WILMINGTON, N. C.: TUESDAY MORNING. Dec. 14 1875.

Babcock is a part of the White House family. Babcock has been indicted for complicity with the notorious ring in St. Louis which cheated the Government out of millions of revenue. Bristow, Secretary of the Treasury, started the pending investigation, doubtless after finding out the relations the President's Secretary had with the ring in forwarding information from Washington which enabled the thieves to go on with their nefarious work in safety. Well, Bristow may have desired to be President next time, and may have seen in Babcock's fall great injury to the President, or he may have done only his duty irrespective of such considerations. Any how the affairs of the ring have been partially investigated. The President was bound by his circumstances to give carte blanche to the prosecutors. And his permission has been so far pretty well availed of. But there was a hitch when ex-Senator Henderson, employed by the Government as prosecutor, saw fit in the exercise of his duties as counsel to strike higher than Babcock, at his master and friend the President. The following passage certainly hit Grant in a very rolt place:

"Why does this man Douglass bend the supple hinges of the knee and yield to the President's interference, or that of his private secretary? It was the duty of Douglass to have carried out that order or resigned his position. Would to God that we had more of that veteran sluff that formerly animated Federal officers! Why not leave an office when you can no longer wield it with dignity and manhood? What have we gained by the abolition of the black man's slavery if the white man is to be substituted for him in the shackles and chains of men, a worse system of slavery? If men would think for a moment they would rather live in honored private life than to possess all the glittering baubles of public life bound down and overwhelmed with the corruption that now necessarily accompanies it. If Henry Clay had never done or said anything else than "I had rather be right that be President" that should immortalize him. But Douglass yielded to the power of Babcock and the President's interference. He was honest, I believe, but he was poor, and he felt that his position depended upon his obeying the beliests of those who had no right to interfere with his

Now this provoked an angry cor respondence between the Law De partment at Washington and the U. S. District Attorney at St. Louis, which was terminated by the dismissal of Henderson. Yesterday's dispatches state the views of Mr. Glover, to whom was offered the position filled by Henderson. It will be seen that the "President's interference" continues. Fettered by his superiors. Mr. Glover seems unwilling to step into Mr. Henderson's shoes.

Another crook in this crooked business is the report that Blaford Wilson, Solicitor of the Treasury, "expects to go" with Henderson, his head rolling off to save the reputation of some one higher up. The tenor of the late news is certainly unfavorable to a further rigid investigation of the frauds. It was all well enough until the Presidential wool was about to be stuged then presto! the thing must stop. The whiskey ring are glad; they may well rejoice, along with their accomplices and party associates, for the dismissal of the persons who seem to be mainly responsible for the tremendous revelations that have been as yet only hinted at shows that the Administration is going to try to save itself at all haz. ards. The question is, "will it?" Do not the people see whose hand is engaged in the disreputable business of shielding criminals from justice?

THE PIRST CENTENNIAL ELEC-

It will take place in New Hampshire, and from signs is likely to be unusually close and doubtful. Last March the Republicans only cast 122 more votes than the Democrats, and failed to secure a majority over both Democrats and Prohibitionists by over 600 votes. The election was thrown into the Legislature, which was Republican, and Mr. Cheney was chosen. In 1874 there, was a similar state of affairs, when, the Democrats having the Legislature, Gov. Weston was chosen. The Prohibitionists in the last two elections held the balance of power, and are likely to do so in the next. "Their vote fell off very heavily, however, last March, and possibly they will have the good sense to get out of the field altogether. The Republicans are about certain to renominate Gov. Cheney, and the Democrats realize the importance of the contest sufficiently to put up their best man spainst him.

We have before us an able address delivered be Goe Gad and before the Wandruff County (Arkansas) Agr. anlitural Association. Garland is one of the rising men of our Southern THE MADNESS OF SCOUNDRELISM

Such language as the following from an editorial in the Washington National Republican is not so much a high stroke of lunacy as it is the fell guashing of a despairing organ: "The Republicans are quite indifferent as to the course which the Confederate power in the American Congress may elect to take in the organization of the House.

The issue as joined between the national Republican party and the Confederate Democracy is a simple and clear one. The Confederate power cannot maintain a recognized political foothold anywhere within this Union. We refused to recognize the power during the late war; we refuse to ecognize it now. Inside of the Union as outside of the Union we have no compro-mises to make with it. We demand "un-conditional surrender," and the North will yet make this demand as good on the arena of national politics as she did on the field of battle. Confederate representation in the American Congress will be wiped out Confederate power in the electoral Congress will be broken. Confederate domination in the late slave States of the Juion will not be submitted to. We trust that this explicit explanation will lead to a clear understanding between those who fought to desirey the Union and those who fought to preserve it. A Confederate South within the Union, resting on negro serfdom as its corner stone, is infinitely more dangerous to the cause of Republican institutions in the new world than a Confederate South out of the Union resting on negro slavery as its corner stone. The Republicans are prepared for the emergency and ready for the struggle which is rapidly ap-

The paper that gets off such high pressure foolishness as the above deserves no consideration, as such stuff will mistead but few. The men who run the Republican, Bishop Haven, President Grant and the Whiskey Ring of Missouri ought to be straightway organized into a mission to ascertain why certain people linger superfluous on the stage. Presently some one will be asking, who killed cock-robin Grant? and where is the third term arrow that did the fatal

THE CONFEDERATE WAR DEBT.

