

which has so fine a climate and soil as Italy—none where the people are more miserable and oppressed. A woman dare not walk into Naples and sell a basket of eggs or butter till she goes to the Custom-house and pays a tax upon it; if her children are calling for bread, she dare not bake a cake for them—she must go to the oven belonging to the King or the Lord of the land, pay the tax and bake there. If there is a great crop of olives, some farmers are obliged to let them rot, because they are not allowed to make themselves a press, they must pay the Lord for the use of his, and often he does not have enough when the crop is good. There are lawyers innumerable, but no justice can be obtained in a court, and the country would not be at all habitable, were it not that some thousands are annually assassinated. The oppressor knows that if he provokes a man beyond all bearing, the oppressed person can readily hire a Bravo to kill him, and to these Murderers by profession the people are indebted for the little protection they have. The East Indies is a fertile country. It is said that sufficient food could generally be raised in one year to support the inhabitants for three: yet we often hear of thousands dying there with famine. From the evidence on Mr. Hastings' trial it appears that a Collector goes to gather the taxes attended by a party of soldiers carrying cords and whips, and that he frequently finds all the huts of a village empty, the inhabitants having heard of his coming, and run away. This was never the case in Sweden or Norway, nor will it ever be the case in Nova Scotia. The greatest evils that mankind suffer come from their fellow men. They who live by the labour of others will always lay as heavy burdens on the labouring class as they are able and willing to bear, but men who are always obliged to work hard to procure a living and to face the storms of a Nova-scotian winter will necessarily retain so much strength of body and energy of mind that they will never submit to unreasonable impositions. Upon a very fertile soil in a very mild country the human race degenerates, Indolence reduces them to such a state that they become the prey of all who choose to plunder them. India has often been overrun and ravaged by the hardy inhabitants of the North.

The man who is weary with hard work finds great pleasure in resting, and sometimes thinks that if he could live without work he should always enjoy this pleasure; but this is a delusion. We must pay for all our pleasures in this world; without hunger and thirst we can have no pleasure in eating and drinking, and without previous weariness we cannot rest. No man is happier than he who by constant hard work procures a comfortable living. Few are more discontented than they who have the means of living without doing anything. The farmer has no cause to envy the merchant, he whose only exercise lies in calculating and writing, often feels a depression of spirits more insupportable than great bodily fatigue. A proportion of those who become merchants acquire wealth which enables them to live at an expense which few farmers can afford, but be it ever remembered that all the wealth of the Indies can never purchase cheerfulness, sound and refreshing sleep, and a good appetite—of these good things no class upon earth has a greater share than the farmer, while at the same time he has the satisfaction of knowing that his employment is always both innocent and useful, and that he is not enriching himself by impoverishing others.

BEARS.

In new settlements a number of years frequently elapse before any injury is received from this animal by the farmer, but there is reason to think that the Bear who has once destroyed any cattle or sheep will as long as he lives continue to molest them, but he will

very rarely escape the skillful hunter who sets a gun for him in the place where he has killed an animal, as he almost invariably visits the place again in two or three days. A lane should be fenced by two rows of stakes about three feet long driven into the ground within four inches of each other. This lane should at each end be three feet wide, but near the middle not more than two feet. A dead sheep or pig, a large fish, or a piece of a dead horse or ox should be laid in the center of the lane for bait. The gun should be 25 or 30 feet from the bait, lashed fast to two young trees, stakes driven firmly into the ground. It should range with the center of the lane, and, at the bait, should be levelled to the height of 22 inches above the surface of the ground. A line from the trigger is fastened to the end of a spring-pole, such as is used for snaring Rabbits; the end of the pole being under a short stick, the ends of which are sharpened wedge-like and fixed in notches made in a pair of stakes or small trees. The spring-pole should be so fastened that it will, when released, fly four or five feet, and it must not be fastened to the little stick, but only secured in its place by passing under it. A line must be fastened to the bait, which is carried out of the lane and after passing one stake is again brought into it, and fastened to the little stick which confines the spring-pole. It should be well soaked with water, or else allowed a yard of slack rope to prevent the effects of its shrinking, and the same precaution is necessary for the line attached to the trigger. It is carried round the stake that the Bear may pull the little stick away, and release the spring pole, if he carries the bait towards the gun, as well as when he carries it from it. The stakes which form the lane should be cut at least fifty yards from the place, and the tops of the stakes covered by sheets of moss turf from old logs or rocks, or rubbish with swamp mud. When this work is done, the gun should be unbound, loaded with a ball and buckshot, and again lashed in place, the lock covered with birch bark to secure it from rain, and a few small dead bushes placed so as to partly conceal it. The little stick that lies in the lane should also be covered with leaves or moss. If the Bear should not come the first night, the gun should be primed anew. He will rarely fail to come by the third night. This mode of destroying bears is so sure that the writer has known a person who killed seven Bears, three Loup-cerviers, and three Dogs, before he once failed to kill when he had set his gun. The Bears are more shy of the common deadfall traps than they are of guns, but they may be caught in these traps in the month of April, being then, generally, very hungry. They have certain fishing places on the streams which the Gaspareaux enter in the spring, and they generally come to these streams ten days or a fortnight before the fish, and at this season the Indians were accustomed to set traps along the rivers within half a mile of each other, and rarely failed to catch some of them. Steel traps if properly made are the surest, as they may be covered completely, but none of the imported traps will hold bears; they may however be made here by a Blacksmith who can make a good spring that will bear to be used for twenty-four hours under water. They should be made very strong in every part. The jaws should form three sides of a square by which means a considerable part (often one half,) of the point of the springs is lost. As a single spring of sufficient strength will generally break, there should be two double springs at each end of the jaws. Many bears have been caught in traps of this kind. Beaver oil is the best bait for both Bears and Loup-cerviers, when a steel trap is set for them. It may sometimes be procured from the Indians. There are in the hinder parts of the Beaver, analogous to the bags which hold the Castor, two bags of the size of pullets eggs, filled with oil which has a very strong and most