

now proceed to state the principles by which Great-Britain had been guided in negotiating the treaty then before them. The language uniformly held by this country to the Continent had been, that if the people of Europe were willing to fight for their own liberties, England would stand by them and aid their efforts; but if from want of ability or inclination, they shrunk from the contest, that then England was determined to do justice to herself, and would provide by her own strength for her own security. (Hear, hear, hear!) We had conquered every colony belonging to France—Not a flag waved among them that was hostile to this country; but were notwithstanding, disposed to make large and liberal surrenders of our conquests, if we could be satisfied that they would contribute to the permanent tranquillity of Europe.

It was necessary, we contended, that France should be reduced in her territorial limits, and, above all other points, we maintained the necessity of restoring that ancient and faithful power, Holland, and providing such a barrier for her as would secure her against any future encroachments upon her liberty and independence. In proportion, too, as Holland could be made strong and secure, her claim to the restoration to her colonies would be considered by us as advanced with additional force and propriety.

He trusted that Holland, with the proposed union of territory and possessions, would be perfectly able to maintain her independence. Although the arrangements on that subject were not complete in the treaty which had already been signed, they would be concluded, and he had no doubt, satisfactorily to all parties, in the negotiations which were approaching. If in the general arrangement, new combinations of territory took place, that would not be surprising, after a war of such duration and extent, in the course of which, the limits of kingdoms and empires had been in perpetual fluctuation—(Hear, hear, hear.)

With respect to the liberality which had been manifested by this country in her colonial cessions to France, he would only say that there was no principle of the truth of which he and those with whom he had the honor to act, were more fully persuaded than this; that it was expedient fully to open to France the means of peaceful occupation, and that it was not the interest of this country to make her a military and a conquering, instead of commercial and a pacific nation.—It was on another principle that we had withheld from France Tobago, namely, that it had been first ceded by Great Britain, and that in fact every individual at present on the Island, was a subject of Great-Britain. The French government feeling the force of this circumstance, had not dissented from our withholding the Island of Tobago from our other West India cessions.—With respect to the East Indies our propositions had been met by the French government in a spirit of the utmost fairness and accommodation, and with an evident disposition to come to an equitable adjustment. It had been laid down by us a principle, that where the empire was practically on the side of one power, it was better for the happiness of India and for the peace of the two European States that France should entirely abandon the empire of India to us on the one hand, while on the other she would afford to France every facility of commerce in that quarter of the globe. To this the French government acceded. Her commercial stations in India were therefore ceded to her, with the exception of the Mauritius, which had been claimed by the British government, not on account of any commercial advantages resulting from its possession, because in time of war it was a great maritime nuisance, highly detrimental to our commerce. In the two last wars the injury to our commerce by the occupation of the Mauritius on the part

of the enemy, as a cruising station, was incalculable.

While on the subject of withholding some of the French colonies, he would recur to the West-Indies, to observe that we had there retained St. Lucie, not for its commercial advantages, but on the following grounds. France possessed the four best ports in the West-Indies: We had no port at all equal to them. Those ports were Guadaloupe, Martinique, St. Lucie, and the Saints.

It being the opinion of our naval authorities that one of those ports was necessary to our security we had demanded the Saints, as the least valuable in any other respect than as a harbor; being little more than a barren rock. The French government had an impression, however, that the possession of the Saints was essential to the preservation of Guadaloupe. To us it certainly did not appear that Guadaloupe would be at all endangered by our occupying the Saints; but as all that we wanted was a good port, we accepted the offer of the French government to give us St. Lucie, an Island which was more valuable in other respects (although not to a greater degree) than the Saints.

He hoped, therefore, that the house would perceive in the whole course of these arrangements, that his Majesty's government had been actuated only by a wish to secure the possessions of Great-Britain, and that they entertained no desire whatever to cut down the commercial prosperity of France. [Hear, hear, hear.]

With respect to the Newfoundland fishery, he was fully aware of the great importance of that subject; but it appeared to him that it would have been invidious, and that it would only have excited a feeling of jealousy to have tried to exclude France from a share in that fishery which had been secured to her by her two preceding treaties with G. Britain.

As to the question of indemnity, the article in the treaty relating to that subject was extremely interesting in its nature. Although his Majesty's Ministers felt that they could not dictate to an independent government the course which it should pursue in its internal administration, they could not contemplate without great pain the probable establishment of a system of perpetual resentment in France. But they felt also that they should injure the cause of conciliation if they did no more; they never attempted to do more, than to obtain indemnity for those individuals, obnoxious by their proceedings to the existing government of France, who were inhabitants of the ceded colonies. Undoubtedly, however, his Majesty's government recommended most strongly to the French government an abstinence from all ulterior measures of a severe and sanguinary nature, although they had not the right to dictate the practice of such moderation. [Hear, hear.]

A right honorable gentleman (Mr. Canning) put a question to him with respect to the state of Naples. When it was recollected, however, that the British government had contracted no engagement with the person at the head of that state, but that merely a cessation of arms had been agreed upon, it could not be expected that he should explain the course of policy which it was probable would be eventually pursued with respect to it.—[Hear, hear!]

