

P A P E R S

PRESENTED BY HIS MAJESTY'S COMMAND,

RELATIVE TO THE

Disturbed State of Ireland.

Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,
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P A P E R S

RELATIVE TO THE

Disturbed State of Ireland.

No. 1.

Extract of a Dispatch from the Marquess Wellesley to Viscount Sidmouth.

MY LORD,

Dublin Castle, January 3, 1822.

CONCLUDING that your Lordship had been apprized, before my arrival in Dublin, of every important circumstance respecting the unhappy disturbances which have prevailed in this country, I proceed to submit to you, for His Majesty's consideration, such information as I have received on that subject during the few days which have passed since my succession to this Government.

I propose to arrange this information with reference to each county respectively, for the purpose of facilitating a comparison with such statements as may already be in your Lordship's possession, and of enabling you to form a judgment of the relative state of each particular district at the different periods of time specified in each document.

All the accounts which I have received from the province of Ulster, assure me of the continued tranquillity of that province; and although in one instance information has been received of a notice against the payment of tithes having been posted in the county of Down, that notice does not appear to have been considered as likely to produce any disturbance, although it has rendered measures of precaution necessary.

From Connaught, (if those parts of the county of Roscommon which border upon the disturbed districts be excepted), the reports which I have received are satisfactory.

In the province of Leinster, from four counties, information of actual or apprehended disturbance has reached me, namely from Kildare, Westmeath, King's County and Meath.

With respect to Kildare, from the letter of the Police Magistrate, dated 28th ult. inclosing a return of occurrences for the preceding week (confirmed by the letter of ————— and of other residents in the neighbourhood,) it appears that many houses had been set on fire.

Kilcullen, 28 Dec.

With respect to Westmeath, the Chief Magistrate of Police has stated the revival of those party feuds and personal conflicts in the neighbourhood of Mullingar, which are considered in this country to be indications of the return of public tranquillity, and from which the Magistrate expects the detection of past offences against the State.

Mullingar, 31 Dec.

In the King's County a Magistrate reports from Edenderry, that a house had been forcibly entered in the night by five men, and the owner of the house desperately wounded.

Edenderry, 28 Dec.

In the county of Meath a house had been forced, and two guns taken from it.

From the districts more particularly denominated *disturbed*, in which may be included parts of the counties of Cork, Limerick, Tipperary, Kerry, Roscommon, the following information has been received:

CORK.

At Ballyloby, about seven miles from Kinsale, a party of two hundred persons, mostly on horseback, had assembled at night, and had visited several houses for arms.

Kinsale, 27 Dec.

At Templemartin, four miles from Bandon, a party had been seen for the first time on the 24th ultimo; they robbed many houses of arms to the extent of ten muskets and two pistols.

Cork, 27 Dec.

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- Bandon, 30 Dec. At another town, in the neighbourhood of Bandon, nine houses had been attacked, and a man severely beaten for having given information.
- Mallow, 27 Dec. Between Doneraile and Mallow, fifteen armed men had attacked the house of Mr. Wrixon, but were ultimately repulsed.
- Ross Carbery, 29 December. At Ross Carbery, a part of the county further removed from the original seat of the disturbance, two hundred persons are reported to have been met in the night, and although the persons so assembled do not appear to have proceeded to outrage, the houses of several farmers were attacked during that night by men in disguise, and one person was most barbarously beaten.

LIMERICK.

- Rachkeale, 31 Dec. The Chief Magistrate of Police has reported, that he does not perceive any inclination on the part of the people to surrender arms, or to desist from outrage; and that on the 30th ult. a poor man's cabin, about two miles from Rathkeale, was attacked and broken open, his son killed, and the father wounded, in consequence as is supposed, of his having given information relative to a robbery.
- Limerick, 27 Dec. It appears, that a small party of troops proceeding through a village, were so violently assaulted by the people coming out of the chapel, as to render it necessary to fire in self defence.

TIPPERARY.

- Cahir, 27 Dec. Two hundred men are reported to have assembled at Ballyloby, and to have plundered the inhabitants of eleven stand of arms.
- [This is the same outrage stated under the head, "Cork." W.]

KERRY.

- Ardtully, 24 Dec. The house of Mr. Townsend, of Ardtully, was attacked on the 24th by a large party of armed men, which, after a long contest, was repulsed by Mr. Townsend, and his servants.
- A most active Magistrate of this county, further reports, that meetings had been held on the 24th ult. at which the rescue of persons convicted had been the subject of consultation, and that he had received a friendly caution that his life was in danger.

CLARE.

- Ennis, 26 Dec. The letter of the Chief Magistrate of Police, makes the following report of a murder committed at Cratloe:
- 30 Dec. "About three weeks ago, a man was murdered at the same place; on inquiry, I found it proceeded from private resentment, but having got information of the perpetrator, who is a leader of the banditti, I made arrangement to have him apprehended; and an unfortunate man, named Stack, agreed to let me know
- 31 Dec. "where he was; I only saw Stack once at midnight; still he was suspected; the murderer was taken by my men yesterday morning, and last night the unfortunate Stack was shot near the chapel of Cratloe."
- In a subsequent letter the same Magistrate reports the fact of a notice having been affixed to the chapel of Cratloe, calling upon the people "to assert their rights as in 1798, and to reward the man who shot Stack the informer."
- From the same quarter information has been received, that two hundred men passed in the night through the village of Cusheen on a predatory excursion into the county of Galway; that they administered oaths to one man; they demanded arms at two houses; they were overtaken by the Police, and after some shots had been fired, six men were lodged in gaol.
- 31 Dec. At Clara a body of three hundred men occasioned a riot, but that riot is not considered to be connected with the causes or objects of the present disturbances: of these rioters twenty were committed for trial or admitted to bail.

