

# THE ALAMANCE GLEANER.

VOL. 1.

GRAHAM, N. C., TUESDAY, AUGUST 10, 1875.

NO. 27.

## THE GLEANER.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY  
**PARKER & JOHNSON,**  
Graham, N. C.

RATES OF SUBSCRIPTION, Postage Paid.  
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Six Months \$1.00

Clubs! Clubs!  
For 6 copies to one P. O. 1 year \$10.00  
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1 square	\$ 2.25	\$ 3.00	\$ 4.50	\$ 7.50	\$ 10.00
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11 "	12.00	13.00	19.50	32.50	60.00
12 "	13.00	14.00	21.00	35.00	65.00
13 "	14.00	15.00	22.50	37.50	70.00
14 "	15.00	16.00	24.00	40.00	75.00
15 "	16.00	17.00	25.50	42.50	80.00
16 "	17.00	18.00	27.00	45.00	85.00
17 "	18.00	19.00	28.50	47.50	90.00
18 "	19.00	20.00	30.00	50.00	95.00
19 "	20.00	21.00	31.50	52.50	100.00
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21 "	22.00	23.00	34.50	57.50	110.00
22 "	23.00	24.00	36.00	60.00	115.00
23 "	24.00	25.00	37.50	62.50	120.00
24 "	25.00	26.00	39.00	65.00	125.00
25 "	26.00	27.00	40.50	67.50	130.00
26 "	27.00	28.00	42.00	70.00	135.00
27 "	28.00	29.00	43.50	72.50	140.00
28 "	29.00	30.00	45.00	75.00	145.00
29 "	30.00	31.00	46.50	77.50	150.00
30 "	31.00	32.00	48.00	80.00	155.00
31 "	32.00	33.00	49.50	82.50	160.00
32 "	33.00	34.00	51.00	85.00	165.00
33 "	34.00	35.00	52.50	87.50	170.00
34 "	35.00	36.00	54.00	90.00	175.00
35 "	36.00	37.00	55.50	92.50	180.00
36 "	37.00	38.00	57.00	95.00	185.00
37 "	38.00	39.00	58.50	97.50	190.00
38 "	39.00	40.00	60.00	100.00	195.00
39 "	40.00	41.00	61.50	102.50	200.00
40 "	41.00	42.00	63.00	105.00	205.00
41 "	42.00	43.00	64.50	107.50	210.00
42 "	43.00	44.00	66.00	110.00	215.00
43 "	44.00	45.00	67.50	112.50	220.00
44 "	45.00	46.00	69.00	115.00	225.00
45 "	46.00	47.00	70.50	117.50	230.00
46 "	47.00	48.00	72.00	120.00	235.00
47 "	48.00	49.00	73.50	122.50	240.00
48 "	49.00	50.00	75.00	125.00	245.00
49 "	50.00	51.00	76.50	127.50	250.00
50 "	51.00	52.00	78.00	130.00	255.00
51 "	52.00	53.00	79.50	132.50	260.00
52 "	53.00	54.00	81.00	135.00	265.00
53 "	54.00	55.00	82.50	137.50	270.00
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55 "	56.00	57.00	85.50	142.50	280.00
56 "	57.00	58.00	87.00	145.00	285.00
57 "	58.00	59.00	88.50	147.50	290.00
58 "	59.00	60.00	90.00	150.00	295.00
59 "	60.00	61.00	91.50	152.50	300.00
60 "	61.00	62.00	93.00	155.00	305.00
61 "	62.00	63.00	94.50	157.50	310.00
62 "	63.00	64.00	96.00	160.00	315.00
63 "	64.00	65.00	97.50	162.50	320.00
64 "	65.00	66.00	99.00	165.00	325.00
65 "	66.00	67.00	100.50	167.50	330.00
66 "	67.00	68.00	102.00	170.00	335.00
67 "	68.00	69.00	103.50	172.50	340.00
68 "	69.00	70.00	105.00	175.00	345.00
69 "	70.00	71.00	106.50	177.50	350.00
70 "	71.00	72.00	108.00	180.00	355.00
71 "	72.00	73.00	109.50	182.50	360.00
72 "	73.00	74.00	111.00	185.00	365.00
73 "	74.00	75.00	112.50	187.50	370.00
74 "	75.00	76.00	114.00	190.00	375.00
75 "	76.00	77.00	115.50	192.50	380.00
76 "	77.00	78.00	117.00	195.00	385.00
77 "	78.00	79.00	118.50	197.50	390.00
78 "	79.00	80.00	120.00	200.00	395.00
79 "	80.00	81.00	121.50	202.50	400.00
80 "	81.00	82.00	123.00	205.00	405.00
81 "	82.00	83.00	124.50	207.50	410.00
82 "	83.00	84.00	126.00	210.00	415.00
83 "	84.00	85.00	127.50	212.50	420.00
84 "	85.00	86.00	129.00	215.00	425.00
85 "	86.00	87.00	130.50	217.50	430.00
86 "	87.00	88.00	132.00	220.00	435.00
87 "	88.00	89.00	133.50	222.50	440.00
88 "	89.00	90.00	135.00	225.00	445.00
89 "	90.00	91.00	136.50	227.50	450.00
90 "	91.00	92.00	138.00	230.00	455.00
91 "	92.00	93.00	139.50	232.50	460.00
92 "	93.00	94.00	141.00	235.00	465.00
93 "	94.00	95.00	142.50	237.50	470.00
94 "	95.00	96.00	144.00	240.00	475.00
95 "	96.00	97.00	145.50	242.50	480.00
96 "	97.00	98.00	147.00	245.00	485.00
97 "	98.00	99.00	148.50	247.50	490.00
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99 "	100.00		151.50	252.50	500.00
100 "	101.00		153.00	255.00	505.00

