

The Extension of Suffrage



A virtual museum by Bella Gray

The Peterloo massacre

(named after the battle of Waterloo)



16th August 1819

In St Peters Field, Manchester, 60.000 men and women and children converged peacefully on an open space. Most were from the cotton industry and were carrying homemade flags. These flags, showed support for political reform and an extension of the franchise.

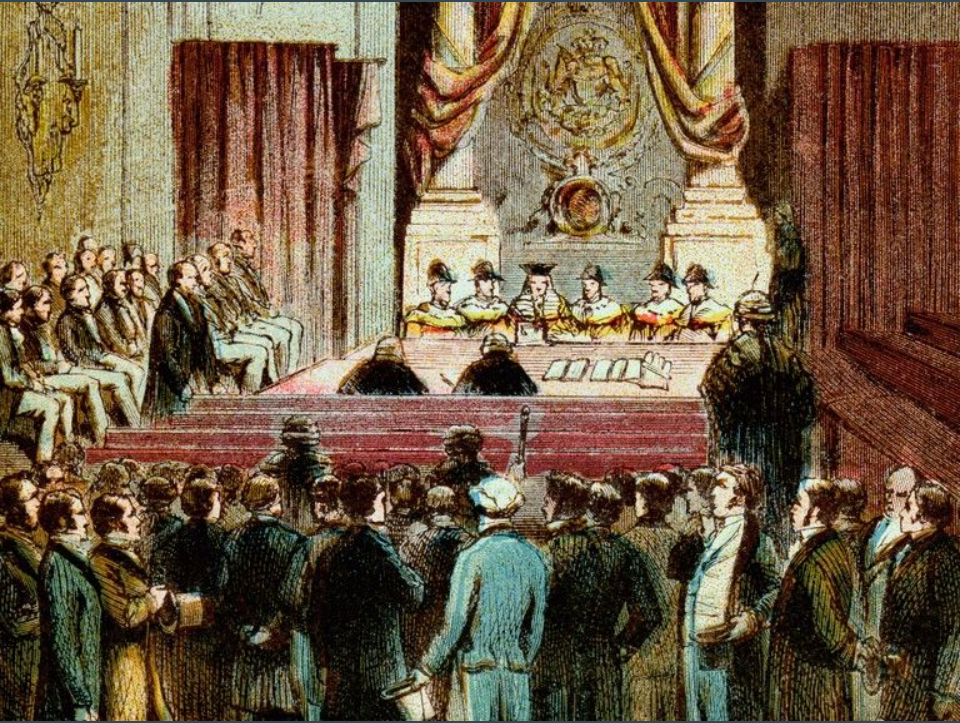
However, this non-violent protest soon became a bloody massacre. The magistrate ordered soldiers to break up the meeting. 15 were killed and over 600 were injured.



