

action for the preservation and development of our fisheries.

The decision of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council on the points in dispute between this colony and the Newfoundland Railway Company, is a matter of great moment to this country, and we observe that it leaves open the question of counter claim for non-performance of the contract.

The subject of the municipal management of the town of St. John's shall receive our careful attention.

We have great reason to be thankful for the immunity which this colony has enjoyed from epidemic disease or other public calamity during the past year.

We agree with Your Excellency that the general good conduct of our people affords matter for congratulation.

We join with Your Excellency in the prayer that our labors may be directed by Divine guidance to the promotion of the best interests of the colony and its people.

E. D. SHEA, President.

Council Chamber.

REPLY:

Mr. President and Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council:

I receive, with much pleasure, your dutiful address, and I have no doubt that the result of your legislative labors will be conducive to the true interest of the colony.

HENRY A. BLAKE.
Government House, Feb. 28, 1888.

ENFORCING THE BAIT ACT.

A Job for Owners of "Ingraham" and "Lady Glover."

SELF-INTEREST IN EVERYTHING.

Vested Rights of Our Fishermen Completely Ignored.

Editor Evening Telegram.

DEAR SIR,—I notice in the columns of the Government organs tenders are called for—"two suitable steamers" are wanted to carry out the provisions of the Bait Act; or, in plain language, to boycott the inhabitants of the coast between Cape Ray and Cape Spear, and, by preventing the sale of bait to the French, carry out the true intent and meaning of the Bait Act, viz.: create a monopoly for the benefit of the favored few.

The D. P. Ingraham and Lady Glover are to form the squadron. The officers are not yet gazetted, but their commissions are being prepared, and after the momentous question has been settled as to the representation of each religious denomination on board the squadron, the blanks will be filled with the names of not the most worthy candidates, but of those impetuous individuals who have been most pertinacious and troublesome to the "powers that be." The vessels, officers, and Bait Act will all then come under the same category—useless and out of place!

Do the Government suppose that the people of the proclaimed districts are children? Is it reasonable to expect men who know that on the West Coast, after you pass Cape Ray, the people are to be allowed to sell bait freely, who know that north of Cape Spear the bait traffic is practically free to all, who know that the Americans and Canadians are allowed to freely buy and sell bait,—do the Government suppose that the boycotted men of the South-West Coast will be deterred (by two tug-boats with a few politicians' tools for crews) from supplying their old customers with bait? We shall see! The same self-interest that holds together the heterogeneous elements called a Government will operate to bind together the inhabitants of the proclaimed districts in a firm resolve to deceive and defy the King, whose tools the crews of the tug-boats will be. Talk about resisting evictions in Ireland! Why, the ostracised fishermen of Placentia and Fortune Bays will have every motive for resistance, and if we are to judge of their future course by some of their past actions, we can safely leave them to settle the Bait Act monopoly in their own way.

Sealing steamers have monopolized and destroyed the seal-fishery, to the ruin of thousands of fishermen. Shall the use of steamers be forbidden? Oh no! would you destroy vested interests? Cod traps are ruining the codfishery. Shall they be abolished? Oh, no! vested interests, you know! Shall the liquor traffic be interfered with? Oh, no! vested interests! But when an act to interfere with the business of ten thousand fishermen and to create a new monopoly is required, there is no talk of vested interests then. "Let the sufferers enter into the codfishery more actively," and so place themselves more in the power of the men who, with the help of a few lawyers and merchants' tools, passed the "Bait Act"—a measure that will surely have to be repealed in as great haste as it was passed; for the Imperial Government will never allow France to be placed on a different footing from the United States. It would be against the law of nations to do so. Very truly,
ERGO.
St. John's, Feb. 28, 1888.

The Evening Telegram

ST. JOHN'S, MARCH 1, 1888.

AN IMPRUDENT ACT.

The Organ Pokes Fun at the Honorable Augustus Frederick.

THE Government organ, we notice, editorializes the antics of the Honorable Augustus Frederick Goodridge in the Assembly on Tuesday evening, and pokes fun at him in a most provoking manner. To be sure the temptation to laugh and do other queer things when Mr. Goodridge "gets up steam," is more than human nature can stand, even under the most solemn circumstances. But, admitting all this, still there is no excuse for such conduct as the Mercury has been guilty of in the premises.

