

by their unlawful interference, by means of their parchment barons, had robbed the people for so long a time of their elective franchise; or rather, what is worse, had rendered it altogether subservient to their *own* selfish views. He has been always returned by the unconstitutional influence of the aristocracy with which he is connected; he has no stake in the County but what is fictitious; neither has he a house nor home. He has no fortune adequate to the station in which he is placed; and, therefore, must be dependent on the party whose interest is politically adverse to that of the people. In a struggle for ascendancy, or rather for fair play, between the aristocracy and the representatives of the people, can a man so situated be depended upon to watch over the people's rights, and to defend their privileges? Hitherto he has been a constant adherent to the Egotist faction, has strenuously opposed the Reform Bills, and every other measure tending to relieve the people from the grievous burdens under which they labour, and in every instance has supported the interest and influence of the oligarchy. For several years, he absented himself from his duty in Parliament, accepting the command of a ship of war, which is indeed his only proper station. This he will, no doubt, do again, whenever he is called upon, and will leave the interest of the County to whomsoever may choose to attend to it, or to be altogether neglected. These I think are tolerably strong reasons for rejecting Captain Gordon's claims, and, I presume, too well-founded to bear any dispute. Indeed, I have heard no one attempt to justify his election upon any legal or constitutional grounds; he is destitute of all the requisite qualifications to entitle him to be the representative of this extensive County; and whosoever shall vote for him, betrays the sacred trust reposed in him. It will be no excuse to plead either private friendship, or dread of incurring animosity or pecuniary loss; these are the apologies of selfishness and servility which only aggravate the crime. Unfortunately for this County, a great proportion of it is in the hands of five or six noble Lords, and of others who have always