

Concealed vs. Displayed Weapons.

THE PINK BEDS.
June 17, 1903.

Editor Sylvan Valley News:

Dear Sir: We note with interest the recent eruption in the "sylvan valley" resulting possibly in the death of a man (colored, of course) and that the worthy citizen of your extremely peace-loving community who cut him up is not under arrest.

We wonder if it has ever occurred to you that for a section which goes into hysterics if a man rides through a town with a revolver carried in plain sight (as the state has seen fit to prescribe), the carrying of concealed knives and guns is a little out of place.

"People who live in glass houses," says a modern proverb, "should move"; and it might be just as well for you to go on a crusade against the concealed weapon habit of your neighborhood as to ridicule people who, if they do carry weapons without absolute necessity therefor, at least do so in an open and lawful manner. Respectfully,

E. M. MOFFETT.

Biltmore Forest School.

Mr. E. M. Moffett, Biltmore High School, The Pink Beds.

Dear Sir: Your valued favor of the 17th instant received and carefully noted, and we are glad to say that we are in hearty accord with you in most of your positions.

Your ideas on the carrying of concealed weapons is undoubtedly correct, and we agree with you. It is a cowardly act for any man to carry a pistol or other deadly weapon concealed, and shows to the thinking mind that he who carries it is afraid of entering into an equal combat in which the other man will have an equal chance. He will carry a weapon, and to keep from being whipped will kill the other man and then claim self defense, or in some manner try to save his neck.

You refer to "an eruption" in the sylvan valley (not the paper, but the valley of the French Broad) which resulted in the killing of a man—"a colored man, of course." We regret the occurrence, but from what we hear it seems justifiable, even if the victim had been a white man. Those who saw the affair say that the negro, who is a grown man, cursed the white boy, using a vile epithet, and repeated it again, and when he attempted to carry the boy out then he was cut. So it seems that a white boy about fifteen years old cut a negro man, grown, who had cursed him and who was then trying to assault him. This was not a case of concealed weapons, for the knife used was a simple pocket knife. But if it had been a case where a concealed weapon was used have you thought of how it may have been traced to the influence of those who habitually carry weapons openly?

Has it occurred to you and your comrades that the display made by you of weapons which you need not in this country may excite the envy of some youthful mind and cause him to try and do likewise? Do you not think that the example set by men of your mental calibre—namely, that of riding around a peaceful and quiet countryside with pistols or knives buckled around your waists—has a tendency to bring out the natural spirit of bravado that exists in all boys? In fact they look on you as heroes and try to emulate you, but being unable to purchase the large pistols that you are able to afford they do the next best; they get a Barlow, sharpen it up, put it in their little pockets and imagine that

they need it for protection, just as you do about your pistols.

You and your comrades are "the glass of fashion and the mould of form" to many of the unsophisticated in this section, and if the unfortunate affair referred to can be attributed to any cause other than that of passion or self defense it is on you and your associates shoulders that it should fall.

It is with no personal feelings that any article has appeared in this paper in regards to "Pink Bed Pete" or others; you are all young men of intelligence and refinement and means, as far as we know. Our remarks have been made for the purpose of trying to show you the bad example you were setting the youths of Transylvania in wearing deadly weapons on your persons at all times. Not that we loved you less but that we love our boys better is the cause for any article that you may object to. We therefore ask you that you use your best influence with your friends and dissuade them from setting such examples of bravado. This is our home and here we raise our families; you are but strangers merely passing through, and yet you can exert an influence for good or bad as you see fit.

Owing to the breadth of our laws you are not guilty of any crime or misdemeanor, but even could we legally stop you, first would we ask you to desist. The days of the dime novel are about over and we hope that you will aid us in stopping any other custom that will deprave our small boys. Your fellow men.

THE EDITORS.

A Powerful Sermon.

On Sunday last Rev. Mr. Moore preached a sermon to the Masons at the Methodist church. It is with regret that we are unable to reproduce the entire address but there being no manuscript of the sermon and no stenographer to take it down it is impossible to publish it. The sermon was one that could but have a deep and lasting effect on those so fortunate as to hear it. It evidenced a thorough research and careful preparation and was delivered in an impressive manner. Altho' addressed principally to the Masonic fraternity it was full of advice and counsel to others. May its effect be lasting and the advice given followed by those who heard it.

Rumored Improvement.

With pleasure we report that a gentleman of wealth is considering the building here of a \$25,000 establishment, consisting of steam laundry, ice factory and electric light and power plant. There is a good opening here for such an enterprise and we hope that it will become a reality in the near future. The party having this enterprise under consideration is so pleased with the climate and surroundings that he has decided to invest in the lines suggested.

Notice.

The Overseers of public roads in Brevard Township are hereby notified to work out their sections of the roads at once or be liable to the penalty for neglecting same. J. J. SHIPMAN, Chairman Board Road Supervisors.

Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy.

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Brevard Banking Company

Statement at the close of business May 4, 1903.

Capital.....	\$ 15,000.00
Surplus.....	2,201.49
Deposits subject to check.....	134,562.39
	<u>\$151,763.88</u>

RESOURCES.

Loans.....	\$ 68,032.79
Furniture.....	544.56
Due from other banks.....	79,124.47
Cash on hand.....	4,062.06
	<u>\$151,763.88</u>

I. J. W. McMinn, Cashier, certify that the above is correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.
J. W. McMINN.

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W. P. WEILT

Phone 54.

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