

the same reason, I do not say anything about the tithes. I know the objections to every scheme for taking them away, and substituting some other revenue in the room of them. If land were so substituted, it would convert too great a part of the land of the kingdom into mortmain; and it would turn the clergy into farmers; and the lands so allotted to them would often not be well cultivated for want of money to repair their farm-houses and stock their farms, and the like reasons. If stipends in money were assigned to the clergy, the value of such stipends would continually decrease with the value of money, as is now the case with the livings in the City of London. Their stipends were fixed, I believe, in the year 1670; and, in the short space of one hundred and twenty years, they are become less valuable than they were at first, in a very great proportion; being reduced to at least one half, and, more probably, to one third part of their original values. And this scheme would be subject to various other objections. And therefore I would let the
tithes