

## CHRONICLE.

## BRITISH NEWS.

London, July 15.

**Y**ESTERDAY the Revolution Society dined at the Crown and Anchor Tavern to celebrate the Anniversary of the French Revolution.

Lord Stanhope having thought proper to decline the Chair, Mr. Rous undertook that arduous office. A number of toasts were drank, suited to the occasion.

Yesterday a number of idle people assembled at the front of Newgate, and with many threats demanded the liberation of Lord George Gordon, that he might participate with his worthy brethren in the celebration of the fourteenth of July.

The mob in a short time became so numerous, that it was deemed necessary to call in the assistance of the military. A body of soldiers were in consequence sent for; and, on their arrival, the mob, who but an instant before threatened Newgate with destruction, immediately dispersed.

Similar proceedings in the neighbourhood of King's Bench Prison, rendered it necessary to send a guard thither.

## DISTURBANCES AT BIRMINGHAM.

July 17.

The populace of Birmingham conceiving that a commemoration of French anarchy in this country was an insult to the Majesty of the constitution, and a design to disturb the general and enviable tranquillity, assembled on Thursday before Dadsley's Hotel, where about eighty persons were met for the purpose of celebrating the glorious 14th of July. We lament, however, that what certainly proceeded from so laudable a principle, should end in consequences so unjustifiable; but their resentment being once warmed, soon became inflamed, and the influence communicated to certain religious conventicles, where they conceived an opposite, though not less inflamable spirit, originated.

By eight o'clock, upwards of two thousand persons were collected; their first act was to break all the windows of the hotel—they then proceeded to Dr. Priestley's new meeting house, which they shortly consumed—the old meeting house became next the object of their fury, and shared the same fate. Irritated by one another against the Dissenters, they determined, (una voce) to destroy Dr. Priestley's dwelling-house at Fairhill, one mile from Birmingham. It was accordingly beset a-

bout midnight, and before ten o'clock the following morning, was entirely demolished. We lament to hear that his library and laboratory, with all his philosophical apparatus, were consumed, as well as every other article in the house. The Dr. was apprized of their intentions in time to escape with his family to a house in the neighbourhood. On Friday morning nine persons were found dead in the streets, and several others have been dangerously wounded, by the falling of houses &c. &c.

Many houses belonging to some of the principal dissenters, have been marked for destruction; and, unless the arrival of the military should put an end to the commotion, the consequences may prove fatal to the whole town. Trade is entirely at a stand, and every thing is in the greatest confusion.

Orders were on Saturday sent from the Secretary of State's office to the High Sherriff of the county of Warwick to call forth immediately the *posse comitatis* of the county to quell the commotions at Birmingham.

Lord Aylesford was very active in pacifying the mob at Birmingham, and his endeavours were attended with some success.

At York, Manchester, Derby, Bristol, and some other places where the Revolutionists assembled on the 14th inst, the populace shewed strong inclination to rise, but were prevented by the precautions taken by the magistrats.

## RIOTS AT BIRMINGHAM.

Friday Evening, July 15.

This day, after the mob had completed the destruction of Dr. Priestley's house and laboratory, by fire, and also his garden, the Earl of Aylesford, and some other gentlemen, led a great part of the rioters from Sparkbrook to Birmingham, in hopes of dispersing them, but without effect.

A great number, about one o'clock, assembled round the elegant mansion of Mr. John Ryland (formerly the residence of Mr. Baskerville, the celebrated printer,) which had lately been enlarged and beautified at a great expence. The most soothing means were adopted to make them desist—money was even offered them to induce them to retire, but to no purpose; for, first exhausting the contents of the cellar, they set fire to the house and furniture. The conflagration was dreadful!

The rioters being divided into parties, and