

enabled to keep possession, by having the power of electing the local officers, through whom alone ejectment could be made. This seems to be one of those cases where, as the historian observes, the American laws favour the diffusion of wealth, rather than the accumulation of it among a few. Land would seem to have been originally, like light and air, the common gift of God to all; and the reason why it should have been parcelled out to individuals was for the purpose of cultivation. But this does not explain why large territories should belong to one individual, more than he can ever superintend, or even see. In England it has been allowed that private rights should yield to the public good. The Pope, in the dark ages, gave away whole kingdoms at once, but it is not likely that rights of the kind would ever be acknowledged in our time. I have lately heard that the Van Renselaer tenants have submitted.

As a contrast to the Van Renselaer case might be cited the ejectments in Ireland and Scotland, where men, women, and children, labouring under fever, have been turned out to die on the roadside, or such a case as this—"The stunted nature of the collier children arises in their coal districts, from the height of the passages they have to traverse, being frequently not above 30 inches in height. They are harnessed to the corves (waggons) by means of a strap round the waist, and a chain passing through the legs; thus they go along on all fours, like animals; and this work is done by girls in trousers, as well as boys.—Sub-commissioner. This girl is an ignorant, filthy, ragged, and deplorable-looking object, and such a one as the uncivilised natives of the