

Correspondence.

Spicy News Items Gathered by Gazette Correspondents.

Cody's Station.

July 15th.—The crops are looking splendidly in this locality—more especially the hay crop.

The measles are very prevalent, whole families being prostrated at once.

Mr. M. J. Doney has been very low from pneumonia, after measles, but is now convalescent. He has been attended by Dr. Earle, of Young's Cove. Mr. Doney has been greatly missed by the different societies of which he is a member, and by the neighborhood in general. We will be glad to see his beaming face once more, and hope he may be rapidly restored to health.

Mr. John Armstrong is once more able to be out after a protracted illness.

The families of Messrs. Elisha Perry, S. C. Perry and George Gamblin are down with measles.

Dr. Judson E. Hetherington and lady are spending the summer with the doctor's parents.

Mrs. B. E. Morten and son of Bridgewater, Maine, have been visiting Mrs. T. P. Hetherington.

Master Frank Hetherington, of Cody's, is managing the mail route between Cody's and Cambridge.

Mr. Headly Huggard is home very ill with measles.

We understand that Mr. H. W. Somerville is about having the telephone at Cody's Station connect with the General Public Hospital. This will be a great saving of time, and this time is money to the business man.

Mr. Mark Cole, of Cole's Island successor to Mr. T. P. Hetherington in the buggy and machinery business is doing a fine trade.

Before we close we would like to say a word to XX and also to Johnston. If you are members of any church, Baptist, or any other, we ask you in future to forbear quoting any passage of the Bible, or using the name of the Supreme Ruler on your productions. We feel that in making this request we are echoing the sentiments of every Christian man and woman in the community. Everyone enjoys a harmless joke, but XX and Johnston are getting rough.

Gaspereaux Station.

July 12.—Prof. Prescott gave a grand variety show in the school house on Saturday evening. A very large audience thoroughly enjoyed his lantern views and fun with the electric battery.

Mr. B. Hayes Dougan has severed his connection with this school. The district has lost a very efficient teacher.

Mr. Duncan P. Kirkpatrick, a highly successful teacher, has been engaged by the trustees.

Mr. F. Stanley Kirkpatrick, one of our bright young men recently underwent the Normal School entrance examination.

A number of local orangemen went to Fredericton to-day to take part in the Orange celebration.

Mr. J. Berlin Roberts is home from Sackville for the holidays.

Mr. Charles Timmins is visiting relatives in this vicinity.

Mr. Joseph Myles a highly respected resident, has concluded to visit Ireland, his birthplace, in the near future. During his long residence in America, Mr. Myles has travelled extensively visiting New York and other large centres. It is to be hoped that he will thoroughly enjoy his coming trip.

Mr. Hartley McCutcheon is spending a well earned vacation at home.

Bicycles are all the rage. The ladies and gentlemen seem to have patronized the various companies pretty extensively. Evidently times are getting good.

Mr. William P. Kirkpatrick and bride are in this vicinity. They arrived from Pennsylvania recently.

Haying is in full blast. A fairly good crop is being cut.

Mr. Thomas Monohan, of Boston, has been visiting his parents lately.

Mr. William H. Kirkpatrick, the genial parish collector has recently obtained a very fine trotting horse. It is said to be able to negotiate a mile in 2.40.

Mr. Foster Thorne has been spending a few days in this place.

Mr. John Turner rode to St. John and back one day last week. Mr. Turner is a very fine bicyclist.

Mr. Thomas W. Frott is developing very high speed lately. He will likely take part in some future championship racing. Your correspondent, though getting old, still thinks a horse good enough for him.

Maugerville.

July 11.—The members of the congregation of Christ Church, Maugerville intend to celebrate the 114th anniversary of the founding of their Parish and the 110th of the consecration of the first Christ Church, on Wednesday, August 31st, as will be seen from the following Extracts from the Parish Book of Records. Maugerville is the oldest parish in the Diocese of Fredericton, and Christ Church the first building consecrated for Divine worship in the same.

"Easter Monday, April 13th, 1784, at a meeting of a number of persons belonging to the Church of England, the following were chosen to act as wardens and vestrymen."

Easter Monday March 24th, 1788. "New church, called Christ Church. Consecrated to Divine Service, when Rev. Samuel Cook preached a sermon adapted to the occasion."

TO EDITOR QUEENS COUNTY GAZETTE.

Sir: Allow me space in your valuable paper to give the people a little information concerning Margaret L. Shepherd, which came into my possession from the Globe.

This is copied from the St. John Globe Oct. 30th, 1897: To Editor of the Globe.

Sir: On Thursday, Oct. 7, you were kind enough to publish a letter from me referring to the career of one Margaret L. Shepherd. Of this woman I had and have no personal knowledge whatever but having seen it publicly announced that she is working in the interest of religion and morality and truth, I took the liberty of sending you a letter written by Rev. J. A. Macdonald, formerly Presbyterian minister at St. Thomas, and now editor of the Presbyterian paper the Westminster, published at Toronto which letter showed the woman was entirely unworthy of belief and should not be recognized by respectable and honorable people.

