

July 4. 1899

Kind Friend:-

Please let me assure you that I am in no way offended, not having any cause to be, and that "Maurine" has not the slightest intention of forsaking the best paper in the state, at least not while the present editor has charge.

I would have sent you a letter this week but have been waiting to get full particulars.

in regard to the  
work on the rail-  
road that is being  
spoken of here. I  
hope, however, to send  
you a newsy letter  
in the near future.

In regard to the  
two marriages - both  
brides were disap-  
pointed, as unforeseen  
circumstances prevented  
them carrying out  
the program as first  
arranged - hence the  
weddings were quiet  
home affairs, and

no one invited out  
side the immediate  
families - at least, so  
I understood.

Furthermore, I was  
"specially requested"  
by both Mrs. Wilson and  
Mrs. Smith not to  
"write up" either mar-  
riage - and a hint  
to the wise, you know!

Am sorry you were  
disappointed, and that  
you so interpreted my  
silence. Please remem-  
ber that the "Democrat"  
will ever have a better  
friend than, Maria Pettus.