time in office to carry any plan, for setting the poor on work, effectually into execution. To obviate which, why may they not be appointed for *two, three*, or more years, instead of one? "A private bill passed, allowing the appointment of an overseer permanent in office, and on salary, to *Bradford* in *Wiltshire*: "in consequence of which, the poor have been better provided for, and "the poor-rates reduced from 3,300*l.* to 2,300*l.*" [See *Sir W. Young's* Observ. Prelim. p. 64.]

And if appointed for a longer term than one year, they should however be obliged yearly to verify their accounts on oath: which accounts should be drawn up in a prescribed form, and bear on the face of them,

in

in what manner the poor, capable of work, have been employed. And if provision were made for the printing on a sheet of paper, and dispersing in each parish, annual accounts of every disbursement and receipt of its officers, this would tend to check both the officers and the poor, and to inform and interest the parishioners with respect to parish concerns. [See *Franklin's* Tracts, p. 63.] Magistrates too should not merely be authorised, as now, to swear the overseers to their accounts on going out of office; but they should have, and be required to exercise, a controlling power over them in this matter.

2. But, in the present state of things, it is not to be expected that these measures alone will prove sufficient. Something further seems necessary to be done, in order to stimulate those, who have long been used to waste time in idleness, to exert themselves for the good of their families. To produce this effect, *encouragement* must go along with coercion.

The following brief account of the means which were adopted with that view in the county of *Rutland*, in 1785 and 1786, furnishes an example fit to be imitated in other places.

The justices of the peace for the said county having at their quarter sessions resolved to put in force the act of 43 Eliz. cap. 2, requiring overseers of the poor "to set on work all such persons as have no "means to maintain them, and use no ordinary or daily trade,"

*Ordered*, "That the overseers of the poor of each parish within the county, do immediately provide such raw materials, as wool, yarn, hemp, and flax, as also wheels and other implements, for the employment of the poor of every denomination within their respective parishes, as shall be necessary to enable them to do such work as they are capable

of performing. And that they shall meet together at least once every month, in the church of their respective parishes, upon a Sunday immediately after divine service, there to consider of the best course and order to be taken and made in the employment of the said poor."

*Ordered* also, "That no poor persons be allowed any relief in money, until they have done such work as they are capable of; nor allowed any relief on account of any child above *six* years of age, who shall not be able to knit; nor on account of any child above *nine* years of age, who shall not be able to spin either linen or woollen."

And to render the execution of the above act (43. Eliz. cap. 2.) more easy to the overseers of the poor, and to encourage the industrious who shall be set to work agreeably to the same; it was unanimously resolved at a general meeting of the county, "That a Fund be raised for giving them *premiums* according to their industry; and that a committee be appointed, and fully intrusted with the disposal and management of the said fund, in any such manner as shall appear to them most conducive to the accomplishment of the several purposes of the association."

The fund was raised by a subscription from each parish that chose to enter into the association, of *one per cent.* upon the poor-rate of the last year; by an annual subscription from individuals of *5s.* each; and by benefactions of the noblemen and gentlemen of the county.

The first committee appointed, having settled their mode of proceeding, came to several general resolutions respecting the distribution of the money.—It was *resolved*, "That when the number of subscribing parishes should be ascertained, such parishes should be divided into *classes*, regard being had to neighbourhood, and the amount of the parish

parish rates. That it be recommended to the different parishes to provide a convenient place as a spinning-room, and a proper person as teacher. That *premiums*, consisting of clothing, be given to such children, of certain age and description, as in a *given time* shall have produced the greatest quantity of *spinning* or *knitting* of different kinds, and of the best quality. That whenever any young person shall go out to apprenticeship or service, or shall be married with the approbation of the committee, such young person shall receive from the committee not less than *5l.* nor more than *10l.* if he or she shall have received *three* of the annual premiums given by the committee; from *two* to *three* pounds, if such young person shall have received *two* premiums; and from *30s.* to *40s.* if *one* premium. That premiums, at the discretion of the committee, be given to those who bring up four children or more, born in wedlock, to the age of fourteen years, without relief from the parish. And that premiums be also given, at the discretion of the committee, to such overseers of the poor as shall distinguish themselves in the due execution of the orders of the sessions relative to the employment of the poor."

Such is the outline of a plan, which in that county has been attended with the best effects. The poor people, I am informed, shewed the greatest willingness to profit by the encouragements held out to them. By their endeavours to obtain *premiums*, the spinning in the county has been much improved as to the quality of the work. And the habits of industry, which the people have acquired, though their earnings are small, have considerably lowered the rates. But the principal benefit arising from this institution, is the enabling the *justices* to distinguish the deserving from the *idle* poor: for when a man applies for relief on

account of a large family, the justice, to whom he applies, enquires of the overseers whether his children earn as much as they might do by knitting or spinning: if they do, and, notwithstanding that, he is in want, relief is of course granted him; but if his children are idle, and will not knit or spin, no relief is given, till they do spin or knit as they are able.

This institution in the county of Rutland took its rise from certain printed proposals made by the Rev. *T. Foster*, one of His Majesty's justices of the peace for that county; which proposals he was induced to bring forward by the success that had attended an establishment of the same kind in a part of the county of *Lincoln*.\*

In every county some sort of work might, doubtless, be found for the wives and children of labouring people, whereby they might be made to contribute largely towards their own maintenance, if the higher ranks would but set themselves earnestly to promote industry among them. Women and girls might soon be taught to manufacture coarse linen and woollen stuffs for their own uses. By means of schools of industry, encouraged by societies of industry, (like those just mentioned) the same industrious spirit might, in time, be universally diffused through the kingdom. And the advantage resulting to the publick would, it is manifest, be very great, by training the rising generation in a way to earn their bread, and by the multiplication of such families as that which has given occasion to these remarks.

I will add here, that it appears to be wholly owing to the want of proper care and attention in those who direct and manage the business of

\* See an excellent account of the Society for the promotion of Industry in Lincolnshire, by the Rev. Mr. *Bower*, one of His Majesty's justices of the peace for that county. Subjoined to that publication is the report of the Board of Trade in 1697, relative to the poor, drawn up by Mr. *Locke*, and which contains his plan of a school of industry.

counties,

counties, that the unhappy persons confined in our prisons are not made useful to the community. — Dorchester jail is an instance which proves this. It appears by a printed account now before me, (communicated by my much respected friend Mr. *Morton Pitt*) that the prisoners in that jail have, by being employed in such trades as they were capable of, and receiving the rewards due to their diligence, not only earned their own maintenance, but a considerable surplus, over and above that, to be carried to the credit of the county. And, what is of much greater moment, the regulations there adopted have been productive of the most salutary effects in amending the morals of the prisoners, and gradually lessening the number of offenders. And it is well known that His Majesty and the Royal Family, in a visit to that jail in the summer 1793, were highly pleased with the industry and orderly behaviour of the prisoners. The like good management has been attended with the like success in *Norfolk* and *Oxfordshire*. And were it universally practised, it would undoubtedly be everywhere productive of the same benefits, by promoting industry and good morals, and lessening parochial expences.

I cannot close this head without observing farther, that schools of industry might, at a small additional charge, be made very useful as schools of morals also. And what can be of greater importance, I will not say to families and parishes, but to the nation at large, than that the youth of both sexes should be trained up in habits of *piety*, as well as of *industry*? If one or more schools were set up in every parish with this two-fold intention, different days might be allotted for different purposes: one day the children might be occupied in knitting or spinning, another in making or mending their cloaths, and so on: and some part of each day they should be employed in learning to read, and getting by

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rote useful lessons. The succession and variety of employments would prevent any one of them from becoming irksome. And emulation might be excited in the scholars by *premiums* suited to their different degrees of proficiency in religious instruction, in the same manner as was done in the other case respecting their skill and dexterity at the several kinds of work.

We hear complaints every day made of the depraved manners of the common people: and we see and feel that they are indeed depraved in a high degree. But let us candidly own that this depravity is not confined to them alone. Without doubt some of their vices have descended to them from above: for the lower ranks are ever fond of apeing their superiors, particularly in vice and folly. The truth seems to be that *religion*, the principal engine in forming and preserving national manners, has lost much of that influence, which it always ought to have over the hearts and minds of *all* ranks of people. And history tells, that wherever this has happened, the consequence has been, that human laws, deriving their chief authority from the divine, have lost much of their energy also. And when the joint power of both can no longer resist the torrent of vice and licentiousness, what substitutes can government employ, except the formidable ones of force and terror, for the preservation of its own existence, and the maintenance of public tranquillity? *Religion* may with great justice and propriety be said to be the only solid foundation of good laws, mild government, and genuine liberty.

The first necessary step towards *restoring the influence of religion*, is the making a permanent provision for the *religious education* of poor children. Is the expence an objection? Yet in *Scotland* and *Switzerland*,  
poorer.

poorer countries than this, the importance of the religious education of the poor is so well understood, that due provision has been there made for that purpose. In *Scotland*, in particular, no parish is without a school. [See Mr. *Howard's State of Prisons*, p. 124, 196.] We profess to believe that it is our duty as *Christians*, to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, comfort the afflicted, and *instruct the ignorant*. Our laws have provided that all these duties should be tolerably performed, except the last; with respect to which they are plainly deficient. And the consequence is but too visible in the ill manners and bad morals of the lower sort of people. Of this we are constantly complaining, without once resolving to apply the proper remedy.

Will it be said, that it is a principal part of the business of the clergy, to instruct young persons? Without doubt it is: nor can any thing more useful be conceived, than the appointment of this order of men, for keeping up a sense of religion in the minds of the people. But the defect lies here, that the children of the poor are not sufficiently instructed *beforehand*, for receiving with profit the further instructions of the clergy. And to this want of preparatory education we ought to attribute, in a great measure, that supposed inefficacy of the labours of the clergy, for which they have been, so often, unreasonably censured.

Will it be said, that the necessity of making a public provision for this purpose has been superseded by the numerous charity schools and Sunday schools existing in this kingdom? Far be it from me to depreciate these institutions. The benevolence of their founders and supporters will receive its reward in heaven. *Charity schools*, however, take in but a small number, comparatively, of the children of the poor; in *England* and *Wales* about 30,000 only. *Sunday schools*, indeed, are calculated



culated to rescue a far greater number from total ignorance; but they rest on the precarious foundation of voluntary charity, and consequently are very subject to fail. Mr. *Morton Pitt's* plan for securing their *permanency* has been some years before the publick: and it is much to be regretted that it has hitherto been no-where carried into execution, except in a part of Dorsetshire under his own inspection. More *certain* provision should be made for the education of poor children, which might be best attained by making schools of industry schools of morals also.

The number of the living from 6 to 10 years of age (both inclusive) is about a *tenth* of the whole number of the living of all ages. Therefore supposing the inhabitants of *England* and *Wales* to be 8,000,000, the number of children from 6 to 10 will be 800,000. *Three-fourths* of these, or 600,000, belong probably to poor parents; some of whom, however, manage so as to give their children a little schooling. Let it be supposed,

|                                                                      |         |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| That the number of those educated at the expence of their parents is | 20,000  |
| The number admitted into <i>Charity schools</i> is known to be about | 30,000  |
| Suppose the <i>Sunday schools</i> to receive                         | 150,000 |
| Total educated                                                       | 200,000 |

Therefore the number of those uneducated is 400,000; that is to say, *two-thirds* of the children of the poor receive not the smallest degree of schooling. The schooling of these, at 10s. each per ann. would amount to 200,000l. If this sum were to be raised by a parish rate, it would, surely, be money well laid out, the importance of the object considered. But if a plan of this kind were once fully carried into execution, there can be no doubt but it would support itself; for these children might  
with

with common care and pains be made to earn, one with another, 20s. a year each, or double the expence of their schooling. [See Mr. *Bower's* publication referred to in p. 92.

I have dwelt the longer on this point from the fullest conviction of its importance. Most unfortunately, the inordinate love of pleasure and amusement in the higher ranks seems to yield but slowly, if at all, to sober and serious reflection, to a practical sense of religion and piety: yet in these, licentiousness is kept within some bounds, by a regard to character, and the value of a good name. But when the low and uneducated part of mankind come to adopt the loose principles of the infidel and the atheist, the most dreadful consequences to society are justly to be apprehended. Reflect on this, ye rich and great! and if every worthier motive has no weight with you, let a sense of *interest* influence you to respect religion: certainly you will gain nothing by its destruction.



## SECTION IV.

ANOTHER IMPORTANT POINT IS TO DEVISE MEANS FOR  
CORRECTING THE IMPROVIDENCE OF WORKING PEOPLE,  
AND ENCOURAGING FRUGALITY AMONG THEM.

THIS may perhaps be attained, 1st. By removing the cause of their too great reliance on parish relief: 2dly, By instructing them how to secure and improve such savings as they might make out of their pay: and, 3dly, By holding out to them a probable prospect of bettering their condition in consequence of such frugality.

In the first place, young persons in service, and day-labouring men, might, while single, save more money than they usually do save. But the misfortune is, that our poor-laws, by making an indiscriminate provision for *all* in want, have rendered them very careless in this respect. And this carelessness has been much encouraged by that spirit of dissipation, which has descended from the higher to the middling, and from the middling to the lower ranks of people. This prevailing turn to expence seems, indeed, to be one principal cause, that there have been of late so many more executions in the houses of the rich, so many more bankruptcies among merchants and tradesmen, and so much more beggary among the poor, than were ever known before. So far as this improvidence in the lower ranks has proceeded from the like disposition in the higher, it may not perhaps admit of a cure; since it is not to be expected that the richer part of a luxurious nation should be induced

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by prudential motives to practise frugality for the sake of example. But so far as this improvidence has arisen from a too great reliance on parochial relief, it may surely be remedied by removing the cause of that reliance. The obvious cause of that reliance is the indiscriminate provision made by law for all in want. Draw a line of separation, therefore, between such as are deserving, and such as are undeserving of parochial assistance. Suppose, for instance, (the pay of labourers being first settled on a right foot, and overseers compelled to set families to work) it were then enacted, that no single persons of either sex, if able to earn their living; and that no family having only three young children at home; shall be entitled, except in some extraordinary specified cases, to receive relief out of the poor-rate. This exclusion might perhaps oblige servants and day-labourers to take more care in future to husband well their earnings. And if from a regulation of this kind some hardship should casually be felt by particular families or individuals, the removal of that hardship might safely be left to their charitable neighbours, who, knowing their circumstances, would not fail to relieve them if deserving relief.

But, then, on the other hand, as it would be manifestly unjust that any person willing to work should be suffered to starve for want of work, let employers be required to do their part. In order to this, let it be provided that every *man*, who has not been able, at the time of receiving his wages on Saturday evening, to obtain of the same employer work for himself and his boys the ensuing week; and who having, at the parish-church on the Sunday immediately following, applied for work to the churchwardens and overseers of the poor, or any one of them there present, without obtaining any; or who, if none of

these officers were there present, has made the like application at the house of one or more of them without success; I say, let every man, who, having complied with these directions, is nevertheless suffered to lose his time without any fault of his own, be by law entitled to two-thirds of a day's wages, to be paid out of the poor-rate for every day that he shall so remain unemployed; and in a reasonable proportion for boys above the age of twelve years. It is surely sufficient that labouring people should offer themselves to do such work as they are capable of: it is the duty of their superiors to find them such work; which they will be most careful to do, when they shall be obliged to pay for idle time.

2dly. Notwithstanding the encouragement given to wasteful expence both by our poor-laws, and also by the wide-spread luxury of the age we live in; yet there are no doubt many servants and others, who would save a part of their earnings against a time of need, if they knew how to secure and improve their savings. Their ignorance in this respect, there is reason to think, renders many of them less thrifty than they would otherwise be. Few of the lower sort of people know any thing of the nature of the public funds; and if they knew more than they do, ten or a dozen guineas saved make too trifling a sum to carry to the Stock Exchange. And if the owner lays them up in a corner of his box, in the hope of adding more to them, it is odds but some temptation comes in the way, and the money vanishes. Another circumstance which has discouraged many from saving any thing is this: they have listened to the melancholy tales of some of their acquaintance, who having unfortunately placed the little money they had got in service in the hands of some plausible tradesman, have by his failure lost it all; or to  
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the equally melancholy tales of others, who had experienced the like in some of those irregular box-clubs some years ago common in this kingdom, in which, when the contributions had amounted to a large sum, the whole was, for the sake of interest, lent to some knave and lost. It is therefore a matter of consequence to teach such people as earn more money than they need spend, how to secure and improve such small sums as they may be disposed to save, that they may reap the full benefit of their parsimony, when they come to settle in the world.

Now there are two methods of doing this, more especially suited to the circumstances of the people in question: 1st. By engaging in a *friendly society for mutual relief*, as now regulated by act of parliament; and 2dly, By engaging in one of those *provident societies* which have been lately set up in several towns. By becoming members of a friendly society, such persons as are desirous of keeping themselves free from the shame and misery of being burdensome to their parish, have it in their power to make for themselves a provision against sickness, accident, or old age; and that without the hazard to which some clubs of this kind were heretofore subject, whose schemes, having been arbitrarily formed, were of course fraught with mischievous consequences. These societies the rich would do well to encourage by liberal subscriptions. By becoming members of a provident society, such persons as are desirous of placing a part of their present wages in a fund to be improved for the benefit of the contributors, with the view of receiving back the same so improved at the end of a short term of years, have an opportunity of doing so. And as the bankers and principal tradesmen in those towns, where these societies have been set up, are the trustees and managers of the funds so raised, the risk to the members must here  
also

also be inconsiderable. They who may wish for further information respecting friendly societies, may peruse the act passed in 1789 with the scheme annexed. See also a scheme of the same kind at the end of a publication in 1787, intitled a Narrative of the Proceedings tending towards a National Reformation, &c. by a Country Magistrate. At the end of Mr. Baron *Mafes*' excellent work on the Principles of Life-Annuities, there is a copy of a bill, with the requisite tables, (which passed the House of Commons, but was rejected by the Lords) being the first plan of this kind formed on just principles for the use of the common people. See another plan for the use of the *poor* in Dr. *Price*'s work on Reversionary Payments, vol. i. p. 140, *note*. And with respect to the several Provident Societies, it is sufficient to refer to the plans of those societies, which may be had of the secretaries.

3dly. *Hold out to the industrious and frugal a probable prospect of bettering their condition.* If it be reasonable that idleness and improvidence should be discouraged and punished, it is without doubt equally so that industry and parsimony should receive their proper reward. Instead, therefore, of driving poor people to despondency and despair, by making it impossible for them to rise even a single step from their present low condition, you should cherish in their breasts the hope of advancing themselves to more comfortable circumstances, which is assuredly the best preservative from vice and beggary. *Hope* is a cordial, of which the poor man has especially much need, to cheer his heart in the toilsome journey through life. And the fatal consequence of that policy, which deprives labouring people of the expectation of possessing any property in the soil, must be the extinction of every generous principle in their minds. Therefore, 1st. Allow to the cottager a little land  
about

about his dwelling, for keeping a cow, for planting potatoes, for raising flax or hemp. 2dly, Convert the waste lands of the kingdom into *small* arable farms, a certain quantity every year, to be let on favourable terms to industrious families. 3dly, Restrain the engrossment and over-enlargement of farms. The propriety of these measures cannot, I think, be questioned. For since the destruction of small farms, and of cottages having land about them, has so greatly contributed to bring the lower peasantry into the starving condition in which we now see them, the most effectual means should be taken without delay for checking this practice, and counteracting the mischief it has already done. The mischief is universally felt. For whilst this practice has been reducing the generality of small farmers into day-labourers, and the great body of day-labourers into beggars, and has been multiplying and impoverishing even beggars themselves, it has perhaps elevated the body of farmers above their proper level, enabling many of them not only to tyrannize over their inferiors, but even to vie with their landlords in dissipation and expence.

For full and rational information on each of the foregoing heads, I cannot do better than refer the reader to Mr. *Kent*'s *Hints to Gentlemen of Landed Property*. Yet I will here mention some few particulars which seem to merit attention.

1st. As to cottagers, I could name some worthy persons now living, who, by giving to their labouring people a small quantity of land contiguous to their dwellings, have thereby rendered their condition far more comfortable than it was before. Their example therefore deserves imitation. In many country parishes there is abundance of common and waste land, which in its present state is of very little value: but if  
a small

a small part of it were inclosed for the use of the poor, and tilled at the expence of the respective parishes, this would greatly help many families. No gentleman should be permitted to pull down a cottage, until he had first erected another, upon one of Mr. *Kent's* plans, either on some convenient part of the waste, or on his own estate, with a certain quantity of land annexed. In the 30th *Eliz.* it was enacted, that no cottage should be erected in country places without four acres of land about it, that poor people might secure for themselves a maintenance, and not be obliged on the loss of a few days labour to come to the parish. If some regulations of this kind were now adopted, they would be at once an encouragement to the poor, and a great check on the increase of the rates.

2dly. Convert gradually the waste lands of the kingdom into small arable farms. For the encouragement of industrious persons there should be a much greater number of such farms than there is at present, and a gradation as to size and rent. The advantages, public and private, likely to result from such a measure are well described by Mr. *Kent* in the work before-mentioned. At present small farms, on account of the great demand there is for them, let at such exorbitant rents, that it is scarcely possible for poor families to get a livelihood on them. Were the number of such farms increased, besides the encouragement thence arising to the lower peasantry, this further benefit would flow from it to the poorer cottagers. The occupiers of these small farms, as well as the occupiers of Mr. *Kent's* larger cottages, would not think much of retailing to their poorer neighbours a little corn or a little milk, as they might want, which the poor can now seldom have at all, and never but as a great favour from the rich farmers.

3dly. Refrain

3dly, Refrain the engrossment and over-enlargement of farms. If this system goes on much longer, landlords may be obliged to let their lands to the great farmers on almost their own terms. Some proprietors of lands have complained that this is too much the case already.

*Bacon*, in his History of Henry VIIIth, praises the policy of that reign, in which it was enacted, in order to promote tillage and prevent a decay of people, "that all houses of husbandry with twenty acres of ground to them should be kept up for ever, together with a competent proportion of land to be occupied with them, and in no wise to be severed from them. By these means the houses being kept up, did of necessity enforce a dweller; and the proportion of land for occupation being also kept up, did of necessity enforce that dweller not to be a beggar." Lord *Bacon's Works*, vol. iii. p. 431.

And touching the engrossment of farms, in the 25th Hen. VIIIth, it is set forth, "that many farms, and great plenty of cattle, particularly sheep, had been gathered into few hands, whereby pasturage had been increased excessively, and tillage was very much decayed; the old rate of rents so raised, that farmers of small substance could not meddle with them; churches and towns pulled down; the price of provisions excessively enhanced; and a marvellous number of people rendered incapable of maintaining themselves and families: and therefore it was enacted, that no person should keep above 2000 sheep, nor hold more than *two* farms."

All this seems now to be a dead letter. Nor do I mean to recommend the strict revival of these regulations. I only mention them, that people may turn their thoughts to these matters, and devise some restraints on the evils complained of.



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The last-mentioned regulation, however, that no person should hold more than two [moderate] farms, is plainly founded in good sense and good policy.

## SECTION V.

RATING THE WAGES OF LABOURERS ACCORDING TO THE  
STATUTE 5th ELIZABETH, CAP. 4.

THE measures already proposed, though they were forthwith adopted, can only be carried into execution gradually and slowly, except those contained in Section III. But it appears that the distresses of our lower peasantry are such as call for *immediate* relief. And the most effectual measure for giving them immediate relief is, *To raise the price of day-labour.*

It is obviously reasonable and right that the pay of the labourer should keep pace with the general advance in the prices of those things which are necessary for his support. If the just proportion which should constantly subsist between the one and the other be any how destroyed, proper means should be taken for restoring that proportion as soon as possible. Delays in a matter of this moment, which deeply concerns the great body of a people, must be dangerous.

It is a mistake to say, as some eminent writers have said, that the price of labour must unavoidably advance in proportion with the advanced

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vanced prices of necessaries. This, however plausible it may be in theory, is contradicted by experience. In fact, the price of labour is but *one* article; and the slow advance that usually takes place in this one, in countries that have been long settled, seldom compensates the *sum* of the advances in all those articles which are accounted necessaries. The proposition may be true with respect to fresh *accessions of money* to a country, which, gradually getting into the hands of *all*, give to all a greater ability to purchase what they want: "though, even in this case, the day-labourer, having nothing to subsist on but his daily work, must ever be behind-hand in advancing the price of his labour." But it will not hold with respect to luxury and taxes, the former of which raises prices without adding to the ability to purchase; and the latter, whilst they enhance prices, often diminish that ability. Owing to various causes, the plenty of working hands may be such as, by their competition to prevent wages from rising fast enough, (if they rise at all) to answer the increased expence of living.

The prices of the necessaries of life are, from the nature of things, fluctuating and variable, depending on accidents which it is impossible for human laws to fix or regulate. But it is a matter easily practicable to adapt the price of labour to the plenty or scarcity of the times. Our ancestors were so sensible of this, that they made several laws for *the rating of wages*; the substance of which is comprised in the stat. 5 Eliz. c. 4. And though this statute has been long disregarded in practice, it is probable that enforcing the execution of it would be attended at this time with the most salutary consequences. Only it may be proper that some few alterations should be made in it, to suit it to our present circumstances.

As the prices of necessaries vary in different counties, it is plain, that none can be competent for the rating of wages, but such as are resident upon the spot, or near it. Therefore, the statute 5 Eliz. c. 4, directs,

1. That the justices of every shire, riding, and liberty, or the more part of them, being then resident within the same, and the sheriff, if he conveniently may, and every mayor and other head officer within any city or town corporate, wherein is any justice of the peace within the limits of the said city or town corporate, and of the said corporation, shall yearly, in *Easter sessions*, or within six weeks next after, assemble, and call unto them such discreet and grave persons as they shall think meet; and having respect to the plenty or scarcity of the time, and other circumstances, shall have authority to limit, rate, and appoint the wages of all such labourers, artificers, workmen, or apprentices of husbandry, as they shall think meet, by their discretions, to be rated, limited, or appointed, by the year, or by the day, week, month, or otherwise; with meat and drink, or without meat and drink; and what wages every workman or labourer shall take by the great, for mowing, reaping, or threshing of corn and grain, or for mowing or making of hay, or for ditching, paving, railing, or hedging, by the rod, perch, lugg, yard, pole, rope, or foot, and for any other kind of reasonable labour or service. 5 Eliz. c. 4, §. 15.

And by 1 Jac. c. 6, the justices, or the more part of them, resident in any riding, liberty, or division, where the sessions are severally kept, shall have power to rate the wages within such division, as if the same were done in the general sessions for the county: §. 5. And by the said statute 1 Jac. c. 6, the said act of 5 Eliz. shall extend to the rating of wages of all labourers, weavers, spinsters, and workmen or work-  
women

women whatsoever, either working by the day, week, month, year, or taking any work by the great, or otherwise: §. 3.

And if any justice resident within the county, or mayor, shall be absent at the rating of wages, and not hindered by sickness or other lawful cause, to be allowed by the justices then assembled for rating wages, upon the oath and affidavit of some credible person, he shall forfeit to the King 10l. to be recovered in the sessions or other court of record, by indictment or otherwise. 5 Eliz. c. 4, §. 17. And the justices shall yearly, between September 29 and December 25, and between March 25 and June 24, make special and diligent enquiry of the good execution of this statute, and punish defaulters; and shall have for every day that they sit about the execution thereof (not exceeding three days at a time) 5s. each, out of the forfeitures due to the King: §. 37, 38.

2. By the said act, 5 Eliz. c. 4, the rates were to be certified into the chancery; but by the 1 Jac. c. 6, they need not to be certified into the chancery, but shall be kept amongst the records of the county or town corporate. §. 8. And after the said rates are made and engrossed in parchment, under the hands and seals of the persons having authority to rate the same, the sheriff, or mayor, may cause proclamation thereof to be made in so many places as to them shall seem convenient, and every person shall be bound to observe the same. §. 6.

3. If any person, upon the proclamation published, shall directly or indirectly retain or keep any servant, workman, or labourer, or shall give any *more or greater wages*, or other commodity, than shall be so appointed in the said proclamation, he shall, on conviction before any of the justices or other head officers abovementioned, be imprisoned for ten days without bail, and shall forfeit 5l. half to the king, and half to  
him

him that shall sue before the said justices in their sessions: 5 Eliz. c. 4, §. 18. And any person that shall be so retained, and take wages contrary to the said statute of the 5 Eliz. or to the said proclamation, and shall be thereof convicted before the justices aforesaid, or any two of them, or before the mayor or other head-officers aforesaid, shall be imprisoned for 21 days, without bail. §. 19. And every retainer, promise, gift, or payment of wages, or other thing, contrary to the said act, and every writing and bond to be made for that purpose, shall be void. §. 20.

And by 1 Jac. c. 6, if any clothier, or other, shall refuse to pay so much wages to their weavers, spinsters, workmen or workwomen, as be rated; and shall be convicted thereof by confession, or oath of two witnesses, at the assizes, or sessions, or before any two justices (1 Q.) he shall forfeit 10s. to the party grieved, to be levied by distress and sale. §. 7.

So stands the law concerning the *rating of wages*, [see *Burn's Justice*, title, *servants*, §. 2.] which I have here copied for the sake of making the following observations: viz.

*Obj. 1.* In the statutes enacted for this purpose, before the reign of Elizabeth, the object of the legislature appears to have been, as to this matter, to keep wages moderately low, many persons, on account of the scarcity of hands, being not willing to serve without *excessive* wages. But this statute of Eliz. repeals the said former laws, because they could not, without the great grief and burden of the poor labourer and hired man, be put in due and good execution, on account of the rated wages being in divers places *too small*, respecting the advancement of necessaries; and directs the rating of wages in the manner set forth above,  
with

with the view of yielding unto the hired person, both in the time of scarcity and in the time of plenty, a *convenient proportion* of wages. So that the declared design of this statute is to effect the very thing which is at present necessary to be done.

