CLAD TO HEAR IT

WE are glad to hear that some of the intelligent members of the Church and congregation with which his reverence of the Mercury still claims connection, are beginning to realize the necessity of doing something to check the wayward old gentleman in his "mad career." The defiance implied in one of his "local and other items" last evening has greatly helped to bring about this decision, and the probabilities are that within the next few days a vestry meeting, or some other convention, will be held for the purpose of dealing with the Rev. Moses' case. It seems a pity that things should come to such a pass as this, especially in view of the fact that he is now an old man, and has been engaged in the ministry, directly and indirectly, for the greater part of half a century. But what else can they do with him? He has been advised, time after time, by his few remaining friends, to "cease to do evil and learn to do good," but all to no purpose. The pugnacious and sinful side of his nature continues to force itself to the front, in spite of all remonstrance, and there seems no way out of the difficulty except " coercion." As in the fable of "The Old Man and the Apples," those who were once his friends are now reluctantly compelled to "try what virtue there is in stones." They contend that he must do one of two things-either repent of his sins of omission and commission, or run the risk of losing his pension and, perhaps, incurring the punishment of excommunication to boot. Of him it may not be amiss to say, in the words of Shakespeare:

Tetchy and wayward was thy infancy; Thy school-days, frightful, desperate, wild and furious; Thy prime of manhood, daring, bold, and venturous; Thy age confirm'd, proud, subtle, sly, and venomous.

Had "his reverence" taken the advice we so kindly and gratuitously tendered him last spring, and at once severed his connection with the Government and their abusive organ, he would to-day be regarded by all classes of the community as no worse than an ordinary sinner, at all events. But as matters now stand, he has added to venal sin the mortal offence of slandering a fellow-citizen-falsely and malicious- the 'snivel' business altogether and become a life then being extinct. The body was then ly—and charging him with writing articles for the press which he never saw and which he knew nothing at all about until they appeared in print. This is not a very clean record for a "venerable clergyman," but it is a true one. nevertheless, as the public will know when the proper time arrives. "The evil you teach us, we will execute, and it shall go hard but we will better the instruction.'

As regards the Rev. Moses' present associate in the editorship of the Mercury-Mr. A. J. W. McNeily-we do not consider him of much importance here or there. He is seldom really rational, and when he is, his "rationality" appears to be of such an erratic nature as to render him an object of pity rather than contempt in the eyes of all parties. There is this much, however, to be said in his favor, namely: he is witty and polemical during his "lucid intervals." He also assumes to be something of a satirist, and on this account, stands higher than he otherwise would among the feather-headed habitues of the Court House. But, you know, satirical writers. as a rule, are not half so clever as they think themselves, nor as they are thought to be. They do, as Sharpe remarks, winnow the corn, 'tis true, but 'tis to feed upon the chaff. It is much easier for an ill-natured than for a goodnatured man to be witty, but the most gifted men we have known have been the least addicted to depreciate either friends or foes. Dr. Johnson, Burke, and Fox, were always more inclined to overrate them. Your shrewd, sly, wit-speaking fellow, is generally a shallow personage, and frequently he is as venomous and false when he flatters as when he reviles; he seldom blames Moses but to vex Aaron. Do not, pray do not, "sit in the seat of the scorner." Are these poor heartless creatures to be envied? Can you think that the Duc de Richelieu was a happier man than Fenelon? or Dean Swift than Bishop Berkeley?

DEATHS FROM EXPOSURE.

Unfortunate Fate of Two Carbonear Men

" SINCE Christmas," says a correspondent. "two men have died from exposure on the to Carbonear. Others will be sure to meet the same fate unless government provide covering to protect them during this inclement season. up by Mr. Davenport, would not be much. Evidently the laborer on the Placentia line is not considered worthy of his hire."

THE thermometer marked 4 degrees below zero here on Monday night, and at Twillingate it was 6 degrees below. Ice is rapidly forming up north and our correspondents in that direc-

THROWING OFF THE MASK.

Saint Moses, "the Boxing Parson," as Depicted by Himself.

I have often remarked that when a mild, meek-eyed parson gets angry, and takes off his coat, so to speak, opponents had better look out. Under that smooth surface there often slumbers a fount of sacred wrath that sometimes blazes up with surprising results. Run from the parson when you see him removing his upper garments. The same rule holds good in regard to those mild men who call themselves Quakers.—(Lord Bacon's Aphorisms.)—Yesterday's Mercury.