The Washington correspondent of the Philadelphia Times telegraphs that a resolution has been prepared by a prominent Southern Congressman, a gentleman who was an officer of the Confederate army, and has been for many years a recognized Democratic leader in the South, declaring in full and definite terms that the Confederate war debt shall never be recognized or assumed by the United States; that no claim for slaves freed during and by the war shall ever be esteemed lawful, and that the national credit must be ever kept unimpeached. This will be submitted to the House at an early day, and the utmost confidence is expressel that it will be adopted with but feeble dissent.

In his editorial letters to the Springfield Republican Mr. Bowles says that at present Tilden and Lamar is the strongest Democratic ticket for the nomination, and on the Republican side Bristow and Blaine. Mr. Lamar has forbidden the use of his name in connection with the Vice Presidency, and as he is a sincere man we see no use in keeping it before the public. By common consent there is to be no Southern man on the ticket. Our enemics shall not make capital in that manner.

The New York Herald has sent out as expedition to capture Tweed. That paper appears to think there is no doubt he was in Connecticut a few days ago, and that he is now concealed in the city of New York. The escape of the noted criminal was a disgrace to the officials who controlled | posed to any of its nembers leading or ought to have controlled his person, and if he is not retaken the public will be forced to regard his escape as connived at by these officers.

The great English novelist William Black will have a new story, "Madcap Violet," in the January number of the Gulaxy.

STAR DUST.

- "Whiskey's wrestle." - "Tweed is the new Figaro."

- Wall street was never duller. - River piracy thrives in New

- Mrs. Speaker Kerr is said to be bandsome. Extremes meet

- The height of "a girl divinely tall" is said to be r'heaven feet.

only received one vote in the West Vir-

ginia House of Delegates. - George Effor's new work is a story of English life of to-day, dealing with Buddhist, Methodist, Pagan, Presbya higher sphere of society than is ner wort. - Thaddens Stevens' physician has brought suit against his estate for \$4,000 for alleged unpaid professional ser-

- Young and bandsome Senator Whyte, of Maryland, is frequently in receipt of baskets of flowers from his lady-

- One of them says: "What a country editor really needs is the ability to live on four shillings per week and smoke his own cigars."

- Ex-Senator Nye, of Nevada, has so far recovered his mind that he has been taken from the insane asylum. His comph te recovery is hoped for.

- If Bruce and Spencer lose their sente in the Sepate, as is likely, if the charges of corruption and bribery are pusi ed uguinst them, it will make quite a HAVEN HAULED OVER.

Talk About Bishop Haven's Har angue-Condemned Already The pomination by Bishop Haven of President Grant for a hird ferm in a Sunday School Convention at Boston, last week, has made things lively. Haven has belied his name and ministerial position - he has disturbed the political world from centre

to circumference. We have been at the pains to collect much of what has been said by organs and preachers as far as we have seen. The annexed embodies in the main what we have found on the subject:

RESPONSIBILITY DISCLAIMED. Rev. Dr. J. H. Vincent, Corresponding Secretary of the Sunday School Union and of the Tract Society of the M. E. Church, and who was present at the Boston preachers' meeting when Bishop Haven made the New York Tribune states that though towards the close of the meeting a resolution to welcome and compliment the Bishop was adopted unanimously, no one supposed that the vote had any reference to the third term question. Dr. Vincent says, in any case, the representatives of the Sunday School Union and of the Tract Society present at the preachers' meeting by invitation, had nothing whatever to do with the invitation to the Bishop, the sentiments he advanced, or the vote of welcome which was tendered to him. The doctor adds that the societies he has the honor to represent are entirely devoted to the Christian work for which they were organized, and have not as such the slightest interest of political parties.

BISHOP SIMPSON, LEADING BISHOP M. E. CHURCH NORTH, DEPRECATES CHURCH ACTION, BUT FAVORS A THIRD TERM HIMSELF.

he leading clergymen in the Methodist Episcopal denomination in this city upon the nomination of Grant for a third term by Bishop Haven of Boston, a representative of the Item called upon Bishop Simpson, at the residence on Mount Vernon street.

Reporter -Is not any interference in politics at such a meeting as this was supposed to be contrary to the discipline of the Methodist Episcopal | setting forth that these two organiz :-

deprecate any ecclesiastical body sentiments he advanced, or the tote making utterances either for or of welcome which was tendered him. against any candidates; that is to say, of course, as a church. Personally, undoubtedly, every man has his opinion. On any great moral question, such as anti-slavery, temperance and other kindred subjects, I should expect them to express their judgment, but on questions of this kind I am decidedly opposed to it. The Church has no desire to be engaged in any party campaign. The meeting referred to was not, as I understand, a church meeting. The anniversary of the Sabbath schools was taking place on the Sunday and Monday. On Monday morning the ministers always hold a meeting, to which the visitors to the anniversary were in vited. It was at this meeting that this thing took place. Bishop Haven certainly had no intention of pledging he Church to any party or person.

