

quires, that they should, in some measure, be altered at this day.

Let us then begin with the bill which is now before us——and let us severely, but impartially, examine into its import.

It is a bill enabling, in a particular instance, the Papists to take long leases——or rather to remove a disability under which they labour of taking leases at all in cities and towns.——For in towns, nothing can operate as a lease, which does not confer a term of sufficient duration for building upon,——the lands therein being applicable to the purposes not of agriculture, but habitation.

If then you agree to this bill, you enable the Roman Catholics to expend their property in building houses, which in the end will be inhabited by Protestants; you engage them to embark with you in the *common cause*——and at the same time you provide the ultimate controul of the best regulated gavel-clause that ever was framed, at once to guard against accumulation, and to promote conformity. Thus the Papists will have in one instance (what I wish to Heaven they had in every instance) a permanent tenure in their possessions.——They will have *one* temptation (I wish to Heaven they had more) to vest their property in the national bottom——and finally this instance of toleration and indulgence, will become the most powerful instrument of conversion and amity.——If you agree to this bill, you will, so far as it operates,