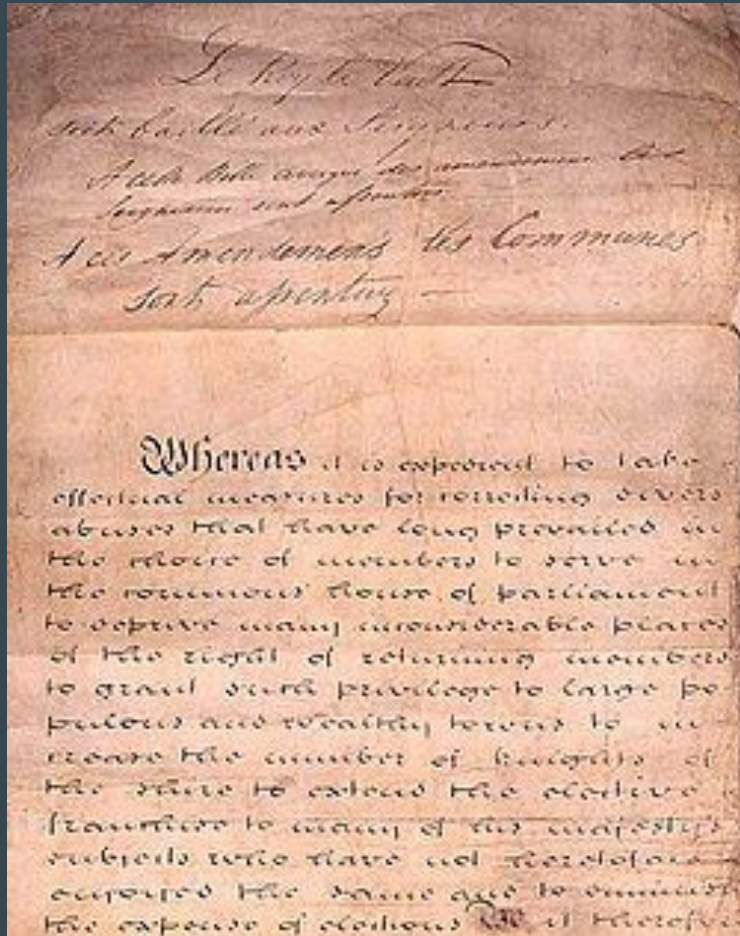


This is a likeness of Henry ‘Orator’ Hunt; often called the ‘Champion of People’ because he took the leading role of the campaign for universal suffrage. This means the right to vote for all men and women. As well as breaking up the meeting, the soldiers were ordered to arrest Hunt which put him in jail for 2 years!

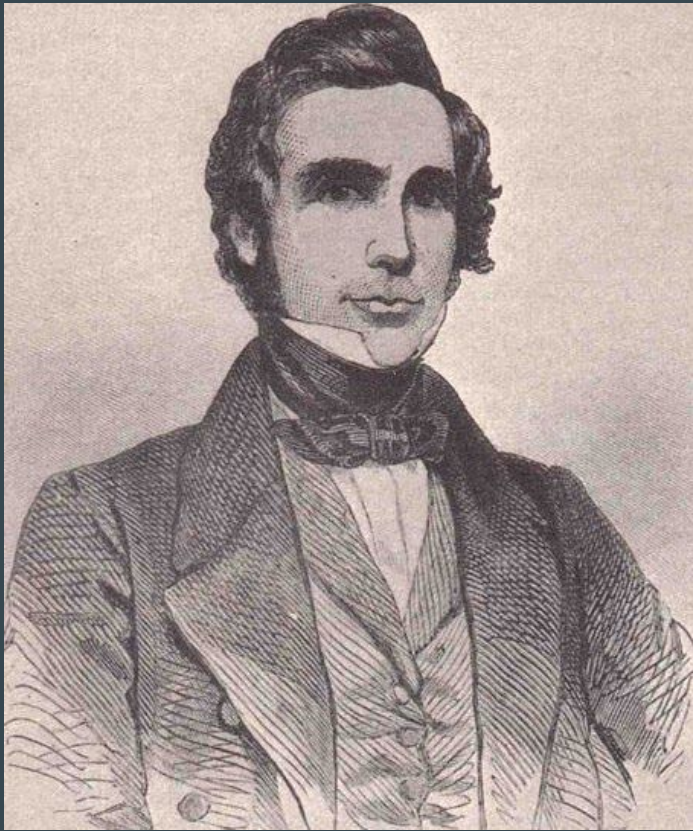
After Peterloo



After the peterloo massacre, the soldiers were cleared of wrongdoing and journalists who were against the soldiers were arrested and taken to court. This outrage led eventually to The Great Reform Act.



The Great Reform Act, 1832.
Firstly, it gave the vote to men living in towns who owned property worth more than £10 per year. And later , it extended to middle-class men, such as bankers, but excluded 6 out of 7 adult men in Britain and all women. Because of this, 8% of the population could now vote.



**William Lovett, leader of the
chartist movement.**

Chartists and The Charter
Chartists were working people
with aims to

- **Have votes for all**
- **Secret ballots**
- **Regular parliaments**
- **Payment of MP's**

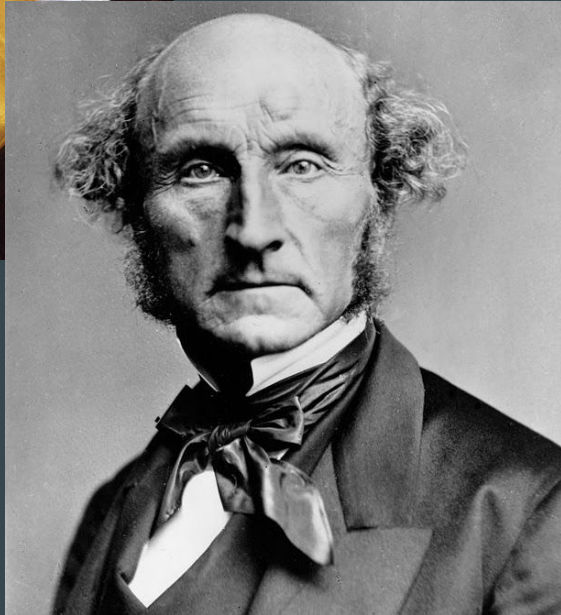
overall , it was to gain political
rights for the working class.
They achieved these aims by
introducing the charter.

