

By Telegraph

AMERICAN.

NEW YORK, 5.—At a business meeting at Plymouth Church, Brooklyn, last evening, the names of Deacon West and Mrs. Moulton were dropped from the roll of membership, on the ground of continued absence from the service of the church. Deacon West was not present, but Mrs. Moulton was, and was accompanied by her counsel, Roger A. Pryor, who read a protest signed by Mrs. Moulton, and which closed as follows—"My absence is an enforced one, and is caused by the crime of adultery committed by Henry Ward Beecher, pastor of this church, with one of his parishioners, which I know to be a fact through Beecher's confessions to me, and through the confessions of Mrs. Tilton, and through conclusive evidence of the crime from other sources. I appear before this church in loyal obedience to a summons which I have received, and I hereby declare my disposition and desire to discharge all the duties devolving on me as a member, that are consistent with the knowledge of the adultery of the pastor, and his false swearing in regard to it."

The New York and Brooklyn Association of Congregational Ministers has taken action, it is alleged, which will certainly revive the Beecher scandal: a committee of its members has been appointed and instructed to report, after a careful examination of the charges, whether the association ought to retain Beecher in membership. It was said, last evening, that Beecher would withdraw from the association rather than submit to the investigation. Plymouth Church has adopted a resolution, providing that Beecher and his deacons shall confer with Mr. Moody, and that they be authorized, if the Evangelist has no objection, to announce the first of a series of prayer meetings, daily, from next Monday morning. In the discussion of this subject one member said—"Let us show enough Christian spirit to go with the others to the meetings in the Tabernacle; let us show no desire to stand aloof from our sister churches, even though they may not be cordial towards us."

The Spanish government has sent orders to their agent in this city to buy up and ship at once provision and ammunition to the amount of five hundred thousand; the money for this purpose was contributed in Havana on the 20th ult., upon receipts of telegrams from Madrid to the effect that American intervention was feared, and that all that could be done to deter it was advisable.

WASHINGTON, 5.—The Attorney General not having been informed officially that General Babcock and Orville Grant had been indicted by the St. Louis grand jury, it is the opinion of the Cabinet officials and others here that no such indictments have been found. General Babcock, being spoken to on the subject this morning, remarked that he did not care to take any notice of the report unless it should be verified.

A telegram received this morning by the Attorney General announces that U. S. Attorney Wells, an administration candidate for Congress in Mississippi, has been elected by a majority of 9,000.

CHEYENNE, WY., 5.—The Wyoming legislature met and organized here yesterday, and after the delivery of the Governor's message adjourned till Tuesday next.

The miners at the Union Pacific Railroad's coal mines at Rock Springs, in this Territory, are on strike. There are apprehensions of riot. Governor Thayer is on the way there to address the miners.

ST. LOUIS, 5.—Major J. W. Ingalls, Indian Agent for the Cherokees and Creeks, Choctaws, Chickasaws, and Seminoles, has arrived here from Springfield, to await advices from the territory regarding the recall of the late election for chief of the Cherokees. The determination of who was elected chief rests with the national council, which met at Tahlequah last Monday, but which, at the latest accounts, had failed to organize. The two factions of the nation represented by Chas. Thompson and W. A. P. Ross, the latter the present chief, are bitterly hostile. Both claim election, and stand ready to defend themselves, and bloodshed is apprehended whichever way the election is decided, and the Down-

ing party, whose candidate was Thompson, have called upon Major Ingalls for U. S. troops to preserve the peace, and that official has referred the application to the authorities at Washington.

NEW YORK, 5.—Judge Benedict, to-day, rendered a decision on the motion to quash the criminal indictment against the firm of H. B. Claflin & Co., who were indicted for connection with the silk smuggling frauds. Judge Benedict sustained the indictment, with the exception of the fourth count.

The direct cable re-opens for business at midnight; the tariff from New York will be seventy-five cents in gold per word.

Miss Florence Tilton sent a communication to the Plymouth church committee to-night, asking for a letter of dismissal for the church.

There was considerable excitement this evening in certain circles in consequence of the rumor of the presentation to the Attorney General of papers and evidence looking to the indictment of certain officials and contractors in Brooklyn; the papers emanate from prominent taxpayers and from the Taxpayers' Association. Ex-mayor Booth said, to-night, that those who were engaged in this movement were in earnest, but at the present time he could not disclose the action, and whoever had given information in regard to the movement was guilty of a violation of confidence. The papers, he presumed, were now in the hands of the Attorney General, but whether there was sufficient evidence to take action on he could not say.

