

tection, to be driven as it were into exile from the land of their nativity, and from the tenderest and dearest of all connections?—What, to the fathers who have lost their sons? to the widows who have lost their husbands? to the numerous orphans who have lost their fathers, the only hope and support of their infant years? For such losses, too great to be described by language, and scarcely to be estimated by the utmost feelings of humanity, excited by the strongest powers of sensibility, government can make none. The Loyalists expect none; because they are losses to which no earthly compensation can be adequate. For a reward for such losses, and of that virtue which excited them, at every hazard of life and fortune, to fulfil their duty to the State, and to support the rights of their Sovereign and his Parliament, they look up to the supreme FATHER of all justice. They now ask for that compensation only which they have so long solicited in vain from Parliament; compensation for property and rights which have been lost through a want of that protection which is due to them by the first great laws of the British constitution—by the Royal faith, and the resolutions of a British Parliament, solemnly pledged to them for it;

a com-

a compensation which is due to them by their birth-rights as British subjects, of which no power on earth can lawfully deprive them.

CHAP. VII.

Of the Doctrine of the Right Honourable Mr. Pitt, applied to the Claim of the Loyalists.

ALTHOUGH, in the preceding pages, we have demonstrated from the laws of civil society—the usage of states—the practice of Parliament, and from the declarations of his Majesty, and the uniform resolutions of both houses of the legislature, the indispensable obligation which Parliament is under to make compensation to the Loyalists adequate to their losses; we will yet further corroborate those arguments by the opinions of the first minister of Great Britain, in a case similar, but of much less public merit and importance; opinions not hastily formed, but established in his enlightened mind, after the fullest deliberation upon the subject, and which therefore, we must conclude, speak the language of law and truth. These opinions are to be found in his memorable speech in February 1787.

The case upon which this speech was made is that of Mr. Hastings. This gentleman, as Governor.