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William Cuffey (or Cuffay) was elected leader and planned lots of movements protests and rallies. He also campaigned for political rights for working people. He was not very successful though. This is because his 1848 rally was abandoned and got arrested and had to do hard labour as a result of it.

First Women's Campaigns



Harriet Taylor Mill and John Stuart Mill

TIMELINE:

1851- Harriet wrote 'The Enfranchisement of Women' which was about women's right to vote and equality in all areas of life.

1866- John's petition for the Langham Place Group asking for women's suffrage but it got turned down by male MP's.

1868- John tried another petition which gathered more signatures

1869- John wrote 'The Subjection of Women' which echoed Harriet's ideas.

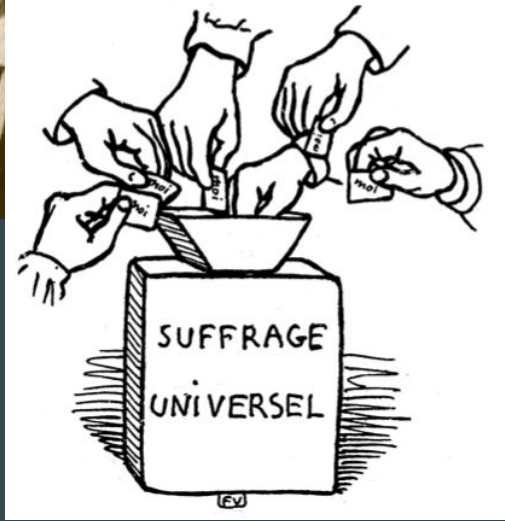
**The Langham Place Group
Founded in 1857 by Barbara
Bodichon, the langham place
group campaigns on issues that
affect women, such as votes for
women. Most members were
middle class women such as
Elizabeth Garrett Anderson: the
first woman to qualify as a
doctor in England.**





Lydia Becker and the Manchester Suffrage Society
Becker was elected to the first Manchester School Board and fascinated with women and girls education. She wrote the *Women's Suffrage Journal* which is a record of rallies, campaigns e.t.c. She also had a passion for Women's right to vote.

Later Women's Campaigns



Women or Adult suffrage?

If you were for women suffrage, you would want women to have the same voting rights as men.

However, only if they owned a certain amount of property.

If you were for adult suffrage, you would also want women to have the same voting rights as men.

The difference is that you wouldn't need any property qualifications to vote.



Millicent Fawcett
Fawcett supports the women's suffrage movement. In 1870, she played a massive role in the founding of Newnham College, Cambridge. In 1890, Millicent was elected President of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.



NUWSS

The NUWSS was initially filled with middle-class women. As a result of there being 600 branches across the country and they all helped decide how to campaign, some working women had a say in the movement as well. The NUWSS support women's suffrage rather than adult suffrage.



