

Follow-up article by Emmeline Pankhurst

In *Votes for Women*, August 27th 1908) Emmeline Pankhurst gave a more detailed account of the Shipley Glen meeting under the heading of The Great Votes for Women Demonstration in Shipley Glen, Bradford. In it she highlights the support received from the people of Bradford, including the City Council.

“For weeks past all Bradford has been talking about the Yorkshire Suffrage Sunday held in Shipley Glen on May 31st. The Tramway Committee made special preparations to convey the extra passengers expected, and for some days official notices appeared in all cars announcing the demonstration. The meeting was advertised to begin at 3.30pm, but before noon heavily laden cars began to leave the city, and an unending stream of people on foot wended their way to the picturesque glen, the property of the people of Bradford, about three miles away from the city itself.

When the speakers arrived on the ground, the six platforms were surrounded by dense crowds numbering at least 100,000 people. Never in the history of the glen have so many human beings been gathered together. In the local Liberal Press there had appeared paragraphs suggesting that attempts would be made to disturb the meetings and this suggestion was taken up by small gangs of noisy youths armed with bells and tin trumpets etc.

Nevertheless, the vast audience of orderly and attentive persons prevented any effective disturbance, and at 5 o'clock a resolution calling upon the Government to enfranchise the women of this country this session was carried with practical unanimity.

When the meeting closed the people would not go away and begged us to hold another meeting in the evening. The Prime Minister expects us to show a popular demand for votes for women. We offer to him the demand of the people of Bradford, which has already spoken officially through its City Council when it adopted some months ago, a resolution similar to the one carried at the great open-air meeting on the Suffrage Sunday of Yorkshire.”

Votes for Women, August 27th 1908