

called upon to discuss that question : and I should need more information than I possess, before I would decide it. The adoption of such a measure there involves very different considerations from its adoption here. I shall notice some of the distinctions. In England there is a great amount of wealth, exempt from the operation of the law of primogeniture, invested in the funds, or embarked in commerce, for her merchants are Princes. In this agricultural country the property is chiefly real estate ;—it is, therefore, under the operation of that law.

England is groaning under a redundant and burthensome population. The law of primogeniture is thought by political economists to be a check on its increase. In this country, where we need labor, it is good policy to adopt the law of equal partibility : for a division of property will promote marriages and a consequent increase of population.

In England there is a deep and settled veneration for the noble and opulent and ancient families, which constitute their aristocracy. It is the effect of early impressions and long cherished habits. Those families are associated with the most glorious events and achievements in their history, and their very names are regarded with reverence. But what kind of veneration is likely even to be felt for our provincial aristocracy, which is associated with no more soul-stirring ideas than those of shrewd land speculators !

In England there are many situations under government where the younger sons are provided for. I hope we shall never resemble the parent country in that respect, even if the law of primogeniture should continue in force.

It is said that the division of property, which this bill will have a tendency to produce, is prejudicial to the agricultural improvement of the country. It can easily be determined, whether this objection is well founded, by a reference to the other countries. In