WE always thought our old friend, the parson, the Rev. Moses Harvey, F.R.G.S., editor of the Mercury newspaper, -we always thought our old friend was a Quaker, or rather, in his own words, that he was "one of those mild men who call themselves Quakers." There is a square-cut look about his lower jaw, and a trick of uprolling the whites of his eyes to heaven as of one who says, " Let us prey," as if he were a member of that respectable community in drab. But here, we fear, the resemblance ends. Many a man "calls himself s Quaker" who has no right to do so, and so we fear it is with our venerable friend. Perhaps he "quakes" occasionally, as venerable sinners should most properly do. But if so, it is greatly to be suspected that his quaking proceeds rather from an apprehension that he will lose some portion of the sinner's spoil, than of the penitent's punishment—the sort of "quaking," in short, which Robert Burns refers to when he says.

The fear o' hell's a hangman's whip and which more resembles the frame of mind

that leads a man to TRAFFIC in sin than to try and flee from it altogether.

But now, his reverence tells us, he is quaker" no longer. He has turned right round and become a maker of "quakes." Tired of fasting for his own sins and flagellating himself into an unprofitable unpopularity, he is going to "storm heaven" on the other tack. He will be a producer of "quakes" in others. If his own superior moral condition won't yield him a profit, he will make gain of flagellating other sinners. "All men are sinners," soliloquises he. "The world is full of sinners. I have been a snivelling sinner myself until I have nearly worn out my nose trying to wring repentance out of it. In fact, that line of business is overdone, and there's no money in it. I'm determined to go out of He was hastily carried into the waiting room. first-class blackguard. I shall do a roaring business on the blackmail principle, and have all my own sins 'duty free.' I shall cease to be a Quaker and become a swaggering bandit. I shall no longer even call myself 'one of died from syncope, which might have been inthose mild men,' but brag and bluster in the pursuit of my new calling in the sight of all men and compel them to

Compound for sins I am inclined to, By damning those I have no mind to."

We notice, by the way, that the parson speaks of himself in last night's photograph as a meek-eyed man," on the authority of Lord Bacon; but we fear the portraiture is of domestic manufacture in more ways than one. We have always been under the impression that Moses had eyes of a cold gray colorthat kind of steal-gray, so to speak, which, united with a shifty, inconstant expression, are so frequently seen with a class of operators in the old country who are well known to the authorities for the remarkable facility they have for "finding things before they are lost." Shifty eyes; cold, shallow, heartless eyes; the eyes of a man who was fit for anything. No doubt such eyes can be made to assume a meek expression, like those of the original Moses, when the Quaker "habit" is on, and when it is in the interest of the owner to veil them in catlike slumbers. But, ah! "trust them not," even then, for they are fooling thee! A volcano of molten lava slumbers beneath. The catlike claws are beneath the catlike countenance, and the tiger gleams in those cold gray eyes. Woe be to you if you disturb the parson at his prey, for verily the lining of holiness that conceals that venerable

We often notice that when the pious hypocrite wants to settle his disputes in the P. R. he usually speaks of himself as a " fount of sacred wrath," and it is so with the parson. "Business is slack in the Mercury office, and circulation is gone; we must do something to 'raise the wind'; why not try the opposite tack and be a blackguard? But we must not call ourselves that—we must be an avenger! a fountain of divine wrath! a holy Quaker, gift- reverend plagiarist referred to. Therefore ed with the divine commission to knock down Placentia railroad. The poor fellows belonged all the other pilgrims and rob them for my own his letter before the public. It is also stated advantage."

Thus and thus says the parson; and thus he has acted for a long time past. When he lent The cost of a few sheds, similar to those put Mr. Graham-we don't mean the Rev. Mr. Graham, but another gentleman of that name whom our friend "the Quaker" will readily identify-and charged him the rather exorbi- would do the congregation no harm to hear tant rate of TWENTY PER CENT. interest them preached over again. Any way, here per annum, we are told that tears actually they are at a bargain. Take them as a 'job stood in "the Quaker's" eyes as he thus ad- lot' and make what you can out of the transdressed his unfortunate victim: "I am very action." This is how the story goes; but, of tion seem to think that they are in for a hard sorry to have to charge you this high rate of course, we do not vouch for its accuracy in interest, brother, and only that I am 'a every particular.

