

ALARMING DISTURBANCES IN NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

The riots at Nottingham were of a more serious and alarming nature, than from the first accounts we were led to believe. Their origin is thus stated. For some time past, the wholesale hosiers in the metropolis, and in other large towns, who have stocking weaving establishments at Nottingham, have been obliged to curtail their hands, by which the journeymen were reduced almost to a state of starvation; they murmured; but were pacified by representation that importations of silk would be allowed to give them employment.—Their riotous spirit was, however, roused a second time, by the trade having brought into use a certain wide frame for the manufacture of stockings and garters, by which was produced a considerable saving in manual labour, tending still further to the decrease of the hands employed. On Sunday the 10th inst. this being generally known, a number of weavers assembled at different places in the vicinity of Nottingham, and commenced their career of outrage and riot, by forcibly entering the houses of such persons as had in use those frames, so obnoxious to them.—At Bullwell, a master weaver, named Hollingworth, having been threatened by the rioters, armed all his men, and barricaded his house. On Monday evening, they made their appearance, and demanded admittance or a surrender of the frames, which being refused, an attack commenced; several shots were fired; and one of the rioters, J. Westley, a native of Leicester, was shot dead, while in the act of tearing down the window shutters; the rest of the mob retired with the slain body; but soon returned with increased numbers and redoubled violence. They immediately broke open the door, and would have put the whole family to death, had they not made their escape out of the back door. They then proceeded to gut the house, and burnt every thing it contained. On Tuesday morning, the outrages of the mob were continued. They attacked a carrier, who was bringing fire-wood frames from Sutton, belonging to Malby and Brewett, that had been in use a length of time at Basford. The iron work they broke to pieces, and with the wood work they made a fire in the open street.—In the afternoon, the rioters proceeded towards Sutton, and in the course of that evening they broke and destroyed the frames there of the principal weavers.—On Wednesday morning, they again repaired to Sutton, where they destroyed in all 53 frames and a corn-mill; for now, having gained strength, and meeting with no effectual opposition for want of military aid, the mob grew more emboldened, and swore vengeance against wide frames, millers, corn dealers, and all others concerned in raising the price of bread.—On Thursday similar proceedings were continued, and all remonstrances from the Magistrates having failed to restrain the rioters within bounds, it was considered high time to think of decisive measures; many of the most active of the peace-brakers were already in custody, but this seemed to have no weight with those at large. The military were called out, but when in full muster they did not exceed 30 men, who were dismounted dragoons, and they being unequal to any thing, the Sheriff the same day issued orders for calling out the *posse comitatus*, and the 1st and 2d regiments of local militia; and a further aid was required of Government by a special messenger sent to town for that purpose, who reached the Office of the Home Department about one o'clock on Friday morning.—On Thursday and Friday while the military were assembling, the mob continued their depredations in distant quarters—at Kemberly, Mansfield and Ollerton, much damage was done.—On Saturday two troops of Volunteer Cavalry, with a detachment of the Queen's Bays, scoured the country, and with the aid of the local militia, restored tranquillity. On Tuesday an inquest was held on the body of J. Westley, when a verdict was returned—Died of the wound, given by E. Hollingworth (or others his assistants) in defence of himself, his mily, house and property. The deceased, who had lived at Bullwell 12 years, was buried on Thursday, under a military guard.—We are sorry to learn, by accounts from Nottingham, received on Friday, that the outrages of the weavers still continued, notwithstanding the vigilance of the military. On the 18th, they suddenly appeared at Old Retford and New Retford, where they broke some frames, and instantly retired. On the 19th, they set fire to two hay-stacks at Huckhall, about seven miles from Nottingham: and about the same period the rioters burnt down a barn and cow-house near Suenton.

The Duke of York held a public Levée on Tuesday, at the Horse-Guards, and gave audience to a number of Military officers—among those present were the Duke del Infantado, the Spanish Ambassador, and two Aid-de Camps of Gen. Ballasteros; Lieut.-Gen. Drummond on his return from Canada; Major-Gen. Kemp, on his promotion; Farko Westmoreland, Lords Brownlow and Bruce, Gen. Pennington, Major-Generals A. Campbell, M'Leod, and Heslop.

Six hundred of the 4th batt. Scots Royals are ordered to embark for foreign service—200 to join the 1st batt. in the West Indies, 200 to the 2d batt. in the East Indies, and 200 to the 3d batt. in Portugal.

Three hundred of the 13th foot (Gen. Campbell's.) and of the 25th or Edinburgh reg. are now embarking at Portsmouth, for the West Indies.

A letter from an officer of rank on duty near Almeida, mentions that active exertions were making to restore the works of that fortress.

Prince D'Artemberg, taken in the late action by Gen. Hill, is brother-in-law to the Prince Stahremberg, late Ambassador from the Emperor of Austria to this country, who married his sister. He had a Dukedom from inheritance in the Austrian Netherlands, and is a Prince of the late German Empire.—Gen. Hill is of a Shropshire family, nephew of Sir Richard Hill, and of the Rev. Rowland Hill.

