

The disappointment which the Public met with on Thursday, at Greenwich, in not seeing Mr. BARRETT ascend in his English Balloon, seemed only to excite in them a greater curiosity to behold him yesterday, and we really believe that the assemblage of people from London and the neighbouring villages, was greater than on the preceding day. Many no doubt were led by a wish to see how Mr. Barrett would manage his Balloon after all that had been said on the occasion, and others, perhaps, attended under the impression that there would be no ascension at all; but that it would end in a riot. There was also a third description of persons, who expected an ascension to take place. From these circumstances, there was scarce an eminence in Greenwich or its vicinity but was filled with spectators. At two o'clock, which was near the hour that the Public expected to see the Balloon in readiness to ascend, the tops of every house in sight of Mr. ANDRADE'S ground, were crowded with people, as well as several scaffolds erected in the gardens and adjacent premises. A large shed, belonging to a Blacksmith, on which a number of persons had been permitted to stand, fell shortly after this period, with a tremendous crash, which alarmed every one who witnessed the accident, as it was known that there were also many persons under it at the time, and nothing less was thought but that many persons must have been killed, or had their limbs broken, when it miraculously turned out that the whole injury sustained was a few slight bruises. It so happened that the timber with which the upper part of the shed was covered did not fall quite to the ground, having been checked in its descent by an old wall, which saved the lives of all those underneath.

It was now three o'clock, and the Balloon was brought to the ground, and was placed in a proper situation on a platform, similar to that used at Vauxhall Gardens by Mr. Garnerin, to receive the gas. At first no great progress was made in filling it, which put the populace, for the moment, in bad spirits, but in a short time it was observed to swell more rapidly, which changed the face of affairs, and though it was visible, if it ascended at all in the course of the evening, that it must be at a late hour, still nothing was observed like riotous conduct. It is true, during the filling of the Balloon, several of the light-fingered gentry contrived to empty the pockets of some of the spectators. One of them was taken in the fact and properly secured. This gang was much to be feared, as they were the same desperadoes who made so much confusion at the Duke of Bedford's funeral; and acted with great brutality to several Ladies in the neighbourhood of Lord's Cricket-ground on the day that Mr. Garnerin ascended in that quarter. Mr. Goodyear, a Magistrate, took great pains to hunt out these villains, and with great spirit and coolness assembled together several stout men, and determined, as fast as they could be found, to lay hold of them, by virtue of an Act of Parliament that lately passed for taking into custody reputed thieves. They however, from the bustle which had previously taken place, had thought proper to decamp.

As the evening advanced, the mob on the outside got noisy, when Mr. Andrade, who neglected nothing that could keep them in good humour, provided a small band of music which played several favourite tunes on the ground. About four o'clock, Mr. and Mrs. Garnerin, and two friends, came into the grounds in great splendour, and were much followed by the Company. The French Aeronaut viewed with great attention the balloon, while filling, as well as the casks and other utensils used on the occasion; a smile was perceivable on his countenance, but whether it was a token of approbation or contempt we had not penetration to discover. Captain Sowden certainly deserves the thanks of the Public for his great exertions both night and day in forwarding the completion of the balloon; being no otherwise interested in the event than wishing to retrieve his countryman from the disagreeable situation in which he was placed.

At five o'clock fresh vitriol was put in the casks, which Captain Sowden thought not so good as the first which was used, and apprehensions again began to be entertained of the ascension not taking place during the evening. Several wagers were actually laid on the ground respecting the event. The mob now began to be rather violent, and several of the Artillery were called on the ground to enforce good order; but notwithstanding this precaution, the populace overpowered the men who kept the door, and near a hundred gained admittance. The pick-pockets by this time had muttered fresh courage, and began again to shew themselves, when three more of them were taken into custody. It was here observed that the gas made its escape at the valve, to prevent which, Mr. Garnerin advised the superintendants to wet it; which had the effect of making it fit more close.

At 7 o'clock the mob shewed again a disposition to riot, and were guilty of the most shameful conduct, in breaking down the trees and taking away the fruit by force; for the grounds now contained at least five thousand people, very few of whom had paid for admittance, and they had entirely the upper hand of the Constables and the Artillerymen. Several desperate battles took place in which the mob proved themselves the strongest; a celebrated Bruiser, and several others of that description, were engaged in a contest with the Constables, and at one time succeeded in rescuing a man who had been taken into custody for misconduct, and at length every thing was left to their mercy.

Eight o'clock began to approach, and notwithstanding every pains had been taken to inflate the Balloon for five hours, it did not appear more than half filled, but the clamour was getting so outrageous, that it was determined to try it in its present state, as a general opinion prevailed that no time whatever would be sufficient to render it complete, as the different materials which formed the gas had not been properly proportioned. It was, however, afterwards found that two holes had been cut in the balloon, near to the place where the tubes were fixed, which of itself was sufficient to account for its not filling. In this state did Mr. Barrett, Captain Sowden, and Mr.

Madox (a brewer of Tonley-street), got into the car, to try whether the balloon would ascend with them, but it was found that it would not rise from the ground. Mr. Madox and Capt. Sowden got out, and left Mr. Barrett to make a trial by himself, but even then it would not answer the purpose.

No other alternative was now left but to send the Balloon up by itself, as there was no doubt of its ascending in that way. The car was then taken away, and a child's cradle put in its place, together with two flags; the cords were let go, and a more majestic ascension was never witnessed. It took a rapid perpendicular direction, the atmosphere was exceedingly clear, and it was observed at a greater height than any we ever remember to have seen. From the time of its ascension to that of disappearing was about ten minutes, and the people were so pleased with the sight while it lasted, that they forgot all the disappointments they had undergone.

About an hour after the Balloon had ascended, information arrived at Mr. Andrade's that it had fallen in some marshes near the river, about three miles from Greenwich, in a field called Bugby's Hole, belonging to Mr. Monkchester, and was immediately taken possession of by a Mr. Chandler, of Greenwich, who, after expressing the remaining gas, conveyed it to his house. The Balloon is not the least injured, and Mr. Chandler expressed his readiness to deliver it to Mr. Barrett or his friends.

Mr. Madox had his pocket picked of five guineas on the scaffold.

Of all those who enjoyed the sight of the ascension of the balloon, none viewed it with half the extacy that Mr. Andrade did, for with it he got rid of a heavy load of anxiety and care.