Quaker' I should not do so. But you know I From Harbor Grace Junction. devote all my income to charitable purposes, and therefore you, an individual, must be sacrificed for the benefit of the many. I cannot SEVERAL CASES OF GREAT HARDSHIP help it: I would like to make the rate of interest lower if I could, but the greatest good of the greatest number is the sacred motto for

"What's that you say; you would like to know what is the greatest number?"

"Friend Graham! look on me. always acted upon the golden rule (quake not!) that the greatest number in this world or any other is the NUMBER ONE!"

We have done for to-day. To-morrow we shall have something to say about earthquakes. Our friend the Quaker, as we told him yesterday, went into this discussion like a lamb and came out like a lion. Perhaps before the discussion is ended it may be said of him: "He went in like a lion and came out like a lamb!"

SUDDEN DEATH OF CAPT. PAUL

Particulars of the Sad Occurrence.

FROM the Cambria Daily Leader of December 23, we get the following particulars of the sudden death of Captain Paul at Swansea:-'An inquest was held on Thursday afternoon at the Tunnel Public House, Swansea, on the body of Thomas Paul, who died suddenly at the Great Western Railway Station, on the 21st instant, under circumstances already reported. The evidence showed that the deceased was a master mariner, 46 years of age, of St. John's, Newfoundland, and that he leaves a wife and family to deplore their loss. He was the master of the Emulator, and arrived in Swansea on the 18th instant. was strictly sober in his habits, and on the voyage was said to have enjoyed the best of health. On the day in question, after breakfast, he went to the High Street Station, intending to pay a visit to his father at Penzance. At the station he made enquiries about | They, with their witnesses, took the train on that the train and seemed to be quite well and in excellent spirits. Presently he sat on a bench on the platform, and in a few minutes was found there in a sitting position, with his head leaning backwards, his eyes and mouth open and breathing, if breathing at all, very feebly. G. Hall, who found not the least signs of violence, and the expression of the features was calm and placid, and in his opinion deceased duced by a long walk, after a hearty breakfast. The Jury returned a verdict of death from natural causes."

CENTRAL DISTRICT COURT

THE ice-saw case was again before the Court. and the bird of victory, as on the previous cccasion, perched upon the banner of the bold Smithwick, or Smeddick, with three dollars damages. Grouchy, the defendant, unlike his famous namesake, the French marshal, when in conflict was badly beaten on all sides on this

George Westcott, a hard-working farmer, iving on the Cove road, sued Patrick Murray for forty dollars damages for seven sheep, the property of plaintiff, which, he alleges, were destroyed by defendant's dogs sometime last Fall. A postponement was taken on motion of defendant's counsel, to enable him to procure further evidence, but upon the renewal of the hearing, nothing satisfactory was forthcoming to dissociate defendant from liability for damages, and judgment was given to plaintiff in the amount of eighteen dollars, being full value of the loss less two dollars. It was shown that plaintiff had sent some of the mutton of the worried and dead sheep to auction, realizing two dollars therefor, which sum was allowed to defendant's credit in fixing the amount of judgment.

Letter from "Paxton Hood."

A LETTER has been received from "Paxton Hood" complaining that some of his sermons have been plagiarized and preached by a certain "eminent divine" here. This is a very grave charge, and one which, if made in the forcible language of Mr. "Hood," might possi- the appointment of a resident magistrate has been bly result in unpleasant consequences to the we should like to see the writer ere we place that the "eminent divine" mentioned has of- diaries at St. John's for the purpose of visiting fered two pork-barrels full of old sermons, borrowed and all as they are, to another actual salary of an outport magistrate. If such a divine, not yet quite so "eminent," at what the former regards as a very low figure. He says: " I have no further use for them, and it

Inexcusable Conduct of our Dis trict Judges.

Editor Evening Telegram.

