

**Mount Airy News.**

J. E. JOHNSON Editor and Publisher.

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**ROASTING THE RAILROAD.**

There seems to be a general understanding among many people that the Southern Railway Co. stands in with the newspapers to that extent that no paper cares to speak out about any of the short comings of the big company. There is mighty little truth in this. The papers know that the Southern Railway Company is not a piece of perfection—it could be no better than the men who have charge of the important positions. Just so long as men are imperfect just so long will any railroad fail to give perfect service.

And all of this is by way of introduction to a "roast" we have in store for the Southern for the way it treated a bunch of travelers last Sunday night. Ye editor had been down on a visit to his mother at Elkin, and was returning home on the night train. As many as two dozen other people were coming this way and of course every one was anxious to get home. Some had sick folks here, some had little children waiting for their return and some had important business to look after early Monday morning. Dr. J. W. Long, the well known surgeon, of Greensboro, was on the train and was coming here to Mount Airy to operate on the little daughter of Dr. Baird, and other physicians were waiting for his arrival so that the operation could be performed as soon as the night train arrived.

But when the train was ready to leave Rural Hall the passengers were notified that five freight cars were somewhere about them and the train would be able to reach Mt. Airy. The conductor had instructions to sidetrack his train at Pinnacle and wait for further orders. This was done and there on the sidetrack we stood hour after hour. Midnight came and yet no information.

All the conductor could tell the belated passengers was that he was acting under orders from Greensboro. After a long wait the train finally left and landed the passengers in Mt. Airy at 3:30 in the morning. Now men who are in position to know the whole situation as to schedules, engines available, etc., say that there was no good reason why the belated passenger train should not have been run up to the wrecked train and the passengers transferred around the wreck and allowed to come on home arriving here not later than ten o'clock. There is every reason for thinking that this transfer should have been made. And evidently it could have been made had the men in high authority had as much feeling for the passengers on their road as they did for the box cars that had been derailed. From the standpoint of the passenger who was thus delayed it was an outrage to keep that train there on the sidetrack until after midnight. The man who did it, so far as it appears to the passengers, was doing it in gross neglect of any humane feeling for them or for their interests. From their standpoint it appears that it was a case of neglect that would justify severe punishment at the hands of the courts. If a few of these railway officials who ignore the common rights of the traveling public were haled into court and fined or imprisoned for mistreating the public who happen to be passengers, it would be a wholesome lesson, and would be as great a blessing to the railroad as to the general public.

And how about the five cars that were off the track? Cars jumping the track has become so common in recent years on this line that no one attaches much importance to it. Time and time again our citizens have made united efforts to get the road bed improved, but all to no avail. Most of us have given up in disgust. We have no confidence in our ability to get relief. We are to drag along and endure the present conditions until the officials of the road

see it to their interest to make the needed improvements. There is evidently no relief from the Railroad Commission.

There might be some chance if our solicitor would draw a bill against the Southern Railway Company for maintaining a nuisance in the way of a road-bed that is dangerous to life and limb as well as to private property. If we can not get the Company for nuisance it is our last resort.

**That Mysterious Letter.**

(At the request of the editor of The News Rev. T. H. King, pastor of The Baptist Church prepared the following article.)

There is being circulated throughout the country a letter, which is alleged to have been written by Christ just after the crucifixion, signed by the Angel Gabriel ninety-nine years after the birth of Christ and placed by him under a rock at the foot of the cross, which rock was accidentally turned over finally by a little child, the letter thus being brought to the notice of the public. The letter is poorly written and disconnected, and is a medley of commandments, exhortations, threats, and promises. It even promises prosperity and long life to those who may have it in their possession, and threatens misfortune and calamity to those who refuse to publish and circulate it. This letter seems to have excited some little curiosity among some people in Surry County, as a number of requests have come to The News to publish it. It seems that some people really think that some dreadful calamity will really befall them, unless they get it published.

It is the purpose of this article to make a few observations along this line. First, there is nothing new about this letter. Just such things have been circulated through all the years. Sometimes they come in the shape of prayers with the same threats attached. It has been the policy of this writer to burn them up as fast as they come into his hands. The sooner all of our people become sufficiently intelligent to ignore things of that kind, the better. Through all the ages there have been people in the world who have been wonderfully successful and prosperous who never heard of this letter. On the other hand, there have been thousands who have met with misfortune who never heard of it. Neither fortune nor misfortune depend in any way on publications of that character.

