

THE NEW BERN MIRROR

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HOLIDAY DRIVING

With traffic fatalities for the year already well past the 1,500 mark in North Carolina, The Mirror makes its annual plea for safety during the Yuletide season.

Beware of slippery streets, reduced vision, and driving while under the influence of an intoxicating beverage. All three add to the holiday toll that invariably turns Christmas into a time of tragedy for many Tar Heels.

These specific hazards are further complicated by still another known as "holidaze." It is compounded of Christmas cheer, last minute shopping, window displays, crowds of pedestrians, and motorists hurrying to get home.

All of these factors result in a kind of holiday heedlessness, and all inevitably intensify the risks that are a natural result of the winter season. We can't forestall ice, sleet or snow, but we can use common sense.

Slippery streets and roads lessen your control over a motor vehicle and limit the ability of pedestrians to cross thoroughfares. Those who are walking deserve consideration at all times, but doubly so when walking is a problem.

Darkness too is a major holiday hazard. Less daylight prevails during December, so much of the travel involved in getting to and from work, in shopping and visiting must be done without benefit of the sun's rays.

Perhaps we should dwell upon the theme of "Peace Upon Earth to Men of Good Will." There's nothing peaceful about the slaughter and crippling of fellow mortals on our streets and highways. A newsman can certainly vouch for that fact.

Some people are rude and inconsiderate every day in the year, and there is little chance of changing them with an editorial such as this. Unfortunately, a lot of folks who are ordinarily courteous also exhibit rudeness when the holiday is at hand.

They are rude not through mean dispositions, but because they are worried, impatient and excited in the hustle and bustle of things. They push and shove like famished animals, often speaking sharply to clerks and fellow shoppers.

Some of the clerks speak rather sharply too, maybe because their feet hurt, they've missed their lunch or supper hour, or several unreasonable customers have rubbed them the wrong way.

Increased traffic brings a madder scramble for parking places, and recklessness at intersections. It is a sad fact that people who are reserved and polite as pedestrians quite often behave like a bully when they get behind a steering wheel.

Now is as good a time as any to remind motorists that they have no right to deprive pedestrians, crossing on the proper light, of their opportunity to reach the other side of an intersection.

Any driver guilty of such an act ought to have his head examined. There's no need to examine his or her heart to determine what amount of kindness it contains. Behavior behind the wheel made such a diagnosis unnecessary.

As for driving under the influence of whiskey, beer or wine, that's a criminal act. You may be a leading citizen, but a leading citizen who has had too much to drink is just as deadly as the biggest crook in town would be in like shape. Remember this, if you forget everything else.

Historical Gleanings

—By—
ELIZABETH MOORE

NORTH CAROLINA, JONES COUNTY -- WILLS

Simon Edwards. June 7, 1780 --Dec. Term 1781. Wife, Sarah Edwards, personal property and plantation. Son Asa Edwards. Brother John Edwards. Daughter Fruzan not 15 years; daughters Zilphah and Winaford. Executors: John Isler and Michael Koonce. Wit. Michael Koonce, Simon Speight, Richard Reynolds. Book A P. 5.

Thomas Eubanks. July 6, 1776. No probate date. To wife, Rachel a third part of my plantation wood and timber to support herself for life. Son Thomas land at Emanuel Simmons' line on Trent River. Sons John, Daniel, Elijah, George. Daughters Rachel Shepard, Rebecca Market, Sally. Executors: Sons Elijah and Daniel Eubanks, wife Rachel. Wit. Deborah Ross, Josias Wilson, David Ross. Book A. P. 196

Sarah Fearn. March 1, 1796. May Term 1797. Sister Milledy Travis Fearn all my plantation and estate. Executors: Peter Hargett Wit. Archd. Reynolds, William I. Hargett. Book A P. 158

Thomas Fearn. Jan. 21, 1789. Sept. Term 1790. Wife Mary plantation, personalty. Daughter Penelope not 18 years of age. Children: Mary, Elizabeth, Ann, son John. Daughter Sarah plantation whereon William Knox now lives and tract adjoining I hold by deed from Simon Edwards. To Melissa Travers Fern the land and plantation whereon she now lives patented in name of Williams Parsons. To daughter Mary Fern all land on South side of Beaver Creek. To son John Fern all land above the branch in plantation whereon I now dwell in Simon Speight's line on Beaver Creek, to daughter Penelope Fern land on East side of Branch which runs through plantation whereon I now live at Cahoon's old spring near Simon Speight's line, to daughter Elizabeth Fern all land on lower side of Branch, to daughter Ann 100 acres adjoining Zenos Swilley, Idolet Gilstrop and John Isler. Executors: wife, Mary Fern and friend Nathan Bryan. Wit. John Isler, John Becton. Book A P. 206

Richard Fields. Sept. 4, 1784. Sept. 1784. Wife, Mary. Son James. Daughter Catherine. Daughter Nancy. Executors: John Parry and Frederick Hargett. Wit. Richard Pate, Christian Koonce, Jacob Hypock. Book A, P. 28

Jacob Foy. Jan. 10, 1786. March Term 1786. Wife Elizabeth plantation whereon I live. Son Frederick land whereon I live and other estate. Executors: my brother Frederick Foy, John Simmons, Jr. and Lemuel Hatch, Jr. Wit. Emanuel Simmons, Charles Hatch, Merlam Simmons. Book A P. 58

Thomas Foy Jan. 8, 1788. Dec. 1789. Wife Elizabeth. Brother James Foy. Brother Frederick Foy. Nephew Fred-

Village Verses

AUTUMN

You are the wistful season
Of remembered things,
An attic full of keepsakes
From our faded springs.
Lost April brings her magic
To a softly lighted room,
And her buds are even sweeter
In their second bloom.
—JGMCD.

erick Foy, son of Jacob Foy 100 pounds. Executors: my brothers James and Frederick Foy. Wit. Jesse Sanderson. Edward Whitty. Book A. P. 86

Thomas Foy Feb. 23, 1800. May 1800. Wife not named. Son Thomas. Executors: my wife and my brother Enoch Foy. Wit. Lucy Foy, Edward Whitty, James Sanderson, Joseph Market. Book A P. 249

Urban Frazer Feb. 17, 1805. May Term 1805. Mother Mary Frazer sister Sarah Barnett. Nephew Micajah Matlocks. Brother James Frazer. Brothers in law Pitts Oldfield. Executor: James Frazer, Pitts Oldfield. Wit. John Howard, Richard Oldfield. Brice George. Book A P. 275

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