

To the Legislative Assembly of the Territory of Wisconsin

We the undersigned petitioners, Citizens of said Territory, do most humbly pray that your honorable body will pass an act to dissolve the ties of matrimony existing between Abram Jones and Lucinda Jones, Citizens of Burlington, in the aforesaid Territory; And your petitioners state unto your body that they are actuated in presenting this petition by the conviction that granting its prayer would be promoting the public good and the best interests of the parties concerned and that of their family. We do therefore most humbly pray you to receive this petition and if necessary refer it to the proper committee or committees; that if necessary witnesses may be heard in support of its truth and report or reports made thereon; And that as your body is guardian of the public good as well as the best interests of Citizens of the Territory, that should you, after fully investigating this petition, be satisfied of its truth that you will grant the prayer of the same.

Wm. E. Carey
Sammuel Morris
J. R. Rivers
J. Wistley Lead
Mathias Grimes

A. Wright

Abraham Jones (Husband)
John Kinison
Isaac Henderson
Hugh Sampson
Aaron Springer
W. Rice

George Cobb
Joseph Morgan
William Haggis &
Wilson Brown

Geo Temple

To the Honorable, the Senate and house
of Representatives of the Territory of Wisconsin

Your Petitioner Lucinda Jones would
represent to your Honorable body, that she
was married to Abram Jones in the County of
Booner and State of Kentucky on or about the 16th
day of January A.D. 1813, that after their marriage they
lived together enjoying conjugal happiness. when in
the year A.D. 1824, they removed from the State of
Kentucky, to the County of Morgan, in the State of
Illinois, that after their removal their they still continued
to enjoy those blessings which attend the married
state, your Petitioner at all times doing all in her
power to ~~maintain~~ render the family comfortable
at home, and respected in society yet without standing
all the exertions of your Petitioner as an obedient
and affectionate Wife, a tender and compassionate
Mother to render themselves and family comfortable,
respected, and happy, that Abram Jones her husband
to whom she should have looked for protection
and assistance for herself and family began to evince
the most inviolent disposition toward your Petitioner
by the most cruel and inhuman treatment.

And your Petitioner would further represent
sent to your Honorable body, that in the ^{Summer} ~~Spring~~
of A.D. 1833, she was actually deserted by her said

Husband, while in Morgan County and State of Illinois, and left to seek a support for herself and a family of small and helpless children by her own industry, without any assistance whatever from her said Husband, that in the ^{fall of 1833} ~~year~~ he did return to your Petitioner, and by fair promises of better treatment, to your petitioner, and that he would lend his aid and assistance to the support of the family for the future, and your Petitioner being unable to support their children without great difficulty and being greatly disposed to live in peace and happiness with her said Husband, did consent to live with, and accompany him with their family from Morgan County and State of Illinois, to the County of Des Moines and Territory of Wisconsin, when she is now a resident, that soon after their arrival in said Territory, he did again abandon your Petitioner, and left her among strangers unprotected and unprovided for, with a large family of small children, looking alone to your Petitioner for sustenance and protection. Your Petitioner would further represent to your Honorable body, that previous to his separation from your Petitioner he was cruel and unkind to your petitioner and did frequently beat and abuse her inflicting upon her cruel and inhuman treatment, that since their last separation he has often returned to your Petitioner with threats and abuse, and has often frequently whipped

and otherwise ~~and~~ ill treated her, and after, when un-
der the excitement of passion, threatened to take the life of
your Petitioner, and inflict upon her, other cruel
and barbarous punishment, that she has frequently for
personal security, had to leave her own fireside, and seek
protection under some more hospitable roof.

Your Petitioner would further represent to your
Honorable body, that since their marriage they have had Ten
Children born of their bodies, seven of whom, are
now living, the youngest of which is only three years of
age. That for all these considerations, and in as much
as your Petitioner has had public notice given in
a News paper, published in this Territory, according to the
Statute in such case made and provided of her inten-
tion to present this petition,

Your Petitioner would therefore pray that your
Honorable body may pass an act to dissolve the Bonds of matr-
imony now existing between her and Abram Jones
and to restore your Petitioner to all the rights and
privileges of a Free sole

Your Petitioner would further pray, that your
Honorable body may pass an act, giving to your Petitioner
and authorizing her to keep under her charge and protec-
tion, and to be raised and educated by her, her three young-
est children, all of whom, are under fifteen years of
age, and your Petitioner would further represent, that
her reasons for asking the above act to be passed are
the following (To wit)

That their Father, their legal and natural guardian is incapable of impressing upon the youthful mind those principles of morality which society requires of him, and which nature has intended should be impressed upon the youthful mind, that she believes by his dissipated habits he has rendered himself entirely incapable of giving to the mind, that moral culture which is alone calculated to raise them in the scale of human happiness, and make them useful citizens of society, and a blessing to themselves and friends, that instead of acting the part toward them, which he as their father should do, his examples are only calculated to corrupt the mind, and lead them on to adopt principles, repugnant to morality and religion, distasteful to themselves, and injurious to society, that the said children are much attached to your Petitioner, and that she entertains for them all the tender emotions of which a fond, and affectionate Mother could cherish for her offspring.

Your Petitioner would further pray that your Hon^{ble} Body will allow, and grant to her out of the Estate of Abraham Jones, and for the support and maintenance of herself and children, and for the Education of said children a suitable portion to be designated, by your Hon^{ble} Body, in as much, as without this provision she

would be left without house or home
or wherewith, to support herself, or family.

Your Petitioner would therefore pray that
this her petition may be granted by your Honorable
Body, and she, as in duty bound will ever
pray &c.

Burlington W. V.

Lucina De Jones

November 6th 1837.

Wisconsin Territory

Deshmores County Before me Robert Coack an acting
Justice of the peace in and for
said county came the above mentioned Lucina
Jones - who after being duly sworn on her oath
doth say, that the facts as set forth in the foregoing
petition are strictly true - and further deponent
saith not

Lucina De Jones

Subscribed and sworn to before

me the 10th day of November 1837

Robert Coack Justice of the peace