*Obj. 2.* The laws antecedent to the reign of Elizabeth limit the *highest wages*, which were allowed to be given to, or taken by, persons of different occupations; and that very properly, because their aim was to restrain workmen from demanding excessive wages. But this act of Elizabeth, though proposing to remedy this grievance of hired people, in being compelled to take too small wages, has, nevertheless, very improperly copied them in this particular. To adapt this law to the circumstances of the present time and the necessities of the poor, it would be more fit to specify the *lowest wages* to be given or taken, allowing the more industrious and skilful workmen to take greater if they can get greater. It was requisite *formerly* to prevent labourers and others from taking advantage of the necessities of masters, and demanding too great wages; and therefore it was right then to fix the *maximum*. What is wanted *now* is to prevent masters from taking advantage of the numbers and necessities of the poor, and allowing them too small wages; and therefore it is proper now to fix the *minimum*.

*Obj. 3.* If the *minimum* of wages were settled, it would free this measure from the only plausible objection that has been urged against it, namely, "that if all persons, in the same kind of work, were to receive equal wages, there would be no emulation."\* For in that case all persons being not compellable to take equal wages, the best workmen would

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\* Burn's Hist. of Poor Laws, p. 130.

of course be both more sure of employment, and would also get better wages, than inferior ones. And consequently this measure, instead of discouraging, would tend to promote emulation.

*Obs.* 4. This stat. of Eliz. directs the rating of wages in the general sessions for the county. The subsequent act of 1 Jac. c. 6, (which also extends the rating of wages to such as could not be rated by the said act of Eliz.) empowers the major part of the justices resident in any riding, liberty, or division, where the sessions are severally kept, to rate the wages within such division. This two-fold authority given to the justices, to rate wages in either of these two ways at their discretion, was probably one cause of its not being done at all. If the practice should be revived, it will be proper to abolish one of these methods, and to enforce the other. The rating of wages in the general sessions of the county, *for the whole county*, seems to deserve the preference. The penalty for non-attendance at the rating of wages should be made much heavier than it is at present.

*Obs.* 5. This statute of Eliz. directs the rating of wages to be at the *Easter* sessions, or within six weeks after; that is, before the commencement of summer, when, on account of the plenty of work to be had, and the great demand for hands, wages do usually rise. At present, it would be obviously better, if this were directed to be done at the *Michaelmas* sessions, when, the harvest being gathered in, it is known whether the crop of corn has been plentiful or scarce, both in our own and in other countries; and of course, whether bread the following winter is likely to be cheap or dear;—a very essential piece of information for guiding the justices in settling the price of labour. Or, the justices may have authority to rate wages at any quarter-sessions, or any adjournment

journalment thereof, notice of such intention being advertised fifteen days before.

*Obs.* 6. It does not seem necessary now to meddle with the pay of artificers, handicraftsmen, or hired servants, these, as settled by custom, being sufficiently high, though not excessive. Nor need the price of work done by the great be disturbed, the poor being content with the pay which they usually receive in that way. The pay of manufacturers too is generally thought to be sufficiently high, though probably, all things considered, it is not too high. The only thing wanted is to raise the pay of the day-labouring peasant, who, not receiving the value of his labour, cannot subsist a moderate family.

*Obs.* 7. Proclamation of the rated wages should be made in every parish church as soon as conveniently may be after the rating: and a paper, pasted on a board, containing the rated wages, should be put up in every church, there to remain for the information of all persons concerned, till the next rating takes place.

But, the propriety of this measure being admitted, it may be asked, *By what standard shall the price of labour be regulated?* In order to answer this question, let it be observed, that a *single man* having full employment might at present, with frugality, save a third part at least of his earnings, though instead of doing this he too commonly spends it in the ale-house. With respect therefore to *single men*, wages may be said to be already too high. But labouring men do not long remain single; they marry and beget children; and then, what was before a too ample provision for *one*, comes to be an insufficient provision for *many*. Every state is desirous of advancing population; which can only be done by encouraging marriage among the lower classes of people, cottages being the



the chief nurseries of men. For these reasons every labouring man should be enabled to earn a subsistence for a certain number of persons, besides himself. The question therefore comes to this: *What is the precise number of persons which a labouring man's wages should be calculated to maintain?* To determine this I cannot conceive any plainer or juster way of proceeding, than by having regard to the *average* number of persons in a family, and settling the proportion accordingly. The average number of persons in a family, taking in all ranks, has been found to be rather under five; but in the lower classes of people, especially that of labourers in husbandry, it is at least five. Therefore the average earnings of a *family* should be sufficient for the necessary maintenance of five persons. Now it appears by the accounts in the first part, that the sum necessary for the annual maintenance of a family, consisting of a man and his wife, and three children, in *Berkshire*, and therefore in all the southern counties, is not less than 26*l.*\* per annum, or 10*s.* a week. And if the wife and children earn between them, on an average, 1*s.* a week, (which I believe is above the mark;) since this 1*s.* is only sufficient to maintain an infant, it follows that the man alone ought to earn by his labour as much as will suffice for the maintenance of himself, his wife, and *two* children; he ought to earn at least 9*s.* a week. According to the principle I have assumed, then, 9*s.* a week is the *lowest proportion* of wages which a grown man should receive for a week's labour, in those counties wherein wheaten bread is commonly eaten. In the same manner the proper wages may be found for *any* particular place or county.

\* Be it remembered that this sum should be 30*l.* if labouring families were to drink small-beer in common.

## SECTION VI.

REGULATING THE PRICE OF DAY-LABOUR BY THE  
PRICE OF BREAD.

THOUGH I can see no valid objection against the foregoing method of settling wages, yet it may be proper to give another, by which the same end may be attained. And as this which I am going to explain is very simple in itself, and capable of being easily put in practice, it may perhaps on that account be thought by some to deserve the preference over the former.

As *bread* is the principal part of the food of labouring people, making full two-thirds of the whole in value wherever wheaten bread is in common use, I think the price of bread might with great propriety be made to regulate the price of labour. And bread being the staff of life, the price of it ever varying, and the variations sometimes considerable, the chief point to be attended to is plainly this, to guard the poor against the distress which an excessive price of this article never fails to bring on them.

For this purpose, nothing more is requisite than that the average number of persons in a family, the quantity of bread eaten by them weekly, and the weekly amount of their other expences, should be ascertained. This being done, a scale of day-wages might be calculated, and so adapted to the table of the price of bread as to shew at sight the wages corresponding to any particular price.

For instance; let it be supposed, that the expences of a family of five persons, the mean number, in such parts of this kingdom where



wheaten bread is in common use, amount to 26*l.* a year, or 10*s.* a week. On looking at the abstract of accounts, p. 18, we find that the bread alone of such a family requires a trifle more than 4*s.*; consequently, all the other articles taken together, including the *annual outgoings*, require the remaining 6*s.* But we may regard the amount of these other articles as a *given sum*, that will not vary much in many years: for the sum of the annual expences for house-rent, fuel, clothing, and contingencies, will probably remain for many years much the same as at present; and the prices of bacon, tea and sugar, soap, candles, &c. may likewise be looked upon as tolerably steady. Allow therefore 6*s.* a week to answer all the wants of the family, bread excepted.

1. Suppose now, *first*, that in any particular town or place, the certified price of wheat is 4*s.* per bushel, *Winchester* measure; the allowance to the baker for baking, 1*s.*; both together, 5*s.* In the table of the price of bread (stat. 31 G. II. cap. 29.) the price of the half-peck loaf, household, corresponding to 5*s.* is 8½*d.* The average expence in bread of our six families of labourers is one half-peck loaf per head, as may be seen by the abstract so often referred to. A family of five persons therefore will require five such loaves weekly, the value of which is 3*s.* 6½*d.* Add this to the *given amount* of all other articles, 6*s.* and the whole weekly expence comes to 9*s.* 6½*d.* This sum, then, the family ought to earn among them. Suppose the wife and children to earn 1*s.* a week; then the husband, it is plain, ought to receive in this case for his week's labour 8*s.* 6½*d.*; which divided by 6, the number of work-days in a week, gives 1*s.* 5*d.* per day.

2. For a *second* example, let the price of the bushel of wheat with the allowance for baking be 6*s.*; the corresponding price of the half-peck loaf

loaf is 10¼*d.* and of five loaves 4*s.* 3¼*d.* which added to 6*s.* the given sum of all other necessary outgoings, makes 10*s.* 3¼*d.*; and deducting 1*s.* for the supposed earnings of the wife and children, there remains 9*s.* 3¼*d.* which the man ought to get weekly, or 1*s.* 6½*d.* per day.

3. For a *third* instance, suppose the price of the bushel of wheat with the allowance to the baker to be 7*s.*; then the corresponding price of the half-peck loaf will be 1*s.* and of five loaves 5*s.*; and this added to the *given sum* of 6*s.* makes the total 11*s.*; from which deducting 1*s.* for the earnings of the wife and children, the man ought to receive 10*s.* a week, or 1*s.* 8*d.* per day.

4. *Lastly*, Let the price of the bushel of wheat with the allowance be 8*s.*; the corresponding price of the half-peck loaf is 1*s.* 1¼*d.* and the price of five loaves is 5*s.* 9*d.*; which added, as before, to 6*s.* makes the whole weekly expence of the family 11*s.* 9*d.*; out of which deducting 1*s.* for the earnings of the wife and children, there remains the man's wages 10*s.* 9*d.* weekly, or 1*s.* 9½*d.* a day.

In the like manner the wages may be calculated for other variations of the price of corn and bread, and for any other grain besides wheat. But this method of regulating wages will perhaps appear more plain, if we place the foregoing examples in columns, as follows:

| Examples. | Price of the bushel of wheat with allowance for baking. | Weight of the penny-loaf household. | Price of the half-peck loaf household. | Corresponding price of labour per day. |
|-----------|---------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
|           | <i>s.</i> <i>d.</i>                                     | <i>oz.</i> <i>dr.</i>               | <i>s.</i> <i>d.</i>                    | <i>s.</i> <i>d.</i>                    |
| 1         | 5 0                                                     | 16 6                                | 0 8½                                   | 1 5                                    |
| 2         | 6 0                                                     | 13 9                                | 0 10¼                                  | 1 6½                                   |
| 3         | 7 0                                                     | 11 9                                | 1 0                                    | 1 8                                    |
| 4         | 8 0                                                     | 10 2                                | 1 1¼                                   | 1 9½                                   |

Obj.

*Obj.* Whoever casts his eye over this short table must be struck with astonishment at seeing how deficient the present pay of day-labour is, when compared with the price of corn for many years past.

Where fuel is scarce and dear, poor people find it cheaper to buy their bread of the baker, than to bake for themselves; and therefore the baker's allowance is added to the price of the bushel of corn in the above instances. But where fuel abounds, and costs only the trouble of cutting and carrying home, there they may save something by baking their own bread.

By this regulation the common people would be effectually secured from wanting the absolute necessaries of life, provided they were always employed. Nor could the farmers reasonably object against paying their labourers higher wages as the price of grain advanced; because by that very advance they would be abundantly enabled to do this. And for the ground-work of such a regulation, nothing more is required than to continue to enforce the due execution of the statutes for certifying the prices of grain, meal, and flour, and for setting the affize and declaring the price of bread.

Perhaps it might be sufficient, if the price of bread were made to regulate the price of labour for that half of the year only in which labouring people are most distressed, namely, from *Michaelmas* to *Lady-day*, or rather from the 1st of *November* to the 1st of *May*, leaving things to go on as at present for the other half year.

SECTION

## SECTION VII.

## SUPPLYING THE DEFICIENCY OF THE EARNINGS OF LARGE FAMILIES OUT OF THE POOR-RATE.

THE price of day-labour, settled in either of the foregoing methods, is calculated for the necessary support of such families only as consist of not more than five persons. But there are many families which consist of a greater number, and in which none of the children are capable of earning a livelihood. It remains that we consider of a due provision for the relief of these. And I think the properest way of making up the deficiency of their earnings, is by an allowance out of the poor-rate.

For the proposed measure of raising wages is not meant to supersede a poor-rate, but only so to reduce its magnitude, as to exclude the many evils attending it in its present extent. There must still be a rate in every parish, in order not only that large families may not starve for want of that bread which they cannot fully earn, but also that such lesser families, as cannot find constant employment, may, when unemployed, receive due assistance; in short, that all necessitous and infirm persons may be taken proper care of, and none be left to perish through want in a *christian* country.

With respect to such families as consist of more than five persons, all the children being incapable of work, and the mother of course earning very little, there are two methods of making up the deficiency of their earnings

earnings out of the rate; either, *first*, by entitling them to demand a certain *weekly stipend* out of that fund, sufficient for the maintenance of all the children above three in number; or, *secondly*, which appears to be the better way, by allowing to them *wholly*, or *in part*, what I have called the *annual outgoings*, out of the same fund; that is to say, where there are five children unable to work, the family should receive the *whole* amount of those annual outgoings, or about 7*l.* per ann.; and where there are four such children, the family should be allowed the *half* of that sum; not in money, but in rent, fuel, clothing, &c.

And with respect to such large families, wherein one or two of the children earn something, but cannot earn their whole living; these might be privileged to demand a lesser stipend weekly, or to have a specified part of the annual outgoings allowed them, in proportion as the earnings of the family fell short of their maintenance.

A regulation of this kind might induce parishes and their officers to exert themselves in easing poor families of supernumerary children, by apprenticing some, and placing others out in service, as soon as they came to be of a fit age.

In these cases families should have a *legal* claim to such parish allowances, not only on account of the heavy expence and trouble of bringing up a numerous brood of children; but also for having so meritoriously contributed to the population of the kingdom at a time when celibacy in the higher ranks is become so fashionable as to bear taxation. I think there would be good sense in appropriating the tax on batchelors to the better support of families of the above description.

It seems proper too, that provision should be made by law, in more definite terms than has yet been done, that *all* poor families should, whilst

whilst out of work, in sickness, small-pox, and on the like extraordinary occasions, receive due relief out of the rate, until the cause of their distress ceases.

But, in all common cases, such families as have not more than *three* children unable to work may, I think, be thrown off the rate, and left to shift for themselves, their pay being sufficient to maintain them. And *single men*, who can earn much more than they need spend on themselves, should by no means have any claim on the rate, for this obvious reason; namely, that they may resolve in youth and health to be more saving of their money, and be induced to enter into *friendly* and *provident* societies for that purpose.

If some such regulations as these here proposed, with such others as have been already suggested for the employment and encouragement of industrious families, were to accompany the measure of raising wages, the following good consequences would probably result from their joint operation:

1. As the poor-rate would be no longer a partial substitute for wages, the sums of money passing through the hands of the overseers of the poor would be, on this account, much less than they are now: consequently the frauds, impositions, and abuses now complained of, could not then be practised in any alarming degree.

2. The overseers of the poor, being obliged by their oath on admission into the office, either to set poor families on work, or to pay them at a certain rate for idle time; parishes would soon come to see the necessity of requiring from those officers the strict performance of their duty in the former of these respects.

R

3. Men

3. Men having more in family than the average number of five persons, as they would then be secure from the apprehension of wanting necessaries, would seldom be tempted to desert their families and leave them upon their parish, which is now frequently done.

4. And men having fewer than the average number, would become more provident, sober, industrious, and frugal, as knowing themselves not to be entitled to any aid from their parishes, except on certain occasions particularly specified. And for the same reason their wives would perhaps exert themselves more than they now do, to add something to their husbands' earnings, and so contribute to the support of their families: a point, as we have seen, of no small importance.

5. Single men, having nothing but their wages to depend on, would be more careful to make provision against accidents; and when they resolved to marry, would look out for such *notable* wives as could earn money by knitting, spinning, sewing, and the like. And as such women would be then more courted than the ignorant and unskilful, this might induce the women in general to learn these easy and useful arts: and having learnt them, they would know their value, and teach their children the same.

6. Thus sufficient wages being given to day-labourers; idleness, improvidence, and vice checked and discouraged; industry, sobriety, and frugality, countenanced and promoted; the opportunities for frauds, impositions, and abuses, in a great measure, taken away; the poor-rate would of course be reduced, and all those who pay to it would be relieved from a great part of that burden which they now consider as a heavy grievance.

7. The

7. The *charitable* and *humane* might then exercise their benevolence, without the hazard of giving their alms improperly, towards such families and individuals as were excluded from a legal provision, and should accidentally fall into distress: for, it is well known that oftentimes what is now apparently given to the poor, is in reality a mere donation to the rich.

8. Offenders against the *game-laws* might then be punished rigorously with some shew of justice; because the plea of *necessity* could not be alledged in mitigation of the offence; their only motive in pursuing game could then be merely to procure money to be spent in drink.

9. *Lastly*; Justices of the peace would in a little time be eased of a great part of the trouble which they are now obliged to take in settling disputes concerning the poor.



## SECTION VIII.

A SUPPOSED OBJECTION AGAINST THE MEASURE OF RAISING  
WAGES, ANSWERED.

## CONCLUSION.

HAVING stated, as plainly as I could, all that has occurred to my mind, with respect to labourers in husbandry, as highly deserving the public attention, I will only add a few short observations, and conclude.

Of the measures which have been here proposed for the relief of labouring families, those which appear most necessary to be immediately adopted, are the two following; viz. that of *raising wages*, and that of *providing employment for women and girls*. These two measures should go together. The laws in being enjoin the doing of both these things; but there is a lamentable defect in the execution. It is on the enacting of a *supplementary law* for enforcing these two measures, that we are to look for an amendment of the condition of labouring families, and for a salutary reduction of the poor-rates.

I am not aware that any solid objection can be urged against the immediate adoption of these two measures, and therefore I trust that they will speedily attract the notice of the legislature; and, if after examination, they are approved, be digested into a proper form for receiving their sanction. Justice, sound policy, and religion, seem all to require that *something* should be done forthwith in favour of that denomination of people, whose distressed case we have been contemplating.

I am

I am convinced that the measure of raising wages must, from necessity, be very soon adopted. Indeed that opinion becomes every day more and more prevalent. But as it will probably, for some time to come, be disliked by many, I will here say a few words more on this head. If any one should object that this measure will injure the farmer, *who feeds us all*; and should think that he ought to be left at liberty to get labour as cheap as he can; I answer, *first*, that however valuable the farmer may be, and confessedly is, as a member of the community, yet the day-labourer must be acknowledged to be *equally* valuable. The great body of farmers are indeed the principal employers of the far greater body of day-labourers; but what could the former do without the latter? "*The head cannot say to the feet, I have no need of you.*" As these together constitute the greater part of the nation, so the prosperity of the one, and the comfortable situation of the other, are equally essential to the national happiness. All orders of men are much interested in the well-being of all those who are occupied in the cultivation of the soil. This will hardly be denied.

I answer, *secondly*, that when the measure of raising wages is carried into execution, the farmer will *probably* find at the year's end, that he has saved more in poor-rates than the advance in pay has taken from him. This must be the case if this measure be accompanied, as it ought to be, by that for enforcing the law for setting the poor to work. However, were it otherwise, yet the day-labourer must be enabled to subsist his family. And as the land-owner should not oppress the farmer, by exacting an excessive rent; so neither should the farmer oppress the day-labourer, by giving him for his work less than its value: for "*the labourer is worthy of his hire.*" If the land-owner has  
in



in some instances, by raising the rent too high, forced the farmer to squeeze the day-labourer, he has been thereby guilty of a *double* oppression. The truth is, the price of every article of the produce of land has been rising continually for a long time past; and *this* has both enriched the farmer, and enabled the landlord to raise his rents. But on the other hand, this has also contributed greatly to impoverish and distress the day-labourer. Therefore, though the measure of raising wages should take some small matter out of the pockets of the farmer and land-owner; yet it is evident that, even on this supposition, neither of them will have any reasonable ground of complaint.

That spirit of humanity, which, pervading all ranks, eminently characterizes this nation, and which has been ever ready to relieve the private distress of the stranger, the fatherless, and the widow, as soon as it was made known, encourages me in hoping that this feeble attempt to represent faithfully the miserable state of the great body of our peasantry, will meet with a candid, and even generous reception from those who have the power of removing the grievance.

*Gratitude* obliges me to say, that this little work would never have seen the light, had it not been for the assistance kindly given me by a most valuable *friend*, whose zeal in the cause of the industrious poor first suggested the idea of an enquiry into their circumstances; who also furnished me with several hints and observations whilst I was employed in writing these sheets; and through whose hands I received most of the papers contained in the following Appendix.

APPENDIX.

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APPENDIX.

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*APPENDIX;*

CONTAINING

A COLLECTION OF ACCOUNTS,

SHEWING

THE EARNINGS AND EXPENCES OF LABOURING FAMILIES IN  
DIFFERENT PARTS OF THE KINGDOM.

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“PAUPER UBIQUE JACET!” *Queen Elizabeth's Exclamation, in her Progress  
through the Kingdom.*—See RUGGLES's Hist. of the Poor, vol. i. p. 186.

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THE *first* paper in this collection is that which was circulated for the purpose of obtaining information. It is here reprinted just as it was originally drawn up, because some of the following papers refer to it in *that* state; but as the *annual expences*, especially the articles of *rent and clothing*, have since appeared to me to be estimated too low in *this* account, I have made *them* more correct in that which is given in Part I, p. 18. This collection contains *all* the accounts that have come to my hands in consequence of the distribution of the *Barkham* paper. In the *Table of Contents* prefixed, I have thought it necessary to give some *short notes* on the accounts.

D. D.

A LIST of the ACCOUNTS

CONTAINED IN  
THIS APPENDIX,

WITH SHORT NOTES ON THEM.

| COUNTIES.   | PARISHES.             | NOTES.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|-------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Berks.      | BARKHAM.              | The <i>annual outgoings</i> are made more correct in Part I, p. 18.                                                                                                                                                                           |
|             | PANGBOURN.            | A man's <i>extra earnings</i> in harvest may be reckoned at 1l.; which, if added to the earnings in these accounts, would make the deficiency in each fo much lefs. The <i>annual expences</i> are here, very properly, stated at 7l. nearly. |
| Cornwall.   | ANTONY SAINT JACOB.   | <i>Barley bread.</i> The <i>annual outgoings</i> are stated very low. <i>No beer. No cheefe.</i>                                                                                                                                              |
|             | ST. AUSTEL.           | No beer. No cheefe.                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|             | ST. MICHAEL PENKEVIL. | No beer. No cheefe.                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Derbyshire. | KEDDLESTONE.          | In the <i>annual expences</i> rent and fuel only are accounted for. Nothing for clothing, lying-in, &c. The harvest gains are not, probably, included in the earnings: about 1l. each family.                                                 |

| COUNTIES.    | PARISHES.          | NOTES.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|--------------|--------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Dorsetshire. | APP-PIDDLE.        | The parish pays the rent of Nos. 1, 3, 4, 6: No. 6 allowed fuel too. The allowance for clothing very small. If the <i>annual expences</i> were completed by the addition of rent, fuel, and a more competent sum for clothing, there would then be great deficiencies at the foot of <i>all</i> these accounts. |
|              | BISHOP'S-CAUNDLE.  | Perhaps in these accounts the <i>extra</i> gains in harvest should be added to the earnings; which would of course lessen the deficiencies so much.                                                                                                                                                             |
|              | Town of SHERBORNE. | In these accounts the charge for clothing is very low. Nothing for casualties. No beer. If a proper sum of expenditure were allowed for each family, there would then be deficiencies where we now see exceedings. On the other hand the <i>extra</i> earnings in harvest seem to be omitted.                   |
|              | STINSFORD.         | Rent and fuel paid for by the parish: if these were added to the expences, there would be deficiencies in <i>all</i> these accounts, except perhaps in No. 4 of four persons.                                                                                                                                   |
| Durham.      | AUCKLAND-CASTLE.   | The article of clothing seems high; but warm clothes are necessary in the Northern counties.                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |

| COUNTIES.        | PARISHES.                       | NOTES.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                  | TANFIELD.                       | Rye and mallin flour, and some wheat flour, used here. <i>Annual expences</i> the same as in the Barkham account. Several families (Mr. Whitelocke observes) live comfortably on 7s. <i>per week</i> , or 18l. 4s. <i>per annum</i> . |
| Gloucestershire. | NEWENT.                         | If these families were obliged to buy their fuel, the deficiencies at the bottom of their accounts would be so much greater than they are stated at.                                                                                  |
| Hampshire.       | CRAWLEY.                        | These families <i>have</i> beer and cheese. The parish pays the rent of Nos. 2 and 5: if the rent were added to the expences, there would be a deficiency in <i>all</i> these accounts.                                               |
|                  | LONG PARISH.                    | Some of these families <i>have</i> beer, and some cheese. The <i>annual expences</i> are stated very properly at 7l.                                                                                                                  |
|                  | MONK-SHERBORNE and BASING.      | No <i>tea</i> in any of these accounts. Rent not included in the expences of Nos. 1, 2, 3.                                                                                                                                            |
| Lancashire.      | ST. MICHAEL, PRESTON, GARSTANG. | Oat-meal bread and potatoes. No cheese. By this account it appears that a family of five persons may subsist here on the present wages.                                                                                               |
|                  | WINWICK.                        | Meal, flour, and potatoes, 6s. for seven persons. The <i>annual expences</i> of this family seem <i>very</i> high.                                                                                                                    |

| COUNTIES.         | PARISHES.                       | NOTES.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|-------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Dorfolk.          | MARSHAM.                        | The Poor-Rate amazingly high.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Northamptonshire. | BRINGTON.                       | Of these accounts No. 2 of six persons is most deserving of regard; the others are families of an uncommon description.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|                   | CASTOR.                         | These accounts seem complete.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Somersetshire.    | HOLWELL.                        | None of the <i>annual expences</i> are brought to account, except clothing: if <i>these</i> were completed, the deficiencies would be 4l. or 5l. greater than they are set down at.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Surry.            | SIDLESHAM.                      | In Nos. 2, 3, 4, the parish allowance of 1s. per week is reckoned in the earnings. No other <i>annual expences</i> are accounted for, but rent and fuel. No. 2, no fuel. No. 3, no rent. The price of malt and hops not included in the expences. It is plain, therefore, that if the parish allowance of 1s. per week were deducted from the earnings, and the expences made complete, there would be a considerable deficiency at the bottom of all these accounts, except perhaps in No. 2. |
| Sussex & Surry.   | TUNTINGTON<br>AND<br>SIDLESHAM. | In five of these accounts there <i>appears</i> to be a considerable surplus; but the expences are not complete: if they were made so, there would be a deficiency at the foot of them all, except perhaps in No. 1 of three persons.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |

| COUNTIES.                                    | PARISHES.                                                 | NOTES.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Westmorland.                                 | MARTON.                                                   | The food of day-labouring families is rye and barley bread, potatoes, milk and bread, oatmeal porridge. <i>No meat.</i> No beer. Yet the deficiencies are great.                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Worshire.                                    | THORNER,<br>AND<br>CHAPEL-ALLERTON,<br><i>near Leeds.</i> | These accounts seem complete. The half-peck loaf is here reckoned at 1s. which perhaps may now be regarded as the <i>mean</i> price. It is remarkable that the two families of four persons have great deficiencies.                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Wales.                                       |                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| DENBIGHSHIRE.                                | LLANDEGLA.                                                | Barley and oatmeal bread. No beer.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| MERIONETH.                                   | LLANFAWR.                                                 | Ditto.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Scotland.                                    |                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| ABERDEENSHIRE,<br>E. LOTHIAN,<br>SUTHERLAND. |                                                           | These accounts furnish wonderful instances of good œconomy. The penury in which the people live, will perhaps account for a remarkable fact mentioned by Dr. A. Smith in his <i>Wealth of Nations</i> , viz. That in the Highlands it is not uncommon for a woman who has borne twenty children, not to have <i>two</i> alive! It will account also for the emigrations from that country. |



PARISH OF BARKHAM, BERKS.

COLLECTED AT EASTER 1787, FIRST PRINTED IN JUNE 1788.

Expences and Earnings of six Families of Labourers, by the Week, and by the Year.

|                                                | No. 1.<br>7 Persons. | No. 2.<br>7 Persons. | No. 3.<br>6 Persons. | No. 4.<br>5 Persons. | No. 5.<br>5 Persons. | No. 6.<br>4 Persons. |
|------------------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| <i>Expences per Week.</i>                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |
| Bread or Flour - - - -                         | 0 6 3                | 0 5 5                | 0 5 0                | 0 2 6                | 0 3 9                | 0 4 2                |
| Yeast and Salt - - - -                         | 0 0 4                | 0 0 3½               | 0 0 3½               | 0 0 2½               | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                |
| Bacon or other Meat - -                        | 0 0 8                | 0 1 4                | 0 0 8                | 0 1 9                | 0 1 8                | 0 1 0                |
| Tea, Sugar, Butter - - -                       | 0 1 0                | 0 1 0                | 0 1 0                | 0 1 2¼               | 0 1 0                | 0 0 10               |
| Cheese (seldom any) - -                        | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 2½               | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                |
| Beer (seldom any) - - -                        | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 5                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                |
| Soap, Starch, Blue, - - -                      | 0 0 2½               | 0 0 2½               | 0 0 2½               | 0 0 3                | 0 0 6                | 0 0 2¼               |
| Candles - - - - -                              | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                |
| Thread, Thrum, Worsted -                       | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 2                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                |
| Total                                          | 0 8 11½              | 0 8 9                | 0 7 7½               | 0 6 11½              | 0 7 8                | 0 6 11½              |
| Amount per annum                               | 23 4 9               | 22 15 0              | 19 17 7              | 18 0 9               | 19 18 8              | 18 0 9               |
| <i>Earnings per Week.</i>                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |
| The Man earns at a medium                      | 0 8 0                | Parish pay 5 0       | 0 8 0                | 0 8 4                | 0 8 0                | 0 8 0                |
| The Woman - - - - -                            | 0 0 6                | 0 1 0                | 0 0 6                | 0 0 8                | 0 1 0                | 0 0 6                |
| The Children - - - - -                         | 0 0 0                | 0 3 0                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                |
| Total                                          | 0 8 6                | 0 9 0                | 0 8 6                | 0 9 0                | 0 9 0                | 0 8 6                |
| Amount per annum                               | 22 2 0               | 23 8 0               | 22 2 0               | 23 8 0               | 23 8 0               | 22 2 0               |
| <i>To the above Amount of</i>                  |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |
| Expences per annum - - -                       | 23 4 9               | 22 15 0              | 19 17 7              | 18 0 9               | 19 18 8              | 18 0 9               |
| Add Rent, Fuel, Clothes, Lying-in, &c. - - - - | 6 0 0                | 6 0 0                | 6 0 0                | 6 0 0                | 6 0 0                | 6 0 0                |
| Total of Expences per annum                    | 29 4 9               | 28 15 0              | 25 17 7              | 24 0 9               | 25 18 8              | 24 0 9               |
| Total of Earnings per annum                    | 22 2 0               | 23 8 0               | 22 2 0               | 23 8 0               | 23 8 0               | 22 2 0               |
| Deficiency of Earnings - -                     | 7 2 9                | 5 7 0                | 3 15 7               | 0 12 9               | 2 10 8               | 1 18 9               |

PARISH OF BARKHAM.

