

Mr. Fox entered into an history of the Test Act, and shewed that, in consequence of a violent alarm from the Papists, it had been introduced with a view to exclude them, and *them only*, from office ; that the Dissenters had cordially joined it in, and consented to their own exclusion, thinking that a less evil, than to leave the door open to Papists : And “ will you “ then,” said he, “ take advantage of their “ patriotism, and convert what they consented “ to as necessary for the general safety at that “ time, into a perpetual exclusion against themselves ? Was it thus the Church would reward the service they had done her, in the “ day of her distress ?” After farther reasoning to press, if not for an immediate repeal, at least for the appointment of a Committee to inquire, whether a repeal of the Act in question were necessary ; Mr. Fox alluded to the occasional Conformity Act, that had been repealed a few years since, and observed, that they had that day heard, that the Church of England was in its glory ; the Church of England, therefore, (according to the arguments of the Noble Lord, and the advocates for the continuance of the statutes, which he contended were equally unnecessary and unjust to remain in force any longer,