The Weekly Star.

WM. H. BERNARD, Editor and Proprietor.

WILMINGTON, N. C.,
Friday, December 17th 1875.

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Under the new law which goes into effect January 1st, 1875, we are required to pre-pay postage on the WEEKLY STAR. And while this will add to the cost of publication, we shall make no advance in price of subscription, except in rates to clubs. We cannot afford to furnish the paper at $1.00 per year and pay the postage besides.

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Under this new arrangement we shall enforce the cash system more rigidly than ever before; and unless our subscribers remit promptly many names will be dropped from our list.

A statement of account will soon be sent to each subscriber, and we trust all will respond without delay.

Remember that we send all papers *free of postage* after January 1st.

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Now is the time for getting up Clubs to the WEEKLY STAR. Show the paper to your neighbors and friends, and get them to join in. We want the biggest subscription list in North Carolina.

We have no club rates for any but yearly subscribers; but for 10 or more subscribers the paper is only $1.25 per copy per year, free of postage.

WHISKEY.

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 [illegible] 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 sit 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 stuff 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 behests of those who had no right to interfere with his duties."

Now this provoked an angry correspondence between the Law Department 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 Bluford 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 singed, 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 hazards. The question is, "will it?" Do not the people see whose hand is engaged in the disreputable business of shielding criminals from justice?

THE MADNESS OF MISGOVERNMENT.

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 gnashing 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 recognize it now. Inside of the Union as outside of the Union we have no compromises to make with it. We demand "unconditional 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 Union will not be submitted to. We trust that his explicit explanation will lead to a clear understanding between those who fought to destroy 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 approaching."

The paper that gets off such high pressure foolishness as the above deserves no consideration, as such stuff will mislead 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 work?

THE CONFEDERATE WAR DEBT.

The Washington correspondent of the Philadelphia *Times* telegraphs 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 expressed that it will be adopted with but feeble dissent.

GRANT AND HIS RIVALS.

We have always conceded to Mr. Blaine the possession of very considerable ability. In addition to a suppleness to which no other Republican politician can lay just claim since the day of Butler, he is thoroughly accomplished in all the arts of the political school to which he belongs and of which he is now an acknowledged teacher and exemplar. Indeed we are inclined to accord to the ex-Speaker some of the better qualities of statesmanship. He appears to us to have profited by the grave mistakes of his own party and to be ever ready to take advantage of any weakness on the part of his Democratic enemies. Skilful, dexterous, wiry, able, popular, brave, Mr. Blaine appears to be playing a high game for the Presidency. Grant at Des Moines sounded the slogan of fanatical war, it is true, but Blaine took up the refrain at its best note and drowned or almost drowned his chief's music by suggesting practically the more reasonable part of what the President had only hinted at, the abolition of special donations to denominational schools. He is now watching the St. Louis revelations with the keenest eagerness.

The other formidable opponent of the third term, Mr. Bristow, of Kentucky, is a somewhat younger man in politics and in years. He has the advantage of occupying a seat in the Cabinet where he can watch the battle from anear, and cut his individual cards accordingly. If the present whiskey fraud investigation, which was set on foot by the Honorable Secretary of the Treasury, shall span out as doubtless he desires, he will have General Grant under the table and a nip-and-tuck conflict with the man of Maine for the nomination.

Bristow's chance lies in whiskey, though he is personally as sober as a judge. Blaine's opportunity is with the Protestant schoolmen, although his logic is usually of the most practical kind. Grant's occasion will be when all the Federal officials and rings congregate, with Sambo at their back, in national convention.