ACCOUNT OF THE FAMILIES.

No. 1. A man, his wife, and five children, the eldest eight years of age, the youngest an infant.

No. 2. A woman, whose husband is run away, and six children; the eldest a boy of sixteen years of age, the next a boy aged thirteen, the youngest five: four of the children too young to earn any thing.

No. 3. A man, his wife, and four small children, the eldest under six years of age, the youngest an infant.

No. 4. A man, his wife, and three small children, the eldest not quite five years old, the youngest an infant.

No. 5. A man, his wife, and three young children, the eldest six years of age, the youngest an infant.

No. 6. A man, his wife, and two young children, the eldest seven years of age, the youngest four.

ANNUAL EXPENCES.

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | £. s. d. |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| Rent of a cottage and garden, from 1l. 5s. to 2l. 2s. say - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 1 10 0   |
| Fuel, if bought, costs 12s. but reckoned here at a week's wages, because a man can in a week cut turf enough on the common to serve the year, and the farmers give the carriage for the ashes - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 0 8 0    |
| Clothing.—The Man's: wear of a suit per annum 5s.; wear of a working jacket and breeches 4s.; two shirts 8s.; one pair of stout shoes nailed 7s.; two pair of stockings 4s.; hat, handkerchief, &c. 2s.:—sum 1l. 10s. —The Woman's: wear of gown and petticoats 4s.; one shift 3s. 6d.; one pair of strong shoes 4s.; one pair of stockings 1s. 6d.; two aprons 3s.; handkerchiefs, caps, &c. 4s.:—sum 1l. —But as few poor people can every year bestow on themselves the sums here supposed, let the children's clothing (partly made up of the parents' old clothes, partly bought at second-hand) be included, and the whole estimated at - - - | 2 10 0   |
| Lying-in, sickness and loss of time thereby; burials, and loss of time by extreme bad weather; estimated one year with another at - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 1 12 0   |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | £. 6 0 0 |

Rent, fuel, clothing, lying-in, &c. are set down in the columns at 6l. to every family alike, because it is the least sum at which those articles can well be reckoned.

The tea used per family is from 1 to 1½ oz. per week, at 2d. per oz.  
Soft sugar, ½ lb. at 7d. to 8d. per lb.  
Salt butter, or lard, ½ lb. at 7½d. to 8d. per lb.  
Poor people reckon cheese the dearest article they can buy.

Malt is so dear, they seldom brew any small beer, except against a lying-in or a christening.  
To eke out soap, they burn green fern, and knead the ashes into balls, with which they make a lye for washing.

In No. 5, the woman washes for one or two single labourers, for which reason 6d. is charged for soap.

In No. 4, the charge for bread is considerably less than in the others; because that family, by buying a whole hog at once, has for the same money almost double the quantity of meat, which the others get who buy by retail; and that greater quantity of meat, with greens and potatoes, makes the bread go farther.

|                                                                                                          | £. s. d. |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| Price of the half-peck loaf of wheaten bread - - - - -                                                   | 0 11½    |
| — of the gallon of flour - - - - -                                                                       | 0 10     |
| — of a week's labour in winter - - - - -                                                                 | 7 0      |
| — of a week's labour, where the labourer is employed constantly, all weather, the year through - - - - - | 8 0      |

PANGBOURN, BERKS.

[COMMUNICATED BY THE REV. W. ROMAINE, JUN. IN FEB. 1790.]

EXPENCES AND EARNINGS OF SIX FAMILIES OF LABOURERS,  
BY THE WEEK, AND BY THE YEAR.

|                               | No. 1.<br>5 Persons.              | No. 2.<br>7 Persons.               | No. 3.<br>3 Persons.              | No. 4.<br>8 Persons.                |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <i>Expences per Week.</i>     |                                   |                                    |                                   |                                     |
| Bread                         | 0 4 6                             | 0 8 0                              | 0 4 0                             | 0 7 10 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>  |
| Salt                          | 0 0 2                             | 0 0 2                              | 0 0 2                             | 0 0 1                               |
| Meat, chiefly Bacon           | 0 1 6                             | 0 1 0                              | 0 1 0                             | 0 0 0                               |
| Tea, Sugar, Salt, Butter      | 0 1 0                             | 0 1 2                              | 0 1 0                             | 0 1 10 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>  |
| Cheese                        | 0 0 4 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> | 0 0 0                              | 0 0 2 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub> | 0 0 2 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub>   |
| Beer                          | 0 0 0                             | 0 0 0                              | 0 0 5                             | 0 0 0                               |
| Soap, &c.                     | 0 0 4                             | 0 0 2 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub>  | 0 0 2                             | 0 0 3                               |
| Candles                       | 0 0 4                             | 0 0 4                              | 0 0 3                             | 0 0 4                               |
| Thread, &c.                   | 0 0 3                             | 0 0 2                              | 0 0 3                             | 0 0 3                               |
| Total                         | 0 8 5 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> | 0 11 0 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub> | 0 7 5 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> | 0 10 10 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> |
| Amount per annum              | 21 19 10                          | 28 13 1                            | 19 6 9                            | 28 4 5                              |
| <i>Earnings per Week.</i>     |                                   |                                    |                                   |                                     |
| The Man earns at a medium     | 0 7 0                             | 0 8 0                              | 0 6 0                             | 0 7 0                               |
| The Woman                     | 0 0 8                             | 0 0 0                              | 0 1 6                             | 0 1 6                               |
| The Children                  | 0 0 0                             | 0 2 0                              | 0 0 6                             | 0 0 0                               |
| Total                         | 0 7 8                             | 0 10 0                             | 0 8 0                             | 0 8 6                               |
| Amount per annum              | 19 18 8                           | 26 0 0                             | 20 16 0                           | 22 2 0                              |
| <i>To the above Amount of</i> |                                   |                                    |                                   |                                     |
| Expences per annum            | 21 19 10                          | 28 13 1                            | 19 6 9                            | 28 4 5                              |
| Add Rent, Fuel, Clothes, &c.  | 6 19 0                            | 8 12 0                             | 6 19 0                            | 6 19 0                              |
| Total Expences per annum      | 28 18 10                          | 37 5 1                             | 26 5 9                            | 35 3 5                              |
| Total Earnings per annum      | 19 18 8                           | 26 18 8                            | 20 16 0                           | 22 2 0                              |
| Deficiency                    | 9 0 2                             | 10 6 5                             | 5 9 9                             | 13 1 5                              |

The above is as accurate a statement as a personal enquiry could afford me from the different families.  
The harvest additional earnings are not, but ought to be included.

PANGBOURN, BERKS.

ACCOUNT OF THE FAMILIES.

ANNUAL EXPENCES.

No. 1. A man, (being a widower) woman, (the wife's mother) 3 children, the eldest aged ten, the youngest five.

|                                                  | £ | s. | d.     |
|--------------------------------------------------|---|----|--------|
| Rents* of Cottages and Gardens, on average, each | - | -  | 2 2 0  |
| Fuel;†—one load of beech                         | - | -  | 0 15 0 |
| Clothing, as per printed estimate for Barkham    | 2 | 10 | 0      |
| Lying-in, sickness, &c. as per ditto             | - | -  | 1 12 0 |
|                                                  | £ | 6  | 19 0   |

No. 2. A man, wife, and five children, the eldest twelve, the youngest two years old.

No. 1. Four half-peck loaves; <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>lb. falt butter; 2 oz. tea; 1lb. cheefe; <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>lb. soap; <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>lb. candles; per week.

No. 3. A man, wife, and one daughter aged twelve.

No. 2. Bake at home a bushel of flour per week: <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>lb. butter; 2 oz. tea; <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>lb. fugar; <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>lb. candles; thread, &c. per week 2d. Some of their flour serves instead of starch. The woman earns nothing, having a sick child, besides the other children, to attend, and being herself infirm.

No. 4. A man, wife, and six children, the eldest aged eleven years and a half, the youngest one year and a half.

No. 3. Flour, half a bushel; bacon 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>lb. more or less; tea 2 oz.; fugar <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>lb.; butter <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>lb.; beer 1 quart.

No. 4. Seven gallon loaves; tea 2 oz. at 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>d.; 1lb. fugar, at 7d.; butter and dripping 10d.; cheefe <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>lb.

|                                      | £ | s. | d.                            |
|--------------------------------------|---|----|-------------------------------|
| Price of the half-peck loaf, wheaten | 0 | 1  | 1 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> |
| Flour per bushel                     | - | -  | 0 8 0                         |

\* The house-rent of No. 2 is £2 10 0 per annum.

† The fuel of No. 2 is £2 0 0—supposed so on account of the continued illness of one of the children, as the man's account varies so much from the rest: perhaps the hedge-rows supply some of the others with what may be wanted over the above allowance of a single load.

PARISH OF ANTONY IN THE EAST, OTHERWISE ANTONY ST. JACOB,  
IN THE COUNTY OF CORNWALL.

[COMMUNICATED BY P. CAREW, ESQ; 1789.]

EXPENCES AND EARNINGS OF SIX FAMILIES OF LABOURERS,  
BY THE WEEK, AND BY THE YEAR.

|                                                                                                            | No. 1.<br>7 Persons. | No. 2.<br>6 Persons. | No. 3.<br>6 Persons. | No. 4.<br>5 Persons. | No. 5.<br>4 Persons. | No. 6.<br>4 Persons. |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| <i>Expences per Week.</i>                                                                                  |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |
| Bread and Flour                                                                                            | 0 3 6                | 0 3 2                | 0 3 0                | 0 3 4                | 0 3 0                | 0 3 6                |
| Yeast and Salt                                                                                             | 0 0 3                | 0 0 2 $\frac{1}{2}$  | 0 0 2 $\frac{1}{2}$  | 0 0 2 $\frac{1}{2}$  | 0 0 2 $\frac{1}{2}$  | 0 0 3                |
| Bacon or other Meat                                                                                        | 0 1 9                | 0 1 6                | 0 1 6                | 0 1 0                | 0 1 6                | 0 1 9                |
| Tea, Milk, and Sugar                                                                                       | 0 0 8                | 0 0 6                | 0 1 8                | 0 1 0                | 0 0 6                | 0 0 8                |
| Cheese (never any)                                                                                         | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                |
| Beer (never any)                                                                                           | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                |
| Soap, Starch, and Blue,                                                                                    | 0 0 3                | 0 0 2 $\frac{1}{4}$  | 0 0 2                | 0 0 2 $\frac{1}{2}$  | 0 0 2                | 0 0 3                |
| Candles                                                                                                    | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 2                |
| Thread, Yarn, and Worsted                                                                                  | 0 0 2                | 0 0 1 $\frac{1}{2}$  | 0 0 1 $\frac{1}{2}$  | 0 0 1 $\frac{1}{2}$  | 0 0 2                | 0 0 1                |
| Total                                                                                                      | 0 6 10               | 0 5 11 $\frac{1}{4}$ | 0 5 11               | 0 6 1 $\frac{1}{2}$  | 0 5 9 $\frac{1}{2}$  | 0 6 8                |
| Amount per annum                                                                                           | 17 15 4              | 15 8 9               | 15 7 8               | 15 18 6              | 15 1 2               | 17 6 8               |
| <i>Earnings per Week.</i>                                                                                  |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |
| The Man at a medium                                                                                        | 0 7 0                | 0 7 0                | 0 7 0                | 0 7 0                | 0 6 6                | 0 6 6                |
| The Woman                                                                                                  | 0 0 6                | 0 0 8                | 0 0 10               | 0 1 0                | 0 0 10               | 0 1 6                |
| The Children                                                                                               | 0 0 9                | 0 0 6                | 0 0 6                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                |
| Total                                                                                                      | 0 8 3                | 0 8 2                | 0 8 4                | 0 8 0                | 0 7 4                | 0 8 0                |
| Amount per annum                                                                                           | 21 9 0               | 21 4 8               | 21 13 4              | 20 16 0              | 19 1 4               | 20 16 0              |
| <i>To the above Amount of</i>                                                                              |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |
| Expences per annum                                                                                         | 17 15 4              | 15 8 9               | 15 7 8               | 15 18 6              | 15 1 2               | 17 6 8               |
| Add Rent, Fuel, Clothing,<br>Lying-in, &c.                                                                 | 5 12 6               | 5 12 6               | 5 12 6               | 5 12 6               | 5 12 6               | 5 12 6               |
| Total Expences per annum                                                                                   | 23 7 10              | 21 1 3               | 21 0 2               | 21 11 0              | 20 13 8              | 22 19 2              |
| Total Earnings per annum                                                                                   | 21 9 0               | 21 4 8               | 21 13 4              | 20 16 0              | 19 1 4               | 20 16 0              |
| Deficiency of Earnings<br>(Except No. 2, which saves 3s. 5d.; and<br>No. 3, which saves 13s. 2d. per ann.) | 1 18 10              | 0 3 5                | 0 13 2               | 0 15 0               | 1 12 4               | 2 3 2                |
|                                                                                                            |                      | Surplus.             | Surplus.             |                      |                      |                      |

PARISH OF ANTONY IN THE EAST, CORNWALL.

ACCOUNT OF THE FAMILIES.

No. 1. A man, his wife, and five children, the eldest nine years of age, the youngest an infant.

No. 2. A man, his wife, and four children, the eldest eight years of age, the youngest an infant.

No. 3. A man, his wife, and four children, the eldest eight years of age, the youngest an infant.

No. 4. A man, his wife, and three children, the eldest seven years of age, the youngest two years.

No. 5. A man, his wife, and two children, the eldest three years of age, the youngest one year old.

No. 6. A man, his wife, and two children, the eldest four years of age, the youngest two years.

ANNUAL EXPENCES.

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | £. | s. | d.   |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|----|------|
| Rent of a cottage, at a medium                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | -  | -  | 10 0 |
| Part of the fuel supposed to be bought (the remainder thereof they gather or pick up by the cliffs, and from the farmers' fields and hedges)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | -  | -  | 12 0 |
| Clothing.—The Man's: wear of a fuit per annum 4s.; wear of a working jacket and breeches 3s.; two shirts 7s.; one pair of shoes, soled and nailed, 7s. 6d.; two pair of stockings 3s. 6d.; hat, handkerchief, &c. 2s. 6d.;—sum 11. 7s. 6d.—The Woman's: wear of gown and petticoats 4s.; shift 3s. 6d.; one pair of shoes, nailed, &c. 4s.; one pair of stockings 1s. 6d.; two aprons 3s.; handkerchiefs, caps, &c. 3s.;—sum 19s.—The Children's clothing (over and above their parents' old clothes which is made up for them) 10s. | 2  | 16 | 6    |
| Lying-in, sickness, and loss of time thereby, burials, and loss of time by extreme bad weather, estimated one year with another at                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | 0  | 14 | 0    |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | £. | 5  | 12 6 |

Rent, fuel, clothing, lying-in, &c. are set down in the columns at 5l. 12s. 6d. to every family alike, because it is the least sum at which those articles can well be reckoned.

|                                                                                                                             | £. | s. | d.              |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|----|-----------------|
| Price of the half-peck loaf of wheaten bread                                                                                | -  | -  | 11              |
| — of a gallon of flour                                                                                                      | -  | 0  | 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| — of eight gallons of barley (being the chief article for making bread for the poor)                                        | 0  | 2  | 9               |
| Price of a week's labour, where the labourer is employed constantly, all weather, the year through—some 7s., others 6s. 6d. |    |    |                 |

Tea commonly sold at 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per ounce.  
Soft sugar from 6d. to 7d. per pound.  
Poor people reckon cheese the dearest article they can buy.  
Malt is so dear, they seldom brew any beer, except against a lying-in or a christening.  
Price of eight gallons of wheat 6s. of which the poor in general use very little.

PARISH OF ST. AUSTEL, CORNWALL;  
REV. RICHARD HENNAH, VICAR.

[COMMUNICATED BY MRS. LEVESON GOWER.]

EXPENCES AND EARNINGS OF SIX FAMILIES OF LABOURERS,  
BY THE WEEK, AND BY THE YEAR.

|                                                     | No. 1.<br>7 Persons. | No. 2.<br>7 Persons. | No. 3.<br>6 Persons. | No. 4.<br>5 Persons. | No. 5.<br>5 Persons. | No. 6.<br>4 Persons. |
|-----------------------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| <i>Expences per Week.</i>                           |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |
| Bread or Flour* - - - -                             | £. s. d. 0 7 3½      | £. s. d. 0 7 0       | £. s. d. 0 6 5       | £. s. d. 0 5 6½      | £. s. d. 0 5 6½      | £. s. d. 0 4 8       |
| Yeast and Salt - - - -                              | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 2½               | 0 0 2½               | 0 0 2                |
| Bacon or other Meat - -                             | 0 1 0                | 0 1 0                | 0 0 8                | 0 1 0                | 0 1 0                | 0 1 0                |
| Tea, Sugar, Butter - - -                            | 0 1 0                | 0 1 0                | 0 1 0                | 0 1 0                | 0 1 0                | 0 0 10               |
| Cheese (seldom any) - -                             | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                |
| Beer (seldom any) - - -                             | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                |
| Soap, Starch, Blue - - -                            | 0 0 2½               | 0 0 2½               | 0 0 2½               | 0 0 2½               | 0 0 6                | 0 0 2½               |
| Candles - - - - -                                   | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                |
| Thread, Thrum, Worsted -                            | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                |
| Total                                               | 0 10 3               | 0 9 11½              | 0 9 0½               | 0 8 5½               | 0 8 9                | 0 7 4½               |
| Amount per annum                                    | 26 13 0              | 25 17 10             | 23 10 2              | 21 19 10             | 22 15 0              | 19 3 6               |
| <i>Earnings per Week.</i>                           |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |
| The Man earns at a medium                           | £. s. d. 0 6 0       | Parish pay } 4 0 0   | £. s. d. 0 6 0       | £. s. d. 0 6 0       | £. s. d. 0 6 0       | £. s. d. 0 6 0       |
| The Woman - - - - -                                 | 0 0 6                | 0 0 6                | 0 0 6                | 0 0 8                | 0 0 8                | 0 1 0                |
| The Children - - - - -                              | 0 0 6                | 0 5 0                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                |
| Total                                               | 0 7 0                | 0 9 6                | 0 6 6                | 0 6 8                | 0 6 8                | 0 7 0                |
| Amount per annum                                    | 18 4 0               | 24 14 0              | 16 18 0              | 17 6 8               | 17 6 8               | 18 4 0               |
| <i>Summary</i>                                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |
| To the above Amount of                              | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             |
| Expences per annum - - -                            | 26 13 0              | 25 17 10             | 23 10 2              | 21 19 10             | 22 15 0              | 19 3 6               |
| Add Rent, Fuel, Clothes,<br>Lying-in, &c. - - - - - | 6 0 0                | 6 0 0                | 6 0 0                | 6 0 0                | 6 0 0                | 6 0 0                |
| Total Expences per annum -                          | 32 13 0              | 31 17 10             | 29 10 2              | 27 19 10             | 28 15 0              | 25 3 6               |
| Total Earnings per annum -                          | 18 4 0               | 24 14 0              | 16 18 0              | 17 6 8               | 17 6 8               | 18 4 0               |
| Deficiency of Earnings - -                          | 14 9 0               | 7 3 10               | 12 12 2              | 10 13 2              | 11 8 4               | 6 19 6               |

\* The charge of bread or flour to each individual of a family per day is as under:  
Labourer 3d.—Wife 2d.—Child 1½d.

PARISH OF ST. AUSTEL, CORNWALL.

ACCOUNT OF THE FAMILIES.

ANNUAL EXPENCES.

No. 1. A man, his wife, and five children, the eldest eight years of age, the youngest an infant.

No. 2. A woman, whose husband is run away, and six children; the eldest a boy of sixteen years of age, the next a boy aged thirteen, the youngest five: four of the children too young to earn any thing.

No. 3. A man, his wife, and four small children, the eldest under six years of age, the youngest an infant.

No. 4. A man, his wife, and three small children, the eldest not quite five years old, the youngest an infant.

No. 5. A man, his wife, and three young children, the eldest six years of age, the youngest an infant.

No. 6. A man, his wife, and two young children, the eldest seven years of age, the youngest four.

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | £. s. d. |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| Rent of a cottage and garden, from 1l. 5s. to 2l. 2s. fay - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 1 10 0   |
| Fuel, if bought, cofts 12s. but reckoned here at a week's wages, because a man can in a week cut turf enough on the common to serve the year, and the farmers give the carriage for the ashes - - - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 0 8 0    |
| Clothing.—The Man's: wear of a suit per annum 5s.; wear of a jacket and breeches 4s.; two shirts 8s.; a pair of stout shoes nailed 7s.; two pair of stockings 4s.; hat, handkerchief, &c. 2s.:—sum 1l. 10s. —The Woman's: wear of gown and petticoats 4s.; one shift 3s. 6d.; one pair of strong shoes 4s.; one pair of stockings 1s. 6d.; two aprons 3s.; handkerchiefs, caps, &c. 4s.:—sum 1l.—But as few poor people can every year bestow on themselves the sums here supposed, let the children's clothing (partly made up of the parents' old clothes, partly bought at second-hand) be included, and the whole estimated at - - - | 2 10 0   |
| Lying-in, sickness and loss of time thereby; burials, and loss of time by extreme bad weather; estimated one year with another at - - -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | 1 12 0   |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | £. 6 0 0 |

Rent, fuel, clothing, lying-in, &c. are set down in the columns at 6l. to every family alike, because it is the least sum at which those articles can well be reckoned.

The tea used per family is from 1 to 1½ oz. per week, at 2d. per oz.

Soft sugar, ½ lb. at 7d. to 8d. per lb.

Salt butter, or lard, ½ lb. at 7½d. per lb.

Poor people reckon cheese the dearest article they can buy.

Malt is so dear, they seldom brew any small beer, except against a lying-in or a christening.

To eke out soap, they burn green fern, and knead the ashes into balls, with which they make a lye for washing.

In No. 5, the woman washes for one or two single labourers, for which reason 6d. is charged for soap.

No. 4. This case, I may venture to say, seldom or never occurs in this neighbourhood.

|                                                                                                          | £. s. d. |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| Price of the half-peck loaf of wheaten bread - - - - -                                                   | 0 1 1    |
| — of the gallon of flour - - - - -                                                                       | 0 0 9    |
| — of a week's labour in winter - - - - -                                                                 | 0 6 0    |
| — of a week's labour, where the labourer is employed constantly, all weather, the year through - - - - - | 0 6 0    |

PARISH OF ST. MICHAEL PENKEVILL, CORNWALL.

[COMMUNICATED BY LORD VISCOUNT FALMOUTH, IN 1790.]

EXPENCES AND EARNINGS OF SIX FAMILIES OF LABOURERS,  
BY THE WEEK, AND BY THE YEAR.

|                                                 | No. 1.<br>7 Persons. | No. 2.<br>5 Persons. | No. 3.<br>6 Persons. | No. 4.<br>3 Persons. | No. 5.<br>3 Persons. | No. 6.<br>3 Persons. |
|-------------------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| <i>Expences per Week.</i>                       |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |
|                                                 | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             |
| Bread or Flour - - - -                          | 0 4 6                | 0 4 0                | 0 4 6                | 0 2 3                | 0 2 6                | 0 2 3                |
| Yeast and Salt - - - -                          | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 1½               | 0 0 1½               | 0 0 1½               |
| Bacon or other Meat - -                         | 0 1 9                | 0 1 9                | 0 1 9                | 0 1 0                | 0 1 3                | 0 1 0                |
| Tea, Sugar, and Butter - -                      | 0 1 6                | 0 1 6                | 0 1 6                | 0 0 9                | 0 1 0                | 0 0 9                |
| Soap, Starch, and Blue - -                      | 0 0 6                | 0 0 6                | 0 0 6                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                |
| Candles - - - -                                 | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                |
| Thread and Worsted - - -                        | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 1½               | 0 0 1½               | 0 0 1½               |
| <b>Total</b>                                    | <b>0 9 0</b>         | <b>0 8 6</b>         | <b>0 9 0</b>         | <b>0 4 9</b>         | <b>0 5 6</b>         | <b>0 4 9</b>         |
| <b>Amount per annum</b>                         | <b>23 8 0</b>        | <b>22 2 0</b>        | <b>23 8 0</b>        | <b>12 7 0</b>        | <b>14 6 0</b>        | <b>12 7 0</b>        |
| <i>Earnings per Week.</i>                       |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |
|                                                 | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             |
| The Man earns at a medium - - - -               | 0 6 6                | 0 5 0                | 0 7 0                | 0 7 0                | 0 6 0                | 0 7 0                |
| The Woman - - - -                               | 0 1 0                | 0 1 0                | 0 1 0                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                |
| The Children - - - -                            | 0 1 6                | 0 1 6                | 0 1 6                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 6                | 0 0 0                |
| <b>Total</b>                                    | <b>0 9 0</b>         | <b>0 7 6</b>         | <b>0 9 6</b>         | <b>0 7 0</b>         | <b>0 6 6</b>         | <b>0 7 0</b>         |
| <b>Amount per annum</b>                         | <b>23 8 0</b>        | <b>19 10 0</b>       | <b>24 14 0</b>       | <b>18 4 0</b>        | <b>16 18 0</b>       | <b>18 4 0</b>        |
| <i>To the above Amount of</i>                   |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |
| Expences per annum -                            | 23 8 0               | 22 2 0               | 23 8 0               | 12 7 0               | 14 6 0               | 12 7 0               |
| Add Rent, Fuel, Clothes,<br>Lying-in, &c. - - - | 6 0 0                | 6 0 0                | 6 4 0                | 6 0 0                | 6 0 0                | 6 0 0                |
| <b>Total Expences per annum -</b>               | <b>29 8 0</b>        | <b>28 2 0</b>        | <b>29 8 0</b>        | <b>18 7 0</b>        | <b>20 6 0</b>        | <b>18 7 0</b>        |
| <b>Total Earnings per annum -</b>               | <b>23 8 0</b>        | <b>19 10 0</b>       | <b>24 14 0</b>       | <b>18 4 0</b>        | <b>16 18 0</b>       | <b>18 4 0</b>        |
| <b>Deficiency of Earnings</b>                   | <b>6 0 0</b>         | <b>8 12 0</b>        | <b>4 14 0</b>        | <b>0 3 0</b>         | <b>3 8 0</b>         | <b>0 3 0</b>         |

PARISH OF ST. MICHAEL PENKEVILL, CORNWALL.

ACCOUNT OF THE FAMILIES.

ANNUAL EXPENCES.

No. 1. A man, his wife, and five children, the eldest a boy thirteen years of age, the youngest two years of age.

No. 2. A man, his wife, one daughter (an idiot and cripple) twenty-one years of age, and two other children, the eldest sixteen years of age, and the youngest eleven years.

No. 3. A man, his wife, and four children; one of them an idiot aged twenty-two years, (likely never to earn any thing) the eldest of the others eighteen years of age, and the youngest eleven years of age.

No. 4. A man, his wife, and one child an infant.

No. 5. A man, his wife, and one child, a girl twelve years of age.

No. 6. A man, his wife, and one child, an infant.

|                                                                            | £. s. d. |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| Rent of a cottage and garden                                               | 1 0 0    |
| Fuel - - - - -                                                             | 0 12 0   |
| Clothing:—the Man's - - - -                                                | 1 10 0   |
| — the Woman's - - - -                                                      | 1 0 0    |
| Lying-in, sickness, burials,<br>loss of time by bad weather, &c. - - - - - | 1 18 0   |

|                                                |       |
|------------------------------------------------|-------|
| Price of wheat per bushel - - -                | 0 5 6 |
| A week's labour, the year<br>through - - - - - | 0 6 0 |

In No. 1, the man's wages are charged 6s. 6d. on account of extra wages in harvest; and in Nos. 3, 4, and 6, are charged 7s. on account of being employed in carrying sea sand for manure, &c.

The poor people buy corn, and get it ground for bread.



KEDDLESTONE, NEAR DERBY.

BY CAPTAIN, NOW ADMIRAL COLPOYS, SEPT. 1788.

[COMMUNICATED BY VISCOUNTESS CREMORNE.]

