

LONDON, JUNE 19.

Opening of Waterloo Bridge.

About a quarter past two o'clock yesterday, the Duke of Wellington passed through St. James's Park in his carriage, attended by his Aid-de-Camp, unobserved by the multitude, till he got near the Parade, when he was recognised by a few, who ran after the carriage, but the rate the carriage was travelling prevented it from being known generally who was in it.

The Prince Regent left Carlton House attended by Admiral Sir E. Nagle, and Lord Forbes, the Naval and Military Aids-de-Camp in waiting, at twenty-five minutes past two o'clock, and proceeded through the gate into the Park. The Royal Carriage was immediately recognised by the throng of persons assembled on the occasion, who received His Royal Highness with every mark of respect. Both the windows of the Royal Carriage were open, and the public had a full view of the Prince Regent. His Royal Highness and Lord Forbes were dressed in regimentals; Sir E. Nagle in an Admiral's uniform. The Regent's carriage proceeded without any guard till it reached the parade, where six Life Guardsmen attached themselves to it, and conducted it to Fife House.

The guard at the Tilt-yard was drawn out to receive his Royal Highness with military honors, as was that at the Horse Guards; their colours were decorated with laurel, as emblems of victory in commemoration of the day.

A party of the Life Guards, under the command of General Barton, were stationed opposite the Horse Guards to prevent any carriage entering Whitehall, except those invited to Fife House. The Earl of Liverpool, accompanied by his Countess, received the Prince Regent at the door of Fife House, and conducted him in. They also received the Duke and Duchess of York, the Duke of Cumberland and Gloucester, with their suites, in a similar respectful manner. The Duke of York was attended by his full Staff, Sir H. Calvert, Sir W. Gordon, Sir H. Torrens, &c. There were also present most of the Foreign Ambassadors, the Cabinet Ministers, the Lord Chamberlain, the Lord Steward, Officers of State, &c. &c.

On the return of the Royal Party to Fife House, they partook of a sumptuous early dinner. They retired a little before seven o'clock. On the Regent's return, his carriage was followed by an immense concourse of people, it going at a slow pace, who testified their attachment by loud acclamations at the entrance to Carlton House from the Park.

His Royal Highness after undressing from his regimentals, left town in his travelling carriage attended by Sir Benjamin Bloomfield, for Windsor, to be present at the grand ball and supper to be given by the Officers of the Royal Horse Guard, in honor of the victory at Waterloo.

About three o'clock the River was covered with boats, filled with people elegantly dressed, and the whole *coup d'oeil*, including the variegated groups on the banks, and the Survey Hills, was picturesque and beautiful. The cannon on the Bridge now began to fire the 202 guns, in commemoration of the number of cannon taken from the enemy in the battle of Waterloo. The wind, which blow gently from the east, carried the smoke up the River, and thus caused the least possible annoyance to the spectators. Soon after the firing had ceased, the Royal Barges arrived, passed through the centre arch, and proceeded to the stairs on the Surry side, where the company landed, and the procession formed at the end of the Bridge, was proceeded by several Gentlemen interested in the undertaking, with their hats off, to clear the way. The procession was headed by the Prince Regent, with the Duke of York on his right, and the Duke of Wellington on his left, in their uniform of Marshals, followed by a train of Noblemen and Gentlemen, Ministers, and Members of both Houses of Parliament. On their arrival at the Middlesex side of the Bridge they descended the stairs on the eastern side, and having re-embarked on board the barges, returned to the house of the Earl of Liverpool, at Whitehall. On the passage of the Procession across the Bridge, medals struck to commemorate the occasion were distributed among the company present. The Bridge was further ornamented during the whole day with twenty-four flags of dif-

ferent nations, and a Royal Standard in each recess. The number of spectators on the Terrace of Somerset House amounted to 3000. They were admitted by ticket. The roof of the German Chapel in the Savoy, of the western wing of Somerset House, and all the houses in the immediate vicinity were also crowded with spectators, including a large proportion of adventurous females, elegantly dress'd; but we are happy to say that no accident whatever took place. Shortly after the Royal Procession had re-embarked the company on the Bridge began to disperse, and the detachment of the cavalry (all Waterloo Life Guards) which had been posted on the Middlesex side of the Bridge, withdrew into the Strand, and thence proceeded to the Horse Guards.—The bridge was then thrown open to the public, and remained in that state, toll free, until seven o'clock. Several guns were fired, to announce that the ceremony was concluded. A confident expectation having been entered that the Procession, in whole or in part, would pass through the Strand, that street was blocked up at three o'clock, with a multitude of people; the windows, the balconies, and the tops of the houses, were thickly covered with spectators. Upon no former occasion, even on the visit of the Royal Sovereigns, did they make a more crowded and brilliant appearance. They were unfortunately all disappointed, but it must be confessed they bore the disappointment with great fortitude and good humour. At five o'clock they had entirely dispersed.