DEAR SIR,-It is generally understood that com plaints of a public nature made through the press. no matter what their importance when made over a nom de plume, fail in a great degree to receive notice from the proper authorities. This is true to a great extent, and more especially so in our Island Home. Why such is the case in Newfoundland can, of course, be traced to the abuse made of the privileges allowed them by newspapers, by anonymous writers, for airing complaints-complaints often unjust and possessing no reasonable foun-That such a state of affairs exists is a great hard-

ship to the public, as the good effects of this great lever—the press—are to a great extent stultified. Writers who have bona fide reasons, often wish to expose some abuse of public officials or institutions and are often prevented by the knowledge that their efforts would but prove abortive, unless they could write over their own signatures, which, perhaps, they are prevented from doing by the nature of their situations, or from the fear of adverse influences to the liberty of expression-I had almost said thought-the bane of our country. Still if the proper authorities fail to allow anonymous writers to the press, even when the complaints made are just, to influence them, those writers, when approaching their subject, in a proper manner seldom fail to do good, though it may prove little, and when in just criticisms of the misconduct of public servants, if the latter receive no reproof or correction from their superiors, they are at least less bold n wrong-doing and more careful to shield it from the public gaze.

But now to the subject of my communication and my complaints having just ground, shall, hope, receive due attention by the proper authorities; failing in which, a just public will have another subject for reprobation.

Two summonses were served on parties belong ng to this settlement to appear at Holyrood Court House on the 6th inst., to answer the accusation of a breach of the License Act, made against them. day, but, having arrived at Holyrood, discovered that His Worship of the Central Court had failed to appear. Accordingly they returned here by the afternoon train. Again these parties were notified that the Judge would most certainly be at Holyrood on Thursday, the 12th inst., and to appear on that day, which they did; but still no sign of His Worship, and thus these parties were twice put to expense they could ill afford of having to pay railway fares twice to and from Holyrood for themlatter. But those I mention were not the only parties who suffered disappointment by the Judge's remissness-for the want of a better word; others belonging to Harbor Main District were forced to travel from Collier's to Holyrood to answer summonses or take suit. There were many cases, some of which were not entirely unimportant. It is not through the importance or otherwise of

cases that were for hearing that is the principal question of my communication, but the manifold njustice and cruelty of wantonly putting poor people to expenses they could not reasonably afford, and to great hardships, all this only to not appear and satisfy their requirements afterwards. Is this right on the part of the Magistrate, I ask? Is this the idea that he, a stipendiary, possesses of justice? Let him who, instead of being at the Court House at Holyrood on Thursday, as he intimated he would have been, was, perhaps, sitting by a comfortable fire in the parlor of his residence at St. John's imagine himself in the place of those poor Colliers men, and what would be his feelings? Suffering under the sense of a double disappointment, they in the evening homeward plod their weary way, footsore and hungry, through the cold and draft along the bleak, unsheltered roads of Cat's Cove, subjects of pity and commiseration. Ah, he does not wish even to hear of it! No, the picture, even in comparison with the reality of his own state, furnishes too great a contrast; it is too much for his senses to, for a moment, entertain. If a subordinate official were guilty of --- ; but enough is already said at present: more would but be only disagreeable to a greater extent to the feelings of him of whom I am speaking.

The arrangement made at Holyrood for the dispensing of cheap justice is, I understand, that a magistrate is to visit the place on the first Thursday of each month. This arrangement is not always, in fact it very often is not at all, carried out: but all parties having cases for His Wership's hearing are summoned to be present on those days. Consequently it is nothing uncommon for litigants to have the hardships of a ten or twelve miles walk, only to suffer disappointments. The best way to have an end put to such a state of affairs is to have a resident magistrate in Harbor Main dis trict. It is really entitled to one, being of large opulation and importance. For a number of years it has had a Court House and jail at Holyrood, its principal Harbor, and, too, for a number of years, spoken of, and at times it seemed as if the event would have actually taken place; but it always ended in nothing more substantial than talk. It is very strange that successive governments have voted and still continue to vote large sums to the stipen-Holyrood, sums that yearly almost approach the course has been and is pursued on economical grounds. I think it a great mistake, as it seems to me false-if at all-economy, and a source of wide spread dissatisfaction to the district generally.

I shall now end-and 'tis time for me, you wil say; but in extenuation of the length of my communication, I urge the importance of my complaint; and asking you to confer a favor by publishing it in your independent and highly popular journal,

Hr. Grace Junction, Jan. 16, 1888.

I am, yours truly, COMMISERATION.

LOCAL VARIETIES.

THE brigantine " Plymouth," hence to Bos. ton, has arrived at that port, all well.

THE S.S. Curlew arrived from the Westward between 10 and 11 o'clock this morning.

A SERIOUS marine disaster is reported to have just occurred in the neighborhood of St. Shotts, but particulars are not yet available

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Passengers per S.S. Portia for Halifax-Messrs. George Penney, D. J. Ready, James Taylor, F. Howley, T. Williams, W. Goss, J.