The principal hinge on which the door presidential, so far as the nomination is concerned, will turn, judging from appearances at this writing, is the question of religious prejudice. This issue is a bad one for the Republicans to make, and Mr. Blaine and other leaders may conclude not to make it. But as it is now up, fully presented by leading Republican newspapers and politicians, we shall hold them to it. They have brought the business up in meeting, and they cannot escape the consequences of odium that will ensue, no matter whether they shall press it to the end or no. The designs of some prominent Radicals are unfolded in a letter addressed to ex-Speaker Blaine by Mr. J. T. Foster, editor of the Newark (N. J.) *Evening Courier*. Foster writes:

"Eighteen months ago I told you that you could have New Jersey in 1876. I wish now to emphasize that statement. All our people are for you, and we can carry the State beyond peradventure. Our danger is that the West will demand the nomination. This can also be averted, of course, by a union of New England, the Middle States, and stray votes from the South. A potent factor in our next convention will be the secret anti-Catholic order. Grant is a member, and it has a good deal of strength in Congress. I think you ought to go in. It can be arranged so that you can be initiated anywhere by one person. The order is spreading widely. My obligations do not permit me to say more than this, except that Grant, no doubt, relies upon it to promote his aims. With wisdom at Washington, and with the States we have carried, we can surely hold the country. But to hold it for a hap hazard candidate is hardly worth the candle. For one of a vast multitude I want to hold it for you."

DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS.

The Democratic Congressional caucus on Monday adopted a resolution offered by Col. Waddell, of the Third North Carolina District, providing for a Democratic Executive Committee. The Committee will consist of three Senators, six Representatives and three citizens of the District of Columbia, all to be appointed by the Chairman of the caucus. Hon. S. S. Cox's resolution providing for a committee of eleven, to be likewise appointed by the Chair to outline the policy and work of the party in the future, was adopted.

Col. Lamar of Mississippi presided, and Maj. Robbins of the 7th North Carolina District was one of the Secretaries, Gen. Banning of Ohio having been the other.

The caucus resolved to reduce taxation and expenses.

SUCCESSION IN THE PRESIDENCY.

Dispatches from Washington indicate that there is some interest manifested there in the question of the succession to the Presidency in the case of Grant's death before the election by the Senate of a new presiding officer. Correspondents say that the Democrats claim that in such event Speaker Kerr would be President. This conclusion is reached by an examination of the constitutional provisions relative to the Vice Presidential succession, and from the rules and precedents laid down in Jefferson's Manual.

Immediately after the death of Vice President Wilson we combatted the idea of some that there would be a vacancy to be filled otherwise if the President were to die before the meeting of Congress. If Grant had died then we thought, and yet think, that Mr. Ferry, as the last President *pro tem.*, of the Senate, would have been President of the United States. How the conditions are changed, now that the Senate has failed to elect a new President *pro tempore* and that the House has chosen a constitutional presiding officer, we do not pretend to say. We simply present what the correspondents of leading Northern papers assume to be the arguments by which leading Democrats arrive at the above conclusion.

The Constitution, Article II., Section 6, declares that:

"Congress may, by law, provide for the case of removal, death, resignation, or inability, both of the President and Vice President, declaring what officer shall then act as President, and such officer shall act accordingly, until the disability be removed, or a President shall be elected."

Congress in 1792 passed a law to carry out this provision of the Constitution. That law is contained in section 146 of the Revised Statutes, namely:

"In case of removal, death, resignation, or inability of both the President and Vice President of the United States, the President of the Senate, or, if there is none, then the Speaker of the House of Representatives for the time being shall act as President until the disability is removed or a President is elected."

The claim of the Democrats to the Presidency, in the event of the possible death of President Grant, turns, of course, upon an alleged vacancy in the Presidency of the Senate. This raises the disputed point as to the necessity for the election of a presiding officer in the Senate. The Constitution is silent upon the subject. There are no definite provisions which are conclusive under the existing circumstances. In the absence of affirmative constitutional provisions, the Democrats insist that the interpretation which prevailed in the early history of the Government should control the succession now. They claim, therefore, that there is a vacancy in the Presidency of the Senate, and base their claim upon this passage in Jefferson's Manual of the Constitution:

"In the Senate a President *pro tempore*, in the absence of the Vice President, is proposed and chosen by ballot. His office is understood to be determined on the Vice President appearing and taking the chair, or at the meeting of the Senate after the recess."

The Vice President being dead and the Senate having met after the recess without electing a President *pro tempore*, the Democrats claim that in the event of the death of President Grant Speaker Kerr would become President of the United States.

