To the Honourable the general Assembly of the State of N. Carolina now in Session —

The petition of Mary Barker humbly shewith that about two years ago your petitioner married to Charles Barker planter of Robeson County he continued with her a few days at her residence in Lumberton, then left her & went to his own former place of residence with a nother Woman with whom he has continued to live ever since & has had one child & the Woman pregnant with a second from which circumstances your petitioner sees no probability of a reconciliation & further your Petitioner sees with regret that the said Charles Barker (her [illegible]) has nearly or quite consumed his est[illegible] and having it in his power to deprive your Petitioner of such estate as she may by her industry or otherwise acquire —

Your Petitioner therefore prays your honourable Body to take her case into your serious consideration & secure to her such property as she may hereafter acquire and as in duty Bound will ever pray &c

Mary Barker

Lumberton 1st Dec 1817.