

To the Honorable, the Representatives of the State
of South Carolina in Columbia met,

We your PETITIONERS who Inhabit the lands of the
Catawba Indians, (Humbly sheweth,) That by a late
Arrangement of the State of S. Carolina, Government has Divided
us into two Divisions, and we now form apart of two Districts (Viz)
York and Lancaster; Which throws us on the frontiers of each
district, and far from the Center, Where all our public
business is transacted, And by the shortest calculations we are
from 12 to 25 or 30 Miles from those places, and by reason
of the above distances we labor under many and serious dif-
ficulties which is attended with Fatigues and Cost, in going
to and attending at our Ordinary=Reviews, We are either obliged
to leave our homes the proceeding=day and Lodge in the public
Houses, the night before the Muster, Or set out at Midnight
and Ride untill 10 or 11 o'clock the next=day, before that we
can arrive at the place of Rendezvous, or suffer the most
Painfull alternative of the whole, (to a generous & free
Citizen) (to be subject to a fine;) This is not the only grievance
that we have to complain off, for every kind of public assembly
Makes it a rule to Convene at the Court=House of the district
The clerk of the pleas holds his office there, The Sheriff holds
his office there, The Ordinary of the district holds his office
there, The Commissioners of the high roads sits there,
The Commissioners of the poor sits there, The Commissioners
of the free Schools sits there; In short every assembly for
any kind of public business assembles there,

Turn over

Whether the Laws and Constitutions of the State directs them or not; It has become a precedent & is now by some argued into a law. Therefore it is necessary that we should be constituted into a district of our own (in the Indian Land) and a special Act made for sundry grievances that we have to complain off, — This is the wish of our prayers and our wishes, and we think it is not contrary to the law usage or custom of this State to divide and subdivide districts & Counties when there appears plain proof that they Citizens labor under toils difficulties & distress for want of such divisions.

The extent and bounds of the Catawba Indian Land is fifteen Miles Square and is very numerously inhabited by the White people on both sides of the River; The best criterion that we have to judge from at this time, is the Militia Companies that are contained in the Indian boundaries, There are six Companies of Infantry exclusive of numbers that have attached themselves to the Cavalry of the district and suppose those Companies to ^{be} full and complete in their numbers the result will be 640, exclusive of the old and the young, yet coming forward, which will make the grievance still more enormous.

We may reasonably suppose and with propriety say, that the Inhabitance of the Indian Land if accurately numbered will not be less than from 12, to 1800 at this time — And the Support that we contribute to the use of the State in actual Cash is 1500 or 2000 Dollars ^{last year}, exclusive of our Bodily Services to the public use; And at the same times, (we blush to mention it,) that by the laws and Constitutions of this State we are prohibited from some of the most important points, that the Constitution of a free State can bestow upon its Citizens

In this case, ^{we} will reply to you as they Irocatites said to Samuel the Seer, when they requested a King; They were informed what Mischief their King would bring upon them; But their reply was no, but let us have a King to be like other nations, — We say let us be formed into a District of the Catawba Indian-Land, so that we may have all kinds of officers and Officers appointed amongst us, as are in the other districts of the S. State in order to represent us in every Case when and where Occasions may require it; — And we hope, and Pray, that You in your Wisdom, will grant us such relief, as the nature of the Case will admit. — And we your petitioners are in duty bound, ever to pray. —

John Miles	
George Bittus	John Miles
William White	Is. Hunter
William Weathers	John Ormond
James Harris	Robert Lackey
James Graham	John Tuttle
Sam. Shierling	John Williams
John White	Thos. Hunter
Wm. G. Harris	John Crockett
James Richardson	Sam. Robinson
Stephen Potter	Drury Warr
Matt Marable	James Frincher
William Mason	Thos. Bolke
Isaac Barnall	Chas. Sledge
John Harris	Thos. Gilens
Geo. M. Harris	John Moore
John Thompson	
John Harris	
Curtis Winget	

Members
John Gordon
John Hory
Wm Dannel

John Crockett

James Darnel

Jones Ross

Jno. Hamlet

Adam Carney

William Blackburn

James Morrow

Benj. Morrow

Drewry Morrow

William Kinney

Henry Vincent

Petitioners of Churchy
Inhabitants of
York & Lancaster
Diocese praying
an Abolition of
Slavery

All the Lancaster petitioners were transcribed from an
Original paper. -

These representations

Alison &c

Mr. Robinson
No. 2