

SPIRIT OF JEFFERSON.

CHARLES TOWN, JEFFERSON COUNTY, W. VA. TUESDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 18, 1900. GEO. W. HAINES, Editor and Proprietor. \$1.50 in Advance; \$2 if not Paid in Advance.

Several articles of interest are unavoidably deferred until our next issue. Judge John T. Lovell, editor of the Front Royal (Va.) Sentinel, is dead.

The Citizens' Fire Company celebrated the 64th anniversary of the birthday of Mr. Charles Broadway Rouss, Saturday, by sixty-four strokes of their fire bell, and with a handsome display of fireworks at night.

The announcement of Mr. Thos. R. Moore as a candidate for assessor in the first district appears in this issue. Tom is one of the best all round young men that we know of, and we are assured will make a live campaign.

The 64th anniversary of the birth of Charles Broadway Rouss was celebrated in Winchester Saturday night by a parade of firemen and citizens, followed by an elaborate banquet given by the Charles Rouss Fire Company.

Mr. Daniel Heffebower is spoken of as a candidate for County Commissioner from Kabetown District. Mr. Heffebower is well known as one of our most worthy citizens, and we believe would make a tip-top commissioner.

J. C. W. Beckham, Democratic claimant to the governorship of Kentucky, is, we understand, a nephew of the late Mayor Fontaine Beckham, who was killed by John B. Brown's men at Harper's Ferry, and a cousin of Mrs. Jas. Law. Hooff of this vicinity.

The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad have secured the contract for hauling the Rouss mausoleum which will be erected in the burial lot of Mr. Charles B. Rouss, in Mount Hebron Cemetery, Winchester. The mausoleum will cost \$50,000, and will be the finest in the South. The Baltimore and Ohio will lay a track direct to the Rouss lot for the convenience of shipping the mausoleum. Its weight is 400 tons. The monument will be shipped about April 1.

The barn on the farm of W. J. Knott, tenanted by his son, George M. Knott, near Moler's, was destroyed by fire Tuesday night. Eight head of horses, six head of cattle, 25 bushels of clover seed, a clover huller, several agricultural implements and a quantity of hay were also burned. The fire is supposed to have started from a hot box in the clover huller, which had been in use all day and was drawn into the barn at night. The barn had been built only eight months. Loss estimated at \$4,000. Barn insured for \$1,000 with agency of Washington & Alexander.

There seems to be a general disposition among the Democrats of the state to give the Eastern Panhandle a place on the State ticket. What that place may be remains to be seen. The names of Judge E. Boyd Faulkner and Judge D. B. Lucas have been suggested for governor and Col. Forrest W. Brown for Attorney General. We are clearly entitled to a place on the ticket and a good one at that. There has been no State office held by an Eastern Panhandle Democrat since the date of the venerable Thos. C. Green except one term by Hon. Daniel B. Lucas as a judge of the Supreme Court of Appeals.—Martinsburg, Statesman.

The Independent Fire Company on Friday shipped to Mr. Charles Broadway Rouss a handsome cake, in honor of his 64th birthday anniversary, accompanied by the following letter: Hall of Independent Steam Fire Co., Charles Town, W. Va., Feb. 9, 1900. Charles Broadway Rouss, Esq., New York City.

Dear Sir,—The Independent Fire Company of Charles Town, always grateful to the liberal friend and generous benefactor, and feeling and appreciating that some testimonial of their gratitude should be offered, have this day forwarded to you by express a cake, as an humble reminder of their affection and friendship that they feel toward you. This cake leaves Charles Town destined for you with the kindest greetings from your old comrades in war, the Fire Company as an organization, and the ladies of Charles Town, who have so earnestly supported this organization.—The wish of all is that many anniversaries of this character may be your lot, for they believe that a long life and a happy one should be the portion of one who has exhibited such worth of heart and public-spirited generosity.

