

bies of sea and land forces are assembling with the intention, no doubt, of alarming us; and of providing for some time longer, employments for the troops that have been drawn from Germany since the peace. We do not believe that Buonaparte has it seriously in contemplation to make even an attempt of such a nature; our government however, is only vigilant and active, and, if our countrymen be but true to themselves this sea girt isle, guarded by her wooden walls, may defy the machinations of the great Republic of France.

The Exeter paper of Wednesday says, We have the happiness to announce that, in consequence of the recent importation of foreign grain and the immense additional quantity of wheat shortly expected from Russia and other Northern ports, that article fell in price last Saturday at Southmilton, from 7 to 8s. per bushel: at that time upwards of 100 bags found their way to market, and only about 8 bags of it were sold. The farmers, in consequence made application to the Lord Mayor desiring to be informed what they were to do with their stock on hand? to which the Magistrate very justly and judiciously replied: that as the importation of grain from abroad originated from their own misrepresentation of a scarcity at home, they have to thank themselves for the consequence of such a deception.

May 19.

The Park and Tower guns were yesterday evening fired, in consequence of the dispatches received from Egypt.

The attack in Egypt on the 21st of March, is said to have been commenced by the *Invincible Legion*, a regiment of 1300 picked grenadiers, to whom the Directory presented a Standard called, "The Invincible Standard," who made the attack in a state of intoxication; the flints having been taken out of their guns that they might rely only on the bayonet. It commenced upon the 42d regiment of Highland foot, who, from their dress, were mistaken for Turks. They penetrated the lines, and being nobly opposed, fought equal to any but British troops, and refusing to surrender, were every man killed and buried within the English lines— not one survived to tell the dreadful tale!

Yesterday, in the House of Commons, Mr. Addington, after a very eloquent eulogium on the bravery and discipline of the army of Egypt, moved an address to his Majesty, praying that he would be pleased to give directions for the erection of a Monument in St. Paul's, to the memory of the ever-lamented Lieutenant General Sir Ralph Abercromby, 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 until 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.

—Agreed nem. con.

Thanks were also voted Admiral Lord Keith, Sir Richard Bickerton, and the Officers and Seamen of the fleet off the coast of Egypt.

The ball which struck Sir Ralph, entered his thigh and rose upwards, so that it was impossible to extract it.

The remains of Sir Ralph Abercromby were brought home in the *Flora* frigate, which, it is expected, will be deposited under the Monument to be erected to his memory.

Buonaparte's *L'invincible Standard* was yesterday brought to the office of the Secretary of State for India affairs.

Lord Hobart, in the House of Lords, presented a Message from the King, stating that he had granted the dignity of a Baroness to Lady Abercromby, 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.

On the 14th inst. Lord Hawkesbury bro't

into the House of Commons, a Message from his Majesty, recommending to the consideration of the house, to grant him the means of affording such support, by way of subsidy, to her Majesty the Queen of Portugal, as may best enable her Majesty to take such measures for the defence of her Kingdom as the exigencies of affairs may require. He then gave notice, that he should, on a future day, propose to grant to his Majesty a sum not exceeding 300,000l. for this purpose.

May 21.

The guards who have been drafted for Egypt, marched this morning for Portsmouth where they are to embark with the 24th and 26th regiments; and sail immediately under convoy of the *Luna* and *Active* frigates. The two battalions of the 20th regiment, stationed at Minorca 6 regiments of cavalry including the York Hussars, and a corps of artillery, are also under orders for the same destination.

The transports will be conveyed by three ships of the line, with frigates, under the command of Rear Admiral Pole, and as many troops will be put on board the men of war as they can conveniently take. A large quantity of military stores, &c. is also preparing for Egypt.

A draft of three hundred men and 6 officers from the second and third regiments of guards are ordered to proceed from London on Thursday morning for Portsmouth, to embark for Egypt.

The Citizen Francois, of the 13th inst. has inserted a letter, dated Havre, the 6th which states, that 4 letters from Toulon announce that the Squadron commanded by Admiral Gantheaume sailed on the 9th Floreal, (April 25) with 4000 troops, for Egypt.

