

the £100 annually, according to their bond, and consequently Mr. Coughlan sought redress by bringing the matter before the notice of Governor Byron on the 18th July, 1770. The Governor gave his judgment on the bond in the following words:—"Whereas I am informed that the Rev. Lawrence Coughlan is the minister so procured and residing amongst you, and so far as your paying him cheerfully the stipend aforesaid, great numbers of you have refused to contribute towards it, inasmuch as he is annually much in arrears to the disgrace of religion and dishonor to yourselves. I do therefore desire and command you to pay him what sums are in arrears, and that you also comply with your said agreement in paying him annually his salary of £100, every one of you, according to your abilities."

Governor Byron appointed Mr. Coughlan, a Justice of the Peace, and he was his firm friend and supporter until he left the station.

This stands out as an isolated and unique case of a clergyman bringing his parishioners into a Court of Justice, to secure the payment of his salary. But they were under a bond and obligation which they dishonored.

During these years it was exceedingly difficult to secure the services of ordained clergymen of the Church of England for the arduous mission work of Newfoundland. As early as 1696 representations were made to the Home Government to send out clergymen to care for the souls of the colonists. Nor was this appeal ignored by the authorities of that day. The Civil List for 1806 has an allocation of £250, or £50 each for five clergymen of the Church of England, and £700 for the building of a parsonage in St. John's. All this from the revenue of the Home Government. Yet there was no church here established by law. In 1810 the Church of England had only two clergymen in the Colony, but they were gradually awakening to the spiritual destitution, and churches and school houses were being erected in many places. The British Government, in order to make a change for the better, made the following magnanimous offer, "that any clergyman in Holy Orders, who would spend seven years in the Colony, in performing the duties of his sacred office, on returning to England, could pro-