Yours respectfully, JULIUS C. HOLMES, Capt. Ind. Steam Fire Co. No. 1. The Twine Trust. EDITOR SPIRIT, Dear Sir:—I want to call the attention of the farmers, through the columns of the SPIRIT, to a trust which they are increasingly helping to form, and which will work to their injury in establishing a price for twine, six months in advance of harvest. All dealers are taking contracts in advance for twine at 15 cents per pound and guaranteeing to those who make the contract, that if the price is less, the purchaser can have the benefit of it. That looks like a fair business proposition at a glance, but there is a nigger in the wood pile. If one-third, or one-half or two-thirds of the farmers make this kind of an arrangement, can't they see that they fix the price of twine and that there is no likelihood of it being below that figure, with which to break out own heads, but for such extra quantities they may need. The farmers are thus an innocent party to an arrangement which establishes an unusual price for twine, and are by their own agreement, absolutely fixing an unusually high price for twine, leaving no chance in the world for a lower price. Sixty cent wheat and 13 cent twine may be trust property, on the McKinley order, but the farmer is not in it. I submit the above suggestions for the benefit of the twine trust. Let us not furnish a club with which to break out own heads, but be robbed at every turn it is made. We would be glad to stop it rather than encourage it by our own agreement. Yours respectfully, B. F. RAMEY.

Rouss Day In Charles Town.

FIREMEN'S PARADE—PUBLIC MEETING—BANQUET—FIREWORKS, ETC.



The celebration in Charles Town Saturday in honor of the 64th anniversary of the birthday of Mr. Charles Broadway Rouss was a grand affair. At 2 p. m. there was a parade of the neatly uniformed Independent Steam Fire Company No. 1, with their handsome water tower and steamer "Jedda," both drawn by horses, all under charge of Fire Marshal C. M. Hoop and Capt. Julius C. Holmes, and headed by the Charles Town Band, T. M. Baker leader. After parading the principal streets the procession moved to the court-house, where a large assembly was gathered. Col. R. P. Chew presided over the meeting, and in calling it to order announced it as a pleasant duty to be with his fellow-citizens on this occasion. Jefferson was the home of the brothers of Mr. Charles Broadway Rouss, and had been the home of his father. He had the pleasure to know Mr. Rouss not only as merchant and millionaire, but in the times that tried men's souls. He had seen him on the field of battle, where the same coolness, courage and magnificence will power were displayed that had since brought him the highest success in the mercantile world. Notwithstanding his immense business environments, his busy brain is not too much occupied to revert to the scenes of his youth and the people of his earlier years, and share of his magnificence with them, from an ever open purse.

Owing to death in his family, Col. B. D. Gibson was prevented from being present, but the excellent address prepared by him was well read by Mr. Cleon Moore, and is as follows: Members of the fire company, ladies and gentlemen: Strangers might think this an unusual meeting, this celebration of the birthday anniversary of a living man. But when we consider the unusual liberality and extraordinary character of well-doing of the kind-hearted Charles Broadway Rouss, we, who know him, deem it all the more proper to hold this birthday celebration in honor of our friend and generous benefactor.

I do not come to flatter him, Mr. Rouss neither do I desire to praise his flattery.—But his off-shoulder friendship and deeds of kindness and benevolence deserve the award of our warm praise and grateful thanks. He has lived much more than mere years. Time has led him through many paths; from poverty by sorrow and distress, in sunshine and shadow, through fields of toil and want, to the rugged summit of wealth.

Born on a farm in Frederick county, Maryland, he came early in life with his parents to Frederick county, Virginia, where he laid the foundations of his life-work. He is well known in Jefferson county, for here he lived while at his father's home, Shannon Hill, opposite the health-giving Shenandoah Springs. And his two brothers, Capt. Milton Rouss, and Mr. W. W. Rouss, live on or near the old Rouss homestead, and are among the most progressive and prosperous citizens of this county.

Charles Broadway Rouss' warmest friends also live in this county, who were comrades with him in Company B, the crack company of the crack regiment of the "Laurel" Brigade of Virginia cavalry, in the great war. He shared with them the fights where honor and valor led and the Southland's dead died bravely for the right. His sorrow mingled with theirs in the sadness of death, when the stainless flag of the Lost Cause was folded away with the broken sword of Justice.

It was in far-famed Winchester that Mr. Rouss started on his marvelous mercantile career, which has progressed step by step till he now stands the merchant prince of the Metropolis of the Union, and Author of Net Spot Cash, with a fame reaching into every state of our republic, and with no one his superior in the wondrous achievements of his business management.

Out of the fullness of his heart he has almost showered munificent gifts from his immense fortune, to advance the interests of the Southern people, and to perpetuate the memories of the glories of the Southland and the deeds of her warrior heroes. All praise to him for aiding such noble principles.

