

felous that they must ultimately submit to the pleasure of the House.

Lord St. Vincent said, Captain Cochran, who commanded the boats at the landing, was Sir Sidney Smith's senior, and had also eminently distinguished himself. His name must therefore be enrolled in the list of officers thanked, if the motion was extended. The Earl spoke in the warmest terms of the character, bravery and merit of Sir Sidney Smith.

The Duke of Clarence said, certainly Capt. Cochran ought to be thanked, and he accordingly moved the thanks of the House to Capt. Cochran and Sir Sidney Smith.

This gave rise to a long and desultory debate, in which the Secretary of State, Lord Mulgrave, Earl Westmoreland, and Earl St. Vincent assigned their reasons for wishing the Noble Duke to withdraw his motion, while, on the other hand,

The Noble Duke, supported by Lord Rawdon and Lord Clifton, contended strenuously for it, on the ground that Sir Sidney Smith, acted with a military command, was exactly in a similar situation with Col. Stuart, acting on board Lord Nelson's ship, at the head of part of the army, in the late engagement off Copenhagen, who had been thanked.

At length the Duke of Clarence consented to withdraw his motion.

#### WEDNESDAY, MAY 20.

Lord Hobart presented a Message from the King, stating, that he had granted the dignity of a Baroness to Lady Abercrombie, which was to descend to the male heirs of Sir Ralph, with a pension of 2000l. a year, and desiring their Lordships to enable him to secure the latter part of the grant.

#### MESSAGE FROM THE KING.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer presented a Message from his Majesty to the following effect:

"His Majesty having taken into his Royal consideration the signal exertions of the late Sir Ralph Abercrombie, during a long life spent in his service, and terminated by a glorious death, has thought proper to confer upon his relict, Lady Abercrombie, the dignity of a Baroness of Great-Britain, under the style and title of Lady Abercrombie, Baroness of Aboukir; and further, to grant and settle on the said Lady Abercrombie, and the two next succeeding heirs male, who shall bear the title of Baron Abercrombie, and an annuity of 2000l. His Majesty recommends to his faithful Commons to make such provisions as shall enable him to effect the same."

#### ARMY IN EGYPT.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer rose, in pursuance, he said, of the notice he had given on Friday. In referring to the Journals he had found the proceedings of the House upon an occasion strikingly similar to the present, when joy for our victories, and sorrow for our losses filled every bosom. He referred to the taking of Quebec and the death of the gallant Wolfe. The first proceeding which then took place was to pay a tribute of justice, admiration, and gratitude to the memory of the hero who had fallen. It was not till this debt had been paid that any notice had been taken of the glorious exploit we had achieved. Whenever the circumstances were the same, we would do well to imitate the conduct of our wife and generous ancestors; and no two battles could resemble each other more closely than that fought under the walls of Quebec and that fought under the walls of Alexandria. Now too we had gained a splendid victory, and now too we had suffered an irreparable loss in the commander who had gained it.—The merits of Sir Ralph Abercrombie it would be impossible for him adequately to describe, but it was likewise unnecessary. They were known to every admirer of excellence, they were engraved upon the heart of every Englishman susceptible of gratitude. They were placed in as strong a point of view by his successor as words could place them. They were mentioned by him in a manner which shewed that he was fully sensible of his worth, and which gave the strongest assurance that he would imitate his virtues. Of this departed hero, said Mr. Addington, I shall say no more than he closed a long life of honor by a death of glory. Calumny never breathed upon his fame; in all the relations of domestic life he set the brightest example; he possessed every

qualification of a General, and on every occasion he was respected and beloved, both by the officers with whom he was associated, and by the men who obeyed him. The Right Hon. Gentleman then read a letter from an officer in Egypt, in which the character of Sir Ralph Abercrombie is drawn with great ability and eloquence. His Majesty, he added, with his usual promptness, to shew his respect for extraordinary merit, had given orders that the standard which had been taken from the French should adorn his monument. This would remain a lasting memorial of his services. While one fragment of it was to be seen upon the staff, it would remain the beholder of one whose gallantry and skill had never been surpassed; of one who had never drawn his sword to ravage, to plunder, and to desolate, but to oppose rapine and injustice, to restore subordination and order, to promote the real interests, and to raise the true glory of his country. The Right Hon. Gentleman prayed that his spirit might ever animate the British soldier, and that as his actions had raised the glory of the British arms, his example might confirm it.

