

with the Government of this Country, that all offices should be given at its discretion; and here, from the delicate nature of the case, the Legislature had thought proper to interpose, and to restrain the Supreme Magistrate, the head of the Executive Authority, and limit him in his appointment to these offices: but surely this differed essentially from any degradation, disgrace, or punishment, of the Dissenters. It was necessary for the House to consider the danger; and here he declared he meant not to impute views to men, which many of them disclaimed, and who professed to be well-wishers to the Established Church; but there were others among them, as the Dissenters themselves well knew, who had held a very different conduct, and not only objected against many of the doctrines of the Established Church, but went so far as to contend against the propriety of there being any establishment at all. There would surely, therefore, be some little degree of rashness, and of danger, in placing offices in the hands of persons of this description. So far then for the purport of this Act, which had most unjustly been termed a persecution of the Dissenters in general. With regard to one other argument urged by the Right Hon. Gentleman, and tending to perplex