Thousands of dollars have been given by him to private persons, and for objects of humble note, unknown to the public. Among the varied and useful donations of this princely benefactor, the chief are the following, which show that he does not act like most of the millionaires and hoard his wealth during life in order to give to some one popular object in glorification of his own name; but that in doing good in his life-time, he portions out the shares of his hard-earned riches wherever he believes his gifts will rebound to the public welfare and the satisfaction of the wants and the necessities of the greatest number of his fellow-men: \$7,000 for the fence around Mt. Hebron Cemetery, \$30,000 for water works, \$30,000 for new City Hall, and \$10,000 for Charles Rouss Fire Company Building, in Winchester; \$1,000 annually for the Shenandoah Valley Agricultural Fair; \$25,000 for a monument to the Confederate dead in New York City; \$35,000 for the Physical Laboratory building at the University of Virginia, \$3,000 towards cost of erecting the Charles Broadway Rouss Memorial Hall in Charles Town; \$3,000 to the Citizens' Fire Company, \$25,000 for a home for Admiral Schley, \$20,000 for the Confederate Memorial Hall or Battle Abbey, and annual presents of funds to the fire companies of Winchester and Charles Town.

These are public enterprises wherein the many will reap some of the benefits of his donations, and not merely a favored few be raised up to affluence.—Such is the spirit in which he gives and the objects upon which he bestows his bounties, that raise Mr. Rouss high above the ordinary millionaire and render him justly deserving of the admiration and esteem of his fellow men. He does not confer the blessings of his great liberality with the cool calculations of an investor in self-exaltation. His beneficence shows chiefly in helping others with that touch of heart and of human sympathy that makes the world akin with happiness in well-doing.

He limits his own wants and thereby lessens the target for the arrows of misfortune. But he sets no limit to good actions. His faith is charity which begets no bitterness and no despair. His worship is labor, which is the shield of success. He has Active energy, self-mastery and his indomitable will and ceaseless toil have facilitated the building up of strong character with self-reliance independent of the favor as well as the enmity of others, which have ever led to life's supreme success.

Nature has drawn a veil over his physical eyes, but in his mind's eye he sees as clearly as ever. No needy friend but what his wants appear in the vision of Mr. Rouss' inner eye, no needy and deserving cause but what its necessities are beheld by our great and warm-hearted benefactor. In the cause he deems just and worthy his heart is free as love and his hand as open as charity.

Some misapprehend and have accused Mr. Rouss of being an inveterate piano player. There is music in his soul, but it is not exhibited on a piano. He is a musician of a higher order, who plays symphonies upon the chords of friendship to the tune of love, for the benefit and encouragement of the worthy and deserving among those who appreciate generosity. Such are the outline sketches of the wonderful life of the merchant prince and philanthropist Charles Broadway Rouss, the anniversary of whose birthday we are here assembled to celebrate.

Patient and hopeful, his spirit carries him forward in his now sightless career, sustained and comforted by the respect and reverence bestowed upon him to-day in the many public assemblies where his friends are giving expressions to sentiments of esteem and praise. Together we send him heartfelt greetings, with assurances of grateful thanks. May he live long and prosper; and may the evening of his life have no clouds to shadow his happiness!

Miss Grace Morris recited the thrilling poem entitled "The Fireman," and the Charles Town Band gave variety to the program by the rendition of "Old Kentucky Home," "Dixie," "America," "Old Folks at Home," etc.

The banquet Saturday night was a grand affair. For this purpose the Rouss Memorial Hall of the Independent Fire Company was handsomely decorated, and three long tables, beautifully and bountifully set, were well filled with firemen and invited guests. The menu was as follows: MENU. Oysters. Raw, Steamed, Fried, Relishes. Cold Soup, Chicken Salad with Lettuce, Cold Slaw, Chicken Salad with Lettuce, Roast Turkey, Roast Chicken, Cranberry Sauce, Boston Clipes, Pine Peas. Dessert. Ice Creams, Orange Ice, Assorted Cakes, Drinks, Coffee, Ice Water.

Kindness of friends in uniform served as waiters, and performed their duties in excellent manner. At the conclusion of the rich feast, which all present heartily enjoyed, the toasts of the evening were offered.

Maj. A. W. McDonald served as toast-master, proving an admirable one, and after speaking of the occasion of the feast, said of Mr. Rouss: "He was a soldier, a private soldier, a volunteer. Moved only by his faith in the justice of the cause for which he was willing to lay down his life, who ragged and often without shoes or hat, had followed his peerless leader Stonewall Jackson, through his magnificent campaigns in the Valley of Virginia and elsewhere.