Reporter-Is the President a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church as has been represented?

Bishop-He is not; he is simply an ittendant at one of our places of worship. The Methodist denomination neither ask nor expect anything

nominated, do you think he would get the support of the Methodist clergy

Bishop-Not as a body, certainly Even among ministers, there is a diff ference in politics, some being Republicans and others being staunch Democrats, the latter being rather, I should say, in the majority. The Church, however, would be much opit into a political contest. I can quite understand Bishop Haven's enthusiasm. He has been an editor for a number of years, and, as such, has been used to speaking his mind freely, and at times will let his old feelings as editor conflict with these of a

WHAT OTHER PREACHERS SAY. The Item reporter also visited the Rev. Dr. R. I. Kynett, Corresponding Secretary of the Methodist Episcopal Church Extension Society; the Rev. Dr. William McCoombs, the Rev. Dr. S. W. Thomas and other clergymen of the Methodist Church, all of whom declared that they were personally in tavor of a third term for Grant.

THE ORGANS DENOUNCE IT AS FOLLY. Here it is in a nutshell. Nobody e uld have said it better, and nobody or ordinary sense will be foolish enough to gainsay it. Said the Philadelphia Press, Republican, in a recent issue: "What the people most - The compulsory education bill unmistakaly will resent and punish promptly, and in every section, is ecclesiastical interference with our polities, be the heirarch Roman Catholic,

terian, or Mormon." The Troy Times, Republican, is in an uncommonly agitated state of mind about it, saying: "Who asked this very respectable gathering of Methodist clergymen to nomina.e. Gen, Grant or anybody else for President of the United States? It seems to us that these clerical gentlemen are travelling out of the strict line of their duties, and that they are doing that which they would be the first to condemn in any other denominational convention or gathering in the country, If Gen. Grant is the favorite candidate of this denomination for President in 1876, its ministers have taken just the course to secure his defrat, even should a political con heretofore at No. 39 Promit street, comer

enough to nominate him. Gen. Grant will, no doubt, appreciate the kind-ness of his Methodist friends, while at the same time he must lament the folly of their indiscreet zeal in his be-

THE SPEECH AND SCENE CRITICISED BY AN INDEPENDENT JOURNAL. New York Pribune.

The nomination of the President for re-election and the scene accompanying it are thus described by The Item correspondent:

"After giving a long and detailed account of the church in the South, and other matters, the speaker seemed to raise himself upon his feet, as if to look all around, about, and above the vast audience before him, and exclaimed in lond, stentorian tones: "I believe that President Grant is the only man who could conquer the enemies of American freedom. If we threw him overboard we should regret it." He continued: "I herewith, in the name of the American his "third term" speech, in a letter to people and true Christianity, nominate Ulysses S. Grant, our present worthy President and defender, to a third term in the office of President of the United States." Nearly every voice in that vast audience of profound senolars and venerable ministers replied, as if with one breath: "I second the nomination." Then the Rev. Dr. Bates put the motion in regular form, and the proposition of Bishop Haven was unanimously adopted, not a dissenting vote being given. To this was added the loud huzzas of the ladies and gentlemen in the galleries."

This is a graphic description certainly, and there are not lacking indications that the whole affair was, as this correspondent suspects, what the worldly call "a put up job." We either in the platforms or candidates | hope it is not necessary to go into ar gument to show how atterly silly and absurd it is. We wish it were only that. It is worse. It is as mischievous a piece of demagogism as was ever set on foot, and if the precedent In order to ascertain the opinion of | which Bishop Gilbert Haven has induced the representative bodies of his church to adopt were to be followed by other denominations, we should very shortly be embroiled in the most dangerous and the most useless and unreasonoble controversies that ever afflicted a people.

We gladly print a card from the Corresponding Secretary of the Sunday School Union and Tract Society, tions had nothing whatever to do with Bishop-Certainly, and I should the invitation to Bishop Haven, the Something more than this, however, is due from so great and influential a body as the Methodist Episcopal Church. Bishop Haven and his associates and supporters need to be taught with some distinctness how much they have compromised their church in the effort to place it behind a Presidential candidate.

> It is hardly necessary to say that the Methodist Church referred to above is the Northern Methodist Episcopal.-EDS. STAR.

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We shall also begin in the January number. " PHILIP NOLAN'S FRIENDS.

Or, Show Your Passports," By EDWARD EVERETT HALR

The scene of this story is la'd in the Southwestern territory, now forming the Sta es of Louisiana and Texas, at the time of Ba on Burr's treaton. The haracters lised in a section which was now Ameri can, now French, and now spanish, and this tee to of their adventurous lives make a story of intens and unflagging interest throughout

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