

THE NEW BERN MIRROR

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PUNK PARADISE

Big cities offer opportunities, advantages and entertainment that a town the size of New Bern never could. They also present problems not usually found in smaller concentrations of population.

Grim and senseless examples are the instances of teenage violence currently plaguing America's greatest metropolis, New York. No one in his right mind would envy New Yorkers at such a time as this.

Most murders are born of motives that seem logical to the perpetrator, or occur without forethought in the heat of passion. But to kill for the sheer joy of killing, as juvenile punks have done repeatedly in the shadows of Gotham is jungle savagery.

We're not smug enough to believe that New York or any other big city has a monopoly on viciousness in the ranks of its youth. Heaven forbid, but what has happened above the Mason-Dixon line could happen in the Old North State, too.

However, punks don't seem to flourish as well in the smaller communities as they do where detection and apprehension is difficult. A criminal has a better chance of escape when he can quickly vanish into the teeming millions of people that New York likes to boast of.

Hiding out until the heat is off, he can return for further lawlessness. Any punk trying the same tactics in a small town, especially when his crimes involved knifings and beatings in public places, would be operating on borrowed time.

This isn't to say that law enforcement officers are more efficient in New Bern and other small towns than they are in big cities. By the very nature of things, they aren't as well trained as a rule. However, in their favor is the fact that—like it has often been said—everybody knows your business in a small town.

When it comes to the business of crime, we're glad it's that way.

MR. SUNSHINE

It required no stroke of genius years and years ago, when the editor of The Mirror gave John S. Holland the nickname of Mr. Sunshine. Nor was it surprising that the title caught on, and remained with him the balance of his days.

As we often remarked to his wife, Jane, he was probably the wealthiest man we ever knew. Not rich in dollars and cents, but tremendously rich in the satisfaction that comes from bringing joy, and comfort and inspiration to others.

We're not concerned with what John left in his will. The most important thing he left was a trail of thoughtful deeds and kind remembrances that led to the very brink of the grave. Here indeed was a treasure that had already been impartially divided among the young and old, the rich and the poor, and the high and the low alike.

If you were one of the many who received cheerful phone calls from him, and cards of greeting, condolence and congratulations, you know what we mean. The only thing robust about this frail man of exhaustless enthusiasm was his laugh and his almost boyish voice. When he talked to you, it filled the day with brightness.

None of us can say with certainty that we'll see next New Year's Day, or even tomorrow. But for Mr. Sunshine the hovering presence of death was a constant thing. He knew full well that he was living on borrowed time, yet there was no room in his heart for despondency.

He was so completely thoughtful in his dealings with others that he became thoughtless about his own prolonged illness. He couldn't be bothered with indulging in self pity, it would have cramped his style.

That, in our considered opinion as a layman who knows nothing about medical science, is why he kept on living. Not just existing, although that in itself was a miracle, but living a full and useful life.

So long, Mr. Sunshine, and thanks a million for your friendship.

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Historical Gleanings

—By—

FRANCES B. CLAYPOOLE
and
ELIZABETH MOORE

DELVING BACK INTO TWO CENTURIES OF OLD COURT RECORDS, THESE ALLURING NAMES OF PEOPLE AND PLACES ARE FOUND IN THE RECORDS OF COUNTIES OF EASTERN CAROLINA:

FREEHOLDERS: Sorrowful Emery, Shepard Horsey, Bluff John, Silence Green, Little Little, Piney Green, Church Bell, Boring Blin, Wright Knight, Levine Rotten, Kinchen Kinchen, Lamentations O'Neal, Loveless Savage, Malikiah Sorry, Write Bell, James Onion, Macajah Bull, Spring Brooks, Welcome Durrance, Worry Kilpatrick, Rice Price, Tratabus Etienne, Antipass Tisdale, Gear Chadwick, Rewbin Dear, Mishew Always, Longfield Cox, Benjamin Gitstrap and Idolet Gitstrap, Claret Wine, Meshack Always, Ephroditus Jones, Gethemene Burden, Rip Van Dam, Tom Taunt and Bold Robin Hood.

BRIDES: Comfort Always, Lovey Divine, Morning Bright, Temperance Morris, Thankfull Covell, Intemperance McCoy, Betty Bangs, Temperance Highfield, Fidella Jewell, Patience Bull, Deliverance Moyer, Virtue Crawford, Elizabeth Dear, Comfort Dove, Sally Lickblat, Wealthy Fanning, Devotion Davis, Olive Green, Experience Grant and Love Love.

