

for we all knew, that every thing that was dear to us was at stake. Why should we do so? Because we were Englishmen—because we were Scotchmen, and because we were Irishmen. He therefore, upon that principle, concurred in the present Vote—and would have concurred in a larger one, if proposed. But then he would ask, if Parliament was not to look to the conduct which had brought us into that situation—and unless the Ministers could make it appear, that they could not have acted more wisely, by reasons which at present, he was unacquainted with, he thought that confidence ought no longer to be continued in them, for there was much *prima facie* evidence against them.—He therefore did hope that the proceedings of this day would produce some explanation.—He concluded with observing, that some discussion should take place before we voted any thing that had the appearance of continuing confidence in Ministers. These were his opinions, and he had not taken them up hastily, nor was he in the least degree hostile to administration; all he wanted was an Inquiry by which information might be laid before the House, for he apprehended we might soon be in a state in which we must fight for our existence.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said, he should follow the course adopted by the Hon. Gentleman who spoke last, or which he had at least expressed a wish to adopt, that of abstaining from the use of (what indeed he did not feel) any thing like personal hostility on the present occasion; but the House would consider whether that H. Gentleman had conducted himself consistently with the principle he had laid down for the discussion of the subject, and the wishes he had expressed concerning it. He had alluded to what passed in the House on a former night: he had expressed a wish that the address in answer

to his Majesty's Message, had passed without any comment at all, and had been given by acclamation; whether the observations of the Hon. Gentleman to-night accorded with that wish was for him and the House to consider. He had, however, expressed another wish, in which every subject of this country he hoped would concur with him, that nothing should be said, and he was happy that nothing was said, to affect the unanimity of the House in its act upon that occasion, or to qualify that unanimity which appeared in it; most certainly that unanimity was desirable and it was not interrupted; but he would ask the Hon. Gentleman, and submit to the House, whether the same prudent restraint on the language of others on that occasion, and which operated so effectually, might not consistently with the same principle, have been suffered to operate this night? The Hon. Gentleman had said, that we were in a deplorable situation, that Government was so inefficient, that the whole ability of the Country was excluded out of it. He could assure that Hon. Gentleman, and he could assure the House there was no one individual existing who felt the disproportion of his means to the ardour of his wishes, and the calls made upon him to discharge his duty at a great and momentous crisis, more truly than he did; but on what principle it was the Hon. Gentleman could state to the House, that the Government from which all the ability of this country was excluded, possessed his confidence so long, as the Honourable Gentleman said it had, he should leave to the Honourable Gentleman to explain. Knowing, as now he seemed to assure the House he did, that the whole ability of the country was excluded from the Government it seemed hardly consistent with his duty to have reposed in that Government the confidence he declared he did. The Hon. Gentleman, had