Again, there is a great deal of harm done to certain classes of people by circulating letters of that kind. It causes some folks, any way, to become disturbed and unsettled. In that way, the rankest heresies become deep-rooted. We ought to do everybody all the good we can and no harm at all; to up-root instead of implant wrong ideas. The superstition that prevails in many portions of our State is appalling. If our people will read their Bibles and reputable papers and such books as Pilgrims Progress and let trashy literature severely alone, they will be infinitely better off.

Finally, this writer would consider it a positive sin to circulate the letter in question. It claims for itself equal authority with the Bible, which is false; it makes believing what this letter says the condition of forgiveness of sins (which is in reality the condition of salvation), which is utterly false. Besides, it is nothing short of sacrilege to ascribe a harrange like that to Jesus, and prescribe penalties, which He alone can inflict upon those who refuse to do what this letter enjoins. Compare it with The Sermon on the Mount and other discourses of Jesus. If I should take part in circulating stuff of that character, and thus implant the vilest heresies in the minds of people less informed than myself, I should consider myself guilty of a sin close akin to the sin against the Holy Ghost. Let that letter and all of its kind be committed at once to the flames by every person that receives it.

**Mt. Airy Young Man Honored.**

Mr. Edwin Carter, of this city, has been selected as one of three young men to contest for a medal at the coming commencement at Davidson College. This is Mr. Carter's junior year and he was selected as one of the three best speakers out of a class of forty young men.

**And Jesse James Got Married.**

For two weeks The News has carried stories about Mr. Jesse James being in the county and the latest is that he has taken to himself a wife from the fair damsels of this section.

We have told before how Jesse came here and entered the post office where the public is not allowed and gave the office force the scare of their lives. They deny it but it is true just the same. After leaving here Jesse went on down in the county and a week ago met a Miss Della Easter who lives in the Dobson section. One week after meeting her he won her heart and hand and on Wednesday, the same being March 11th, Jesse got him a buggy and went to Dobson where he secured a marriage license and returning got his intended and drove to the school house where Esp. Lee Brintle is teacher and there they were made man and wife. He gave as his name in the marriage ceremony John White and place of residence Washington County, Va. He explained that the name of Jesse James had been used for the past few weeks to have some fun as he went along.

For some days the people in that section have been suspicious of his actions and good citizens have been here and consulted a lawyer asking for advice as to how to protect the community from such characters. Jesse has told that a mob has twice waited on him during the past week and now that he is married he says that the only trouble is that some of the folks have been envious of him because he was popular with the ladies of the community. He gravely informed one man how he was going to lay out the whole crowd if he was bothered further. But now that he is married and has accepted a position on the farm of Mr. Will Atkins who lives in that section it is to be hoped that there will be no further estrangement among the neighbors over his presence.

And now the post office force in this city can deny all of this story, too, if they so desire. For the past week when some man would come to the office and ask about Jesse James the clerks would tell how that was all a thing of that kind, the better. It was all the hope of the office that was hurting. The clerks quit discrediting The News we are going to send after Jesse again and see that he does a plenty for them.

The News wishes Mr. John White and his bride a long, happy and useful life.

**To Build a Monument to the Late Jas. Draughn.**

While in the city Tuesday, Ex-sheriff Jack Adams requested the editor of The News to start a subscription to raise funds for a monument to the late James Draughn. He was a Confederate soldier and a Primitive Baptist minister. He gave his time for the uplifting of humanity and left but little property to his wife and children. Mr. Adams who is a Confederate Soldier too, says that the old soldiers and the members of the Primitive Baptist church should erect a suitable monument to his memory.

And so at the request of Mr. Adams The News will head the list with the modest sum of one dollar and all amounts sent us will be acknowledged weekly through the paper and the money deposited here in a bank to the credit of the local Camp of Confederate Veterans. As soon as sufficient funds have been received to erect a suitable stone at his resting place the Confederate Soldiers can appoint a committee to make a selection and have the monument put up.

**For a Monument to the Late James Draughn.**

The Mt. Airy News, \$1.00.

