

Maybank, Liberty County, GA.
August 26th, 1861

Mr. William 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 and left it on the 20th of the September following, a became first, particularly known to me a short time previous, when a guest of my neighbors, Rev. D. L. Buttolph and Mr. J. A. M. King, you were introduced as an educated man, the son of a venerable and highly esteemed Minister of South Carolina, whose full name you bear, as a married man, having but recently married you second wife, who was then absent at the north for her health; as a prominent member of the Presbyterian Church in Columbus, Georgia; the Superintendant 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 have associated with the active members of the church resident in the village and taken part in their religious meetings; and I believe aided them in their efforts to gives religious instructions to the negroes. You came to my acquaintance under these favorable circumstances, and were received for what you were considered and professed yourself to be, a gentleman, a married man and a Christian. You had my confidence as unreservedly, as any stranger possibly could have and enjoyed the kind hospitality of my family from the day you entered and the day you left it. You rendered yourself agreeable, and conducted yourself with every mark of respect and propriety; were always present morning and evening at family worship and sometimes took part in that worship; and also in our weekly neighborhood prayer meeting. You were the guest of a gentleman, a professing Christian and Minister of the Gospel and witnessed from week to week his efforts to instruct religiously the servants of his family and household.

You were under my roof but a short time before you debauched a young negro girl, a seamstress and one of our chamber maids, and you continued your base connection with this negro woman week after week until you took your final leave! Of the hundreds of men if all classes and conditions and professions, men of the Church and men of the world, married and unmarried, who have been guest in my house for days, weeks, monthly, and some for years, you William States Lee, are the only man who has ever dared to offer to me personally and to my family and to my neighbors so one and so infamous and insult. You are the only man who has ever dared to debauch my family servants, in being the only instance that has occurred and to defile my dwelling with your adulterous and obscene pollutions. Had you been detected I would have driven you instantly out of the house and 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 indignity and 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 and the birth of the child- a mulato- now sometime 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 country who know you well personally; and are familiarly acquainted with your countenance and physiognomy, and they without hesitation 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 forbidding and aggravating circumstances; and it is difficult to conceive of a more degrading and hypocritical course of wickedness and folly, or one which argues a greater destitution of principle or more callousness of conscience! I never have been more deceived of a man in all my life. How have you wounded the Savior and brought disgrace upon religion and given occasion for the ungodly to triumph! What an injury have you done to the soul of the poor Negro? What disgrace and ruin of character have you brought on yourself. I pity you and try to pray for your redemption. You well know what your duty is both toward God and man and I hope you may find grace to perform it. I voluntarily offered you my name on your school circular, I request you to take it off. You have betrayed my confidence and injured me grievously, and I cannot look upon you as I once did, nor hold any further intercourse with you.

C. C. Jones

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
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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 & Co., 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
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