

Petition of John Brookes of Manchester

House of Commons, Votes and Proceedings, 15 May 1821

Transcribed by Lauren Jaye Gradwell

(No. 633)

A Petition of *John Brookes, of Manchester*, in the County of *Lancaster* was presented, and read; setting forth, that the Petitioner, while exercising a right which the Petitioner conceived he enjoyed, in common with every Englishman, by attending a Meeting held on *St. Peter's Field*, in *Manchester*, on the 16<sup>th</sup> of August 1819, the Petitioner was violently assailed by a Military Force; a foot-soldier gave the Petitioner a desperate wound on the head, which disabled the Petitioner for upwards of one month; the Petitioner gave no provocation whatever to any of the soldiers, nor to any other person; neither did the Petitioner see any tumult, or any disposition on the part of the people to commit any; the Petitioner saw the Cavalry cut-most furiously at the people; the Petitioner saw many persons who were wounded, and several who were killed; and the Petitioner conceives that wilful murder was committed; the Petitioner humbly prays that the House would be pleased to cause an inquiry to be made into these transactions.