I have, &c. &c.

(Signed) WELLESLEY.

No. 2.

Extract of a Dispatch from the Marquess Wellesley to Viscount Sidmouth.

MY LORD,

Dublin Castle, 11th January 1822.

IN conformity with the intention which I expressed to your Lordship in my dispatch of the 3d instant, I have the honour to submit, for His Majesty's consideration, such further information as I have received from the country during the last week; pursuing, for the reasons which I have previously stated, the same arrangement which I had observed in my former communication.

In the Province of Ulster the only intimation of disturbance or outrage is from the county of Donegal. It appears that at Tullagobugly an attempt made by the seneschal of the bishop of Raphoe to hold a court, had been defeated by a mob of three hundred persons, who threatened him with death if he persisted in his attempt, and compelled him to leave the town. The schoolmaster of the same place also was prohibited, under threats of similar vengeance, from apportioning the cess upon the parish; and it is stated, on the same authority, that nightly meetings, and the administration of oaths, had commenced in that county, and that the person giving information of these proceedings was in fear of his life in the event of being detected as an informer.

I have not during the last week received information of any outrage in the Province of Connaught.

In the Province of Leinster the intelligence transmitted is principally confined to the counties of Kildare, Queen's County, King's County, Meath, and Dublin.

A Magistrate communicates, that information had been received by him of several intended attacks upon houses in that neighbourhood, but that they had been prevented by the judicious employment of the police, stationed at Sallans, under the Peace Preservation Act.

The Chief Magistrate of Police at Mountrath, in the Queen's County, reports the success of similar measures in preventing threatened attacks. Mountrath, 2 Jan.
J. Nicholson.

At Edenderry, in the King's County, various persons were attacked on the night of the 3d instant. One man, a respectable inhabitant, being unable to answer the pass-word, was attacked by six men and beaten severely. Edenderry, 7 Jan.
Col. Armstrong.

From Meath the Assistant Barrister states, that the greater part of the County is quiet, but that the neighbourhood of Trim has lately evinced an insurrectionary spirit. Mr. Ruxton.

An increased disposition to disturbance has recently evinced itself at Garristown, in the county of Dublin; and it is reported, that on the instant nineteen houses were set on fire and burnt.

Your Lordship, however, should be apprized that Garristown has for many years been the scene of continued disturbance, originating in local causes; that it has been generally subjected to the provisions of the Peace Preservation Act, and only recently relieved from its operation.

From the parts of the Country denominated *disturbed*, the intelligence received is as follows:

CORK.

The Provost of Bandon reports, on the 3d of January, that a large body of disturbers twice visited the house of one Fleming, he being the person expected to give information of some previous outrage; and the Provost entertains little doubt that the previous removal of Fleming saved his life. Bandon, 3 Jan.
Mr. Jervois.

On the following day the Provost transmits, under the authority of nine neighbouring Magistrates, an authenticated account of the outrages committed near Bandon on the 15th, 16th, 21st, 23d, and 27th December, the result of which is, that on those days thirty-seven houses had been attacked, twenty-five guns, eight pistols, besides swords and bayonets, taken; he further adds, that these acts have been exclusively directed against Protestants, and that, in consequence, several families of that persuasion have been obliged to quit their habitations in the country, and take refuge in the town. Bandon, 4 Jan.
Mr. Jervois.

The Police Magistrate reports from Charleville, that he has had many verbal reports of the intention of the disaffected to deliver up their arms; but the acts of the nightly marauders, are totally at variance with these professions, as they have, within eight days, made several nocturnal visits near Mallow, in the barony of Duhallo.

Charleville, 6 Jan.
Major Carter.

Ballincolly, 6 Jan.
J. Penrose, Esq.

John Penrose, Esq. states the system of midnight outrage and attack to be rapidly on the increase. That the Whiteboys have been out every night during the last fortnight, have taken arms from a great many houses, and ill-treated those persons who had surrendered them before; he further adds the particulars of an unsuccessful attack made by them on the house of Mr. Rye, of Rye-court, on the 4th instant.

It is stated from the more southern part of the County, that notices are affixed on all sides, threatening vengeance against those who distrain for rent or tithes, or who purchase what is distrained; and that there are not a few instances of nightly attacks and outrages on individuals.

On the other hand, ——— from the north of the County reports, that from communications with ——— he has reason to believe that the peasantry there are tired of the system of outrage, and would give up their arms, were they not deterred by the dread of vengeance, if they departed from the system to which they have sworn to adhere.

LIMERICK.

Mr. ——— a most respectable Magistrate, regrets that he cannot perceive any substantial benefit from the convictions. That two assassinations took place last week; one three miles from Limerick, and the other near Rathkeale; and that there is no sincere disposition to restore arms.

Major Croker states, however, in his monthly report, that since the murder of Mr. Raymond's servant, no similar outrage had been perpetrated in the west of the County, which appears to be tranquil; the number of troops compelling the people to discontinue their nocturnal expeditions.

Standish O'Grady, Esq. the Member for the county of Limerick, states, that ever since his arrival in the county, it has been in a very disturbed state; that a very general attack has been made on the houses of several farmers, all of which have been robbed of arms or money. That he had taken the armed leader of one party, whom he came up with in the night, and that in the houses afterwards searched by him, the proprietors were not to be found.

TIPPERARY.

