



Railway Labourers Strike turns Violent

On Monday week a number of railway labourers, at Codford and Stockton struck for wages. At 2 p.m. they went on the works and commenced a violent attack on those who refused to join them. Wm. Barnes and George Abrahams, two of the men at work, were seriously injured; and the latter has not since left his bed. He was knocked down and jumped upon. It has been ascertained this strike was agreed on at Wiley, on the previous Sunday. Superintendent Abbott was soon on the spot, with eleven police constables and took five of the party into custody, when others, who had taken an active part in the affray absconded. Other labourers were soon found and the work went on as usual. Those apprehended were confined in the cells at Warminster till Saturday last, when they were brought before W. Temple and J. Davis, esqrs. Two of them were discharged and three remanded to Fisherton gaol for seven days, in order that the man who is unable to attend may be brought to give evidence against them. – Messrs. Todd, Dawson, Haywood and Galley, connected with the works, were on Saturday last sworn in as special constables.

(Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette, 16th February, 1854)