"Non piu mesta;" that had to be repeated. She was called out a number of times, and received of course a load of flowers.

The small parts of *Thisbe* and *Clorinda* were taken by Miss Adelaide Phillipps and Signorina Lamberti. Sig. Bugamini, who has a pure, clear, firm, and trusty voice, if not a sympathetic one, was a good *Ismiro*, and the baritone Carpi an excellent *Dandini*. This gentleman was particularly successful in the execution of the florid music, and displayed abundant vivacity as an actor. Sig. Ferranti made an exceedingly amusing *Don Magnifico*, and added a great deal to the general good fortune of the evening.

To-day "La Favorita" is to be sung at the matinee, and with that the season closes.

THE WATER-COLOR EXHIBITION.

The wish has been expressed that all foreign water-colors had been excluded from the present exhibition, and the field left open for American competition alone. But, in our opinion, this would have been a serious mistake. Our artists need, not only all the healthy competition they can get, but all the help they can get from artists in other countries, working as these are on a basis of tradition, study, and experience, built up by the generations behind them. That is gained all over again as if nothing had been learned, nothing gained from the past, would be impossible for us, and surely not worth while, were it possible.

Our own regret is that there are not more works on these walls by foreign masters in the art. The best artists we have in water-colors will not only cheerfully acknowledge the excellence of such drawings as Vibert's "Satisfied Florist," No. 46; Déraille's "Cuirassier," No. 229, and Perea's "Street in Toledo," No. 266, but will acknowledge that there is much in them from which they can learn, and much that stands them to emulation. Mr. Killingworth Johnson's "The Intruders" is another example. Who, whether artist or layman, will not be delighted with this English garden, with this lush border of old-fashioned flowers, with this fair English child? It is a drawing not satisfactory as a whole, and without any particular meaning or point, but, for the beautiful way in which the flowers and the trees are painted it would be as easy to stand before it for an hour in tranquil pleasure as it would be before the rainbow wreath of flowers itself.

At the same time we cannot but express surprise that an artist so clever, not only in painting flowers and trees, but in giving expression to human faces (as we learned by his "Rival Florists"), should have left us in doubt as to the action of his principal figure in the present drawing; we find no clew to what the old gentleman is doing. Is he asleep, or thinking, or studying some object on the table before him, or only a little groggy? Surely Mr. Johnson need not have made it necessary for us to puzzle ourselves.

Viberi's "Satisfied Florist" is not only a clever piece of character painting, but it is what we also relish, a specimen of pure water-color. So far as we can discover, there is not an atom of body-color employed in it. And no one can say that it is not as brilliant and as solid as any of the works in body-color that so abound on these walls. Mr. Samuel Colman and Mr. Killingworth Johnson use body-color to such excess that in many cases it seems to have been laid on with a palette-knife. The French and Spanish artists get the same solidity with washes and blottings of pure water-color. We are of opinion that, between the two methods, there can be no doubt as to the greater probable durability of drawings in pure water-color. We know several cases where drawings in body-color have blackened and spotted, but we know no drawing in pure water-color that has suffered any greater injury than fading slightly, and that only with improper exposure to the sun. Drawings in body-color do not need exposure; they carry the principles of change and discoloration in themselves.

Mr. Perry's "A Month's Darning," No. 18, is the best of his numerous drawings here, though "The Quilting," No. 186, is also excellent in expression, if not so attractive as a subject. We are sorry that the sweet-faced girl in No. 18 should have such large-footed men-folks to darn for, for a family of such would almost be able to make a corner in yarn by their yearly demand for stockings. However, this is a mere detail; the stockings are well painted and that is enough. And what is of more importance still, the girl's head is the best part of the drawing. Another pleasant bit of work by Mr. Perry is "Anne Hathaway's Kitchen," but we wonder when we see this artist wasting his time and ours with such a lumpish boy as is in "Six and Carry One," No. 35. Even an artist so clever as Mr. Perry cannot afford to use his pawns too often.

Mr. J. C. Nicoll's large picture in the North Room, No. 60, "On the Gulf of St. Lawrence," has good drawing in it, and is not badly composed, but it is too dull and somber, which is a very different thing from being serious or grave. One doesn't object to being told that a day is going to be stormy, or that it has been stormy, but we don't like being set out in bad weather actually present, to stay there. There ought to be light; a gleam of hope, or a gleam of memory somewhere in the drawing, but in this there is no hint of either. Better and stronger is the same artist's "Clearing Off," No. 192, where he has not been competing with some of his brother artists as to "who should sling the smoothest waves," but has tried to express the bang of the breakers on the rocks, and has succeeded in getting a good deal of sound and fury.

Mr. R. Swain Gifford has much good work in this exhibition; his subjects are still rather monotonously Eastern, but he is not mannered, and does not try for stunning effects; we feel as if he gave us the look of the places. To our thinking, the best of his drawings is No. 157, "The Mouth of the Sahara Desert." This is not only agreeable in tone but there is an air of naturalness about it, and an impression that the artist has mastered his materials, made the most of his subject, and yet not made too much of it—which is not to be said of all the drawings of foreign places one sees.