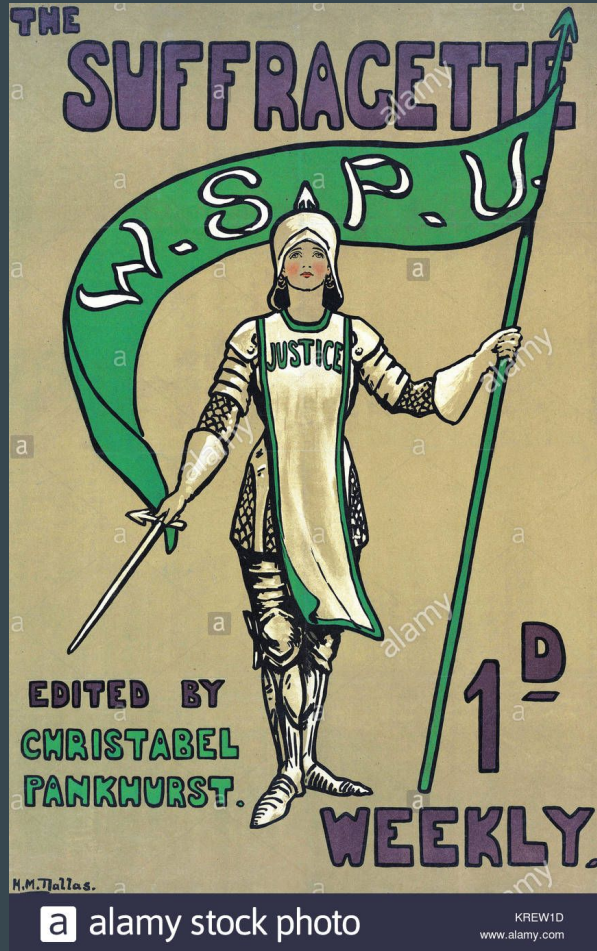
WSPU

The WSPU (starting in 1903) was made because of the lack of progress made about women's suffrage. They cared so much that they even broke the law and got arrested just for publicity. It even got to the extent that some of the WSPU even planted bombs and burnt down houses. They had violent but effective strategies which included awful things like illegal things but also strategies that were sly and simple such as the green white and purple colours on their badges and banners.



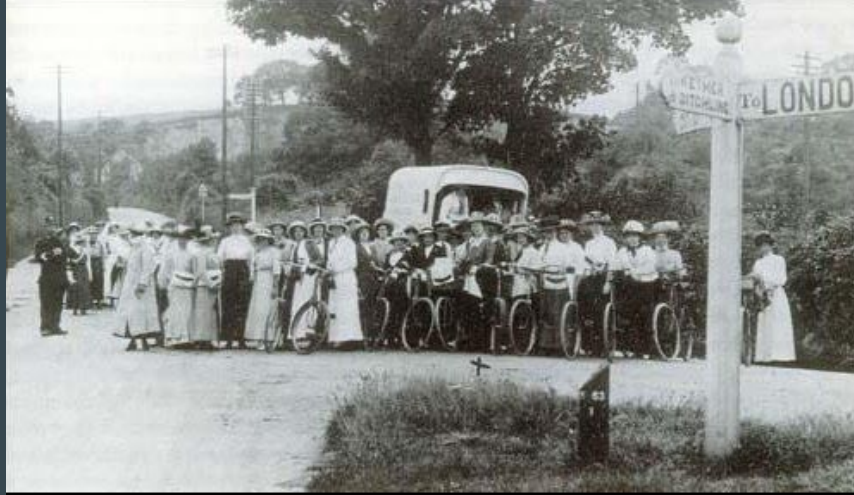
**The women's
freedom league**
They disapproved of
the WSPU because they
thought they were
forgetting about the
importance of women's
suffrage and they don't
like how violent the
WSPU are.

Outcomes



WSPU by 1914

Campaigns had become very violent and they got themselves arrested for publicity. This, however, wasn't a very successful tactic; most women were too scared to get themselves into trouble. So by 1914, the WSPU London was raided by police and abandoned.



NUWSS by 1914
Because of what
happened with the
WSPU, it encouraged
more people to join
NUWSS bringing the
number of people up to
100,000.



When world war 1 started, women weren't allowed to help. So the pankhursts and the WSPU set up a march for women's 'Right to serve'. This led to the creation of the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps in 1917.