The prolonged contest in the Conservative Legislative caucus of Virginia for United States Senator was brought to a close yesterday, by the nomination on the 45th ballot of Hon. John W. Johnston, the present incumbent, a man of fair ability and excellent character. The three leading contestants were Johnston, Goode, of Norfolk; and John W. Daniel, of Lynchburg, the ablest of the State's young men. On the last ballot Johnston and Daniel were in nomination, and the ballot was announced as follows: Johnston 75, Daniel 64. Judge Johnston will be chosen Senator today by the joint convention of the two houses of the Legislature.

The National House of Representatives seems to be fond of considering resolutions. Some of them are excellent: instance the one condemning the third term, reported in our dispatches printed this morning. An emphatic "no" was given to Mr. Grant's aspirations. Among the melancholy eighteen who voted against the resolution occurs the names of the illustrious John Hyman, colored, of the Second District of North Carolina.

U. S. Commissioner's Court.

This Court was occupied yesterday forenoon in hearing the concluding testimony in the case of the U. S. vs. Jesse A. Wood, charged with passing counterfeit money, which had been continued from Monday. After a full and careful investigation of the cases, the evidence not being deemed sufficient by Commissioner Cassidey to warrant his detention, the defendant was discharged.

John Fisher, one of the remaining defendants, then made, under oath, substantially the statement which follows, being warned not to say anything that might criminate himself:

In the spring of 1874 Lewis T. Wood and Richard Wood, both of Onslow county, came to me and proposed making money by manufacturing five cent nickels. I told them I thought it could not be done. They insisted that it could and said, "let us try it," when I consented. We tried it and succeeded. They said that it was not wrong. I said I didn't know whether it was or not. They came to my house and brought pewter, lead and shot with them; pieces of pewter basins. Each of them had some. They made the moulds and I helped them. The moulds were made and we poured the hot metal into them and made the money. We were engaged in this thing, off and on, for a month or more. As fast as the money was made it was taken into possession by Lewis Wood and Richard Wood. I kept one piece in my pocket. Richard Wood told me that he had spent his share of the money with Mr. Benjamin Simmons. Lewis Wood never told me what he did with his.

Upon the strength of this statement all the parties implicated, with the exception of Jesse Wood (No. 2), who was discharged, were lodged in jail to await a hearing before Commissioner Cassidey at some future time.

The case of Lewis T. Wood will be investigated to day.

The Counterfeiters.

The cases of Richard Wood, Lewis T. Wood and John Fisher, charged with manufacturing and passing counterfeit money, were heard before U. S. Commissioner Cassidey, yesterday, who, after a careful investigation, required them to enter into bond in the sum of $500, each for their appearance at the next term of the District Court, to be held in this city in May next, in default of which they were lodged in jail.

The speech of Gen. Hancock, in moving the adjournment of the Military Court of Inquiry, will do much for his reputation. Its scope is broad, its diction elegant, its sentiments sound. It is in striking contrast with the spleen and petulance just exhibited by Gen. Grant toward Mr. Henderson, says the New York *Ledger*.

Cold, piercing winds will bring pain to those who fall to provide a cough, cold or bronchitis at this season, and Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup should be kept in every house. For sale by all druggists.

An Unpleasant Mishap.

A young, energetic and enterprising agent or drummer for a dry goods house located not more than a thousand miles from this place was at Magnolia a few days since, when he met with a rather unpleasant mishap. It seems that he got in the notion, just before leaving, that, as eggs were selling cheap there, he would get a supply for the Christmas holidays. Soon after making his purchase the whistle of the approaching train blew. Fearful of being left he hastened his preparations, seized his bag of eggs, satchel, &c., and hurried for the depot, giving an order at the hotel for his trunk to be sent there also with all speed. As he neared his destination the train commenced slowly moving off, which caused our young friend to mend his pace, and he was making excellent time when he accidentally stumbled and was precipitated headlong into a mud-puddle, smashing his eggs, which, mixed with the mud, made a coating for his Sunday suit which rendered them neither stylish in appearance nor agreeable in their contact with his person. He managed to get on the train, however, minus his trunk, which he afterwards ordered forwarded to his address, and left Magnolia with the resolute determination never again to be caught napping when it was so near train time.

