Petition of William Hibbert of Hollinwood

House of Commons, Votes and Proceedings, 15 May 1821

Transcribed by Lauren Jaye Gradwell

(No.579)

A Petition of *William Hibbert,* of *Hollinwood*, in the township of Oldham, and County Palatine of *Lancaster,* Hatter, was presented, and read; setting forth, that the Petitioner was at the meeting at *Manchester* on the 16th of August 1819; that the people were peaceable and orderly, nor did he see any indication of tumult or disturbance until the arrival of the *Manchester* Yeomanry Cavalry, who, with horrid oaths and imprecations, immediately commenced a most furious and brutal attack upon the peaceable and unoffending multitude, cutting, as appeared to the Petitioner, indiscriminately all within their reach, without regard to age or sex, although there were assembled in the Meeting great numbers of women and children; that the Petitioner endeavoured to make his escape, but was prevented by the density of the crowd, and was severely pressed against the Windmill public house; that the Petitioner in endeavouring to escape from thence was met by one of the *Manchester* Yeomanry Cavalry, who made a cut at him, and inflicted a wound on his head; the Petitioner therefore prays the House to institute an inquiry into the transactions of that dreadful day.