

tinuous labor and temperate habits have "strung his nerves and purified his blood." In his habits he is simple and abstemious. He has never used tobacco, and he seldom drinks ardent spirits, and then never to excess. His moral and social traits are excellent. So amiable is he by nature, and so regardful of the rights of others, that he has never had a personal difficulty in his life, though it may well be conceived that in ascending as he has done from obscurity to eminence he must have had many a rough contest with his opponents. Charitable and kind-hearted, he is rather disposed to excuse than to assail or censure. Always accessible to his friends, and glad to see them, he has a fund of quaint humor, bubbling up from a cheerful heart, which invariably pleases and "sets the table in a roar." He never loses his temper, never puts on airs as a Sir Oracle, never attempts to play a large part in the eyes of men because the people have honored him, but is the same plain, unassuming, modest man he was when he handed his gun to his friend and made that first public speech of his in Waynesborough.

Commencing life poor, he has by industry and economy acquired a handsome fortune, notwithstanding his heavy losses by the war. Of the people, from the people, and with the people in all that concerns their best interests, with such a record of service as we have feebly sketched, it may reasonably be assumed that the measure of his fame is not yet full, but that the country has in store for him still further and higher honors.

**SOUTHERN ILLUSTRATED AGE,**  
40 FAYETTEVILLE ST., RALEIGH, N. C.

R. T. FULGHUM, EDITOR.

RALEIGH, N. C., AUGUST 14, 1875.

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The SOUTHERN ILLUSTRATED AGE is the only illustrated newspaper in the Southern States.

The admirably written Serial Story by ETHEL, of N. C., will be continued in next number of the SOUTHERN ILLUSTRATED AGE.

See a new short story of intense interest, from the pen of MISS DICKSON, of N. C., entitled

"TWICE RECEIVED," which appears in the next number of the SOUTHERN ILLUSTRATED AGE.

**SOUTHERN ILLUSTRATED AGE**

This issue introduces to the public the first number of the SOUTHERN ILLUSTRATED AGE. We do not propose to employ the bombastic rhetoric usual in such introductions, but content ourselves with simply stating the claims which the AGE has to the consideration of the reading public. In confirmation of what is said the paper will speak for itself.

At the inception of this enterprise we met with nothing but words of discouragement, but overcoming all obstacles we begin our work under most favorable auspices. No uncertain, insecure basis is ours, for we start with a capital and patronage, sufficient to make success certain.

The AGE supplies a deficiency in Southern journalism long felt and deplored, and we enter into the untried but inviting field feeling sanguine that the people of the South will extend to the SOUTHERN ILLUSTRATED AGE as hearty a support as the Northern people do to their illustrated papers. We propose to give to the public a weekly paper which will be an exponent of the literature of the South. It will be an illustrated record of the times. It will treat of every topic—political, historical, literary and scientific—which is of interest, and give the best illustrations that can be obtained—original and foreign.

In the list of contributors are the names of the best known and most talented writers of the South. Serial and short stories, poems and sketches, and well and carefully conducted editorial departments, giving the latest literary, personal, scientific, political, religious and commercial intelligence, will be the prominent features of the AGE.

Partisanship in politics will be eschewed. "Independent in all things and neutral in nothing" is the motto which we have adopted. The Right will be commended, let it emanate from what source it may, and the Wrong denounced let it come in whatever garb it will.

We are at the beck of no party, association, aggregation, corporation or clique. The issues of the day will be discussed fearlessly but fairly and temperately, always keeping in view the best interests of our common country.

With this brief introduction the SOUTHERN ILLUSTRATED AGE is given to the public with the hope that its merit will recommend it to all classes and conditions of society.

**DEATH OF HON. W. A. GRAHAM.**

Again is North Carolina bereaved. Death has broken one of the few remaining links in the chain which bound her to a bright and glorious past. On Wednesday last at 6 A. M., at Saratoga, N. Y., Hon. W. A. Graham departed this life after an illness of four days. The harvest indeed was ripe for the sickle, for he was not only a great but a good man. The pen of eulogy is hardly competent to the task of adequately portraying his mental and moral adornments of character. It is a work of supererogation to speak here of his devotion to duty and the many and substantial services he has rendered to his native State and the whole country. That has become an imperishable part of history.

Little did we think that when the sketch of the life of this statesman and christian gentleman, which appears in this issue, was prepared that the coffin lid was so soon to close on him. True he died far away from his home, but his fame made him known and respected by all, and the grave wherein is laid all of his mortality will be pointed out to future generations as the last resting place of a man who was as pure in character as he was great in intellect.

Sometime last year Gov. Graham was appointed by the Legislature of Virginia one of the Board of Arbitration to settle the boundary lines between that State and Maryland, and to attend the final meeting of that Board, Gov. Graham repaired to Saratoga. Though in rather feeble and failing health it was hoped that he would be spared to his friends for years to come, and especially that the State would have the benefit of his large experience and capacity in the ensuing Constitutional Convention to which he had been elected from Orange county. But it was otherwise decreed, and though the instincts of nature will not permit the pangs of grief to be stifled, yet the thought that his spotless and bright record on earth will secure him a home in heaven should comfort sorrowing relatives and friends.

