

PETITION

Of Residents of Utah Territory, praying that the protection of the General Government may not be withdrawn from them by the admission of that Territory as a State.

March 22, 1872.—Referred to the Committee on Territories and ordered to be printed, with the names of the petitioners, and accompanying letter.

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah Territory,
March 12th, 1872.

SIR:—We have this day forwarded to your care, per Wells, Fargo & Company's Express, a petition to Congress, strongly deprecating the admission of Utah into the Union at the present time. This petition is signed by more than four hundred of the loyal women of the Territory. A large majority of the signers have been residents of Utah and members of the Mormon Church for many years, and numbers of them have had a personal and very bitter experience of the practical workings of polygamy. They have every reason to believe that their wrongs would be continued and greatly intensified by the admission of Utah into the Union, and the consequent accession of Power to the Mormon priesthood. In the name of these women, who have been so cruelly wronged, we earnestly request you to lay this petition at once before the legislative bodies to whom it is addressed.

Very respectfully, your obedient,

Mrs. A. G. PADDOCK,
Mrs. B. A. M. FROISETH,
Mrs. WILLIAM S. GODBE,
Mrs. H. W. LAWRENCE,
Mrs. O. P. MILES,
Mrs. J. B. KIMBALL,
Committee.

HON. SCHUYLER COLFAX.

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah Territory,
February 1, 1872.

To the Senators and Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled:

We, your petitioners, residents of the Territory of Utah, the mothers, sisters and wives of her loyal citizens, appeal to you, in the name of justice and humanity, not to withdraw your protection from us. Our sole dependence is upon you. Only the strong arm of the Federal Government can secure to us and to our husbands, brothers, and sons the enjoyment of the rights guaranteed us by the Constitution of our country. For more than twenty years Utah, although a Territory of the United States, and, as such, nominally under the jurisdiction of Congress, has been in reality governed altogether by the Mormon priesthood. Let history tell the nature of their rule! No more bloody despotism has disgraced the earth in modern times.

Brigham Young, in the self-appointed character of God's vice-regent, has held the lives, liberty, and property of the people in his hands. Disobedience to him has been accounted a crime not to be atoned for except by blood. Nothing that the people possessed could be called their own, except by his will. Not only were they required to pay into the church treasury one-tenth of all their property, but they were liable at any time to be ordered to give up their homes to the prophet, and this order none dared disobey. Many of your petitioners have been robbed thus in years past. Women who, by the labor of their own hands, have earned the shelter of a roof for themselves and their little ones, have been deprived of that shelter by Brigham Young's command. The bread has been taken from the little children's mouths to swell the revenues of the church, and enable its rulers to add house to house and field to field. But these robberies are a little thing, compared with other enormities perpetrated by the despotic rulers of this people in the name of their religion. During all the years that their will has been law in Utah, no man's life, no woman's honor, has been safe, if either stood in their way. Never in this world will the history of their dark and bloody deeds be fully written, for the victim and witness of many a tragedy are hidden together in the grave. For twenty years none dared lift their voices in complaint or condemnation, and now, when liberty of speech, so long denied, is vouchsafed, it is fitting that woman's voice should be heard, for woman has been most cruelly wronged. Will not the Representatives of this great nation listen to our appeal? We adjure you, in the names of the mothers who bore

you, of the wives you love, of the sisters whose honor is dear to you, not to turn a deaf ear to the cry of those who seek protection from the tyranny of a system that, throughout its whole existence, has sought only to crush and degrade womanhood. Thousands of women within the Territory of Utah are to-day in a condition of abject slavery. Many of them would proclaim their wrongs to the world if they dared. We appeal to you not to take any step that will cut off all hope of their deliverance. We know it has been urged that polygamy, the curse and blight of the homes of Utah, is hastening to its death, and that even if the people do not agree to relinquish it, it will shortly fall by an attack of natural and social forces, consequent upon being brought in contact with the Christian civilization of the nineteenth century; but do the facts which are constantly transpiring support this assertion? During the past three months polygamous marriages have rather increased than diminished. Since the 1st of November scores of young girls have been led up to the Endowment House, and "sealed" to men who had already from two to five families. Is it reasonable to suppose that a people who defy the law thus openly, while under the direct supervision of Congress, will order their internal affairs more in harmony with the Constitution when invested with the prerogatives of a State government? But the continuance of polygamy is not the only ground upon which your petitioners deprecate the admission of Utah into the Union. There are other crimes and other tyrannies that will most assuredly be perpetuated in such an event. The Constitution of our country guarantees to every one of its law-abiding citizens life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. The principles which govern the majority in Utah make these rights dependent upon the will of a single man, who has already been guilty of incredible abuse of power. The history of his reign (or it is nothing else) is written in characters of blood. Some of your petitioners have known what it is to incur his displeasure and tremble for their lives. Others have had their property torn from them, and their dearest interests ruthlessly trampled upon by him. Will Congress consign them again to the tender mercies of this man and his coadjutors? A number of your petitioners have become residents of Utah within two years past. Relying upon the protection of the Federal Government, we, with our families, have sought homes here, but, though we, our husbands, and our sons have been peaceably engaged about our private duties, and have in no way interfered with the rights of the earlier settlers, we have been regarded as unwelcome intruders, and have been forced to live as though in an enemy's country. We have been told repeatedly, through the columns of the DESERET NEWS, the official organ of the Mormon Church, that, in the event of Utah becoming a state, if we do not choose to be ruled by the majority, we can leave—the railroad is open. We are duly sensible of the graciousness of this permission, but there are some obstacles in the way of our availing ourselves of it. Many of us have our all invested here, and would be forced to leave empty-handed. Still that would be preferable to remaining here under the rule of those who have shown themselves incapable of either justice or mercy, and determined to ignore every principle which lies at the foundation of our republican institutions.

