

THORNTON'S INNS

by Harry Dunn
Received 28/10/19

This little verse won't mean much if you haven't read John Thornton's 'Places I've Lived'
Posted on the IBC web-site 22/10/19

What's this that I've just read,
By a man who's moved about
Spending half his life in awful INNS
And if he really did, how often did he shout?

Cognito, Incognito, Insanity, Denial
Musive, Inconclusive, Doubt and much Defence -
Will there ever be an end to his punishment, his trial
And his lingering Suspense.

He referred to Continent – but didn't say which State;
Perhaps his mem'ry fails;
Perhaps his sad InSomniac Conclusions
Come from spending too much time
In the State of New South Wales.

That place he lived in, Active - 'no movement anywhere'
Could that be Inactive-By-the-Sea,
A little piece of Blighty
Which would not suit you and me.

And could that be why he moved out here
To spend some time in Deepshit,
A far better place than Home,
To shovel Aussie Sheepshit
In some southern pleasure-dome,
To enjoy our bowling greens
And knock out an occasional pome.

He's now retired and living
In this land of surf and sun
Orstralia, Girt-By-Sea,
In a town he calls 'Ver-loch' he's found friendship, bowls and fun
Or have I read it wrong and turned his little song
Into something it wasn't meant to be ?

Brother Thornton – you know I'm only tauntin'
Just tauntin' you a little bit
Truth is - I'm glad to see you back in print,
So please do more - feel free to score;
We all enjoy your words and wit.