**Mrs. Sarah Armfield Improving**  
 Mrs. Sarah Armfield, of Low Gap, who has been visiting her daughter, Mrs. W. A. Jackson, in this city, is recovering from a severe attack of pneumonia and other complications. Miss Jennie Jones, our resident Trained Nurse attended her and her condition is so improved now that the services of the Nurse are no longer required. Her son Clevie Armfield, of Miami, Fla., arrived Sunday night to see her.

**For Sale.**

Appomattox river farm, Amelia County, Va. 152 acres. Six room dwelling in good order. 30 acres cleared and balance in timber and wood estimated at \$800. Fine tobacco land. A real bargain. Price for two weeks \$2000. Douglas E. Taylor, Richmond, Va.

**Mountain Park School Gets Some Valuable Gifts**

Messrs. Kapp and Atkinson have recently given Mountain Park School 65 acres of land at Mountain Park. Some beautiful building lots and some small farms will also be given to the School.

**On Monday, March 16th, this Property will be Sold**

Nothing will be offered for sale on this date except School property. All payments are to be made to A. W. George, Secretary and Treasurer. If you want a home at Mountain Park now is the time to get a bargain. No man has ever lost money by investing in Mountain Park real estate. It is safe to say that this property will double in value within one year. The 65 acre farm adjoins the famous water power which is only one-half mile from Mountain Park. A guarantee will be given that this power will be developed and electric lights furnished to Mountain Park within one year from date of sale. This sale would not be made till later were it not that Mountain Park School needs money. Liberal discounts will be made for all cash at this sale. Property worth \$5,000.00 will be offered for sale on this date. Let all who are interested in education, in developing the country come. Come rain or shine. If the weather should be too unfavorable for a sale to be made you will be entertained in Mountain Park homes till a sale can be made. If you desire to see this property before the sale some one will be on the grounds who knows the property.

**C. W. WILLIAMS,**  
 Manager of Sale and Auctioneer  
 STATE ROAD, N. C.

Mountain Park School will be in position to accomodate 125 Boarding Students during the coming summer. Special attention will be given those preparing to teach.

**Card of Thanks.**

We desire to take this means of thanking our friends and neighbors for their kind sympathy and help tendered us during the recent illness of our son. Mr. and Mrs. S. L. Morris, Fancy Gap, Va.

**How's This?**

We offer One Hundred Dollars Reward for any case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure. F. J. Cheney & Co. Toledo, O. We, the undersigned, have known F. J. Cheney for the last 15 years, and believe him perfectly honorable in all business transactions and financially able to carry out any obligations made by him. National Bank of Commerce, Toledo, O. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Testimonials sent free. Price 75 cents per bottle. Sold by all Druggists. Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

**Amelia Co. Farms For Sale**

- No. 1. 110 acres close to station on So. R. R. in Amelia Co. Va. Good 7 room house, Usual out buildings, Nice large level fields, Grey soil, Excellent water and plenty of timber for farm purposes. All for \$3,500.00.
- No. 2. 170 acres in Amelia County Va. 7 miles from County Seat on Good Road, Good Dwelling and usual out buildings, Excellent grey soil. About 60 acres open, balance in timber. All for \$2750. Terms very easy. Cheap dirt.
- No. 3. 140 acres right on R. R. in Amelia County, Va. One and one half miles from village on So. R. R. 4 room dwelling. Lots of wood and lots of small timber. About 60 acres open. Price only \$2100.00. Terms easy.
- No. 4. 64 acres right on So. R. R. in Amelia County, Va. Only one and one half miles from nice village. Old house. Good land and well watered. Price only \$15. per acre. Terms very easy.

It is very much to the interest of any one who is thinking of buying a farm to investigate the above.

J. C. EGGLESTON, Amelia, Va.

**WATERMAN'S FOUNTAIN PENS**

**Our Drug Store At Your Door!**

When you are in need of anything in the Drug line send us your order, it will receive our prompt attention. We pay the charges on all Parcel Post packages within the 50 mile zone, and if you once send us an order you will surely be pleased with OUR EFFICIENT SERVICE.

**GWYN DRUG CO.**

JOHN E. MARION, Manager,

Mount Airy, - N. C.

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