

Brethren." The public at once caught the spirit of this designation, and "Plymouth Brethren" has been persistently applied to all the parties and factions of that persuasion ever since although the Brethren themselves protest against the appellation.

PLYMOUTHISM AND THE CHURCHES.

The attitude of the Brethren towards other religious denominations is extremely arrogant and offensive. They avow that Christendom, as now represented by the churches, has departed from the constitution, the order and practice of the apostles—that it is rent into pieces—that it lies in ruins—that it is a horde of schismatics, errorists, unbelievers and sinners, held together only by expedients and compromises. They affirm that any attempt to bring back this chaos to unity and order, by discipline and a paid ministry, is presumption and folly. All who stay in this "Sodom," whether ministers or people, are put without the pale of salvation. So the sentence is pronounced, and let no one appeal from it—are not the Brethren our judges? So much for modesty.

SOME HOMŒOPATHIC LOGIC.

Ask a Plymouthite to what church he belongs, and he will answer with an air of pitying contempt, "I belong to *no* church, I am a Christian, a believer in Jesus Christ." That settles it, and is intended to settle the interrogator also. This answer will probably be accompanied by the parade of a limp Bible and an invitation to leave the filthy "Sodom" of the churches, and join the Brethren. According to Plymouthism, the very existence of the visible churches of Christendom is a sin against the Holy Ghost. We shall let this statement pass for what it is worth, and ask, What is the remedy proposed by the Brethren for these divisions? "Tell it not in Gath"—Plymouthism is the only cure. In other words, the Brethren propose to put down sectarianism by raising another sect—to heal our divisions by creating a multitude of their own—to annihilate the denominations by adding several more to their number. This is applying the homœopathic principle with a vengeance. It is a pretence of curing like by like—evil by evil—of