

SERIOUS DISTURBANCE.

An Account of the Alarming Affray which took place at Glasgow betwixt a Party of the 13th Regiment, and the Police Patrole, assisted by the Inhabitants, on the Evening of the 28th June, 1820.

THIS night one of those alarming scenes, at which human nature revolts, took place in this city. It was attributed to two causes, one of which was, that some soldiers of the 13th regiment, at present lying in our garrison, had been drinking in a house in the Saltmarket, and refused to pay their reckoning, and were followed by some person to the street for payment. The other, the real account was, that two soldiers and two women were standing on the pavement in the Saltmarket—two persons passing exchanged words with them—an altercation ensued between the parties, and a small crowd assembled, on which they were challenged by some of the Patrole, who ordered them to remove, and not disturb the public peace. The soldiers returned some insolent language, and were seized by the Patrole, which being observed by some of the soldiers' comrades they attempted a rescue, and actually succeeded in their scheme, after wounding and abusing some of the Patrole, with their bayonets, in a most savage and brutal manner. The inhabitants, enraged at their inhuman behaviour, immediately rushed to the assistance of the Patrole, and the scene of action commenced in St. Andrew's Street, where the Soldiers had moved. Here the symptoms were alarming. Their naked bayonets being presented to the crowd, prevented the populace, for a while, from getting them secured. All intreaty proving vain, blows were had recourse to, and some, more daring than the others, closed in upon them, and in a short time they were dismantled of their bayonets and belts, and their caps thrown in every direction in the air, and received a most severe beating, being knocked down several times and their faces cut in a severe and shocking manner, it being impossible for the best meaning man to save them from the fury of an angry mob. At length they were secured, and conveyed to the Police Office. On their road thither, a Soldier belonging to the Rifle Brigade, not relishing the seizure of the men, was about to renew the combat, when he was seized by a respectable merchant in the Saltmarket, and when in the act of drawing his bayonet to this gentlemen, was seized by some other individuals, the bayonet was taken from him, and conveyed, without any injury, to the office.

The scene did not terminate here, for the Police, in the execution of their duty and for the protection of the public against any attack that might be made upon them by the military, were securing all Soldiers belonging to the 13th, whom they saw lounging about the streets. A firm stand, however, was made by three of them at the cross, who, for some time, seemed to clear, and were left in entire possession of the street, and when one of the Policemen approached them, against whom their deadly weapons were put in force, and who manfully kept the whole three at bay with his stick, and made his retreat. They then bent their way a little down the Gallowgate, but the crowd closed in upon them, and the man was wounded by one of their bayonets, who immediately clapped his hand upon it, and with the other snatched it from him, and wounded him severely; some people carried him to a surgeon's shop, the other two were seized and carried to the office. An officer of the 13th who headed the military had his sword broke, and himself secured. Immediately after this one of the bailies of the city, with the greatest alacrity ran to the Barracks for a detachment of the military, was greeted by the populace with cries of "well done, Bailie Hunter," "protect the Bailie," &c. Two parties of the Rifle Brigade were immediately brought up, and stationed at the Police Office, where the prisoners behaved in the most riotous manner, breaking the windows, and demolishing the furniture; and even attempted to force the doors, but by the bravery of the Police they were at last overcome, and tranquillity restored.

An officer of Police, and two private Soldiers, are most severely wounded, and some of them have received severe contusions. Many of the inhabitants and Police officers are also wounded. The number on both sides amounts, it is said to about twenty; and it is rather extraordinary that none were killed outright from the fury of the Soldiery. It being the day on which they received their arrears some of them were a little intoxicated, which was the cause of this serious quarrel. A Civil and Military inquiry is now going on. The crowd did not molest any of the military that did not take part in the affray, many of the Hussars, Rifle Brigade, and others walking along the streets with the greatest freedom.

PRICE ONE PENNY.