EXPENCES AND EARNINGS OF THREE FAMILIES OF LABOURERS,  
BY THE WEEK, AND BY THE YEAR.

|                                                                    | No. 1.<br>7 Persons. | No. 2.<br>6 Persons. | No. 3.<br>5 Persons. |          |          |          |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------|----------|----------|
| <i>Expences per Week.</i>                                          | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             |          |          |          |
| Bread, Flour, and Oatmeal                                          | 0 3 6                | 0 4 2                | 0 2 0                |          |          |          |
| Yeast and Salt                                                     | 0 0 3                | 0 0 2                | 0 0 6                |          |          |          |
| Bacon and other Meat                                               | 0 1 6                | 0 1 6                | 0 1 0                |          |          |          |
| Milk                                                               | 0 0 7                | 0 1 2                | 0 0 0                |          |          |          |
| Cheese                                                             | 0 0 10               | 0 0 10               | 0 0 10               |          |          |          |
| Butter                                                             | 0 0 4                | 0 0 8                | 0 0 0                |          |          |          |
| Candles, Soap, Starch, Thread,                                     | 0 0 6                | 0 0 6                | 0 0 10               |          |          |          |
| Tea, Sugar, and Butter                                             | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                | 0 1 0                |          |          |          |
| Beer                                                               | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 2                |          |          |          |
| Total                                                              | 0 7 6                | 0 9 0                | 0 6 4                |          |          |          |
| Amount per annum                                                   | 19 10 0              | 23 8 0               | 16 9 4               |          |          |          |
| <i>Earnings per Week.</i>                                          | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             |          |          |          |
| The Man earns at a medium                                          | 0 4 8                | 0 7 8                | 0 5 0                |          |          |          |
| The Woman                                                          | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                |          |          |          |
| The Children                                                       | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                |          |          |          |
| Total                                                              | 0 4 8                | 0 7 8                | 0 5 0                |          |          |          |
| Amount per annum                                                   | 12 2 8               | 19 18 8              | 13 0 0               |          |          |          |
| To the above Amount of }<br>Expences per annum - }                 | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             | £. s. d. | £. s. d. | £. s. d. |
| Add Rent and Fuel for Nos. 1, 2, }<br>and Fuel only for No. 3. - } | 19 10 0              | 23 8 0               | 16 9 4               |          |          |          |
|                                                                    | 1 11 0               | 1 11 0               | 2 0 0                | A.       | B.       | C.       |
| Total Expences per annum -                                         | 21 1 0               | 24 19 0              | 18 9 4               | 21 1 0   | 24 19 0  | 16 9 4   |
| Total Earnings per annum -                                         | 12 2 8               | 19 18 8              | 13 0 0               | 19 18 8  | 19 18 8  | 20 16 0  |
| Deficiency of Earnings                                             | 8 18 4               | 5 0 4                | 5 9 4                | 1 2 4    | 5 0 4    | 4 6 8    |
|                                                                    |                      |                      |                      |          |          | Surplus. |

KEDDLESTONE, NEAR DERBY.

ACCOUNT OF THE FAMILIES.

ANNUAL EXPENCES.

No. 1. A man, wife, and five children at home; the first, a boy nine years of age; the second and third, a boy and girl, twins, six years of age; the fourth, a boy three years of age; and the fifth, a boy one year.

No. 2. A man, wife, and four children at home; the first, a daughter nineteen years of age, ill, and not able to go to service, but she goes out sometimes to work; the second, a son ten years of age, has had his arm broke, and could not go out; the third, a son six years of age; the fourth, a son, three years old.

No. 3. A man, wife, and three children at home; the first, a girl twelve years old, assists her mother at home, but earns nothing abroad; the second, a girl eight years old; and the third, a boy four years.

*Note.* In No. 1, the man earns 6s. per week for four months, and 4s. per week the rest of the year, and has his victuals of his employer.—In No. 2, the man earns 9s. per week for four months, and 7s. the rest of the year, but eats at home.—In No. 3, the man earns 7s. per week for four months, and 4s. the rest of the year, and has his victuals of his employer.

The wives, it seems, earn nothing; their employment being to look after the children, and make and mend for their families. But in No. 2, the eldest daughter earns something, which is not brought to account.

|                                                                                           | £. s. d. |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| No. 1. Rent, an acknowledgment of - - - - -                                               | 0 1 0    |
| Fuel - - - - -                                                                            | 1 10 0   |
| No. 2. The same - - - - -                                                                 | 1 11 0   |
| No. 3. Rent, with other payments, amount to 5l. per annum; but this is repaid by lodgers. |          |
| Fuel - - - - -                                                                            | 2 0 0    |

Neither of these families could say how much they laid out in clothing, &c.

PRICES OF SUNDRY ARTICLES  
IN DERBY TOWN.

Flour, best fort, 2s. per stone of 14lbs. common fort 1s. 9d. ditto.  
Bread is sold by the shilling and six-penny loaf; the weight fixed by the Corporation.  
Oatmeal 1s. per peck. Potatoes 6d. ditto.  
Bacon 7½d. per lb. Beef and mutton 4½d. Butter from 9d. to 11d. per lb. Cheese 4d. Coals 5½d. per 112lbs.; in winter sometimes 8d.

NOTES.

In No. 1, a boy fourteen years of age, and a girl of eleven, though in service, are of some expence to the parents. The man makes bee-hives at home of nights, and earns something, or (he says) his family would be starved.

If the man's victuals in Nos. 1 and 3 be reckoned at 3s. per week each, and this be added to their weekly earnings, the accounts will then stand as in columns A, B, C.

AFF-PIDDLE PARISH, IN THE COUNTY OF DORSET.

[COMMUNICATED BY THE REV. MR. ETTERICK, 1789.]

EXPENCES AND EARNINGS OF SIX FAMILIES OF LABOURERS,  
BY THE WEEK, AND BY THE YEAR.

|                            | No. 1.<br>6 Persons. | No. 2.<br>4 Persons. | No. 3.<br>5 Persons. | No. 4.<br>9 Persons. | No. 5.<br>8 Persons. | No. 6.<br>5 Persons. |
|----------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| <i>Expences per Week.</i>  |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |
| Bread and Flour            | 0 6 0                | 0 3 2                | 0 4 6                | 0 7 7                | 0 6 0                | 0 6 6                |
| Yeast and Salt             | 0 0 2                | 0 0 2                | 0 0 4                | 0 0 4                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 1                |
| Bacon or other Meat        | 0 0 8                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 8                | 0 0 4                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 4                |
| Tea, Sugar, Butter, Cream  | 0 0 10               | 0 1 4                | 0 0 11               | 0 1 2                | 0 1 4                | 0 0 6                |
| Cheese                     | 0 0 3                | 0 0 7                | 0 0 7                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 8                | 0 0 0                |
| Beer                       | 0 0 2                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 2                | 0 0 0                |
| Soap, Starch, and Blue,    | 0 0 1                | 0 0 2½               | 0 0 2½               | 0 0 2½               | 0 0 2½               | 0 0 2½               |
| Candles                    | 0 0 2½               | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 2½               | 0 0 4½               |
| Thread, &c.                | 0 0 0¾               | 0 0 2                | 0 0 2                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 2                | 0 0 3                |
| Potatoes and Barley        | 0 0 2                | 0 0 6¾               | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 6¾               | 0 0 0                |
| Total                      | 0 8 7½               | 0 6 5¼               | 0 7 7½               | 0 10 1½              | 0 9 6¼               | 0 8 3                |
| Amount per annum           | 22 7 5               | 16 14 9              | 19 16 6              | 26 6 6               | 24 17 3              | 21 9 0               |
| <i>Earnings per Week.</i>  |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |
| The Man earns              | 0 8 0                | 0 7 0                | 0 7 0                | 0 7 0                | 0 8 0                | 0 0 0                |
| The Woman                  | 0 0 6                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 0                | 0 1 0                | 0 0 1                | 0 0 1                |
| The Children               | 0 1 6                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                | 0 1 0                | 0 1 3                | 0 6 3                |
| Total                      | 0 10 0               | 0 7 3                | 0 7 0                | 0 9 0                | 0 9 4                | 0 8 10               |
| Amount per annum           | 26 0 0               | 18 17 0              | 18 4 0               | 23 8 0               | 24 5 4               | 22 19 4              |
| Annual Sum of Expences     | 22 0 5               | 16 14 9              | 19 16 6              | 26 6 6               | 24 17 3              | 21 9 0               |
| Expence of Rent, Fuel, &c. | 3 13 0               | 7 11 0               | 1 18 0               | 5 6 4                | 7 3 1½               | 1 15 3               |
| Total Expences per annum   | 26 0 5               | 24 5 9               | 21 14 6              | 31 12 10             | 32 0 4½              | 23 4 3               |
| Total Earnings per annum   | 26 0 0               | 18 17 0              | 18 4 0               | 23 8 0               | 24 5 4               | 22 19 4              |
| Deficiency of Earnings     | 0 0 5                | 5 8 9                | 3 10 6               | 8 4 10               | 7 15 0½              | 0 4 11               |

AFF-PIDDLE PARISH, DORSET.

ACCOUNT OF THE FAMILIES.

No. 1. Robert and Martha Miller, and four children at home, the eldest fifteen years of age, the youngest six.

No. 2. George and Mary House, and two children, the one four years of age, the other an infant.

No. 3. Matthew and Ann Lawrence, and three children, the eldest six years of age, the youngest an infant.

No. 4. Francis and Lydia Harvey, and seven children, the eldest seventeen years of age, the youngest one.

No. 5. William and Jane Reason, and six children, the eldest eleven years of age, the youngest an infant.

No. 6. Mary Chilcott, a widow, with four children, the eldest nineteen years of age, the youngest six.

PROBABLE CAUSES OF THE DISTRESSES OF THE POOR ARE,

The rise of the price of necessaries, the buying them at the dearest hand, the low and unproportionate price of labour, the increasing scarcity of employment for the poor, and their own want of industry, having no encouragement given them. Many working men breakfast and dine on dry bread alone, without either cheese or drink of any kind; their meal is supper, and that generally no better than unpeeled potatoes and falt, or barley-cake fried, and water. Clothes they get as they can, and the children go nearly naked. There is little work now for lads, and that at a reduced price; two-pence or three-pence a day, instead of four-pence or five-pence, which it was formerly. With all this the weight upon the parish is almost insupportable, a small property of 5l. per annum yielding sometimes only 20s. clear of rates and taxes; and if smaller property fill, the owner is worse off than those that have none, but receive parish pay.

ANNUAL EXPENCES.

Rent of a cottage and garden from £.1 5 0 to £.2 5 0.

Fuel costs a week's labour. In case of constant work with a farmer, it is brought home gratis, otherwise at 2s. or 2s. 6d. the load.

The prices of the necessaries of life are the same as in the Barkham account.

REMARKS.

No. 1. The charge for soap is very low, for they are almost naked; and thread, &c. low charged for the same reason. They have a garden, but do not grow potatoes enough for their use. The wife and children knit at home. Milk or cream I find often a weekly article in very poor families, though some have none, nor any fugar. The parish allows the rent here in this family, and gives them help about 8s. one year with another in loss of employment, &c. They cut the fuel, and pay 2s. for carriage home. Sum: fuel 10s.; clothes 15s.; lying-in 6s.; loss of work at a medium about four weeks 2l. 2s.;—in all 3l. 13s.

No. 2.

No. 2. They keep a pig, and the best of its food (barley) is used in the family, and the charge thrown in with *the article potatoes* at a very low calculation, for they grow potatoes enough. The pig costs about 1l. 5s. Sum: fuel 8s.; clothes (very neat, and whole, and clean) 2l. 10s.; lying-in and burials and lost time, at a medium, 1l. 15s.; rent 1l. 13s. Sum 6l. 6s.; add the pig and it is 7l. 11s.

No. 3. The parish pays rent here, and allows 3s. a week when out of work, which has been hitherto one quarter of the year at a medium, but now he has thrown himself on the parish, and they either pay him 6s. or find him work. He will not acknowledge any expence for clothes of any kind; and this charge must indeed be very low, say 1l. 1s. Burials, &c. paid by the parish. Fuel 7s. or a week's labour, but costs 2s. 6d. the load carriage; five loads, one given by the parish, = 7s. + 10s. = 17s. Casualties the parish supplies.

No. 4. The parish pays rent. They keep a pig. The barley is thrown in with the flour here. Pigs cost at a medium (being bought small) 14s. Of clothes they can give little account, as they buy none, and have had some small help by deaths. Let the

wear of clothes, and shoes, and mending, &c. be set down at 2l. 14s. 4d. (children's included;) loss of work by sickness and other casualties at 1l. 10s. fuel at 8s.;—sum 5l. 6s. 4d.

No. 5. They keep a pig which cost 14s. Rent 2l. Clothes, with sheeting and repairs of all kinds, with allowance for help, and a good stock to begin with but now quite reduced, 2l. 6s. 1½d. Lying-in 10s. (being 20s. every other year.) Schooling for two children best part of the year 10s. Lost work and other casualties 10s. Parish help little or none, say 5s. per annum. Fuel 8s. Sum 7l. 3s. 1½d.

No. 6. She earns nothing, except in harvest. Fuel and 2s. 6d. a week allowed by the parish, with house-rent, but no garden, which is a hard circumstance. She has been used to the spinning of yarn, (the refuse of flax) for which there is no call here, and she cannot spin worsted. To the flour also is added what barley she consumes. Clothes she cannot afford to buy; the children have had the father's, and the parish has promised further assistance in linen, so this charge must be set very low, say 15s. The boys' loss of work and sickness, at a medium three weeks, 1l. 0s. 3d. Sum 1l. 15s. 3d.

BISHOP'S-CAUNDLE, DORSETSHIRE.

ACCOUNT OF THE FAMILIES.

No. 1. A man, his wife, and seven children, the eldest twelve years of age, the youngest an infant.

No. 2. A man, his wife, and six children, the eldest eighteen years of age, the youngest one year and a half old.

No. 3. A man, his wife, and three children, the eldest nine years of age, the youngest an infant.

ANNUAL EXPENCES.

|                                                    | £. s. d. |
|----------------------------------------------------|----------|
| Rent - - - - -                                     | 1 12 0   |
| Fuel - - - - -                                     | 0 10 0   |
| Clothes, &c. - - - - -                             | 2 10 0   |
| Loss of time by sickness, extreme bad weather, &c. | 2 0 0    |
|                                                    | £.6 12 0 |

Price of the half-peck loaf of wheaten bread - - - 0 1 2

BISHOP'S-CAUNDLE, DORSETSHIRE.

BY THE REV. MR. BRISTED, OCT. 1789.

EXPENCES AND EARNINGS OF THREE FAMILIES OF LABOURERS, BY THE WEEK, AND BY THE YEAR.

|                                              | No. 1.<br>9 Persons. | No. 2.<br>8 Persons. | No. 3.<br>5 Persons. |  |  |  |
|----------------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--|--|--|
| <i>Expences per Week.</i>                    |                      |                      |                      |  |  |  |
|                                              | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             |  |  |  |
| Bread - - - - -                              | 0 8 2                | 0 7 0                | 0 4 0                |  |  |  |
| Salt, Soap, Candles, Starch                  | 0 0 0                | 0 1 0                | 0 1 0                |  |  |  |
| Thread and Worsted - - -                     | 0 1 6                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 2                |  |  |  |
| Meat, Bacon, or Pork - - -                   | 0 0 8                | 0 2 0                | 0 1 0                |  |  |  |
| Tea—no Sugar or Butter - -                   | 0 0 3½               | 0 1 0                | 0 0 3                |  |  |  |
| Cheese - - - - -                             | 0 0 6                | 0 2 0                | 0 2 0                |  |  |  |
| Beer or Cyder - - - - -                      | 0 0 0                | 0 1 6                | 0 0 0                |  |  |  |
| Total                                        | 0 11 1¼              | 0 14 9               | 0 8 5                |  |  |  |
| Amount per annum                             | 28 17 5              | 38 7 0               | 21 17 8              |  |  |  |
| <i>Earnings per Week.</i>                    |                      |                      |                      |  |  |  |
|                                              | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             |  |  |  |
| The Man earns at a medium                    | 0 6 0                | 0 8 0                | 0 5 6                |  |  |  |
| The Woman - - - - -                          | 0 1 0                | 0 0 0                | 0 1 3                |  |  |  |
| The Children - - - - -                       | 0 2 6                | 0 7 0                | 0 0 6                |  |  |  |
| Total                                        | 0 9 6                | 0 15 0               | 0 7 3                |  |  |  |
| Amount per annum                             | 24 14 0              | 39 0 0               | 18 17 0              |  |  |  |
| To the above Amount of Expences per annum -  | 28 17 5              | 38 7 0               | 21 17 8              |  |  |  |
| Add Rent, Fuel, Clothes, Lying-in, &c. - - - | 6 12 0               | 6 0 0                | 6 0 0                |  |  |  |
| Total Expences per annum -                   | 35 9 5               | 44 7 0               | 27 17 8              |  |  |  |
| Total Earnings per annum -                   | 24 14 0              | 39 0 0               | 18 17 0              |  |  |  |
| Deficiency of Earnings                       | 10 15 5              | 5 7 0                | 9 0 8                |  |  |  |

TOWN OF SHERBORNE, COUNTY OF DORSET.

MAY 1789.

EXPENCES AND EARNINGS OF SIX FAMILIES OF LABOURERS,  
BY THE WEEK, AND BY THE YEAR.

|                               | No. 1.<br>7 Persons. | No. 2.<br>6 Persons. | No. 3.<br>5 Persons. | No. 4.<br>4 Persons. | No. 5.<br>5 Persons. | No. 6.<br>4 Persons. |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| <i>Expences per Week.</i>     |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |
|                               | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             |
| Bread                         | 0 4 0                | 0 5 0                | 0 3 0                | 0 3 0                | 0 3 6                | 0 3 6                |
| Salt                          | 0 0 1½               | 0 0 1                | 0 0 1½               | 0 0 1                | 0 0 1                | 0 0 1                |
| Meat                          | 0 0 0                | 0 1 0                | 0 0 8                | 0 0 8                | 0 1 0                | 0 0 8                |
| Tea, &c.                      | 0 0 3                | 0 0 5                | 0 0 1½               | 0 0 0                | 0 0 6                | 0 0 5                |
| Cheese                        | 0 0 8                | 0 0 4                | 0 0 7                | 0 1 3                | 0 0 4                | 0 0 7½               |
| Milk                          | 0 0 0                | 0 0 3½               | 0 0 4                | 0 0 1                | 0 0 3½               | 0 0 2                |
| Soap                          | 0 0 2                | 0 0 7                | 0 0 2½               | 0 0 3                | 0 0 2½               | 0 0 3                |
| Candles                       | 0 0 4                | 0 0 4                | 0 0 6                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 4                | 0 0 2                |
| Thread, &c.                   | 0 0 3                | 0 0 2                | 0 0 1                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 1½               | 0 0 1                |
| Total                         | 0 5 9½               | 0 8 2½               | 0 5 8                | 0 5 10               | 0 6 4½               | 0 5 11½              |
| Amount per annum              | 15 1 2               | 21 6 10              | 14 14 8              | 15 3 4               | 16 11 6              | 15 9 10              |
| <i>Earnings per Week.</i>     |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |
|                               | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             |
| The Man earns at a medium     | 2 6 0                | 0 6 6                | 0 6 0                | 0 6 0                | 0 5 6                | 0 6 0                |
| The Woman                     | 0 2 0                | 0 1 6                | 0 2 6                | 0 0 6                | 0 1 0                | 0 1 6                |
| The Children                  | 0 2 9                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                | 0 2 0                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                |
| Total                         | 0 7 3                | 0 8 0                | 0 8 6                | 0 8 6                | 0 6 6                | 0 7 6                |
| Amount per annum              | 18 17 0              | 20 16 0              | 22 2 0               | 22 2 0               | 16 18 0              | 19 10 0              |
| <i>To the above Amount of</i> |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |
| Expences per annum            | 15 1 2               | 21 6 10              | 14 14 8              | 15 3 4               | 16 11 6              | 15 9 10              |
| Add Rent, Fuel, Clothes, &c.  | 4 13 4               | 3 7 0                | 6 18 0               | 5 19 0               | 2 0 0                | 3 3 0                |
| Total Expences per annum      | 19 14 6              | 24 13 10             | 21 12 8              | 21 2 4               | 18 11 6              | 18 12 10             |
| Total Earnings per annum      | 18 17 0              | 20 16 0              | 22 2 0               | 22 2 0               | 16 18 0              | 19 10 0              |
| Deficiencies of Earnings      | 0 17 6               | 3 17 10              | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                | 1 13 6               | 0 0 0                |
| Exceedings                    |                      |                      | 0 9 4                | 0 19 8               |                      | 0 17 2               |

TOWN OF SHERBORNE, COUNTY OF DORSET.

ACCOUNT OF THE FAMILIES.

ANNUAL EXPENCES.

No. 1. A widow and six children, the eldest twelve years of age, the youngest two years of age.

|              | £. s. d.      |
|--------------|---------------|
| No. 1. Rent  | 1 14 4        |
| Fuel         | 1 19 0        |
| Clothes, &c. | 1 0 0         |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>4 13 4</b> |

No. 2. A man, his wife, and four children, the eldest nine years of age, the youngest one year.

|              |              |
|--------------|--------------|
| No. 2. Rent  | 1 17 0       |
| Fuel         | 0 0 0        |
| Clothes, &c. | 1 10 0       |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>3 7 0</b> |

No. 3. A man, his wife, and three children, the eldest nine years of age, the youngest three years.

|              |               |
|--------------|---------------|
| No. 3. Rent  | 2 0 0         |
| Fuel         | 3 18 0        |
| Clothes, &c. | 1 0 0         |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>6 18 0</b> |

No. 4. A man, his wife, and two children, the eldest eleven years of age, the youngest six years.

|              |               |
|--------------|---------------|
| No. 4. Rent  | 2 10 0        |
| Fuel         | 1 19 0        |
| Clothes, &c. | 1 10 0        |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>5 19 0</b> |

No. 5. A man, his wife, and three children, the eldest six years of age, the youngest an infant.

|              |              |
|--------------|--------------|
| No. 5. Rent  | 1 10 0       |
| Fuel         | 0 0 0        |
| Clothes, &c. | 0 10 0       |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>2 0 0</b> |

No. 6. A man, his wife, and two children, the eldest five years of age, the youngest one year.

|              |              |
|--------------|--------------|
| No. 6. Rent  | 1 10 0       |
| Fuel         | 0 13 0       |
| Clothes, &c. | 1 0 0        |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>3 3 0</b> |

STINSFORD, DORSET.

[COMMUNICATED BY W. MORTON PITT, ESQ. M. P. 1789.]

EXPENCES AND EARNINGS OF FIVE FAMILIES OF LABOURERS,  
BY THE WEEK, AND BY THE YEAR.

|                                   | No. 1.<br>4 Persons. | No. 2.<br>7 Persons. | No. 3.<br>4 Persons. | No. 4.<br>4 Persons. | No. 5.<br>6 Persons. |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| <i>Expences per Week.</i>         |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |
| Wheat - - - - -                   | £. s. d.<br>0 4 6    | £. s. d.<br>0 4 6    | £. s. d.<br>0 3 9    | £. s. d.<br>0 3 0    | £. s. d.<br>0 4 6    |
| Yeast and Salt - - - -            | 0 0 5                | 0 0 5                | 0 0 5                | 0 0 5                | 0 0 4½               |
| Bacon - - - - -                   | 0 2 6                | 0 2 6                | 0 0 10½              | 0 1 10½              | 0 1 3                |
| Tea and Sugar - - - - -           | 0 0 6                | 0 0 6                | 0 0 8                | 0 0 10               | 0 0 3                |
| Cheese - - - - -                  | 0 0 11¼              | 0 1 1½               | 0 0 2½               | 0 0 6¾               | 0 1 0                |
| Soap and Candles - - - -          | 0 0 8                | 0 0 8                | 0 0 8                | 0 0 8                | 0 0 8                |
| Thread, Worsted, &c. - - -        | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 1½               | 0 0 3                |
| <b>Total</b>                      | 0 9 9¾               | 0 9 11½              | 0 6 9³               | 0 7 5¾               | 0 8 3½               |
| <b>Amount per annum</b>           | 25 8 1               | 25 17 10             | 17 15 3              | 19 8 11              | 21 11 2              |
| <i>Earnings per Week.</i>         |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |
| The Man - - - - -                 | £. s. d.<br>0 6 6    | £. s. d.<br>0 6 6    | £. s. d.<br>0 6 6    | £. s. d.<br>0 6 6    | £. s. d.<br>0 7 6    |
| The Woman - - - - -               | 0 0 0                | 0 0 8                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 6                | 0 0 0                |
| The Children - - - - -            | 0 5 0                | 0 4 6                | 0 1 0                | 0 3 0                | 0 0 0                |
| <b>Total</b>                      | 0 11 6               | 0 11 8               | 0 7 9                | 0 10 0               | 0 7 6                |
| <b>Amount per annum</b>           | 29 18 0              | 30 6 8               | 20 3 0               | 26 0 0               | 19 10 0              |
| <i>To the above Amount of</i>     |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |
| Expences per annum - }            | £. s. d.<br>25 8 1   | £. s. d.<br>25 17 10 | £. s. d.<br>17 15 3  | £. s. d.<br>19 8 11  | £. s. d.<br>21 11 2  |
| Add Clothing, &c. - - -           | 4 0 0                | 4 0 0                | 4 0 0                | 4 0 0                | 4 0 0                |
| <b>Total Expences per annum -</b> | 29 8 1               | 29 17 10             | 21 15 3              | 23 8 11              | 25 11 2              |
| <b>Total Earnings per annum -</b> | 29 18 0              | 30 6 8               | 20 3 0               | 26 0 0               | 19 10 0              |
| <b>Deficiency of Earnings</b>     | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                | 1 12 3               | 0 0 0                | 6 1 2                |
| <b>Exceedings</b>                 | 0 9 11               | 0 8 10               | 0 0 0                | 2 11 1               | 0 0 0                |

STINSFORD, DORSET.

ACCOUNT OF THE FAMILIES.

ANNUAL EXPENCES.

No. 1. A widower with three children, a boy fourteen years of age, another boy twelve years of age, and a girl seventeen.

No. 2. A man, his wife, and five children, viz. a girl seventeen years of age, a boy fifteen, a girl thirteen, a girl ten, and a girl eight.

No. 3. A man, his wife, and two children, viz. a girl fourteen years of age, and a girl ten.

No. 4. A man, his wife, and two children, viz. a girl fourteen years of age, and a boy twelve.

No. 5. A man, his wife, and four small children, viz. a boy six years of age, a girl five, a girl three, and a girl one year and an half.

|                                                                                 | £. | s. | d. |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|----|----|
| Rent - - - - -                                                                  | 0  | 0  | 0  |
| Fuel - - - - -                                                                  | 0  | 0  | 0  |
| <i>N. B. Rent and Fuel allowed in consideration of the low price of labour.</i> |    |    |    |
| Clothing and casual expences<br>by computation, about                           | 4  | 0  | 0  |

Wheat 6s. per bushel, always sold at that price to the parish poor.

Labour all the year 6s. per week, except in harvest, when they work piece-work.

Labourers often accept of 1l. 1s. extra for harvest, in lieu of advanced wages.

Tea 2s. per lb. Sugar 8d. per lb. Cheese, made of skimmed milk, 2¼d. per lb. Bacon 7½d. per lb.

*N. B.* No. 5, is an exceeding good workman, and a very industrious man, and, in consideration of his hard family, is (when it is possible) supplied with piece-work, such as hedging, &c. in the winter whilst the weather is open; mowing and reaping, &c. in summer.

The exceedings in No. 1, 2, and 4, are only owing to the age of the children, which enables them to contribute so much to the family stock, and to the care taken to supply them with constant employment.



AUCKLAND, COUNTY OF DURHAM.

ESTIMATE MADE BY WM. EMM, Esq. STEWARD AT AUCKLAND-CASTLE, 1789.

[COMMUNICATED BY THE REV. A. CROMLEHOLME.]

EXPENCES AND EARNINGS OF THREE FAMILIES OF LABOURERS,  
BY THE WEEK, AND BY THE YEAR.

|                                                 | No. 1.<br>7 Persons. | No. 2.<br>6 Persons. | No. 3.<br>5 Persons. |  |  |
|-------------------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--|--|
| <i>Expences per Week.</i>                       | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             |  |  |
| Bread or Flour - - - -                          | 0 4 2                | 0 3 6                | 0 3 0                |  |  |
| Salt - - - - -                                  | 0 0 1½               | 0 0 1½               | 0 0 1½               |  |  |
| Potatoes - - - - -                              | 0 0 6                | 0 0 6                | 0 0 4                |  |  |
| Flesh Meat - - - - -                            | 0 2 0                | 0 1 6                | 0 1 6                |  |  |
| Tea, and Sugar - - - -                          | 0 0 10               | 0 0 9                | 0 0 9                |  |  |
| Milk - - - - -                                  | 0 1 6                | 0 1 3                | 0 1 0                |  |  |
| Soap, Starch, and Blue, -                       | 0 0 6                | 0 0 4½               | 0 0 4½               |  |  |
| Candles - - - - -                               | 0 0 3½               | 0 0 3½               | 0 0 3½               |  |  |
| Thread, Worsted, &c. - -                        | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 2½               |  |  |
| Total                                           | 0 10 2               | 0 8 6½               | 0 7 7                |  |  |
| Amount per annum                                | 26 8 8               | 22 4 2               | 19 14 4              |  |  |
| <i>Earnings per Week.</i>                       | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             |  |  |
| The Man earns at a medium                       | 0 6 0                | 0 6 0                | 0 6 0                |  |  |
| The Woman - - - - -                             | 0 2 0                | 0 2 0                | 0 2 0                |  |  |
| The Children - - - - -                          | 0 1 6                | 0 1 8                | 0 0 0                |  |  |
| Total                                           | 0 9 6                | 0 9 8                | 0 8 0                |  |  |
| Amount per annum                                | 24 14 0              | 25 2 8               | 20 16 0              |  |  |
| To the above Amount of<br>Expences per annum -  | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             |  |  |
| Add Rent, Fuel, Clothes,<br>Lying-in, &c. - - - | 9 2 5½               | 9 2 5½               | 9 2 5½               |  |  |
| Total Expences per annum -                      | 35 11 1½             | 31 6 7½              | 28 16 9½             |  |  |
| Total Earnings per annum -                      | 24 14 0              | 25 2 8               | 20 16 0              |  |  |
| Deficiencies of Earnings                        | 10 17 1½             | 6 3 11½              | 8 0 9½               |  |  |

AUCKLAND, COUNTY OF DURHAM.