Mrs. Shepherd, I am told, denies the serious charges made by this esteemed Presbyterian clergyman and I have no objection to credulous persons accepting her denials. The non-Catholic community, however, may be interested in a few more facts which have come under my observation.

Some residents of St. John will remember that we had here a few years ago in the ranks of the Salvation Army a hard working and conscientious officer named J. F. Southall. This officer was once written to concerning a woman named Margaret Herbert and also known as Shepherd, and he replied:

She was rescued from a life of shame and sent to the rescue home. She came to us (in America) bringing a note referring to herself as having been reclaimed from a terrible life and as having been such a stranger to truth that she hardly knew when she told a lie. Of this we were soon convinced after she came."

Everybody knows what a good woman is Mrs. Bramwell Booth of the Salvation Army. Appealed to for information regarding Margaret Herbert, alias Mrs. Shepherd, Mrs. Booth said she was a fraud; that she was a rescue case, that she took to drink, that she was a liar and a deceiver and was engaged in borrowing money from the people. To another correspondent Mrs. Booth wrote:

"Mrs. Shepherd never was a nun. She was taken (I am not sure by the police or not) as a prostitute to the Roman Catholic penitentiary at Bristol. Her influence was bad."

Rev. Joseph Baird of the North New York Episcopal church felt compelled to write:

"I have no confidence in Mrs. Shepherd. She is a woman of no principle. It is quite easy for her to lie when the truth does not happen to suit. My judgment is that she is as morally rotten as she is bright."

And the Rev. Wm. D. Thompson of the Central Methodist church, Brooklyn, has written:

"A woman answering to the name of Shepherd was in New Haven lecturing and preaching. She was an imposter. She pretended to be the illegitimate daughter of an English nobleman, educated in a convent, converted to Protestantism, etc., etc. The truths that I have unearthed about her were that she had been the mistress of one or more than one; that she had been induced to leave a house of ill-fame in London where she was voluntarily residing, that she had never been a nun at all, that she joined the Salvation Army and wretchedly betrayed the trust they placed in her."

Mr. W. T. Stead the well known English writer was once asked for information on this subject and this is what he said:

"I think the less you have to do with the lady you mention the better it would be for your peace of mind and for the security of the contents of your pocket. Of course everything turns upon the question of identity, but from your description I have no doubt in my own mind in identifying her as an extremely clever, but I think slightly mad young woman who was introduced to me as a reclaimed prostitute five or six years ago and who seems to have been in jail at least twice for obtaining goods under false pretences."

Rev. G. P. Merrick, Church of England Chaplain of Millbank prison, London, had the honor of acquaintance with Louisa Egerton whom he identified afterwards as a woman named Shepherd and of whom he said:

"She was under a sentence of six months for obtaining money under false pretences. She was an adventuress and professed to be connected with many persons of rank and distinction to some of whom I wrote, only to find out that her story was a tissue of falsehood."

At another time Mr. Merrick wrote:

"I have received so many communications from America and have written so much about this woman calling herself Shepherd, Herbert, etc., that you must kindly pardon me if my letter to you seems somewhat brief. She was known to me as Louisa Egerton and she was convicted on two occasions for fraud and felony; the second offence causing her to be imprisoned for six months. After her release she was placed in the St. James' Home, Fulham, for the purpose of bringing about her reformation and of starting her in a respectable mode of life. Her conduct, however was so lacking in straightforwardness while she was there that the authorities would not keep her. When she was heard from again it was in connection with a great number of frauds which were practised upon lodging-house keepers and tradesmen in the west of England."

Rev. C. B. Simpson, chaplain of the prison at Bodwin, Cornwall, piles on the agony. He wrote:

"The woman was in this prison on two charges of forgery and one of false pretences in 1882. She was acquitted in June of that year. She then went under the name of Georgina Parkyn. There is little doubt she is an accomplished swindler."

In addition to all these there is the letter of the Rev. J. A. Macdonald, denouncing Mrs. Shepherd in strong language.

There is the statement of Miss Lillian M. Phelps the temperance worker who wrote to Mr. Macdonald imploring him in the name of wronged womanhood to address a wider audience than his own congregation, "and if possible save our women and girls from the awfulness of this woman's touch."

There is the declaration of Rev. A. J. Gordon, Baptist minister, of Boston, that Mrs. Shepherd is the falsest and most un-

scrupulous woman and the most unblushing hypocrite he had ever met, and the statement of Mrs. Gordon of how she and Dr. Gordon had some experience with her in Boston and that "she should not be allowed to take pulpit or platform as an advocate of morality or a defender of the Protestant faith."

Now Mr. Editor I would like to know is the Shepherd woman who figures in this unsavory record the Shepherd woman who dares to address St. John audiences on behalf of Protestantism and in the interest of religion, morality and truth. If she be the same person is it not time that the Evangelical alliance or the ministers' meeting or some body of representative Protestants spoke out in repudiation of her? I know this woman has preached in two houses of worship here but I decline to believe she is endorsed by any denomination.

One word more: It will not be possible for Margaret L. Shepherd or her friends to say this is "Catholic persecution." All the statements I have quoted were made by Protestants—principally clergymen in good standing.