Transient advertisements \$1 per square for the first, and 50 cents for each subsequent insertion. Advertisements not specified as to time, published until ordered out, and charged accordingly. All advertisements considered due from first insertion. One inch to constitute a square.

## ADVERTISEMENTS.

**J. A. LONG,**  
Attorney & Counsellor at Law  
YANCEYVILLE, N. C.

GRAHAM & GRAHAM,  
Associate Counsel.

**G. F. BASON**  
Attorney at Law,  
GRAHAM, N. C.

**SCOTT & DONNELL,**  
GRAHAM, N. C.

Buy and sell  
**COTTON, CORN, FLOUR, BACON**  
LARD, AND ALL KINDS OF  
COUNTRY PRODUCE.  
Feb. 16-2m

**GEORGE W. LONG, M. D.,**  
PHYSICIAN and SURGEON  
Graham, N. C.  
Tenders his professional services to the public. Office and residence at the "Graham High School" buildings, where he may be found, night or day, ready to attend all calls, unless professionally engaged.  
Feb 8-ly

**P. R. HARDEN,**  
Graham, N. C.  
DEALER IN

**Dry-Goods Groceries,**  
HARDWARE,  
Drugs, Medicines, Paints, Oils, Dye-Stuff  
Clothing, Hats, Caps, Boots, Shoes,  
Rubbers, Tobacco, Cigars, Seams, Teas,  
KEROSENE OIL, CROCKERY,  
Earthen ware, Glassware, Coffees, Spice  
Grain, Flour, Farming Implements.  
Feb 16-ly

**THE GREENSBORO PATRIOT**  
ESTABLISHED 1821!  
Published weekly in Greensboro, N. C. by  
Duffy & Albright, at \$3.10 per year in advance  
—postage included.  
It is Democratic-Conservative in politics and  
labors zealously for the material prosperity  
of the South generally and North Carolina  
particularly.  
North Carolinians abroad should not  
be without it.

**FURNITURE.**  
W. R. FORBIS & BROTHER,  
(under the Benbow Hall),  
GREENSBORO, N. C.,  
keep constantly on hand a complete assortment of FURNITURE. Repairing of every description, including

**Upholstering**  
neatly done. Their stock consists of  
**CHAMBER SETS,**  
anging in price from \$25.00 to \$500.00;  
Office, Dining-Room, Parlor and Bed-  
room Chairs, Bureaus, Wardrobes,  
Business Desks, Safes, Cribs, Cradles and Trundle-Beds for the  
little folks, Mattresses and  
Spring Beds of every variety and style.

Hat-racks and any and everything in the furniture line. Their stock is the largest and most complete ever offered in this portion of the State. They defy competition in quality or price.  
ap20-3m

**HOUSTON & CAUSEY,**  
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL  
**GROCCERS,**  
GREENSBORO, N. C.

Have now in store, and are daily receiving, a large stock of GROCERIES, which they will sell to village and Country Merchants on better terms than they can buy elsewhere—which will enable them to sell at a better price than purchasing North.  
We give our attention exclusively to Groceries. Orders solicited, which shall have prompt attention.  
ap27-3m

## MA'S OLD BEAU.

### A STORY OF DEED FORGERY.

BY CARL BRENT.

The recent relations concerning deed forgeries, at a criminal trial in Chicago, have reminded me of an incident that occurred a few years ago, in the vicinity of St. Louis, which seems to me worth relating.