ACCOUNT OF THE FAMILIES.

No. 1. A man, his wife, and five children, the eldest eight years of age, and the youngest an infant.

No. 2. A man, his wife, and four small children, the eldest eleven years of age, the youngest three years.

No. 3. A man, his wife, and three young children, the eldest six years of age, the youngest an infant.

|                                 | £. s. d.  |
|---------------------------------|-----------|
| ing 5s.; two pair stockings     |           |
| 2s. 6d.; two aprons 3s.;        |           |
| two handkerchiefs 2s. 8d.;      |           |
| caps 1s. 8½d.—1l. 8s. 9½d.      |           |
| For the children, shoes 14s.;   |           |
| stockings, one pair each,       |           |
| 3s.; coats or gown, one         |           |
| each, 9s.; petticoats, one      |           |
| each, 4s.; shirts, one each,    |           |
| 4s. 8d.—1l. 14s. 8d.            |           |
| Total Clothing - - - -          | 4 13 5½   |
| Lying-in, sickness, and loss of |           |
| time thereby, burials, and      |           |
| loss of time by extreme bad     |           |
| weather, one year with an-      |           |
| other - - - - -                 | 1 18 0    |
|                                 | £. 9 2 5½ |

ANNUAL EXPENCES.

|                               | £. s. d. |
|-------------------------------|----------|
| Rent of a cottage - - - -     | 1 5 0    |
| Fuel, reckoning two horse-    |          |
| loads of coals a week in      |          |
| winter, and one load in       |          |
| summer - - - - -              | 1 6 0    |
| Clothing, as in the Barkham   |          |
| Paper, I think may do, for    |          |
| the man 1l. 10s.; for the     |          |
| woman, a gown 6s.; one        |          |
| petticoat 3s. 3d.; two shifts |          |
| 4s. 8d.; shoes and mend-      |          |

Flour reckoned at 1s. 6d. per stone.  
Fuel cannot be got cheaper in this county, as coals only are used.

Pitmen, miners, and keelmen, will earn sometimes fourteen shillings per week; but they are generally so extravagant, that their savings for their families come to little or nothing.

PAROCHIAL CHAPELRY OF TANFIELD, COUNTY OF DURHAM.

NOVEMBER 20, 1789.

[COMMUNICATED BY MR. ROBERT WHITELOCK.]

EXPENCES AND EARNINGS OF FIVE FAMILIES OF LABOURERS,  
BY THE WEEK, AND BY THE YEAR.

|                                   | No. 1.<br>7 Persons. | No. 2.<br>7 Persons. | No. 3.<br>6 Persons. | No. 4.<br>5 Persons. | No. 5.<br>5 Persons. |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| <i>Expences per Week.</i>         |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |
| Rye or Maslin Flour - - -         | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             |
| Wheat Flour - - - - -             | 0 2 0                | 0 2 0                | 0 1 6                | 0 1 0                | 0 1 0                |
| Oatmeal - - - - -                 | 0 1 0                | 0 1 0                | 0 1 0                | 0 1 0                | 0 1 0                |
| Milk - - - - -                    | 0 0 4                | 0 0 4                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                |
| Potatoes - - - - -                | 0 1 2                | 0 1 2                | 0 1 0                | 0 0 9                | 0 0 9                |
| Butcher's Meat - - -              | 0 0 4                | 0 0 4                | 0 0 4                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                |
| Soap, Salt, and Candles - -       | 0 0 8                | 0 0 8                | 0 0 8                | 0 1 0                | 0 1 0                |
| Tea, Sugar, and Butter - -        | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                |
| Cheese (old milk) - - -           | 0 0 8                | 0 0 8                | 0 0 8                | 0 0 8                | 0 0 8                |
| Thread, and Worsted - - -         | 0 0 5                | 0 0 5                | 0 0 5                | 0 0 5                | 0 0 5                |
|                                   | 0 0 2                | 0 0 2                | 0 0 2                | 0 0 2                | 0 0 2                |
| <b>Total</b>                      | 0 7 0                | 0 7 0                | 0 6 3                | 0 5 9                | 0 5 9                |
| <b>Amount per annum</b>           | 18 4 0               | 18 4 0               | 16 5 0               | 14 19 0              | 14 19 0              |
| <i>Earnings per Week.</i>         |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |
| The Man earns at a medium         | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             |
| Women & young Children -          | 0 7 0                | Parish 3 0           | 0 7 0                | 0 7 0                | 0 7 0                |
| The eldest Children - - -         | 0 0 0                | 0 1 0                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                |
|                                   | 0 0 6                | 0 6 0                | 0 0 6                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 6                |
| <b>Total</b>                      | 0 7 6                | 0 10 0               | 0 7 6                | 0 7 0                | 0 7 6                |
| <b>Amount per annum</b>           | 19 10 0              | 26 0 0               | 19 10 0              | 18 4 0               | 19 10 0              |
| <b>Annual Sum of Expences</b> -   | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             |
| Rent, Fuel, Clothes, &c. -        | 18 4 0               | 18 4 0               | 16 5 0               | 14 19 0              | 14 19 0              |
|                                   | 6 0 0                | 6 0 0                | 6 0 0                | 6 0 0                | 6 0 0                |
| <b>Total Expences per annum</b> - | 24 4 0               | 24 4 0               | 22 5 0               | 20 19 0              | 20 19 0              |
| <b>Total Earnings per annum</b> - | 19 10 0              | 26 0 0               | 19 10 0              | 18 4 0               | 19 10 0              |
| <b>Deficiency of Earnings</b>     | 4 14 0               | 0 0 0                | 2 15 0               | 2 15 0               | 1 9 0                |
| <b>Exceedings</b>                 |                      | 1 16 0               |                      |                      |                      |

TANFIELD, COUNTY OF DURHAM.

ACCOUNT OF THE FAMILIES.

ANNUAL EXPENCES.

No. 1. A man, his wife, and five children, the eldest eight years of age, the youngest an infant.

Rent of house, fuel, clothing, lying-in, &c. I suppose the same as in the printed sheet for Barkham 6 0 0

No. 2. A woman, whose husband is dead, and six children, the eldest a boy sixteen years of age, the next a boy thirteen years of age, and the youngest five years.

REMARKS.  
In Nos. 1, 3, 4, 5, the woman can earn nothing, as she will have enough to do to keep the family clean, and clothes whole: the youngest, being infants, will live mostly on breast milk.

No. 3. A man, his wife, and four small children, the eldest six years of age, the youngest an infant.

No. 2, in my opinion, should live the best. They may all, except the youngest, clean weed, and do other little jobs. In this country we never pay more than 9d. per week for each person out of a work-house.

No. 4. A man, his wife, and three small children, the eldest not quite five years old, the youngest an infant.

Also in No. 2, one must suppose two of the eldest of the four younger children will be above seven years of age; if they be in health, the parish will give them nothing; this is seldom looked at except the parent be idle.

No. 5. A man, his wife, and three young children, the eldest six years of age, the youngest an infant.

The man in time of cutting grafs earns more than seven shillings per week. The lost time, by bad weather and incidental misfortunes, may run that out.

The above families were all living when this report was made, and are now [Oct. 4th, 1790] nearly in the same way.

I know many families who are industrious, pay their credit, and live comfortably on seven shillings per week.

Rye, 8s. 6d. per boll, or two Winchester Barley 6s. per ditto. [bushels].  
Oats 3s. 6d. per ditto.

NEWENT, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

A LARGE PARISH WITH A SMALL MARKET, NO TRADE, NO MANUFACTURE.

[COMMUNICATED BY THE REV. J. FOLEY, NEWENT, 1789.]

EXPENCES AND EARNINGS OF SIX FAMILIES OF LABOURERS,  
BY THE WEEK, AND BY THE YEAR.

|                                                                                                                                       | No. 1.<br>7 Persons.                 | No. 2.<br>7 Persons.                 | No. 3.<br>6 Persons.                 | No. 4.<br>5 Persons.                 | No. 5.<br>5 Persons.                 | No. 6.<br>4 Persons.                 |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <i>Expences per Week.</i>                                                                                                             |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |
| Bread, Flour, Yeast, & Baking                                                                                                         | 0 4 9                                | 0 4 9                                | 0 4 0                                | 0 3 6                                | 0 3 6                                | 0 3 0                                |
| Salt                                                                                                                                  | 0 0 2 $\frac{1}{4}$                  | 0 0 2 $\frac{1}{4}$                  | 0 0 2 $\frac{1}{4}$                  | 0 0 2                                | 0 0 2                                | 0 0 2                                |
| Tea, Sugar, and Butter                                                                                                                | 0 0 8 $\frac{3}{4}$                  | 0 0 8 $\frac{3}{4}$                  | 0 0 8 $\frac{3}{4}$                  | 0 0 7                                | 0 0 7                                | 0 0 7                                |
| Cheese                                                                                                                                | 0 0 1 $\frac{1}{2}$                  | 0 0 1 $\frac{1}{2}$                  | 0 0 1 $\frac{1}{2}$                  | 0 0 1 $\frac{1}{2}$                  | 0 0 1 $\frac{1}{2}$                  | 0 0 1 $\frac{1}{2}$                  |
| Bacon                                                                                                                                 | 0 0 3 $\frac{1}{2}$                  | 0 0 3 $\frac{1}{2}$                  | 0 0 3                                | 0 0 2 $\frac{1}{2}$                  | 0 0 2 $\frac{1}{2}$                  | 0 0 2 $\frac{1}{2}$                  |
| Soap, Starch, Blue (if used)                                                                                                          | 0 0 2 $\frac{1}{2}$                  | 0 0 2 $\frac{1}{2}$                  | 0 0 2 $\frac{1}{2}$                  | 0 0 2 $\frac{1}{2}$                  | 0 0 2 $\frac{1}{2}$                  | 0 0 2 $\frac{1}{2}$                  |
| Candles, or rather rush-lights                                                                                                        | 0 0 2                                | 0 0 2                                | 0 0 2                                | 0 0 2                                | 0 0 2                                | 0 0 2                                |
| Thread, Worsted, Pins, &c.                                                                                                            | 0 0 2                                | 0 0 2                                | 0 0 2                                | 0 0 1 $\frac{1}{2}$                  | 0 0 1 $\frac{1}{2}$                  | 0 0 1                                |
| Milk                                                                                                                                  | 0 0 6                                | 0 0 6                                | 0 0 6                                | 0 0 3                                | 0 0 3                                | 0 0 2                                |
| <b>Total</b>                                                                                                                          | <b>0 7 1<math>\frac{1}{2}</math></b> | <b>0 7 1<math>\frac{1}{2}</math></b> | <b>0 6 4<math>\frac{1}{2}</math></b> | <b>0 5 4<math>\frac{1}{4}</math></b> | <b>0 5 4<math>\frac{1}{4}</math></b> | <b>0 4 8<math>\frac{3}{4}</math></b> |
| <small>Deduct Labourer's Bread, Cheese, &amp; Bacon, for four weeks in wheat harvest, Amount per annum for the other 48 weeks</small> | 18 3 10                              | 18 0 10                              | 16 4 10                              | 13 12 0                              | 13 12 0                              | 11 19 6                              |
| <i>Earnings per Week.</i>                                                                                                             |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |
| The Man earns for 44 weeks                                                                                                            | 0 4 6                                | P.P. 6 weeks 4 0                     | 0 4 6                                | 0 4 6                                | 0 4 6                                | 0 4 6                                |
| And 8 weeks in harvest                                                                                                                | 0 6 0                                | 0 4 0                                | 0 6 0                                | 0 6 0                                | 0 6 0                                | 0 6 0                                |
| The Woman earns 39 weeks                                                                                                              | 0 0 6                                | 0 0 6                                | 0 0 6                                | 0 0 6                                | 0 0 6                                | 0 0 6                                |
| And in toto for the other 13 w.                                                                                                       | 2 11 6                               | 2 11 6                               | 2 11 6                               | 2 11 6                               | 2 11 6                               | 2 11 6                               |
| The Boys in No. 2, 46 weeks                                                                                                           | 0 2 6                                | 0 2 6                                |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |
| <b>Total Amount per annum</b>                                                                                                         | <b>15 17 0</b>                       | <b>20 18 0</b>                       | <b>15 17 0</b>                       | <b>15 17 0</b>                       | <b>15 17 0</b>                       | <b>15 17 0</b>                       |
| <i>Summary of Annual Figures</i>                                                                                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |                                      |
| To the above Amount of Expences per annum                                                                                             | 18 3 10                              | 18 0 10                              | 16 4 10                              | 13 12 0                              | 13 12 0                              | 11 19 6                              |
| Add Rent, &c. except in No. 2, where is no lying-in, &c.                                                                              | 5 14 0                               | 4 12 0                               | 5 14 0                               | 5 14 0                               | 5 14 0                               | 5 14 0                               |
| <b>Total Expences per annum</b>                                                                                                       | <b>23 17 10</b>                      | <b>22 12 10</b>                      | <b>21 18 10</b>                      | <b>19 6 0</b>                        | <b>19 6 0</b>                        | <b>17 13 6</b>                       |
| <b>Total Earnings per annum</b>                                                                                                       | <b>15 17 0</b>                       | <b>20 18 0</b>                       | <b>15 17 0</b>                       | <b>15 17 0</b>                       | <b>15 17 0</b>                       | <b>15 17 0</b>                       |
| <b>Deficiency of Earnings</b>                                                                                                         | <b>8 0 10</b>                        | <b>1 14 10</b>                       | <b>6 1 10</b>                        | <b>3 9 0</b>                         | <b>3 9 0</b>                         | <b>1 16 6</b>                        |

NEWENT, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

ACCOUNT OF THE FAMILIES.

The same as in the printed schedule for Barkham, and this estimate is formed partly from the accounts given by the labourers, and partly from the shopkeepers' books. My calculations of Bread are according to the following proportion, which is sufficient with potatoes:

A labouring man, I suppose, will eat weekly 15 pennyworth.

A woman with a child at her breast, 12 pennyworth.

A woman without one, 9 pennyworth.

A lad of sixteen years of age, 15 pennyworth.

A lad between thirteen and seven years of age, 9 pennyworth.

A lad under seven years of age, 6 pennyworth.

And as additional food for a sucking child, if a quarter old, I allow for flour 3d.

A pound of bacon will last, if bought, a fortnight or three weeks: little cheese is used; and in the wheat harvest I deduct bacon, cheese, and the man's bread, as for that month he has his whole maintenance. Where the man, as in No. 2, is run away, we do not willingly allow the woman any parish relief, till the two eldest children are put out, as lads of that age are seldom governable by a mother; however, I have here supposed them at home, and contributing their labour to the common support. Many poor families use not any soap, starch, or blue.

Y

ANNUAL EXPENCES.

|                                      | £. s. d.      |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|
| Rent of a cottage and garden         | 1 10 0        |
| Clothing                             | 2 10 0        |
| Lying-in, sickness, bad weather, &c. | 1 12 0        |
| Statute duty on the highway          | 0 2 0         |
| Fuel                                 | 0 0 0         |
| <b>Total</b>                         | <b>5 14 0</b> |

I take the estimate in the Barkham schedule for the 2d and 3d articles, not being able to form a proper judgment.

Rent varies from 20s. to 50s. according to situation, whether in the town or country, and according to the goodness of the garden. If it be extensive, it supplies the family with potatoes, the great article of their food, especially for the younger part, and enables them to nurse up a small pig: towards Michaelmas the children flock under every oak, to collect acorns to feed him, and at the last, three or four bushels of pease are procured him to make his fat more solid. No poor man here can muster up money enough to buy a whole fat pig: where they are unable to nurse up one, they have recourse to the retail shops.

I allow nothing for fuel. Mr. A. Foley has an annual fall of coppice, and gives the poor all the browse gratis. The woods are between two and three miles distant. A burden, if fold, will bring about 3d. the poor man's fire is generally backed with tan, which the tanners suffer them to take away after it is come out of the pits.

Earnings of a man who works by the great: for 44 weeks, he will get 1s. per day; for four weeks in wheat-harvest, he will get 18d. a day, and all his maintenance; for four weeks in mowing, and lent-grain harvest, he will get 18d. a day without his maintenance.

NEWENT, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

Taking in this latter calculation, the Expences and Earnings of the Families will stand thus:

|                         | No. 1.            | No. 2.            | No. 3.            | No. 4.          | No. 5.          | No. 6.           |
|-------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Total Expences per ann. | £. s. d. 23 17 10 | £. s. d. 22 12 10 | £. s. d. 21 18 10 | £. s. d. 19 6 0 | £. s. d. 19 6 0 | £. s. d. 17 13 6 |
| Total Earnings per ann. | £. s. d. 20 7 6   | £. s. d. 20 18 0  | £. s. d. 20 7 6   | £. s. d. 20 7 6 | £. s. d. 20 7 6 | £. s. d. 20 7 6  |
| Deficiency of Earnings  | 3 10 4            | 1 14 10           | 1 11 4            |                 |                 |                  |
| Surplus -               |                   |                   | 1 1 6             | 1 1 6           | 2 14 0          |                  |

The standing wages of the common day-labourer, in this parish and some adjoining ones, are 4s. 6d. per week, with one meal of victuals weekly, and a gallon of drink *per diem*. In other of the neighbouring parishes it is 5s. weekly: but the industrious labourer chooses to be employed by the great—to thresh by the bushel, to hedge and ditch by the perch, to raise and break stone by the ton;—and this man will in the winter time get 6s. or 7s. in the week. I have stated it at the lowest in the calculations. In harvest, the worst man will get his shilling a day; and in wheat-harvest, he has three meals a day, and drink unlimited; nor is it uncommon for a man to drink eight or ten quarts in the day. I suppose the wheat-harvest to last four weeks, and have for this time deducted out of the expences the man's 15d. for bread, and also the cheese and bacon, it being the man that chiefly consumes them. The woman for 39 weeks will get at least 6d. per week, be her family what it will, by spinning, &c. the remaining weeks will, I think, produce her 2l. 11s. 6d. in the whole, which I thus make out:

|                                                     | £. | s. | d.     |
|-----------------------------------------------------|----|----|--------|
| Bean or pease setting, for 3 weeks, at 7d. per day  | -  | -  | 0 10 6 |
| Fruit-picking, 2 weeks, at 4d.                      | -  | 0  | 4 0    |
| Hay-making, 2 weeks, at 4d.                         | -  | 0  | 4 0    |
| Gleaning or leafing 6 bushels at 5s. 6d. per bushel | -  | -  | 1 13 0 |
|                                                     | £. | 2  | 11 6   |

It should be observed, that the labouring part of the family, for obvious reasons, require more victuals in summer than in winter; the garden is cultivated either on rainy days, or else previous to the hours of working. I have known a labourer work four *extra* hours in the day, occasionally.—So much depends upon economy, prudent management, industry, health, and even the appetites of different persons, that no calculation can perhaps be thoroughly depended upon.

I have known a numerous family subsisting without relief, whilst another family, apparently in similar situations, but with two or three children less, have perpetually been applying

NEWENT, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

plying to the parish. One criterion has particularly struck me:—Cleanliness about the house is almost a sure indication of the family not wanting parochial assistance.

In general, I fear the wages of the labourer are not adequate to his maintenance, supposing him to have three or four children. How then is the deficiency to be made up? if you say—by *poor-rates*; I answer, that the legislature seems rather originally to have considered the infirm, the impotent, and the old, and not to have had so much in view the able and the industrious. If you say, *the charity of the rich* is to supply the deficiency of the earnings of the poor, I cannot help thinking this to be resting the matter upon an improper foundation. It seems to me, that every man who labours in society has a just claim upon the laws of that society to allow him a sufficient return for that labour—a return fully adequate to maintain himself and his family, though ever so numerous.

Labour on one hand, and the necessaries of life on the other, seem to be as reciprocal terms as protection and obedience. The labourer has a legal right, a right from the laws of nature, to an adequate maintenance. Charity, I should think, ought to supply the comforts rather than the necessaries of life, and seems more adapted for the sick, infirm, and aged, than for the healthy and the strong.

In some of the inferior trades, the weekly wages are settled by law; and it is well known that in the great trading towns, such as Manchester, Sheffield, Birmingham, &c. four days work in the week amply supply the dissolute and the drunken. Why might not the magistrates exert the power lodged in them, by the stat. of Q. Eliz. and raise the price of labour in proportion to the exigencies of the times?

Should a society ever be formed for the purpose of protecting the lower class, perhaps the following objects might not be undeserving their notice:—1. To rescue them from the harpy claws of pettyfogging attorneys, who are perpetually harrassing them in county courts, and plundering them with impunity. 2. To adjust the weights and measures of the little retail shops, which are too often scandalously deficient. 3. To extend to the country that great advantage obtained in London by fixing the assize of bread. 4. To disperse small tracts containing useful knowledge with respect to little profits, which may be in their power to attain, and to cheap articles of diet. By the former I mean keeping of bees, raising turnip-feed, and the like. As to the latter, Mr. Pennant says that in *Ila*, heath is substituted partly for malt:—in Shrewsbury, treacle is used for the same purpose. What more nutritious than salep, common in all our fields: the root of the *sagittaria* is almost equally so.



CRAWLEY PARISH, IN HAMPSHIRE.

EXPENCES AND EARNINGS OF SIX FAMILIES OF LABOURERS,  
BY THE WEEK, AND BY THE YEAR.

|                                   | No. 1.<br>8 Persons. | No. 2.<br>6 Persons. | No. 3.<br>7 Persons. | No. 4.<br>6 Persons. | No. 5.<br>7 Persons. | No. 6.<br>6 Persons. |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| <i>Expences per Week.</i>         |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |
|                                   | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             |
| Bread or Flour - - - -            | 0 6 5                | 0 5 10               | 0 5 10               | 0 4 2                | 0 5 10               | 0 5 10               |
| Salt - - - - -                    | 0 0 2                | 0 0 1                | 0 0 1                | 0 0 1                | 0 0 1                | 0 0 1½               |
| Bacon - - - - -                   | 0 1 6                | 0 0 8                | 0 1 10               | 0 1 6                | 0 1 0                | 0 0 4                |
| Tea, Sugar, and Butter -          | 0 0 6                | 0 0 9                | 0 0 9                | 0 0 9                | 0 1 5                | 0 1 10               |
| Cheese - - - - -                  | 0 1 0                | 0 0 4                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 4½               | 0 0 2                | 0 0 4                |
| Beer - - - - -                    | 0 0 9                | 0 0 8                | 0 0 6½               | 0 0 5½               | 0 0 3                | 0 0 2                |
| Soap, Starch, and Blue -          | 0 0 2¾               | 0 0 2½               | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 2¼               | 0 0 2¼               |
| Candles - - - - -                 | 0 0 3                | 0 0 2                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 2¼               | 0 0 2¼               |
| Thread and Worsted - -            | 0 0 2                | 0 0 0½               | 0 0 2                | 0 0 2                | 0 0 2                | 0 0 2                |
| <b>Total</b>                      | <b>0 10 11¾</b>      | <b>0 8 9</b>         | <b>0 9 11½</b>       | <b>0 8 0</b>         | <b>0 9 2½</b>        | <b>0 9 2</b>         |
| <b>Amount per annum</b>           | <b>28 10 11</b>      | <b>22 15 0</b>       | <b>25 17 10</b>      | <b>20 16 0</b>       | <b>23 18 10</b>      | <b>23 16 8</b>       |
| <i>Earnings per Week.</i>         |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |
|                                   | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             |
| The Man earns (harvest excepted)  | 0 7 0                | 0 7 0                | 0 7 0                | 0 7 0                | 0 7 0                | 0 7 0                |
| The Woman - - - - -               | 0 1 0                | Parish pay } 1 6     | 0 1 0                | 0 0 4                | 0 0 6                | 0 0 4                |
| The Children - - - - -            | 0 2 0                | 0 0 0                | 0 2 0                | 0 0 0                | 0 2 0                | 0 2 0                |
| <b>Total</b>                      | <b>0 10 0</b>        | <b>0 8 6</b>         | <b>0 10 0</b>        | <b>0 7 4</b>         | <b>0 9 6</b>         | <b>0 9 4</b>         |
| <b>Amount per annum</b>           | <b>26 0 0</b>        | <b>22 2 0</b>        | <b>26 0 0</b>        | <b>19 1 4</b>        | <b>24 14 0</b>       | <b>24 5 4</b>        |
| Extra earnings in harvest -       | 3 4 0                | 1 10 0               | 3 8 0                | 2 0 0                | 5 4 0                | 1 10 0               |
| <b>Total Earnings</b>             | <b>29 4 0</b>        | <b>23 12 0</b>       | <b>29 8 0</b>        | <b>21 1 4</b>        | <b>29 18 0</b>       | <b>25 15 4</b>       |
| <i>To the above Amount of</i>     |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |
|                                   | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             |
| Expences per annum -              | 28 10 11             | 22 15 0              | 25 17 10             | 20 16 0              | 23 18 10             | 23 16 8              |
| Add Rent, Fuel, Clothing, &c.     | 6 19 6               | 3 3 0                | 6 14 0               | 6 14 0               | 4 16 0               | 7 10 0               |
| <b>Total Expences per annum -</b> | <b>35 10 5</b>       | <b>25 18 0</b>       | <b>32 11 10</b>      | <b>27 10 0</b>       | <b>28 14 10</b>      | <b>31 6 8</b>        |
| <b>Total Earnings per annum -</b> | <b>29 4 0</b>        | <b>23 12 0</b>       | <b>29 8 0</b>        | <b>21 1 4</b>        | <b>29 18 0</b>       | <b>25 15 4</b>       |
| <b>Deficiency of Earnings</b>     | <b>6 6 5</b>         | <b>2 6 0</b>         | <b>3 3 10</b>        | <b>6 8 8</b>         | <b>1 3 2</b>         | <b>5 11 4</b>        |
|                                   |                      |                      |                      | Surplus              |                      |                      |

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CRAWLEY PARISH, IN HAMPSHIRE.

ACCOUNT OF THE FAMILIES.

ANNUAL EXPENCES.

No. 1. A man, his wife, and six children, the eldest a boy thirteen years of age, the youngest an infant.

|                   |               |          |
|-------------------|---------------|----------|
| No. 1. Rent - - - | 2 0 0         | £. s. d. |
| Fuel - - -        | 0 9 6         |          |
| Shoes - - -       | 1 10 0        |          |
| Clothes, &c. -    | 3 0 0         |          |
|                   | <u>6 19 6</u> |          |

No. 2. A man and five children, (his wife being dead) the eldest a girl thirteen years old, the youngest six years.

|                   |              |  |
|-------------------|--------------|--|
| No. 2. Rent - - - | 0 0 0        |  |
| Fuel - - -        | 0 8 0        |  |
| Shoes - - -       | 0 15 0       |  |
| Clothes, &c. -    | 2 0 0        |  |
|                   | <u>3 3 0</u> |  |

No. 3. A man his wife, and five children, the eldest a boy eleven years of age, the youngest 2½ years.

|                   |               |  |
|-------------------|---------------|--|
| No. 3. Rent - - - | 2 0 0         |  |
| Fuel - - -        | 0 14 0        |  |
| Clothes, &c. -    | 4 0 0         |  |
|                   | <u>6 14 0</u> |  |

No. 4. A man, his wife, and four children, the eldest five years of age, the youngest an infant.

|                   |               |  |
|-------------------|---------------|--|
| No. 4. Rent - - - | 2 2 0         |  |
| Fuel - - -        | 1 2 0         |  |
| Clothes, &c. -    | 3 10 0        |  |
|                   | <u>6 14 0</u> |  |

No. 5. A man, his wife, and five children, the eldest a boy ten years of age, the youngest an infant.

|                    |               |  |
|--------------------|---------------|--|
| No. 5. Rent* - - - | 0 0 0         |  |
| Fuel - - -         | 0 14 0        |  |
| Clothes, &c. -     | 4 2 0         |  |
|                    | <u>4 16 0</u> |  |

No. 6. A man, his wife, and four children, the eldest a boy fourteen years of age, the youngest an infant.

|                   |               |  |
|-------------------|---------------|--|
| No. 6. Rent - - - | 2 0 0         |  |
| Fuel - - -        | 1 10 0        |  |
| Clothes, &c. -    | 4 0 0         |  |
|                   | <u>7 10 0</u> |  |

Rent of a cottage is 2l.—Fuel at the lowest estimation must be reckoned at 1l.; to make a family comfortable, it ought to be double of this. Clothing may be nearly the same as in the printed estimate for Barkham, except the article of shoes, which is too low, especially if there is a boy who goes to plough, as he wears more than one pair per annum: a pair of man's nailed shoes is here 8s.

|                                                    |          |
|----------------------------------------------------|----------|
|                                                    | £. s. d. |
| Price of the half-peck loaf of wheaten bread - - - | 0 1 0    |
| Price of the gallon of flour - - -                 | 0 0 10½  |
| Price of a week's labour - - -                     | 0 7 0    |

I have made the calculations through the whole at the above rates, though in reality the half-peck loaf is at this time 12½d. and the gallon of flour 11d.

Where a man has no reaping in harvest, he is allowed 12s. a week for six weeks: he commonly reaps and mows by the acre.

I have chosen those who are esteemed the best managers, as all buy their flour by the bushel; and Nos. 1, 3, and 4, either fat a hog, or buy one whole by the score.

The reason that I have put the firing at so different rates is, because in some families the girls are employed in bringing sticks from coppices.

\* This is the first year that No. 5 has not paid rent, 2l.



LONG PARISH, IN HAMPSHIRE.

[BY THE REV. LASCELLES IREMONGER, APRIL 1789.]