Of the achievements of our forces in Egypt he would not then expatiate.—On the Journals of the House there was not an instance of thanks being voted when they were better deserved.—In no instance was the coolness, the steadiness, the discipline, the valour of our troops or of any troops more conspicuous. To the clear statement given of these by Gen. Hutchinson he begged leave to refer. He should read, however, a few extracts from a letter written by an officer who was upon the spot. [These spoke of the victory over the conquerors of Italy, and the taking of their invincible standard, in language approaching to hyperbole.] He should be sorry on any occasion to betray exultation; but he hoped it was not blameable when, thinking of such actions, to feel an honest pride. With such a sentiment his mind was certainly expanded. It should be recollected that all these achievements added to our national strength and our national security. He begged it might be understood that he considered them chiefly valuable, as they might enable us to conclude a safe and honorable peace. Peace was the grand object of every warlike exertion, and as this object was promoted, so ought the events of war to be estimated. The country should know that it was the settled wish of the Government and of the Parliament to bring the contest to the speediest conclusion possible, consistent with security. Than this no disaster would have made us accept less; and than this no success, however brilliant, should make us demand more.—To act otherwise were to give proofs of criminal ambition, were to sport with the blood of our countrymen, were to vilify that unconquered and unconquerable spirit which, as it is the best guardian of private reputation, is the chief promoter of the prosperity, honor, and independence of a nation. He felt the sentiments he had expressed equally to the army and the navy, and to every part of either. To specify were invidious and unjust; they were all entitled to applause and to gratitude. He concluded by moving, that a humble Address be presented to his Majesty, praying that he would be graciously pleased to give directions for a monument being erected in the Cathedral Church of St. Paul's, London, to the memory of the ever-lamented Lieutenant-General Sir Ralph Abercrombie, Knight of the most honorable Order of the Bath, who, having by his consummate skill and bravery effected a landing on the coast of Egypt, in the face of a powerful and well prepared enemy, did, on the 21st of March, 1801, resist an obstinate and desperate attack made upon his lines by a chosen and veteran army, when he received a mortal wound, but did not withdraw from the field of battle till the forces under his command had gained a glorious and immortal victory; and to assure his Majesty that this House will make good the expence incurred in erecting the same.

After a few words from other gentlemen the resolution was agreed to *nem. con.*

The thanks of the House were then voted to Generals Hutchinson, Coote, Craddock, Moore, Finch, Ludlow, and Hope, and the other officers serving under Sir Ralph Abercrombie, for their splendid exertions in landing, &c.

The next resolution was, that this

House doth highly approve of and acknowledge the steadiness, regularity, discipline and bravery of the non-commissioned officers and men, &c.—agreed to *nem. con.*

The thanks of the House were afterwards voted to Admiral Lord Keith, Sir Richard Bickerton, and the officers and seamen of the fleet stationed off the coast of Egypt.

#### STOCKHOLM, May 5.

Though hostilities are suspended by the English fleet, yet the measures of precaution for the defence of our ports and coasts are continued without any change, and our navigation to foreign parts is still inconsiderable. The King is not yet returned from the Southern Provinces. Admiral Count Wachtmeister, who has resigned the chief command at Carlscrona, arrived here to-day, to be present at the legal investigation of the causes which retarded the sailing of the fleet from Carlscrona.

#### HAMBURG, May 16.

We have here many private letters from Paris, which state that Buonaparte lives in the greatest apprehensions for his life, and he takes all the precautions of a man who actually fears. He has caused large ditches to be dug round his seat of Malmaison, and a guard is mounted both before and behind, and the greatest formalities are observed, when he arrives. It is generally believed at Paris, that he will cause himself to be proclaimed *Supreme Chief of the State*—that he will suppress all the authorities that appear to be at variance with him—that he will name a First Minister, who will be Joseph Buonaparte, and unite the two Ministers of Police and the Interior into one; and it is apparently on the 14th of July that these changes will take place.

#### HAGUE, May 12.

According to accounts from Paris, Count Cobenzel is very frequently with the Chief Consul at Malmaison, and makes every exertion to mediate, if possible, a Peace between England and France.

#### LONDON.

MAY 15.

Our readers will find, in this day's Paper, some farther extracts from the Paris Gazette, which arrived in the night of Wednesday. The articles from Ratibon seem to indicate a disposition in the King of Prussia to forego that crooked system of Policy, which, unhappily for Europe, he has uniformly pursued since his accession to the throne; and to combine, with the two Imperial Courts, for preventing, as far as possible, the projected dissolution of the Germanic Confederacy, and the dismemberment of the German Empire. But the intelligence is much too vague to constitute the basis of any decisive opinion upon a subject so truly important. We have, moreover, been so often amused, our hopes so often disappointed, and our wishes so often frustrated, by fabricated tales, respecting a change of politics of the Cabinet of Berlin, that we naturally receive, with extreme doubt and distrust, any information which relates to it; and certainly we shall not hazard any speculations on such a prospect, until the mist of obscurity, in which it is at present involved, be entirely dispelled.