A Magistrate reports, that the marauders have commenced their attacks in the neighbourhood of Fethard; and that a party of seventy men, well mounted and armed, have attacked some houses with success, and threatened others.

The Police Magistrate reports, that having received information of certain pike-heads being concealed in the mountain of Kilnarnagh, he proceeded thither, and seized eight. But while so employed, the village of Bampelagh, from which his force had been withdrawn, was attacked by twelve or thirteen well armed men, undisguised, who beat some of the inhabitants severely, and obtained four guns. The Magistrate seems to suspect, that the person who had given information respecting the pikes, was concerned in the plan of this attack.

That part of Kilkenny which borders on Tipperary, is represented to be in a very disturbed state; that no resident gentleman has been able to leave his house after dusk for some weeks, and that they are compelled to keep regular guards in their houses; large bodies of men armed and mounted parading the roads every night, and threatening destruction to those who oppose them.

Lord Ormonde states from Kilkenny, that the system of threatening the Proctors was in full vigor; and that where persons had used the processes, they had been severely beaten, and that it was impossible to obtain information of the offenders.

KERRY.

In this county, an attempt was made on the night of the 4th, to burn the Church of Templemore; and on the 5th, some armed men entered the house of a man named John Kelyar, and cut off his ear close to his head, with peculiar barbarity. The cause of this outrage is supposed to have been his having remained on land before occupied by his brother.

Mr. ——— reports, from the more northern part of the county, that there are new and increased proceedings on the part of the insurgents about his residence.

I am, &c. &c.

(Signed)

WELLESLEY.

DISTURBED STATE OF IRELAND.

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No. 3.

*Extract of a Dispatch from the Marquess Wellesley to Viscount Sidmouth;
with Two Inclosures.*

MY LORD,

Dublin Castle, January 19, 1822.

SINCE the date of my dispatch No. 2, information of various descriptions has reached me, from several parts of the country; which I now have the honour to submit for His Majesty's information.

Although I am not enabled to assure your Lordship, that no alarm or apprehension exists in the province of Ulster, yet I have still the satisfaction of stating, that in that quarter no violence appears to have been committed since my last report. (No. 2.)

It appears, however, from a letter of the High Sheriff of Down, that some alarm exists in that county, arising not from any actual outrage committed in the neighbourhood, but from the administering of oaths and the formation of committees, who correspond with other committees sitting in Dublin; and from a great demand for arms which has lately taken place in Belfast.

Donaghadee,
January 9,
M. D. Cromelin.

Information has also been received of a meeting having been intended to be held in Tyrone, on the 1st January; and that on the 3d, a large body of some hundreds, mostly armed, crossed the Derry Mountains, demanding arms in their way, but without committing any act of violence; some of the offenders were apprehended.

The province of Connaught, (with the exception of those parts of Galway and Roscommon which border on the disturbed districts) remains free from disturbance. In Leinster the system of outrage is confined to the counties of Westmeath, Kilkenny, Kildare and Dublin.

The Police Magistrate of Westmeath reports the setting fire to a farmer's out-houses, which, together with the cattle in them, were consumed.

Mullingar, Jan. 14.
Maj. O'Donaghue.

KILKENNY.

Several farmers residing in the Barony of Kells, in Kilkenny, are reported to have been visited by mounted persons, and to have been severely beaten.

Kilkenny Castle,
January 14,
Earl of Ormonde.

The adjoining Barony of Ivesh is, however, represented to be perfectly tranquil, notwithstanding attempts made to seize arms in the neighbouring parts of Tipperary.

KILDARE.

The Police Magistrate reports the successful result of a general search for arms in the proclaimed districts under his superintendence, by which six hundred and sixty-seven fire arms, and one hundred and twenty-six of other descriptions, were obtained from the several thatched cabins, in which the search was made.

Kilcullen, Jan. 14.
Mr. Tandy.

DUBLIN.

The Court of Directors of the Royal Canal, have represented, that on the banks of that canal in the counties of Dublin, Kildare, Meath and Westmeath, a combination exists to a most alarming extent, which though it evidently has originated in a desire to raise the rate of wages, is now connected with the system, which has prevailed in other parts of Ireland, of threatening the lives of those who do not join, or who quit the combination; and in one instance, a man working at a lower rate of wages has been severely beaten, and barbarously mutilated.

Dublin, Jan. 14.
S. Draper, Secy.

On the other hand, in the county of Meath, the Clerk of the Peace reports, that it does not appear that any further acts of outrage have been committed in that county; and it is to be hoped, that the peace of it may be preserved without the assistance of any extraordinary Police.

Trim, Jan. 13.
E. E. Chambers.

GALWAY.

The Chief Magistrate of Police reports, that on the 3d a large body of Ribbonmen appeared in the village of Kilconnelly, and broke open several houses of the peasantry, swore some, and beat others severely. A banditti also attacked the house of a farmer at Shanbally Boughs, Roscommon.

St. Clerm's, Jan. 9.
Major D'Arcy.

The report of the Police Magistrate announces the forcible entry of a house at Kilconan, and the robbery of arms by an armed banditti in disguise; and

Roscommon,
January 14,
Major Willis.

adds, that on the 12th Lord Dillon's gatekeeper was found barbarously murdered, his head having been much mangled by a hatchet, and his body stabbed in many places with a pitchfork.

KERRY.

— reports a murder on the 8th instant, of a Proctor who had served some processes on that day; but on a subsequent day the same Magistrate, in consequence of information which he had succeeded in obtaining, expresses himself confidently as to the maintenance of the tranquillity of the country.

TIPPERARY.

Cahir, Jan. 10.
Captain Hughes.