Only think of it. Here we have a member of the House of Assembly, and an Executive Councillor at that,—in short, here we have no less a personage than the Honorable Augustus Frederick Goodridge himself, actually dangled before the public as "a laughing stock," merely because he rises in his place in the Assembly and tries to defend the policy of the Government, of which he is now an avowed and uncompromising supporter. It is really too bad, and only that Mr. Goodridge happens to possess a very amiable and forgiving disposition, he would leave the Government right away, demolish the slanderous Mercury and all connected therewith, and henceforth serve his adopted country as a member of Her Majesty's loyal Opposition. Imagine the result had the Honorable Alexander James Whiteford McNelly been treated in that manner, instead of the Honorable Augustus Frederick Goodridge. Why, in less than an hour after the Mercury went to press last evening, there would have been weeping and wailing all the way from Prescott Street to Devon Row, it would be necessary to appoint a new corresponding secretary for our local Fishery Commission, and the editor of the Montreal Gazette would have to look out for another special correspondent here. Indeed, our reverend contemporary may bless his stars that he "made faces" at the said Honorable Augustus Frederick Goodridge yesterday, and not at the said equally Honorable Alexander James Whiteford McNelly.

But look at what the Mercury says:—"We do not believe that ever an Opposition met with a more crushing defeat than that inflicted on the assailants on this occasion by Mr. Goodridge's calm, well-reasoned and able speech. He literally swept them from the field." Reader, try to conjure up anything more ludicrous than the bare idea of the Honorable Augustus Frederick Goodridge inflicting "a crushing defeat," in debate, on a quartette like Messrs. Bond, Morine, Murphy and Parsons. After you get through the business of the day, and feel that you have time for a little relaxation and amusement, let your eye once more rest on the sentence just quoted, and picture to yourself the stretch of imagination it must require to place the Honorable Augustus Frederick in that pugnacious position. Talk about Jack the Giant Killer! Our word for it, Jack's exploits would pale into utter insignificance in presence of the many deeds of undying fame performed by the Honorable Augustus Frederick. Can it be that he possesses all the warlike attributes of his two great namesakes—Augustus Adolphus of Sweden and Frederick the Great of Russia? We wonder, can it!

"He literally swept them from the field." Ah, yes! The mind of our contemporary must have been a good deal exercised when it occurred to him to say "he literally swept them from the field." We remember how Cervantes used to make Don Quixote say equally extravagant things while the latter infatuated old gentleman was engaged in his mission of knight errantry; and, now that we come to think of it, there's a striking resemblance between the editor of the Mercury and Cervantes in more respects than one.

But why pursue the theme! If the Honorable Augustus Frederick and his party are satisfied with the tone of their organ in this particular instance, we do not see why the Opposition shouldn't be. Still we can't help entertaining a kindly feeling for the Honorable Augustus Frederick, in spite of his mistakes. He rowed in the same boat with us in 1883, but subsequently—not liking "the cold shades of opposition"—went over to the enemy. That was a sad falling away, it is true; but he did not go alone—Messrs. Winter, McNeily and Knight accompanied him. Strange how soon evil communication corrupts good manners. Who would have thought when, in 1884, Mr. A. F. Goodridge was to be bobbing up and down, like a pincushion, in his seat in the Opposition, and firing his wicked little pop-gun at Mr. Winter, that both these gentlemen would, four years later, smoke the pipe of peace together and be members of the same political family? There they are, however, apparently as firm friends as if the muddy and unwholesome stream of politics never divided them. But our space to-day is exhausted; let us drop the curtain and leave them there.

TO-MORROW NIGHT IN COLLEGE HALL

THE Tea-Meeting to-morrow night in the Methodist College Hall will be the event of the season. Some of our most talented vocalists and elocutionists are to favor the audience with their skill and artistic powers. The committee have taken great pains to prepare a superior programme, composed of solos, duets, quartettes, recitations and addresses on pithy topics. It is expected that the large and airy College Hall will be crowded, in response to the appeal of the committee, who have endeavored to provide ample enjoyment for all. Joy is one of the greatest panaceas of life. No joy is more healthful, or better calculated to prolong life than that which is to be found in social happiness, in the company of cheerful and good men and women, and in contributing to the promotion of any benevolent or other worthy object. In all such cases joy is sweet—it descends gently upon us like the evening dew, and does not patter down like a hailstorm. As the poet sings:—
One hour of joy dispels the cares
And sufferings of a thousand years.

