

## **The Haunting of Arlesville Landing**

*By*

*Laurence MacDonald*

A faithful recollection and account of events at Arlesville, Virginia. 1856.

By: Mr John D. Jackson.

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I caught my first glimpse of Arlesville on the first Saturday of January 1856, and from a singular aspect and vantage point: the top deck of a middling sized stern-wheeler named *Diligence* - a vessel that, true to her name, plied the river year-round almost regardless of the weather. The reasons for my river trip are of no importance here, but, suffice to say I had joined the steamboat the previous day and would continue passage for a further 30 miles or so past Arlesville's little pier.

Having spent the night in a cramped and somewhat disagreeable cabin which afforded little means of keeping the seeping cold air at bay, I had, and with rather an ill-temper, dressed early