

Petition of William Booth, Manchester.

House of Commons, *Votes and Proceedings*, 15th May 1821.

Transcribed by Helen Eden

A petition of William Booth, of Manchester, Lancashire, was presented, and read; setting forth, that the petitioner was one of those who attended the meeting held on the 16th of August on St Peter's Plain in Manchester; the petitioner saw no tumult on the part of the people, all was peaceable and quiet, when a body of the Manchester Yeomanry Cavalry, who were evidently in a state of intoxication, made a furious charge upon the assembly, riding and cutting down all who stood in their way; the petitioner, in endeavouring to get away, was attacked by one of the Cavalry of the name Benson, from whom he escaped, but was afterwards assailed by others of the Yeomanry, who struck him to the ground five different times; the petitioner received a deep sabre wound to the head, besides having his knee dislocated, and he was much bruised in several parts of his body; the petitioner therefore humbly prays, that the House will be pleased to institute such inquiry into this brutal outrage as shall bring the inhuman perpetrators of it to justice.