to the man (she cannot tarnish the sacred name by calling him husband) her aversion daily increased. His awkward efforts to please, only served to render him the more obnoxious. Nor could she reconcile it to her feelings, to unite herself to a man, who had so little spirit of independence as to seek the hand of one, whom he must have known despised him. For such is the peculiar cart of the female character, that whilst she loves with ardour, she hates with bitterness — and now so it is, may it please your honorable body, your petitioner learns our laws recognize the marriage state as but a civil contract, and therefore binding, wherever the assent has been given, whatever the motives or feelings which may have prompted it. And although your petitioner did not give her free & voluntary assent to the engagement, yet she unfortunately did enough to render the marriage valid in law. That the circumstances of the case do not furnish grounds for her appealing to the judicial tribunals of the Country — and that your honorable body can alone cut the Gordian knot and restore her once more to her maiden privileges and independence —