

prepared for any sudden emergency ; and I recommended a more careful and detailed inspection immediately previous to their sailing, which would guard against this evil.

I suggested some improvements in our code of Naval discipline (which were very soon afterwards introduced), and I took a short review of the Naval preparations and improved systems of foreign Powers as contrasted with our own. If those who may honour these pages with a perusal will turn, in the first instance, to those Remarks, they will then be enabled to accompany me more readily in the historical glance which I now propose to take over subsequent events.

A new Administration came into power in 1830. Sir J. Graham was appointed First Lord of the Admiralty, having Sir T. Hardy, as Senior Naval Lord, under him ; and a series of measures were soon afterwards undertaken for remedying many of the evils, of which they were fully aware.

The construction of small frigates and ten-gun brigs was entirely stopped. The School for Naval Artillery was established at Portsmouth, on board the *Excellent*, on the exact plan proposed and sketched by Sir Howard Douglas. A squadron of exercise was fitted out, and towards the latter end of 1831 we commenced that progress of improvement in our Naval architecture, which bids fair to place us as far in advance as we formerly were in arrear of our maritime rivals.