Counterfeiting.

Three white men named Jesse Wood, Sr., Jesse Wood, Jr., and John Fisher were arrested in Onslow county and brought to this city yesterday, charged with being implicated in the counterfeiting affair alluded to by us a week or two since. They were arraigned before U. S. Commissioner Cassidey, yesterday, but, without concluding the testimony, the Court adjourned until this morning at 10 o'clock.

The Horse Thieves.

We learn from a friend at Lumberton that the two horse thieves who stole the horses at Peacock's Store, Columbus county, on Thursday night of last week, an account of which appeared in the STAR of Saturday morning, together with an advertisement offering a liberal reward for their capture, passed through that place the same night, and took the road to Fayetteville. They were pursued by Dr. Harrell and Mr. T. J. Bulliard, of Lumberton, and captured about 20 miles beyond Fayetteville, on the Goldsboro road, carried back to Lumberton Sunday night and taken to Whiteville on Monday. They also stole Mr. V. Pitman's mule, ten miles from Lumberton, the same night, which was recovered. The pursuers had quite a frolic after the thieves in the Cohanie of Sampson.

Lady Washington Tea Party.

Augusta, Ga., had a "Lady Washington Tea Party" on Wednesday evening last, which, the *Chronicle and Sentinel* says, was a grand success. The Masonic Hall, where it was held, was properly decorated with national emblems, etc., and the attendance was very large. About a dozen States, North and South, were represented by tables handsomely decorated, profusely supplied and presided over by ladies dressed in costumes suited to the occasion. North Carolina sent specimens of all her products to grace her table on the occasion. Conspicuous among them was a tobacco plant in full growth, green and flourishing. There were also rosin, a Buncombe cabbage, dried tobacco, cotton and wheat. Over the table was a flag inscribed with the coat of arms of North Carolina. This flag was sent from Wilmington by Mr. H. N. Latham.

A Few Words About the Matter of Wood.

Much complaint is made in relation to wood brought to this market, it appearing that very little attention has latterly been paid to the requirements of the law in regard to its length, &c. For instance, our attention was called on Saturday, as evidence of the truth of what had been told us, to two or three dray loads of wood which passed in the course of about five minutes, and which we are told was a fair sample of the wood generally disposed of here. As near as we could come to the measurement, without the aid of a rule or yard stick, we should say that the most of it was not more than two and a half feet in length and that very little if any of the remainder exceeded three feet. The law governing this matter, as everybody knows, requires that each stick of wood in a load or cord shall be *four* feet in length, and that a cord shall embrace in the aggregate one hundred and twenty-eight feet. Thus a cord of wood should in its compact shape, as prepared for sale, measure four feet in height, four feet in width (across the pile) and eight feet in length. A friend who has made a calculation estimates the loss to purchasers in this city, annually, through the shortcomings alluded to, at not less in the aggregate than $30,000.

If the facts are as stated, and we have no reason to call them in question, there is need for one or more wood inspectors, who shall see that wood before it is sold is placed in stancheons adjusted to the proper measurement as to width, length and height, and that the law in other respects is strictly complied with. Such an arrangement would no doubt result in a great saving to the people at large, and to the poorer classes, particularly, would prove an important item in the curtailment of their yearly expenses.

Treasure Seekers, and What They Found.

We learn that a party of several persons who had been led to believe that money was buried at a certain point near the "Dram Tree," two miles below this city, went down there on Tuesday night and commenced a search for the supposed treasure. Their labor was rewarded by the appearance of a box, very much decayed, which, upon being opened, was found to contain the body of a man, probably a soldier who had been buried during the war in the last stages of decomposition. It is related that the party "was taken with a sudden leaving," which would seem very natural under the circumstances, but in what condition they left the remains, which fell so far short of the treasure they sought, we have not been advised.

HAVEN HAULED OVER.

Talk About Bishop Haven's Harangue—Condemned Already.

The nomination by Bishop Haven of President Grant for a third term, 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 his "third term" speech, in a letter to 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 either in the platforms or candidates of political parties.

