TELEGRAM, ST. JOHN'S, N.F. EVENING

The Evening Telegram. ST. JOHN'S, FEBRUARY 11, 1888. APPROACHING SESSION THE Further Concessions Secured by Liberals. NO DISPOSITION TO DO BETTER. Determined to Grab All They Can.

Unless corruption first deject the pride And guardian vigour of the free-born soul, All crude attempts of violence are vain; For, firm within, and while at heart untouch'd, For, firm within, and while at heart unforced a, Ne'er yet by force was freedom overcome. But soon as independence stoops the head, To vice enslaved, and vice-created wants, Then to some foul corrupting hand, whose waste Their craving lusts with fatal bounty feeds, They fall a willing, undefended prize: From man to man th' infectious softness runs, Till the whole state unnerved in slavery sinks.

Our local Legislature opens on Thursday next for what is officially termed "the transaction of public business." At least a proclemation in the Royal Gazette states as much; but, judging from the general lack of interest on the part of the public in the matter, it seems hard to believe that such an important event as the annual session of the General Assembly is so close at hand.

It is not to be wondered at, however, that the proceedings of our legislators no longer command the people's attention. Since the general election of 1885 the political institutions of the country have fallen so low that the popular mind has ceased to be drawn towards them. In a word, the profligacy of the Thorburn Administration has been so painfully apparent during their two years of office that the very name of "Responsible Government" promises soon to be a subject of ridicule and contempt in the eves of every honest and really respectable class in the colony. We do not know what Governor Blake thinks of his present advisers, but His Excellency may rest assured that the sentiments here expressed by us are heartily endorsed by intelligent Newfoundlanders everywhere.

Some there are, no doubt, who will object to the foregoing rather candid references to our Executive councillors, and we shouldn't be surprised to see the whole kennel of Prescott Street snarling at us again, like all possessed,

represent them in the Assembly. The poet's picture of the situation is a faithful one, and with it we shall bring these observations to a

close :--The millions want, the few have got, And hard indeed the poor man's lot; True, work he may, if work can get, But working, seldom saved he yet. Keep down the poor too oft hath been With monied men their one great theme; For this they plan, this legislate, Unfeeling for the poor man's state. And thus shall it for ever be, O, land enslaved, and yet so free! Can naught be done t' unburden thee Of rich unchristianity? Yes, strike at roots, foundations deep, Expose the heart that makes you weep; Bleed it, and in its blood you'll see Whence half our crime and misery. Our laws a selfish heart reveal, A still more selfish heart conceal; And these by Christian men extoll'd; Is it for good, and not for gold? Flee religion, or else be true-The needy keep, and justice do— For come it will, and quickly too When Right shall rule, and not the few. The present's dark; the future's bright, For darkness must give place to light; Be patience yours, and courage too; The old must yield to a world new.

THE ACADEMIA DINNER

Editor Evening Telegram. DEAR SIR,-Of the many successes which the above club has scored since its advent amongst us, Thursday's Dinner bids fair to be the one that of its kind will, in all probability, remain unsurpassed. Thursday evening fifty members of the club, with their guests, numbering in all about seventy-five, sat down to

a sumptuous and dainty banquet that would satisfy the desires of the most finished epicurean. The viands having been disposed of, the toasts, which may be regarded as the principal part of the programme, were entered on. The health of "Her Gracious Majesty the Queen" was proposed by the President and responded to by the warmest expressions of loyalty and by the singing of the National Anthem. Mr. Adams, of the Supreme Court, then proposed the toast of the evening-" The Academia"-in a very able and cloquent speech. He surveyed the history of the club from its start in 1882, pointing out how it had been the pioneer club in the city, and dwelling not alone on the many advantages which had accrued to the members by reason of their participation in those benefits which the object and aim of the club fostered, but the similar effects flowing to members of sister clubs, which had since grown up in our midst. This would be largely increased with the Imperial

MR. MCGITTIGAN ON THE VOL- PROCEDURE AT PUBLIC MEETINGS UNTEER MOVEMENT.