These statements have never been contradicted.

HONESTY.

Now Mr. Editor, a few words about the statements of Mr. L. J. King, concerning Catholics, church, convents, etc., which are utterly untrue and calumnious on his fellow Christians.

I ask you, Protestant gentlemen, is it meek and just for a man who professes to teach the religion of Christ, to spread reports utterly untrue about his fellow man.

This man does not scruple to judge Catholics after they have departed this life, which is contrary to scripture, Matt. VIII Chap. 1st and 2nd verse:

1st. Judge not that ye be not judged. 2nd. For with what judgment ye judge ye shall be judged and with what measure ye mete it shall be measured to you again.

Now, my friends, I thought we lived in a Christian community, but if any person gives heed to such calumnious reports about his neighbor, I fail to see where Christianity comes in. There are very many of our friends I am glad to say who do not uphold such scandal.

He defied any Catholic to contradict him as you all know by the challenge in your issue of 6th inst. I was willing to meet Mr. King on the platform and argue the matter out before the public, but he failed to appear.

How can such a man as this appear before the public and preach in the interests of morality and religion.

Yours truly,

C. J. McLAUGHLIN.

Mill Cove, Queens County, N. B.

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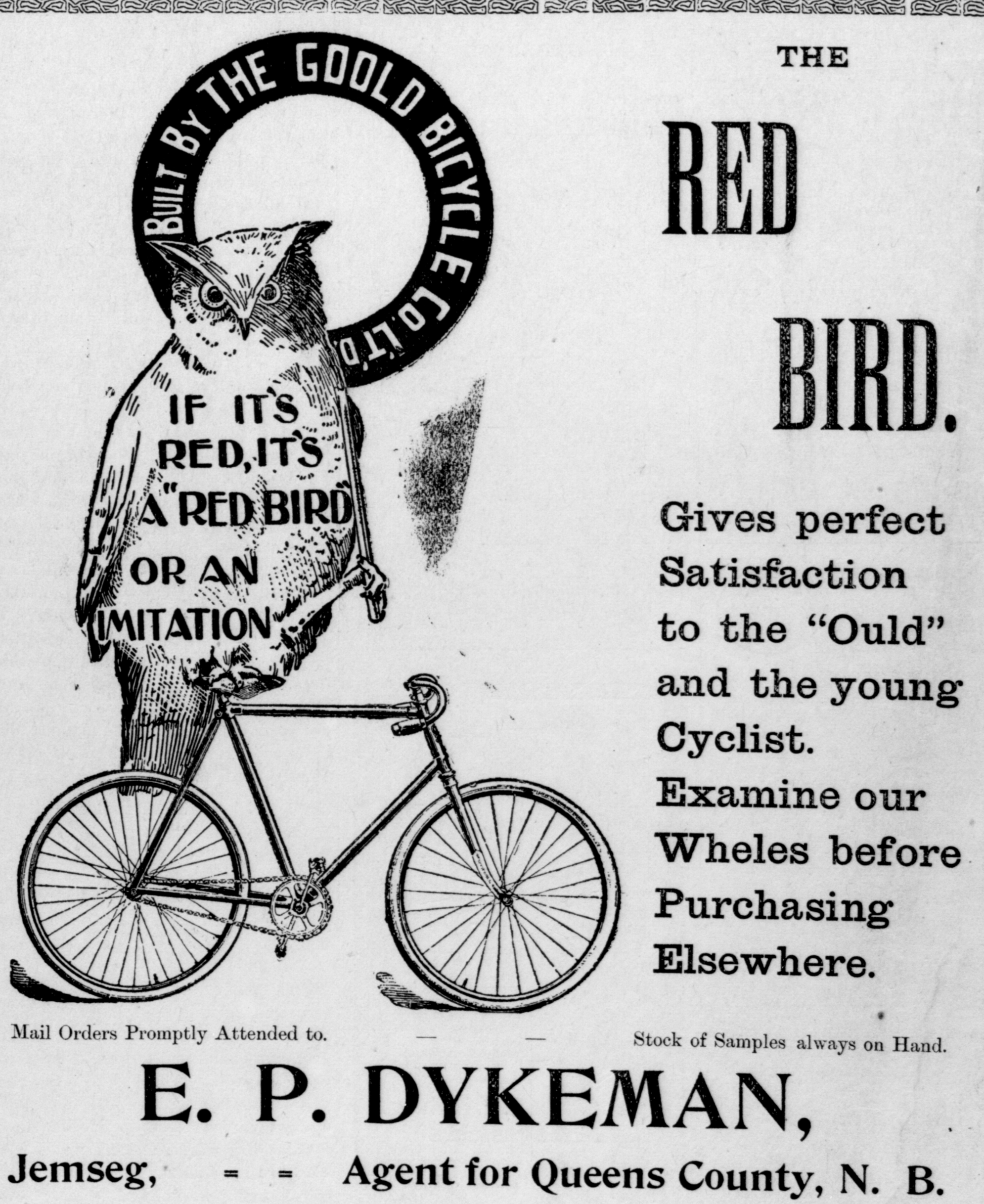
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