CONSPIRACY IN PORTUGAL.

A messenger who sailed from Lisbon on the 28th of May, in the Duke of Kent packet, has brought intelligence of a conspiracy which has been recently detected and defeated in that capital. From the accounts which he brings, it appears that about the 15th of May, Marshal Lord Beresford held a meeting with the Regency of Portugal, to whom he communicated information which he had received of a most dangerous and extensive conspiracy, formed for the treasonable purpose of overturning the Government, and establishing a new dynasty. Until then it appears that the Regency were entirely ignorant of the machinations of the conspirators. On the suggestion of Marshal Beresford, the knowledge of the circumstance was kept a profound secret, until adequate measures could be adopted for insuring the complete suppression of the plot and for the apprehension of all parties implicated in it, whether in Lisbon or in other parts of the kingdom. It appears that the conspirators had not precisely fixed upon the period at which the attempt was to be made to carry their traitorous designs into execution; but that it was to be made some time between the 25th May and the 5th of June. The Portuguese Government, therefore, resolved to seize on all the conspirators, residing in Lisbon, during the night of Sunday, the 25th. This determination was promptly carried into effect with complete success, and, fortunately, without any bloodshed. Great praise is ascribed to Marshal Beresford for the wisdom of his Lordship's directions and arrangements respecting these apprehensions. At the head of this detected conspiracy was Lieutenant General Gromez Freire d'Andrade, who has the character of a man of distinguished talents, both as a statesman and as a military officer. He formerly commanded the Portuguese levies in the French service; and was always much in favour with the army. Had the plot succeeded, he was to have been proclaimed Marshal General. Freire and his fellow conspirators were taken quite by surprise at 12 o'clock at night.—The party who went to apprehend Freire was told he was not at home, and were refused admittance. They however forced the door, and found Freire sitting in his library where they apprehended him and seized on all his papers. A brace of pistols was lying on his table, but he did not attempt to make use of them. There were also discovered in the residence of this chief of the rebellion, several printing presses, and a variety of printed proclamations ready for circulation, all couched in the most dangerous and inflammatory language. He was immediately carried off, with all expedition, in a chaise, to Fort Saint Julien, attended by a Lieutenant of Police, and escorted by a Lieutenant-Colonel and 18 dragoons. About half past three in the morning he was placed in the custody of Colonel Haddick, who had ar-

rived for that purpose from Cascaes with four companies of the 19th regiment. Among other conspirators, who have been taken into custody, are nine more officers. In the event of success, and the proclaiming Freire Marshal General of Portugal, the *Capitan Mer* was to have been appointed to the command of the Ordnance, and, it is said, was to have marched about 15,000 men into Lisbon to support the Revolution. A Capt. —, of the 1st regiment, was to have dispatched Marshal Lord Beresford and the Members of the Regency. The British Generals in the Portuguese service, and also some particular individuals who are obnoxious to the conspirators, were destined to a similar fate. The British Officers of inferior rank were to be shipped off for England. The accounts respecting the person intended to be placed by the traitors at the head of their new Government vary. Some mention the Marquis of Abrantes, others the Duke of Cadaval, nephew of the Duke of Luxemburg. From what has transpired, it does not appear that any of the nobility have been connected with the plot, none of them having been apprehended. Many persons had been arrested in the provincial towns; whose connexions with the treason were discovered by an examination of all letters at the Post Office, during the interval between Marshal Beresford's communication to the Regency, and the arrest of the conspirators at Lisbon. All the diversified ramifications of the plot are said to have been traced out by the vigilance of the Government—Numerous apprehensions had taken place at Oporto. Marshal Beresford, at the time of the packet's sailing, was at Alcantara. The troops were on the alert, and at all their stations constantly under arms, each man being provided with 10 rounds of ball cartridges. The prisoners are said to be confined in close dungeons under ground. They would be immediately brought to trial before a Court Martial, most probably in the course of last week. The troops, it is stated, have remained faithful to the Government. No Proclamation on this subject having been issued, the inhabitants of Lisbon naturally felt anxiety and alarm. Some of the private letters observe, that there are among the strong old-fashioned Royalists, or Ultra Royalists of Lisbon, those who partly ascribe this attempt at revolution to the education of so many Portuguese youths in England during the troubled times of their own country.

COURT OF KING'S BENCH,

JUNE 5.

THE KING versus Wooler.

