

**Home:** 1 Watson St, Manchester [Elizabeth, the Lodging House  
keeper? See 530-2]

**Date:** 9 October 1819

**Source:** Lees Inquest 521-4, 529-32

**Summary:** Testified that at 2 O'Clock on 16 August 1819 soldiers and constables burst into her house to arrest a man after firing three shots through the upstairs sash windows. Later added that Testified describing the nature of the soldiers entering her house twice, looking for someone allegedly throwing stones at them from upstairs; approximately one hour after the dispersal of the crowds in St.Peter's-Field.

**Done by:** CW

---

Mrs. RAYBORN called by Mr. HARMER.

*[This Witness entered the room, and took her station by the Coroner, apparently without his notice at first.]*

The Coroner—*(looking at the Witness, and then turning to Mr. Barrow)*— Do you produce this woman?

Mr. Barrow—No; she is produced by Mr. Harmer.

Mr. Harmer—I called her, Sir.

The WITNESS sworn by the CORONER, and examined by Mr. HARMER.

Q. Where do you live, Mrs. Rayborn?

A. In Watson Street.

Q. In what house in Watson Street?

A. At No. 1, in Watson Street.

Q. On the day of the Meeting, were there any guns fired from your house by any of the persons living in it?

A. No such thing. We never had any thing of the sort in our possession.

Q. Could any person get from the inside of your house on the roof, so as to assault anybody by throwing stones or otherwise, on the outside?

A. No, they could not. It was examined and they could not.

Q. We will come to the examination presently. But was your house attacked by any body?

A. Yes; when they first came to the door, I thought it was some of the crowd that wanted to come in.

Q. Was the door locked?

A. Yes, it was.

Q. Did it pass through your window?

A. It passed through the window, and the bullet took the plaster off the ceiling and the wall.

Q. Did you, upon this, open your door?

A. I did not open it myself, for my fright was too great; but a young man did open it.

Q. Was he one of your lodgers?

A. Yes, Mr. Perry. He opened the door, and said, "Gentlemen, what do you want?"

Q. Who came into the house?

A. Some soldiers and constables.

Q. What did they say?

A. They caught hold of him just by his breast.

Q. Who did they catch hold of?

A. Thomas Perry; and he pointed his sword at him; and he said, "You rascal, you have been throwing stones.;" and, he told them he never saw a stone, nor never touched one. Then they seized hold of Mr. Wilson, a young man, and the sergeant pointed his sword at him, and cut his coat; and with me being so frightened, I ran betwixt them, and he said he did believe that he really would have run the sword through him, if I had not got between them.

Q. That is since.

The Coroner (*to Mr. Harmer*)—How do you know it is since?

Mr. Harmer—I only wish to prevent her giving any improper evidence, Sir.

The examination of the WITNESS resumed by Mr. HARMER.

Q. Did he say so at the time, or since?

A. He said so at the time.

Q. Well, what next?

A. He took him out of the town, and they struck him different times.

Q. What "they?"

A. The constables and soldiers together.

Q. Did any of the constables, or soldiers, go up stairs to examine your house?

A. Yes, they did. The first time they went up, they did not do any thing; but the second time of going up, they fired upon the first landing.

Q. They went up twice then?

A. Yes. When they got above, they fired twice up stairs, and they found there was no road there, by which they could get to the top of the house, and then they left the house.

Q. Now was there any person in your family, or in your house, that assaulted the soldiers, or constables, previous to the breakage that you have mentioned?

A. No such thing. Nothing of the sort.

Q. Were there any fire-arms in your house, previous to the constables and soldiers coming there?

A. No; I never had such a thing in the house in my life.

Q. Or any of your people?

A. No; none of the people in the house.

Q. Are the broken window, and the broken panel, still observable at your house?

A. Yes; only the panel is slipped in again; but my daughter has the part to produce. She also has the bullet.

Q. Your daughter's name is Ann?