

our own countrymen. Here again we find simply a transfer of wealth, leaving the country no poorer

honour, then, indeed, the condition of the nation is that of sickness and ill-health.

With reference to the effect of military employment on the men engaged in it, there are persons who regard it as, on the whole, demoralizing in its influence. Now, it is true that the soldier's life in a time of peace, compared with that of the ordinary labourer, is not so conducive to habits of steady industry. But this comparison supposes the labourer to have regular employment which an overcrowded labour market may not afford him; and, on the other hand, there does not appear any necessity why the soldier, in times of peace, should be made to pass much of his time in enforced idleness. A frequent, perhaps the most frequent effect of military service, may be thus described. A young man enters the army. He is what is termed a clodhopper. Awkward and uncouth; his faculties seem to be little more than rudimentary. He appears to be almost hopelessly stupid; slow in manner and untidy in dress; he seems to have scarcely wit enough to care what others think of him. After a few years' service the young man leaves the army, or obtains leave of absence, and appears amongst his old friends *metamorphosed*. Neat in his dress now, quick in manner, intelligent, and, comparatively speaking, well informed, the change wrought in him by military discipline and the educational process to which he has been subjected is marvellous to his old friends. We are of opinion that the educational process, which is better than it has been in former times, is not so good as it may be rendered; but, taking the