

THE BRITISH-AMERICAN REGISTER

QUEBEC, SATURDAY, 12th MARCH, 1802.

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House of Commons, 9th Dec. 1802.

THE Right Hon. T. Grenville was opposed to the grant of 50,000 Seamen, particularly on the ground, that the exact situation of the Kingdom had not been laid before the House nor those reasons for the measure given, with which it had been usual to acquaint Parliament on all former occasions. In the course of his Speech, he intimated his want of confidence in the present administration, and declared his object to be the restoration of Mr. Pitt to his former high station. The sentiments of Mr. Grenville, on this subject, are contained in the following paragraph :

“ Mr. Sheridan boasted that he had discovered the secret of those with whom he, (Mr. Grenville) acted, which was to turn out the Minister. The discovery, however, came rather late, as all their Speeches shewed them to have had that object at heart. It was also said, that they wished to bring back Mr. Pitt. He hoped he should not be thought speaking with too great partiality, for that Statesman, when he said, that were the Country canvassed through, 99 persons out of a 100, would confess, that to his talents, his integrity, and his commanding genius, was due the Salvation of the country. The same 99 out of 100, would also hail his return to power as the best security they could have, and the greatest alleviation of their fears. He was sorry that insinuations had been made, that he and his friends were desirous of coming in with Mr. Pitt. He never heard the charge openly made,

but if it were possible that any could be base enough to make such an assertion as that their conduct was influenced by sordid views of emolument, he was sure the foul charge would be confined to the base lips that could give it utterance. If Mr. Pitt should be restored to power, as he sincerely hoped he would soon be, it would then be seen, whether they would stand in the way of any proposed arrangement, or bargain for themselves, or oppose any embarrassment to Government. After entering pretty largely into the defence and praise of many parts of the late Minister's conduct, he said, as for his own, it was before the Public, and he had not the least fear of abiding their judgement.”

Lord Hawkesbury supported the resolution. He stated, that the right hon. gentlemen had commenced his speech with the same attack that had frequently been made upon the King's ministers, and which had been answered as often as it had been advanced, viz : That they had not brought the situation of the country fully before the house ; and that parliament were called upon without sufficient ground to vote the Naval and Military establishments of the year. He contended, on the other hand, that every part of the conduct of government, had fully explained the system, which the administration had adopted, as far as had been usual with regard to foreign affairs.

Lord H. concluded with the following reply to the observations of Mr. Grenville, on the change of ministers :