PLANTATIONS: Turkey Quarter, Turkey Perch, Blue Rock Plantation, Paradise, Springfield, Pembroke, Mount Pleasant, Bellair Clermont, Brickhouse, Half Way House on the Trent, Doctor's Folly, Mount Misery, Sandhills, The Hermitage, Richlands, Harrow, Let Alone, Apple Tree, Golden Grove, Apple Grove, Briery Branch, Chimpin, Cowpen's Neck, Brice's, Snow Hills, Jacob's Well, Jumping Run, Oald Meating House, Pamplcoo River Plantation, Red House, Walnut, Wilkerson's Point, Smith Creek, Stone Bay, Bald Ridge, Beaverdam, Bull Yard, Cappell Point, Cabin Neck, Cedar Point, Deep Branch, Dogwood Ridge, Ecrepint, The Folley, Sailors Hammocks, Great Quarter, The Hill, Hogpen Neck, Holland House, Horse Meadow, Horns Quarter, Image, Indian Creek, Kirks, Lawsons, The Light, Lawson's, the Lilliput, Ludlow Castle, Mount Calvert, New Bern, New

Village Verses

HAPPY TO HAVE YOU

Don't count yourself a stranger,
If you've just moved into town;
And forget that you are homesick,
Treading unfamiliar ground.
The children playing on our streets
Are like the ones you knew;
And here you'll find the sun and moon
That used to shine for you.
An alley cat is still just that,
In Boston or New York;
The gossipers out in Dallas
Spread our type of idle talk.
We have our share of pompish folks,
Who try to put on airs,
And other folks of simple faith
Who go to God with prayers.
In short, you'll find that New Bern
Really is of stock design;
But I do so hope you'll learn to love
This lovely town of mine.

—JGMCD.

Germany, Old Box Neck, Oyster Shell Banks, Paupoy Ridge, The Point, Possum Quarter, Mason's Neck, Prisce's Neck, Roses, Rosefield, Sandy Hook, Sandy Run, Snow's, Stumpy Island Plantation, Tower Hill, Town Point, Tubbago's Folly, Cow Island Plantation, Clur, Elbo, Voll's Island, Whitmarsh, White Hall, White Oak Neck, Wild Cat Neck, Wolf Pit Ridge, Alden, Abington, Ballard's, Beach Reag, Black Rock, Blew Water, Blewbootens Neck, Butcher's Neck, Mt. Thomas, Mountain Creek Land, Mt. Garriot, Nash, Hatch's and Swann's.

CREEKS, GUTS, GULLEYS, BRANCHES, RUNS and SWAMPS: Blue Billy Gut, Yellow Britches Branch, Dumpling Creek, Jumping Run, Pudding Branch, Wrigdon Branch, Shaking Bridge Creek, Dancing Branch, Rainbow Creek, Deep Gully, Samuel's Creek, Jack Cabbins Branch, Rocky Run, Hancock Creek, Cahoque Creek, "A creek called by the Indian tongue, Inisquorque", in English Clubfoot, Aharskey Swamp, Horse Swamp, Rattlesnake Branch, Wickacorn Creek, Bear Creek, Horse Pen Creek, Graveyard Gut, Good Neighborhood Branch, Goose Creek, Indian Grave Branch, Kisable Creek, Serech Owl Branch, "a creek called where Mr. Stewart ketch'd a racoon," Craven County, Caswell Branch, Grindell's Creek, Oyster

Creek, Orchard Creek, Pig Basket Creek, Wolf Pit Branch, Pole Cat Branch, Swift Creek, Smith Creek, Brown's Creek, Beard's Creek, Sloumb's Creek, Plub Branch, Cherry Creek, Lilliput pond, Bee Tree Creek, Blount's Creek, Bear Creek, Alligator Branch, Gum Branch, Chinquapin Swamp, Frying Pan Branch, Gale's Branch and Looking Glass Branch, Island Creek, Hood's Creek, Hatch's Creek, Ad-

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GOD IS MINDFUL OF HIS OWN

When distress and cares oppress you,
And you seem to walk alone;
Look up friend, for God will bless you,
"He is mindful of his own."

You may walk with Him forever,
He's a never-failing Guide;
He will not forsake you, never,
He will keep right at your side.

What a word of consolation;
Sweetest theme you've ever known;
In the time of fierce temptation,
"God is mindful of His own."

—Good Tidings.

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