Our prayer to you, the representatives of a free people, is that you will not take such action as will force upon us either alternative.

Mrs A G Paddock, Mrs B A M Froiseth, Mrs E Mills,
Annie Godbe, 23 years in the Territory; 20 years in the Church.
Julia A Kimball, 23 years in the Territory.
Sarah Mount, Sarah K Crosby, Elizabeth Shearman, Agnes Shearman, Jennie Harrison, Ellen Kay, Mrs A S Riley, Miss Lizzie Riley.
Adeline M Earl, 23 years in the Territory.
Ines D Earl, 19 years in the Territory.
M B White, M O'Donnell, Mrs M Wilson, Miss Mary E Sexton, Volate James, Caroline Griffith, H R Stewart.
Sarah Kahn, 5 years in the Territory.
Annie Riben, 5 years in the Territory.
Caroline Walker, 19 years in the Territory.
Helen Mather, 16 years in the Territory.
Hannah Asbrige, 20 years in the Territory.
Georgiana Mather, 16 years in the Territory.
Mary Ann Bunting, 20 years in the Territory.
Louisa Vance, 12 years in the Territory.
Mary Elizabeth Yeager, 20 years in the Territory; 20 years in the church.

Theresa Kauffman, Cathren Wagener.
Lydia B Davis, 9 years in the Territory.
Mary Mather, 16 years in the Territory.
Mrs Jane Wright, 9 years in the church.
Rachel Wright, 1 year in the church.
Kate Campbell, 12 years in the church.
Mrs Annie Nirde, 19 years in the church.
Laura Nirde, 18 years in the church.
Erastine Pinaey, Paulin Pun, Jennie Pincer, Althea Hunt, Elizabeth Lloyd, Cora Jewell Hunt, Margaret S Hunt, Mrs Margaret Hunt, Mrs L C Peirer, Mrs L Leaser, Mrs F E Stein, Mrs M C Griswold, Mrs J W Lowell, Mrs Hugh Anderson, Mrs H T Pierce, Mary Godbe, Louise Carns, Mrs E Nichols, Mrs Frank Kenyon, Mrs Louisa A Woods, Mrs J L High, Mrs Mary A Gilberson, Miss Sallie Gilberson, Miss Mary Gilberson, Mrs Tracy Berans, Mrs J G Brooks, Mrs Elisa Sweeney, Mrs E Wiest, Mrs M Meyers, Mrs H Meyers, Mrs A F Watters, Miss M Lesem, Mrs J M Joelson, Miss E Mendelsohn, Mrs D Mendelsohn, Miss R Sutton.
Mrs M A Lloyd, 18 years in the Mormon Church.
Mrs F Ashman, 4 years in the Mormon Church.
Mrs S A Cooke, 15 years in the Mormon Church.
Mrs Armstrong, 20 years in the Mormon Church.
Mrs Horton, 14 years a polygamist.
Mrs Gritters, 10 years in the Mormon Church.
Mrs Carlsson, 6 years in the Mormon Church.
Mrs Carlsson, 10 years in the Mormon Church.
Mrs Hurd, 22 years in the Mormon Church.
Mrs C Burns, 24 years in the Mormon Church.
Mrs A Clark, 21 years in the Mormon Church.
Miss Julia Clark, 15 years in the Mormon Church.
Mrs A Forbes, 20 years in the Mormon Church.
Mrs Paramore, 9 years in the Mormon Church.
