

it from the effects of misgovernment, and from the dangers attending anarchy or revolution. He has been a supporter of Reform, and will, doubtless, support whatever measures may be introduced into Parliament to remedy the abuses which have crept into the constitution, and to lighten the burdens with which the people are overloaded. He is honoured with the confidence of Earl Grey and the present administration, to whom the nation is so highly indebted for the introduction and ultimate success of Reform; and to whom only it need look for any good effects from that measure. His being so honoured accounts sufficiently for the violent opposition he has experienced from the Egotist club, and the creatures in its pay—an opposition which, were there no other reason, is a most conclusive argument for every Independent Elector to prefer him to his opponent. A free press having exposed the delinquencies of the party, and driven them from the power so long enjoyed and so much abused by it, the remnant of it, no doubt, thinks the same weapon may open the way for the recovery of that which is lost; accordingly, Sir Michael has been loaded with torrents of abuse, which was perhaps expected to be the more effectual, as he is little known in this place, except to a few, and certainly by none less than by those who pretend to describe him. The gross ignorance and vulgarity of his calumniators, however, render their shafts pointless and innocuous. Should the hireling press by which he is so vehemently assailed attempt to praise him, it would injure him more than it possibly can by its violent vituperation.

The only plausible argument which has been used against him,\* is that because a portion of his estate is

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\* It is amusing to notice the pertinacity with which the scribblers hired to oppose Sir Michael insist that he is a Whig, and, of course, must support all the measures proposed by that party, however ruinous to the agricultural, that is, to his own personal interest; yet they as pertinaciously assert, that he formerly became a candidate for Stirlingshire, as a supporter of Tory principles, and even felt his