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

The Petition of Abner Walker of the County of Rockingham, humbly represents:

That your petitioner is the reputed Father of an illegitimate Child by the Name of Elizabeth Covington, and at an early stage of her life he took the said Elizabeth to his Own House and her raising and education has been under his immediate superintendence; and he derives pleasure from the belief, that he has raised her in such a Manner as to insure a fair claim to distinction, and entitle her in point of respectability to a high standing in the Circle of her Female Acquaintance. —

Your Petitioner further states that he is now far advanced in life, that he has never entered into the State of Matrimony, and has by industry accumulated considerable property which he is desirous of securing to his said Daughter Elizabeth, and to establish her his legal Heir —

He further states, that he has made his last will and Testament thereby vesting in the said Elizabeth the exclusive right to all his property real and personal — But as many Accidents might occur to deprive her of this property he is desirous that the said Elizabeth should be legitimated by an Act of your Honorable body and made capable to possess inherit and enjoy, in as full and ample a Manner as if she had been born in Actual Wedlock and that she be henceforth called and known by the name of Elizabeth Walker and he as in duty bound &c

Abner Walker