Mr. Winslow Homer was more interesting as a whole with his drawings of last year. Those of this season are neither so many nor so taking. There is a tendency we hope this clever artist will not cultivate too much to choose quasi funny or fantastic subjects—his "Glimpses from a Railroad Train," No. 502, boys bathing, their bodies in shadow seen between us and the fading daylight; "A Flower for the Teacher," No. 235, a monkeyish little darky-boy with a huge sunflower; and "The Busy Bee," No. 144, another darky-boy, or the same, fighting off the bees with his straw hat. It is true that Mr. Homer's subjects are rarely anything in themselves, 'tis all in the way he treats them, but no treatment, however clever or broad, can make such subjects as these permanently interesting. We may as well remark here that it is to be hoped Mr. Abbey will not be persuaded that, in spite of all Mr. Homer's deficiencies, the time is come for him to sit on a stool at Mr. Abbey's feet, and take lessons of the younger man. The suggestion is impertinent enough, and that it should have been made in a respectable quarter is much to be regretted. Mr. Homer is easily the first man we have in figure subjects, and Mr. Abbey is a young beginner, who, though promising enough, we do not doubt, will modestly acknowledge that he would be glad to have a tithe of what Mr. Homer could teach him.

We shall always regret that Mr. Homer will not give us more finished drawings, or at any rate sketches, if he pleases, of more interesting and important subjects. But, for what he does, we are very grateful; he is rarely stupid and never dull; he loves his work and communicates his own interest to us. Let him keep his drawings away from our exhibitions and we should soon find out what we had lost.

Near Mr. Swain Gifford's drawing of the Arab Encampment, No. 157, is one of the most notable of the foreign water-colors, a small but and easily passed by, "The Soldier's Story," No. 170, by L. Adan. This little piece is thoroughly charming in design, in drawing, and, in its way, in color. Whoever has bought it has shown not only good taste, but good sense and discrimination, for the artist, a young fellow probably and not known, is sure, if he lives, to make a name. Let the reader study the action of the figures; in both it is equally good and characteristic—womanly in the woman, manly in the man; note the way in which the little scene is set before us, and then in the matter of execution, see how clearly and firmly the color is put in; how every touch tells.

We must note in passing Miss Maria R. Oakey's "Pansies," in the North Room, sweetly colored, but some portions of the work a little thin and papery; Miss Lucy A. Poë's "A Peach," a trifle to be so framed, but well and solidly painted, and true in color; Mr. A. T. Bricher's "Towing a Wreck off Salisbury Beach," No. 99, in which the breaking clouds show unexpected strength in the artist, who troubles us too often with his glassy sands, and breakers that cannot break; Miss Henrietta Granberry's "Geranium," No. 194, which shows not only close study of the flower but enjoyment of it, and which is only a little hard in execution; Mrs. A Halsey's "Oleanders," No. 556, well drawn, and pure in color. At present much of this flower-painting by ladies—Miss G. F. Eddy's "Hollyhocks," No. 492, must not be forgotten—seems rather futile, and one wonders what becomes of it all. But there are uses for such work, and all this study need not go a-begging. We shall have industrial schools in time, where people will come for decoration of furniture, for embroiderers, for illuminators, and there will have to be teachers and helpers to start these schools and keep them going. When that good day comes much of this talent that now goes to waste will find a field to work in, and it is with this hope we speak a good word for an employment that to-day seems too much like a waste of time.

PLYMOUTH CHURCH COUNCIL

Continued from Fifth Page.

gational churches, as suggested in the sixth question of the letter-missive.

Dr. Strong said the presentation of the report to the Council did not imply that all of the members of the Committee were in favor of it.

The Rev. Dr. H. M. Storrs said it was a matter of profound importance. The resolution should be read and the Council should then adjourn. The members should think it over and return to the Council after recess Letter prepared to act upon it.

The resolution was then read.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

DECISION TO INVITE DRS. STORRS AND BUDINGTON—THE LETTER OF THE ANDOVER CHURCH PROPOSING A NEW INVESTIGATION OF MR. BEECHER'S CASE REFERRED TO A SPECIAL COMMITTEE—MR. BEECHER DECLARES THAT NO DEFINITE CHARGES HAVE BEEN AVOIDED—HE IS TIRED OF THE WHOLE MASS OF FILTH—DRS. STORRS AND BUDINGTON DECLINE.

The afternoon session was opened at 2 o'clock with prayer by the Rev. Mr. Dean of Indianapolis. Mr. Tilney, the Clerk of the church, requested all delegates whose names had not been enrolled to report their presence to the Scribe, after which Dr. Strong, Chairman of the Committee on the Sixth Question of the Letter-missive, presented the following resolution as a substitute for the one he had previously presented:

Resolved, That the Council now assembled in Plymouth Church extends a cordial invitation to the Rev. R. S. Storrs, D. D., and the Rev. W. I. Budington, D. D., to come before the Council to aid us with any facts which may be within their knowledge as touching the question before the Council.

