

his industry and labour—the Duke pursued his course with that calm equanimity which formed so distinguishing a feature in his character, and with that persevering resolution which never forsook him when he felt that he was right. And never, surely, was person so fully rewarded for his energy and perseverance, for never was success more complete. He had the great satisfaction of living to see every cotter on his estate holding immediately of himself, benefited by reduced rent, freed from vexatious services, and enjoying the entire fruits of his own labour. He had the inexpressible satisfaction also of knowing, that however disinclined many of them might have been to these alterations in the first instance, they all finally acknowledged,\* and are now entirely sensible of, the great benefits which they have derived from the change." Such benefits are not of an equivocal or hidden nature, but exhibited in the wonderful improvement in their appearance and in their dress—in the style and character as well as in the cleanliness of their houses—in the establishment of schools—in the introduction of gardening—and in the cultivation of several thousand acres of land that had heretofore lain waste, and which they now enjoy without any increase of rent.

The manner in which these admirable changes were effected, was greatly accelerated by that perfect unanimity between the Duke and Duchess which was sure to forward every scheme for the public good, and every act of private beneficence. "The interest which the Duke took in these improvements was intense. Having, after his first illness, gone to one of the principal new settlements in the vicinity of Brora, he ascended a knoll, whence could be observed the whole scene of new cottages and improvements, comprising a vast district, which, from having been an arid waste not many years before, was now under flourishing crops, which the people were in the act of securing. After surveying the scene for some time with much evident satisfaction: 'It is,' he observed, 'it is indeed well worth all that it has cost!' meaning not only the outlay in capital, but the unjust accusations that were at one moment heaped upon his plans, and were so derogatory of his motives."

Having thus adverted to a few of the vast and rapid improvements effected by the diligence, skill, and liberality of this patriotic and enlightened noble-

\* In proof of this we may add, that, on revisiting his estates in June, 1826, the satisfaction of the people was loud and universal; while their unequivocal attachment was displayed in the presentation of a piece of plate, of eight hundred guineas' value, subscribed for in small sums by more than *one thousand* of his tenants, "IN TESTIMONY OF THE ATTACHMENT OF A PEOPLE ADVANCED TO INDEPENDENCE, INDUSTRY, AND COMFORT, AND SUPPORTED AMIDST THE CALAMITIES WHICH OPPRESSED AGRICULTURE, BY THE WISDOM, THE JUSTICE, AND THE GENEROSITY OF THEIR FELLOVED LANDLORD, GEORGE GRANVILLE, DUKE OF SUTHERLAND," &c.—See the "Memoir" above quoted.