EXPENCES AND EARNINGS OF SIX FAMILIES OF LABOURERS,  
BY THE WEEK, AND BY THE YEAR.

|                                                 | No. 1.<br>7 Persons. | No. 2.<br>7 Persons. | No. 3.<br>6 Persons. | No. 4.<br>5 Persons. | No. 5.<br>5 Persons. | No. 6.<br>4 Persons. |
|-------------------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| <i>Expences per Week.</i>                       | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             |
| Bread or Flour - - - -                          | 0 6 6                | 0 7 0                | 0 5 0                | 0 4 3                | 0 4 0                | 0 4 2                |
| Yeast and Salt - - - -                          | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 2                | 0 0 2                | 0 0 1                |
| Bacon or other Meat - -                         | 0 1 0                | 0 1 0                | 0 1 0                | 0 0 8                | 0 1 0                | 0 0 4                |
| Tea, Sugar, and Butter -                        | 0 0 7                | 0 0 8                | 0 0 6                | 0 0 9                | 0 0 8                | 0 0 7                |
| Cheese - - - - -                                | 0 0 5                | 0 0 10               | 0 0 5                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 5                |
| Beer - - - - -                                  | 0 0 6                | 0 0 9                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 2                | 0 0 6                | 0 0 0                |
| Soap, Starch, and Blue -                        | 0 0 6                | 0 0 6                | 0 0 2                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 8                | 0 0 3½               |
| Candles - - - - -                               | 0 0 2                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 2                | 0 0 2                | 0 0 2                | 0 0 2                |
| Thread, Thrum, Worsted -                        | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 2                |
| <b>Total</b>                                    | <b>0 10 2</b>        | <b>0 11 6</b>        | <b>0 7 9</b>         | <b>0 6 8</b>         | <b>0 7 5</b>         | <b>0 6 2½</b>        |
| <b>Amount per annum</b>                         | <b>26 8 8</b>        | <b>29 18 0</b>       | <b>20 3 0</b>        | <b>17 6 8</b>        | <b>19 5 8</b>        | <b>16 1 9</b>        |
| <i>Earnings per Week.</i>                       | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             |
| The Man earns at a medium                       | 0 8 0                | 0 8 0                | 0 8 0                | 0 8 0                | 0 7 0                | 0 7 6                |
| The Woman - - - - -                             | 0 0 0                | 0 1 0                | 0 1 0                | 0 0 6                | 0 1 6                | 0 0 6                |
| The Children - - - - -                          | 0 1 6                | 0 4 6                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 6                | 0 0 0                |
| <b>Total</b>                                    | <b>0 9 6</b>         | <b>0 13 6</b>        | <b>0 9 0</b>         | <b>0 8 6</b>         | <b>0 9 0</b>         | <b>0 8 0</b>         |
| <b>Amount per annum</b>                         | <b>24 14 0</b>       | <b>35 2 0</b>        | <b>23 8 0</b>        | <b>22 2 0</b>        | <b>23 8 0</b>        | <b>20 16 0</b>       |
| To the above Amount of<br>Expences per annum -  | 26 8 8               | 29 18 0              | 20 3 0               | 17 6 8               | 19 5 8               | 16 1 9               |
| Add Rent, Fuel, Clothes,<br>Lying-in, &c. - - - | 7 0 0                | 7 0 0                | 7 0 0                | 7 0 0                | 7 0 0                | 7 0 0                |
| <b>Total Expences per annum -</b>               | <b>33 8 8</b>        | <b>36 18 0</b>       | <b>27 3 0</b>        | <b>24 6 8</b>        | <b>26 5 8</b>        | <b>23 1 9</b>        |
| <b>Total Earnings per annum -</b>               | <b>24 14 0</b>       | <b>35 2 0</b>        | <b>23 8 0</b>        | <b>22 2 0</b>        | <b>23 8 0</b>        | <b>20 16 0</b>       |
| <b>Deficiencies of Earnings</b>                 | <b>8 14 8</b>        | <b>1 16 0</b>        | <b>3 15 0</b>        | <b>2 4 8</b>         | <b>2 17 8</b>        | <b>2 5 9</b>         |

LONG PARISH, IN HAMPSHIRE.

ACCOUNT OF THE FAMILIES.

ANNUAL EXPENCES.

No. 1. A man, his wife, and five children, the eldest nine years of age, the youngest an infant.

No. 2. A man, his wife, and five children, the eldest fourteen years of age, the next a boy aged thirteen, the rest unable to earn any thing.

No. 3. A man, his wife, and four children, the eldest under nine years of age, the youngest an infant.

No. 4. A man, his wife, and three small children, the eldest not quite six years of age, and the youngest only one year.

No. 5. A man, his wife, and three children, the eldest near ten years old.

No. 6. A man, his wife, and two small children, unable to earn any thing.

£. s. d.

Cottage rent and fuel, both very high and scarce, so that they greatly exceed the estimate in the Barkham paper, and one pound may be added at the least to the expences in the Berkshire account.

Rent, fuel, clothing, &c. - 7 0 0

Price of the half-peck loaf of wheaten bread - - - 0 1 0½

No. 5. Washes for two young men.

MONK-SHERBORNE AND BASING PARISHES,  
IN HAMPSHIRE, 1789.

EXPENCES AND EARNINGS OF SIX FAMILIES OF LABOURERS,  
BY THE WEEK, AND BY THE YEAR.

|                                                       | No. 1.<br>7 Persons. | No. 2.<br>7 Persons. | No. 3.<br>6 Persons. | No. 4.<br>5 Persons. | No. 5.<br>5 Persons. | No. 6.<br>4 Persons. |
|-------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| <i>Expences per Week.</i>                             | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             |
| Flour, Yeast, and Salt - -                            | 0 7 0                | 0 7 0                | 0 6 0                | 0 5 0                | 0 5 0                | 0 4 0                |
| Bacon, &c. - - - - -                                  | 0 1 2                | 0 1 2                | 0 1 2                | 0 1 0                | 0 1 0                | 0 1 0                |
| Cheese - - - - -                                      | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 6                | 0 0 6                | 0 0 8                |
| Sugar and Butter - - -                                | 0 0 4½               | 0 0 4½               | 0 0 4½               | 0 0 6                | 0 0 6                | 0 0 6                |
| Beer in hay-time and harvest                          | 0 1 0                | 0 1 0                | 0 1 0                | 0 0 10               | 0 0 10               | 0 0 10               |
| Soap, Starch, and Blue - -                            | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                |
| Candles - - - - -                                     | 0 0 3½               | 0 0 3½               | 0 0 3½               | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                |
| Thread, Worsted, &c. - -                              | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 2                | 0 0 2                | 0 0 2                |
| <b>Total</b>                                          | <b>0 10 4</b>        | <b>0 10 4</b>        | <b>0 9 4</b>         | <b>0 8 6</b>         | <b>0 8 6</b>         | <b>0 7 8</b>         |
| <b>Amount per annum</b>                               | <b>26 17 4</b>       | <b>26 17 4</b>       | <b>24 5 4</b>        | <b>22 2 0</b>        | <b>22 2 0</b>        | <b>19 18 8</b>       |
| <i>Earnings per Week.</i>                             | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             |
| The Man - - - - -                                     | 0 8 6                | 0 8 6                | 0 8 6                | 0 8 6                | 0 8 6                | 0 8 6                |
| The Woman - - - - -                                   | 0 1 6                | 0 1 6                | 0 1 0                | 0 0 9                | 0 0 9                | 0 1 6                |
| The Children - - - - -                                | 0 0 0                | 0 3 6                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                |
| <b>Total</b>                                          | <b>0 10 0</b>        | <b>0 9 0</b>         | <b>0 9 6</b>         | <b>0 9 3</b>         | <b>0 9 3</b>         | <b>0 10 0</b>        |
| <b>Amount per annum</b>                               | <b>26 0 0</b>        | <b>23 8 0</b>        | <b>24 14 0</b>       | <b>24 1 0</b>        | <b>24 1 0</b>        | <b>26 0 0</b>        |
| To the above Amount of<br>Expences per annum -        | 26 17 4              | 26 17 4              | 24 5 4               | 22 2 0               | 22 2 0               | 19 18 8              |
| Fuel, Clothes, &c. [Rent to<br>No. 4, 5, 6] - - - - - | 4 10 0               | 4 10 0               | 4 10 0               | 6 0 0                | 6 0 0                | 6 0 0                |
| <b>Total Expences per annum -</b>                     | <b>31 7 4</b>        | <b>31 7 4</b>        | <b>28 15 4</b>       | <b>28 2 0</b>        | <b>28 2 0</b>        | <b>25 18 8</b>       |
| <b>Total Earnings per annum -</b>                     | <b>26 0 0</b>        | <b>23 8 0</b>        | <b>24 14 0</b>       | <b>24 1 0</b>        | <b>24 1 0</b>        | <b>26 0 0</b>        |
| <b>Deficiencies of Earnings</b>                       | <b>5 7 4</b>         | <b>7 19 4</b>        | <b>4 1 4</b>         | <b>4 1 0</b>         | <b>4 1 0</b>         | <b>0 1 4</b>         |
| <b>Exceedings</b>                                     |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |

MONK-SHERBOURN AND BASING PARISHES,  
IN HAMPSHIRE, 1789.

ACCOUNT OF THE FAMILIES.

ANNUAL EXPENCES.

No. 1. A man, his wife, and five children, the eldest nine years of age, the youngest an infant.

No. 2. A woman, whose husband is dead, and six children, the eldest a boy fourteen years of age, the next a girl twelve years, the remainder too young to work.

No. 3. A man, his wife, and four small children, the eldest seven years of age, the youngest an infant.

No. 4. A man, his wife, and three small children, the eldest five years of age, the youngest an infant.

No. 5. A man, his wife, and three children, the eldest five years of age, the youngest an infant.

No. 6. A man, his wife, and two children, the eldest six years of age, the youngest four years.

|                                                                       | £. s. d. |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| Price of the half-peck loaf*                                          | 0 1 1½   |
| Price of a gallon of flour                                            | 0 1 0    |
| A week's labour in winter                                             | 0 7 0    |
| Hay time, hoeing, and harvest, supposed to make it average at - - - - | 0 8 6    |

The annual expences are similar to those in the Berkshire account, except that in this neighbourhood, the parish pays the rents for families of the description of No. 1, 2, 3.

This calculation was made from two parishes, Monk-Sherbourn and Basing, both in Hampshire, on account of the families being of the same number.

\* Bread or flour is 2d. per half-peck dearer than in 1787.

LANCASHIRE, FEB. 1789.

[COMMUNICATED THROUGH THOMAS STANLEY, ESQ; M. P.]

EXPENCES AND EARNINGS OF THREE FAMILIES OF LABOURERS,  
BY THE WEEK, AND BY THE YEAR.

|                                                     | No. 1.<br>7 Persons. | No. 2.<br>7 Persons. | No. 3.<br>6 Persons. |  |  |  |
|-----------------------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--|--|--|
| <i>Expences per Week.</i>                           |                      |                      |                      |  |  |  |
| Bread from Oatmeal - - -                            | 0 3 0                | 0 3 0                | 0 3 0                |  |  |  |
| Potatoes - - - - -                                  | 0 0 6                | 0 0 9                | 0 0 6                |  |  |  |
| Salt - - - - -                                      | 0 0 1½               | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                |  |  |  |
| Bacon or other Meat - - -                           | 0 0 4                | 0 0 4                | 0 0 6                |  |  |  |
| Tea, Sugar, Treacle, Butter                         | 0 1 2                | 0 0 11½              | 0 0 11               |  |  |  |
| Beer and Milk - - - - -                             | 0 0 5½               | 0 0 5                | 0 0 2                |  |  |  |
| Soap, Starch, and Blue - -                          | 0 0 2½               | 0 0 4                | 0 0 4                |  |  |  |
| Candles - - - - -                                   | 0 0 3½               | 0 0 3½               | 0 0 3½               |  |  |  |
| Thread, Thrum, Worsted - -                          | 0 0 2                | 0 0 2                | 0 0 2                |  |  |  |
| Total                                               | 0 6 3                | 0 6 6                | 0 6 1½               |  |  |  |
| Amount per annum                                    | 16 5 0               | 16 18 0              | 15 18 6              |  |  |  |
| <i>Earnings per Week.</i>                           |                      |                      |                      |  |  |  |
| The Man earns at a medium                           | 0 7 0                | 0 6 6                | 0 7 6                |  |  |  |
| The Woman - - - - -                                 | 0 1 0                | 0 1 0                | 0 1 6                |  |  |  |
| The Children - - - - -                              | 0 0 6                | 0 2 0                | 0 0 6                |  |  |  |
| Total                                               | 0 8 6                | 0 9 6                | 0 9 6                |  |  |  |
| Amount per annum                                    | 22 2 0               | 24 14 0              | 24 14 0              |  |  |  |
| <i>To the above Amount of</i>                       |                      |                      |                      |  |  |  |
| Expences per annum - - -                            | 16 5 0               | 16 18 0              | 15 18 6              |  |  |  |
| Add Rent, Fuel, Clothes,<br>Lying-in, &c. - - - - - | 9 0 0                | 10 7 0               | 9 2 2                |  |  |  |
| Total Expences per annum -                          | 25 5 0               | 27 5 0               | 25 0 8               |  |  |  |
| Total Earnings per annum -                          | 22 2 0               | 24 14 0              | 24 14 0              |  |  |  |
| Deficiencies of Earnings                            | 3 3 0                | 2 11 0               | 0 6 8                |  |  |  |

LANCASHIRE.

ACCOUNT OF THE FAMILIES.

TOWNSHIP OF GREAT ECCLESTON, AND  
PARISH OF ST. MICHAEL'S.

No. 1. A man, his wife, and five children, the eldest a boy twelve years of age, the next a girl ten years, the next eight, and the youngest an infant of two years old.

ANNUAL EXPENCES OF No. 1.

|                                                                  | £. | s. | d.   |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|----|----|------|
| Rent of a cottage and garden                                     | -  | 2  | 2 0  |
| Fuel, 24 falls of turf - - -                                     | -  | 1  | 5 0  |
| Man's clothing - - - - -                                         | -  | 1  | 8 0  |
| Woman's ditto - - - - -                                          | -  | 0  | 17 0 |
| The five children's clothing - -                                 | -  | 1  | 16 0 |
| Lying-in, sickness, &c. los of time<br>in bad weather, &c. - - - | -  | 1  | 12 0 |
|                                                                  | £. | 9  | 0 0  |

TOWNSHIP OF BARTON, PARISH  
OF PRESTON.

No. 2. A man, his wife, and five children, the eldest a girl eleven years of age, the next a girl nine years, the youngest an infant of two years.

ANNUAL EXPENCES OF No. 2.

|                                                                  | £. | s. | d.   |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|----|----|------|
| Rent of a cottage and garden - -                                 | -  | 2  | 0 0  |
| Fuel, altogether coals - - - - -                                 | -  | 3  | 0 0  |
| Man's clothing - - - - -                                         | -  | 1  | 6 6  |
| Woman's ditto - - - - -                                          | -  | 0  | 15 0 |
| The five children's clothing - -                                 | -  | 1  | 13 6 |
| Lying-in, sickness, &c. los of time<br>in bad weather, &c. - - - | -  | 1  | 12 0 |
|                                                                  | £. | 10 | 7 0  |

TOWNSHIP OF KIRKLAND, PARISH  
OF GARSTANG.

No. 3. A man, his wife, and four children, the eldest a girl eleven years of age, the next a girl nine years, the youngest two.

ANNUAL EXPENCES OF No. 3.

|                                                                  | £. | s. | d.   |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|----|----|------|
| Rent of a cottage and garden - -                                 | -  | 1  | 8 0  |
| Fuel, 30 falls of turf - - - - -                                 | -  | 1  | 6 0  |
| Man's clothing - - - - -                                         | -  | 1  | 8 0  |
| Woman's ditto - - - - -                                          | -  | 1  | 2 8  |
| The four children's clothing - -                                 | -  | 2  | 5 6  |
| Lying-in, sickness, &c. los of time<br>in bad weather, &c. - - - | -  | 1  | 12 0 |
|                                                                  | £. | 9  | 2 2  |

PARISH OF WINWICK,  
IN THE TOWNSHIP OF LOWTON, LANCASHIRE.

[COMMUNICATED BY JOHN BLACKBURNE, ESQ; M. P.]

EXPENCES AND EARNINGS OF ONE FAMILY OF LABOURERS, CONSISTING OF A MAN,  
HIS WIFE, AND FIVE CHILDREN, THE ELDEST EIGHT YEARS OF AGE, THE  
YOUNGEST AN INFANT, BY THE WEEK, AND BY THE YEAR.

|                                                                                          | No. 1.<br>7 Persons. |  |  |  |  |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|--|--|--|--|
| <i>Expences per Week.</i>                                                                |                      |  |  |  |  |
|                                                                                          | £. s. d.             |  |  |  |  |
| Meal and Flour - - - -                                                                   | 0 5 0                |  |  |  |  |
| Potatoes - - - - -                                                                       | 0 1 0                |  |  |  |  |
| Yeast and Salt - - - -                                                                   | 0 0 4                |  |  |  |  |
| Bacon or other Meat - -                                                                  | 0 1 4                |  |  |  |  |
| Milk and Butter - - - -                                                                  | 0 1 10               |  |  |  |  |
| Soap, Starch, and Candles -                                                              | 0 0 5                |  |  |  |  |
| Thread and Woollen Yarn -                                                                | 0 0 3                |  |  |  |  |
| Total                                                                                    | 0 10 2               |  |  |  |  |
| Amount per annum                                                                         | 26 8 8               |  |  |  |  |
| <i>Earnings per Week.</i>                                                                |                      |  |  |  |  |
|                                                                                          | £. s. d.             |  |  |  |  |
| The Man earns - - - - -                                                                  | 0 9 0                |  |  |  |  |
| The Woman - - - - -                                                                      | 0 1 6                |  |  |  |  |
| The Children - - - - -                                                                   | 0 0 0                |  |  |  |  |
| Total                                                                                    | 0 10 6               |  |  |  |  |
| Amount per annum                                                                         | 27 6 0               |  |  |  |  |
| <i>To the above Amount of</i>                                                            |                      |  |  |  |  |
| Expences per annum - - -                                                                 | 26 8 8               |  |  |  |  |
| Add Rent 3l. Fuel 1l. Cloth-<br>ing 6l. Lying-in, Sickness,<br>Loss of Time, &c. 2l. - - | 12 0 0               |  |  |  |  |
| Total Expences per annum -                                                               | 38 8 8               |  |  |  |  |
| Total Earnings per annum -                                                               | 27 6 0               |  |  |  |  |
| Deficiency of Earnings                                                                   | 11 2 8               |  |  |  |  |

MARSHAM, NORFOLK, JANUARY 1790.

BY MR. JOHN KIDDLE.

The parish of Marsham, in the Eastern part of the county of Norfolk, is (with many other parishes in the same district) greatly burthened with the poor-rates, which have some years amounted to 10s. in the pound, rack rent; that is, a farm rented at 100l. per annum has paid (since my residence in the parish) 50l. in the year to the poor-rates, exclusive of the church-rate and surveyors; but on an average for the seven years past, they have been at 9s. in the pound, rack rent, and are not likely to be reduced lower.

The common price of labour in the district is a shilling a day to those who have families; if there be no children, and they ask employment of the parish, it is usual to diminish of that price, according to circumstances, from eightpence a day, which is commonly paid to a single man who comes to the parish for work; which is countenanced by the magistrate.

I have a labourer who drives a team for me, that is, has the care of five horses, from six o'clock in the morning until nine in the evening; whose situa-

tion is envied by half the labourers in the parish, because his wages are 7s. a week through the year; this man has a wife and six small children now living, and has buried three, supports himself and family with that wages, and pays his rent of 2l. 5s. a year, and has done so these six years past, without asking relief of the parish, to my certain knowledge, he having been with me that time.

The common price of labour when a farmer chooses his labourers from the strongest and best workmen in the parish, is to give them 6s. a week the winter half year, and 7s. the summer.

The usual parish allowance to a man advanced in years, is 2s. a week, and to find them clothes, firing, and sometimes the use of the poor-house.

The allowance for widows is, to those without any children, a shilling per week, house-rent and firing, unless they are past doing any labour; and then it is usual to give them 2s.

If they have one child, 1s. 6d. if two children, 2s. &c.

BRINGTON, IN THE COUNTY OF NORTHAMPTON.

EXPENCES AND EARNINGS OF THREE FAMILIES OF LABOURERS,  
BY THE WEEK, AND BY THE YEAR.

|                                                                              | No. 1.<br>9 Persons. | No. 2.<br>6 Persons. | No. 3.<br>12 Persons. |  |  |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|--|--|
| <i>Expences per Week.</i>                                                    |                      |                      |                       |  |  |
| Bread and Flour - - -                                                        | £. s. d. 0 8 0       | £. s. d. 0 3 6       | £. s. d. 0 13 0       |  |  |
| Bacon and Meat on a Sunday                                                   | 0 2 6                | 0 1 1                | 0 0 9                 |  |  |
| Tea, Sugar, Soap, Starch,<br>Blue, Candles, Thread,<br>and Worsted - - - - } | 0 4 0                | 0 1 5                | 0 3 8                 |  |  |
| Cheese, Butter, Milk, Oatmeal                                                | 0 1 0                | 0 0 5                | 0 1 6                 |  |  |
| Malt and Beer - - - -                                                        | 0 0 10               | 0 0 4                | 0 0 5                 |  |  |
| Total                                                                        | 0 16 4               | 0 6 9                | 0 19 4                |  |  |
| Amount per annum                                                             | 42 9 4               | 17 11 0              | 50 5 4                |  |  |
| <i>Earnings per Week.</i>                                                    |                      |                      |                       |  |  |
| The Man at a medium - -                                                      | £. s. d. 0 6 6       | £. s. d. 0 6 6       | £. s. d. 0 6 0        |  |  |
| Eldest Son - - - - -                                                         | 0 2 0                | 0 0 0                | 0 6 0                 |  |  |
| Other Children - - - - -                                                     | 0 2 0                | 0 0 0                | 0 2 0                 |  |  |
| Woman - - - - -                                                              | 0 0 0                | 0 1 8                | 0 0 0                 |  |  |
| Lodger and Parish Allowance                                                  | 0 5 0                | 0 0 0                | 0 2 6                 |  |  |
| Total                                                                        | 0 15 6               | 0 8 2                | 0 16 6                |  |  |
| Amount per annum                                                             | 40 6 0               | 21 4 8               | 42 18 0               |  |  |
| <i>To the above Amount of</i>                                                |                      |                      |                       |  |  |
| Expences per annum - }                                                       | £. s. d. 42 9 4      | £. s. d. 17 11 0     | £. s. d. 50 5 4       |  |  |
| Add Rent, Clothing, &c. &c.                                                  | 5 16 0               | 5 16 0               | 5 16 0                |  |  |
| Total Expences per annum -                                                   | 48 5 4               | 23 7 0               | 56 1 4                |  |  |
| Total Earnings per annum -                                                   | 40 6 0               | 21 4 8               | 42 18 0               |  |  |
| Deficiency of Earnings                                                       | 7 19 4               | 2 2 4                | 13 3 4                |  |  |

BRINGTON, IN THE COUNTY OF NORTHAMPTON.

ACCOUNT OF THE FAMILIES.

ANNUAL EXPENCES.

£. s. d.

No. 1. T. Taylor, his wife, and six children, the eldest fourteen years of age a boy, the next a girl twelve years, the youngest about two years; with a man, a lodger, who is placed there by the parish at 5s. per week, board, lodging, washing, and mending.

No. 2. Thomas Mailer, a wife, and four children; the eldest seven years of age, the youngest about eighteen months.

No. 3. George Capel, a wife, and ten children; the eldest a youth twenty years old; the next a girl thirteen years; the next a girl twelve years; the next a girl ten years; the next a girl eight; the next a boy seven; the youngest two years.

Rent of cottages from 11. to 5s. per annum - - - 1 0 0  
Fuel, about 26s. per annum 1 6 0  
Coals are here sold at fourpence per cwt. less than prime cost; the gift of Earl Spencer.

The clothing is generally bought second-hand; and a great many gowns, petticoats, and shifts, are annually distributed by the Countess Spencer to the poor families:—Call what is bought - - - - - 2 0 0  
Allow for lying-in and casualties - - - - - 1 10 0  
£. 5 16 0

The parish pays the rent of No. 1; and generally makes up the deficiency of No. 3.

An allowance of a twelve-penny loaf and 8lbs. of beef, for four weeks at Christmas, is given by Earl Spencer to Nos. 1 and 3.



CASTOR, NEAR PETERBOROUGH, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE,

FEBRUARY 6, 1794.

[COMMUNICATED BY THE REV. CH. HODGSON, RECTOR OF MARHOLM, AND CURATE OF CASTOR.]

EXPENCES AND EARNINGS OF SIX FAMILIES OF LABOURERS,  
BY THE WEEK, AND BY THE YEAR.

|                                                  | No. 1.<br>6 Persons. | No. 2.<br>5 Persons. | No. 3.<br>4 Persons. | No. 4.<br>6 Persons. | No. 5.<br>6 Persons. | No. 6.<br>7 Persons. |
|--------------------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| <i>Expences per Week.</i>                        |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |
| Bread and Flour - - - -                          | £. s. d. 0 5 0       | £. s. d. 0 4 1       | £. s. d. 0 4 0       | £. s. d. 0 5 6       | £. s. d. 0 4 3       | £. s. d. 0 6 6       |
| Salt - - - - -                                   | 0 0 1½               | 0 0 0½               | 0 0 1½               | 0 0 1                | 0 0 1                | 0 0 2                |
| Meat - - - - -                                   | 0 1 6                | 0 1 6                | 0 1 0                | 0 1 6                | 0 1 6                | 0 1 3                |
| Tea, Sugar, and Butter -                         | 0 0 6                | 0 1 7                | 0 1 0                | 0 0 8                | 0 1 1                | 0 1 2                |
| Cheese (sometimes) - -                           | 0 0 5½               | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 5                | 0 0 0                |
| Beer (seldom any) - - -                          | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                |
| Soap ¼lb. Starch, &c. - -                        | 0 0 2½               | 0 0 2½               | 0 0 2                | 0 0 4½               | 0 0 2½               | 0 0 3                |
| Candles ¼lb. Thread, &c. -                       | 0 0 6                | 0 0 5                | 0 0 4                | 0 0 5½               | 0 0 6                | 0 0 8                |
| Total                                            | 0 8 3½               | 0 7 10½              | 0 6 7½               | 0 8 7                | 0 8 0½               | 0 10 0               |
| Amount per annum                                 | 21 11 2              | 20 8 5               | 17 4 6               | 22 6 4               | 20 18 2              | 26 0 0               |
| <i>Earnings per Week.</i>                        |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |
| The Man earns at a medium                        | £. s. d. 0 7 6       | £. s. d. 0 6 6       | £. s. d. 0 8 0       | £. s. d. 0 6 6       | £. s. d. 0 7 6       | £. s. d. 0 9 0       |
| The Woman - - - - -                              | 0 0 4                | 0 0 0                | 0 1 0                | 0 0 3½               | 0 0 10               | 0 0 8                |
| The Children - - - - -                           | 0 0 0                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 0                | 0 1 3                | 0 0 4                | 0 0 3                |
| Total                                            | 0 7 10               | 0 6 9                | 0 9 0                | 0 8 0½               | 0 8 8                | 0 9 11               |
| Amount per annum                                 | 20 7 4               | 17 11 0              | 23 8 0               | 20 18 2              | 22 10 8              | 25 15 8              |
| To the above Amount of }<br>Expences per annum - | £. s. d. 21 11 2     | £. s. d. 20 8 5      | £. s. d. 17 4 6      | £. s. d. 22 6 4      | £. s. d. 20 18 2     | £. s. d. 26 0 0      |
| Add Rent, Fuel, Clothes, &c.                     | 7 10 0               | 7 10 0               | 7 10 0               | 7 10 0               | 7 10 0               | 7 10 0               |
| Total Expences per annum -                       | 29 1 2               | 27 18 5              | 24 14 6              | 29 16 4              | 28 8 2               | 33 10 0              |
| Total Earnings* per annum -                      | 20 7 4               | 17 11 0              | 23 8 0               | 20 18 2              | 22 10 8              | 25 15 8              |
| Deficiencies of Earnings                         | 8 13 10              | 10 7 5               | 1 6 6                | 8 18 2               | 5 17 6               | 7 14 4               |

\* To the Earnings may be added what is got by gleaning.

CASTOR, NEAR PETERBOROUGH, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

ACCOUNT OF THE FAMILIES.

ANNUAL EXPENCES.

No. 1. A man, his wife, and four children, the eldest eleven years of age, the youngest an infant.

|                                  | £. s. d.         |
|----------------------------------|------------------|
| Rent of a cottage only from 11.  |                  |
| 10s. to 2l. 2s. - - - -          | 1 15 0           |
| Fuel and coals - - - -           | 1 10 0           |
| Clothing, the man's and family - | 2 15 0           |
| Lying-in, los of time, &c. - -   | 1 10 0           |
| <b>Total</b>                     | <b>£. 7 10 0</b> |

No. 2. A man, his wife, and three children, the eldest thirteen years of age, the youngest an infant.

No. 3. A man, his wife, and two children, the eldest six years of age, the youngest an infant.

|                                    |        |
|------------------------------------|--------|
| Price of a week's labour in winter | 0 6 0  |
| Ditto in summer - - - -            | 0 8 0  |
| Ditto in hay time - - - -          | 0 9 0  |
| Ditto in harvest time - - - -      | 0 10 6 |

No. 4. Henry Snow, his wife, and four children, the eldest ten years of age, the youngest an infant.

No. 5. A man, his wife, and four children, the eldest twelve years of age, the youngest an infant.

No. 6. A man, his wife, and five children, the eldest fourteen years of age, the youngest an infant.

Coals are, in this part of the kingdom, a very dear article: poor people cannot buy any now under a shilling a bushel, besides the expence of getting them home; and the price of wood bears a considerable proportion to that of coals. But when a poor man is at wood-work, he is then allowed a faggot per day, for his own use, besides his wages.

In No. 2, the wife can add nothing to her husband's earnings by her own industry, being so much disabled as not to do any profitable kind of work whatever.