Clara and Mary Merwin, sisters and orphans, were in the sitting-room of their pleasant home on the edge of a village near the Missouri. Their mother had been dead for several years; their father had lately died, leaving them an estate as they supposed, of the value of some forty thousand dollars. But they had learned quite recently that the property was encumbered to such an extent that they were likely to be deprived of it all. This discovery, as may be supposed, filled them with sadness and anxiety, and they were seated in silence, unable to read, to converse, to work, to do anything, but brood over their great misfortune.

While they were thus occupied with sombre thoughts, a buggy drove up in front of the house, and a man alighted, and the buggy drove away.

This man must have been a little on the shady side of fifty, to judge from his grey hairs, although his face was fresh and unlined. He was dressed with remarkable neatness, and his manner indicated briskness as well as precision. In one hand he carried a small valise, and in the other an umbrella, and he stopped quickly to the door and rang the bell. In a few minutes he was ushered into the presence of the young ladies.

"I'm obliged to introduce myself," he said, smiling and bowing in a courtly manner—"Abner Pierce. Here is my card—professional card. You will perceive that I am a lawyer in St. Louis, and presumably a respectable man. Don't be afraid; I am not here to hurt you, but to help you. I have the honor to call myself a friend of your family; that is to say, although it is many years since I have seen any member of said family. I always had the highest possible regard for your now sainted mother, and nothing could please me better than to be of some service to her children."

"We are happy to meet you," murmured Clara.  
"Thank you. I happened to hear—no matter how—that you were in trouble, and have come up here in the belief that I can assist you. I hope you will feel that you can trust me. I am actually an honest man, although a lawyer, and I mean well, although I may express myself clumsily."

"I am free to admit," said Clara, "that we need assistance and advice, and that we have not known to whom to look for it."

"Very well. It is a good thing, no doubt, that I have come. Now, sit down and tell me all about it."

Clara Merwin, who was the elder of the orphans, and the leader in everything, told how she and her sister had taken out letters of administration upon their father's estate, when a man of whom they had never before heard put in an appearance, and presented a mortgage, with bond included, executed by the late Mr. Merwin, upon all his real estate, for the sum of forty thousand dollars. Not content with prohibiting them from attempting to sell anything, he had tied up their money in bank, leaving them absolutely penniless. They had used their credit, but tradesmen were becoming impatient, and some had refused to supply them any further without pay.

"That is a bad case," said Mr. Pierce, "You need money, that is the first thing to be attended to. You must let me act as your banker until I get you out of this scrape, and that won't be long, I hope. How much do you owe?"

"More than one thousand dollars," answered Clara.

The old gentleman counted out two hundred dollars from a well filled pocket-book, and handed it to her.

"For your mother's sake," he said, when she refused to receive it, and he forced it upon her in such a way that she could not help taking it.—He then accepted the young ladies invitation to make their house his home during his stay, and went into dinner with them—

"Is there any place where I can smoke?" he asked, when they had returned to the sitting-room.  
"You can smoke here," said the impulsive Mary. "Pa always smoked here, and we are used to it."

So he took a merschaum and some tobacco from his valise, and was soon puffing away with an air of great contentment.  
"I can think better when I smoke,"

he said. "Did you have any legal advice in the matter of that mortgage, Miss Merwin?"

"Yes, sir," replied Clara. "Our lawyer said that it was a plain case against us, although it was strange that we had never heard of the mortgage before."

"Very strange. What is the name of the man who holds it?"

"Alexander Campbell."

"Hum. A good name, but a bad man, I am afraid. When and where can I see him?"

"He will be here this afternoon," answered Clara. "He proposes, if we will make him a deed of the real estate, to give up the bond and mortgage, leaving our money in bank and the rest of the personal property."

"Very liberal. Introduce me to him when he comes, as an old friend of the family, and not as a lawyer."

Mr. Alexander Campbell called in the course of the afternoon, and was made acquainted with Abner Pierce, at whom he looked suspiciously; but his eyes fell when he met the old gentleman's intent and piercing gaze. Mr. Pierce glanced but slightly at the deed that was offered for the consideration of the ladies, being occupied in studying the countenance of the man in whose favor it was drawn.

"I can't decide upon it, just now," he said, at last. "As the friend of these young ladies—standing, as I may say, in loco parentis—I must make a few inquiries concerning the value of this property. Suppose you come up after supper, Mr. Campbell, and suppose you bring that mortgage with you. I have no doubt it is all correct, but I would like to see it."

Mr. Campbell assented to this, and withdrew. Abner Pierce filled his pipe with nervous haste, but also with tobacco, and Mary brought him a light.

"I know that you have some good news for us," she said. "I can see it in your face."

"Not bad, my child. I hope and trust that it is very good. A good name, but a bad man, I said, and that is true. I think I see my way out of this difficulty, and the money I lent you is safe. But you mustn't interfere with me, young ladies, or be surprised at anything I may say or do, or object to it. You must trust me, and let me work in my own way."