The Government Plot Exposed. TAN Arrangement Made by the Executive. Starving Fishermen and Government Extravagance.

correspondent of yesterday, who, referring to the public meeting convened on the previous

day at the Athenæum Hall, declares that it was "muddled" or mismanaged, because no " resolutions" were prepared beforehand. On the contrary, I maintain that had such been

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done the meeting would not have been what it Editor Evening Telegram. was intended to be, namely, a public and gen-DEAR SIR,-With many others in this comeral meeting of citizens to consider and determunity, I had viewed with patience and formine whether they would unite in giving a bearance the efforts of the clique at the Compresent or gift to the Prince of Wales. I mercial Room, the grand rallying point of the think the Governor was quite right in the present amalgamated Government, to organise course adopted by him. It was clearly exa volunteer force for the defence of this colony. pected of him that he should take means for It is always best to leave obstinate-minded convening a public meeting of the citizens of men alone to themselves, when their evil efforts St. John's for the purpose named, and that are not likely to be realized ; but once there is meeting being so convened, it was clearly his

danger to the state or community in those wild duty then to lay before them (or it) the object plans, the time for forbearance is gone and for which the meeting was called, and leave that of fearless truth-speaking arrived. Bethose present to do whatever else they considerlieving that such a crisis has now been brought ed necessary or advisable under the circumabout by the mad conduct of our Executive, I stances. Even if the result were a failure,

ask permission of you, Mr. Editor, to make (which I dispute), that would have been none the whole plot known. When the then Robert of the Governor's business. His prerogative Thorburn was in London at the Colonial Cononly extended to the function named, and ference, and while hunting for his title, the ended there. What right had he, as Governor, question of Colonial Defences came up at one to anticipate the action of the people in the of the sessions of the delegates, and the matter, as he obviously would have done had nakedness of Newfoundland and other places he prepared a programme of proceedings beas regards armament was commented upforehand, drawn up " resolutions," and peron with some force. The pliant Scotchhaps even designated those who should propose man who was there in search of his and second these resolutions? In what sense crest, and to ingratiate himself at the Colonial

would such have been a meeting of "the Office, gave an undertaking on behalf of the people?" Government, of which he is still Premier, to No, sir, I maintain, as one of "the people." organise an effective corps for defence pur-

that the exactly proper course was adopted on poses upon his return to Newfoundland. Hegot the occasion referred to, and that none other his title and the Colonial Officers are now no would have filled the bill. "Arranged" meetdoubt anxious that Sir Roberts undertaking ings, with "cut-and-dried" resolutions, and should be fulfilled. Goodridge and one or two

got-up" speakers are all a big fraud, when attempted to be " palmed off " as meetings of 'the people," and, as such, are invariable failures. The meeting of Thursday last might have resulted in no present to the Prince of Wales, but it would not on that account have been a failure. The Governor, in calling the up for discussion. meeting, did not assume to say what would have been the action of the citizens thereat,

and, if he had done so, he might very properly have been left by the citizens to carry out his

LOCAL VARIETIES.

THE brigantine Ariel is in Aquaforte-all

DEAR SIR,-I cannot agree with your able THE S.S. Portia arrived at Halifax at two o'clock this morning.

> THERE will be no choir practice this evening n George Street Methodist Church.

> THE steamer Curlew left Harbor Briton at. wo o'clock this morning, bound this way.

MEMBERS of the Micmae Curling Club are reminded of their meeting in the Parade Rink this evening at 8 o'clock.

BOTH tugs which went in search of the Ariel eturned between 2 and 3 o'clock, the ice being too heavy to permit of their going to the westward.

THE steamer Newfoundland will leave Halifav for this port next Tuesday, provided the Allan boat with the English mails shall have arrived there by that time.

An hour or more of real enjoyment is in store for all who attend St. Mary's Hall this evening. There will be singing, readings and ecitations. Admission only 10 cents.

THE performance of "Captain Kyd," by the Total Abstinence Company last night. drew another crowded audience. The rendition was very fine and the climaxes thrilling and exciting, eliciting tremendous applause.

THE T. A. Dramatic Company intend to bring out next Monday evening the splendid sensational tragedy of "Miriam's Crime, or the Lost Will." It is full of pathetic and grand passages of fine sentiment and deep, tender pathos, and deserves the attendance of every lover of the drama. The proceeds will be donated to the benefit of Father O'Brien's Night School.