PITTSBURG, Pa., 5.—Early this morning the steamer *Tigress* No. 2, when near Osborn station, on the Alleghany river, near this city, exploded her boiler, detaching her top sheet and sending it entirely through the cabin floor and roof in front of the pilot house. The crew consisted of ten men, four of them firemen, three of which were badly scalded. The boat took fire, but the flames were soon extinguished by the crew.

SAN FRANCISCO, 5.—The president of the National Gold Bank and Trust Co. states this morning that no official action has been taken, but without question the bank will at once go into liquidation, paying the depositors and stockholders in full.

CHICAGO, 6.—The U. S. Grand Jury, yesterday, returned, into the United States circuit court, about 60 indictments, each marked a true bill, against parties charged with criminal violations of the internal revenue laws relating to whiskey; most of those implicated reside here, and many of them are prominent citizens. On the strength of these indictments bench warrants were issued and placed in the hands of the U. S. marshal, and many of them will be served to-day.

A Washington special says that the press dispatches from the west yesterday, brought the startling intelligence that the grand jury at St. Louis had found, among others, indictments against General Babcock, private secretary of the President, and Orville Grant, his brother, for complicity with the whiskey ring. The report made a genuine sensation. General Babcock, in an interview, betrayed no end of nervousness and worry about this storey. He is distressed about the matter, and says he wouldn't be surprised if indictments were found, but that the whole business is one of the blackest conspiracies that was ever formed to destroy the character of an official. He denies, as vigorously as ever did Beecher, that he has had complicity in the guilt with which he is charged, that he would not fear to be transplanted, all blooming in his prime as he is, before his God for judgment upon the case. There are many circumstances in connection with this matter which make many believe that Babcock is a stricken deer, who will never be himself again. In the first place Babcock entered the service of Grant a poor man; he is now worth upward of \$200,000, and is one of the most active partners in Boss Shepard's real estate transactions. His salary is only \$4,000 a year, and his saving such a large fortune in so short a time shows a rare economy that people cannot fail to notice. Secondly, there is not much doubt but there is a connection between the White House people and the whiskey ring thieves. The ring was organized in the interest of the administration party, and it is not unreasonable to

suppose that it had backers in high places.

PLYMOUTH, N. H., 6.—About a dozen students in Hanover College have been held in bonds to appear for trial, in March, at Haverill, on a charge of disorderly conduct at a book auction in the store of J. B. Parker, breaking the windows and furniture, and assaulting Mr. Parker and his clerk. The students were arrested while in bed, and in the morning were taken to the railroad depot, followed by 400 yelling collegians, who found the plaintiff Parker there and hustled him into the ticket office, where they kept him until the train had started for Haverill.

NEW YORK, 6.—The following named gentlemen are the committee charged with the duty, according to the resolution passed by the ministers, for thoroughly investigating the charges against Mr. Beecher, and reporting to the Congregational Association advice as to his fitness as a fellow-member—The Rev. Wm. M. Taylor, of the Broadway Tabernacle, New York; Rev. Dr. Wm. Ives Biddington, of the Clinton Avenue church, Brooklyn; Rev. Professors Parsons and Martin, of the New York Theological Seminary, and the Rev. Charles H. Everest, of the Church of the Puritans, Brooklyn. The investigation will be thorough, and will begin with a careful scrutiny of the evidence made public in and out of the trial, and then new evidence will be sought. The meetings of the committee will be in private, but the verdict will be published.

Plymouth Church has referred to a committee the charges of adultery made by Mrs. Moulton against her late pastor, the Rev. Henry Ward Beecher.

The *Sun* says, "It is not pleasant to hear that Moody and Sankey have got out an injunction to prevent another party from printing and circulating their hymns; the joining of the business of selling hymn books to that of saving souls is not seemly."

