

not only upon the introduction and the discussion of the subject before Parliament, but still more so to secure ultimate success to the proposed application.

The note above referred to is so ably drawn, and details in such clear and forcible terms the case of these persons, that I have little to do, but to crave your condescending perusal of, and attention to that note, and to solicit your reconsideration of the claims of these applicants on the honour of Parliament, and on the justice of the British Government. They represent, in number, fifty-five persons, the amount of whose losses, from their renouncing any participation in the rebellion of their countrymen, have been verified and distinctly established, under a parliamentary commission, and they are the only persons of the same description, who have not received that compensation for their loyalty, which was so repeatedly promised to them by the Crown and by Parliament, at a period when their withdrawal from the cause of America was deemed of the most essential service to Great Britain, and when such withdrawal caused them to be proscribed and proclaimed traitors in their native country.

The full indemnity granted to loyalists, whose losses were of precisely the same nature as those of these applicants, although arising from a different source, is surely of itself, abundant reasons why these persons ought to receive equal compensation; every claim was founded on a positive loss of property by an adherence to the mother country; and one of the causes that is supposed to create a doubt on the rights of these unsatisfied claimants, affords, in my humble opinion, the strongest argument in their favour. Their losses arise from debts which were owing to them in their own country, when they abandoned it, and having been afterwards misled (if I may use the expression) to seek remuneration in the United States; they were there asked, upon what pretence do you come here, after having been proscribed our courts?—go to those in whose promises you confided!

Another reason urged against them, I consider equally in their favour, inasmuch as it shews, that if these poor people could have obtained indemnification in any other manner, they would not now have to seek it from the British Government: I here allude to their being again led to resort to the fund obtained for the indemnity of the British merchants, a description of persons as different as possible from that of the American loyalists: on this point I beg to refer you, Sir, to your own words, in a letter you were pleased to address to one of the claimants, on the 10th July 1813:

“I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 6th inst. transmitting a list of awards to the American loyalists, and to acquaint you, that having communicated with lord Liverpool on the subject, it is both his lordship's opinion and my own, that it is decidedly too late to propose any measure founded on them during the present session, even if it be the opinion of Government, that Parliament should be resorted to after the consideration which they will give these claims: I am aware, that the list of claims before me, is distinguishable in principle from the remainder of the claims lately decided upon by Parliament; but notice having been given to renew the application of the other claimants, some difficulty may be occasioned by that circumstance.”

I understand it has since been said, that the case of the loyalists cannot be separated from that of the British creditors, with whom they were so long united, and in common with whom they have received a partial compensation; but it is against this extraordinary view of the question, the note of 31st January particularly applies, and so as not only to establish a marked difference between the two cases, but also that the nation is, in fact, at this moment, indebted to these applicants for the remainder of their demands, which they have been wholly precluded from recovering in America by their loyalty to this country, and the partial payments they have received, having no other effect than, as I submit, to relieve the British Government from so much of its original and continued engagements to make full compensation to these recognized sufferers.

The British merchants have, long since, been convinced that they had no claim on this country beyond the indemnification so successfully extracted for them from the American states; whereas the American loyalists found, and now persist in their demands, on the most positive assurances from this country, that they should be indemnified for all their losses; and can it possibly be said, that this pledge has been redeemed, whilst the present applicants are unsatisfied? The sum distributed amongst them out of the fund granted by America (certainly not to those whom they styled rebels, but to British sufferers) was £.105,813. 11 s. 8 d. which leaves a sum of £.122,024. 1 s. yet coming to them upon the award of the commissioners, with the arrear