

The ROANOKE NEWS

BACK FROM HADES.

THE STARTLING EXPERIENCE OF A WEST VIRGINIA YOUTH.

Rev. John T. Johnson, the celebrated mountain evangelist, who has been traveling in West Virginia for nearly forty years, states that during a revival at Round Bottom, Monongalia county, last Sunday, a young man of that place who had been ill with consumption for some time, descended into hell, returned to life in an hour and after describing his trip embraced religion and again died happily in the full belief of his future salvation.

After stating that the young man, who was one of the most intelligent in the county, a skeptic, Mr. Johnson said: "He was apparently lying at the point of death. Rev. Mr. O'Daniels and myself were called upon to endeavor to bring him to Christ. While Mr. O'Daniels was talking to him, holding him by the hand, he seemingly expired and was pronounced dead by all in the room. He remained in this condition for some time, when he suddenly began breathing heavily and then struggling as though with some mighty monster. He seemed endowed with supernatural strength, and it required the utmost exertions of several powerful men to keep him on the bed.

"The struggle continued for an hour, when he calmed down, and, regaining his senses, requested me to sing and pray with him. After these exercises he told us that when he became insensible to earth he found himself at the brink of a yawning black chasm; lurid fires seemed to be burning at a great distance down and shrieks of the most unearthly kind greeted his ears.

"After remaining quiet for a short time he felt a thread by his hand; he grasped it, and had hardly done so when a mighty wind struck his body, almost tearing his limbs out of their socket, and dashing him down into the mouth of the pit, where he swayed from side to side clinging to the thread, which alone kept him from falling into the flames below. He knew that should the thread break or he lose his grasp he was doomed forever, and he thought to himself: 'I have a skeptic and God Almighty is showing me that there is a hell of darkness and fire to which unbelievers are exposed, and he grasped the thread the tighter.

"After what seemed to him an interminable time, the wind ceased and he knew nothing until he requested the ministers to pray with him.

"Shortly after his return to life, Mr. Johnson says, he made his peace with God, and after giving full directions regarding his burial, bidding his friends good bye and requesting Mr. O'Daniels when he officiated at his funeral to relate his remarkable experience for the benefit of others, died peacefully in his Saviour's arms."

That Messrs. Johnson, O'Daniels and all the others who witnessed this strange affair believe actually in its supernaturalness is unquestioned. "They are all persons whose veracity is beyond question, and even the physicians assert the young man was actually dead. The relating of the story at the funeral caused considerable excitement, and people are flocking to the churches throughout this vicinity, meetings being held day and night since Thursday, the day upon which the young man was buried.

It is said that the final request of the young man was that a report of his experience be published broadcast, so that all men might know there was a hell.—Baltimore Herald.

Don't waste time, money and health trying every new medicine you may see advertised in the papers. If the cause of your trouble is in the blood, liver, stomach, or kidneys, take Ayer's Sarsaparilla at once, and be sure of a cure. Take no other.

THOSE MOSQUITOES.

NO MOSQUITOES IN FLORIDA BUT YELLOW JACKETS WERE QUITE PLENTIFUL.

Congressman Dougherty, of Florida, is a firm believer in the superior attractions of his State, as the following true story will testify:

On one occasion a Massachusetts man was his guest and the congressman took him around showing him the charms nature had so lavishly bestowed upon the favored section.

"See," said Colonel Dougherty rapturously "the beautiful flowers, the luscious fruits, the soft blue sky, the birds of brilliant plumage, the gentle undulations of the land."

"O, yes, I see!" replied the practical Yankee, snipping his face and hands, "I see; but these infernal mosquitoes ruin the prospect."

"Why, my dear sir," expostulated Dougherty, "there are no mosquitoes here. You are totally mistaken. You only think so."

The visitor wouldn't be persuaded, however, and after an argument, emphasized by slaps, he accepted a bet of \$50 from his host that he (the host would take off all his clothes and lie on his face in the sand for ten minutes and not be disturbed by the mosquitoes, nor show the slightest sign of discomfort.

The congressman peeled down to the skin, prostrated himself, and the visitor stood over him holding a watch with one hand and fighting the pests with the other.

For five, six, seven minutes Dougherty lay there, covered with mosquitoes, but betraying not the slightest emotion. The visitor by this time thought he was going to lose his fifty, and with great sagacity took a sun-glass from his pocket and focused the rays on the congressman's back. For a quarter of a minute Dougherty never flinched, then he began to squirm. The Yankee kept perfectly still. In three quarters of a minute Dougherty was contorting like a man in agony, and stretching back one hand appealingly to the visitor, he called out: "Say, Boston, if you'd let me kill that darn yellow jacket I'll go you \$50 more on the mosquitoes.—Washington Critic.