We understand that Ministers, when they first heard of Sir Ralph Abercromby's death, appointed General Floyd to succeed him, fearing that General Hutchinson was too young to be entrusted with the command; but they are now so much satisfied with his conduct and the ability displayed in his dispatches, that they have recalled General Floyd, and confirmed General Hutchinson. The latter is known to be a very good officer and he is as much beloved by the army.

Just before his death Sir Ralph Abercromby received a dispatch from India, renouncing as it is reported, the impossibility of sending an army from Bombay. This news is said to have been forwarded to England in the *Flora*.

CONSTANTINOPLE, April 12.

In the attack which Gen. Menou made on the English, 21st of March, after a Council of War was held at Alexandria, the greater part of the corps which he brought up from Cairo, consisted of Copts, Greeks and African recruits.

Another and decisive battle is expected in Egypt, when General Regnier shall come up, who is on his march with a fresh corps of 12,000 French and African troops. Murad Bey likewise has promised the French assistance.

HAMBURG, May 4.

The navigation of the Elbe has been free since the 1st inst. The buoys are also replaced.

On the night of the 3d, two couriers passed through this place, one from London to Berlin and the other from Petersburg to Copenhagen.

Some of the German papers, declare that the Emperor of Russia, has written with his own hand, a very friendly letter to Louis XVIII. and the pension of 200,000 rubles is continued to him, which he is now enjoying at Mittau.

PETERSBURGH, April 20.

On the 13th inst. the Senate was honoured with the presence of his Imperial majesty. Several Ukases have been published: First confirming the rights of the nobility. Second, Re-establishing the regulations of

Catherine the Great, for the encouragement of commerce and industry, and confirming the city Charter. Third, An act indemnity. Fourth, Abolishing the Chancery of Inquisition. Fifth, Repealing the prohibition of exportation of commodities, and providing indemnifications for those who had suffered by it.

From the N. Carolina Journal.

To the Citizens of the State of North-Carolina.

THE expediency of making some improvement in our form of government established by the Convention of December, 1776, has been supported by the opinion of the most enlightened men in the state for several years past, and the public sentiment has of late loudly called for the measure. As the adoption of the constitution of the United States made a new distribution of the sovereign power, and placed us in a situation which had been tested by no experience recorded in the history of nations, it was certainly good policy to take sufficient time to observe its effect, to wait patiently the development of its principles, and to make a fair trial of their joint operation. This object has been completely obtained by an experiment of near thirteen years. Many men, highly respectable for their patriotism, prudence and understanding, deemed the present an inauspicious moment to attempt the amendment of a constitution, owing to the prevalence of those wild and dangerous opinions to which the French revolution had given a considerable degree of vogue and celebrity in the southern states. This danger however no longer exists— these fantastic and sanguinary theories have been exploded, on a full experiment, in the country which gave them birth. Their novelty early extracted general attention— their progress was anxiously marked by surrounding nations, and their results have excited only the sentiments of horror and disgust. Others, cautious of innovation, and deeply impressed with the high importance of the measure, have wished it postponed, under the expectation that the mass of our political information would in a few years be considerably increased affording a rational hope that the Convention might be procured of men still more capable of judging correctly of the faults of our constitution, and ameliorating its provisions; alledging at the same time, that the progressive wisdom of the General Assembly would counter balance sufficiently its defects, and compensate the community for the immense annual expence incurred in its support. I will not permit myself to believe that there is not *good sense* enough in the state to make the necessary improvements; and however flattering our prospects may be of increasing our stock of information, it is certainly not necessary to defer a measure now almost indispensable, for the uncertain arrival of this political dispensation.—As for the expectation of finding some equivalent in the progressive wisdom of our Legislature, I beg leave to refer the citizen who reposes on this visionary hope, to the acts and journals of our Assembly for five years past, and while remarks the frivolous objects upon which they have employed their attention and wasted the public time and treasure, and the entire want of system and policy in their acts and proceedings, & while he feels himself compelled to graduate the decline, instead of the progression of the Legislative body in political wisdom, he must not attribute these mortifying results to the general state of moral or political science in North-Carolina, but to the true cause— certain radical errors in the form of our government, whose defective construction has given this unavoidable direction to its administration.

The principal objections to our present constitution may be comprehended under the following heads:

1st. The number of members in the General Assembly being not only useless but in some measure incompatible with the dispatch of public business, and bearing no necessary relation to our population, or the few and simple interests now represented in a state legislature, and incurring an immense and