The Officer commanding the Cahir yeomanry reports, that, on the evening of the 9th, the house of Mr. Burke, of Ardfinnan, where the arms and ammunition of the nightly guard of constables were placed, was robbed of the whole of them by a party of thirteen men, being part, as he believes, of a greater force collected for the purpose.

— reports, that his own house is the only country habitation within many miles which has not been plundered of its arms; and although he has collected his neighbours, yet that the insurgents are so numerous and daring as to give rise to continued apprehension of attack.

Fethard, Jan. 15,
28 Gentlemen.

A representation has been received from twenty-eight gentlemen, of whom nine are Magistrates, stating, that the spirit of insurrection is spreading rapidly in the vicinity of Fethard; that parties assemble by night and march through the country, to the terror of the peaceable, attacking and disarming the houses, and committing other violent acts of outrage.

Thurles, Jan. 15,
Mr. Wilson.

About five miles from Thurles an attempt was made on the 14th to assassinate a Tithe Proctor; for the details of which, and for a general view of what the Police Magistrate considers to be the state of that part of the country, I beg to refer your Lordship to his letter, of which a copy is inclosed.

CORK.

Knocknague,
January 7.

The Officer commanding, reports, that during the last two nights the system of nocturnal meetings, by banditti, has considerably increased; that Mr. Sullivan's house has been attacked, and his son demanded; and that the latter, on being brought out, was sworn not to have any communication with the military officers.

A countryman's house is also stated to have been attacked on the 6th by forty men, well mounted and armed, who severely beat and wounded him and took his horse.

— reports an attack on the house of Mr. Sweet, near Macroom, who, having received previous intimation of the attack, and having prepared for defence, succeeded in repulsing the assailants, about two hundred in number, with a loss of two killed, who were carried off by their associates, although their horses were secured.

A riot appears to have taken place at Cove, which is no farther connected with the disturbances in the county than as the object of it was an attack on an individual who had given information. He only escaped by being received into Lord Colville's house.

— reports, that an attack was made upon his house on the morning of the 8th, by a large party from the Barony of Duhallow, who were ultimately repulsed, leaving behind them six horses, of which two were killed. A person supposed to be a leader was subsequently apprehended.

— states, that the house of Dr. Townsend, at Kilmaraird, was entered forcibly on the 8th, by a large party with blacked faces, who having beaten Dr. Townsend, and having searched in vain for arms, robbed him of his money, wearing apparel and various other articles; his Lordship further adds, that another outrage of the same kind had been committed near (), arms having been taken from three houses in the neighbourhood by parties who had also, during the latter nights, assembled to drill at Ballycarmich, a party of gentlemen and troops proceeded to apprehend the offenders, but partially failed in that object, though they recovered the arms. Horns were heard sounding in different directions through the country during the night.

Major Wood,
January 15.
Earl of Kingston.

Several outrages in the neighbourhood of Skibbereen are also reported by Lord Kingston, who particularly refers to attacks on poor people's houses in the neighbourhood

bourhood of his residence. The Sovereign of Kinsale reports, that disturbance is beginning to manifest itself in the immediate neighbourhood of that town and its liberties, by the posting of threatening and inflammatory notices. Kinsale, Jan. 12, L. Heard.

The Rector of ———, reports, on the 10th, that six houses of his parish-ioners had been attacked on the preceding night, and some arms obtained from them; and then an attempt had been made to assassinate Captain Hornard, an active yeomanry officer, when only a short distance behind his corps, but that owing to the pistol presented at him missing fire, he escaped, and his brother shot the assailant.

———, a Magistrate near Skibbereen, reports conversations with his tenants expressive of their apprehensions of a bad spirit existing in the county, of their hearing men on horseback every night, and of horns sounding and shots being fired in the night.

Lord Bantry states, that a report having reached him on the 11th, that near five hundred men mounted, and partly armed, had attacked some houses in the neighbourhood and robbed them of arms, he proceeded with five other gentlemen in pursuit of the offenders; on coming up with them, the party under his Lordship's command was fired at, compelled to retreat, and pursued; his Lordship adds, that he has since heard that the men in question came from great distances. Bantry-House, January 13.

A very active Magistrate represents this part of the county of Cork to be progressively more disturbed, nocturnal meetings more frequent, and vengeance threatened against those who resist their unlawful proceedings.

Another Magistrate reports several robberies of arms in the parishes of Skull and Kilmoe, and the burning of a corn store at Crookhaven; and another, in representing the alarming state of the county, adds, that the object of the insurgents, in one district at least, has not been confined to the lowering of rents and tithes, but extended to the refusal also of the Priest's dues.

The Provost of Bandon, and seven Magistrates in the neighbourhood, transmit an account of eight outrages, attended with robbery of arms, in the immediate vicinity of the town; and state, that not a night passes without numerous meetings, which they find it impossible to prevent. Bandon, 14 January, Provost.

I request your Lordship's attention to the inclosed memorial addressed to me by twenty-eight Magistrates of the southern part of the county of Cork. Although the particular outrages to which the report refers have been in some cases already submitted to your Lordship, yet the general view of the actual condition of that district, presented by so respectable and well informed a body, cannot fail to command the most serious attention of Government. B.

Orders had been given, previous to the receipt of this memorial, for placing a military force at Bandon and Macroom, and for moving the whole of the 22d regiment into that district.

I have, &c.

The Viscount Sidmouth,
&c. &c. &c.

(Signed) WELLESLEY.

(Inclosure A. in No. 3.)

Copy of a Letter from Edward Wilson, Esq. to the Right Honourable Henry Goulburn.

