



Maying Celebration Disruption

On Thursday, the 1st inst. the annual custom of Maying was held at the village of Redenham, near Appleshaw [Hampshire]. A handsome garland was erected, and a genteel company assembled, who joined in the merry dance and other innocent amusements, until the close of the evening. Everything passed with cheerfulness and good humour, until a party of evil-disposed persons arrived from the town of Ludgershall, who carried away the Maypole and garland in triumph, and placed it near the Market-cross in Ludgershall, where they danced around it the next [Friday] evening.

On Saturday, about midnight, some persons bent upon mischief, committed various depredations, from the Andover turnpike road, through Appleshaw, Redenham, to Biddesden House, on the way to Ludgershall, by breaking windows, destroying and removing gates, stiles, rails, faggot piles, and everything that came in their way. It is strongly suspected that the same persons who carried away the Maypole and garlands from Redenham, were the common disturbers on that night.

Rewards of ten guineas, five guineas, &c. are offered for the discovery of the offenders so disturbing the public at such an unusual hour. A large stone was thrown through the chamber window of a gentleman in Appleshaw, which nearly struck him while lying in his bed, but happily no further damage ensued than breaking the glass of the chamber window. A window of the public-house at Redenham was also broken, as were several gates belonging to Mr. Everett, of Biddesden House. It is to be hoped the handsome rewards offered by different persons will be the means of bring the offenders to justice.

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