PARISH OF HOLWELL, SOMERSETSHIRE.

[COMMUNICATED BY MR. RADCLIFFE, 1789.]

EXPENCES AND EARNINGS OF TWO FAMILIES OF LABOURERS,  
BY THE WEEK, AND BY THE YEAR.

|                                                    | No. 1.<br>7 Persons. |    | No. 2.<br>8 Persons.           |    |    |    |  |
|----------------------------------------------------|----------------------|----|--------------------------------|----|----|----|--|
| <i>Expences per Week.</i>                          | £.                   | s. | d.                             | £. | s. | d. |  |
| Bread or Flour - - - -                             | 0                    | 7  | 0                              | 0  | 4  | 8  |  |
| Potatoes and Vegetables -                          | 0                    | 0  | 6                              | 0  | 0  | 5  |  |
| Cheese and Salt - - - -                            | 0                    | 1  | 1 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>  | 0  | 0  | 4  |  |
| Bacon or other Meat - -                            | 0                    | 1  | 6                              | 0  | 0  | 7  |  |
| Tea, Sugar, and Butter - -                         | 0                    | 0  | 10                             | 0  | 0  | *2 |  |
| Soap, Starch, and Candles -                        | 0                    | 0  | 8                              | 0  | 0  | 5  |  |
| Thread and Woollen Yarn -                          | 0                    | 0  | 3 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>  | 0  | 0  | 1  |  |
| <b>Total</b>                                       | 0                    | 11 | 11 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub> | 0  | 6  | 8  |  |
| <b>Amount per annum</b>                            | 31                   | 0  | 9                              | 17 | 6  | 8  |  |
| <i>Earnings per Week.</i>                          | £.                   | s. | d.                             | £. | s. | d. |  |
| The Man earns at a medium                          | 0                    | 6  | 6                              | 0  | 5  | 6  |  |
| The Woman and Children -                           | 0                    | 7  | 0                              | 0  | 2  | 6  |  |
| <b>Total</b>                                       | 0                    | 13 | 6                              | 0  | 8  | 0  |  |
| <b>Amount per annum</b>                            | 35                   | 2  | 0                              | 20 | 16 | 0  |  |
| To the above Amount of }<br>Expences per annum - } | £.                   | s. | d.                             | £. | s. | d. |  |
|                                                    | 31                   | 0  | 9                              | 17 | 6  | 8  |  |
| Add Clothes - - - - -                              | 5                    | 9  | 9                              | 4  | 16 | 8  |  |
| <b>Total Expences per annum -</b>                  | 36                   | 10 | 6                              | 22 | 3  | 4  |  |
| <b>Total Earnings per annum -</b>                  | 35                   | 2  | 0                              | 20 | 16 | 0  |  |
| <b>Deficiency of Earnings</b>                      | 1                    | 8  | 6                              | 1  | 7  | 4  |  |

\* In No. 2, no Sugar or Butter.

PARISH OF HOLWELL, SOMERSETSHIRE.

ACCOUNT OF THE FAMILIES.

No. 1. A man, his wife, and six children, the eldest fourteen years of age, the youngest two.

The clothing of this family was as follows:

|                                                                 |    |    |    |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|----|----|----|
|                                                                 | £. | s. | d. |
| Man: coat and breeches - - -                                    | 0  | 11 | 0  |
| 2 pair shoes, and repairing them                                | 0  | 16 | 0  |
| Shirts, 8s. stockings 3s. - - -                                 | 0  | 11 | 0  |
| Woman: gown and petticoats - -                                  | 0  | 8  | 6  |
| Shifts 7s. shoes 3s. 9d. - - -                                  | 0  | 10 | 9  |
| Stockings 1s. 6d. apron, caps, and<br>handkerchiefs 6s. - - - - | 0  | 7  | 6  |
| Children's clothes - - - - -                                    | 2  | 5  | 0  |
|                                                                 | £. | 5  | 9  |

N. B. The man's wages are only 5s. per week in the winter, and 6s. in the summer: but he is often abroad with his master's waggon, and has then some little additional advantages. The woman also informs me, that she makes some money by geese, and now and then receives a shilling from a kind relation. The eldest son earns 2s. 6d. per week, and expends in clothes about 20s. a year.

No. 2. A man, his wife, and six children, the eldest thirteen years of age, the youngest an infant.

The clothing of this family was as follows:

|                                   |   |    |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|----|---|
| Man: coat and breeches - - -      | 0 | 8  | 0 |
| 2 pair shoes, and repairing them  | 0 | 16 | 0 |
| Shirts 12s. stockings 3s. 6d. - - | 0 | 15 | 6 |
| Spade, shovel, &c. for trenching  | 0 | 4  | 0 |
| Woman: gown and petticoats - -    | 0 | 6  | 0 |

Shifts 9s. shoes, 3s. 8d. stockings

|                                 |    |    |    |
|---------------------------------|----|----|----|
| 1s. 6d. - - - - -               | 0  | 14 | 2  |
| Apron, cap, and handkerchiefs - | 0  | 5  | 0  |
| Lying-in - - - - -              | 0  | 8  | 0  |
| Children's clothes - - - - -    | 1  | 0  | 0  |
|                                 | £. | 4  | 16 |

The man has a small garden, which is of some advantage. The children are rather of the diminutive kind, and never wear shoes or stockings.

House-rent and fuel cost neither of these families any thing. The former is paid by the parish; the latter is procured by gathering cow-dung, and breaking their neighbours' hedges. No beer, and very seldom any cyder.

The men, whose families I have described, are of the common run of labourers, but are many days in the year without employment.

P. S. I have examined the state of another poor family, which consists of a man, his wife, and three children, the eldest nine years of age, and the youngest one. Their annual expences are, in provisions 16l. 5s. in clothes, &c. 4l. 6s. total 20l. 11s. The man earns 6s. a week, and the woman 1s. 6d. which produce in the year 19l. 10s.

|                            |    |    |    |
|----------------------------|----|----|----|
|                            | £. | s. | d. |
| Total expences per annum - | 20 | 11 | 0  |
| Total earnings per annum - | 19 | 10 | 0  |
| Deficiency of earnings -   | 1  | 1  | 0  |

N. B. The half-peck loaf of wheaten bread, is valued in the foregoing accounts at 1s. 2d. and a stone of flour 2s. 4d.

SIDLESHAM PARISH, SURRY.

[COMMUNICATED BY JOHN FARHILL, ESQ; 1793.]

EXPENCES AND EARNINGS OF SIX FAMILIES OF LABOURERS,  
BY THE WEEK, AND BY THE YEAR.

|                                 | No. 1.<br>6 Persons.              | No. 2.<br>6 Persons.                  | No. 3.<br>6 Persons.              | No. 4.<br>6 Persons.              | No. 5.<br>5 Persons.                  | No. 6.<br>6 Persons.                   |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| <i>Expences per Week.</i>       |                                   |                                       |                                   |                                   |                                       |                                        |
| Bread and Flour                 | 0 4 0                             | 0 4 2                                 | 0 4 3                             | 0 3 11                            | 0 3 9                                 | 0 4 9                                  |
| Yeast and Salt                  | 0 0 0 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> | 0 0 0 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>     | 0 0 0 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> | 0 0 0 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> | 0 0 1                                 | 0 0 0 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>      |
| Bacon and other Meat            | 0 2 0                             | 0 1 9                                 | 0 1 10                            | 0 2 3                             | 0 2 1                                 | 0 3 0                                  |
| Tea and Sugar                   | 0 0 7                             | 0 1 2                                 | 0 0 7                             | 0 0 7                             | 0 0 7 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>     | 0 0 8                                  |
| Butter                          | 0 0 9                             | 0 0 6                                 | 0 0 9                             | 0 0 9                             | 0 0 8 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>     | 0 0 9                                  |
| Cheese                          | 0 1 0                             | 0 0 6                                 | 0 1 3                             | 0 1 0                             | 0 1 2                                 | 0 0 11                                 |
| Soap, Starch, and Blue          | 0 0 2                             | 0 0 1                                 | 0 0 1 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> | 0 0 1 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> | 0 0 1                                 | 0 0 1 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>      |
| Candles                         | 0 0 2 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> | 0 0 2 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>     | 0 0 1 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> | 0 0 2 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> | 0 0 2                                 | 0 0 1 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>      |
| Thread, Worsted, &c.            | 0 0 1                             | 0 0 0 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>     | 0 0 0 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> | 0 0 0 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> | 0 0 0 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>     | 0 0 1                                  |
| <b>Total</b>                    | <b>0 8 10</b>                     | <b>0 8 5<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub></b> | <b>0 9 0</b>                      | <b>0 8 11</b>                     | <b>0 8 8<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub></b> | <b>0 10 5<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub></b> |
| <b>Amount per annum.</b>        | <b>22 19 4</b>                    | <b>21 19 10</b>                       | <b>23 8 0</b>                     | <b>23 3 8</b>                     | <b>22 12 10</b>                       | <b>27 3 10</b>                         |
| <i>Earnings per Week.</i>       |                                   |                                       |                                   |                                   |                                       |                                        |
| <b>Total</b>                    | <b>0 10 0</b>                     | <b>0 12 0</b>                         | <b>0 11 0</b>                     | <b>0 11 6</b>                     | <b>0 11 0</b>                         | <b>0 12 0</b>                          |
| <b>Amount per annum</b>         | <b>26 0 0</b>                     | <b>31 4 0</b>                         | <b>28 12 0</b>                    | <b>29 18 0</b>                    | <b>28 12 0</b>                        | <b>31 4 0</b>                          |
| <i>Expences per annum</i>       |                                   |                                       |                                   |                                   |                                       |                                        |
| Expences per annum              | 22 19 4                           | 21 19 10                              | 23 8 0                            | 23 3 8                            | 22 12 10                              | 27 3 10                                |
| Rent and Fuel                   | 3 13 6                            | 2 0 0                                 | 1 15 0                            | 7 6 0                             | 4 1 0                                 | 6 3 6                                  |
| <b>Total Expences per annum</b> | <b>26 12 10</b>                   | <b>23 19 10</b>                       | <b>25 3 0</b>                     | <b>30 9 8</b>                     | <b>26 13 10</b>                       | <b>33 7 4</b>                          |
| <b>Total Earnings per annum</b> | <b>26 0 0</b>                     | <b>31 4 0</b>                         | <b>28 12 0</b>                    | <b>29 18 0</b>                    | <b>28 12 0</b>                        | <b>31 4 0</b>                          |
|                                 | 0 12 10<br>Deficient              | 7 4 2<br>Surplus                      | 3 9 0<br>Surplus                  | 0 11 8<br>Deficient               | 1 18 2<br>Surplus                     | 2 3 4<br>Deficient                     |

SIDLESHAM PARISH, SURRY.

ACCOUNT OF THE FAMILIES.

ANNUAL EXPENCES.

No. 1. John Hart, his wife, and four children, the eldest a girl ten years old, another four, a boy two, and the youngest an infant. Earn about 10s. per week.

No. 1. Rent - - - 1 2 6  
Coals 11. 10s. } 2 11 0  
Wood 11. 1s. }  
3 13 6  
Brews 6 bushels of malt, 4lb. hops.

No. 2. William Lock, his wife, and four children, the eldest a boy five years old, another four, a girl two, and the youngest an infant. Earn about 11s. per week, 1s. ditto of the parish.

No. 2. Rent - - - - - 2 0 0  
Brews 5 bushels of malt, 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>lb. hops.

No. 3. Rent - - - 0 0 0  
Wood - - - 0 14 0  
Coals - - - 1 1 0  
1 15 0

Beer about 5s. per annum, the rest of the year drinks water.

No. 3. John Homer, his wife, and four children, the eldest a girl twelve years old, a boy nine, another six, and a girl four. Earn about 10s. per week, and 1s. of the parish.

No. 4. Rent - - - 3 3 0  
Fuel - - - 4 3 0  
7 6 0  
Brews about 9 bushels of malt, 6lb. hops.

No. 4. Henry Mabbs, his wife, and four children; the eldest a boy eleven years old, another nine, a third seven, and the youngest one. Earn about 10s. per week, 1s. allowed by the parish, 6d. lodgers.

No. 5. Rent - - - 1 0 0  
Fuel - - - 3 1 0  
4 1 0  
Brews about 9 bushels of malt, 8lb. hops.

No. 5. William Dawtry, his wife, and three children, the eldest a boy eight years old, another six, and the youngest an infant. Earn about 11s. per week.

No. 6. Rent - - - 3 13 6  
Fuel - - - 2 10 0  
6 3 6  
Shoes 2l. 10s. yearly.

Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, take in lodgers which lessens their rents, and for whom the wives wash and mend, which is not included in the weekly earnings, and which contributes to account for making up the deficiencies.

No. 5 is a sheep-shearer, which increafes the total of his earnings beyond the average of 11s. per week.

N.B. Many labourers, whose work is with pick-axe and shovel, sustain very often an expence of not less than from 6d. to 9d. per week for the repair of tools, exclusive of their cost.

No. 6. Jeremiah Meal, his wife, and four children. Earns about 11s. 6d. per week, wife 6d.

TUNTINGTON, SUSSEX, AND SIDLESHAM, SURRY.

[COMMUNICATED BY JOHN FARHILL, ESQ; 1793.]

EXPENCES AND EARNINGS OF SIX FAMILIES OF LABOURERS,  
BY THE WEEK, AND BY THE YEAR.

|                                                      | No. 1.<br>3 Persons. | No. 2.<br>6 Persons. | No. 3.<br>5 Persons. | No. 4.<br>7 Persons. | No. 5.<br>6 Persons. | No. 6.<br>5 Persons. |
|------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| <i>Expences per Week.</i>                            |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |
| Bread and Flour - - -                                | 0 2 4                | 0 4 0                | 0 4 6                | 0 5 6                | 0 3 6                | 0 3 6                |
| Yeast and Salt - - -                                 | 0 0 1                | 0 0 1                | 0 0 0½               | 0 0 0½               | 0 0 0½               | 0 0 0½               |
| Bacon and other Meat -                               | 0 2 0                | 0 3 1½               | 0 1 10               | 0 2 7                | 0 2 0                | 0 2 6                |
| Tea and Sugar - - -                                  | 0 0 8½               | 0 0 7                | 0 0 5                | 0 1 5                | 0 0 4                | 0 0 9                |
| Butter - - - - -                                     | 0 0 4½               | 0 0 7                | 0 0 7                | 0 0 8½               | 0 1 0                | 0 0 8½               |
| Cheese - - - - -                                     | 0 0 2½               | 0 0 7½               | 0 0 7                | 0 1 0                | 0 1 1                | 0 1 1                |
| Soap, Starch, and Blue -                             | 0 0 2                | 0 0 2½               | 0 0 2                | 0 0 2½               | 0 0 3                | 0 0 2                |
| Rushes dipt in grease, in-<br>stead of Candles - - } | 0 0 0                | 0 0 2                | 0 0 1½               | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 2                |
| Thread, Worsted, &c. - -                             | 0 0 1                | 0 0 1                | 0 0 1                | 0 0 2                | 0 0 1                | 0 0 1                |
| <b>Total</b>                                         | <b>0 5 11½</b>       | <b>0 9 5½</b>        | <b>0 8 4</b>         | <b>0 11 10½</b>      | <b>0 8 6½</b>        | <b>0 9 0</b>         |
| <b>Amount per annum</b>                              | <b>15 8 9</b>        | <b>24 11 10</b>      | <b>21 13 4</b>       | <b>30 17 6</b>       | <b>22 4 2</b>        | <b>23 8 0</b>        |
| <i>Earnings per Week.</i><br>(Including every Means) |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |
| <b>Total</b>                                         | <b>0 10 0</b>        | <b>0 12 6</b>        | <b>0 11 0</b>        | <b>0 15 6</b>        | <b>0 10 0</b>        | <b>0 10 0</b>        |
| <b>Amount per annum</b>                              | <b>26 0 0</b>        | <b>32 10 0</b>       | <b>28 12 0</b>       | <b>40 6 0</b>        | <b>26 0 0</b>        | <b>26 0 0</b>        |
| <i>Expences per annum</i>                            |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |
| Expences per annum - -                               | 15 8 9               | 24 11 10             | 21 13 4              | 30 17 6              | 22 4 2               | 23 8 0               |
| Rent and Fuel - - - -                                | 3 12 0               | 5 0 0                | 3 5 0                | 5 6 0                | 5 15 6               | 1 16 0               |
| <b>Total Expences per annum</b>                      | <b>19 0 9</b>        | <b>29 11 10</b>      | <b>24 18 4</b>       | <b>36 3 6</b>        | <b>27 19 8</b>       | <b>25 4 0</b>        |
| <b>Total Earnings per annum</b>                      | <b>26 0 0</b>        | <b>32 10 0</b>       | <b>28 12 0</b>       | <b>40 6 0</b>        | <b>26 0 0</b>        | <b>26 0 0</b>        |
|                                                      | 6 19 3<br>Surplus    | 2 18 2<br>Surplus    | 3 13 8<br>Surplus    | 4 2 6<br>Surplus     | 1 19 8<br>Deficient  | 0 16 0<br>Surplus    |

TUNTINGTON, SUSSEX, AND SIDLESHAM, SURRY.

ACCOUNT OF THE FAMILIES.

ANNUAL EXPENCES.

No. 1. John Marshall of Tuntington, near Chichester, his wife, and one child. Earns about 10s. per week.

No. 2. James Fielder, of ditto, his wife, and four children, the eldest eight years old, another six, a third three, and the youngest an infant. Man earns about 12s. per week.

No. 3. Henry Penfold, of ditto, his wife, and six children, the three eldest in the common work-houfe, one of three years old, another two, and the youngest one, at home. Man earns about 11s. per week.

No. 4. Nicholas Crowter, North-Munden, his wife, and five children, the eldest seventeen years old earns 4s. 6d. per week, a girl fifteen earns 1s. 6d. father 9s. 6d. a girl twelve, another nine, and the youngest a boy two.

No. 5. John Barns, of Sidlesham, his wife, and four children, the eldest a girl twelve years old, another nine, a third six, and the youngest four. Man earns 10s. per week.

No. 6. William King, of ditto, his wife, and three children, the eldest a girl twelve years old, a boy ten, and a girl two. Man earns 10s. per week, nearly.

No. 1. Rent - - - 3 0 0  
Fuel - - - 0 12 0  
**3 12 0**  
Brews 5 bushels of malt, 3lb. of hops.

No. 2. Rent - - - 3 0 0  
Fuel - - - 2 0 0  
**5 0 0**  
Brews 4 bushels of malt, 2lb. of hops.

No. 3. Rent - - - 2 10 0  
Fuel - - - 0 15 0  
**3 5 0**  
Brews 3 bushels of malt, 1½lb. of hops.

N. B. The difference in amount of fuel No. 1, 2, and 3, is, No. 1 has a right of cutting furze. No. 2, a hard-working man, and generally works at all kinds of labour by task, so that late hours prevents procuring fuel by his own hands.

No. 4. Rent - - - 2 0 0  
Wood - - - 1 15 0  
Coals - - - 1 11 0  
**5 6 0**  
Brews 10 bushels of malt, 11lb. of hops.

No. 5. Rent - - - 3 3 0  
Fuel - - - 2 12 6  
**5 15 6**  
Brews 6 bushels of malt, 5lb. of hops.

No. 6. Rent - - - 0 0 0  
Wood - - - 0 6 0  
Coals - - - 1 10 0  
**1 16 0**  
Brews 8 bushels of malt, 4½lbs. of hops.

N. B. Not one of the labourers were able to ascertain what sums they expended very exactly for drink, clothes, sickness, lying-in, or burials: yet No. 1, 2, and 3, think the expence of ditto, &c. not far from exactness as set down in the printed estimate for Barkham.

PARISH OF MARTON, WESTMORELAND.

JANUARY 1790.

[COMMUNICATED BY THE REV. GILPIN GORST, RECTOR OF MARTON.]

EXPENCES AND EARNINGS OF SIX FAMILIES OF LABOURERS,  
BY THE WEEK, AND BY THE YEAR.

|                                           | No. 1.<br>7 Persons. | No. 2.<br>7 Persons. | No. 3.<br>6 Persons. | No. 4.<br>5 Persons. | No. 5.<br>5 Persons. | No. 6.<br>4 Persons. |
|-------------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| <i>Expences per Week.</i>                 |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |
| Bread and Flour                           | 0 4 6                | 0 4 6                | 0 4 3                | 0 4 0                | 0 3 10               | 0 3 6                |
| Salt                                      | 0 0 1                | 0 0 1                | 0 0 1                | 0 0 1                | 0 0 1                | 0 0 1                |
| Tea, Sugar, and Butter                    | 0 1 2                | 0 1 3                | 0 1 0                | 0 1 4                | 0 0 10               | 0 0 8                |
| Cheese                                    | 0 0 0                | 0 0 8                | 0 0 5                | 0 0 9                | 0 0 6                | 0 0 9                |
| Milk                                      | 0 1 2                | 0 1 2                | 0 1 0                | 0 0 9                | 0 0 8                | 0 0 7                |
| Soap, Candles, and Thread                 | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                |
| Potatoes                                  | 0 1 3                | 0 1 3                | 0 1 0                | 0 0 7                | 0 0 6                | 0 0 7                |
| Meat                                      | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                |
| Total                                     | 0 8 5                | 0 9 2                | 0 8 0                | 0 7 9                | 0 6 8                | 0 6 5                |
| Amount per annum                          | 21 17 8              | 23 16 8              | 20 16 0              | 20 3 0               | 17 6 8               | 16 13 8              |
| <i>Earnings per Week.</i>                 |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |
| The Man earns                             | 0 8 0                | 0 8 0                | 0 8 0                | 0 8 0                | 0 8 0                | 0 8 0                |
| The Woman                                 | 0 0 6                | 0 0 6                | 0 0 6                | 0 0 6                | 0 0 6                | 0 0 6                |
| The Children                              | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                |
| Total                                     | 0 8 6                | 0 8 6                | 0 8 6                | 0 8 6                | 0 8 6                | 0 8 0                |
| Amount per annum                          | 22 2 0               | 22 2 0               | 22 2 0               | 22 2 0               | 22 2 0               | 22 2 0               |
| To the above Amount of                    | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             |
| Expences per annum                        | 21 17 8              | 23 16 8              | 20 16 0              | 20 3 0               | 17 6 8               | 16 13 8              |
| Add Rent, Fuel, Clothes,<br>Lying-in, &c. | 8 4 5                | 8 4 5                | 8 4 5                | 8 4 5                | 8 4 5                | 8 4 5                |
| Total Expences per annum                  | 30 2 1               | 32 1 1               | 29 0 5               | 28 7 5               | 25 11 1              | 24 18 1              |
| Total Earnings per annum                  | 22 2 0               | 22 2 0               | 22 2 0               | 22 2 0               | 22 2 0               | 22 2 0               |
| Deficiencies of Earnings                  | 8 0 1                | 9 19 1               | 6 18 5               | 6 5 5                | 3 9 1                | 2 16 1               |

PARISH OF MARTON, WESTMORELAND.

ACCOUNT OF THE FAMILIES.

ANNUAL EXPENCES.

No. 1. A man, his wife, and five children, the eldest ten years old, the youngest an infant.

No. 2. A man, his wife, and five children, the eldest nine years old, the youngest an infant.

No. 3. A man, his wife, and four children, the eldest seven years old, the youngest an infant.

No. 4. A man, his wife, and three children, the eldest six years old, the youngest an infant.

No. 5. A man, his wife, and three children, the eldest five years old, the youngest an infant.

No. 6. A man, his wife, and two young children, the eldest three years old, the youngest an infant.

|                                                  |                 |
|--------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Rent 1l. fuel 7s. - - - - -                      | £. s. d.        |
| Man's clothes - - - - -                          | 1 7 0           |
| Two shirts 6s. pair of shoes 6s. 6d. - - - - -   | 0 12 6          |
| Two pair of wooden shoes - - - - -               | 0 8 7           |
| Hat and handkerchief - - - - -                   | 0 2 6           |
| Three pair of stockings - - - - -                | 0 3 0           |
| Woman's clothes: gown and petticoat - - - - -    | 0 8 0           |
| Two shifts 6s. two aprons 2s. 4d. - - - - -      | 0 8 4           |
| Pair of shoes 4s. 6d. ditto wooden 3s. - - - - - | 0 7 6           |
| Two pair of stockings 2s. caps 3s. - - - - -     | 0 5 0           |
| Handkerchiefs - - - - -                          | 0 2 0           |
| Children's clothes and shoes - - - - -           | 1 15 0          |
| Lying-in, &c. - - - - -                          | 0 15 0          |
|                                                  | <u>£. 8 4 5</u> |

Bread eaten by this class of people, is made of rye and barley. Their chief diet is milk and bread, oatmeal porridge, commonly called hafty-pudding, and potatoes. There is no kind of manufactory carried on in this neighbourhood; for which reason women and children earn little, except in hay and corn harvest. Old milk cheese is eaten pretty generally, and costs about 2½d. per lb. Instead of soap, human urine is made use of. Bacon is not usually eaten by this class of people.

The average price of barley, rye, and oats, in January 1790, per bushel Winchester measure, was as under:

Barley 3s.—Rye 4s. 3d.—Oats 2s.

Fuel, in the township of Marton, consists entirely of turf, taken from a common adjoining the town, and, as near as I can calculate, costs a labouring family 7s. annually.

The sum of 1l. 10s. allowed for clothing a poor labouring man, is meant for coat, waistcoat, and breeches, and the making thereof. If this sum exceeds what is allowed in the more southern counties, such disparity will perhaps be best accounted for, by considering, that in warm dry counties fewer clothes will be required, than in those that are cold and wet.



PARISHES OF THORNER AND CHAPEL-ALLERTON, YORKSHIRE.

[COMMUNICATED BY MR. WILLIAM KAYE, NOV. 1791.]

EXPENCES AND EARNINGS OF SIX FAMILIES OF LABOURERS,  
BY THE WEEK, AND BY THE YEAR.

|                                                                                                        | No. 1.<br>7 Persons.              | No. 2.<br>4 Persons. | No. 3.<br>9 Persons. | No. 4.<br>6 Persons. | No. 5.<br>7 Persons. | No. 6.<br>4 Persons.              |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <i>Expences per Week.</i>                                                                              |                                   |                      |                      |                      |                      |                                   |
| Bread and Flour - - - -                                                                                | 0 5 3                             | 0 4 0                | 0 6 0                | 0 4 9                | 0 5 6                | 0 3 6                             |
| Yeast and Salt - - - -                                                                                 | 0 0 3 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> | 0 0 3                | 0 0 4                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 2                             |
| Bacon and other Meat - -                                                                               | 0 1 9                             | 0 1 2                | 0 1 6                | 0 1 0                | 0 1 6                | 0 1 2                             |
| Tea and Sugar - - - -                                                                                  | 0 1 0                             | 0 0 6                | 0 1 0                | 0 1 0                | 0 1 0                | 0 1 0                             |
| Cheese (seldom any) - -                                                                                | 0 0 0                             | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 4 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> |
| Beer (seldom any) - - -                                                                                | 0 0 0                             | 0 0 2                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 4                | 0 0 4                             |
| Soap, Starch, and Blue - -                                                                             | 0 0 4                             | 0 0 2                | 0 0 4                | 0 0 4                | 0 0 4                | 0 0 2                             |
| Candles - - - -                                                                                        | 0 0 3                             | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                             |
| Thread, Worsted, &c. - -                                                                               | 0 0 3                             | 0 0 2                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 3                | 0 0 2                             |
| Milk - - - -                                                                                           | 0 0 0                             | 0 1 0                | 0 1 3                | 0 0 6                | 0 1 0                | 0 0 7                             |
| Total                                                                                                  | 0 9 1 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> | 0 7 8                | 0 10 11              | 0 8 4                | 0 10 5               | 0 7 8 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> |
| Amount per annum                                                                                       | 23 14 6                           | 19 18 8              | 28 7 8               | 21 13 4              | 27 1 8               | 20 0 10                           |
| <i>Earnings per Week.</i>                                                                              |                                   |                      |                      |                      |                      |                                   |
| The Man earns at a medium                                                                              | 0 8 0                             | 0 7 6                | 0 8 6                | 0 8 0                | 0 9 0                | 0 8 0                             |
| Woman - - - -                                                                                          | 0 0 0                             | 0 0 6                | 0 0 6                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 6                | 0 0 6                             |
| The Children - - - -                                                                                   | 0 1 0                             | 0 0 4                | 0 1 6                | 0 0 6                | 0 1 6                | 0 0 0                             |
| Total                                                                                                  | 0 9 0                             | 0 8 4                | 0 10 6               | 0 8 6                | 0 11 0               | 0 8 6                             |
| Amount per annum                                                                                       | 23 8 0                            | 21 13 4              | 27 6 0               | 22 2 0               | 28 12 0              | 22 2 0                            |
| To the above Amount of }<br>Expences per annum - }<br>Add Rent, Fuel, Clothes,<br>and Lying-in - - - } | 23 14 6                           | 19 18 8              | 28 7 8               | 21 13 4              | 27 1 8               | 20 0 10                           |
|                                                                                                        | 6 12 0                            | 6 12 0               | 6 12 0               | 6 12 0               | 6 12 0               | 6 12 0                            |
| Total Expences per annum -                                                                             | 30 6 6                            | 26 10 8              | 34 19 8              | 28 5 4               | 33 13 8              | 26 12 10                          |
| Total Earnings per annum -                                                                             | 23 8 0                            | 21 13 4              | 27 6 0               | 22 2 0               | 28 12 0              | 22 2 0                            |
| Deficiencies of Earnings                                                                               | 6 18 6                            | 4 17 4               | 7 13 8               | 6 3 4                | 5 1 8                | 4 10 10                           |

THORNER AND CHAPEL-ALLERTON, YORKSHIRE.

ACCOUNT OF THE FAMILIES.

ANNUAL EXPENCES.

No. 1. A man, his wife, and five children, the eldest fifteen years old, the youngest an infant.

