

Wednesday, being St. Patrick's Day the descendants of the 'sod' celebrated the event in the usual way. We here a few complaints of the ground having assaulted one or two parties.

The game laws affecting the destruction of Rabbits, came into operation on the first of the present month. We warn all interested parties to govern themselves accordingly.

We are glad to see that our hints about the pearls were taken up with spirit by one of our ex-beggars. Our reporter happened to be on Mr. Youdall's wharf, witnessing the departure of the sealing fleet, observed an individual hard at work shelling muscles. He intimated to the reporter that he had purchased a quantity of muscles and was determined to extract pearls at any cost. Your fish were taken from the wrong bank, Willie.

Several of our sealers were enjoying themselves in an off-handed way on the Streets, a few days ago, having been imbibing rather freely of the "oh! be joyful"; they were accordingly treated to a triumphant processional visit to the public repository, under the superintendance of Head Constable Fallon. Having gone through the necessary catechetical formula, they proceeded on board their respective vessels, which were lying off Bears Cove.

We have been making repeated enquiries lately about our new member, Mr. Godden. We have, however, up to the present time been unable to satisfy ourselves as to his whereabouts; some say he is in St. John's attending to his Parliamentary duties; we are not inclined to give credence to this report—as in perusing the debates of the House—no mention of his name is anywhere to be found. We are inclined to believe the opinions of our reporter—although he was told by Harry Andrews that Mr. G. did say "hear, hear!" on one occasion about a month back—who has been led to understand that Mr. Godden is undergoing a term of healthful recuperation. Doubtless he will turn up in due time.

The following significant dialogue is reported to have taken place in a public house at Carbonear a short time since, between a lady, well known for her devotion to religion, respect for its ministers, and a genuine love for the Land of the Shamrock, and a worthy son of the same green Isle, not remarkable for any of the above characteristics, but who, nevertheless, would be considered by some as of the 'true stock':

Is it true what I've been told, that you joined the 'mad dogs' in Harbor Grace the other day?

Begor it is mam!

How much did you pay for joining them?

Devil a cent at all!

And what did you join them for?

Begor they would me if every one would join them we'd soon banish these clergymen up there out of the place!

Now said the lady, well knowing the man to whom she was speaking, answer me truly and tell me how much does you paid your clergy for the past twenty years?

Arrah mam, I didn't pay any, because I hadn't anything to pay!

Well now said the lady, go and tell every one that if they all act as you've done they'll soon banish every clergyman in the country out of it.

The Weathercock has not been able to give his usual 'Weatherish' observations during last week, in consequence of meeting with a sad loss. Our reporter on hearing of his unfortunate difficulty rushed with unusual impetuosity toward the scene of the (catastrophe). On interrogating the first personage with whom he came in contact (which happened to be the celebrated Babe Barnes) the cause of the fracas, was told that the Weathercock had lost his far famed weather Cat. Our reporter enquired of the owner of this wonderful feline and obtained full information of his size, colour, weight and leaping capacity, which greatly enabled them to form a pretty correct idea of the distance he must have travelled, provided he had fled in a straight line. We understand the detectives are on his track; and it is to be hoped that he will shortly be returned to his grief-stricken owner. Perhaps he may be absent viewing the weather from some neighbouring eminence, for Saturday's report, or having taken a short leave of absence for the purpose of a love tour. Our reporter says a very handsome reward will be given to any person or persons who will bring him bound to his legal owner.

St. Patrick's Day being a holiday the "Starrigan" worthies agreed amongst themselves to hold a meeting for the purpose of protesting against the re-

ports which appeared in the STAR. Our reporter procured admission through the influence of Skipper 'Nat'. After the 'persecuted family' had gathered in the "wing," 'Lord Joe' was called to the chair, he was supported on the right by Skipper 'Has' the Farrier, and Stephen. On the left of the chairman the pleasant countenance of Breaker was to be seen along with Skipper 'Nat', and one or two others. The chairman having assumed his wonted attitude proceeded to remark in the following terms: 'Gentlemen, I seen the STAR,' he had not proceeded further when Breaker sprang to his feet and would have smashed our reporter, but for the timely assistance and protection of the worthy manager of the building, who we may say was prevailed upon to lend the building for the purpose of the meeting. This gentleman remarked that if any attempt was made to interfere with the STAR he would clear the whole gang out. This created a great confusion. After order was restored, 'Lord Joe' said "If any other gentleman wishes to address the meeting now was the time?" Stephen rose and muttered a few words about a 'Cat,' when up jumped the Farrier and commenced grinning, he concluded this exposition by resuming his seat. The next gentleman to address the meeting was Skipper 'Has'; he said "Gents, I makes so bold on yes, at dis time but, but I has plenty of room at the West End;" a cry got up 'the West End!! the West End!!' The chairman was knocked down; the gang rushed out, a tall gent (a prominent member of the clique) was seen flying ahead, the farrier on his track, bellowing, followed by Skipper 'Nat' blowing; and next was seen poor Stephen 'sighing.' Our reporter being a T. T., had no desire in following further than the foot of LeMerchant Street, therefore, popped into the STAR Office with the above, ready for publication.

OYSTER CULTURE IN Nfld.—It is to be regretted that this important subject is so little thought of and practised by the people of this Island. Seeing that its inhabitants are to such an extent dependant on the productions of its surrounding waters, one would naturally think, that they, as a community would only be too glad to foster and nourish any thing that would ultimately enhance or increase the future value of its fisheries. The above particular branch although not belonging to what might be termed the staple fishery of the country, is nevertheless not void of a certain degree of worth, which in some future day may be realized with satisfaction and delight. It is sad to think that amongst all our enterprising men, (and we must say we are gifted with a great many) only one gentleman has been found to have pluck enough to enter into it practically. We refer to a gentleman residing in the growing village of Hearts Content, who is possessed, we are proud to say, of a very marked degree of foresight and energy. He has already in one of the arms of its beautiful harbor, distributed broadcast seven or eight barrels (minus what was eaten and given away) of fine fresh oysters, which we understand are breeding to an alarming extent. The only obstacle in the way of this gentleman making his fortune is, we believe, the entire want of a good market. This need not harass his mind long as we can easily show him how he may get rid of this hindrance, and how he may with a little trouble and off-handedness, make a handsome thing of it. We are quite aware, if this gentleman is not, that he can procure any amount of good customers, who will stick to him like a brick, in Harbor Grace. These adherents would only be too glad to take a barrel now and then from him, at about one hundred per cent less than what they cost; that is provided he sends them across the barrens, and lands them at their respective doors, all shelled and ready for use. In case these precious fish may get stale on the journey it would be necessary to get them across as quick as possible. This could also be easily got rid of by having two conveyances, one to leave Hearts Content with a load, and the other could leave Harbor Grace with the empty packages, to be refilled at this gentleman's earliest convenience. You will see that by this arrangement time would be saved, and the customers would all ways receive their oysters fresh. At any rate he could try this plan for about a month, and by that time would be better able to judge how this scheme would pay him. Of this fact at least we can assure this enthusiast that while he lives, him and his oyster traps will always have a warm and hearty reception in Harbor Grace. After we receive our first brl., we shall be better able to give our opinion as to the quality and probability of this scheme maturing to perfection, and when the demand for them will be very much greater than the supply. We will anxiously wait to hear the noise of the wheels of the first caravan rushing down Court House Hill. We wish them (the oysters) every success.

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THE METROPOLITAN LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY
The Reserve Endowment and Reserve Dividend plan is the most popular in existence as shown by the business of last year.
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