

These proceedings, which took place in the year 1735, cannot possibly be the same with those alluded to as having taken place in the year 1722 : for we find a very considerable alacrity to embrace the favourable terms which were held out to the Highlanders even during the full vigour of the feudal system ; insomuch that more of them emigrated at this time than had originally left England when Georgia was first settled ; and the way being once pointed out, others continued occasionally to find their way to the city of New Inverness. In short, so very strong in the human mind is the design of bettering our condition, and so blind is the pursuit of happiness, that it has at all times been found not very difficult to excite a spirit of emigration to an extent quite disproportionate either to the moral or physical state of the country.

But Lord Selkirk forgets the existence of an additional predisposing cause in the changes now going on, and that their bad effects should be obviated as much as possible instead of being cherished. The High-