

XI. Importance of the emigrants to our colonies—Custom of settling in the United States—Means of inducing a change of destination—will not increase the spirit of emigration.

KEEPING in view the distinction already insisted upon, between the cotters and the small tenants, I think it may now be assumed as sufficiently proved, that emigration, to a greater or less extent, is likely to go on from the Highlands, till the latter class is entirely drained off. If this be admitted, I need not take up much time to prove, that it is an object deserving of some attention, and of some exertion, to secure these emigrants to our own colonies, rather than abandon them to a foreign country.

Some persons, indeed, have insinuated, that the colonies are altogether of little use. That is a point, which it would be foreign to my present purpose to discuss. Those, however, who are of that opinion, ought to argue, not for their being neglected, but relinquished. If they are to be retained, it cannot surely