The private letter from Amsterdam, which states the great discontents, followed by counter-revolutionary movements, have taken place in Holland, has excited considerable attention in this country; but if the fact were such as it is there represented, and Admiral Winter had actually submitted, with his fleet, to his lawful Prince, it must, we should think, have been known officially by Government long before this.

That the Dutch may feel displeased and dissatisfied, at the proposed incorporation of their country with France, we can easily believe. But they have had too much experience of the ambition and treachery of the First Consul, to have any cause for surprise at such conduct. Every man who attended to the progress of the French Revolution, and to the avowed object of its leaders, must have known long since their absolute determination, either to keep the surrounding Republics in a state of perfect subjection to France, or else to incorporate them all with the Mother Republic. And where the great difference is, between subjection and incorporation, we

are not acute politicians enough to perceive. The subjugation of Europe has long been the object of Republican France, and neither force nor fraud will the spare to accomplish it. The Powers of Europe know the alternative which is left to them, and if they fall, the fault will be their own. They will not have ignorance, at least, to plead, in excuse of their cowardice.

MAY 19.

The Hamburg Mail which became due on Sunday, had not arrived when this paper was put to press.

We yesterday received Paris papers to the 14th inst. inclusive, but their contents are wholly uninteresting.—The First Consul seeks to amuse his subjects, and to console them, in some measure for the defeats which his troops have sustained in Egypt, by the fabricated intelligence of a subsequent victory obtained by Menou over the British, on the 26th of March. But, unfortunately, for his Consular Majesty, General Hutchinson's letters, which were dated on the 5th of April, supply a flat contradiction to this ill-constructed tale. If Menou or the Consul depend upon the aid of the Copts, their reliance is placed upon a broken reed; for we are persuaded, that all the inhabitants of the country would gladly join, if they dared, in promoting the extermination of the French; and that they are now only restrained from acts of open hostility by the operation of fear.

Bonaparte would now become an object of pity, if his crimes were not too enormous to justify compassion for the sufferings which result from them. The conquest of Egypt, with a view to ulterior operations, in India or Turkey, or both, has ever been his favorite project; and, strange as it may appear, still remains so. This excites great discontent at Paris, and is believed by Talleyrand and his party, to be the principal obstacle to a peace. If Egypt, then, be recovered by us, they think that the party in opposition to the Consul will acquire strength and importance, and that he, in consequence, will be forced to conclude a peace. And that this is, in their apprehension, likely to be the case, is evident, from the purchases which their known agents have lately made in the British Funds. We think, however, that they reckon without their host; and that the absolute power enjoyed by Bonaparte will enable him to sacrifice every other consideration to the gratification of his malice, revenge, and hatred against England—hatred which he has contrived, by the propagation of the most infamous falsehoods, in the fabrication of which he had long been an adept, to make a great proportion of the French people partake with him; unless some more fortunate and more popular military adventurer, should with the assistance of the troops, arrest the sceptre from his hands; or Death, who can alone equal him in extent of power and tyranny, should retaliate upon him for the lives of thousands which he has sacrificed on his altar. The latter, indeed, if the concurring testimony of various persons lately returned from Paris, be deserving of credit, is likely to happen at no very distant period; for the Consul is stated to be in a very bad state of health; and some Physicians have even hinted the utmost possible duration of his existence to six months. The anxiety which he must now experience at the defeat of his dearest hopes, by our victories in Egypt, is certainly not likely to act as a restorative; and it must be admitted, that neither the habit of his body nor that of his mind is a subject for envy.

MAY 21.

Yesterday morning, about eight o'clock, a domestic of Lord Minto, at Vienna, arrived at Lord Hawkebury's office. He is the bearer of dispatches from Lord Elgin, and of an overland dispatch from India. He is also said to bring dispatches from Admiral Blandford and General Baird, stating the arrival of the troops from India at Suez.

MAY 22.

Yesterday arrived the mail from Hamburg, which became due on Wednesday.

The Danes still retained possession of that city; but the Prince of Hesse insists no longer upon the payment of the 6,500 marks per diem, which he has until now extorted from the Senate. His troops are about to withdraw to the Danish territories, but will not quit the neighbourhood of Hamburg, until the final settlement of all matters in dispute.