

REASON WHY.

GEORGE K. WHITWORTH KILLED CHANCELLOR ANDREW ALLISON.

Ante-Mortem Statement Given to News- papers and the Public.

Most Sensational Charges Against the Dead Chancellor.

He had Compelled Whitworth to Di- vide His Office Fees,

And Besides Borrowed Thousands of Dollars from Him.

Which He had Shown no Disposition to Pay of Late.

Whitworth's Aged Father Writes a Touch- ing Card Giving His Reasons for Making the Statement Public at This Time.

Special to The Journal

Nashville, Tenn., Nov. 16.—George K. Whitworth's reasons for assassinating Chancellor Allison were given to the public to-day in the shape of an ante-mortem statement, and as stated last night they are of a most sensational character, impugning not only the judicial but the personal integrity of Judge Allison. The statement charges that by agreement made as a prerequisite to Mr. Whitworth's appointment he paid to Chancellor Allison one-half of all fees of the office, which amounts to above \$18,000 per annum, the judge's salary being \$2,500. Of course this was a violation of the law, but Mr. Whitworth further charges that Judge Allison borrowed from him funds of the court, which is prohibited by statute, and refused to secure him for these amounts. The statement which was dictated yesterday morning by Mr. Whitworth and is signed in his usual bold manner is as follows.

"Judge Allison, after his election the first time and before he had appointed the clerk and master told me he did not run for that office for salary alone and that he would not appoint me unless I would divide the fees in the office. That I had to agree to and let him have part of them and I paid him in checks and all checks given by me payable in cash with a stub corresponding in date, payable to A. Allison, are for these fees and besides other money I let him have in cash. In addition to this Allison owed me money. I had let him have out of the office for which my bondsmen were liable and then he owed me as clerk and master for loans made to him out of the general fund and renewal of loans previously made. I wanted Allison to secure me in these accounts. He had gotten the money I had taken out of the funds of the office to let him have and he knew this and when he sent me word he would not settle what he owed me individually and only the principal of the amount owing the office, I knew then my sureties would have to pay the amount, and I could not stand this. I could not ask my sureties to pay back to the office what Allison owed, when Allison could have secured it. When I was told on yesterday by Capt. Steger what Allison would do, I became convinced that he was putting me off and didn't intend to secure anything, but let the matter go over until he could appoint his own son to-day, and then do nothing at all. Allison had bled me from the first and I could bear it no longer. I gave Mr. Keith a statement of what he owed me and the office, and this with the other money I let him have and spent on him, yet I believe more out of the office than I did. I did not kill Allison because he hadn't appointed me clerk and master, but because he was willing to let me be beholden in the office on account of the money he had gotten and I would not settle or secure what he could have done, and to humiliate me this way when I believed I had assisted him both times to office was more than I could bear.

(Signed) G. K. WHITWORTH
Nov. 16, 1894
Subscribed and sworn to before me
this November 15, 1894
(Signed) JAS. H. YARBROUGH
Notary Public

This statement is accompanied by a card from Judge James Whitworth the venerable father of George K. Whitworth, in which he says:

I permit this paper to be published so that all men everywhere may know how my son understood and appreciated his surroundings. I give it without comment and would not for any reason make any wound bleed in any quarter if it were possible to prevent it and at the same time do justice to my son and family. I am deeply grieved and sincerely regret this whole affair and I realize the awkward position the above statement places my son in, but feel compelled to make it public, so that the facts may be known.
(Signed) JAMES WHITWORTH
November, 16, 1894.

An appended statement showed that Judge Allison borrowed money from Clerk Whitworth on twenty-three different occasions, the amounts ranging from \$1,042.91 to \$25 and amounting to \$9,798.81. It is charged that Chancellor Allison lent and Mr. Whitworth paid

\$5,000 on Tennessee Coal and Iron stock and \$2,500 on Louisville and Nashville and that he, Mr. Whitworth, also paid the expenses of the last campaign in which Allison was renominated and re-elected, amounting to \$6,000 the whole amount of interest and loans reaching \$26,261.22. Four of the loans were made before Whitworth went into office but were assumed by him. While the death of Mr. Whitworth is looked for at any time he has never been unconscious and was last night strong enough to turn over in bed. He had suffered great pain which is caused by opiate. The publication of his statement has created a great sensation as did the tragedy. The remains of Judge Allison were interred at Mount Olivet this morning.