In another place the reader will find a full biographical sketch of the life and services of this lamented patriot and statesman.

**DEATH OF GEN. GEORGE E. PICKETT.**

It is our painful duty to announce the death of one of the few Major Generals which our sister State Virginia furnished to the Confederate cause who have survived up to this time. General Pickett breathed his last at the hospital of St. Vincent de Paul, on the 30th ult., after a brief, but painful illness.

The General had been in Norfolk for some weeks, and was stricken with the illness which caused his death. He had rooms at the Atlantic Hotel, from which he was removed to the hospital, where more perfect quiet could be secured, and where he received the very best possible attention, the members of his family being with him during his latter hours.

Is there any law in this State forbidding the conviction and punishment of any official who has stolen more than \$1,000 of the public money? We should like to be enlightened on this point. We are well aware of the fact that he who steals anything under five dollars is a wretched rogue.

The forty-fourth annual Fair of the American Institute, New York, will be formally opened to the public at 3 P. M., on Wednesday, September 8.

**N. C. USURY LAW.**

As an evidence of the evil wrought by the usury act I have closed "The Wilmington Trust Company and Savings Bank," paid off the depositors and retired from the banking business.

The class which must suffer worse than any other, and immediately, is the debtor class. Those who have borrowed at 12 per cent. or more on mortgage, must see their property sacrificed, because loans cannot be obtained at eight per cent.

I see just as good reason for regulating the price of pork or corn, as money. True, people may suffer in many cases from the high price of money, so they do from high price of bread and meat. All merchandise is governed by demand and supply. Money is not an exception to the universal rule.

In England, France, Holland and Germany money is cheaper than in the United States—probably not averaging one-half the cost—and the rate of interest is regulated by contract, money is free. What is good for the majority of the wealth, commerce and trade of the world ought to be good for North Carolina.

The effect of the passage of the usury law by our last General Assembly cannot be estimated. I believe the injury amounts to millions of dollars in money, but the moral effect is to prevent the payment of debts, to stop their collection, to create distrust, to undermine the value of all transactions, to invent methods of evasion, giving the money lender more power over the borrower to extort high interest.

I am glad to know that we are to have a newspaper that will discuss the question of finance and usury. It is badly needed. The General Assembly of the State needs information. The present system of taxation and the usury act would ruin any State.

SILAS N. MARTIN.  
Wilmington, N. C.

**[REMARKS.]**

The foregoing letter contains substantially our views on the subject of usury law, and we believe it the question could be submitted, it would be found to be the views of a large majority of the people of the State. That our capital is being rapidly transferred beyond the borders, where security is equally good and better interest is obtained, is a fact too patent to admit of doubt. The plain truth is that capitalists will not loan money at six and eight per cent., when they can make their own investments on much more lucrative terms.

If there be any virtue whatever in the late usury act it consists in its prohibitory effect. If borrowing be prohibited by law, (and such would seem to be effect of the act,) then our citizens cannot run into debt upon that score, and if borrowing were the only means of incurring debt, we might gather from its bushel of chaff a grain of wheat, but there are a thousand ways and means of incurring debt other than that of borrowing, and by these the provisions of the act will be evaded, and its object defeated.

We venture the broad assertion that no stringent usury law can ever be successfully enforced, and its failure operates to heavily increase the cost of its use—for the reason that the risk, real or pretended, is made a large part of the consideration, and the more stringent the law and the more severe the penalty, so much greater will be the extortion on account of its use.

It is well known that the stringent usury law of New York is in effect a dead letter upon the statute books, and its bare existence keeps money at higher rates than the supply justifies. Upon reading the commercial report of the great New York dailies, we see money is quoted at 3, 4 and 5 cents, sometimes lower, sometimes higher. This looks promising, but suppose you want to borrow \$5,000, what then? You go to your banker with your collaterals, and offer your note and security at six months. You are referred to a broker—he will tell you he can only loan on call,

and you must give him a bonus, say \$50 or \$100, for negotiating the loan, and if collaterals are United States 5-20 bonds, you may get the \$5,000 shorn, one way and another, by hook and by crook, of twelve to twenty per cent. If collaterals are other than "Governments," there is no "guessing" what you may have to pay, and if you fail at maturity, the collaterals are thrown upon the market *instantly*. New York has nearly as severe a usury law as North Carolina, and for that reason it costs more to borrow there than in any State not blessed with usury laws. The usury law must be evaded—to accomplish which the curbstone bill-broker must be used, and perhaps other *vade mecum*s, all of whom must be paid, and who divide with the bank at last.

Now, if the banks could have charged you the market value, as for any other produce, you would have saved all the commissions to the broker, all the charges on account of risks, and a moiety beside, because there would be a competition in the market, whereas under stringent usury laws the transaction is done in a secret corner, when you are fleeced unmercifully without remedy. We therefore say that stringent usury laws operate to their own defeat, and increase tenfold the evils they are intended to remedy. We demand for the borrower, as for all other traders, A FREE AND OPEN MARKET.