Owing to Mr. Hodgkinson's lecture in the Athenæum on Monday evening next, the meeting of the "Prohibition League" as previously announced, will be postponed until further notice. A meeting of the Executive will take place at 9 o'clock in the Old Temperance Hall. All members of the League will please attend, as important business will come

THE tug Ingraham was despatched this morning to tow Messrs. Bowring's brigantine Ariel-which passed Cape Race at 1 o'clock

in consequence. But we must run the risk of even such a contingency as that. The exponent of public opinion should speak out, independently and fearlessly, whenever the interests of the Commonwealth are menaced. Offending public servants, who refuse to listen to the voice of reason, and who persist in their iniquities, deserve all they get, in the way of censure and ridicule, from the press of the community in which their offences are committed.

When Vice triumphant holds her sov'reign sway, And men, through life her willing slaves, obey; When Folly, frequent harbinger of crime, Unfolds her motley store to suit the time; When knaves and fools combined o'er all prevail, When Justice halts, and Right begins to fail; E'en then the boldest start from public sneers, Afraid of shame, unknown to other fears, More darkly sin, by satire kept in awe, And shrink from ridicule, though not from law.

Shortly after the close of last session, the friendly relations existing between the two sections of the Amalgamation became somewhat strained, owing to a demand from the Liberals for an additional member in the Exe cutive, and the fulfilment of certain other promises said to have been made or implied at the time of the conspiracy against Sir William of the other clubs, was ample evidence of that Whiteway. Subsequently the coolness thus cordial feeling which existed between the occasioned was intensified by the conduct of the Government with respect to an important appointment on the West Coast and another matter or two to which we shall more particularly refer hereafter. Within the past few weeks, however, weighty concessions have been made to the Liberal Party and all grit and friction thereby wiped away. It is very evident, then, that the Government will receive next by the Vice-President, Mr. Harris, who, the undivided support of their Liberal allies in a short but pleasing speech, made everyone during the approaching session.

Premier Thorburn, though absent from the colony, knows that such a reconciliation has been effected, and Mr. Attorney General on behalf of the guests, and wound up by Winter, who at present acts as leader of the singing a most interesting melody. "The Government, thinks he can, under these circumstances, pursue the Party's ruinous policy yet a little longer. Hence the apparent disinclination on the part of the Executive to adopt a more popular platform, or to regard the feelings of the people at all in their legislative proceedings.

We find it difficult to account for such rash and imprudent tactics, unless, indeed, it be the intention of the "Cabinet" to grab all they ing the evening Messrs. Cragg, Adams, Morcan while they remain in office, regardless of how their conduct may be viewed by the public. This is certainly an uncharitable inference to draw from the past two years' official career of Premier Thorburn and his associates; but, with their iniquitous record before us, it seems impossible to draw any other. Thus it is, and thus, in all probability, feeling that a bright future was in store for it will continue in this unhappy colony until their Club, and wishing the same for its memthe masses become sufficiently alive to their bers.

interests to elect honest and competent men to . St. John's, Feb. 11, 1888

M.H.A., the President of the club. He briefly went over the principal events in the life of the institution during its six years' existence. told the story of how hard a fight the few who started it had in order to overcome the difficulties by which they were surrounded; and, looking at the successful result of the club to-day, he said he was at a loss to say which of the two deserved the most praise-those who rocked it in the cradle or those who were now striving to give it a happy and prosperous youth. He was followed by Mr. M. Furlong, who proposed the toast of "Our Sister Clubs" in a very brief but interesting and humorous speech, in which he expressed the hope that that friendly feeling which had always characterised the relationship of the various clubs might continue in the future in as marked a degree as it had in the past. Mr. Horwood, Vice-President of the City Club, responded to this toast. He said he agreed with everything Mr. Furlong had said, and he considered that his (Mr. H.'s) presence at this banquet to-night, as well as the representatives Academia and its sister clubs. He was of opinion there was room in the city for the three clubs and even more, and that a friendly rivalry could only have the effect of improving them in their maintenance and operation. Mr. O'Neil, President of Total Abstinence Society, responded to this toast on behalf of their respective bodies. "Our Guests" was proposed present feel that those who were included in

