

The Governor Refuses to Pardon Tunis G. Campbell, Sr.

The following reply to the petition published in the **TRIBUNE** last week, has been received from Gov. Smith :

STATE OF GEORGIA,
Executive Department,
Atlanta, Ga., May 12, 1876. }

Rev. H. M. Turner, Edwin Belcher, Jas. M. Simms and others, petitioners:

Sirs—Your petition, presented in behalf of Tunis G. Campbell, has received due consideration. The reasons upon which you base the application for clemency to Campbell are, "his age, the time already served by him and the humiliation of being displaced by conviction from the position he once occupied in the affections and esteem of his race."

By reference to the records of the penitentiary it appears that Campbell's age is 65 years, and that he entered upon his term of imprisonment on the 12th day of January last—just four months ago to-day. He has not served out half of his term of imprisonment. It does not appear that, in consequence of his age, his confinement is injuring his health, and on no other ground could it be properly considered a reason for the exercise of clemency in his behalf.

I am bound by the verdict of the jury to consider Campbell guilty. The punishment for his offence was imposed by the law, and the humiliation of punishment, being the most potent means for the prevention of crime, cannot be regarded as entitling the offender to pardon.

I am yours, respectfully,

JAMES M. SMITH