

ing rather than answering the Objection; it would be doing it much more Honour than it deserves. These Sort of Refinements pass well enough in Countries where the People are compelled to submit to arbitrary Power, and afford a specious Pretence for doing what even the most arbitrary Power dares not avow; but at the Bottom it will appear to be a mere Fallacy, by which Statesmen without Bowels impose upon a Populace without Brains, and so persuade one Part of the People to believe, that their Interest and Welfare can be consulted in sacrificing another Part, which, however, is a Sophism not to be endured in a free Nation.

The Wealth as well as the Strength of every Nation, and more especially of every free Nation, consists in the Number of the People; and therefore to say, that the Bulk of the Nation can be any Gainers by the Loss of a certain Number, be it what it will, of strong and able Men, is a flat Absurdity. This will more clearly appear if we consider, that even in the lowest and meanest kind of Labour, an able Man can earn at least ten Pounds a Year, and if you value such a Life but at seven Years Purchase, it is plain, that if a thousand such Men be