SIR,

Thurles, 15th January 1822.

BEFORE I could have the honour of sending the inclosed letter of the 14th, I received information that a Tithe Proctor in the employment of Mr. Going, Rector of the parish of Mealiffe, about five miles from this, was assassinated. I instantly went there, and found that the poor man was not quite dead, as the shots fortunately missed him, but he was cut and bruised; I took his informations, and also those of a servant boy who was the first that gave him any assistance; copies of which I have the honour to inclose. Mr. Going is brother to the late Chief Magistrate, who was assassinated in the county of Limerick. He is at present examining witnesses at a Commission, which was issued out of one of the courts, for ascertaining the bounds of his parish. The Proctor was to give his evidence yesterday, and it is thought would prove the parish of greater extent than it at present pays tithes for: this is one reason supposed for taking his life. But I assure you that the lower orders are become so very depraved, that there is no one in a state of security from these daring attacks.

On Saturday night last, five respectable houses in the neighbourhood of Littleton were attacked, and wantonly fired into and robbed of their guns, and there is no such thing as getting evidence to identify any of the offenders. The people are afraid to come before me to be examined, lest they should have their houses and cattle destroyed. The constables are harassed patrolling at night; but without information little good is to be done. All the well-disposed are most anxious for the renewal of the Insurrection Act; and I fear if some strong measure is not resorted to, or at least the old Military Stations again occupied, this county will soon be as bad as the county of Limerick.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

EDWARD WILSON

Right Hon. Henry Goulburn,
&c. &c. &c.

(Inclosure B. in No. 3.)

Memorial of the Magistrates of the Southwest District of the County of Cork.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

WE, the undersigned Magistrates of the Southwest District of the county of Cork, beg leave most respectfully to renew our representations to your Excellency, on the alarming state of insubordination to which our district has risen. But a short period has elapsed since we had the honour to transmit to your Excellency, through your Secretary, a Memorial, praying amongst other things, for an increase of Military Force to be sent into the district, as the only means of checking the progress of a system; from which, if suffered to get strength, and to proceed without being met by a prompt and vigorous resistance, the most disgraceful and dangerous consequences were to be apprehended.

We have now to lament that our apprehensions were but too well founded; the progress of this diabolical system during the last month, has been most rapid and alarming; and we regret to say, that we have been obliged, from want of adequate assistance, to remain almost passive spectators of its daring advances; until at length many have been obliged to convert their habitations into garrisons, and others have sought security in the towns.

We know that nightly meetings are held in various parts of the district, which it would be our duty to disperse, and if possible, to bring those concerned in them to justice; and we are most willing to do our duty if we had the means; but we are utterly destitute of any force adequate to such an undertaking. We cannot expect individuals to leave their houses and families exposed, while they go out with patrolling parties; and even if they could for one or two nights engage in such duty, they could not continue it;—it would be beyond their physical strength, and incompatible with their other avocations.

From Clonakilty, where there is a yeomanry corps on duty, to Skibbereen, where there is a subaltern and sixteen men of a regiment of infantry, a distance of 16 miles, with a crowded population, there are about six police-men. From Skibbereen to Crookhaven, a distance of twenty-four miles, equally populous, there may be perhaps eight police-men, an establishment wholly inadequate to the ordinary duties of civil constables, much less to the suppression of formidable insurrection. In fact, the whole district may be said to be in a defenceless state.

That your Excellency may not suppose that we are making exaggerated statements grounded only in our own fears, or resting on idle and unfounded rumours, we beg leave to state a very few facts which have occurred in this district within the last month:—

At Crookhaven, in the parish of Kilmoe, Mr. Baker's corn-stores, with all the grain therein, burnt, his shop set on fire, and other property of his destroyed:

At Cermínagh, in the parish of Kilmacabea, near Rosscarberry, Doctor Townsend's house broken into, and himself robbed and beaten:

In the parish of Scull several houses attacked by large bodies of men, and arms taken. At Donemarke, near Bantry, Mr. Mellifont's house attacked by a body of men, to the amount of some hundreds, armed and mounted on horses.—These are facts which we state as grounded on depositions taken on oath. We could add many more equally well grounded of nightly meetings, swearing, &c. but we conceive

conceive that it would be an unnecessary and important intrusion on your Excellency's time to go into further details. To two circumstances, however, we think it right to call your Excellency's attention, as tending to prove that what we have stated are not isolated facts, but the result of a connected system. A man who was shot by Captain Beamish Bernard at Anverstown a few nights since, when he had the good fortune to come up with a party of these Whiteboys, is proved to be a man of the name of Harrington, who lived near Ballydehot, upwards of thirty miles from the place where he met his fate. He had on his person some of Dr. Townsend's clothes, and a considerable part of his property, proved by the indorsements on the notes, that robbery having taken place but two nights previous the man's being shot, and fifteen miles distant. The party that attacked Mr. Mellifont's house, all mounted and armed, were pursued by Lord Bantry upwards of fourteen miles, almost to Inchegrefa. We feel it to be our duty to make this strong statement to your Excellency, and we consider that we do not say too much when we pronounce it to be our humble and conscientious opinion, that the life and property of every respectable individual in this district, is at this instant at the mercy of those miscreants, who are hourly gaining strength and confidence, finding no efforts made to stop their daring and lawless proceedings.

Kingston,
Kingsborough,
Carbery,
J. R. B. Townsend,
J. Townsend,
Sam. Townsend,
E. W. Kerny, Clk.
R. N. Monck.
J. Baldwin,
J. O. Driscoll,

M. Driscoll,
J. Breke,
E. H. Jones,
R. Smyth,
A. O. Driscoll,
D. Coghlon,
J. Kingston,
P. Fleming,
J. Hungerford,
S. Brewen, M. D.

