

SOCIAL AND PERSONAL ITEMS

The Visitors to Acton Homes and the Visits of Actonians—Little Items of Personal Interest

Mrs. Eagle, of Preston, visited with Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Kerr.

Mrs. McCall, of London, visited Mrs. Robert Bennett last week.

Clerk H. N. Farmer returned this week after a month's vacation.

Mrs. Wm. Baldwin, of Hillburg, visited friends in Acton last week.

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Teed are visiting with friends in Toronto this week.

Mrs. Irene Flowers returned home from London this week to attend school.

Mr. Mac Caloren, of Ingersoll, visited with Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Lindsay.

Mr. Harry Ritchie, of London, is visiting with Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Wilson.

Mrs. Nellie Hall, of the Toronto teaching staff, has returned to her duties.

Mr. Chas. Hall, of DeBolt, Mich., is visiting his cousin, Mrs. H. B. Wilson.

Mrs. Cecel Gibbons and Gordon Cook have returned from a hike to Goderich.

Mrs. Gwendoline Dobbie is visiting the past week at the home of her sister at Elmira.

Mr. and Mrs. Russell Salmon and baby returned home this week after holidaying at Bracebridge.

Mrs. Harley Brignoll and children, of Toronto, visited with Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Teed this week.

Mrs. A. E. Medcalf, of St. Thomas, visited her sister, Mrs. P. E. McCleary, over the week-end.

Rev. and Mrs. H. L. Bennis and family returned from their summer cottage at Bayfield this week.

Mrs. Smart, of Galt, spent the week-end with Mrs. Robert Bennett and Mrs. Minnie Z. Bennett.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Mainprize and Miss Malma Mainprize visited in Bracebridge over the week-end.

Mrs. George Murray returned home on Saturday, after spending several weeks at Kincardine Beach.

Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Russell and family, of Oakville, visited at the parental home and with other Acton friends.

Mrs. Richmond and Mrs. Richmond, of Kalamazoo, Mich., visited with Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Gowdy last week.

Mr. and Mrs. P. A. McLean and Master Billy, of Chesley, visited at the home of her mother, Mrs. Wm. Johnston.

Mr. and Mrs. Adam Stewart, of Kitchener, are holidaying at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Mason, Willow Street.

Master Kenneth Buck, who has been visiting with his sister, Mrs. Alex. Mann, returned home to Owen Sound this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Alex. McDonald and Mrs. Wm. McEadden and Mrs. George Elliott motored to Muskoka for over the week-end.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Homer Chayne and children, of Lakeside, Florida, visited at the home of Mrs. C. C. Speight during the week.

Rev. and Mrs. W. J. McLeod and Misses Elizabeth and Marjory, of Toronto, visited with Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Kerr for a few days.

Mr. and Mrs. Gladstone Hubbard and son, of Rochester, N. Y., visited over the week-end with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. Hubbard.

Mrs. Chas. McLam, of Toronto, spent the week-end with her mother and sister, Mrs. Robert Garvin and Miss Margaret Garvin, Peel Street.

Rev. and Mrs. A. C. Stewart and family, of Toronto, visited with Acton friends over the week-end, en route home from their cottage at Bruce Beach.

Mr. and Mrs. George Osborn, of Rensselaer, N. Y., are visiting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Williams and other relatives and friends in this vicinity.

Mr. George Lake, editor of the Porcupine Advance, "Timmins, made a brief call on The Free Press on Monday while en route from a holiday trip to Montreal.

Mrs. Gordon Herbaugh, Miss Emma, and Masters Francis and Jack, of Endicott, N. Y., have been spending the week-end with their numerous Acton friends.

Mrs. Dorothy McPherson, who underwent an operation for appendicitis at St. Joseph's Hospital, Guelph, last week, is making very satisfactory progress toward recovery.

The Rev. Gilbert Wilson, LL.D., D.D., of Chicago, pastor of the new First Congregational Church, was a visitor at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Evans, Acton, on Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Mahales, Earl and Lorne, and Mr. and Mrs. Ross Hart spent the week-end on a motor tour, visiting at Bracebridge and other points in the Muskoka district.

Mr. Angus McDonald and his sons, William J. and Sandy, of Dolly Varden, motored to Durham and Piccolville and spent a few days with Mr. Alex. McQuarrie and other friends, last week.

Mrs. J. K. Gardner received word yesterday that her mother, Mrs. Penitance, who has visited here many times, fell at her home in Cleveland and sustained a compound fracture of the shoulder and other injuries.

Mr. and Mrs. William H. McCullough, of Acton, announce the engagement of their younger daughter, Mary Matilda (Tillie), to Alvin Edward, son of Mrs. Marshall and the late Edward Marshall, of Erin, marriage to take place in September.

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Kennedy, Acton, announce the engagement of their daughter, Jean Nelson, to William James Russell, son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Russell, Unionville, Ontario, the marriage to take place quietly the latter part of September.