No. 2. A man, his wife, and two children, the eldest nine years old, lame, and the youngest six.

No. 3. A man, his wife, and seven children, the eldest fourteen years old, the two youngest twins, six months.

No. 4. A man, his wife, and four children, the eldest eight years old, the youngest four.

No. 5. A man, his wife, and seven children, five of the youngest constantly at home, the eldest fourteen years old, the youngest four.

No. 6. A man, his wife, and two children, the eldest three years old, the youngest an infant.

[Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, live in the township of Thorner, about five or six miles from Leeds in Yorkshire. Nos. 5 and 6 live at Chapel-Allerton, three miles from Leeds.]

|                                                                                                                    |                 |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
|                                                                                                                    | <i>£. s. d.</i> |
| Rent of a cottage and garden from 1l. to 2l. per annum:—fay                                                        | - 1 10 0        |
| Fuel: coals are generally used, which cost 9d. a horse-load, about 3 bushels; the expence of each family per annum | - 1 0 0         |

Although coals are plentiful, yet it is an observation, that the habit of making large fires makes the expence of fuel greater than in places where it is much scarcer.

|                          |                  |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| Clothing for each family | - - - 2 10 0     |
| Lying-in, sickness, &c.  | - - - 1 12 0     |
|                          | <u>£. 6 12 0</u> |

|                                |             |
|--------------------------------|-------------|
| Price of the half-peck loaf    | - - - 0 1 0 |
| — of 14lb. of flour            | - - - 0 2 0 |
| — of a week's labour in winter | 0 7 0       |
| — of ditto the year through    | - 0 8 0     |

The tea used by each family is from 1 oz. to 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> oz. at 2d. or 3d. per oz.

Soft sugar <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> lb. at 7d. or 8d. per lb.  
Salt butter <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> lb. at 7d. to 9d. per lb.

In No. 1, the reason why there is nothing set down for milk is, they keep a small Scotch cow upon the waste, which supplies them with milk, and something to spare.

PARISHES OF LLANDEGLA AND LLANARMON, DENBIGHSHIRE.

[COMMUNICATED BY MR. JOHN EDWARDS, 1788.]

EXPENCES AND EARNINGS OF THREE FAMILIES OF LABOURERS,  
BY THE WEEK, AND BY THE YEAR.

|                                                    | No. 1.<br>8 Persons. | No. 2.<br>7 Persons. | No. 3.<br>6 Persons. |  |  |  |
|----------------------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--|--|--|
| <i>Expences per Week.</i>                          |                      |                      |                      |  |  |  |
|                                                    | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             |  |  |  |
| Meal of Barley or Oats - -                         | 0 5 0                | 0 4 2                | 0 3 8                |  |  |  |
| Butter - - - - -                                   | 0 1 9                | 0 1 4                | 0 1 3                |  |  |  |
| Milk - - - - -                                     | 0 0 7                | 0 0 6                | 0 0 5                |  |  |  |
| Potatoes - - - - -                                 | 0 0 6                | 0 0 5                | 0 0 5                |  |  |  |
| Salt, Soap, and Tallow - -                         | 0 0 4½               | 0 0 4                | 0 0 4                |  |  |  |
| Bread - - - - -                                    | 0 0 1½               | 0 0 1                | 0 0 1                |  |  |  |
| <b>Total</b>                                       | <b>0 8 4</b>         | <b>0 6 10</b>        | <b>0 6 2</b>         |  |  |  |
| <b>Amount per annum</b>                            | <b>21 13 4</b>       | <b>17 15 4</b>       | <b>16 0 8</b>        |  |  |  |
| <i>Earnings per Week.</i>                          |                      |                      |                      |  |  |  |
|                                                    | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             |  |  |  |
| The Man earns at a medium                          | 0 6 0                | 0 0 0                | 0 6 0                |  |  |  |
| The Woman - - - - -                                | 0 1 0                | Parish pay } 4       | 0 0 6                |  |  |  |
| The Children - - - - -                             | 0 0 9                | 0 0 0                | 0 0 0                |  |  |  |
| <b>Total</b>                                       | <b>0 7 9</b>         | <b>0 4 0</b>         | <b>0 6 6</b>         |  |  |  |
| <b>Amount per annum</b>                            | <b>20 3 0</b>        | <b>10 8 0</b>        | <b>16 18 0</b>       |  |  |  |
| To the above Amount of }<br>Expences per annum - } | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             | £. s. d.             |  |  |  |
| Add Rent, Fuel, Clothing,<br>Lying-in, &c. - - }   | 6 1 0                | 5 10 0               | 5 0 0                |  |  |  |
| <b>Total Expences per annum -</b>                  | <b>27 14 4</b>       | <b>23 5 4</b>        | <b>21 0 8</b>        |  |  |  |
| <b>Total Earnings per annum -</b>                  | <b>20 3 0</b>        | <b>10 8 0</b>        | <b>16 18 0</b>       |  |  |  |
| <b>Deficiency of Earnings</b>                      | <b>7 11 4</b>        | <b>12 17 4</b>       | <b>4 2 8</b>         |  |  |  |

PARISHES OF LLANDEGLA AND LLANARMON, DENBIGHSHIRE.

ACCOUNT OF THE FAMILIES.

ANNUAL EXPENCES.

No. 1. A man, his wife, and six children, the eldest a boy thirteen years of age, the youngest three; five of the children too young to earn any thing.

No. 2. A woman, whose husband is dead, and five children, the eldest ten years of age, the youngest two.

No. 3. A man, his wife, and four children, the eldest under eight years of age, the youngest an infant.

The poor women of this country are generally employed in spinning flax and wool, which turns out to but very little advantage. The children in this county are not employed so early as in the neighbouring counties: because in Merionethshire, &c. they learn to knit as soon as they can talk. Begging is also an old-established trade in this county, as well as the neighbouring counties: the dole they receive is barley; in shearing time they have wool, but hardly enough to make stockings.

|                                                                                                                                                          | £. s. d.        |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Rent of a cottage and garden, from 11. to 11. 10s.—fay - - -                                                                                             | 1 5 0           |
| Fuel, very dear in this county: consists chiefly of coals, three cart loads will serve a family for a year: estimated from 7s. to 10s. a load:—fay - - - | 1 1 0           |
| Clothing: most poor families buy wool and manufacture it themselves, rated at - 1 10 0                                                                   | } 2 5 0         |
| Shoes, hats, &c. - 0 15 0                                                                                                                                |                 |
| Lying-in, &c. - - - - -                                                                                                                                  | 1 10 0          |
|                                                                                                                                                          | <u>£. 6 1 0</u> |

Average price of a measure of barley, (viz. forty quarts) of which poor people make bread, 5s.

The above quantity will serve a family, consisting of seven or eight persons, for a week.

Tea is but seldom drunk in poor families in Wales, except in the towns where milk is scarce.

To eke out soap they use chamber-lye.

Butter is bought all the year round from 7d. to 8d. per lb. There is not at any time of the year above 1d. per lb. difference between fresh and salt butter in Denbighshire.

PARISHES OF LLANFAWR AND LLANGEIL, MERIONETHSHIRE,  
NORTH-WALES.

[COMMUNICATED BY S. LLOYD, CURATE OF LLANDGLA IN YALE, 1788.]

EXPENCES AND EARNINGS OF TWO FAMILIES OF LABOURERS,  
BY THE WEEK, AND BY THE YEAR.

|                                                  | No. 1.<br>6 Persons. |    |    | No. 2.<br>8 Persons. |    |     |
|--------------------------------------------------|----------------------|----|----|----------------------|----|-----|
| <i>Expences per Week.</i>                        |                      |    |    |                      |    |     |
|                                                  | £.                   | s. | d. | £.                   | s. | d.  |
| Meal of Barley or Oats - -                       | 0                    | 4  | 6  | 0                    | 5  | 0   |
| Butter - - - - -                                 | 0                    | 1  | 8  | 0                    | 1  | 6   |
| Sugar - - - - -                                  | 0                    | 0  | 1  | 0                    | 0  | 0   |
| Salt - - - - -                                   | 0                    | 0  | 1  | 0                    | 0  | 1½  |
| Milk - - - - -                                   | 0                    | 0  | 6  | 0                    | 0  | 6   |
| Potatoes - - - - -                               | 0                    | 0  | 5  | 0                    | 0  | 6   |
| Soap, &c. - - - - -                              | 0                    | 0  | 1  | 0                    | 0  | 2   |
| Tallow - - - - -                                 | 0                    | 0  | 2½ | 0                    | 0  | 2   |
| Total                                            | 0                    | 7  | 6½ | 0                    | 7  | 11½ |
| Amount per annum                                 | 19                   | 12 | 2  | 20                   | 13 | 10  |
| <i>Earnings per Week.</i>                        |                      |    |    |                      |    |     |
|                                                  | £.                   | s. | d. | £.                   | s. | d.  |
| The Man earns at a medium                        | 0                    | 6  | 6  | 0                    | 6  | 0   |
| The Woman - - - - -                              | 0                    | 0  | 9  | 0                    | 1  | 0   |
| The Children - - - - -                           | 0                    | 0  | 3  | 0                    | 1  | 0   |
| Total                                            | 0                    | 7  | 6  | 0                    | 8  | 0   |
| Amount per annum                                 | 19                   | 10 | 0  | 20                   | 16 | 0   |
| <i>To the above Amount of</i>                    |                      |    |    |                      |    |     |
| Expences per annum -                             | 19                   | 12 | 2  | 20                   | 13 | 10  |
| Add Clothes, Rent, Fuel,<br>and other extras - - | 4                    | 10 | 0  | 5                    | 0  | 0   |
| Total Expences per annum -                       | 24                   | 2  | 2  | 25                   | 13 | 10  |
| Total Earnings per annum -                       | 19                   | 10 | 0  | 20                   | 16 | 0   |
| Deficiencies of Earnings                         | 4                    | 12 | 0  | 4                    | 17 | 10  |

PARISHES OF LLANFAWR AND LLANGEIL, MERIONETHSHIRE.

ACCOUNT OF THE FAMILIES.

ANNUAL EXPENCES.

No. 1. A man, his wife, and four children, the eldest ten years old.

No. 2. A man, his wife, and six children, the eldest nine years old.

It is presumed that the two families above specified are sufficient to give a general idea of the labouring poor. Those that cannot, or will not work, are supported by parish relief, and by begging, which is an old-established trade, to which men, women, and children, devote themselves without the least degree of shame. One reason to which we may attribute so much begging in this and the neighbouring counties, is the want of profitable manufactories. The knitting of coarse woollen stockings chiefly employs boys, girls, and grown persons of both sexes, in the inland part of Merionethshire.

That it is an unprofitable manufacture is evident, as they knit, walking, talking, begging, without hardly ever looking at their work; and though they exhibit an instance of unexampled industry, yet they are obliged to beg to make up the deficiencies of their earnings.

|                                                                                                                                                                                              | £. | s. | d. |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|----|----|
| Rent of a cottage and garden from 18s. to 1l. 5s.—say - - -                                                                                                                                  | 1  | 1  | 0  |
| Fuel, dear in this country, consisting chiefly of turf and peat, the ashes estimated at a small value - - - - -                                                                              | 1  | 5  | 0  |
| Clothing is often manufactured by poor families for their own use, with the wool which they beg in shearing time; some few articles, such as shoes, they buy, which we shall estimate at - - | 1  | 6  | 0  |
| Lying-in, &c. as in the Barkham account - - - - -                                                                                                                                            | 1  | 15 | 0  |
|                                                                                                                                                                                              | 4  | 17 | 0  |

Average price of a bushel (Winchester) of oatmeal, of which the poor make bread, 5s.

The above quantity will serve a family, consisting of six or seven persons, for a week.

In general tea is not drunk in poor families in Wales, except in the towns where milk is scarce.

To eke out soap, they use chamber-lye.

Butter is bought at an average for 6½d. all the year round. There is not at any time of the year above 1d. per lb. difference between fresh and salt butter in Merionethshire.

Parish rates in this county are from 3s. 6d. to 4s. Widows and their families receive some parish relief, but are chiefly supported by begging from door to door. The dole which they receive is oatmeal.

GENERAL STATE OF THE EXPENCES AND EARNINGS OF THE PEASANTRY IN THE NORTH PART OF ABERDEENSHIRE.

TRANSMITTED BY DR. FINDLAY, OF FRASERBURGH.

[COMMUNICATED BY THE REVEREND JAMES RAMSAY, JAN. 1789.]

THE Peasantry in Aberdeenshire may be ranked in three classes, viz.

1<sup>st</sup>. Cottars, or merely Day-Labourers.

2<sup>dly</sup>. Tradesmen, being Sub-Tenants.

3<sup>dly</sup>. The very poorest, being old Men or Widows, whose Children (if they had any) are gone to service, have families of their own, gone to trades, or have left the country.

CLASS FIRST—Rent a house, a cottage, a cabbage garden, and two or three acres of land from the farmer.

|                                                                                                                                                                         | £. | s. | d. |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|----|----|
| He ploughs their land, brings home their peats (fuel;) for this, they pay him in cash at a medium 10s. per acre of the ground                                           | 1  | 10 | 0  |
| The man gives his work in harvest, receiving two meals a day, and one firlof of meal, (32lbs.) for harvest supper home to his family; his harvest wages being valued at | 1  | 0  | 0  |
| He gives three days work at casting the farmer's peats, and forming his sheep or cattle folds at 8d.                                                                    | 0  | 2  | 0  |
| Annual clothing to self, wife, and children                                                                                                                             | 1  | 0  | 0  |
| He buys two bolls of meal (256lbs.) more than the produce of his land, at 12s.                                                                                          | 1  | 4  | 0  |
| He uses salt 5s.; fish 4s.; soap, starch, blue, hardly any—say 1s.                                                                                                      | 0  | 10 | 0  |
| In lyings-in, burials, or other incidents                                                                                                                               | 1  | 0  | 0  |
| Lamp-oil 4s.; rushes dipt in it for candles 0; tea, fugar, butchers meat, none; treacle or melasses when sick, 1s.                                                      | 0  | 5  | 0  |

Total expences £. 6 11 0

Suppose

Suppose him to have five children under eight years, which, as the mothers nurse at least twelve months, is the hardest case possible, deducting the work above given to his master, and the time employed in his own ground, he may hire himself in the year 120 days at 8d. 4 0 0  
 He rears a calf yearly, which at the year old is worth from 20s. to 25s. 1 1 0  
 The eldest child attends the youngest, while the mother earns at spinning 6d. per week - - - - - 1 6 0  
 Two or three hens will produce in eggs and chicken - - - - - 0 4 0  
 In the long winter evenings, the husband cobbles shoes, mends the family clothes, and attends the children while the wife spins—Some husbands spin or knit stockings, make horse or oxen harness of stript and dried rushes, &c. for sale.

Total earnings £. 6 11 0

The produce of their garden and lands, and cow, give them what more meal they want above the two bolls already mentioned, with milk, potatoes, turnips, cabbage, greens, and ale at Christmas;—butchers meat none.

If by sickness, loss of cow or calf, or other accidents, they are reduced to poverty and real want, the Kirk Session and private charity support them during that time only:—or if their loss and wants be too much for the ordinary session charities, the minister intimates a collection to be made for them only next Sunday at church.

The same person, after his eldest child, whether boy or girl, is eight years old, begins to hold up his head; the boy keeps cattle or sheep, the girl spins linen yarn, and earns 6d. per week, some more. As the other children advance he becomes still more independent. When all boys, many of them learn to spin or knit stockings at a very early age.

CLASS SECOND.—Tradesmen, who have like houses, gardens, and grounds, for the like rent and services:—The only difference is, his employing his own time at his trade, which is generally more profitable, and enables him to live better.

In case of sickness or misfortune, he is relieved and supported as the other.

CLASS THIRD—Have a hut, near a peat-moss, from a farmer, for which they pay him from 12d. to 20d. a year, and what is called a rick (smoak) hen to the landlord, for the privilege of taking fuel of peats from the moss.

C c

While

While able, they beg through the parish and neighbourhood, and often live more comfortably than the first class. When through age or infirmity they cannot go out to beg, they are poorly off, if they have not laid up any thing in their begging days, (but this many of them do) being only supported by private charity or the Kirk Session, whose highest charity allowance is 1s. per week.

This Kirk Session Fund, which answers all the purposes of poor-rates, (assisted by private charity and occasional Sunday collections for particular persons) from the best information, does not, one country parish with another, exceed 15l. sterling a year. Some very few such parishes have a fund of 50l. or 100l. sterling benefactions of individuals, the interest of which goes in addition;—yet true it is that most parishes have more or less savings at interest from 50l. to 200l. sterling to answer bad years or great emergencies; and but for which, in 1783, some poor must have perished for want.

This is the truest state of our Country Peasantry. I meddle not with Towns, where tea and gin are introduced among the meanest;—their wages are higher, and constant employment more certain;—but gin debauches the morals of both sexes, and they are in general much less comfortable than the Country Peasants.

You have that most burthensome, and misapplied, and mismanaged charity, *poor rates*, to encourage idleness and luxury, and, in addition to gin, to debauch morals and industry. The poor here, knowing the extent of what they have to expect from the kirk session, the great uncertainty of private charities, and that there is no legal obligation on the parish or publick for their support, [and instigated by a certain pride not to beg charity, or be on the poor list, which is looked on as degrading to their children] exert every nerve, and often indeed live poorly, to support themselves, and they succeed. We have extremely few wretched poor, nor ever heard of any part of a family starving for want.

We are indeed pestered with Highland Beggars throughout the summer, who sow their own grounds at home, then lock their doors, and come, man, wife, and children, to *sovn* till harvest on the Low Country; and had we police (the name of which only is known here) to prevent these and other strollers, every parish could support their own poor comfortably in their own houses, at a less expence than these strangers cost the country, (which is often plundered by them) and we should have no beggars.

A. F.

OBSERVATIONS

OBSERVATIONS BY J. R.

The *Kirk Session Fund* arises from the ordinary Sunday collections, which are constantly made at church, each person according to his inclination contributing a farthing, a halfpenny, or penny.

It is worthy of being remarked, that the comfort of the first class arises chiefly from their having little spots of ground attached to their gardens, which helps out the maintenance of their family.

EAST-LOTHIAN.

ACCOUNTS OF TWO FAMILIES, BY H. SANGSTER, SEPT. 1789.

[COMMUNICATED BY MR. DEMPSTER, M. P.]

SIR,

AT your desire I have sent you the inclosed calculations, which have been made with as much care as possible from the different reports I have got. As we seldom meet with a family more numerous than a man, his wife, and four children under age, I have fixed upon it as the most expensive.

The income of both labourer and ploughman is above his expences, and should certainly be sufficient for procuring the mere necessaries of life. And you will see it is so, from the copies which are sent you along with this, of the articles of some societies in this county, the subscribers to which are mostly ploughmen and day-labourers. There are more of these societies in this county; and in a short time, it is almost certain, every labourer and ploughman will subscribe, as much benefit has been already derived from them, and their stocks are increasing fast.

Ten-pence per day, which is the highest rate of wages in this county, is stated without any deduction for loss by bad weather, because the labourer has the chance of increased wages for hay and harvest-work, and threshing in winter.

I have not stated, in the article of income, that the farmer furnishes ground for sowing a half peck of lintseed, and ground also for laying on their ashes for potatoes or barley, both of which might have been set down at twelve shillings.

The wife is supposed to work in harvest when she has a child that needs a keeper; for this reason, she gets a young girl to wait on her child, and her allowance for food, which is the same as a man's, is nearly sufficient for them both.

C c 2

Nothing



Nothing is stated for lying-in, or burials;—the former can only be calculated at an average of two shillings yearly: the latter tends to lessen the expences of the family.

YEARLY EXPENCES OF A LABOURER, HIS WIFE, AND FOUR CHILDREN UNDER AGE.

|                                                             | £. | s. | d. |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|----|----|----|
| Eight bolls of meal, at 10d. per peck - - - - -             | 5  | 6  | 8  |
| Two bolls of barley, at 16s. per boll } for bread - - - - - | 2  | 16 | 0  |
| Two bolls of peafe, at 12s. ditto                           |    |    |    |
| Salt 9s. 9d.—foap 8s. 8d.—candles 2s. 4d. - - - - -         | 1  | 0  | 9  |
| One boll of barley, for the pot - - - - -                   | 0  | 17 | 0  |
| Coals 11s. 8d.—butcher's meat 10s. - - - - -                | 1  | 1  | 8  |
| Clothing - - - - -                                          | 2  | 0  | 0  |
|                                                             | £. | 13 | 2  |
|                                                             |    |    | 1  |

HIS YEARLY INCOME.

|                                                                                                        |    |    |   |    |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|----|---|----|
| The man earns 10d. per day - - - - -                                                                   | £. | 13 | 0 | 0  |
| His wife works 20 days in harvest, as rent for the house; her earnings therefore can only be - - - - - | 2  | 9  | 0 | 15 |
|                                                                                                        |    |    | 9 | 0  |
|                                                                                                        |    |    | 6 | 11 |

THE YEARLY INCOME OF A FARMER'S PLOUGH-SERVANT, WITH A WIFE, AND FOUR CHILDREN UNDER AGE.

|                                                      |    |    |   |   |
|------------------------------------------------------|----|----|---|---|
| Money - - - - -                                      | £. | 3  | 8 | 0 |
| Six bolls and a half of oat-meal - - - - -           | 4  | 6  | 8 |   |
| One boll, three firlots of barley, at 16s. - - - - - | 1  | 8  | 0 |   |
| Three firlots of peafe, at 12s. - - - - -            | 0  | 9  | 0 |   |
| A cow - - - - -                                      | 4  | 0  | 0 |   |
| His wife earns - - - - -                             | 2  | 9  | 0 |   |
|                                                      |    | 17 | 4 | 8 |
| His expences the same as a labourer's                | 13 | 2  | 1 |   |
|                                                      |    | 4  | 2 | 7 |

N. B. A boll is about six bushels, five firlots make a boll.

ACCOUNT OF SIX FAMILIES IN THE COUNTY OF SUTHERLAND.

FROM MR. JOHN BOOKLESS TO JOHN FRASER, ESQ; CAMBUSMORE.

[COMMUNICATED BY HUGH SCOTT, ESQ.]

DEAR SIR,

*Dunrabin Castle, 21st August, 1789.*

INCLOSED I send you an exact account of the earnings of six different Day-Labourers, which I have extracted from the books that I keep, for three years back; these sent are the medium earnings. The additional aid of wife or children I took from the men's own reports, which I have reason to believe to be pretty exact:—Also, as to their expences, I think them equally just. These six families may be a sufficient rule for all the labourers that I have a concern with, to the number of eighty; and by what I can learn from others who employ labourers in Sutherland, I find a great simularity in their earnings, method of living, &c. I have not calculated the weekly earnings, owing to want of time; but that may be easily done from the year's earnings. I have allowed nothing for house or land rent: You know that the generality of labourers take up their residence bordering on some muir, and moss—there they find materials for building a house, and plenty of moss for fuel, besides pastures for their beasts. Those that have not these advantages, you will see how they live. No. 2, 3, 4, besides their real income, have an additional aid from the sea, when low water; such as lobster, crab, muscle, cockle, limpet, wilk, sand-eel, &c. make a very considerable support to their families. Salt water is a substitute in place of salt; and you know that it is laid down as an invariable rule, never to exceed their annual income; never to contract debts, excepting on account of indisposition or uncommon calamity; in such a case they take credit for a boll or two of bear or meal, which they regularly pay out of their next year's earnings. What enables them to build a house—purchase a cow—and some sheep; also the needful household furniture; is explained in No. 6.

(Signed) JOHN BOOKLESS.

EXPENCES

EXPENCES AND EARNINGS OF SIX FAMILIES, BY THE YEAR,  
IN THE COUNTY OF SUTHERLAND, 1789.

No. I. A man, his wife, and three children, the eldest six years of age, the youngest a sucking infant.

EARNINGS.

|                                                                                                                                                       |                  |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|
|                                                                                                                                                       | £. s. d.         |
| The man earns each year, for three years back, at an average                                                                                          | 5 10 0           |
| The wife earns by spinning lint when able, and what spare-time she may have after the necessary attention to her children and other household affairs | 0 15 0           |
| A calf is reared yearly, and fold when two years old, brings at an average                                                                            | 1 5 0            |
|                                                                                                                                                       | <u>£. 7 10 0</u> |

EXPENCES.

|                                                                                                                                               |        |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| Six bolls of bear and oat-meal at 14s. per boll                                                                                               | 4 4 0  |
| Ground-rent to a tenant for liberty to plant four pecks of potatoes                                                                           | 0 4 0  |
| A raw hide bought for shoes, to which he gives a kind of dressing, costs 12s. which serves him and his family two years for shoes             | 0 6 0  |
| Making the shoes                                                                                                                              | 0 2 6  |
| Wool bought 10s. besides what is shorn from a few sheep that he has pasturing on the hills and commons, affords clothing for the whole family | 0 10 0 |

|                                                                                                                                                                           |                 |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
|                                                                                                                                                                           | £. s. d.        |
| The wife spins the wool, and dyes the cloth for the different purposes. Dye stuffs                                                                                        | 0 2 6           |
| Pays for the weaving and dressing                                                                                                                                         | 0 5 0           |
| To the taylor for making                                                                                                                                                  | 0 5 0           |
| Soap and blue, needles and pins                                                                                                                                           | 0 2 0           |
| Handkerchiefs 1s. 6d. apron 1s. 6d. linen for a kips 1s. 6d. a bonnet which lasts two years 1s.                                                                           | 0 5 0           |
| At Christmas holidays, and christenings, &c. cheese 2s. whisky 2s. ale 3s.—Poultry they rear themselves, which with potatoes compose the entertainment on these occasions | 0 7 0           |
| Potatoes bought for family use and feed                                                                                                                                   | 0 7 0           |
|                                                                                                                                                                           | <u>£. 7 0 0</u> |

No. II. A man, his wife, and four children, the eldest twelve, the next ten years of age, the rest infants.

EARNINGS.

|                                                                                                                      |                  |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|
|                                                                                                                      | £. s. d.         |
| The man earns yearly                                                                                                 | 6 0 0            |
| The wife by washing earn                                                                                             | 1 5 0            |
| The two eldest children being employed in planting and lifting potatoes, handhoing turnips and potatoes, earns about | 1 10 0           |
|                                                                                                                      | <u>£. 8 15 0</u> |

EXPENCES.

|                                                    |                  |
|----------------------------------------------------|------------------|
|                                                    | £. s. d.         |
| Eight bolls of bear and oat-meal at 14s.           | 5 12 0           |
| Ground-rent for potatoes                           | 0 6 0            |
| Shoes for man and family                           | 0 10 6           |
| For cloth of different kinds                       | 1 0 0            |
| Taylor for making and mending clothes              | 0 6 6            |
| Soap, blue, needles, and pins                      | 0 10 0           |
| A bonnet, handkerchief, apron, and linen for a cap | 0 5 0            |
| Christening entertainment                          | 0 5 0            |
|                                                    | <u>£. 8 15 0</u> |

No. III. A man, his wife, and one boy, the boy fourteen years of age.

EARNINGS.

|                                                                                             |                 |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
|                                                                                             | £. s. d.        |
| The man earns yearly                                                                        | 5 15 0          |
| The wife by spinning, and sundry little works in the fields, such as planting potatoes, &c. | 2 5 0           |
| The son at school earns nothing                                                             | 0 0 0           |
|                                                                                             | <u>£. 8 0 0</u> |

EXPENCES.

|                                     |                 |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|
|                                     | £. s. d.        |
| Five bolls of oat-meal at 14s.      | 3 10 0          |
| Ground-rent for potatoes            | 0 3 0           |
| Shoes for himself, wife, and son    | 0 6 0           |
| Clothes of different kinds          | 1 0 0           |
| Taylor for making and mending       | 0 5 0           |
| Soap, blue, needles and pins        | 0 2 0           |
| A bonnet, handkerchiefs, apron, &c. | 0 5 0           |
| School fees for his son             | 0 5 0           |
| Potatoes bought                     | 0 16 0          |
| Money saved                         | 1 8 0           |
|                                     | <u>£. 8 0 0</u> |

No. IV. A man, his wife, and two children, the eldest four years old, the youngest two years.

EARNINGS.

|                                                                                   |                 |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
|                                                                                   | £. s. d.        |
| The man earns yearly                                                              | 6 15 0          |
| The wife, by her attention to her children, a cow, and a few sheep, earns nothing | 0 0 0           |
| Sells a cow every second year at 3l.                                              | 1 10 0          |
|                                                                                   | <u>£. 8 5 0</u> |

EXPENCES.

|                                                                                                                                                                              |                 |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
|                                                                                                                                                                              | £. s. d.        |
| Six bolls of bear and oat-meal, at 14s.                                                                                                                                      | 4 4 0           |
| For shoes                                                                                                                                                                    | 0 4 0           |
| Wool produced from the sheep which he shears twice a year, affords clothing for himself and family, the wife spins and dyes it for the different purposes. Dye stuffs bought | 0 2 6           |
| Pays for weaving and dressing                                                                                                                                                | 0 5 0           |
| Taylor for making and mending                                                                                                                                                | 0 5 0           |
| Soap, needles and pins                                                                                                                                                       | 0 2 0           |
| Bonnet, handkerchief, apron, &c.                                                                                                                                             | 0 5 0           |
| Christening entertainment and holidays                                                                                                                                       | 0 10 6          |
| Potatoes bought for feed, and use of family                                                                                                                                  | 0 18 0          |
| Money saved                                                                                                                                                                  | 1 9 0           |
|                                                                                                                                                                              | <u>£. 8 5 0</u> |

No. V. A man, his wife, and five children, the eldest six years of age, the two youngest sucking infants and are twins.

EARNINGS.

|                      |              |
|----------------------|--------------|
|                      | £. s. d.     |
| The man earns yearly | 5 2 0        |
| The wife nothing     | 0 0 0        |
|                      | <u>5 2 0</u> |

