To the honourable the General Assembly of the State of North Carolina in Session 1820

The petition of Phebe McLaughan of Rowan County Respectfully Sheweth that your petitioner is the lawful wife of Hugh McLaughan that the said Hugh left this County on the eleventh day of Novr 1816 and has not returned. that shortly after his elopement the Creditors of the said Hugh by attachment seized on and had sold all his estate, which fell short of satisfying their demands leaving your petitioner destitute of any means of subsistance for herself and six small and helpless children, that your petitioner has since had the misfortune to loose her father Mr George Pope, who died intestate, that the Creditors of the said Hugh have levied attachments in the hands of Mary Pope widow and administratrix of the said George Pope demand for the balance of their demands, which have been through that medium fully paid with some small exceptions, and as there remains no hope of the said Hugh McLaughan ever returning to the protection of his wife & children, but a great probability that he may contract debts in other parts of the Country which may be brought against the hard earnings of your petitioner to the impoverishing of her & her children your petitioner doth humbly pray your honourable body to pass a law to secure to her all the residue of her said father George Pope's estate which may remain due to her as a lawful

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