The Governor of Ciudad Rodrigo (General Reidand), and 11 of his escort, taken with him by Don J. Sanchez, have arrived at Portsmouth.

Lieut.-Gen. Leith is going out to join the Army in Sicily.

Circular letters have been issued from the Horse-Guards, to the Officers commanding regiments, &c. stating, that it is in the contemplation of Government to establish regimental schools, for the care and instruction of the children of non-commissioned officers and soldiers, on the plan of Dr. Bell, which has been adopted at the Royal Military Asylum; and desiring that proper persons to superintend such schools should be selected without delay. The superintendent of the school is to be placed on the strength of the regiment, as a serjeant, in addition to the present establishment.

The whole of the Baltic fleet, under the command of Sir J. Saumarez, is on its way home, and may be hourly expected. The Hero and several others, have already arrived in the Downs.

The numerous fleets for Portugal, Spain, Sicily, the West Indies, and Africa, which have been so long detained in different ports, proceeded on Tuesday on their respective voyages with a N. E. wind.

The Royal George of 100 guns, Admiral Hallowell, accompanied by the Swiftsure, 74, Berwick, 74, and Conquistadore, 74, sailed on Sunday from Portsmouth, to join the blockading squadron off Brest, as did the Medusa and Favourite frigates for the blockade of Cherburgh; and the Diadem, Leopard, St. Fiorenza, Mermaid, Latona, and Brone.

The Bacchante frigate was launched at Deptford, yesterday evening.

Admiral Stirling will proceed shortly to Jamaica in the Arethusa frigate, to relieve Admiral Rowley in the Naval command on that station.

Admiral Sir Thomas Williams is appointed Commander in Chief at Sheerness, in the room of Admiral Sir R. H. Sturhope, and will shortly hoist his flag in the Namur, Capt. Austen.

Advices from off the Scheldt state, that the first division of the enemy's fleet had gone up that river to Antwerp, and that the rest were daily expected to follow. In the mean time, however, our squadron of observation in the Downs is in a state of perfect preparation and constant vigilance, ready to start upon the first intimation of any movement on the part of the enemy, indicating a disposition to put to sea. Not an officer belonging to it is allowed to set his foot on shore, unless on duty.

A Court-martial has been held on Capt. Baker, and the officers and crew of the Tartar frigate, lost in the Baltic by striking on a shoal: after a minute investigation the Court adjudged them to be acquitted.

Four hundred and forty-seven of the first battalion of the 95th corps of Riflemen, in Hythe barracks, are ordered to be in readiness for Portugal.

The Scout, which arrived last week with dispatches from Sicily, left Sir Edward Pellew, off Toulon, on the 14th ult. blockading that port with eleven sail of the line, two frigates, and the Philomel sloop. The enemy have 16 sail of the line there, ready for sea. Sir Edward had practised every expedient to induce the enemy to extend their cruising beyond the protection of their batteries. Our fleet had not suffered so severely from the gales of wind as was lately reported at Minorca. Sir Edward Pellew has forsaken the anchorage in Hieres Bay, judging it more safe for the ships to continue constantly at sea.

Our Government has been under the necessity of ordering the French Aspirants and Midshipmen on parole in this country into close confinement, in consequence of the French Government having sent the English Midshipmen on parole in France to prison, and their not releasing them on being remonstrated with.

Lieutenant Truscott, First of the Dryad, has invented a machine for bringing up the water from the hold to the gangway, without marring the casks, and which may be worked by one boy. It has been tried eighteen weeks on board the Dryad, and found to answer so well, that the Admiralty have ordered the Malta, of 80 guns, now rigging at Plymouth, to be fitted in a similar manner, and it is supposed the apparatus will be generally adopted throughout the navy.

An experiment was lately made on board the Victory, Sir J. Saumarez's flag-ship, of discharging guns with the use of fire; it was produced by a slight pressure of the finger on a prepared tube put into the vent of the gun, the effect was instantaneous and certain, and completely prevented the accidents that so frequently happen in action from the loose powder that is spilt on the deck. It is the invention of Capt. Manby, of Yarmouth.

The new invented vessel, named the Constellation, intended to sail against wind and tide, has arrived above Blackfriars Bridge from Bristol. The vessel is about fifty feet in length, with only one mast, made of iron, and an upright windlass fixed to it; there are twelve horizontal sails, similar to the shape of window shutters, which are extended or shortened in an instant; on any occasion the mast, with all its appendages, is also as quickly struck. She has neither blocks nor any running rigging, except a fore and aft stay and cable, her guns, which are of curious mechanism, will keep their own elevation.

Sunday six prisoners were brought into Portsmouth harbour, who were taken off Cherburgh by the Violet tugger. They were six Officers that had escaped from Woreton Campstead. They had been 14 days hid in bushes, before they took to the boat, and were only six miles from the French coast when taken. They are put on board the Veteran.

Twelve persons found in the enemy's service when the Isle of Brance surrendered, have been committed to Newgate, from on board the tender, to take their trials at the ensuing Admiralty Session.