To the General assembly of the state of North Carolina

The Petition of Lewis Tombereau

most humbly shewth

That your Petitioner is a native of France and a shoemaker by trade and that being from his youth attached to a government founded on just and liberal principles such as guarantees the enjoyment of rational liberty, and an equal participation in the administration of its laws to every citizen however humble. He emigrated to the United States, and settled himself therein, near Williamston in Martin County in this state, where without a care beyond his last stone he worked at his trade with such assiduity and industry as to have been considered eminently useful in his line in that neighbourhood, so that he was enabled to make both ends meet with comfort, which he still hopes to do and thereby to his last, eat the bread of independence.

That to lighten the cares, and sweeten the toils of life, and make his share of its burthens sit easy, He intermarried with a young woman of the neighbourhood, named Fancy Jolly of whom he became enamoured, to whom he was determined to stick as close as wax; and to exert the powers given to him by God, and nature, to satisfy her desires, supply her wants, administer to her necessities; and provide for her support in a manner befitting his humble but independent sphere in life.

That with the most pungent and heart felt sorrow, your Petitioner feels himself compelled to state, that his sunshine gleam of felicity was evanescent: and he too soon with heart rending horror found, that in his indulging in the best passion incident to humanity, he linked his fortunes with, and entrusted his happiness, to one of the most frail, lewd, and depraved, daughters of Eve, for without either cause or provocation she shortly after her said marriage withdrew herself from your Petitioner, and from the discharge of her conjugal duties, and forsook both his board, and bed, to cohabit with a certain mulatto Barber named Roland Bolanche then living in Williamston