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

In order to ascertain the opinion of the 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 Church?

Bishop—Certainly, and I should deprecate any ecclesiastical body making utterances either for or 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 invited. It was at this meeting that this thing took place. Bishop Haven certainly had no intention of pledging the 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 attendant at one of our places of worship. The Methodist denomination neither ask nor expect anything of him.

Reporter—In the event of his being nominated, do you think he would get the support of the Methodist clergy as a body?

Bishop—Not as a body, certainly. Even among ministers there is a difference 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 opposed to any of its members leading it 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 those of a minister.

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 favor of a third term for Grant.

THE ORGANS DENOUNCE IT AS FOLLY.

Here it is in a nutshell. Nobody could have said it better, and nobody of ordinary sense will be foolish enough to gainsay it. Said the Philadelphia *Press*, Republican, in a recent issue: "What the people most unmistakably will resent and punish promptly, and in every section, is ecclesiastical interference with our politics, be the hierarch Roman Catholic, Buddhist, Methodist, Pagan, Presbyterian, 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 nominate 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 defeat even should a political convention after such action be foolish enough to nominate him. Gen. Grant will probably regret the kindness of his Methodist friends, while at the same time he must lament the folly of their indiscreet zeal in his behalf."

THE SPEECH AND SCENE CRITICISED BY AN INDEPENDENT JOURNAL.

[New York Tribune.]

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 loud, 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: "There with, in the name of the American 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 scholars and venerable ministers replied, as it 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 hope it is not necessary to go into argument to show how utterly 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 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 unreasonable controversies that ever afflicted a people. * * * *

We gladly print a card from the Corresponding Secretary of the Sunday School Union and Tract Society, setting forth that these two organizations had nothing whatever to do with the invitation to Bishop Haven, the sentiments he advanced, or the vote of welcome which was tendered him. 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.

The Southern Members of the House.

[Alnata Herald.]

It is a matter of deep and earnest congratulation, that in the reorganization of the House of Representatives on a Democratic basis, the Southern members stand so foremost in public esteem, and command so large a share of National attention.

"Lucius Lamar!"—What Southerner is there, whose breast does not swell with pride, as he reads of the commanding position accorded by all hands, to this tawny little giant. The equal of Kerr and Randall in influence already, he is the superior of either in point of brains. With a spotless record, a name absolutely without reproach, a genius that is equal to any demand, and a nerve that will not fail in any emergency, he is a proper man to lead the Southern statesmen as they reassert their old-time position in the councils of the nation.

And he has a following worthy of himself. There is Proctor Knott, the brightest talker in America—a Southern SamCox, toned and tempered to higher purposes! And Goode and Faulkner and Walker, of Virginia; and Waddell, of Carolina; and Lewis and Forney and Tarl Bradford, of Alabama; Swan and Walsh, of Maryland; Reagan and Throckmorton, of Texas; and Brown, Jones and Blackburn of Kentucky. Verily, it is a goodly crowd. And then there is the staunch Georgia delegation, with its old reliable members, and its undeveloped possibilities in Hill, Felton, Smith, Hartridge and Candler. If, with these men, the South does not reestablish her intellectual sway we shall be very much mistaken.

As to who will be the leaders in the House, it is not worth while to speculate upon that. By common consent Randall, Lamar, and Wood have been named as the trinity of leadership. When this trinity is squared into a quadrangle the man who will fill it out will be Benjamin H. Hill, of Georgia.

It will be a day of triumph for Georgia, and for the Ninth Congressional District, when Ben Hill rises to make his first speech. Mark that, now.

Ben Franklin's Press.

John R. Murray, of New York, presented to the Commissioner of Patents a claim of ownership of the original Benjamin Franklin printing press, which has been for many years in possession of the Patent Office. After full examination of the documentary evidence submitted, it is found that Mr. Murray's claim is perfectly good, and the press will now be held subject to his order. It is Mr. Murray's intention to have this interesting relic of the first great American printer exhibited at the Centennial alongside of a Hoe lightning cylinder of the latest construction.