"It was the tireless energy, unwavering endurance and splendid courage of such privates as Charles Rouss, that gave to Stonewall Jackson and Robert E. Lee their world-wide reputation as military leaders, and places them upon historic pedestals, measuring fully up to any of the military figures of ancient or modern times.

"As a citizen his career is no less to be admired. Going to the great city of New York directly after the war, without influence, without a dollar in his pocket, friendless, a stranger in a strange land, inspired by the same fidelity, courage and energy which marked his course in the army, he has achieved a success in the business which to our people is startling. By strictly business methods, and adherence to the golden rule, the ragged Private has become a merchant prince of New York, and now his possessions can be numbered only by millions.

"But he is the same Charles Rouss still; still loving the lost cause; his sightless eyes flashing with gladness when he shakes the hand of an old Confederate; nor does he ever close his hand when an old Confed' appeals to him for help.

"With his public benefactions we are all familiar. Loving Jefferson county, where is the Family Home, and his own home for a time, and the old historic town of Winchester, where as a boy he commenced business, both, with a love akin to that he bore to his mother; he has contributed of his abundance by thousands of dollars, to advance, to beautify and improve both Winchester and Charles Town.

"For this beautiful building under whose roof we to-night commemorate the day of his birth, we are largely indebted to his generosity.

"The first toast of the evening was, of course, to the gentleman in whose honor the banquet was given.—Charles Broadway Rouss," and was responded to by

Mr. Bushrod C. Washington, who said: It affords me pleasure to respond to that toast. We have been invited to-night to the delightful banquet of which we have partaken, by Captain Holmes and the brave fire fighters of the Independent Fire Company, to join with them in celebrating the anniversary of the birthday of their friend and patron; a gentleman whose name is familiar to all in this community and throughout the country, and who is himself close to many of us as an old comrade in arms, and to others as a friend and benefactor. Connected as his name is with so many manifestations and evidences of his public spirit and kindness of heart, it is well that we should wish, as I am sure we all do, here in this handsome building, built largely through his munificence—long life, health and prosperity to Charles Broadway Rouss.

It is not my purpose in responding to this toast to pour out a stream of flattery or fulsome praise of Mr. Rouss, but only to speak of him as I see him, as I have known him, and think him to be, just as if he was sitting here with us this evening. I am sure if he were here he would not let us flatter him, but would say in his peculiar way, "I hold on old fellow, don't lay it on so thick." He is himself a man of few words and plain spoken, and takes a sort of pride in always calling a spade a spade. There is therefore no occasion for flattery.

The standard of the world has erected as the measure of a man, his ability and greatness in his special vocation, is justice. While it is not always an infallible standard, because many inferior men attain to it, through the mere force of favorable circumstances, and on the other hand, some men seem at their best in defeat; yet it is the only standard available in human affairs, and when taken in connection with the circumstances attending it, it is on the whole a fair measure of a man. Measured by that standard Mr. Rouss is a great merchant. Had he applied the same qualities of courage, perseverance, sound judgment and energy to any other vocation, public or private, he would most likely have attained eminence. But he early selected the mercantile life. I am not well enough acquainted with his business experience to more than say generally, that up to middle life it was a struggle with varying and adverse fortunes and temporary success, followed by failures and discouragements, under which ordinary men would have "gone to the wall" and staid there, or else have changed to some more promising enterprise. Not so with Charles Rouss. Feeling that he possessed the qualities of a merchant, he stuck to his ship through the storm and stress of hard times and temporary embarrassment, and is now sailing in the smooth sea of success. To-day a flag bearing the name of Charles Broadway Rouss floats from the top of one of the largest mercantile houses in the great metropolis of this country, doing an enormous business, with ramifications through this country, Europe, Asia and the Isles of the sea.—His employees are numbered by hundreds, a large number of them from this town and county. He is accounted to be a many times millionaire, and his name is enrolled among the merchant princes.

But Mr. Rouss does not pose as a prince, he is in fact a most democratic kind of man. I believe he is the most accessible of the busy men of New York, in striking contrast with many of the business potentates of that city. Some of them are as exclusive as the Emperor of China, who must be approached by the applicant on all fours, butting his head against the ground in great humility.—Some of them sit back in offices guarded by porters and clerks and surrounded with red tape and exclusiveness as ridiculous and irksome as that of the Emperor of the Celestial Kingdom.

