The Evening Telegram.

ST. JOHN'S, JANUARY 19, 1888

THAT STOLEN CARPET "A Sound Commercial Principle."

NUMEROUS OTHER ARTICLES MISSING THE Colonist stated a few nights ago that

"the carpet" stolen from the Assembly was about sixteen years old, and on Tuesday evening it announced that this same carpet had been found in one of the ante-rooms of the Assembly. The statements are both incorrect. The stolen carpet had only been in use for two sessions, and was a valuable one. The old carpet now on one of the ante-rooms had been covered by a new one, and was not found, for the excellent reason that it was never lost. It was the "Rupert of Debate" who originated as an excuse for the theft of the carpet, that it was "an old one," it being apparently "a sound commercial principle" that the guilt of stealing depends wholly upon the value of the thing stolen. Benjamin Franklin's saying that "it is a sin to steal a pin" seems to have made little impression upon "Rupert" and "the reverend Moses," who also condones the theft upon the ground that the carpet was not a new one. In the latter's "new theology" the commandment "Thou shalt not steal" will have a commercial qualification, and the guilt of breaking it will he graded by dollars and cents. But how about the other articles stolen? The hearth-rugs, the fire-irons, the scuttles, the water and whiskey glasses, and even the chairs from the ante-rooms were stolen at the "Jubilee Ball," and are still kept by the thieves in memory of the happy occasion; while about two hundred yards of red flannel, used to decorate the pillars and stair-cases on the auspicious occasion, also disappeared the morning after the ball, and are now used as "flannel underclothing for the heathen" who stole them. What excuse will be made for the theft of these articles? Were they useless? We think not. The scuttles, for instance, would be as welcome to the members of the Government party as life-boats to shipwrecked mariners.

THE ALLAN MONOPOLISTS.

Our Commercial Men Again Shabbily Treated.

It appears that negotiations with the Allans to induce them to send a larger steamer (than the one which sails hence to-day) to take the large number of commercial travellers belonging to our trade to Liverpool, have failed. The Allans have declined to give the necessary accommodation. They will take all the goods the said travellers may give to freight their steamers full in the Spring. They (the Allans) will strive their dead-best to establish a monopoly of the carrying trade of this colory as between it and the mother country. They will not hesitate to cut down rates to a minimum in order to break any competition with their ascendancy, and return to the old and high rates after the competition has been broken down. They will, in the face of the gigantic increase in their freight and passenger traffic, since commencing dealings with Newfoundland, eighteen years ago, screw out an additional one thousand five hundred pounds to the seventeen thousand five hundred pounds of the fishermen's money paid them annually as a subsidy; but, despite all these generous concessions to their vile rapacity, they coolly turn around to the people who ask them for a business convenience, and who are prepared to pay for it, with the reply: "We cannot go out of our way to take your passengers!" Woe betide the government and the politicians who stand between the colony and the abolition of this shameful monopoly!

OUR FRIENDS ABROAD.

An esteemed Boston correspondent, writing TELEGRAM comes regularly and is much prized by our folks. Sorry to hear that the Thorburn Government continues to wage 'a war of persecution' against you, but pleased to find you have so many sympathising friends, and amongst them many willing to contribute towards the fund you have started for the protection of the press, or, as I think you term it, the press defence fund. Put me down for five dollars. Sorry I cannot make it more. We are having the usual weather for the season. I see the steamer Plover has come to grief. Captain Manuel deserves much credit for the way in which he handled the boat after the accident. When you see him remember me very kindly to him and say that I hope country' at the next general election."

A SICK LION. AND WIND UP THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT.

"The public will give us credit when we say that nothing could be more distasteful to us (than) to take the course we have been driven to adopt, in this matter, and to write in a strain altogether foreign to our nature. But there was no alternative. The law gives us no redress or adequate protection in such cases, which was the consummation of a long series of such offences (against myself)."—Moses Harvey in yestenday's Mercury.