G R

WOMEN
URGENTLY WANTED
for the
W.A.A.C
**WOMEN'S ARMY
AUXILIARY CORPS**

**WORK AT HOME
AND ABROAD
WITH THE FORCES**

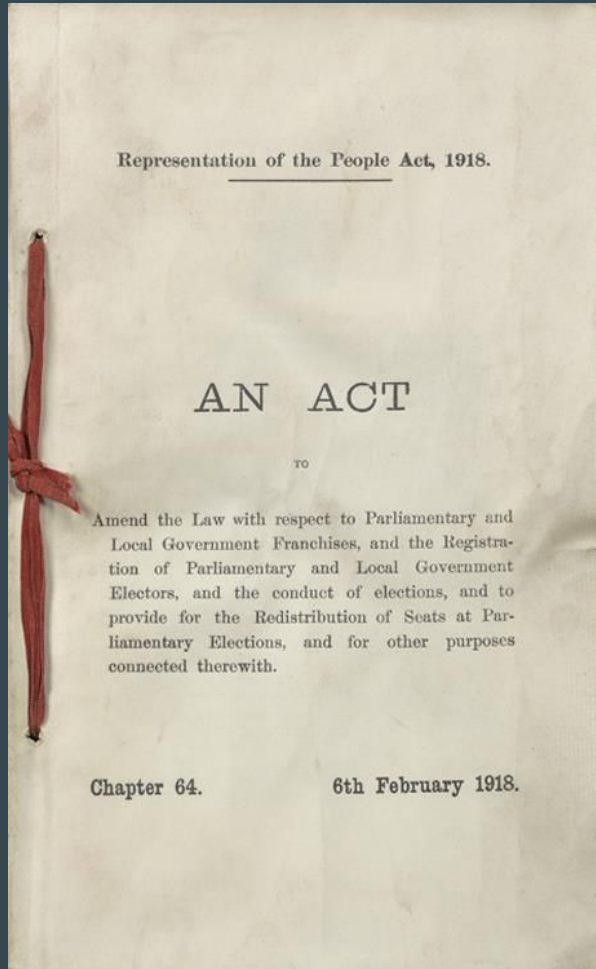
**COOKS CLERKS
WAITRESSES
DRIVER-MECHANICS**

**ALL KINDS of DOMESTIC WORKERS
& WOMEN in MANY OTHER CAPACITIES
TO TAKE THE PLACE OF MEN**

**GOOD WAGES & QUARTERS
UNIFORM & RATIONS**

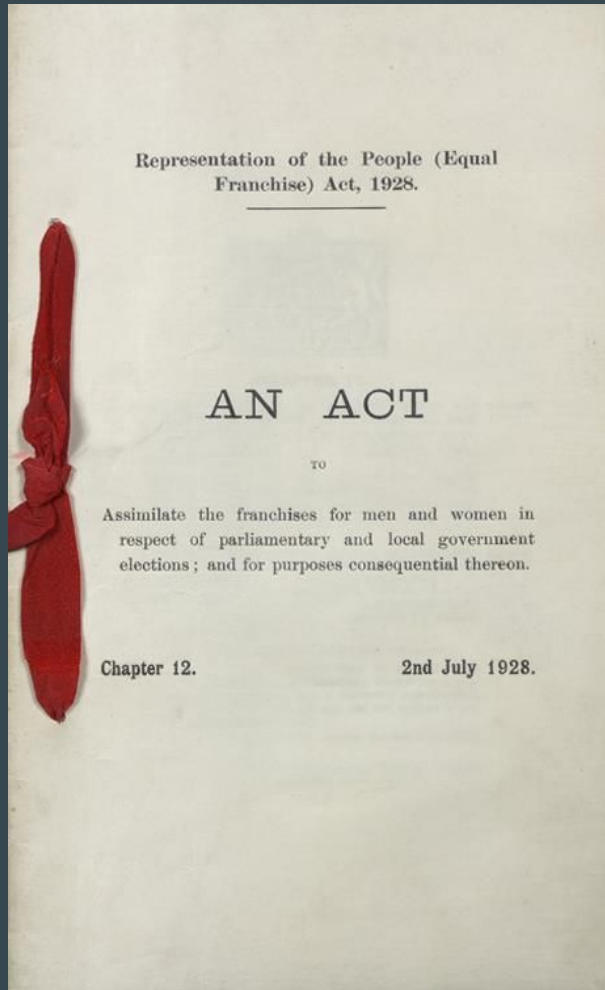
FOR ALL INFORMATION & ADVICE APPLY AT
NEAREST EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGE
THE ADDRESS CAN BE OBTAINED AT ANY POST OFFICE

Women who joined the WAAC, didn't join the front line; they did other jobs to free up men for the frontline. Other women became nurses and work to help the injured: other people worked in factories producing weapons e.t.c.



Representation of the people act, 1918

The representation of the people granted some women the right to vote. The MP's made this decision partly because of how much help the women were in the war and partly because of the votes for women campaigns that the women organised and took part in.



The Equal Franchise act, 1928

This acts gave the right to vote to women with the same restrictions as men (21+).

There was also no restrictions regarding the owning of property.

To conclude, many people sacrificed lives in order to fight for the right of universal suffrage. It took almost 100 years for parliament to agree to extend the right to vote for ordinary men and women.