J. Townsend,
R. Townsend,
Hor. Townsend,
W. Hall,
H. Githnan,
J. Baldwin,
R. N. Somerville,
W. S. L. Linerah.

No. 4.

Extract of a Dispatch from the Marquess Wellesley to the Right Honourable Robert Peel.

SIR,

Dublin Castle, 27th January 1822.

In continuation of my Dispatch No. 3, I have the honour to forward to you the following Abstract of the most material information which I have received, since the date of that Dispatch, with relation to the internal state of the country.

ULSTER.

Some disturbance appears to have occurred at a fair at Maghera. The houses of two individuals were violently attacked by a numerous party, who appeared to act under a regular password; the windows were broken and some shots fired.

This circumstance has created considerable alarm among the well-disposed inhabitants of the neighbourhood, but does not appear to have been followed by any other act of outrage, nor to be connected with any general system of disturbance.

KILDARE.

A Magistrate from Kilcock transmits a deposition, sworn to before him, of an attempt made by a party of undisguised armed men, to murder a publican, who had in no manner given them offence; this assault did not terminate in murder, and cannot be considered as a branch of the prevailing disorders.

MEATH.

The Assistant Barrister reports, that the town of Trim and two parishes of the county are engaged in illegal associations; and that in another small district the Ribbonmen have printed their resolutions.

The county of Meath, however, is generally tranquil, and the Magistrates have laudably exerted themselves for the maintenance of the public peace.

Belfast, 16 Jan.
1822.
Col. L'Estrange.

Navan, Jan. 18.
— Ruxton, Esq.

DUBLIN.

Dublin Police,
21 Jan.
Magistrates.

The Magistrates of the Police have transmitted information of a notice posted at Lucan; which however refers more to lowering the rate of wages, than to any topics usually connected with the prevailing disturbances. They have also received information on oath, of arms having been taken from a house by a party at Ballynascarry, in the same neighbourhood.

LIMERICK.

Rathkeale, Jan. 17.
J. Lloyd, Esq.

The Assistant Barrister (in the absence of Major Wilcocks) states that the house of Mr. Mauncell, near Rathkeale, had been attacked and robbed by an armed party; that a murder had been committed in the neighbourhood, and that no disposition appears in the people to return to good order.

Limerick, Jan. 19.
Major Willcocks.

The murder referred to by Mr. Lloyd, is detailed by Major Willcocks, in a letter of a subsequent date; it appears to have been the consequence of some family dispute, and to have been attended with circumstances of great barbarity, but not to have been connected with the late disturbances, otherwise, than as the general state of lawless confusion has rendered such acts of violence familiar to the inhabitants.

About the same time, two Police-men were attacked by some countrymen, and, after resistance, robbed of their arms.

CORK.

The disturbers of the public peace rose in the parish of Blarney, and took arms from several individuals on the 16th; and the Magistrates complain, with others, of the difficulty of obtaining information, although large rewards have been offered.

In this condition of ignorance, the duties of the Magistracy and Military are rendered most harassing and perplexing.

Charleville, Jan. 15.
Col. Stratton.

The Commanding Officer reports various meetings of Whiteboys in the neighbourhood of Mitchel's town, and Liscarrol; and that a sentinel had been insulted and compelled to use his arms in self-defence at Castletown.

Ballynamane
Castle, 17th Jan.
Major Gen. Sir J.
Lambert.

A number of houses were robbed of arms on the 13th, between Mallow and Castletown Roche.

Major General Sir J. Lambert reports, that the bad spirit is increasing in every direction in the county of Cork.

Buttivant,
15th Jan. 1822.
S. Carter, Esq.

The Police Magistrate at Buttivant states, on the 15th, that the force under his command had not been able to apprehend any offenders, yet that outrages continued in that neighbourhood, and that on the night of the 11th, a farmer's house at Magg had been searched for arms, and the owner made to beg his life on his knees.

20th Jan.

He further transmits, on the 20th, a variety of sworn informations; the result of which is, that on one night twelve houses had been attacked in the barony of Fermoy, and that such of them as had arms, had been plundered.

Ballyclough, 20 Jan.
K. G. Barry, Esq.

The High Sheriff of Cork states his opinion, that affairs in that county wear a more serious aspect,—that a large party had robbed the houses of several gentlemen and respectable farmers, between Mallow and Castletown Roche, of thirty stand of good arms; and that in one case the leader reprimanded one of his men for attending to general seizure of property, instead of confining his search to arms. The same gentleman transmits, on the 22d, a list of fourteen houses which had been attacked in the immediate neighbourhood, on the night of the 17th and 18th.

Bantry, January 18,
Maj.-Gen. Lambert.

The Commanding Officer at Bantry, reports a daring attack made a few nights previously, on several very respectable houses in the immediate vicinity of that town, by a numerous banditti, who succeeded in obtaining arms from many: and the Officer stationed at Skibbereen states his opinion, that the spirit of disaffection, which had been confined to the northern Baronies of the county, had spread in an alarming measure through the whole of West Carbery; that nightly meetings are held at various places on the coast, and that bands of offenders assemble, consisting of not less than three hundred in each band.

Skibbereen, Jan. 15,
Maj.-Gen. Lambert.

Dunmanaway,
22 January; three
Magistrates.