WITH the exception of the three words in brackets, the above extract from yesterday's Mercury shows that the "roaring lion" of Prescott Street at last begins to realise the fact that he has placed himself in a very ridieulous position; that, as a "lion," he is not the success he once fondly anticipated, and that he plays a much more graceful part in journalistic life when, as is usual to him, he gambols about in a jackass's hide, or glides stealthily along as a slimy serpent. "Yes, brethren," he seems to say, I cannot—no I cannot be a blackguard! Those two hardened characters over in Gregory's Lane are able to succeed and make money out of their part all the time, but as for "me and my house," it goes against our nature to be bad. I was born to be an angel, after all; and if the public could only lift up my gown they would see undeveloped wings growing out on each side of me. How can I be a "slogger" under these circumstances-how fill the part of a local Sullivan? Here, James, Frederic, Moses, take away these gloves and hand me back my sacred habiliments. I will assume the part of a " meek-eyed parson" once more! I prefer to he a quaker! Yea,

"I'd like to be an angel, and with the angels stand, A crown upon my forehead, a harp within my hand." Now, this is all very well for a sick lion when he finds he has overdone his part; but these mumbling protestations of penitence and remorse have been rather overdone in this community, too, and they come with very ill grace from a man who has completely exhausted the public patience and credulity with so many "personal statements" to the like effect. The old distich reminds us that

The devil was sick, the devil a saint would be:

The devil got well, the devil a saint was he. For our own part, we don't like to shut the door of repentance against any sinner, no matter how hoary and hardened he may be, or refuse to entertain hope (however "forlora" a hope) on behalf of the unregenerate. But there is a limit beyond which even christian credulity cannot go, and when we find a man breaking the most solemn vows and pledges over and over again and actually using his sacred-vestments for the purpose of screening himself during these breaches, it is almost impossible to go on taking that man's word for ever. The act of depreciation is his own. He cannot blame the public in the matter, any more than if he were detected repeatedly uttering forged coin and then flew into a rage and abused everybody all round because they refused to "take" it any longer.

We have a kind of amused pity for the ' sick lion" in this predicament—a pity mingled with contempt; and as we have a little more "gruel" to administer to him before we can admit his convalescence and permit him to re-assume the donkey's hide, which fits him best, we shall take the opportunity of reading a few practical lessons over his soon-to-beensepulchred " remains.'

He went into his late venomous outburst as a hireling and a tool for others, his own remuneration in the case being, as he informs us, a long-cherished feeling of cold spite against this paper and all with whom he thought it was identified. In other worlds, he "thirsted for revenge;" and the law, as he admits, being insufficient or unwilling to give him as ample means for slaking his "venom" as that article required, he resolved to take the law into his own hands and be a law unto himself. As usual, when he does that, he made an ass of himself, or rather, being only an ass by nature, he failed to succeed in persuading people that he was "a lion." All the same, he waded into sin, on the chance, and steeped himself to the lips in slander, malice, personal abuse and evilspeaking of every possible description. He under date of the 6th instant, says :- "The even provoked the envy of the Philistines and shocked the sensibilities of the most profligate by his adeptness in iniquity, proving the old adage that there is no devil equal to him that was once an angel of light.

Now, what has he got for it? Standing before the public with the mask in his hand, what is his reward? Let him put everybody else out of the question for the moment and ask himself: "What have I gained by kicking up my heels and trying to show that I am a

lion and not a donkey?" The "words of our text" sufficiently indicate the sick lion's answer to this question. and show that he dimly recognizes the fact that he has already entered upon the slow retribution which overtakes all men. The mills soon to hear of his appointment to one of the of the gods grind slowly, but they grind all. new boats now building. Sir William White- Time has leaden feet, but he gets there at way appears to be very popular all over the last. The way of the transgressor is hard, as Island, and will, I have no doubt, 'carry the the common good of mankind requires it to be. Every trick has its sequence, and every route to-morrow morning.