THE Allan steamer Nova Scotian, from Halifax for this port, passed Cape Race at noon to-day. She will be due here about 7

"WILL the Enforcement of the Bait Rill Benefit the Country?" is the subject for de. bate by the Methodist Academic Literary In. stitute this evening.

To Correspondents.—" Observer," "C.T. A.," and "J. B. Stratten"-Your letters will receive due attention to-morrow. " Not So"-Be good enough to let us have your real name.

THE attention of property-holders in St. John's is directed to the notice, in another column, of a meeting to be held in the Home Industries Hall to-morrow (Thursday) evening

THE "Hercules" was obliged to return to port again this morning after setting out for the Northward, a heavy gale of wind from the W.N.W. preventing her making much pro-

THE surface of a skating rink was never so glossy as is the area of the Parade Rink these nights; nor the music of Strauss and of Listz, the adaptations of Godfrey and of Theodore Thomas, ever breathed in such tones of mellowed harmony as by Professor Bennett's full band in the same place. That these rare attractions are appreciated are shown by the large gatherings which nightly throng that popular place of amusement.

THE ladies of the St. Vincent de Paul Society beg to announce that they intend having a children's fancy dress entertainment on Tuesday, 24th inst., in St. Patrick's Hall, aid of their funds for the relief of the poor; and they trust that the object for which the entertainment is to be given will secure for it the same kindly and generous support which has always been accorded by the benevolent and charitable to their efforts for a like purpose on many previous occasions. Dancing from 5 to 9 o'clock. Admission 50 cents; spectators 50 cents. Children not having fancy costumes can attend in party dresses.

RETRENCHING EXPENSES.

WE are informed that several supplying firms at Twillingate and Fogo are retrenching expenses, as a result of last season's poor Labrador fishery, by discharging some of their office and store hands-a step all the more painful since many of the employees have been in their situations for years.

At River-view House, Portugal Cove Road, on the 16th inst., the wife of Mr. Richard Lawlor, farmer, of

MARRIED.

On the 8th inst., at Witless Bay, by the Rev'd. N Roache, P.P., assisted by the Rev. M. P. O'Driscoll, Mr. Martin Luby, of Toad's Cove, to Essie, youngest daughter of the late Mr. Jeremiah O'Driscoll, of Bay Bulls. On Saturday last, by the Rev. Archdeacon Foristal Mr. George Alfred Squires (carman) to Maria, daughte of Mr. Wm. Squires, both of St. John's.
At Fortune near Xmas and New Year, Julia Annest, Mary A. Kirby to Philip Lake.

Elizabeth Lake to James P. Coller. Caroline J. Lake to William Collier, jr. Maria J. Thornhill, to George Bonnell. Amelia Burton, to Thomas William Bennett. Jane Hillier, to Thomas E. Poole.

Last night, Richard Power, aged 82 years; funeral on Friday at half-past 2 o'clock, from his late residence, Quidi Vidi. At noon, to-day, William, infant son of Captain J. and Mary Callaban.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE

ENTERED.

17-Portia, Dawson, Halifax, 3 days, Harvey & Co -771 brls flour, 239 brls pork, 100 bags corn, 38 bxs tobacco, 30 tres lard, 30 tres oil, 10 brls beef, 50 brls heads, 110 bxs soap, 190 qtrs beef, 415 cases canned meats, 5 cases poultry, 280 extract, 50 brls onions, general cargo. 18-Curlew, Delaney, St Pierre, 2 days, Bowring

Bros-ballast.

17-Gratia, Noseworthy, Oporto, A Goodridge & 18-Royal Home, Wolfe, Barbados, Job, Bros & Co

-1340 qtls fisb, 14 brls, 26 half-brls salmon, 3 bris, 1 half-bri herring. Portia, Dawson, New York, Harvey & Co-1206 qtls fish, 211 bris, half-bris herring, 185 bxs lobsters, 115 trcs, 2 br's salmon.

Jany 11-Lavinia, Brazil, J & W Stewart. 13-Carpasian, Brazil, W Grieve & Co. 14-Sea Lark, Europe, Baine, Johuston & Co 17-Consuelo, Europe, P & L Tessier. Pride of the Channel, Brazil, P & L Tessier 18-Hebe, Brazil, Baine, Johnston & Co.

will be given to a competent person. Apply at No. 60