TEA-MEETING IN QUEEN'S ROAD BASEMENT.

THE annual tea meeting, last evening, in the basement of Queen's Road Congregational Church was, without doubt, one of the most successful social gatherings ever held there, or perhaps anywhere else in this city. The large room was filled to overflowing, the consequence being that numbers of those who came late had to wait for tea till room could be made at the tables. The decorations looked exceedingly pretty, especially around and about the platform, and all the arrangements of the committee were carried out in a very satisfactory manner. As regards the tables and their contents,—well, it is only fair to the good ladies who furnished them to say that there was an abundance of everything the most fastidious appetite could desire, the dessert being remarkably good for the season. The speeches by Rev. Messrs. Hodgkinson, Boyd, Graham and Parkins were "sharp, short and shiny," and the music and singing seemed all that the large audience could desire. At any rate every performer was applauded to the echo, not excepting Mr. Haddon, whose reading was simply inimitable. "God Save the Queen" and the doxology brought the meeting to a close at 10.30.

A BOLD STROKE FOR LIBERTY.

JOHN LAHEY of River Head, this town, one of the two sailors saved from the barquentine "Susan" when she collided against an iceberg a year ago, off Cape Broyle, and who furnished interesting particulars of that tragedy, is now attached to the brigantine "Seretha," which a few days ago was lying in the stream waiting a favorable time to sail. The harbor ice was of that consistency which was too heavy to admit of a boat being rowed through it and too thin to admit of a man walking safely ashore. Jack paced the fo'c'sel deck impatiently; he could see the glimmer of the "symbols" in the public houses and he was very thirsty. At last he made a bold stroke for liberty; he would risk the ice; and, unknown to the ship's officers, (it was in the afternoon) he got over the side and began to walk ashore. He hadn't got half way when the ice began to crack in every direction and to bend under him like a sheet of India rubber. Poor Jack began to think he was a "gonner," this time. He threw himself on all fours and thus managed to gain more support from the ice and prevent himself from falling through than by keeping on his perpendiculars. Luck favored him again. His dangerous plight was perceived by four young lads on Messrs. Harvey's wharf—Patrick Morrissey, J. Stamp, L. Chafe and J. Whelan—and jumping into a boat used for passing lines to steamers, two of them got over the bow and broke the ice with their feet, while the other two pushed the punt through the channel with oars. In due time they reached Lahey, and one of them seized him by the scalp just as the ice was giving way beneath his weight, and they conveyed him safely ashore. Jack stood treat like a man, and the four toasted him a pleasant voyage and return home in Hannah's "best."

WALTER BAINE GRIEVE, Esq., treated His Excellency the Governor to an afternoon's sea-fowl shooting recently. They embarked at the Queen's wharf in the former's steam launch; but sport was poor and they didn't kill the Great Auk. They steamed some distance outside the Narrows, scanning the surface eagerly for ducks, when presently Walter B. espied a little bull-bird innocently paddling about, also in search of something edible, and he let fly his first barrel. The bird looked to the spot in amazement and then took wing; and the sportsman discharged his second barrel, but it only accelerated the bird's flight. His Excellency, who scorned to fire at the bird while it was settled on the water, now sent a shot after it and winged it neatly at sixty yards. This was the only trophy of the evening's shooting; but the exercise and the possibilities of what may be done under favorable circumstances, afforded the sportsman ample satisfaction.

DECLINE OF OUR FISH MARKETS.

Unpardonable Supineness of the Government.

Editor Evening Telegram.

