To the Honorable the Legislature of the State of North Carolina:—

The Petition of Samuel J. Edney of the County of Buncombe humbly sheweth:

That your Petitioner is a young man of respectable parentage and connexions, and that his own reputation, with the exception of a single affair, the particulars of which it is more necessary for him to detail, has not been such as to disappoint the hopes and expectations of his friends. He regrets to be compelled to speak thus of himself, and still more to detail the history of an individual who is the cause of the misfortunes which at present overwhelm him.

It is now nearly three years since your Petitioner having established himself as a merchant in ~~a part of~~ this county, at an age at which few persons are qualified to manage business transactions and in a settlement remote from the residence of his friends who might have watched over his courses of life, and by proper advice, have secured a correct course of conduct. His success in business however was flattering and his prospects in life in all respects as promising as could have been anticipated, until yielding to the allurements which are too apt to beguile the young and the thoughtless, he permitted