

had spread itself through all ranks of people, which had contributed to enlighten their minds, soften their hearts, and enlarge their understandings. Mr. Pitt declared, he was ready to do justice to the Dissenters of former times, as he was ready to do justice to the present. It was not on the ground that they *would* do any thing to affect the civil Government of the country, that they had been excluded from holding civil offices, but that if they had any additional degree of power in their hands, they *might*. It would, he believed, be admitted by all men, that the establishment of a settled form of Church, and of its Ministers, was necessary to the civil Government of the country. Was it then proper to prevent the emoluments and offices of the Established Church from being distributed among persons, whose characters, however respectable they might be, were not Members of the same Communion? The Question, therefore, had been, whether these offices, which might in one view be considered as a matter of favour, and in another as a matter of trust, should be given to persons well affected to the Church, or to persons of a very different description. He said, it was matter of favour, because it was consistent with