The Magistrates resident at Dunmanaway report, that illegal oaths have for a long time been administered in that neighbourhood; that nocturnal meetings have

have frequently been held; that in the adjoining parishes, notices of an inflammatory description have been posted; and in one parish, arms have been taken from the peaceable inhabitants.

A Magistrate from the neighbourhood of Doneraile confirms the accounts of outrages in that immediate neighbourhood; and states, that the caution and activity of the offenders, added to their avoiding the public roads, and to their knowledge of the country, enable them to elude the vigilance of the military patrols nightly employed.

After reporting a variety of outrages, which have been detailed in other letters previously received, Lieutenant-Colonel Hill adds, that on the nights of the 19th and 20th, several houses in the parishes of Buttevant, Caherduggan, and Ballyhay were broken open and robbed of arms; and that the offenders, after meeting in large bodies, usually separate into smaller parties and make simultaneous attacks upon different houses, even as early as between six and seven in the evening, and in situations which might be supposed to afford protection to the householders.

The Officer commanding at Charleville reports various robberies of arms in the neighbourhood, and that the patrols are unsuccessful in discovering the parties of marauders, so as to frustrate their operations; that in one instance, whilst patrolling, shots were heard and signals resembling rockets were seen, but the party was not overtaken.

The principal event, however, which has occurred in this district, is stated in the inclosed letters from Major Carthew of the 39th, and Lord Bantry, and Mr. O'Sullivan. From the comparison of those several accounts, with the letter of Sir John Lambert also inclosed, you will be enabled to form a judgement of the character of this transaction, and of the nature of the disturbances recently so much extended in the neighbourhood of Macroom.

A Magistrate has reported to the Officer commanding at Charleville, that one man had been killed by the banditti at Newmarket on Sunday, and another on Monday and that Mr. Langford's house near Newmarket had been burnt to the ground.

The result of the facts stated in this dispatch, and its inclosures, seems to justify an opinion, that although no material change has occurred in any other part of Ireland, the disturbances in the vicinity of Macroom have assumed a more decided aspect of general disorder, and accordingly I have resorted to additional measures of precaution and military operation.

I am, &c. &c.

(Signed)

WELLESLEY.

(Inclosure A. in No. 4.)

Extract of a Letter from Major Carthew to Major-General Sir John Lambert, K. C. B.

SIR,

Bantry, 21 January 1822.

I have the honour to acquaint you, that I last evening received a requisition from the Earl of Bantry, for a party of the 39th regiment stationed here under my command, for the purpose of aiding the civil power, in apprehending certain persons charged with felony.

At 5 o'clock, A. M. we marched from hence, and arrived at the Glen of on the road to Macroom; an excessively strong pass, a distance of 10 or 12 miles; about 8 o'clock, Lord Bantry having previously intimated to me his having a few days ago, with a small number of mounted gentlemen, been attacked in this pass, and with difficulty made good their retreat. In consequence I posted my very small force (fourteen only) upon the heights at the entrance, for the purpose of preventing those in the Glen from being assailed with stones, in their retreat, from the immensely high cliffs: his Lordship, accompanied by about 35 mounted gentlemen, proceeded through the Glen towards Inchebulch, having succeeded in taking some prisoners, commenced their route back, when a rescue was attempted by a numerous banditti, who, as anticipated, took to the heights in order to cut off the party retiring through the Glen; my small force was not perceived until they came pretty close, when they instantly fired a shot. I then ordered my men to move forward, and drove them back a considerable distance: but their numbers increasing, and observing them ascending the mountain above us, obliged me to retreat, and with some difficulty and hard fighting, succeeded in

in regaining the pass. Their numbers, as far as I could judge, were about 500, many well armed with guns and ammunition; they were under some sort of discipline, having a regular bugle which sounded the advance and retreat; they fought in the most resolute and determined manner; my party, in keeping them in check, expended about 25 rounds a man; and as far as I could ascertain, we must have killed about twelve, and many wounded. It is with regret I have to state the loss of one of my men; from his impetuosity, and disregarding my orders, he was surrounded and knocked down and most barbarously beaten. I sent some men to endeavour to bring him off, and had taken him upon one of their backs, when the rebels rushed down upon them in such numbers, that we were obliged to abandon him. I beg to state that the country people are now so exasperated against this town, that the force at present stationed here is quite insufficient for the protection of the inhabitants, and to perform the aids to the civil power.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

CHARLES CARTHEW, 39th Reg.
Brevet Major.

Major Gen. Sir John Lambert, K. C. B.
Commanding Cork Districts.

(Inclosure B. in No. 4.)

*Copy of a Letter from the Earl of Bantry to the Right Honourable
Henry Goulburn.*

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to inform you for the information of His Excellency the Lord Lieutenant, that in consequence of information taken before me and Mr. O'Sullivan, against persons concerned in the late illegal assembly, I made application to Major Carthew for a party to aid the civil power. The Major was so obliging to accompany me with fourteen men, and I had two magistrates, constables, and tenantry, including the military fifty-five men. We went on horseback from Bantry at five o'clock yesterday morning. The Major took a position to defend a pass in the glen, and we proceeded through it. We had scarcely passed, when shouts, horns and bugle horns were sounded, and men in every direction appearing on the road, we were fired on; but judging the distance too far, we did not return the fire. A man came from the party who fired, with a pike in his hand, and asked if we were not Captain Rock's men; this man we made a prisoner, and, on our return, not finding the persons we went to apprehend at home, the Whiteboys firing, still advanced, and were received in the very best manner by Major Carthew. I detached Mr. O'Sullivan and ten to his support on foot, the nature of the ground not permitting cavalry to act. A great force was then collected, who kept a regular fire on the army; and it is with feelings of great regret I am obliged to state, that one soldier, too far in advance, was killed by strokes of spades, sticks, &c. Two of the persons who killed him were instantly shot dead, and from the fire of Major Carthew's detachment and Mr. O'Sullivan's, I believe many more have been killed and wounded. I was obliged to dislodge another party who were attempting to cut off our pass through the glen, which was effected in the most spirited manner.