Mr. Rouss sits on the second floor of his great store, within an open railing enclosure, with his clerks, and gives a quick interview to anyone having business with him, and makes it pleasant or unpleasant, as the business seems to require. At the same time he is about the busiest man you ever saw. He is indeed a great merchant. I believe the greatest genius in that line in this country.

Mr. Rouss is a public-spirited gentleman. His public donations run up in the hundreds of thousands, and are too well known to specify. Much is said about them in the papers. They are of a public nature.

But I am told by those close to him that his private charities are equally great. He rarely a mail comes to him that is not full of requests, from all kinds of people, for assistance. He inquires into all that appear deserving, and I am told that few deserving applicants go unhelped. He is particularly fond of aiding needy ex-Confederate soldiers and their families. He is unquestionably a benevolent man.

Is, however, as a soldier that I first knew him. We served together in the Southern army in the late Civil War, in Company B, 12th Va. Cavalry. I can not recall the time and place where he joined us, but I remember as well as yesterday his appearance and the impression he made upon me. I was struck with his modest and quiet manner. He came out from Richmond at a time when the Confederacy was greatly in need of men and went into the ranks as a private soldier. He performed with cheerfulness the irksome rounds of camp duty. He was well mounted and equipped, always ready for duty, and in a fight was always at the front among the brave men of that gallant company. I particularly remember his coolness in trying to extricate his saddle from his horse, shot under him in the first days fight in the Wilderness, while under a heavy fire.

I have spoken of him as a successful merchant, public-spirited and kind man, and a true soldier.

But Mr. Rouss is also an unfortunate

man—he is blind. His long failing eyesight, he told me last fall, had failed him entirely, and he sat in the blackness of darkness. All that is bright and beautiful in this world is now only as a memory to him. How great that misfortune is, no one but one who has lost his eyesight can know; yet he bears it with cheerfulness, I am sure that in celebrating his birthday we do not forget his misfortune, but most sincerely sympathize with him in it.

While Mr. Rouss perhaps regards this as his greatest misfortune, I must say that I do not so regard it, and I say this on my own responsibility. Mr. Rouss is not and does not pretend to be a believer in revealed religion—the doctrines of the future life as Christians understand it.—He does not deny, but says as to these things—"I do not know."

I would not be true to myself, nor true in friendship for him, if in responding to this toast on his birthday, I should withhold what I believe to be the first and best—more than long life, health and prosperity. I wish that his misfortune of blindness may be turned into a blessing, and that a ray of divine light from the Father of light may yet penetrate him, and that he will recognize it, so that in the future world he may be happy, as he has been successful and prosperous in this.

Other toasts were elegantly responded to as follows: Fire Department—Joseph Trapnell. Hon. Mayor and Council—James M. Mason, J. J. CHENEY, CO., Props, 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 all obligations made by him.

W. F. RAY, W. B. HARRIS, Toledo, O. W. WALDING, KINMAN & MARVIN, Wholesale Druggists, Toledo, O. Hall's Family Pills are internally acting directly upon the blood and upon the various systems. Price, 75c per bottle.—Sold by all druggists. Hall's Family Pills are the best.

Advertisements. We offer One Hundred Dollars Reward for any case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure. F. J. CHENEY, CO., Props, 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 all obligations made by him.

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"To Err is Human." But to err all the time is criminal or idiotic. Don't continue the mistake of neglecting your blood. Take Hood's Sarsaparilla now. It will make pure, live blood, and put you in good health.

All Cures.—Had no appetite or strength, could not sleep or get rested, was completely run down. Two bottles Hood's Sarsaparilla cured the trouble, feeling and strength as if I had done my own work. Mrs. A. DICK, MILBURN, N. J.

Hood's Sarsaparilla. Hood's Pills cure liver bile, the most irritating and only cathartic to take with Hood's Sarsaparilla.

ADVERTISED LETTERS. List of letters remaining in the Postoffice at Charles Town, Jefferson county, W. Va., on Saturday last: Albert Green, Fred Bernat, Rachel Johnson, Mrs. Jennie Jones, Mr. Earl Johnson, Mrs. Sadie Kennedy, Berle Maxwell, Rev. Carter, Mrs. Fannie Miller, Della Stry.

The above letters, if not called for within fifteen days, will be sent to the dead letter office. Persons calling for them will please say that they are advertised.

L. D. GETZENANDER, P. M. Dr. Miles' Pain Pills, "One cent a dose."

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