

ing their trial. You will find records of John Does and Richard Roes on every page of our prison registers! I do not blame the officers of the law for their existence; it is the fault of the system. And you need not go to the official registers to find such cases. The newspapers record them day after day. In a late issue of the *New York Times* I find the following paragraph:

"SOME VERY QUEER SENTENCES.

'Considerable comment has been excited by the sentences imposed in the Passaic County courts, at Paterson (New Jersey), this term. Henry Lehr, convicted of killing a lad who trespassed on a melon patch, was sentenced to four years in State Prison. Another man who stole a bushel of apples was sent to Trenton for five years. John Iserman, who drew a knife in a crowded stage coach and slashed around with it promiscuously, severely injuring a constable and another passenger, was let off yesterday with a fine of \$5. John Brown, a colored man, last summer stole at night into the room of a colored woman with whom he had formerly lived, but who had left him because of his brutality, and while she lay asleep made a savage attack upon her with a razor, injuring her so severely that for weeks her life was despaired of. Brown was known to the police as a desperate character, who had been in State Prison before and in jail several times, and they expected to get rid of him for at least five years. He himself expected a term of three years at hard labor, and was dumbfounded when informed that his sentence was three months in the county jail. The Court said that he had considerable provocation, as it appeared that his mistress had been unfaithful to him.'

I know that there are said to be some peculiarities to Jersey justice; but such cases are not peculiar to that State, but can be found in every State in the Union.

(Concluded in next issue.)

VI.—LEAVES FROM A PREACHER'S NOTE-BOOK.

BY ARTHUR T. PIERSON, D.D.

A WORD PRELIMINARY.—*Everything good is a growth.* If there shall be found in this series of papers anything that is helpful, it is because the habit of never losing a good thought, and of gathering up even fragments, that nothing be lost, grew out of the incessant demands of a vocation that, beyond any other, taxes to the utmost all a man's intellectual resources.

Dr. Bellamy, when asked by a young clergyman what he should do for matter for discourses, quaintly replied, "*Fill up the cask!*" Then if you tap it anywhere, you get a good stream; but if you put but little in, it will dribble, dribble, and you must tap and keep tapping, and get but little after all."

It is the sincere hope of the writer of these papers, that the homiletic hints, outlines and illustrations here given may prove, to some of his brethren in the sacred office and to teachers of truth, stimulating and suggestive, and, possibly, add a small contribution to that "treasure out of which they bring things new and old.