coup d'etat its St. Helena. The lapse of time Holiday Festivities at Bonavista. He Wants to Change Back Again into the Donkey every day is a sworn foe to him who masquerades in an impostor's costume. These are GRAND PROCESSION WITH MUSIC. aphorisms not from Lord Bacon but from ourselves, and they are of universal application. We shall take care to "rub them in" from time to time into the crevices of our reverend friend's cast-off "lion's skin," by way of reminder, and to warn him from putting it on

Meanwhile one last word for to-day: Try and maintain some consistency, even in evil. If everybody " plays his own tune," the audience may realize the Highlander's ideal of heaven; but they will be apt also to note the deviations and discords of the performers. Then we shall have a scene something like the

"Dugald Macpherson and me gaed down to Luckie McNab's in the Canongate to meet some of our auld freen's there. When we gaed in there was anither ten or a dizzen Heelenmen there, and they a' had their pipes wi' them. After we had been a crack for awhile, we had a tune thegither, and, man, it was fine! We a' shouthered our pipes and begun to play different tunes. Man, it was bonnie! I just thoct I was in heaven!"

SEVENTH ANNUAL REPOR' Of Directors of the St. John's Masonic Mutual Insurance Association.

THE Directors of the St. John's Masonic Mutual Insurance Association beg to present their statement of affairs for the year 1887.

The Directors have to report four members added to the death roll the past year. Four calls have therefore been made, namely :- For Bros. Jno. Graham, Robt. Brown, W. S. Hughes and Samuel Colton.

The association has added to its roll during the past year nine members, and feel glad to state that none have forfeited claim on association through default in payment of assessments, and the Directors have pleasure in stating this fact, as the association affords the cheapest and most convenient mode of Life

The Directors also wish to impress on members the necessity of being prompt in their payments of assessments to the association on e death of a member, on the dates and place named in the notice, as it is not incumbent on the secretary to receive payments at any other time or place, and by so doing a considerable amount of unnecessary trouble will be saved.

The Treasurer's account has been audited by Bros. Lash and Cowan, and is now presented. It shows a balance to credit of reserve fund of £161 10s. and to credit of general account £182 8s. 8d., after paying all expenses for the year. This statement shows the past year to be the most successful since the formation of

The Directors urge on their brethren the advisability of giving this mode of insurance their earnest consideration, as they have no hesitation in recommending this association to all eligible members of the fraternity.

The Directors regret that a larger number of members do not attend the general meeting and show that interest in the working of the association which it is so deservedly entitled to.

According to Bye-Laws, four Directors retire, viz. :- Bros. Pye, Jno. Martin, M. Monroe and Jno. Hughes, but they are eligible for re-Respectfully submitted,

> J. L. DUCHEMIN, President JOSEPH WILSON,

St. John's, Jan. 17, 1888. Assessment Fund in account with Treasurer. 1887.—To paid assessments on account of death

£376 9

Reserve Fund in account with Treasurer. 887.—Balance in Savings' Bank.....£ 31 10 Accumulated Funds. Assessment Fund.....£182 8

1887.—By balance£ 73 7 By assessment on 9 new members..... By assessment on account of death of four members..... 288 16 887.—By entrance fees.....£ 7 0

CR.

£ 31 10 F. C. CORNICK, Treasurer.

THE steamer "Curlew" proceeds Westward to-morrow, her terminus being Channel Should navigation be clear of ice to such an extent as to permit of an open passage around Cape Ray, it is probable that the people of the West Coast will receive a call from the boat next month. The demands of trade in that growing and enterprising section make this more or less imperative, as well as a source of profit to the boat itself. She will start on the

