

THE ROANOKE NEWS.

THURSDAY, JULY 31, 1879

PUBLIC ROADS.

Though we hear of little complaint now, of the public roads in the county, yet this is owing more to the dry weather than to the work that has been done on them. As soon as the wet weather sets in, which it will certainly do sooner or later, the roads will be in as bad a condition, if not worse than they were last winter.

In the dry season and after the crops are laid by, is the best time to work the roads and work them thoroughly so that they may be permanently improved.

A few spadesfuls of dirt here and there and a few pine poles occasionally do not help matters at all. The law requires, we believe, that every public road to be at least twenty feet wide, free of obstructions. How many miles of road in the county will come up to this requirement? not ten we believe. Every road should not only be twenty feet wide but should be clear of roots, stumps, shrubs, &c., and should be ditched on each side so that the water might not stand in the centre of the roads. Every road overseer in the county has the means placed at his command to make a thoroughfare, and the proper authority should compel them to perform their duty. It would be only little more trouble in the beginning, and after a good working, but very little work would be required to keep them in order. Many of the roads in the county are almost impassable in winter, and all owing to neglect and carelessness in those whose duty it is to keep them in repair.

We call on the several township trustees to see that the roads are made, and kept in good order.

THE JEWS.

The President of the Manhattan Beach Railway Company, has announced that the company does not want the patronage of the Jewish community at its hotel and on its Railroad. What the Jews have done to thus snubbed we have not heard, and the company does not state explicitly. It is supposed that the antipathy borne by gentiles towards the scattered nation makes it unprofitable to entertain them. At least this is the reason given by Judge Hiltz for a similar course last summer. We know there is a general dislike of the Jews by so-called Christian people, and to this dislike has the Manhattan Company bowed. We rather think the company should stand out against this feeling, and not have been submitted to being bullied in that way. It is, of course, their business when they shall entertain, but why they should refuse to admit Jews, on account of race we cannot understand. If it is because some of them are not what they ought to be, but are tricky, dishonest and untrustworthy then they are possibly right, but still they do not go far enough, but should also refuse admission to all gentiles of like character. If it is because of the peculiarity of race, then it is wrong, unless all other objectionable races are also refused. The colored people for instance whom our Northern friends love so well, and want to see treated like white people, and accorded all privileges that white people have, should not be allowed at hotels and on Railroads. We believe in being just, and although it may work hardships in many cases let justice be done. There are good people among the Jews, and they should not be made to suffer for the faults of those of their race who do wrong any more than one Englishman or Frenchman, should be punished for the sins of his fellow-countryman.

MANY of the papers lately have been mentioning the names of prominent men of the State who would make good governors and congressmen.

The gentlemen spoken of by the press would all of them make good officials, and would do honor to the State if they should be placed in office. We hope North Carolina will never lack men who are capable and honest and true, to fill the various places in government. But we are opposed to changing officers so often unless there is some reason besides the fact that they would grace the positions. No man however good or capable can in a short time become accustomed to the duties of public office. No man without experience can do as well as one who has it, other things being equal. And we think it bad policy as a rule to put a man in office, and then by the time he learns the duties, turn him out and put another in. How can we ever have great men as long as this practice continues. If people will just think, they will see that those men who have become the greatest statesmen of the country, who have done the State the most service are those who have continued longest in office. In the Congress of the United States those men who have been there longest have the most influence. Those who have been there

longest, as a rule have the work to do, and the country places the responsibility on them. So it is with our State government. Those members who have been longest in public service are looked to for advice, are expected to take the lead in all important measures, and this is the case with all public officers, and it is right and proper. It requires experience as well as sense to carry on any thing successfully and we should keep experienced men in those places which require it.

Get good men and keep them and the machinery of government will run much more smoothly.

BURGESS, the Kentucky murderer, has been convicted of murder in the first degree, and sentenced to the penitentiary for life. He received his sentence quietly, and without any tremor. It is high time that the criminal laws should be enforced, and we are glad to see the law vindicated. The jury in G.A. Balford's case, deserves honor for doing their duty when so many things were brought to bear to prevent them. We hope this will not be the only case, nor Kentucky the only State, in which people will be protected from violence by the strong arm of the law.

THE KANSAS FEVER.

ADVICE TO THE COLORED PEOPLE FROM A COLORED MAN.

SCOTLAND NECK, July 26th, 1879.

The Kansas lover, charmed by the voice of fame, and allured by the hope of wealth, wish to forsake their parental roofs, in quest of happiness and honors, and of those things which are perishable in their nature.

The present is truly an age of confusion. The people of the North are an investigating people. Every thing appears contrary to scripture. Reason and true philosophy are brought up before the ordeal of public scrutiny to be censured or approved. Things, important and unimportant, interesting and uninteresting are continually coming up in the minds of the politician. Western meetings have been held, discussions are going on, men collect together in groups at street corners and at every cross roads. They meet promiscuously on church grounds, in public halls, on highways, in by-ways, in private domiciles, to discuss the prominent topics of the day as they call it; and consult upon the most efficient means to exterminate the negroes by persuading them to leave their comfortable Southern homes to migrate to the barren waste, rolling prairies and grassy plains of Kansas to dwell with bears and wolves and to find graves among strangers, who will not erect a rude slab to mark their resting place.

In this way do portion of the Kansas philanthropists occupy a part of their unoccupied time which ought to be industriously used in their mechanical labor or professional occupations if they have any. But each is thinking for himself; originating new ideas for his own aggrandisement; concocting plaus, devising schemes to put the poor negro in a condition worse than the days of yore. Can going to Kansas, better their condition?

The 13th, 14th and 15th amendments to the constitution of the United States which is the law of the land, give you a right in common with the citizens of a fair skin. Now what do you need?

The key note so often harped upon by untruthful men, "forty acres of land and a mule" has succeeded to rise no more. Now they have a new song, "Go to

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