

nobody knows what may happen. He has a small estate which he lets at the old rent, because *it is better to have a little than nothing*; but he rigorously demands payment on the stated day, for *he that cannot pay one quarter cannot pay two*. If he is told of any improvements in Agriculture, he likes the old way, has observed that changes very seldom answer expectation, is of opinion that our forefathers knew how to till the ground as well as we; and concludes with an argument that nothing can overpower, that the expence of planting and fencing is immediate, and the advantage distant, and that *he is no wise man who will quit a certainty for an uncertainty*.

ANOTHER of *Sophron's* rules is, *to mind no business but his own*. In the State he is of no party; but hears and speaks of publick affairs with the same coldness as of the administration of some ancient republick. If any flagrant act of Fraud or Oppression is mentioned, he hopes that *all is not true that is told*. If Misconduct or Corruption puts the nation in a flame, he hopes that *every man means well*. At Election he leaves his dependents to their own choice, and declines to vote himself, for every Candidate