SIR,—I see the Government last night had something to say on the Barcelona Exhibition, and the strong but just words of condemnation with which Mr. Murphy held up their supineness even the Government sub-organ had to endorse. By looking at our exports to Spain and Portugal for 1874 I find they amounted to \$2,257,000. These items were all codfish. For 1885 I find the value of exports to those two countries to be but \$1,520,000, or a falling off of nearly a million. Years ago we used to send always over \$1,000,000 worth of codfish to Spain alone, and in 1885 we sent but \$295,000. The French and Norwegians have driven us out. Spain has a population of 18,000,000, Portugal but 4,000,000, and still we send the latter four times as much fish as the former. Barcelona is the chief commercial city of Spain, and has a thrifty, energetic and republican population of over 300,000 souls, and ranks next to Madrid. The city is of modern growth—a manufacturing town—whose population are the Scotchmen of Spain. Lately Newfoundland merchants sent no fish there; formerly twenty or thirty vessels from Barcelona alone used to come here. Barcelona is in the Mediterranean, and on the Northeast coast of Spain. The Southern ports—Malaga, Alicante, Cadiz, Seville, etc., are where we send our fish. Hence the necessity of having good exhibits at Barcelona, and endeavoring to win back our old markets recently lost through our own fault. That the Government did not do their duty is plain, for if they received notice of a postponement of the Exhibition, they should have gone on with their preparations, and the more delay the more time they had to prepare to make a first-class exhibit. Secondly, the mere assertion that they received a notice will not be accepted unless by publication of the notice from the Secretary of the Barcelona Exhibition to the Government of Newfoundland. The merchants shall endorse Mr. Murphy's charges of negligence on the Government's part, and every intelligent man in the Island, who has our fishing interests at heart shall bear him out and condemn the Government for their shameful temporizing and delay in this matter.

Yours faithfully, A MERCHANT.
St. John's, Feb. 28th, 1888.

"HIGH LICENSE" A GRAND SUCCESS.

Editor Evening Telegram.

DEAR SIR,—I will thank you to publish the following from the Chicago Tribune of Jan. 10th, on the subject of High License, from which you will see it is a grand success, which you will be glad to hear, as all sensible temperance people will tell you it will be impossible to carry prohibition in St. John's under present circumstances.

Yours truly,
NEHEMIAH McGRATH.
St. John's, Feb. 27, 1888.

Gov. McGILL of Minnesota, in a public letter to the promoters of the high-license movement in New York, quotes Bishop Ireland as to the efficacy of the Minnesota High-License law as a temperance measure. The St. Paul prelate, to whose exertions the passage of the statute in question is largely due, says:

The High-License law is the solution of the temperance question; its benefits are already appreciated by the people, and it would be impossible to change this law in Minnesota to-day.

He also bears testimony to the popularity of the measure in the Roman Catholic sections of the State when he says:

All classes of people are pleased, including the Germans, Poles and French, all through the country. If there was a popular vote to-day as to high license in Minnesota, the majority would be overwhelmingly in its favor. There is scarcely any poverty among the French of Minnesota, simply because there are no saloons among them.

Bishop Ireland's words should have considerable weight with the people of his faith and nationality in New York State and with their representatives in the Legislature, though it is to be feared they will not. The Irish members of the New York Assembly are more likely to be saloon-keepers from the tough wards of New York and Buffalo, or small-bore politicians of the Democratic persuasion, easily subject to the influence of liquor trusts, than men of reform tendencies. Gov. McGill supplements Bishop Ireland's remarks on the efficacy of the Minnesota law by a statement of his own to the effect that there has been a reduction of the number of saloons under the law, and there are many facts which warrant the inference that there is much less drunkenness now than there was before the law went into operation.

OUR remarks on the presentation of the Address in Reply, and the freezing reception accorded the "Conscript Fathers," must stand over till to-morrow.

A WORD FROM CARBONEAR.

Editor Evening Telegram.

DEAR SIR,—We are glad to find that Sir W. V. Whiteway has pledged himself to face the music again. Well done, Sir W.! The people of Carbonear, as well as a large portion of the country, will raise their banner for you the next election, and support a good honest man of their own choice—not a Penny, not a traitor, not a deceiver, who turned his back on Sir Wm. Whiteway the last day of the session of 1885—who preached "No Amalgamation," any amount of "Reformation and Retrenchment," but, as soon as he got in power, he not only amalgamated with the opposition, but actually slept in the same bunk together. Why, sir, we are out of patience with such trucklers as Mr. Penny. It is time for Carbonear to secure a man with a name of more value than a Penny. What can the people of the country expect when we have such trucklers as Mr. P., with no moral or political backbone! Let Sir W. rally his forces, and prepare for the campaign—with good men and true—and the people of Carbonear will be at his back.

