North Carolina } To the Honourable the General assembly of
Stokes County } the State aforesaid.

The petition of Salley Hampton Wife of James Hampton of the State & County aforesaid

Your Petitioner Humbly complaining sheweth unto your Honourable body that in the year 1807 she was legally married to the aforesaid James Hampton who was at that time universally esteemed as a sober industrious & honourable young man, & whose fortune together with that of your Petitioner under prudent & Oeconomical management was amply sufficient to have rendered the situation of your Petitioner & her rising family independent & Comfortable But unfortunately the husband of your petitioner shortly after marriage became intemperate & by imprudent management has entirely exhausted the whole of his own estate & that of your petitioner also. The husband of your petitioner is not now less intemperate than heretofore and frequently it is the case, that the small donations of your Petitioners friends and the Morrel, hardly earned by the labour of her own hands and those of her children are wrested from them to support his intemperance.

Your petitioner has seven small children, and finds herself unable to support them by the labour of her own hands. She has an aged father & other friends in Easy circumstances who are disposed to alleviate her distresses & to favour her with the means of support provided these means could be secured for the use & benefit of your Petitioner & her children.

Your Petitioner therefore prays; that your Honourable body will pass an act to secure to your petitioner & her her children all such property & means of support as they shall hereafter acquire by the donations of their friends & the labour of their own hands & your Petitioner as in duty bound will ever pray &c.

In testimony whereof the said Salley Hampton has hereunto set her hand this 10th day of Nov. 1823

J. M. Hunt

Salley her X mark Hampton