

he did, it appeared that the Adjutant-General here, a very remarkable good officer, had, without letting us know of it, proposed Colonel Napier as a most useful officer to government; and, when the different people each found their protégé to be one and the same person, you will allow it was a flattering way thus *se trouver sur les rangs sans le savoir*. The moment the French fleet was seen, of course he sent in his name to ask for service, and was ordered to head-quarters, where he was trusted, consulted, and employed. His nature is such, that the idea of service animates him, and wholly absorbs his thoughts, in order to leave nothing undone or unthought of that may be necessary. When one sees a person very dear to one appearing in their element,—all activity in a good and useful cause,—don't you, dear brother, comprehend the spirit it gives one? I declare I forgot it was *war*; I only thought it was duty, and not a cloud came across me, to check his ardour in the occupation he was engaged in of calculating the things absolutely wanted to take the field and defend posts. In the midst of all this, what was our astonishment to find Lord Carhampton fly out into the most petulant, peevish attack on Colonel Napier, for saying, in the course of conversation, that 'the war was calamitous and ruinous.' Every soul was in amazement at the strangeness of the attack, and glad to hear Colonel Napier show the proper spirit of a man conscious of his own integrity, loyalty, and honour. Indeed, to do Lord Carhampton justice, he seemed sorry he had given way to this *moment d'humeur*, for at first we thought it nothing else; and, thinking so, Colonel Napier told him fairly, that, as his want of confidence put an end to all pleasure in serving under him, he should undoubtedly resign his place, at