

September 24
October 16
October 16
November 18
December 25
Mr Wm

Waynesburg, Liberty County, Ga -
August 26th 1857. -

States Lee,

Columbus Ga.

Sir,

You entered my family on a friendly
engagement for copying my Church History, on
your own proposal, the 28th of July 1850 and left it
on the 20th of the September following: and became
first, particularly known to me a short time pre-
-vious, when a guest of my neighbours, Rev D. L. But-
-tolph & Mr J. A. M. King. You were introduced as
an educated man, the son of a venerable & highly
esteemed Minister of South Carolina, whose full name
you bear; as a married man, having but recently
married your second wife, who was then absent
at the North for her health; - as a prominent member
of the Presbyterian Church in Columbus, Georgia:
the Superintendent of the Sunday School: the President
of the Young Men's Christian Association: and the
Principal of a Female High School in that City: and
recommended on your School Circular by names
of the first respectability. You had also taught a
School within the bounds of our own Congregation
in Liberty County and had associated with the
active members of the Church residents in the
village, and taken part in their religious meet-
-ings: and I believe aided them in their efforts

Charles Colcock Jones Papers, Tulane University Library

to give religious instruction to the Negroes. You came
to my acquaintance under these favorable circum-
stances, and were received for what you were
considered & professed yourself to be, a gentleman,
a married man & a Christian. You had my confi-
dence as unreservedly, as any stranger possibly could
have & enjoyed the kind hospitality of my family
from the day you entered to the day you left it.
You rendered yourself agreeable, and conducted
yourself with every mark of respect & propriety;
were always present morning & evening at family
worship & sometimes took part in that worship;
and also in our weekly neighbourhood prayer
meeting. You were the guest of a gentleman,
a professing Christian & Minister of the Gospel;
& witnessed from week to week his efforts to instruct
religiously the servants of his family & household.

You were under my roof but a short time
before you debauched a young Negro-girl, a
Scamstrip & one of our Chamber maids; and
you continued your base connections with this
Negro woman week after week until you took
your final leave! Of the hundreds of men of
all clays & conditions & professions, men of the
Church & men of the world, married & unmar-
ried, who have been guests in my house for
days, weeks, months & some for years, - You
William H. Gates & I, are the only man who
has ever dared to offer to me personally

& to my family & to my neighbours so one & so
famous an insult. You are the only Man, who
has ever dared to debauch my family servants, it
being the only instance that has occurred - and
to defile my dwelling with your adulterous and
obscene pollutions. Had you been detected I should
have driven you instantly out of the house & off the
premises, with all the accompanying disgrace
which you merited; and I regret that the Law
affords me no redress under so serious an in-
= dignity & injury. - The proof of your criminality
is of so clear a character as to remove all doubt.
There is the free, unconstrained confession of the
Negro woman herself in full detail. There is the
correspondence between the time of your connection
with her & the birth of the child - a mulatto - now
sometimes born. And there is a resemblance to
you beyond mistake. In this last proof I do not
rely upon my own convictions. I have submitted
the child to the inspection of three gentlemen
in the County who know you well personally;
& are familiarly acquainted with your counte-
= nance & physiognomy, and they without hesi-
= tation declare its resemblance to you, to be
as striking as possible. And all who have
seen it are of the same opinion. The evidence
is amply sufficient to warrant the submission
of the case to the Session of the Columbus Church
for action. -

And now Sir, what are your former Christian friends to think of you? You have sinned under the most prohibitory & aggravating circumstances; & it is difficult to conceive of a more degrading & hypocritical course of wickedness & folly; or one which argues a greater destitution of principle or more callousness of conscience! I never have been more deceived in a man in all my life.

How have you wounded the Saviour & brought disgrace upon religion & given occasion for the ungodly to triumph! What an injury have you done to the soul of the poor Negro? What disgrace & ruin of character have you brought on yourself. I pity you & try to pray for your redemption. You well know what your duty is both towards God & man & I hope you may find grace to perform it. I voluntarily offer you my name on your School Circular, & request you to take it off. You have betrayed a confidence & injured me grievously, & I cannot look upon you as I once did, nor hold any further intercourse with you. -

C. C. Jones.