After supper, when Abner Pierce had enjoyed another comfortable smoke, and had conversed with the girls concerning their mother, as he had known her in her youth—a subject upon which he grew very eloquent—Alexander Campbell came in, bringing the deed and the mortgage, both of which he handed to Mr. Pierce for examination.

"I have made inquiries concerning the property," said the old gentleman, "and am satisfied that it is not worth more than the amount of the mortgage, and it would probably bring much less if sold at foreclosure. Your offer is a liberal one; but I must first look at the mortgage. This appears to be correct," he continued, when he had examined the instrument. "It is properly acknowledged and the signature is undoubtedly that of Philip Merwin. I suppose the young ladies will have to go to the county seat to execute the deed."

The girls' countenance fell at this sudden surrender on the part of their champion.

"This reminds me, said the old lawyer picking up the mortgage again, of an occurrence that fell under my observation in Tennessee. Not that the two cases are alike, as the Tennessee case was undoubtedly a fraudulent affair; but there was a similarity in the circumstances. Don't look so down-beat, young ladies. What will be must be, and it is useless to cry about what can't be helped. As I was about to say, a man died in Tennessee, leaving a widow and one daughter. The widow was about to administer upon his estate, when a man who was unknown came forward, and presented a mortgage similar to this, and for exactly the same amount. It was examined by lawyers who were familiar with the signature of the deceased, and pronounced correct. Although there was something strange about the affair, they could find no flaw in the instrument. It was particularly puzzling to one of them, who thought that he had transacted all the law business of the deceased. He got hold of the mortgage and brought it to me when I was in Nashville. I happened to have in my possession a very powerful magnifying glass that had been presented to me—the most powerful single lens I have ever seen. With this I examined the mortgage, and soon discovered that 'forty' had been raised from 'four.' There was no mistake about it. I could

easily see the marks of chemical erasure, and the difference, in pen and ink, between the 'raised' and the rest of the instrument. How the rascal got into the Register's Office, I don't know; but the record there had been altered in the same manner. He ran away, and it was not considered worth while to follow him. Strange circumstances, wasn't it Mr. Campbell?"

Mr. Campbell was sitting uneasily in his chair, and made no reply.

"Here is the glass," continued the old gentleman, taking it from his pocket, "and you can see for yourself how it magnifies. Now, as I look at this 'forty'—why, bless me! the same signs are visible that I saw in my Tennessee mortgage! I think you will be obliged to drop this, Mr. Campbell. My Tennessee man's name was Alexander Bell, and he has added a Camp to it since he came to Missouri."

Campbell, his face red as flame, reached out his hand for the document.

"I believe I will keep this, Mr. Campbell, for fear of accidents.—What do you think you could take it by force? Here is something that shoots five times. Going, are you? Very well; I don't think you will be molested, if you will leave this part of the country and never return to it. It is barely possible that the estate of Philip Merwin may really owe you four thousand dollars. If so, I advise you not to try to collect the debt, as such an attempt would land you in the Penitentiary. Good night, Mr. Campbell, and farewell."

"What is it? What does this mean?" asked Clara, as Mr. Pierce, rubbing his hands and smiling, bustled around to fill his pipe.

"Are you so dull, my child? Why the fellow is a swindler, and has been found out. I guessed as much when I first heard of the affair, and was sure of it when you told me his name. You will soon be able to pay me my \$200, and then we will straighten up matters. Thank you, Mary, you are very kind to give me a light."

"Do you mean to punish him?" asked Mary.  
"It would hardly pay. We could put him in the penitentiary, but you might lose four thousand dollars by the job. By trying for forty thousand, he has lost the four that may have been justly his due. He will be far from here by morning. I have no doubt, a good riddance to him! Ah! this is comfortable. I know that I feel better, and I hope that you do."

The girls were sure that a great weight had been lifted from their minds and hearts. Alexander Campbell, alias Bell, decamped, and Abner Pierce stayed a week with the orphans, during which time he arranged all their affairs satisfactorily, and won their lasting gratitude and love.

"How can we ever thank you for all you have for us?" said Clara, when he was about to leave.  
Abner Pierce has visited the orphans frequently since the event above narrated, and they have always had a cordial welcome for "ma's old beau."

## A ROMANTIC TRAGEDY.

The fatal issue of a duel between two persons well known in Italy has for some days past engrossed all conversation in Rome. The son of M. Mancini, a former minister, and the greatest lawyer in the country, is a captain of Bersaglieri, in garrison at Milan, where he resided with his wife, who as Sigdora Cottomani, had obtained some success with her poems. Captain Mancini obtained proof of her intimacy with one of his friends, M. Bonati de Baylon