

to the common safety. There was no such reservation or restoration of the property of the Loyalists, no indemnity whatever obtained; and had there been nothing mentioned respecting them in the treaty, it would have been more to the honour of the British government, than that humiliating stipulation, by which it was agreed, that the Loyalists should have "*the liberty* to go to the United States, and there to remain *twelve months* unmolested in their endeavours to obtain restitution, and that the Congress should RECOMMEND to the States, to restore their estates, they refunding the *bona fide* price which the purchaser may have paid."

Here the British State, which was bound to obtain a restitution of their property, if it could possibly be done, procured "*a liberty*" for *them* to solicit for it. They were sent by the State which had granted their property for a valuable consideration, to ask it of those whose right to hold it the State itself had solemnly confirmed. They were sent by the State, which they had faithfully served, and which was bound to protect them, to seek for that protection from States to which they were aliens, whose existence they had fought to prevent, and who, from a principle of self-preservation, were

were naturally led to refuse it. And they were sent by the State, which had deprived them of their fortunes, and made them bankrupts indeed, to bargain and *pay* in ready money for those fortunes which it had appropriated to *its own emolument*. For the stipulated condition of the restitution, supposing it to be made, was, "refunding the *bona fide* price, which the purchaser of the State had paid for it;" and this extraordinary boon was to be humbly solicited for, of their implacable enemies, without the least hope of success, and without any possibility of deriving any advantage from it, had it been obtained.

The advantage which was so repeatedly and sanguinely described, and expected from those recommendations, has, however, been long since fully essayed. A number of Loyalists have gone to the United States to obtain restitution of their property, under the recommendations of Congress; and the effect has been what the Loyalists, and many Members of Parliament, in their debates on the peace, foretold. Instead of restoring them to their property, the American States have not only treated the solicitations for it with insult and contempt, but have imprisoned the persons of