

work, and was willing to do as much as he could get, went to the parish for a few shillings to eke it out. He could then always go on and look out for more to do. He had something to hold fast by; but now if he can get only five shillings a week, and his family cannot be kept upon less than ten, he must either see some of them starve, or give up his cottage, sell his goods, and put himself out of the way of all work, and go as a pauper to the Union, where he is to be separated from his wife and children, and fed and treated worse than one of the prisoners in the jail. Then when he comes out, he comes out as a pauper, and finds it ten times more difficult to get work than before, let his character be ever so good. A thousand to one he is a ruined man forever, and has no spirit left but to hate those who have been ill-treating him. Many a man who has no religion thinks he may just as well pilfer a bit, and take his chance of getting into jail, where he is sure to be better treated than in the Union; and all that might be saved by giving a few shillings a-week where it is really wanted. Besides, you see, Jacob, it was a great check upon masters, and the only check, indeed, we had. One farmer did not like another