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To the Honorable, the Senate and House of Representatives, in Congress Assembled:-

Your Memorialists, the Legislative Assembly of the Territory of Oregon, would respectfully solicit your Honorable Body to grant to Mrs. Mary A. Harris, a resident of Jackson County in this Territory a pension adequate to the support of herself and her disabled child for the following reasons:

On the ninth day of October, 1855, at the outbreak of the Indian hostilities in Rogue River valley, the family of a settler by the name of Harris were attacked in their house by a numerous band of Indians, and, without any provocation on their part, the father was shot and mortally wounded while in the act of giving the Indians food. At the same time an only son was killed a short distance from the house, and an only daughter was shot through the arm from which she has never fully recovered, and is at present partially disabled from the effects of the wound.

The conduct of the wife and mother during these occurrences has seldom been equalled in admirable firmness and self-devotion. Grasping a rifle, she discharged it at her savage assailants and succeeded in closing the entrance to the house from whence she kept up a rapid fire on the Indians, forcing

them, temporarily, to retire. She then turned her attention to the wounded sufferers, and after ministering to their wants, resumed her endeavors for for their safety, frequently exposing herself to the fire of the Indians.

Unconscious of danger, her exertions were continued for nearly twenty-four hours, and all the fears of the woman were merged in the devotion of the wife and the mother. Alone, through the long and weary night, She stood the defender of her dying husband and her wounded child; She received the last parting words of her companion in life, and only in the final hour of rescue, came back to her heart the full tide of sorrow at her bereavement.

No power can compensate her for the loss of her son and husband - no wealth may make amends for their absence, but, the Government that owed her protection may and we trust, will, provide with a liberal hand for this noble woman and her disabled child.

Your Memorialists would earnestly represent that the sympathies of the entire people of this Territory are enlisted in her behalf, and a liberal provision by your Honorable Body will be acknowledged with gratitude by your Memorialists and their Constituency who will Ever pray &c.

Adopted in the House Representatives Jan 24. 1858

Chas. B Hand. C.C. H.R.