

a relaxation of those laws, with a provision for their ultimate repeal, might be made without injury to the agriculturists and with benefit to the community, and was moreover imperatively required as being well calculated to mitigate the anticipated calamity, and to ward off the "immeasurable power for evil" which the attempt to keep up those laws in a time of famine would give—"a power for evil which might go far to break up society altogether," they threw in their lot with that of the authors of the measure of 1846. In doing this they felt that they were fulfilling a public duty; while they could see no grounds—and it is believed that when the heats and animosities that necessarily attend such changes shall have passed away, an impartial public will see no grounds—on which they ought to forfeit the good opinion of their former friends, or could justly be charged with deserting the principles which were the basis of their union in 1836, and which may still be the bond of future co-operation in every thing that affects the safety of the country or the constitution.