

Whereas it is represented to the general Assembly, that the Turnpike Road leading from Browns Cove in Albemarle County across the Blue Ridge to Pot Republic in Rockingham County & now owned by the Distributors of Brightberry Brown Deer was laid out many years ago under an Act of Assembly & at that day the graduation of Roads was not considered so important as at this day & consequently said Road - is in many places too steep to be useful to the Public - or very profitable to the Owners - & in consequence of the Railroad being now located in Albemarle near this Road - & a Furnace built at great expense in the County of Rockingham at the base of the Mountain immediately on this Road - & there being now no safe pass across the Mountain from Swift Run to Rockfish a distance of about thirty miles - it would be of great benefit to the Public as well as the Owners of said Road - who have ^{been at} ~~expended~~ great expense & labour in opening the same - to regraduate the same in part so as to make the same an easy grade -

Therefore be it enacted by the General Assembly that the Owners of said Road - are hereby authorized & empowered to change said Road - at such places as are too steep so as to bring the same to an easy grade - & in order to make such change they shall have the same rights as is now prescribed by Law in the change of Public Roads & when such change is made, on application ^{by} the Owners to the County Court of Albemarle - the Court shall appoint three intelligent Commissioners to view & report to said Court - & if such Court approve the change - it shall

be entered of Record— & to all intents & purposes be the Turnpike
Road— & the Deacons shall be entitled to the same Tolls as
they were by law entitled to by ~~Law~~ on the Old Road— & all
persons traveling the same shall be entitled to the same
benefits & privileges & be subject to the same penalties as they were
by law upon the Old Road—

Provisions made Dec^r 14 1848

Wth Sir I have shaped out the above to give you some
Idea of what we want— The Old Charter must remain as
it is untouched— I have graduated the contemplated changes
& we can get a Road that will not exceed five degrees any where
& a great part of the Road will not exceed three degrees— If the
Legislature will comply with our request we shall proceed to
make arrangements to open the Road— & I know of no Road that
is now so much needed by the Public it leads directly from
the Valley to the Railroad & Charlottesville— Your Early
attention & cooperation is requested—

I think the Old Road was chartered by two different Acts
of Assembly which pass between 1806 & 1807— which I have never
seen— If the Legislature grant our request you will
be so good as to forward the Act to me at your earliest
convenience together with the old Acts of Assembly touching this
Road—

Yrs^l &c—

J. H. Brown

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~~Copy~~ The Petition ^{sub} of
Thomas N Brown
asking for author-
ity to relocate por-
tions of the South-
Mountain Turnpike -
established by an
Act of the Genl. Assy -
passed Jan'y 3. 1800.

C. R. Watson

Dec. 20th 1848

ref'd to Roads

17 Jan'y 1849
Will ordered &
reported

Brown's Cove Va

Rich
S

14th Dec 148

Egbert

Egbert R Hatson Esq

Richmond

Richmond

Richmond

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Richmond Va