

you are exempt from the epidemic scourges of warmer regions.

Among your peculiar blessings, it is not the least, that your taxes are comparatively light. There is, perhaps, no country, where a smaller proportion of the income or produce of labor is exacted for public uses. Be sensible of this immunity. In many countries, taxation, with more hands than Briarius ever had, seizes upon the labourer's earnings, and leaves him but a pittance for his own use. That government which secures its subjects in the enjoyment of their property, and the fruits of their industry, with few and moderate taxes, is, and ought to be, sure of their attachment, wherever they were born. This allegiance, whether native or not, is at least natural. It is founded on the ruling principle of our nature.

You have the strongest possible inducement to be industrious. You are directly interested in the proceeds of your labor ; and your interest is your duty. Industry is not merely the handmaid of wealth ; she is, at the same time, a guardian of virtue and good morals. It is the order of Providence, that it should be so. To eat his bread in the sweat of his face, is the common lot of man. But yours is happily cast. The lines are fallen to you in pleasant places ; and you have a goodly heritage.

Notwithstanding the hardness of the times, in consequence of the scarcity of money, you are at leisure to cultivate the arts of peace. Your labors are not interrupted by alarms of war, by military draughts or requisitions. A comparison of your present condition, in that respect, with what you experienced during the late war, will enable you to judge of the value of peace and a quiet home.

Other comparisons may teach you lessons of contentment and gratitude. The first settlers of the country, as some of you can recollect, were generally poor ; and all of them encountered the privations incident to new settlements. But you are now secure and independent in your estates : you possess a competency, and have ample means of improving your property and your comforts, by reasonable exertions.

To stimulate your exertions, with a view to your im-