To Major Carthew I am under the greatest obligations, not only for his assistance on this late occasion, but for his kind co-operation at all times; and I am convinced every man did his duty as far as it was possible in the presence of such numbers, and with so small a detachment. To Mr. O'Sullivan, Mr. White, and the other respectable persons who placed themselves under my directions, I feel the greatest gratitude. Every recommendation of mine was immediately acted upon.

I have, &c.

Tuesday, January 22, 1822.

(Signed) BANTRY.

Six prisoners were brought in.

The Right Honourable H. Goulburn,
&c. &c. &c.

(Inclosure C. in No. 4.)

Letter from Major-General Sir J. Lambert to Lieutenant-General Sir David Baird, G. C. B.

MY DEAR SIR,

Cork, January 24, 1822.

I HAVE just seen Mr. Sullivan from Bantry, who was present at the affair I reported the day before yesterday. By Major Carthew's letter of the 39th regiment, it seemed that the insurgents appeared in two parties, one of which might consist of about two hundred and fifty or three hundred, and the other sixty; the larger party had nine muskets at first, and afterwards ten, having got possession of the private's of the 39th regiment, who fell into their hands. The other party had five muskets; the others were irregularly armed. They evinced a great deal of determination; however there was nothing more in the character of the business than might be expected amongst the inhabitants of this mountainous country, who from habit are easily assembled. They are represented at all times as excessively wild and furious.

I remain, &c.,

Lieut.-General Sir David Baird,
G. C. B. &c. &c. &c.

(Signed) J. LAMBERT, M. G.

No. 5.

Extract of a Dispatch from Marquess Wellesley to the Right Honourable Robert Peel.

SIR,

Dublin Castle, January 29th, 1822.

SINCE the date of my last Dispatch, (No. 4.) I have received intelligence, stating that the disturbances in the county of Cork had assumed a still more decided appearance of insurrection; and the populace has proceeded to assemble in more numerous bodies in the day-time, and to resist and even to attack the civil power, and His Majesty's troops.

(No. 4.)

His Majesty's Government is already apprised of the affair which took place on the 21st, between a detachment of the 39th regiment, and the inhabitants of the mountainous district between Bantry and Macroom. That affair has been succeeded by others of a similar description; they are detailed in the communications from the Commander of the Forces; and I think it may be convenient to furnish you with an abstract of these transactions, according to the plan observed in this series of my dispatches.

On the 24th inst. a large body of persons attacked the mail coach passing from Tralee to Cork; and after having killed some of the horses, and wounded the guard, coachman, and a passenger, overturned the coach and obtained possession of the mail. On the receipt of this intelligence, Colonel Mitchell, who commanded at Macroom, proceeded from thence with a detachment of troops in the direction of Mill-street, near which place the coach had been attacked. He found there a large body of men partly armed; they made a shew of resistance, but upon being attacked by the troops, they fled with precipitation, and twenty-three prisoners were secured.

On the same day, two dragoons, dispatched with orders to the officer at Mill-street, were attacked and wounded on their road. The officer, under direction of a Magistrate, proceeded with some troops in the direction of Macroom, and met a large force of the insurgents, probably the same which had been encountered by Colonel Mitchell.

He reports the number opposed to him to have been nearly 5,000, armed with weapons of various descriptions, of which muskets formed but an inconsiderable proportion.

On the same day, in the neighbourhood of Charleville, a body of 300 persons, of whom the leader and several others were armed with muskets, effected the rescue of a man (who had been apprehended, and was in charge of a party of police), and compelled the police to retire.

On the 25th, intelligence was conveyed to Sir J. Lambert, that the whole male population, to the north of Bandon, was proceeding to the mountains; and it was

ascertained, that the previous night had been employed in assembling the people; and that large bodies had been observed in the morning, on their march in that direction. Colonel Mitchell again marched from Macroom in the direction of Mill-street, where the man conveying the mail had been that morning attacked and murdered. He found there a body, stated to amount to 2,000 men, posted on the heights, near the road; of these, about 1,000 descended to attack his detachment, and fired three shots; but on the advance of the troops, they immediately took to flight, leaving 30 prisoners in the hands of the military.

At the same time a very large body of people assembled in the neighbourhood of Newmarket and Kantuck; imagining, as is supposed, from the departure of some dragoons who had been stationed there, that the force of infantry remaining would be unequal to resistance.

The rioters approached the town of Newmarket, and occupied the road. A detachment of the 22d regiment rapidly dislodged them, and secured three prisoners.

On the evening of the same day a detachment of the 11th regiment was attacked, on its march from Macroom to Bandon, by a party of 60 men, who followed it for three miles, and took advantage of the inclosures to fire, and to retard the march of the King's troops.

It further appears, from various communications, that the greater part of the population of the northern part of the county of Cork had assembled in the mountains; and that they have in some places made demonstrations of attack, and in others, have committed outrages by day, with increased forces and boldness.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

WELLESLEY.

Right Honourable Robert Peel,
&c. &c. &c.

P A P E R S

Presented by His Majesty's Command,

RELATIVE TO THE

DISTURBED STATE OF IRELAND.

Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,
7 February 1822.