

as Americans to engage in the difficulties of a new country ; and Europeans, unacquainted with such a course of life, will find it better policy to purchase small improvements than to engage in such difficulties. I know of no method by which a capital can be improved to so great advantage as by adopting this system ; but it requires some knowledge of the country before a person can form a just opinion either of the situation or value of lands. It may appear almost necessary to say what sort of persons, under these circumstances, can become purchasers. But my reply will be very general :—almost any one. If a man has great industry, and a family sufficiently advanced to aid, instead of encumbering him, he can, without any money, make a purchase of a single lot of two hundred acres ; and, to use a common expression, make the land pay for itself, that is, from its own produce. If a farmer has three or four boys old enough to help him, they can easily clear twenty acres of new land ; and, if they have ordinary luck, the first crop will yield five hundred bushels of good wheat ; which, if the market price is a dollar, will produce one hundred and twenty-five pounds currency, that is, double the value of the land. Many persons have become purchasers of land, with no other view than that of selling on credit for large profit. Many hundreds indeed there are in this country who own from eight hundred to two thousand acres, yet began without any capital. I could enumerate many instances of individuals having maintained their families, and, in the course of seven years,