

Petition of James Chisnall, of Royton [also known as Chisnell]

House of Commons, *Votes and Proceedings*, 29 November 1819

Transcribed by Lauren Jaye Gradwell

(No. 36)

A Petition of *James Chisnall*, of *Royton*, in the County Palatine of *Lancaster*, was presented, and read; setting forth, That the Petitioner was at a meeting at *Manchester* on the 16th day of August in the present year, which meeting was appointed for the discussion of certain topics connected with the Government of these Realms, and was convened by public advertisement, according to the form prescribed by Law; but notwithstanding its legality, it was violently assailed by an armed force, denominated the *Manchester* Yeomanry Cavalry, who, without any cause or pretext, or without any violence having been committed by the people so assembled, furiously rode in amongst them, cutting, bruising, and trampling upon them, without distinction of age, sex, or condition; that in this scene of carnage and of horror, he received two wounds from the sabre, namely, one upon his head, and the other on the joint of his elbow, besides which, he was miserably bruised in various parts of the body, had both shoulders dislocated, and the collar-bone of his right side broken; that violent as was the outrage, and severe as have been his sufferings, and justified as he would have been in expatiating upon them at length, yet, confiding in the humanity of the House, he will not trespass further on their attention than to pray, That such measures may be instituted as will bring the authors of this violence, and its executors, to that punishment which deeds so atrocious justly merit.