**THE LATE ANDREW JOHNSON.**

He was in the strictest sense of the term a self-made man. Born in Raleigh, N. C., December 29th, 1808, of poor parents, he early had to encounter all the difficulties of poverty. His father died in 1812, and his mother was too poor to give him any advantages of education. At the age of ten he was apprenticed to a tailor. He removed to Tennessee in 1826, taking with him his mother, who was dependent upon him for support. He settled at Greenville, where he married. Up to this time his education had been limited to acquiring the art of reading; but now, under his wife's instruction, he learned to cipher. Taking an interest in politics, he was in 1828 elected Alderman. He was re-elected in each of the two following years, and in 1830 was chosen Mayor, which office he held three years. In 1835 he was elected a member of the Legislature, and served in both branches, being elected to the State Senate in 1841. He was elected to Congress in 1843, took his seat in December of that year, and held it by successive re-elections for ten years. His next position was that of Governor of Tennessee, to which he was elected in 1853, and re-elected in 1855. On December 7th, 1857, he took his seat in the U. S. Senate for a full term. He held his seat at the time of the breaking out of the late war, and, although the Legislature of Tennessee voted the State out of the Union, he remained in the Senate, and his vigorous speeches for the Union won the admiration of the loyal people in all parts of the country, but brought down upon him the enmity of the Confederates. In nearly every city in the State of Tennessee he was burned in effigy, and his life was threatened on several occasions.

On March 4th, 1862, President Lincoln nominated Andrew Johnson to be Military Governor of Tennessee. His energetic administration of this office brought him conspicuously before the public as one of the most ardent supporters of the Union cause. In June, 1864, the Republican Convention at Baltimore nominated him for Vice-President on the ticket with Lincoln, and he was elected by a large majority in November. He was inaugurated March 4th, 1865, as Vice-President, and by the assassination of President Lincoln, April 14th, was called upon to take the position of Chief Magistrate. His administration was a stormy one, his policy in regard to reconstruction meeting with strong opposition from the majority in Congress. The conflict between the Chief Magistrate and Congress culminated in articles of impeachment

against him, being agreed to by the House on March 3d, 1868. After a long and tedious trial by the Senate, the President was formally acquitted of all the charges, May 26th, by a vote of guilty, 35; not guilty, 19—a two-third vote being required to convict. On March 4th, 1869, he was succeeded in the Presidential office by General Grant. Since his retirement he had lived quietly at his home in Greenville, Tenn., occasionally giving expression to his opinion on public matters, and on one occasion running as an independent candidate for Congressman-at-large, dividing the Democratic vote with the Confederate General B. F. Cheatham, which caused the election of Horace Maynard, the Republican candidate.

Upon the assembling of the Legislature of 1874 he was elected by a heavy majority to the United States Senate, and took his seat for the long term on the 4th of March last. Political curiosity was greatly excited over his probable course in debating public measures; but during the extra session of the Senate he made only one speech on the situation, and this received various criticisms, the larger part of which expressed a belief that although he had enunciated several bold ideas, he was holding himself in reserve for the regular session of next winter.

On Wednesday evening, July 28th, while visiting his daughter in Carter county, Tenn., he was stricken with paralysis through his left side. Physicians were immediately summoned, and the customary course of treatment applied. The next day he appeared somewhat better, and conversed coherently with those about him. At the same time feeling was partially restored to the stricken side. This rally, however, was but temporary. He soon sank into a state of insensibility, and remained so until his death, which occurred about two o'clock on the morning of the 31st of July.

**THE PARTIN MURDER.**

We publish to-day a photograph of Andrew Johnson Partin, and Scott Partin, together with the details of the murder of his wife and child. This is the most awful case of murder, all things considered, that ever occurred in North Carolina. It is enough to "turn the cheek of darkness pale." Assuming that Scott Partin is guilty, and every one seems to believe that he is, here is the case of a husband and father who deliberately murders his wife and child, then cuts them up with a butcher's knife, attempts to burn the remains, and failing in that, buries them in a hole, and then appears in the presence of human beings as if nothing of an unusual character had taken place. Verily, it would seem that, even as in the days of the Saviour on earth, some men are as much possessed of devils as they were then.

True it is that "murder will out." As Mr. Webster said, in the celebrated Knapp case in Salem, Massachusetts, "there is no hole or corner in creation where the murderer can hide his secret, and say it is safe." Discovery in this Partin case was swift and sure. The hand of Providence seems to have pointed to the locality where the hacked remains of the wife and child had been hid, as the murderer thought forever. But they were found and brought up, to be witnesses against the wretched murderer at some coming day.

We have thought it to be our duty to publish his photograph with the details of this horrid crime. We believe the publication will do good. It will warn others, already in paths of violence and dissipation similar to those which at last led Scott Partin to the commission of this dreadful deed; and it will gratify the virtuous and the good to see the public press omitting no pains to expose vice and crime in their true colors to the world.

"The Romance of a Winter Evening," by Mrs. M. E. Tabb, is a charming little story which we publish in this issue.