The defendant, the author and proprietor of a periodical publication, entitled the *Black Dwarf*, was this day tried for a libel on his Majesty's Ministers, imputing to them gross corruption and treachery. The Attorney-General, with his wonted eloquence, stated the cause to the Jury, and professed himself a warm supporter of the liberty of the Press, when that phrase was taken in its proper sense; after commenting on the several libellous passages in the work alluded to, he was proceeding to call witnesses; when the defendant stated, that he admitted composing, printing, and publishing the work in question. He then entered on his defence, and in an ingenious manner appealed to the judgement and feelings of the Jury. He asserted again the corruption of the administration—he conceived his opinion right and constitutional—and contended that an Attorney-General was not, as an interested party, a fit person to lay down the law in the present case. He conceived that the Attorney-General's notions relative to a *Free Press* were wrong, and on that point they were at issue. He left the question in the hands of the Jury, observing, that if the present system were persevered in, he would rather *die its martyr than live its slave*. (Indecorous expressions of applause were manifested by the auditors during the defendant's speech, and especially at its conclusion!) The Attorney General, in a warm, and emphatic manner, replied at considerable length to all that had fallen from the defendant; and propounded to the Jury the simple question—was the publication a libel or not? Mr. Justice Abbot summed up the case to the Jury with great precision. The Jury then withdrew; and a singular occurrence took place; the defendant was charged with another information for a libel on the right of petitioning. In this article he ridiculed the idea of any benefit resulting to the people from petition-

ing, and treated the subject in a ludicrous manner, with some sarcastic observations on the number of the late petitions for Parliamentary Reform. He admitted himself the author and publisher of this alleged libel.—While he was addressing the Jury, the former Jury returned into Court, after an absence of two hours and a half, and only a part came through the door near the Judge. The foreman at first wished to accompany the verdict with observations, and consulted the Judge whether the Jury could do so. He was told they must form their verdict themselves, and come to the conclusion. The foreman then returned the verdict of *Guilty*. Sometime afterwards Mr. Chitty, Counsel, informed the Court, that three of the late Jury had handed him a paper, and complained that the verdict was irregularly given; that they did not assent to a general verdict of *Guilty*.* The Judge said the verdict was now recorded, and he had no power to alter it. Mr. Wooler said, the whole of the Jury had not come into Court, and that this could not be justice.—The learned Judge observed, if there was any error, he had no power there to alter it: he had received the verdict, and it was recorded. The matter must be discussed elsewhere. The Jury in the second cause withdrew for an hour and a half, and then returned a verdict of *Not Guilty*.—As soon as the verdict was declared the Court rang with acclamations, which continued during several minutes!!! The sheriffs at length interfered, and put an end to the disturbance.

The following day, Mr. Justice Abbot explained the circumstances on the Bench, and the Attorney General moved for a new trial, which was ordered.

* The following is a copy of the statement, which three of the Jurors desired to annex to their Verdict.

"As Truth is declared by the Law of the Land to be a Libel, we three are compelled to find the Defendant guilty.

John Tatham,
John Ward,
J. Addenelle."

JUNE 8.

THE DISTRESSED SAILOR.

At a late Assizes for the County of Kilkenny (Ireland) Barney Hagan was brought to the bar, and arraigned for the robbery of a Mr. Brown.—The prosecutor proved the fact and identified the prisoner, beyond all possibility of doubt.—The jury found him guilty, and Judge McClellan immediately pronounced the awful sentence of death on the criminal.

The prisoner, who had observed the impressive ceremony with seeming composure, then addressed the Judge in the following words:—"Now, my Lord, since I am going to die, I will tell you the whole story—I did rob the gentleman, that's the truth—I took from him three and twenty ten-pences and a one pound note, but I left him the half-notes, his watch, and a ten-penny piece, and I made him a present besides of two pennies.—[Here Mr. Brown corroborated these circumstances].—I neither kill him, nor wounded him nor hurt him.—My Lord, I was starving with hunger, and I could get neither employment, nor meat, nor money.—The night before I robbed this gentleman, I took shelter in a poor man's hut, but he had nothing for me to eat, and I had no money to buy me a supper, and next day I was tempted to commit robbery, for I was very hungry, my Lord—I served nineteen years in His Majesty's fleet, have been in many engagements, was with Lord Nelson at the battle of Trafalgar, and was discharged at the peace.—Indeed, indeed my Lord, I never injured man, woman, nor child, before nor since, and I was starving when I robbed the gentleman.—And now, my Lord, you will excuse me, for this is the truth, and I have no more to say."

This artless, but pathetic address, forcibly excited the compassionate feelings of a crowded Court, and the jury, the prosecutor and the gentleman of the country, unanimously joined in a strong representation to the Judge, to extend mercy to the unfortunate sailor.—Accordingly, before the Judge left the town, he acquainted the Sheriff, that he would lay the poor man's case before the Government; that he might expect his sentence of death to be changed to that of transportation.

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