Mrs Burns, 20 years in the Mormon Church.
Mrs McGregor, 6 years in the church.
Mrs Parton, 13 years in the church.
Mrs Mary Taomas, 25 years in the church.
Mrs Mary Thomas.
Mrs Watts, 20 years in the church.
Mrs C Cottle, 20 years in the church.
Miss A Cottle, 8 years in the church.
Mrs Amelia Svedlund, 12 years in the church.
Mrs Miller, 7 years in the church.
Mrs M A Harrison, 16 years in the church.
Miss Mary Ann Harrison.
Miss Ward, 9 years in the church.
Miss Ward.
Mrs Castle, 20 years in the church.
Mrs Mooney, Louisa H Harrison, Emma Edgington.
Mary Ann Cliff, 27 years in the church.
Mrs Emma Edginton, Caroline Wilson, Bell Saunders.
Emma Silver, 26 years in the church.
Ann Wright, 23 years in the church.
Miss Sarah Ann Wright, Miss Fanny Wright, Miss Mary Elton Wright, Miss Mary Ann Gill, Mrs Mary Gill, Mrs Graham Cushing, Mrs Hersh Cushing, Mrs Susan Steller, Mrs McKellar, Mrs McQuarrie, Miss Rhoda George, Mary F Beck, Mrs T Murray, Margaret Hunt, Julia McHele, Mrs McCormack, Mrs Hodder, Mrs Sarah Jacobs.
Ann Swift, 16 years in the church; 9 years in the Territory.
Harriet Fowler, 22 years in the church; 9 years in the Territory.
Elizabeth Fowler, 14 years in the church; 11 years in the Territory.
Mrs E Hawkes, 19 years in the church; 9 years in the Territory.
Mrs L Bennet, 1 year in the Territory.
Miss M Hawkes, 9 years in the Territory.
Miss C Hawkes, 9 years in the Territory.
Mrs Sarah Hobbs, 23 years in the church, 10 years in the Territory.
Mrs Mary Ann Showell, 23 years in the church; 9 years in the Territory.
Miss M Showell, 19 years in the church, 9 years in the Territory.
Mary J Reinelmar, 16 years in the church; 13 years in the Territory.
Elizabeth McCornie, 15 years in the church 11 years in the Territory.
Margaret McCornie, 15 years in the church; 11 years in the Territory.
Maria Weston, 21 years in the church; 4 years in the Territory.
Mrs Annie Lacey.
Mrs Caroline Herthley, 13 years in the church, 11 years in the Territory.
Mrs Caroline Higson, 16 years in the church, 12 years in the Territory.
Mrs Agnes Richardson, 9 years in the church 8 years in the Territory.
Mrs Gilr, 25 years in the church; 16 years in the Territory.
Sophia Rutchee, 19 years in the church; 11 years in the Territory.
Mary Saunders, 9 years in Utah.
Lillie Saunders, 10 years in Utah.
Lovis Olson, Helen Read.
Amelia Gibson, 21 years in Utah.
Louisa Johnson, 21 years in Utah.
Caroline Hardy, 21 years in Utah.
Emma Camomile, 21 years in Utah.
Emely Richardson, Annie Clearie, Eliza A

