

drafted out of Lord Keith's fleet to supply the lack of artillery men in the army of Sir Ralph Abercromby ; had a share in the dangers and glory of the landing in Egypt ; and fought in the battle of the 13th March, and in that which deprived our country of one of her most popular generals. He served, too, at the siege of Alexandria. And then, as he succeeded in procuring his discharge during the short peace of 1802, he returned home with a small sum of hardly-earned prize money, heartily sick of war and bloodshed. I was asked, not long ago, by one of his few surviving comrades, whether my uncle had ever told me that *their* gun was the first landed in Egypt, and the first dragged up the sand-bank immediately over the beach, and how hot it grew under their hands, as, with a rapidity unsurpassed, along the line they poured out in thick succession its iron discharges upon the enemy. I had to reply in the negative. All my uncle's narratives were narratives of what he had seen—not of what he had done ; and, when perusing, late in life, one of his favorite works—"Dr. Keith's Signs of the Times"—he came to the chapter in which that excellent writer describes the time of hot naval warfare which immediately followed the breaking out of war, as the period in which the second vial was poured out on the sea, and in which the waters "became as the blood of a dead man, so that every living soul died in the sea," I saw him bend his head in reverence as he remarked, "Prophecy, I find, gives to all our glories but a single verse, and it is a verse of judgment." Uncle Sandy, however, did not urge the peace principles which he had acquired amid scenes of death and carnage, into any extravagant consequences ; and on the breaking out, in 1803, of the second war of the Revolution, when Napoleon threatened invasion from Brest to Boulogne, he at once shouldered his musket as a volunteer. He had not his brother's fluency of speech ; but his narratives of what he had seen were singularly truthful and graphic ; and his descriptions of foreign plants and animals, and of the aspect of the distant regions which he had visited, had all the careful minuteness of those of a Dampier. He had a decided turn for natural history.