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of a charity-school, for poor boys and girls, to be there carefully instructed in the principles of the Protestant religion, in reading, writing, and arithmetic, and when properly qualified, to be bound out apprentices in the way of trade, with proper fees to Protestant masters."

(*To be continued.*)

*For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.*

ON LOYALTY.

**F**EW virtues, in modern times, are more misunderstood, or have their true spirit and meaning more corrupted and perverted, than the grand virtue of loyalty. Notwithstanding it is denied a place amongst the cardinal virtues, and ranks but amongst those of an inferior class, yet, on account of its eminent importance in civil society, it merits particular attention and regard. Loyalty, in modern times, may be distinguished as false or true. True loyalty, I apprehend, may be defined in few words; "a strong and ardent attachment to the constitution of our country." It is a grand and noble virtue! It is the bond and cement of civil society! No nation, destitute of this virtue, can exist as a nation, or maintain their independence for any length of time. Discord and confusion must arise; party spirit must prevail; and rancour and animosity must produce strife and civil commotion, till the whole nation heaves with the violence of her internal convulsions. In this divided, distracted state, the first bold invader will find them an easy prey; and triumph over them without any opposition.

False loyalty is distinguished by the narrow and contracted views of those who are its advocates. It is in its spirit directly contrary to true and genuine loyalty. It is, in its nature, narrow, confined, and il-

liberal. Its advocates are, in fact, enemies to their country. Their opinions are dangerous, pernicious, and malignant; and their conduct is frequently in perfect consistence with their principles. Sometimes, they assert, that an attachment to the person of the King is loyalty. At other times, they maintain, that an attachment to the King's counsellors, or ministry in office, is loyalty. And frequently they insist, that a dutiful, passive, submission to every law promulgated by government, no matter how unconstitutional, arbitrary, or tyrannical it may be in its nature, is the incontestible evidence of loyalty. These principles are evidently mean, humiliating, and degrading. Those by whom they are entertained, are destitute of a just sense of their rights as men and citizens: ignorant of their duty as subjects, and still more grossly ignorant of their duty, as members of civil society.

These opinions are the remains of those slavish principles of passive obedience, and non-resistance, which were so diligently inculcated in the reign of the Stuarts. But, thanks to God, their pernicious tendency was soon discovered; and the British nation gave a glorious proof of their free and independent spirit, and of the just ideas they entertained of genuine loyalty, by expelling a hated tyrant from their throne, who sought to violate their sacred constitution, and erect on its ruins a wild and lawless system of arbitrary power and despotism.

The two virtues of patriotism and loyalty, notwithstanding they are the mottos which distinguish two opposite parties, are, in their nature, inseparable. Patriotism, the darling virtue of our country, is very near akin to loyalty. Genuine loyalty is a virtue which must exist in every patriotic bosom; and every

loyal breast must glow with the heavenly fire of patriotism. The union of these two virtues will constitute a perfect character. In every society, in every country, a few such characters may always be found to exist. With souls superior to the low, grovelling, prejudices of party, such citizens may be truly said to constitute the bulwark of the state. In the hour of civil commotion, or foreign invasion, they shall be found to be the firm friends of their king, their country, and their constitution. Should internal treachery erect her head, or should foreign invasion threaten their country with desolation or subjugation, these noble citizens will be found amongst the foremost to seize their swords and muskets, and risk their lives in suppressing internal rebellion; or in repelling the haughty invader of their country's peace.

A patriot will always be found ready to stand forward as the champion of his country, in resisting and opposing the attempts of tyrants to introduce arbitrary power and despotism. The cry of his distressed country will always rouse him from the slumbers of indolence, and animate him with the courage and resolution of a hero. Without a murmur, will he cheerfully sacrifice health and fortune, to assist in rescuing his country from slavery and oppression. Animated by the enthusiastic spirit of loyalty, he will voluntarily relinquish the comforts and pleasures of life; encounter the dangers of the field; wander a solitary exile from his native land; and even bow his head on the fatal scaffold, to retain his principles of loyalty, and preserve inviolate the sacred constitution of his country.

MARCELLUS.

*For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.*

DESULTORY HINTS RESPECTING THE  
ACADEMICAL INSTITUTION.

IT seems to have been, from the first, an intention of the friends of this institution, to comprehend within the same walls, two very different modes of education, and adapted to very different periods of life. Under the general title of "Academical Institution," the design was, and I believe still continues, to include *both* common schools for the English, Latin, and Greek languages, and also a collegiate establishment; *both* the initiation of boys, and the instruction of young men; *both* periods of life, from eight to twelve, and from sixteen to twenty; *both* modes of tuition, the lash of the school-master, and the prelections of the professor; in short, to hold out to the public the advantages of a complete course of education, from the grammar-school to the highest parts of liberal literature.

This *double* purpose, founded more on speculation than the experience of any similar institution, seems to have originated principally from a desire of uniting subscribers in carrying on the undertaking, who were of different sentiments with respect to the object of the establishment. There were, therefore, from the beginning, and there still continues to be, two parties, who have, hitherto, joined in one common end, but whose difference will become more apparent, and perhaps of more injurious consequences, when the institution itself is put in a state of activity. One party looks merely to the event of establishing a new set of schools in the town of Belfast, a set of rival grammar schools, possessed of several advantages in point of