that toast were welcome at the board as the flowers of May. Mr. Wilson B Kelligrew, in his usual happy style, responded trades, manufacturing and laboring industries of the country," was then proposed by the President, and in a very neat speech responded to by Mr. John Lanigan, who, with a number of our leading tradesmen and manufacturers, were present. The "Winners" and ' Losers," the " Press," the " Ladies," " Our Fisheries," " Newfoundlanders Abroad," and some other toasts were then proposed and as heartily drunk, and as eloquently responded to, as those which had preceded them. Durris and others enlivened the festive board with I have already over-stepped the space allotted to such communications as the present, and yet have only been able to touch on a few of the most important items of interest on the programme, and I shall conclude by assuring no one of their guests who did not go away your kith and kin, hungry, shivering fisher-Yours truly, A GUEST,

toast was responded to by Mr. Morris, Government, gladly consented to take the intiation. A few persons were invited to Government House to confer with His Excellency and the ball was thus set rolling. It is therefore a Government measure, and I ask now how can they, in view of the destitution existing throughout the country, while able bodied men stalk every street and settlement in the land with starvation in their faces, dare to launch forth into such a quixotic enterprize? If St. John's must have volunteers, then should every settlement of equal right have them. We cannot now afford to spend \$10,000 or \$12,000 in equipping force. Would 300 or 400 volunteers prevent the privateer of a hostile nation from running through the Narrows and shelling the city No, they would not. Then what is the mean ing of this craze of political humbugs and uniform-loving young men? If the Imperial Government make pretences to anxiety for the safety and security of this ancient colony, let them adopt the only sensible means-send us one hundred artillery and a few cannon for the Chain Rock Batteries. That, and nothing else, will prevent foreign invasion and attack. Then the only service of a volunteer corp would be for preventive purposes in case of civic tumult. It is a well known fact that at such a crisis volunteers or soldier-citizens take sides, and while there exists in this community such firebrands as McNeily and Fenelon, the experiment would be a highly dangerous one and Mr. Adams, for the Metropolitan, also We have not forgotten the Pipe Track yet, and the magazine of powder is still here await. ing the spark.

others in the Executive offered strong protests

against the movement, but Sir Robert pressed

the matter and 'secured the consent of the

Council. The Government or rather the Ex-

ecutive, being keenly appreciative of their un-

popularity, would not hazard an attempt to set

the movement on foot themselves, but advised

with His Excellency, who, no doubt, seeing

that if it were successful his own reputation

Will the Government dare to force this mat ter at such an enormous cost, while there are thousands of children in poverty-stricken homes, throughout the land, wailing for bread? What! is not the expenditure of \$8,000 on a jubilee ball sufficient iniquity to perpetrate within the short space of twelve months, without embarking on this last and still more heinous undertaking? Citizens of St. John's, you who commenced the battle for Responsible Government, and fought with honor and success many a noble political fight in the past, go to that meeting to-night with all the determination of honest opposition and indignation. and, as the resolutions come before you on the ing called for, shout out a vociferous " nay." Let no one answer "aye," but let the full chorus of "nays" rise high to the frescoed roof. well-chosen songs. I regret, Mr. Editor, that The hour is seven, the place the Court House, and be sure to be there to vote down this fraud which the present Government of mercantile despots, who refuse you bread and work, are seeking to perpetrate upon you. There is no use for this volunteer force, unless the members of the Academia that there was it be to drive, at the point of the bayonet,

> men, from the steps of the Colonial Building while there in search of work or bread.

Yours faithfully, WM. McGITTIGAN. St. John's, Feb. 10, 1888.

wn programme as best he could. But, like a sensible man as he is, he simply invited all ly the steamer Hercules went out on the same those who were in favor of the object of the meeting (duly specified by advertisement in all the papers), to meet him on a given date at the Athenæum Hall. And what was the re-

sult? Meet him they did, those who were favorable to the object in view; the Governor, as Chairman, explained that object, and then the people (or that portion of them there present) took possession of the meeting, and proceeded to say what they intended to do about it.

I hope all our public meetings will henceforth be conducted in this sensible and proper way. As one of the speakers said at Thurs

day's meeting : All should be spontaneous and voluntary as far as the people are concerned. Of what use, as an expression of popular opinion, are pre-arranged resolutions, a " rigged-up" meeting, and "stuffed" speakers. I hope we have seen the last of these "frauds" in St. John's, and that henceforth "the people," as such, will be educated for their public duties by being allowed to have their work done by them, instead of done for them, as has been heretofore the case.

