

Derbyshire Summer Assizes.

On Monday the High Sheriff, WILLIAM PALMER MOREWOOD, Esq. after receiving his friends at breakfast at Alfreton Park, entered this town about noon, attended by a most respectable company of gentlemen and tenantry. After dining at the King's Head Inn, they proceeded a short distance on the Nottingham Road to meet the Judges of Assize, the Hon. Sir JAMES ALLAN PARK and the Hon. Sir WILLIAM ELIAS TAUNTON, and escorted them into the town between five and six o'clock, when the Commission of Assize was opened at the County Hall.

Yesterday morning the Judges, accompanied by the High Sheriff, &c. attended Divine Service at All Saints Church, when a most excellent sermon was preached by the Rev. W. B. Sleath, D.D. from 1st Epistle to Timothy, 4th chapter, and part of the 8th verse, "Godliness is profitable unto all things, having promise of the life that now is and of that which is to come."

At twelve o'clock the Courts were opened with the usual formalities, when the following Gentlemen were sworn of the

GRAND JURY:

Sir WILLIAM BOOTHBY, Bart. FOREMAN.
Sir HENRY FITZ HERBERT, Bart.
HENRY SACHEVEREL WILMOT, Esq.
EDWARD STRUTT, Esq. M.P.
R. F. FORESTER, Esq. M.D.
FRANCIS MUNDY, Esq.
E. M. MUNDY, Esq.
COCKSHUTT HEATHCOTE, Esq.
JOHN READ, Esq.
A. N. E. MOSLEY, Esq.
FRANCIS BRADSHAW, Jun. Esq.
HUGH SCOTT, Esq.
W. L. CLOWES, Esq.
WILLIAM MUNDY, Esq.
G. W. NEWTON, Esq.
F. G. GOODWIN, Esq.
FRANCIS HURT, Esq.
W. E. NIGHTINGALE, Esq.
W. L. NEWTON, Esq.

Mr. JUSTICE TAUNTON in addressing the Gentlemen of the Grand Jury, said he was glad to state that but few cases would come before them for disposal, and these were almost all of an ordinary description, upon which with the exception of two, he did not consider it requisite to offer any comment. There were prisoners charged under the 9th George IV. chap. 31, with cutting and wounding with an intention to do bodily harm. The statute in question visited with the punishment of death an offender who, by maliciously stabbing and wounding another, deprived him of life, with those who might be aiding and abetting at the same time, but provided that where this occurrence did not happen, the offence was to be regarded as an aggravated misdemeanour. In the former case the crime would be murder, in the latter punishable as an assault committed under aggravated circumstances. His Lordship said he might also remark upon the case of the two prisoners in the calendar where death had ensued from the fighting a pitched battle. The second in that case was to be held equally guilty with the principal, being at the time of the fight actually engaged with him. He should not detain them any longer, but dismiss them to their duties, no lengthened observations being required, and indeed he might be perhaps considered as unnecessarily addressing them at all, since from the nature of the offences which would come before them, they were all fully and perfectly qualified to pass a correct judgment upon them.

Shadrack Wade, aged 20, was placed at the bar charged with stealing 60lbs. weight of hay at Codnor Park, the property of Mr. George Webster.—Prosecutor being called, stated that he resides in Codnor Park; the Cromford Canal joins his premises; a quantity of new hay lay in the field; saw prisoner at the lock adjoining it; observed on the Saturday evening previous some old hay lying in the boat, but no new; the next morning witness again saw the boat, and a quantity of new hay was in it; prisoner was then on the boat; on referring afterwards to the place where the new hay lay, he observed a quantity had been taken away, and he traced it to the stable where prisoner kept his horse.—Joseph Wallis, a constable, also traced the hay to the prisoner's boat.—Guilty; to be imprisoned 3 months and kept to hard labour.

James Bennett, aged 57, was charged with stealing a quantity of slates at Glossopp.—George Tomlinson, woodman to the Duke of Norfolk, stated that a building belonging to his Grace, at Glossopp, was taken down in June last; some slates were laying on the ground; when he was keeping watch in the evening, he saw the prisoner fetch some slates away.—Guilty: To be imprisoned one month and kept to hard labour.

Thomas Wheatcroft, aged 31, charged with stealing six scythe sticks at Crich.—William Shipston, a scythe stick manufacturer, at that place, stated that on the 8th July, he was aroused at half after three in the morning by his dog barking; on looking out of the window he saw the prisoner taking his scythe sticks, which he ran away with.—Guilty: To be imprisoned six months and kept to hard labour.

George Miller, aged 29, for stealing a mare at Lower Shugburgh, in Warwickshire.—William Billson, the prosecutor, said he turned a mare into a lane at Lower Shugburgh, on the 3d July in the morning, and the next day at half after four o'clock she was missing; had since seen her in the possession of Mr. Miers, of Ashbourn; Lower Shugburgh is 79 miles from Ashbourn.—Mr. Miers, on the 5th of July saw prisoner in the Wheat Sheaf Inn, with Mr. Mellor; he offered the mare for sale, and asked £10. for her; Mellor bought her for £9. 10s.; prisoner told witness he purchased the mare at Belton Fair five weeks before, (but in his examination before the Magistrates at Ashbourn, he gave a different account.)—Guilty: To be transported for life.

William Jackson, charged with stealing a smock frock at Brampton, on the 19th May.—William Hopkinson was working in a wood on the day in question, when he took off his frock and put it in a charcoal cabin, from whence it was taken; prisoner afterwards pledged it for 2s. 6d.—Guilty: to be imprisoned 6 calendar months.

William Proffett, aged 27, charged with stealing a linen shirt at Newton Solney, the property of Mr. Wm. Eaton.—The prosecutor stated that on Tuesday last, the 15th July, he missed a shirt that was hanging on the hedge to dry; went to the pawnbroker's at Burton-upon-Trent, and found it there; witness then went with Roe, the constable, to the sign of the Swan, where they saw the prisoner.—Richard Roe searched prisoner, and found the pawnbroker's ticket upon him, by which it appeared he pawned the shirt for 2s. and in his examination afterwards before Sir Oswald Mosley, Bart. he acknowledged having committed the offence.—Guilty: to be imprisoned 6 months.

George Curzon, aged 70, pleaded guilty to stealing a leather purse or pouch at Ticknall, containing one sovereign and two half crowns, the property of John Mallory.—Guilty: to be transported for life.