

A CAMP MEETING STRUCK BY LIGHTNING.

The Jonesborough (Tenn.) Whig, says that on Saturday night, 6th inst. about ten o'clock whilst religious exercises were going on at a Camp Meeting Ground, seven miles from Jonesborough, the camp was struck by lightning, and Miss Mary Taylor, daughter of the late James Taylor, of Carter county, and a young gentleman, John C. Miller, a student of Washington College, whose parents reside in Rutherford county, N. C. were struck dead by lightning; so perfectly dead, that no spark of the natural or animal life remained—Several other persons were stunned and injured. The Whig says:

“David Gillespie, another student, whose parents reside on the Tennessee river, below Kingston, was struck dead, apparently, and it is believed was only saved by the application of cold water in great quantities. While Miss Elizabeth Hoss, of this county, was equally paralyzed, and yet, together with Mr. Gillespie, is not regarded as out of danger. Besides these, there were some five gentlemen and four ladies, in the same tent—the tent occupied by James H. Jones, of this place—most of whom were struck to the ground, and for a time, at least, were wholly unconscious of what had occurred. In the camp occupied by the Preachers, adjoining Mr. Jones on the north, were two clergymen, and three other gentlemen who were severely shocked, and some of them even prostrated. In the camp occupied by Mr. Piper's family, on the south, there were five gentlemen and four ladies, three of whom fell to the ground, while the rest were sensibly affected. The reader will bear in mind that these are half-faced camps, all three under one roof, almost directly in the rear of the pulpit, and separated, the one from the other, by thin plank partition—some 20, 30, and 40 feet from the pulpit.

In the case of Miss Taylor and Mr. Miller, who exhibited no signs of life, but were killed dead, the electric fluid seems to have entered the camp near the roof, and to have continued down an oak scantling, constituting the door post, slightly *showering* the post till it reached her head, where its traces cease to be visible. She was leaning against this post of the door—Miller stood facing her, with his left shoulder against the other post—and Gillespie between them, himself and Miller having their arms around each other's waists—Gillespie's arm touching Miss Taylor's shoulder. In this position Gillespie and Miller fell backward in the camp; and when an attempt was made to separate them, it was not without difficulty and even a second trial. Miss Hoss was sitting on the end of a trunk near Miss Taylor, and tumbled over between the trunk and the wall.

There were supposed to be some five or six hundred persons under the shelter, most of whom were engaged in the exercises, then going on, while others, perhaps had taken shelter from the rain. Nearly this entire assembly felt sensibly the shock and so very much so, indeed, that no sooner had the report of the thunder stroke died away in the distance, than one long, loud, continued scream, was heard in every direction. Perhaps a scene of more thrilling interest, mingled with such gloom and terror, was never witnessed in this section of the country!