Sprouse, Margaret J. Foreman, M Lavennea Foreman, Miss S L Clark, Mrs F Frye, Mrs Barnes, Mrs Cutting.
Elizabeth T Cannon, 21 years in the Territory.
Sarah Cannon, 12 years in the Territory.
Lizzie Cannon, 12 years in the Territory.
Mrs S Woodward, Mary Church.
Mrs B Bartlett, 5 years in the Territory.
Louisa Snograss, Kate Cook, J R Robinson, Sarah Gould, Mary Ferguson.
Eda G O'Brien's 3 years in the Territory.
Virtue Cliff, 17 years in the Territory.
Sarah M Moore, 3 years in the Territory.
Clara S Graves, 21 years in the Territory.
Anne Charlson, 7 years in the Territory.
Isabella Boudesch, 7 years in the Territory.
Sarah Brown, 20 years in the Territory.
Sara G Brown, 20 years in the Territory.
Salina Boukofsky, 16 years in the Territory.
Jane Sholes, 20 years in the Territory.
Minnie Sipper, 5 years in the Territory.
R S May, 18 years in the Territory.
Mrs Heath, 17 years in the Territory.
Charlotte S Pierce, 17 years in the Territory.
Sophia Butcher, Mary E Holcomb.
Eliza P Holt, 18 years in the Territory.
Mrs D Marlin.
Mrs E B Gabraskie, 8 years in the Territory.
Mrs I M Williamson, Mrs H M Tuttle.
Mrs Louisa Woodford, 10 years in the Mormon Church; 10 years in the Territory.
Mrs H O Halifax, 17 years in the Mormon Church; 5 years in the Territory.
Miss H C Halifax, 6 years in the Mormon Church; 5 years in the Territory.
Mrs Lowe, 18 years in the Mormon Church; 18 years in the Territory.
Mrs J Slater.
Mrs Diehl, 5 years in the Territory.
Mrs K Reese, 3 years in the Territory.
Mrs Susan Simpkins, Miss Elizabeth A Simpkins.
Miss Hortense Hartwell, 35 years in the church; 20 years in the Territory.
Mrs Helena Hicks, 25 years in the church; 20 years in the Territory.
Miss Geneva A Hartwell, 22 years in the church; 20 years in the Territory.
Miss Inez Hartwell, 16 years in the church; 16 years in the Territory.
Miss Mary Hartwell, 14 years in the Territory.
Miss Ella Hartwell, 13 years in the Territory.
Miss Rosa Hartwell, 10 years in the Territory.
Mrs Maria Wells, 31 years in the church; 24 years in the Territory.
Miss Lez ita Wells, 19 years in the church; 20 years in the Territory.
Mrs L C Alexander, 23 years in the church; 23 years in the Territory.
Miss Emma A Alexander, 22 years in the Territory.
Miss Angie A Alexander, 16 years in the Territory.
Miss E E Willard.
Miss L L Willard, 2 years in the Territory.
Mrs N Lawrence.
Mrs J F Nouman, 7 years in the Territory.
Mrs George Jorylis, Mrs Frances Taney, Mrs Ellen Dimmock, Mrs Manning, Rose Manning, Noley Manning, Eliza Armstrong, Jane Saulsbury, Sarah J Sherratt, Elizabeth Robson, Elizabeth Husbands, Elizabeth Brown, Sarah Husbands, Sophia Mansfield, Ruth Sarler, S E Franklin, C E Franklin, F C Franklin, E C Crouch, Lizzie Robson.
Margaret Harrington, 23 years in Utah.
Mary Annette Perrie, 11 years in Utah.
Disey O Allen, 9 years in Utah; 30 years in the Mormon Church.
Diantha Lallis.
Abigail A Lees, 15 years in Utah.
Jennie Montgonyery 21 years in Utah.
Julia A Shondy, E A Tyson.
H H King, 2 years in Utah.
M R King, 2 years in Utah.
Sarah Ann Daft, 19 years in Utah.
Fannie Walker, 19 years in Utah.
Mary Tate, 10 years in Utah.
M Chislett, 15 years in Utah.
J Pitts, 8 years in Utah.
Mrs Sarah Ann Daft, 16 years in Utah.
Mrs Alf, 19 years in Utah.
Ellen A Poxon, 7 years in Utah.
Jane K Spencer.
Martha K Spencer, 20 years in Utah.
Emma Elizabeth Kendall, 18 years in Utah.
Deseret Kendall, 14 years in Utah.
M W Overton, 3 years in Utah.
Mrs Diantha Lindsay, Mrs Elizabeth I Willon, Mrs Martha A Cunningham, Mrs Elizabeth H Beck, Mary Kirkham, Elizabeth Kirkham, Louisa Nichols, Mary Nichols, Mrs M E Lindsay, Mrs S Ince, Marie Louise Lyman, Miss Emily Cole, Miss Maria Coombs, Mary A Lullidge, Mrs F D Durkee, Miss Ella Phillips, Mrs Louisa M Lyman, Love J Lyman, Belle W Raley, Mrs Mary E Palmer, Mrs Ann E Whitehill, Mary Earl, Addie Earl, Hila A Lyman, Mrs Sarah Kelsey, Mary Ann Warren.
Mrs Sarah Varney, 18 years in Utah.
Elizabeth Tullidge, Mrs Sarah Brown, Mrs Susan Tullidge, Mrs John Sanders, Mrs Jane Lindsay, Mrs Matilda Brooks, Mrs Fanny Compton, Mrs H A Lewis, Mrs Esther Morehouse, Elizabeth Kirkenall.
Elizabeth Taimbleby, 13 years in Utah.
Mrs S M Smith, Mrs M R Tallmadge, Mrs John Eaves, Miss Emma Eaves, Mrs M A Foote, Mrs E S Fench, Mrs J T Wilson, Mrs E Duncan, Mrs Emma Wells, Jennie Benells, Lucinda Sayers, Sarah A Kelsey, Marie A Vollenweider, Mrs J M Smith, Mrs P S McIntire, Mrs M C