

That was the difficulty then, and that is the trouble anticipated as a result of the labors of the ministers of the Gospel now.

The salaried ministers and their champions need to be reminded, it seems, of the fact that no objection is raised to a minister of the gospel receiving the necessaries of life at the hands of those to whose spiritual wants he administers. That is not the point at all. Our Savior in sending His disciples out to preach the Gospel states expressly that "a laborer is worthy of his food" (Math. x, 10, revised version), and Paul emphasizes this truth in his instructions to the churches. About this, then, there is no difference of opinion.

A great many of the ministers of the world, however, are not content with this. The preaching of the gospel has been made a profession, a trade, a means whereby to make a living. And many look upon it in no other light than any other secular occupation. When it has come to this that a young man with no religious inclination whatever goes to college, studies theology and looks about for a chance to be appointed a preacher at a stipulated sum a month; then it is time to raise an earnest protest. Then the Gospel is made a merchandise and the sanctuary defiled to a lamentable degree. How many ministers act as if they considered the house of the Lord a market place! With them the only question is to get the most remunerative position possible. This is the objectionable feature of a stipulated salary for preachers. Were there no money in preaching, only those who were called by God and felt it a duty to obey would engage in it. Then the power of the Gospel would go with its proclamation and Christianity would be saved from being a farce. As it is, it stands condemned by the divine word; for the gift of God cannot be obtained for money. And it stands condemned by honest men and women by the thousands of millions, who prefer to be considered infidels to being parties to a pious fraud.

WANDERERS OF THE SEA.

The anxious doubt which has now given way to dismal certainty as to the loss of the unhappy steamer *Naroclo* recalls the mystery surrounding the fate of many other brave, stout vessels that have sailed grandly out of port never to be seen or heard of again. In the case of Atlantic steamers, the most plausible theory as to the cause of loss is that they came into collision with icebergs, those monumental, beautiful, treacherous sentinels of the sea. But there is another menace to mariners, a source of constant alarm to navigators and owners, that is even more difficult to guard against than icebergs or rocks, for it cannot be found upon any of the charts, nor restricted to any latitude, nor predicted from any sudden drop in temperature of air or water. We allude to the derelict vessel, the solemn if not phantom craft that sails on and on, without brain to direct or hand on rudder to hold it on its course. No sailor knows when or where he may encounter one of these lifeless way-

farers, which drift about wherever wind and waves may carry them. One derelict which was lately sighted, the American schooner *Wyer G. Sargent*, it is said has been drifting about the Atlantic ocean for twenty-two months, and has covered 5500 miles. It was stranded in a gale off Cape Hatteras, March 21, 1891. It has been sighted thirty-four times, on the last occasion it being a mere shell. An authority on the subject says the average time a derelict remains afloat is about thirty days, and there are at all times about thirty of these vessels floating about in the Atlantic. There are more in the vicinity of Cape Hatteras than in any other place, which accounts for the great number of wrecks in that locality. The report of the Hydrographic office shows that from 1887 to 1891 there were thirty-eight collisions with derelicts, or an average of nearly eight every year. Eight of the thirty-eight vessels were totally lost. It has been commonly believed that the ill-starred *Naroclo* came to here through a collision with an iceberg. But why is it not at least equally probable that in the fog or darkness she a ruck a derelict; why, indeed, is the belief that she went to the bottom any more worthy of credence than the opinion that, abandoned by her crew, who perished through stress of weather, she has herself become a crippled, battered, useless wanderer on the high sea?

STRIKING AT AN EVIL.

Senator Hoar of Massachusetts has "done the state some service and they know it;" but it is questionable if anything he has said or done is more directly to the point or more salutary in its aim than is the question raised by him as to the constitutionality of members of Congress serving on commissions at home or abroad. At the present time two such boards have such members in their composition—the international monetary congress and the Berlog sea arbitration commission. The senator points out that the President sent abroad senators "to represent this country in dealing with foreign nations in one case, and in another of representing this country before a great tribunal which is to determine a great international dispute." It is further shown that other senators and representatives have been appointed to perform other duties at home, like the duty from which Senator Culom asked the Senate to excuse him—that of investigating the workings of the executive departments. Duties like these Senator Hoar regards as analogous to those performed by the civil officers of the government, and the practice of imposing them upon members of Congress, in either house, he finds inconsistent with the clause of the Constitution which declares that "no senator or representative shall, during the time for which he was elected, be appointed to any civil office under the authority of the United States, which shall have been created, or the emoluments whereof shall have been increased during such time, and no person holding any office under the United States shall be a

member of either house during his continuance in office."

The only question to be decided, it would seem, in order to determine the constitutionality or otherwise of such appointments as those spoken of, is the one as to whether or not they are civil offices under the authority of the United States. It is difficult to see how the conclusion that they are such offices can be escaped. Everything that may define such a situation exists. The senator who thus serves is employed through the appointment of the executive and his own acceptance; by reason of such employment he is paid for his services; he acts under instructions from his employer—the government; he is responsible and makes his reports to it and acts in its name and by its authority; and lastly, it is not a military, hence a civil, service. Looked at in this light the matter assumes a very serious aspect—serious if a violation of the Constitution independent of the object or results of such act is serious.

But there is another aspect of the case that should receive attention. Why should congressmen be selected even if the Constitution were not violated thereby? They are chosen for another service altogether, the terms of which are understood by both employer and employed. Why should they not do what they are employed to do and let other burdens of the state fall upon other shoulders? Are there not men of ability, character and willingness in sufficient number in the United States to fill any commission or board however high or consequential, without taking men from other public employment? We should think so. If all comes, as it seems to us, of that disposition which is so prevalent in this country and all parts of it to load one individual with a number of offices. This is neither fair to the people in the sense that public favors should be distributed, nor justice to them in that too many duties undertaken by one person is apt to be the means of leaving some if not all of them indifferently performed or not performed at all. It is a very objectionable system, more honored in the breach than the observance, no matter whether the President of the United States or the mayor of a town practices it. Senator Hoar is on the right track; let us hope he will go ahead until the growing evil aimed at is brought to an end.

THE EDITOR OF THE NEWS has received the following:

Upon the nomination of the general committee on a world's public press congress, of which Mr. William Penn Nixon is chairman, and Mr. James W. Scott vice chairman, I have the honor to invite you to attend the congresses in the department of the public press, to convene in Chicago during the week commencing May 22nd, 1893, and to request the favor of an early acceptance.

CLARENCE E. YOUNG,
Assistant Secretary, World's Congress Auxiliary.
WORLD'S CONGRESS HEADQUARTERS,
Chicago, Illinois.

DURING THE month of January 133,853 gallons of whiskey were sold in the state of Iowa. Iowa, it should be understood, is a prohibition state.