To the Honorable the General Assembly of the State of North Carolina

The Petition of Nancy Balance of the County of Currituck respectfully Showeth That your Petitioner intermarried with a certain Charles Balance in the year 1802 And in seven Months after their Marriage he unfortunately became deranged and remained so nine Months, when he suddenly came to his understanding and continued of sane mind for two and an half Months when he again became deranged began to buy and sell and make bargains used all kinds of violence towards your Petitioner making many and repeated attempts to take away her life destroyed every Vestage of his property, and continued distracted for about twelve Months when he became helpless And after continuing in this state for the space of three years, he again came to his understanding, was prudent and Economical and we lived together for the space of five years, and accumulated property sufficient to live on with care and Industry. —

— When your Petitioners husband again become deranged was raving distracted spent and wasted the whole of his property set fire to his House and repeatedly endeavoured to kill your petitioner

Your