

Petition of Biddy Monks of Manchester

House of Commons, Votes and Proceedings, 15 May 1821

Transcribed by Lauren Jaye Gradwell

(No. 591)

A Petition of *Biddy Monks*, of *Manchester*, in the County of *Lancaster*, was presented and read; setting forth, That the Petitioner attended the Meeting on the 16th of August, 1819, which was held on *St. Peter's* Field, in *Manchester*; the Petitioner, who is upwards of 70 years of age, was accompanied by her daughter to the Meeting; in order to avoid the pressure, the Petitioner stood at a considerable distance from the hustings; the greatest peace and good order pervaded the Meeting; the Yeomanry Cavalry rode most furiously amongst the people, cutting and maiming indiscriminately all who were within their reach; one of the Yeomanry inflicted a severe sabre wound on the left arm of the Petitioner, which brought the Petitioner to the ground, in which situation the Petitioner was trampled on by the Cavalry; the Petitioner's shoulder was dislocated, her legs dreadfully lacerated, and her left side crushed in; in this state the Petitioner was led off the ground by her daughter, who was frequently obliged to use entreaties and supplications to the Yeomanry to desist from again striking at the Petitioner; in consequence of the injuries received the Petitioner has been ever since in a very weak state of health, and is without hope of ever again being perfectly restored; and praying That the House will be pleased to cause such inquiry to be instituted into this shocking outrage as may bring the perpetrators of it to justice.