—Chicago Herald.

All scalp and skin diseases, dandruff, falling of the hair, gray or faded hair, may be cured by using that nature's true remedy, Hall's Hair Renewer.

THAT "SLATE."

THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER PAYS ITS RESPECTS TO MADAME RUMOR.

Madame Rumor has been tattling pretty freely of late, and gives out some rather significant statements, and which we were fortunate enough to catch on the "fly."

Among them she says that the railroads have decided on their man for Governor—that the political bosses have acquiesced in the selection and have joined in and made up the "slate" for the State ticket, which they claim will win. The man for Governor is a long way from being an Alliance man or a friend to their principles, but that little matter can be adjusted very easily, and this is the way it is to be done: The nominees for Secretary of State, Lieutenant-Governor and Treasurer are to come from the Alliance and each of these, the Madame says, has also been selected. But the Madame also gives out an ugly, vary ugly little matter in connection with the programme. It is to the effect that the man who has been fixed upon for Treasurer (one of the leading Alliance men of the State) is to be boomed and puffed until the day before the State Convention meets and then he is to be dropped and the present incumbent is to be nominated. If there be any truth in this, we feel assured that the present incumbent has had nothing to do with it. And if this programme is to be attempted, there can be but one purpose in it and that is to keep the Alliance from bringing this man prominently forward as a candidate for the nomination for Governor, and it is to keep an Alliance man from becoming Governor of the State.

When a child we sometimes had to take quinine and to conceal the stuff it was wrapped in roasted apple or something to rob it of its terror to us, but try as they might to hide it we knew it was there all the same. Will the Alliance be called on in 1892 to take a dose of political quinine? And will the railroad and political doctors fool us by wrapping it up in an Alliance coating? Not much. And are the Alliance people of North Carolina such a set of fools that they will not only allow but actually aid in slaughtering one of their members that their enemies may carry out their plans? Not much!

We may have occasion to refer to this matter again. Meantime we admonish the brotherhood to keep their eyes and ears open.

REST BRINGS BEAUTY.

A SOUTHERN WOMAN'S ADVICE TO HER SISTERS.

"Rest a plenty, dear," is the Southern woman's advice in cases of trouble or illness, and there is more reason and sense in the prescription than in the united wisdom of all the doctors in America. Half the ills of feminine flesh and spirit may be laid at the door of strain and overfatigue, and an afternoon of perfect repose will often ward off a week's illness. By repose I don't mean sitting in an easy chair with a book or some work to be interrupted and made to jump up half a dozen times, with hands and brain just as active as if you were about your business.

No, lie prone on a comfortable sofa or bed, with corset and boots removed and a light wrap thrown over you; have the room a bit darkened, and think about the pleasant things you can conjure up. Follow the example of the lower animals. They realize that rest and warmth are the very best medicines.

Rest every now and then, even if there is nothing absolutely wrong with you. It will make you lovely, and to a real womanly woman beauty, or at least attractiveness, is as well worth working for as anything on earth.—New York Press.

To the question, "which is your favorite poem? there may be a great variety of answers; but when asked, which is your favorite blood purifier? there can be only one reply—Ayer's Sarsaparilla, because it is the purest, safest, and most economical.

SIGNS IN THE HEAVENS.

LIEUT. TOTTEN FIGURES THAT THE SAVIOUR'S ADVENT IS IMMINENT AT ANY MOMENT.

Lieutenant Totten, United States army, in an interview to-day regarding the conjunction of Jupiter and Venus, had this to say in addition to what he said in a previous interview, says a New Haven (Connecticut) dispatch to the New York Sun:

"It is a rare occurrence instead of a frequent one. It always coincides with notable events. These planets are for signs and seasons. They never fail to make them. Some twenty-one conjunctions have occurred since Luther's time. I will refer only to the last. On July 20 and 21, 1859, there was a conjunction of Jupiter and Venus which closely resembled the coming one. Now, this conjunction followed the regular law and preceded historic events of the utmost moment. They give warning to the watchers exactly as the conjunction which preceded the nativity by several years warned the Magi of coming events. The conjunction of 1859, of course, preceded the year 1860. Let us see what occurred in 1860 and thereabouts. It is perhaps needless to mention the civil war, an unparalleled strife. But the world was in the throes of war at the same time, for all the world has hitherto revolved about Rome. It was in 1860 that Victor Emmanuel led the insurrection in the Papal States, on September 8th. The Sardinians entered on September 11th, defeated the Papal troops at Castel Fidardo on September 18th, taking Arcona on September 17-29th. Victor Emmanuel took command of the army, and entered the kingdom of Naples on October 15th. Garibaldi defeated the Neapolitans at Voltorno, and greeted Victor Emmanuel as King of Italy on October 26th. He entered Naples as King on November 7th. This was as short as the Franco-Prussian war. In the far East were likewise significant in religion. The massacre of the Christians by the Druses was May 26th to July 1st. The Mohammedans massacred the Christians at Damascus, 3,300 slain, on July 9th; the English and French governments interfered in August; 4,000 French soldiers landed at Beyrout on August 22d; Lord Dufferin, the British Commissioner in Syria, arrived in Damascus on September 6th. Note now that these September dates, both in Mohammedanism and in Italy—both struck together. Note, however, a more significant fact: From the Mohammedan capture of Jerusalem, A. D. 637, to the Syrian massacre, followed by European intervention, and to Victor Emmanuel's success in the western hierarchy, are exactly 1,260 lunar years. The next seven years were loaded with religious dates of vital diplomatic import, and ended with the 1335th solar year from Justinian. All know the events of the succeeding years, for the decade closed in 1870, or 1,260 years from the celebrated decree of the Emperor Pechas, and the temporal power of the Pope was, at least for a little season, over.