With regard to the object of the meeting] here express no opinion whatever. It is an ungracious thing to be always carping and cavilling about matters with which one may not personally agree, even as the mouthpiece of a portion of the people. One feels more inclined to say, under the circumstances, Let those who approve of the object and are willing to give it effect, at their own expense, do so, and God be with them! We wish them success. If we cannot see our way clear to give them a sovereign, we will give them our sovereign blessing! Let them go on and prosper, with our best good wishes, if nothing

As Montaigne finely observes on this point, 'No class of people can afflict such martyrdom on their associates as those who are given to the habit of etermally reminding others of their failings and peculiarities. You are never safe with such people. When you have done your very best to please, and are feeling kindplatform, let each one of you, on the vote be- ly and pleasantly, out will pop some bitter speech or sneer but too well aimed to be misunderstood. Setting aside the unkindness of the habit, and looking at it entirely from a worldly point of view, it does not pay to say disagreeable things, when there is no real necessity for it, as our ill-nature will in time unfailingly recoil upon ourselves."

else.

Yours truly,

ALFONSO SMITH. St. John's, Feb. 11, 1888

THE Nail Factory's dividend for the past year is three per cent,

vesterday afternoon-into port. Subsequent errand, and after both got around Cape Spear the drift-ice closed in on the land, making the return of the boats, particularly if they succeeded in getting their tow, one of extreme difficulty.

Our readers will remember that the Rev. T. Hodgkinson lectures in the Athenaum Hall next Monday evening, in continuation of the literary course of that institution. His subject is "Public Speaking," an attractive theme, one which ought to fill the hall with those large and cultured minds who are interested in belles lettres. From one in the lecturer's position, the subject is certain to be thoroughly and satisfactorily discussed.

THE parade of the acmes these nights in the Parade Rink is picturesque, pleasing and panoramic. Persiflage and compliment, laughter and banter, are the counters of exchange in this mart of enjoyment; rosy-cheeked Recreation impels the eddying throng, and Apollo, the favored deity of sweet sound, flings his choicest harmonies over the scene. What wonder, then, that this favorite rink is crowded every evening with ladies and gentlemen who meet "to chase the glowing hours with flying feet ! "

TENANTS of some of the Baine property on the north side of Water Street, between Mc-Murdo's Lane and McBride's Hill, have been notified that forty per cent. will be added to their rents. The leases are land leases only, and are the outcome of the fire of 1846. The lease-holders of that time erected the present brick stores; but some of them who left the country sold their leases to investors here. The advance is regarded as abnormal, but occupiers could expect no other result when deprived of the protection such as the Tenant Bight Association which was started here three years ago was intended to afford.

BELIGIOUS SERVICES.

SUNDAY, Feb. 12. GOWER-STREET METHODIST CHURCH .- At 11 A.M. Rev. J. E. Manning; at 6.30 P.M., Rev. G. Boyd.

COCHRANE-STREET METHODIST CHURCH.-A.M., Rev. J. Parkins; at 6.30 P.M., Rev. J. E. Manning GEORGE-STREET METHODIST CHURCH.—At 11 A.M., Rev. G. Boyd; at 6.30 P.M., Rev. Geo. J. Bond, B.A. ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.-At 11 .M. and at 6.30 P.M., Rev. W. Graham.

QUEEN'S ROAD CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.-At 11 A.M. and at 6.30 P.M., Rev. T. Hodgkinson. REFORMED CHURCH OF ENGLAND - TRINITY CHURCH.-At 11 A.M. and at 6.30 P.M., Rev. A. N.

GOSPEL TEMPERANCE SERVICE in Buchanan Street choolroom every Sunday at 3 P.M. All are cordially nvited

Service in Temperance Hall on Sunday evening at 8.15 o'clock, under the auspices of "Young Men's Chris-tian Association." All are invited.

MARRIED. This morning, at St. Thomas' Church, by the Rev. A. C. F. Wood, M.A., Doctor William C. McKinnon, to Mary Jane, daughter of the late John Steer. On the 9th Feby., by the Rev. G. J. Bond, William T. Guest, to Mary G. C. Cook, both of St. John's.

DIED. Last evening, after a long illness, borne with Christian fortitude, Mary Frances, eldest daughter of Thomas and Ellen Duff. Funeral on Monday, at 2.30 p.m., from her late residence, 55 Patrick street; friends and acquaint-ances are requested to attend.

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