To the Honorable general Assembly of N. Carolina
whereas the memorial of Joel Cloud of Rutherford County
begs leave to inform your honorable body that I have
two children by the names of Polly Maria & Hanson (being born
out of wedlock) he your humble Petitioner requests your aid in
legetimating said children as Legal heirs ~~in law~~ of my Estate
and in every other respect as tho' said children had been born
in a legitimate State & alter their names from Denton to
Cloud — If the above Petition meet the approbation of your
honorable body your Petitioner as in duty bound will forever
pray ——— Given under my hand the 21st of Oct. 1858

Joel Cloud