

PETITION OF WOMEN OF UTAH.

A PETITION
OF
22,626 WOMEN OF UTAH

ASKING FOR

The repeal of certain laws, the enactment of others, and the admission of the Territory of Utah as a State.

JANUARY 13, 1875.—Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary and ordered to be printed without the names.

MEMORIAL OF THE WOMEN OF UTAH TO THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES.

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

We, your memorialists, women of Utah, prompted by a due sense of justice, and in consideration of those equal rights so long the proud boast of American citizens, hereby appeal to your honorable body, praying you to grant our petition as shall be herein specified.

We, as a people, are willing to submit to, and do strictly obey, the Constitution and laws of these United States as handed down to us by the fathers of our country; and we do earnestly pray that you will repeal the anti-polygamy law of 1862; also the bill known as the Poland bill; both being special and unconstitutional measures directed against the people of Utah, holding the peace and happiness of our lives in constant jeopardy by imperiling the safety of our husbands and fathers, by daily and hourly subjecting them to danger of arrest and imprisonment, which would not only deprive us of their society, but also of their support and protection. To you, the executives of a great and powerful nation, we appeal for protection against these cruel and oppressive measures, which have shorn our glorious Constitution of its efficacy and us of every protection but the overruling power of God.

We ask to be relieved from the unjust and law-breaking officials forced upon us by the Government, and that we may have the jurisdiction of our own courts and the selection of our own officers, as we had in the past, when our cities were free from dram-shops, gambling-dens, and houses of infamy. As mothers and sisters, we earnestly appeal to you