


James "Jim" Brown and The Railroad

Jim knew the tracks like a doctor
knew the human body.

The Mobile and Ohio Train ran from
New Orleans to St. Louis, Jim worked
from West Point, Mississippi up to
Illinois. All the engineers knew him.

His hand car was equipped with
tools and if he discovered any
defects it was repaired. The crew made repairs

The rails were put together with
big nails  the cross ties were
made of oak and other hard
wood and dipped in tar and
oil to preserve it. If one was
split or too many knots, it was
not used. After the tracks were
laid crushed rocks were put all
around to stabilize the track.

The tracks had to be strong and
had to be kept in good repair, and
(over)

Jim Brown did just what hard work
in ~~fact~~ ^{rain} sleet, cold and extreme heat
but he lived to be past 80 years
old which proves hard work will
not hurt you.

We all like trains I rode the
Amtrack from Indianapolis to San
Diego, Calif and enjoyed it in 1977.

James I wanted you to know that
your ancestors were not lazy people
we are. Sometimes told that our folk
are lazy but I know better I know
how mine worked. Aunt Ada belonged
to the Methodist Church also Aunt Jessie
my mother and all of us are Baptist
because my father was Baptist.