

Lion. I noticed Thomas Wakes [a small dealer in coals] who was halloing out 'Norreys, I told you we would burn Lord Norreys, I told you he should be burnt'. He walked arm in arm with two others. First row of mob had linked arms across the road. I could not get through them, went back some distance. When mob reached house where Mobley [prisoner] lived [I] think Mobley came out and men halted and made way for him. He went into middle of them, formed a circle round him, had some conversations in low voice. Then 50-60 voices shouted 'we will do it, let us go'. Move on and I went to Red Lion. About an hour later I was standing in Red Lion Street, opposite the Star, the yeomanry under command of Major Stratton ... understanding they were going to quell mob I accompanied them. On arriving at Neithrop I saw a large fire in Drinkwater's close ... &c... thinks it was prisoner Cotton who threw the stone which hit Stratton. Known Cotton for several years, a boat builder in Banbury. Major hurt. Cotton incited horse to bolt. Stratton insensible. Saw William Austin mention Mobley. William Castle of Banbury, son of the poulterer, came to me and said he would knock my brain out, but was prevented by John Bloxham, a special constable.

Affirmation of William Bennett of Bloxham, carpenter, made 27 December 1830:

I am a member of the Bloxham and Banbury yeomanry commanded by Major Stratton. On Monday 29 November last a detachment of the corps was on duty at Banbury and about the hour of 9 of the night that day the detachment marched from Banbury into the adjoining hamlet of Neithrop. I accompanied it. On our arrival in the village [sic] I perceived a large fire in a field near to it. The detachment marched to the field. I saw a large mob collected round a thrashing machine the property of Joseph Pain which they were burning. As the detachment entered the fields the mob cried out to the yeomanry 'Cowards, cowards, come on, come on, and instantly took large pieces of timber from the fire and threw them amongst the yeomanry. The yeomanry had but just passed through the gate into the field when I observed a person whom I believe to be Joseph Upton throw a fire brand towards the yeomanry, and it struck my horse. A great many fire brands were afterwards thrown at the yeomanry, and I, with some others, dismounted and proceeded towards the fire. At that instant the same person, to the best of my belief, who had thrown the fire brand which struck my horse, was advancing from the fire with a large fire brand, and as he was in the act of throwing it at