There is no probability of the disgusting revival of a public scandal in the Beecher-Tilton case growing out of the recent action of the Congregational Association referring the case to a committee; this is no new movement implying fresh doubts of the Plymouth pastor. The motion looking to an investigation was made more than a year ago, and was tabled pending the suit between Tilton and Beecher. This left the matter open on the Association record, and it came up last Wednesday as unfinished business, when an effort was made to adopt a resolution which should leave the case open indefinitely for future action. This was earnestly opposed by the Reverend Storris, who is understood to represent Beecher's friends, and finally he submitted the resolution referring the whole subject to the committee, to report at its earliest convenience, the proper action thereon, which was adopted unanimously. The province of the committee is not to investigate the relations of Beecher either to his church or Congregationalism, nor to pass upon Tilton's or other charges, but simply to determine what shall be done with the year ago resolutions looking to the investigation. Upon this point the committee is unlikely to agree in any majority report, and the probabilities favor the ultimate dismissal of the entire proceedings.

The case of Joseph Loader, indicted for perjury in connection with the Beecher scandal, came up before Judge Morris to-day, in the Brooklyn Court of sessions. Loader's counsel made a motion for an order that a commission be appointed to go to Mont Clair, New Jersey, and take the testimony, under oath, of Joseph H. Richards and his wife, to be used on the trial; the counsel said the affidavit of defendant showed that this was necessary. The motion was opposed by the district attorney and, after a short argument, the judge took the papers reserving the decision. The court denied the motion recently made to quash the indictment against Loader.

WASHINGTON, 6.—Parties interested are already memorializing for repeal of the law doubling the rates of postage on books, &c. The Postmaster General declares that the proposition to return to the former rate of postage on books and transient printed matter of the third class is heartily approved by him, and he will earnestly advise that the change be made as speedily as possible. There is no doubt that he will make a strong recommenda-

tion on this subject, and there is reason to expect that Congress will correct that legislation before the holiday adjournment, so that the old rate of one cent for two ounces may go into effect on Jan. 1st.

LISTOWEL, Ontario, 6.—A sixty-horse power boiler, in Hess Bros.' saw mill, exploded this morning, making a total wreck of the entire mill, the first story of which was built of stone. The windows of nearly every house in the town were smashed, and many stores had their fronts blown out. No lives were lost. The loss is heavy.

WASHINGTON, 6.—The Commissioner of Internal Revenue has decided that under the statutes all inventions for gauging spirits when brought into use in bonded warehouses, according to the proposition made to the department, constitute the work of rectification and purification, and those using such processes become rectifiers of spirits and are subject to taxation as such.

The ante-room of Secretary Chandler's office was pretty well filled to-day by applicants for office, mostly women; the Secretary received all courteously, but has almost invariably said—"There are, as yet, no vacancies; when there are your application will receive proper consideration." As yet the Secretary has been able to do little except to see callers and to investigate the workings of the different bureaus of the department.

A hundred guns were fired this evening by the republicans in honor of the political victories of Tuesday. A procession was formed and marched to the Executive Mansion, where the people serenaded the President, who acknowledged the compliment as follows: "Gentlemen, I am very glad to meet you on this occasion, and congratulate you on so good a cause for rejoicing to the entire country over the elections last Tuesday. While the republican majorities were not great, they were sufficient to accomplish the purpose. The rag baby has been entirely suppressed, and the people now know what kind of money they are to have in the future, and I think we have an assurance that the republicans will control this government for at least four years longer." Three cheers were then given for the President, three for hard money, and three cheers for the President's school policy. The procession then marched to the residence of the Secretary of the Navy, and it was there announced that Mr. Robeson returned thanks for the serenade. Ex-Governor Shepherd was next serenaded, and made a speech.

NEW ORLEANS, 6.—A Brownsville special says that Judge Marshall delivered an elaborate opinion in the U. S. Court, to-day, deciding that the cases of the colored soldiers of Renngold barracks, indicted for murder, could not be transferred to the federal courts under the civil rights act, as there was nothing to show that they could not receive a fair trial in the State courts and under the State laws, which do not discriminate in regard to race or color of prisoners, witnesses or jurors.

NEW YORK, 6.—The *Evening Post* says—"We understand that the result of the late competition between the cable companies is that both have agreed to charge the same rate, 75 cents in gold per word."

The Rev. Dr. Fulton, pastor of the Hanson Place Baptist Church, at a meeting of his society, said that he would not be with them next week, as he had an engagement at Granville, Ohio, for Wednesday next; he had received their letter, requesting him to withdraw his resignation, and would take the letter and request under prayerful consideration, and give his answer to-morrow prior to the closing of the meeting. Dr. Fulton said he had purchased four hundred Moody and Sankey hymn books, and put them on the seats of the chapel, but he had discovered that many of them had been taken away and he hoped that each member would leave a hymn book to supply the place of the missing ones.

