

with grief, with different diet from what has been common with them, and with hard labour, some thousands are computed to die every year, in what is called the seasoning.

Thus it appears evident, that great numbers of these people are brought every year to an untimely end; many of them being such who never injured us.

Where the innocent suffer under hard-hearted men, even unto death, and the channels of equity are so obstructed, that the cause of the sufferers is not judged in righteousness, "the land is polluted with blood," Numb. xxxv. 33.

Where blood hath been shed unrighteously, and remains unatoned for, the cry thereof is very piercing.

Under the humbling dispensations of divine Providence, this cry hath deeply affected my heart, and I feel a concern to open, as I may be enabled, that which lieth heavy on my mind.

When "the iniquity of the house of Israel and of Judah was exceeding great, when the land was defiled with blood, and the city full of perverseness," Ezek. ix. 9. "Some were found fighting and crying for the abominations of the times," Ezek. ix. 4. and such who live under a right feeling of our condition as a nation, these I trust will be sensible that the Lord at this day doth call to mourning, though many are ignorant of it. So powerful are bad customs when they become general, that people growing bold thro'