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

The Petition of Matthew Cole of the County of Richmond humbly represents

That some time in the year 1810 your Petitioner intermarried with One Elizabeth Strickland, a young woman, for whom he had formed an honorable attachment and with whom, he fondly indulged the belief that he should enjoy as much happiness as usually results from the Married State:— And in Order to promote harmony and domestic felicity, he exerted all the Means in his power to render her situation agreable, and for some time he believed, that she was a woman of good Morals, and faithful to her Matrimonial engagements.

But your Petitioner further states, that in the Month of October 1814, he became convinced to his inexpressible mortification that the said Elizabeth ~~has been~~ was unfaithful to his bed, and that she had committed Acts of lewdness and Adultery — And he thereupon declined living with her, or treating her as a wife; and he cannot consistent with his notions of Morality & propriety Admit the said Elizabeth, into connubial society —

He further states that at the Superior Court of Law held for the County of Richmond September Term 1815 he filed his Petition against the said Elizabeth, containing the above Mentioned Allegation, praying a Divorcement pursuant to an Act of the General