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CRUSOE IS SUMMONED TO SETTLE ARGUMENT

Defoe's Book Yields Evidence That West Indies, Not Pacific, Was Hero's Habitat and Tolls of Canadians Picked up at Sea by Robinson

Robinson Crusoe is one of those books which everyone has read and which nobody knows sufficiently well to cite passages in a discussion. Since the title continues in the universally interesting debate to decide where actually Robinson Crusoe met with the intriguing adventures which form Defoe's famous story of that name, and whose hero is sometimes said to have been in real life an Alexander Selkirk, a review of the classic book, published in all languages of civilization, is always appropos.

Concerning Selkirk, most encyclopaedias point to the Pacific Coastal island of Juan Fernandez, off South America, as the place where he was "marooned for four years." But the book called Robinson Crusoe makes its hero recount how he was marooned for nearly a quarter of a century.

Of the two places which claim to have harbored the original Robinson Crusoe, the island of Tobago, adjacent to Trinidad, southernmost island of the Canadian National's Canada-West Indies, appears to have the better claim to fame, for the vicinity is named several times in the book, whereas the island of Juan Fernandez is considered only by the assumption that Selkirk was necessarily the actual hero and that the author deliberately or in ignorance changed the locale.

Some passages from the book which clearly indicate that the lovely British West Indies was, after all, Crusoe's place of isolation, are cited: "The reader early encounters reference to the 'great Orinoco River, (in Venezuela, flowing eastward) at the mouth of which my island was situated.' At about the same place of reading, Crusoe's man, Friday, gives the marooned Britisher to understand that the natives themselves are called, after whom the Caribbean Sea was named. Further on, Crusoe tells the reader how he sought information concerning the 'condition of my plantation in Brazil.' Again, Crusoe tells how, restless after having been restored to England, he spoke with his uncle, who said, '... you would not do badly to come with me. I promise to give you the pleasure of seeing your island again, for I have orders to touch at Brazil.' Presumably calling once more in relative security, and obviously in or near Caribbean waters, Crusoe recounts a band of distressed voyagers who asked him if he would not shift his course a little and have the goodness to disembark them in Newfoundland where they might 'starve or come craft in which to return to Canada, whence they had originally departed.'

There is mention of Barbadoes in the book, Robinson Crusoe. Also, Crusoe recounts meeting certain Spaniards on his island and finding that they were "not my subjects at all, but belonging to the island of Trinidad not far distant."

Resuming the evidence, such as it is, it would seem certain that Defoe had in mind some island at least very near Trinidad, since his entire narrative makes no mention of any other locale as he gives to the world the engaging account of Crusoe's "charming misadventure."

Men of the loftiest literary genius, from Shakespeare down, have often delighted in the racy and vigorous language of unlettered peasants. Tolstol, the great Russian author, in a sketch translated into English and published in America displays the same trait.

"Dimwit and I were proceeding along our proper, the right-hand, side of the frosty street," he wrote, "when all of a sudden we were dashed into by a driver of a four-horse sleigh. Yet it was not until he had drawn clear and proceeded quite ten yards farther that he Dimwit, found voice enough to shout, 'Hi, you devil! Don't you know your right hand from your left? Not that Dimwit is timid, or ordinarily unsteady, but his tongue, on the present occasion, drove over, whereas he is accustomed to drive conveyances which inspire instinctive respect, he and I were at the moment journeying in a vehicle as long in the shafts that the whip could scarcely reach the diminutive steed, and that steed was sobbing in the hind leg—things bound to be galling to a driver of Dimwit's stamp, and to diminish his powers of self-assertion."

"A trait I like in Dimwit is his ability everywhere and always to nickname anyone; it never fails to amuse me: 'Tullo, Old Hat!'—'Tullo, Soldier!'—'Tullo, Long Beard!'—'Tullo, Bobsleigh!'—'Tullo, Seacroft!'—'Tullo, M'caer!' and the rest. Truly the Russian man of the people has a marvellous gift for divining the epithet best calculated to strike home! All classes come alike to him—the tradesman is 'cat-man' (tradesmen are popularly supposed to go in a great deal for skinning cats) quite as much as the footman is 'plate-lecker,' and the fortune coachman 'rump-swever,' and so forth. He treats all equally disrespectfully and in a flash can christen the veriest stranger with a sobriquet going home to the raw—with 'lame dog' or 'pop-eyed demon' or 'fat-lipped rascal' or 'wily nose.' And these obnoxious names need actually to be heard for one to realize their aptness."

"I myself shall never forget when once I allowed me to another behind my back, 'Look at that gap-tooth!' For, only enough, my teeth are few and bad and discolored."

"A motor car is a mechanical extension of the physical capabilities of the human body in the matter of movement from place to place."