Big Time in the School Room. CHARMING ENTERTAINMENT AND TEA-FIGHT

Editor Evening Telegram.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,-Christmas with us has passed moderately well, and on the whole very enjoyably, although there is prevalent among us an inexpressible something which has a tendency to depress, dispirit and discourage. Doubtless that something is the outcome of the poverty that prevails, and inevitably operates against social happiness and convivial enjoyment. At this season of the year we reasonably yield to the impulse of our nobler nature, which points us to the world's Redeemer, whose advent we have just now been commemorating; and our minds revert to scenes and circumstances of unmerited favor which instigate within our breasts feelings of gladness and sorrow. Nevertheless, in spite of the many embarrassments, joy seems to have predominated, inasmuch as the young men and maidens desist not from indulging in the 'mumming" habit; the good friends discontinue not to entertain and interest the lovers of "Santa Claus"-the juvenileswith their Xmas trees and parties; and the grown-up folks also evince their joy by giving entertainments and soirces, the last of which came off on the 5th inst., under the patronage of the Loyal Confraternity.

By arrangement the day was chosen for their annual march, and consequently they assembled at the Central School Room at 2 o'clock—the hall being occupied by the ladies -started at 3, and as usual walked in procession through the town, clad in apposite attire, while the B.B.B. intermittently pealed forth ts strains on the evening air, the sound reverberating from hill and dale, and filling the hearts of the processionists and others with feelings ineffably delightful. Perchance, even the most fastidious and hypercritical ear might have listened to it with a measure of compla-

The march being terminated, the Brotherhood repaired to their lodge-room, where preadies" to accommodate them with a sumptuous repast, to which ample justice was soon done when once the masticative machinery was put in operation, especially as the evening's parade conduced to sharpen the appetite and adjust the palate. After the preliminaries had been gone through, both members and visitors sat down together, and partook freely of the esculents with which the tables were so fully equipped. Ah, yes, they did eat and were satisfied, and many most assuredly congratulated themselves on having made a "good tea!" Let it be understood that this " tea " was provided by the Association, who solicited the indispensable services of the "fair sex" in its accomplishment, and accordingly paid them the price agreed.

But the zenith of the day's festivity was not vet reached. An entertainment followed, consisting of music, addresses, recitations and dialogues, which were all excellent and compatible with the object in view-conviviality. The president was Mr. Joseph Powell-exmaster,-who based his opening remarks on the word "tea"; and, after pointing out a few of the bad and good qualities of that beverage. and eulogizing the lady friends a little, he resumed his seat and expressed himself as "highly pleased" in calling on the next performer.

It was with a measure of reluctance that Mr. Thomas House obeyed the mandate of the chairman, as he informed his auditors that he received no intimation of the matter until he heard his name pronounced as the "next speaker." However, he very astutely spun off a speech, and withdrew from the platform by concluding with, "I shall leave the nonsense for the other gentlemen." He was followed by our well-known pedagogue-Mr. Vincentwhose remarks were terse, pithy and seasonable. The last sentence of his peroration was a citation from the late John B. Gough Young man, keep your record clean!"

The observations of Dr. Forbes were of such a character as to insure the most rapt attention of his hearers, while, in his accustomed racy and live ly manner, he propounced and supported a theory to the effect that it was quite feasible to establish a which would be of an incalculable benefit to them selves and others. His remarks were received with approbation. We are disposed to believe that directly and indirectly it would be pro bono publico of Bonavista, and unquestionably and unmistakably it would obviate much of the ignorance preponder-

An invitation to attend the soiree was extended to the four clergymen, but only two-Revs. Messrs. Freeman and Frazer-were present. We are altheir presence portends and generally secures success. Rev. Geo. C. Frazer's harrangue was indeed nighly appreciable, his sprightliness rarely consummate, and his humor simply charming. He greatly praised the females, substantiated the Doctor's

suggestion anent Reading-room, pleased all hearers and modestly took his seat amidst great applause. Mr. John Swyers, one of our old sages, likewise entertained us with an address quite palatable, and was succeeded by the Rev. R. W. Freeman, who congratulated us on the great success attending the evening's proceedings; also corroborated and amplified the inuendoes of the previous speakers concerning R.R, and volunteered to do what he could to assist in the movement. In fact, he was pleasantly sentimental," so much so, that when he retired to his chair, the people were in a commotion with laughter and intense merriment.