Upon the whole, he flattered himself that the deepest impression had been made upon the Continent of the disinterestedness of England.—[Hear, hear, hear.] He flattered himself that it had incontrovertibly manifested that the whole policy of England throughout the war, had been founded on the great and broad principle of contending for the common security. [Hear, hear.] He flattered himself that all the imputations that we had engaged in the war or continued it; for purposes of selfish ambition, had been removed—that the conduct of Great Britain had been vindicated—that it had been proved she had been driven into the war by nothing short of an over-ruling

necessity; and that he was ready to sacrifice every thing of which for her own security, she had been reluctantly compelled to take possession, as soon as it was manifested that she could make that sacrifice without danger. [Hear, hear!] It concluded the Noble Lord "the country has for twenty years sustained the most severe burdens, and sustained them with a noble fortitude, it is at least gratifying to her to find that she has come out of the tremendous contest in which she has been engaged with the accomplishment of that security for which she contended; and with a reputation unstained by reproach. [Hear, hear!]" She bravely stood by the powers of Europe in circumstances of unprecedented peril; feeling that it was her duty to enter the list in defence of all those moral and political principles which were endangered—abstaining from too cautious and minute a calculation of the chances of the conflict and leaving the result to providence.—[Hear, hear!]

We have at length, sir, closed the war—as conquerors certainly—but enjoying the benedictions not only of those with whom we fought; but ultimately those against whom we fought.—[Hear, hear.] There is no feeling more powerful in Paris at this moment than veneration for the English character. (Hear, hear.)

Sir, I trust that the course which we have pursued, through the whole of this eventual crisis will prove permanently beneficial to the world. I trust that the emergency which placed the French Family and so large a portion of French subjects in England, will of its consequences soften the asperity which has too long subsisted between the countries, and which has been the pregnant source of rivalry and war. [Hear, hear, hear!] I trust that feelings of mutual kindness have been implanted in the breasts even of the lower orders of people in the two nations and that they may long retain the relations of peace & friendship. If no other blessing had been derived from all that has happened it would be no unsatisfactory one to feel that the spell is dissolved by which Great-Britain and France were supposed to be necessary enemies. (Hear, hear, hear!) It is the interest of both countries to foster the amicable dispositions which have arisen. For the inclination of the British Government to do so, I can safely be responsible. Nor can I hesitate for a moment to believe that such will be the desire manifested by the government of France.

Sir, we received the family of the Bourbons in this country in the manner in which I hope we shall always receive the unfortunate and the virtuous, I believe that that family entertains towards us in return the utmost cordiality of sentiment. We acted fairly and candidly by them.—We told them that although we wished them success, we could not prematurely mix their cause with ours. When the French people returned to their allegiance to that family, we were among the first to recognize their title, and to congratulate them on their restoration to the throne of their ancestors.

Sir, I am sure that the house must feel that the situation in which this country is placed by those glorious events does us immortal honor.

We have no small reason to be grateful to the illustrious person at the head of the government, for having taken charge of the vessel of the state at a moment of utmost peril and alarm. By the earnestness with which that illustrious person has discharged his public duty—by the vigour with which he supported the cause of our allies—by the unrelaxing system of policy which he maintained in all our various relations, he had the supreme satisfaction of restoring peace not only to this country but to Europe. His Royal Highness has another most valuable and most lasting gratification—that [although that venerable individual is unfortunately incapable of participating in the joy of the times] he has thus fulfilled the wish which was nearest and dearest to the heart of

his sovereign father while his Majesty sat on the throne;—(loud and continued cheering from all parts of the house.)

GERMANY.

VIENNA, July 15.—The Archduchess Maria-Louisa has renounced the million francs per annum, secured to her by the convention of the 11th of April. Bonaparte, who always treated this Princess with the highest respect, does not cease, in his present retirement, to give her, from time to time, marks of his attention, and to write to her. In his last letter, which arrived a few days ago, he says, that the house which he now inhabits is small compared to his former one, but if she would visit him in Elba he would have a larger one ready.

BONAPARTE.

Napoleon's manner of living since he took possession of his little empire, is thus described in a communication lately received from a gentleman, who was of a party (three in number) that sailed from Leghorn the latter end of July, on an excursion to the Island of Elba.—"After landing at Porto Ferrajo, we were desired to give in writing our names, to explain the nature of our business at Elba, to what nation we belonged, and from whence we last came. These requisitions being complied with, we were very hospitably received, and commodiously lodged in the town. It fortunately occurred, that on walking into the country the next morning, we were overtaken by the emperor and two of his attendants, who were on horseback. He stooped, saluted us with great affability and politeness, and then proceeded on his tour. During the ten days we remained on the Island, we had frequent opportunities of seeing and conversing with this extraordinary character, whose hatred to the English we understood, was implacable. The inhabitants informed us that Napoleon generally rises at an early hour, and frequently visits the extremities of his dominions before dinner. In his perambulatory excursions, he marks with great care such spots of ground as appear capable of agricultural improvement; and where he conceives fortifications will be necessary to protect the coast against the Barbary corsairs, whose sudden attacks, and dreadful excesses, the inhabitants have frequently experienced. If the weather proves unfavourable, he retires to his study, and will seldom speak to any one until dinner is announced. In the course of the afternoon he enjoys the conversation of those friends who have followed him into exile, and seems to feel a particular satisfaction in examining and contrasting the different forms of government that prevailed in former ages, and those which now regulate the European nations. During a conversation which he held with us a few days before our departure, he declared that he thought the English nation had reached the summit of human greatness, and might be fairly considered, at this day, the most enlightened and powerful nation of the earth, although the population of Great Britain, including Ireland, did not, as he understood, reach quite to 17 millions. He seemed to take great pleasure in speaking of the Duke of Wellington, whose capacity, military acquirements, firmness in the field, he thought was never exceeded by any commander of the present age, nor those who flourished in the proudest era of the Grecian or Roman history." Our Correspondent likewise states that Bonaparte, before strangers, never speaks a single word about the affairs of France, nor even mentions the Bourbons.

The Prince Regent has, in the name of his Majesty, consented to the marriage between H. R. H. the Duke of Cumberland, and the Princess Dowager of Salm.

The Princess of Wales having come of age, is allowed 35,000*l.* per annum, and taken under the protection of the Parliament of England.