

Petition of Elizabeth Cade of Manchester

House of Commons, Votes and Proceedings, 15 May 1821

Transcribed by Lauren Jaye Gradwell

(No. 605)

A Petition of *Elizabeth Cade*, of *Manchester*, was presented, and read; setting forth, That the Petitioner was at the Meeting held in *Manchester* on the 16th of August, 1819; the Petitioner saw no disposition to tumult on the part of the people; the Petitioner is humbly of opinion, that no provocation whatever was given, when the Yeomanry Cavalry made a furious charge upon the Meeting; who cut at, and rode over all they came at; the Petitioner was rode down by Major *Birley*, of the *Manchester* Troop of Yeomanry Cavalry, and trampled on by his horse; while on the ground, the Petitioner received a violent blow on the head from one of the Special Constables, who struck her with a truncheon; the Petitioner was carried out of the crowd in a state of insensibility; and was so severely crushed and bruised, that she was obliged to seek an asylum in the parish workhouse of *Rochdale*, in the County of *Lancaster* (the Petitioner being a widow with two small children), where she lay for four months; the Petitioner humbly prays, That the House will institute an inquiry into the transactions which took place relative to the above Meeting.