"Mertrand—"Better eat a powder puff."

Neighborhood News

BURLINGTON

Mrs. G. McCord, of Walden, New York, spent a few days here last week, renewing acquaintances.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Wiggins and Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Briggman spent Sunday in Mount Forest.

Mr. and Mrs. P. A. Ferguson and family have returned home from holidaying in Muskoka.

Mrs. Joe Smith and Miss Lois Horne are on a motor trip through western and northern Ontario.

Mrs. J. G. Cain and son, Cameron, of Judsonville, N. Y., are guests of her sister, Mrs. C. J. Coleman, and other relatives in town. They made the trip by motor in eleven hours.

A. W. McGrath found a flat tomb stone on his property last week, which was used for a walk. It is over 120 years old, and bears the inscription of one of the district pioneers.

The many friends of Lester Brain, who is ill with infantile paralysis, will be pleased to hear he is progressing nicely at the General Hospital, and is now on the road to recovery.

Clint Goller, of Pittsburg, Pa., is visiting his mother at Port Nelson. His wife and family have been visitors here for several weeks and enjoy holidaying at this pleasant spot on the lake.

Mr. J. O. Temple, of York; Mrs. Harriet, of Leamington; Mrs. Eldred, of Detroit, and Dr. and Mrs. Roy Hill, of London, were visitors with Mr. and Mrs. P. W. Temple during the past week—Gazette.

Erin

Mr. and Mrs. David Mandul, of Agincourt, are visiting with Dr. and Mrs. Abbott.

Mrs. Louise Green has accepted a position of Principal of a three-roomed school at Mount Elgin.

Dr. Col. McNamee and Mrs. McNamee, of Toronto, were Sunday visitors with Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Hall.

Mrs. W. M. McDonald, of Acton, and Miss Phyllis Prescott, of London, spent the week-end with Mr. and Mrs. P. Shuchler.

Miss Myrtle Allan, a former Erin Consolidation School student, passed all her Upper School subjects, at the Georgetown High School.

Mr. G. W. Burch, student from Wychem College, Toronto, will have charge of the services in All Saints' Church, Erin, commencing Sunday, August 30.

On Sunday morning, a small stone rickshaw from the tire of a passing car and broke a large plate glass in the front of H. T. Elgin's grocery. Fortunately the glass was insured.

Mr. and Mrs. Morgan Graham, Mr. and Mrs. John Ferguson, Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Kendrew and Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Reid spent Sunday afternoon and evening with Mr. Duncan Graham, it being the occasion of his 53rd birthday. Eleven of the grandchildren were also present.

Mrs. Mary Coburn, a pupil of Miss Mary McQuarrie, Principal of Thornhill Public School, has been awarded the gold medal, presented by the Riverdale Kiwanis Club, of Toronto, for having obtained the highest standing at the entrance examination competition for Markham Township—Advocate.

Oakville

Dr. and Mrs. T. J. Morrison, of Beacon, N. Y., who were visiting in town with Dr. Oake, have left for Birmingham, Michigan.

Mayor John B. Moat and Mrs. Moat have as their guests for this week, Mr. Hall and Mrs. Hall, Orono, brother and sister of Mrs. Moat.

Mrs. Jessie MacDonald, R. N., Hamilton, spent a few days with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Alex. MacDonald, Colborne Street.

Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Smith, of Ottawa, are spending their vacation at the home of the latter's mother, Mrs. H. W. Littlefield, Sumner Avenue.

Many rare and beautiful places of furniture and china were sold on Saturday afternoon by Auctioneer George C. Gibson, under instruction of Julius E. Kyle, Detroit, sole executor of the estate of his mother, the late Mrs. H. E. Kyle—Record.

Mrs. Walter Whitaker, Miss Amy Whitaker, and Harold Whitaker are on a motor trip to Quebec and through the Maritime Provinces.

Mr. and Mrs. R. Prescott, Jr., and family, of Boston, are spending their holidays with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Robt. Prescott, Reynolds Street.

Miss Sady MacGenzie, Miss Margaret Melville, of Montreal, Mrs. Wilson, of California; Miss Agnes Wallace, and Mrs. Jas. Deans, of Toronto, were guests with Mr. and Mrs. John C. Smith, of Robinson Street.

After being poorly for several weeks, Francis Gray Mitchell pulled away at his home, west side, quite suddenly on Monday morning, aged 70 years. The funeral on Wednesday was private, with interment in St. Jude's Cemetery—Star.

Malicious Truth Telling

Some people praise themselves on their truthfulness when the incentive is not love of truth, but pleasure in hurting the feelings of others. When you feel like uttering a truth that will wound another, estimate your motives carefully. Find out whether your loyalty to truth prompts the utterance, or whether you have an ungenerous pleasure in the thought of the suffering you are going to inflict. Only a malicious falsehood can be compared for meanness with malicious telling of the truth.

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