"Take again one more illustration, a brief one—I have no time for more. I believe the advent season actually dates from 1823. This was exactly 2,520 years from Israel's captivity. I use Israel in distinction from that of Judah. Their times of punishment were over. Since 1823 the watchers are counting one generation of threescore years and ten to at least the lunar beginning of the climax, be that what it may. Now Miller's day comes in between. Historians will never forget those days of excitement. Venus and Saturn came into conjunction in the same field of the telescope on December 19, 145, and marked another of those coincidences which never fail."

"When do you expect the end of the world, Lieutenant?"

"My answer to that is, 'the world endureth forever.' I have never put my mind to work to solve so outrageous a problem. The end of the age is different thing. My belief is that it ends with the generation now living. The Saviour's advent is imminent at any minute."

SENSIBLE COTTON TALK.

IF ANOTHER BIG CROP IS MADE COTTON WILL SELL AT FIVE CENTS IN NEW YORK.

A prominent cotton factor of Savannah talks thus plainly about the cotton situation:

"An increase of 500,000 bales last year and a decrease of 2 cents in price, another increase of 1,000,000 bales this year and another decrease of 2 cents in the price. An increase of 1,500,000 in the supply and a decrease of 4 cents in the price in two years.

"Following the conclusion, if there is a similar increase in the crop next year cotton will sell at 5 cents in New York. It will not need an increase of the crop to do that even. If the crop is as large this year, and another year's surplus is added to this year's surplus, cotton will sell at 5 cents anyway. We have raised more cotton than the world can consume. There is another thing. The continent raised a small food crop last year and all their money is going for grain. Consequently the people of Europe are buying less cotton goods and the market is dull."

"What should the farmers plant next year?" the question was asked.

"Plant anything," was the reply. "Better plant nothing at all than to raise cotton at 6 cents and sell it for 5."

The idea that the crop must be cut down is generally prevalent. This is likely to be accomplished in another way than by resolutions passed at farmers' conventions and Alliance meetings. On account of the low prices and the bad condition of the farmers generally, the fertilizer men are cutting down their sales from 25 to 50 per cent. under last year's sales. The merchant who purchased 100 tons last year on credit will do well to get 50 or 60 tons on the same conditions this year. The merchants, too, are cutting their credit accounts in the same ratio.

The colored farmer has gone to the wall with a vengeance. On account of the good crops and fair prices of the previous years, every negro who could buy an old mule on time and get somebody to run him went to raising cotton on his own hook and the white farmers were not able to get labor. The majority of them have failed to pay their bills, and the merchants and land owners have been the sufferers. This year the negro farmer will find it hard to get either land or credit. These things should make some reduction of the crop. The probability is, though, that this year's crop will be large enough, together with the surplus from last year's crop, to keep the price down.

NEW RAILROAD SIGNAL.

ELECTRO-MECHANICAL DEVICE THAT GIVES WARNING IN THE CAB.

The efforts of inventors are being continually directed toward methods of preventing accidents, and the most recent of devices for this purpose is one patented by a New York man, the object being to display a signal and sound an alarm in the cab whenever the engine passes a signal set to danger. The apparatus requires no electrical connection between the engine and the track, in that respect being comparatively unique. Connected with the regular switches and signals is a small wheel which rests just inside of the rail.

When the signal is at danger, this wheel comes in contact with a mechanism connected with the cab of the engine, and a rod operating in a cylinder is pushed upward by running over the wheel. An electric circuit is thus completed by means of this moving piston, a bell is rung and a visible signal appears in the cab before the eyes of the engineer.

By a special device, the bell can be made to ring for some time, so that the engineer has ample warning of the danger ahead.

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