ST. LOUIS, 6.—The *Globe-Democrat's* Troy, Mo., special says that Henry Reick, convicted of the murder of his wife, and Meredith Walters, convicted of the murder of Miss Colloway, a young lady who would not receive his attentions, were brought before the court to-day, and sentenced to be hanged on Friday, Dec. 31st.

Col. E. R. Chapman, head of the stamp bureau, arrived here to-day, to aid in the whiskey cases which will be tried during the next term

of the U. S. court. Col. Chapman states that the government already possesses more testimony than it is necessary to produce, especially in the cases where the parties have plead guilty. It is stated that overtures have been made in behalf of the guilty parties, offering to surrender all they possess on condition that the government will not press the criminal part of the proceedings, but the government has promptly refused to consider them.

SAN FRANCISCO, 6.—The directors of the National Gold Bank and Trust Company yesterday resolved to close up its business; liquidation can probably be effected in sixty days. The bank will pay depositors and stockholders in full.

The testimony in the case of Pinney, the defaulting clerk of naval paymaster Spaulding, has concluded and the court has adjourned to Mare Island; there is ample cause for believing that the testimony is of so damaging a character that it will necessitate the calling of a court martial.

WASHINGTON, 7.—Seaton Morris is appointed postmaster at Bingham Cañon, Salt Lake county, U. T.

The First Comptroller of the Treasury has disallowed the claim of the State of Nebraska for \$53,938, being five per cent. on the value, at \$1.25 per acre, of the estimated quantity of Indian reservations in that State.

NEW YORK, 7.—The *Liberty* of Rome states that Prince Bismarck intends to visit Rome next year, to thank the King of Italy and his ministers for their many proofs of friendship to him.

ANNAPOLIS, Md., 7.—The court-martial trial of naval cadets accused of hazing has concluded its duties, and has been discharged; as already known, two were dismissed and two permitted to remain subject to certain penalties and restrictions; the remaining case, that of Thomas Dickinson, appointed from Kentucky, was disposed of on Friday by his dismissal from the school, in accordance with the recommendation of the court. A colored cadet, Henry E. Baker, Jr., from Mississippi, has also been dismissed from the academy by the Secretary of the Navy, at the request of the superintendent of the naval school.

LEWISTON, Me., 7.—There is some excitement in Leeds, Maine, over the discovery, yesterday, of arsenic in large quantities in the family well of B. C. Thomas; fortunately it was discovered in the first pail full pumped up from the well, before any one had drunk from it. W. Keith, a neighbor, has been arrested on suspicion, he having purchased a large quantity in Lewiston last Thursday.

CHICAGO, 7.—A Washington special says that the denial of district attorney Dyer, of St. Louis, of any indictment having been found against General Babcock or Orville Grant has, in a measure, quieted the excitement on the subject. The expectation in political circles is very intense and it is believed that if the grand jury in St. Louis does its business thoroughly, the White House ring cannot escape. No one thus far accuses the President of having been cognizant of the doings of his executive underlings, and his friends say that no one implicated in the whiskey business need to look to him for any favors.

SAULT STE. MARIE, 7.—The Canadian steamer *Francis Smith* miraculously escaped foundering in Lake Superior during the severe storm of the 30th and 31st; fifty-six head of cattle were thrown overboard, and many sheep and swine were drowned on board. The cook room was demolished and the supplies were destroyed, leaving the passengers and crew without food from Friday night until Sunday night. The rudder became unmanageable, and but for the daring exertions of the officers and crew all would have perished. No lives were lost.

SAN FRANCISCO, 7.—A heavy shock of earthquake is reported in San Benito County this morning, preceded by a harsh rumbling noise; the vibrations were from east to west.

NEW YORK, 8.—The steamship *Dakota*, of the Williams and Guion line, was seized on Saturday, on complaint of passengers in the steamship *Montana*, recently disabled on the voyage from Liverpool; the owners gave bond for \$21,000 and the steamer was released.

A Troy di-patch says that the people of Saratoga county are excited over the discovery of a defalcation by Henry A. Mann, treasurer