Let the watchword be: "No Deceivers, no Time-Servers, no Traitors;" but men who have the country's interest at heart—men who will endeavor to wrest this down-trodden country from the iron clutches of monopolists who have ruled its destinies too long already. One thing we are very glad of, viz.: the ballot system will be in operation the next general election, when the people will have a better chance of using the franchise and voting according to the dictates of conscience. We shall wait a little to see what is being done in the House now, before taking up the matter again. I remain, dear sir,
Yours very truly,
Carbonear, Feb. 24, 1888. ROCK HILL.

CRUELTY TO ANIMALS AGAIN.

A Plea for the Horse as Well as the Dog.

Editor Evening Telegram.

SIR,—I was glad to observe in your paper a few nights ago a protest against the cruelty to animals that goes on in this place. I have myself been more than once on the point of appealing to the public on their behalf, through the medium of your columns, when some act of barbarity, more flagrant than usual, has come under my notice. Though I have knocked about the world a good deal and lived in a number of towns, I have never witnessed anywhere else such shocking cruelty, such wanton, needless cruelty, as daily meets the eye of the passer-by here. It is not enough that the horses belonging to many of the lower classes are half starved, over-worked, and generally ill-treated: they must be beaten, thrashed within an inch of their wretched lives, for no provocation whatever, but merely to satisfy the brutal instincts of their half-tipsy masters. And the dogs! words fail to depict the misery of their condition. Verily, the whole brute creation of this island groans and travails in pain together. There is hardly an ill-conditioned young cub of a lad in town but possesses some unfortunate member of the canine race, whom he can maltreat at his pleasure, without fear of any punishment. It seems to me that the people of this place must have grown callous to the suffering around them, for I often see men, and even women, pass unconcernedly by a scene of cruelty that is completely revolting to me. I hear there is a law for the prevention of cruelty to animals in St. John's; but, it must be a dead letter, for I never heard of its being enforced. Here is ample opportunity for the inauguration of a society for the prevention of cruelty to animals. Will not some of our citizens bestir themselves in the matter? It shall receive the hearty co-operation and support of (for one)
St. John's, Feb. 27, 1888. H. P.

LOCAL VARIETIES.

The highest temperature last night was 24°, and the lowest 15°.

THERE will be a special meeting of the St. John's Typographical Union this evening at eight o'clock.

DON'T forget the carnival in the Parade Rink. A special programme of choice melodies will be rendered by the band from 8 to 10.30.

THE speech of hon. Mr. Bowring in the Legislative Council in the debate on the address on Friday, Feb. 24th, was inadvertently omitted. We shall publish it to-morrow.

THE Rosevear, of Harbor Grace, got in here yesterday afternoon. She is coal-laden to W. Stephen & Co., from Swanses. The Emulator with coal from Swanses to the Dundee S. & W. F. Co., arrived this morning. The brigantine Kate, of Carbonear, also got in this morning, from Swanses. Several vessels ready for market took advantage of the present fine offshore wind to get clear.

THE vocal and instrumental concert in the Athenæum this evening, to raise funds for the Newfoundland Agricultural Society, promises to be a treat of no ordinary kind, judging from the following list which embraces the names of good singers and musicians. The affair has the patronage of His Excellency Governor Blake, and no doubt a large audience will be present. Here is the list:—Mrs. O'Dwyer, Mrs. Studdy, Misses Jardine, Neyle, Jordan, Murphy, Shea, Messrs. Canning, Hepburn, Shea, McNeil, Flannery, Rennie, Scarlet.

DIED. On Feb. 29th, after a brief illness, Margaret Ann, the beloved wife of Mr. George Pippy, aged 70 years. Funeral on Saturday, at 2.30 o'clock, from her late residence, No. 17 Balsam Street; friends and acquaintances are respectfully requested to attend without further notice.—[H. G. Standard please copy.]
Last evening, Esther Mary, only daughter of Walter and Margaret Walsh, aged 1 year and 10 months.

B. GLA. A H. THE SEVEN MILLI. In moved mission Chambe the mis H. Sm the de bringing tion a d the vo the me Wisc been se fine of of civil Honor The G five and Seven in Spain A mi York, Avenue F. Wind weather A brigad Wind Wind baromet hours; S.E., re time; ice LO Don't this even The s Tuesday A hor into Mr. three lar Two of the R by shove face of to which trifling fe boys and entertainz THE m morning to discha twenty-five crossing to the navig occurring passage w rived by From H Loughlan, Heffer; twe COAL. ON SALE North Glac Little Lehi. ORDERS ware Stor phone. S 927,811p