To the honourable the General assembly of the State of North Carolina

The petition of John Timson a native Cherokee indian residing in the County of Macon in the State of North Carolina respectfully represents to your honourable body that he was born and raised in the Cherokee nation and has always resided in said State that in early life he became sensibly impressed with a sense of the Benefits and advantages of civilization and determined so far as was in his power to qualify himself for the acquirement & enjoyment of a civilized State with that view he acquired the English language (which he speaks well) and commenced obtaing an english education which by assiduity & great application under all the disadvantages of his situation he has acquired to an extent equal to most whole men who have not obtained a liberal education he reads & writes the English language correctly and with ease and so far as he has had the means has informed himself as to the laws and policy of Booth the State & General Government he has married and is now raising a family and educating and preparing them to live in Civil Society of which he is using all the means in his power to make them useful members and having progressed to a considerable extent in forming the minds and habits of his rising family for the social State he cannot reconcile it to himself to remove them to the western wilds where they are to relapse into the Savage State he has therefore come to the determination of Becoming a Citizen of the State of North Carolina