Besides recitations, dialogues and addresses, a reading was given by Mr. Gideon Powell, and a solo by Miss Whitten. Ali the performances were very appropriate and befitting, and were immensely relished. The B.B.B. rendered excellent service; and received three good cheers at the close of the

A vote of thanks, proposed by Rev. Mr. Frazer and supported by Mr. Gideon Powell, was tendered the ladies who had evidenced such a spirit of cordiality and interest in the affair, after which the band led in singing, "God save the Queen," and thus ended a most pleasant and happy gathering. Yours, thankfully,

Bonavista, Jan. 6th, 1888.

FROM ROSE BLANCHE The Poor Relief Frauds.

INVESTIGATION BY MAGISTRATE Weeks' Charges Fully Sustained

Editor Evening Telegram.

DEAR SIR,—About three weeks ago we had the pleasure of a visit from R. T. Squarey, Esq., Stipendiary Magistrate of Channel. He was sent here by the Government to investigate the charges made by C. J. Weeks, Esq., M.D., against the Relieving Officer of this place for the misappropriation of the poor relief. It will, no doubt, surprise many, Mr. Editor, to know that the result of this investigation proves that the charges made were perfectly true and correct: that the poor's money has been squandered, and that the unfortunate paupers have been actually robbed.

I deem it unnecessary to say more in regard to this matter, as the Colonial Secretary has received by this mail a true account of the investigation, from the Stipendiary Magistrate himself; also a letter signed by seven persons parations were being made by the "good of this place who were asked by the Magistrate to assist him in the said investigation,

RICHARD FURNEAUX, P. A. GARCIN, JOB RIDEOUT, JAMES RIDEOUT, JOHN A. ROBERTS. GEORGE LEMOINE,

asking that the evidences taken at the investigation, with the Magistrate's report upon the same, appear in the columns of the Government paper. The above named feel assured, sir, that their request will be granted; and by such means the general public will have an opportunity of judging whether the charges made by "Veritas" are (to use "Facts" own words) "a pack of falsehoods" or not.

I may here mention that the Magistrate conducted the investigation in a straightforward and honorable manner, and gave entire satisfaction to all concerned. Hoping that the matter will have the attention which its importance demands, and thanking you for your valuable space, I remain, Mr. Editor,

Yours truly, W. J. RENDELL Rose Blanche, Jan. 14, 1888.

LOCAL VARIETIES.

WE are requested to state that St. Andrew's Juvenile Singing Class will not meet this week, as the basement will be used for other pur-

THE Parade Rink was closed to skaters last evening and crowds of people turned away disappointed; the skating area had been flood ed. The frosty temperature has hardened it by this time to a floor of crystal.

THE Nova Scotian is set down to sail at six o'clock this evening, but as all her freight for this port had not been landed at three o'clock this afternoon, and she has to take four hundred tons aboard for Liverpool, it is not probable that she will start much before noon to-

THE half-cent postage stamps are intended for use chiefly in forwarding single copies of local newspapers, though they may, of course, be used also on letters. Their issue is an unlooked for innovation in a country which, under the old system of currency, knew nothing

THE coastal steamer "Curlew's" news is rather meagre this trip. She reports the loss of a schooner herring-laden in Bay St. George, belonging to Forsyth & Co. of Halifax. The crew managed to keep her afloat and get her into port, near the wharf, where she sunk. A sale was subsequently called and the cargo sold for a dollar and a half a barrel. *

BIRTH.

Drowned, at Lake Superior, in November last, Thomas, son of the late Captain Thomas Connors, aged 38 years.

The GLADST

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> PROF. GOLD Par

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GLUTI excellent to. Makes half-and-ha jan10,fp