Dr. Strong said he thought the resolution should be adopted. It might be a technical question whether the subject properly came under the Sixth question, but there was a moral question which necessitated, for the sake of the effect of the Council hereafter, that those pastors be invited to come and make any statement which was germane to the questions under deliberation.

Dr. Bacon—I have been from the first and from before the first, impressed with the fitness of inviting these two brethren to appear as brethren before this Council—not to summon them as witnesses, but to invite them to come in and make any statements which they might see fit in relation to the object with which this Council has assembled. I felt gratified with the introduction of this resolution. I was in favor of it; I am in favor of it still. But I keep asking myself, Will these brethren come on that invitation? And if they don't come, will it have done any good to write them, and I ask myself is it not possible that there may be an invitation framed in such a way as to obviate any difficulties that may grow out of the invitation to them.

Dr. Parker—Have you seen the resolution as it now lies? The resolution is not the same as that which was before the Council at the close of the morning session. That was withdrawn and this one is substituted in its place.

Dr. Bacon—Well, that is nearer to what I propose, and by way of information I will read the resolution which I had thought of and talked of, and which a member of this Council has written down for me, using, with remarkable felicity as a reporter, the words which I used in conversation with them:

Resolved, That the Rev. R. S. Storrs, D. D., and the Rev. W. I. Budington, D. D., be invited to meet with this Council and with the pastor of this church, for a fraternal conference in private session.

We are here in Plymouth Church in rather a gushing mood. Those brethren are not here—they are not under the same thermometrical condition. Were they to come here this afternoon, you couldn't expect them to be thoroughly *en rapport* with this assembly. But suppose we extend to them an invitation to meet us in a free, kindly, brotherly conference after the Council is concluded. I should like, after we had finished our business, to confer with these brethren and Mr. Beecher in our private chamber.

There was considerable discussion among the members of the Council as to the propriety of inviting Dr. Storrs and Dr. Budington.

Dr. Parker thought that if these gentlemen were to be invited to appear they should be permitted to make their statements in open session, that such statements might be given to the world, as were those of Plymouth Church.

The Rev. Mr. Brown believed that if they were invited to appear, it would be a very unwise thing on the part of the Council to hear their statements in secret session. The general facts were now before the public, and what they had to say should also go there. If there was anything in the transactions of Plymouth Church, or its pastor, on account of which they should be distrusted, that was the time and that the place to ascertain it.

President Porter—Mr. Moderator, I have been necessarily absent from the Council for a little while, and since I have come in I have learned from different members of the Council very glowing and gratifying accounts of the state of feeling which prevails throughout the Council; and I should say that this Council was in an eminently Christian and religious mood. I am gratified exceedingly to come in and find the Council in this condition. But please allow me to express to the Council the impressions of a person who is from the outside—from the world outside. I am gratified exceedingly at anything and everything that can be done to make the meeting pleasant and the express impression on these brethren that the Council deals in good faith with them and with all Christian charity, and that the Council desires to know from them and from all the world beside whatever can be known bearing on this transaction. But I don't desire that this Council should put these brethren in a false position by their kindly act. If they decline, what construction might the world put on their declination? I don't object at all to any communication that we may present if it can be so presented that they may be free to decline and not suffer, at least before the Christian community.

Dr Wolcott thought it was the intention of the Committee to put the resolution in the form which Prof. Porter had suggested.

The resolution was at length adopted and Dr. Bacon, Dr. Noah Porter, and Dr. Hurlbut were selected a committee to communicate the action of the Council to Dr. Storrs and Dr. Budington.

Dr. Abbott said that many persons had inquired of him when the Council would get through and also what holidays it was contemplated to take. This subject brought out considerable discussion from the members, and a motion to adjourn to-day at 12:30 p. m. to Monday at 2 p. m. was tabled.

THE ANDOVER CHURCH LETTER.

Mr. Beecher then announced that owing to the sessions of the Council the usual prayer-meeting would not be held; after which Mr. Abbott said the Business Committee was informed that the Plymouth Church Committee was desirous of laying a further statement before the Council, and a motion to allow such action was carried.

Mr. Shearman then said that the Committee desired to have a letter laid before the Council for such advice as the Council might deem it within its province to give. The letter was addressed to the church, and delivered since the calling of the Council. Its contents had been surreptitiously printed in a newspaper, but he cast no reflections upon the gentlemen in whose charge it had been.

The following letter from the Andover Theological Seminary Church was then read to the Council:

ANDOVER, MASS., Feb. 10, 1876.

The Congregational Church in Andover Theological Seminary to Plymouth Church, Brooklyn, N. Y.

DEAR BRETHREN: In addressing you upon one of the most painful and perplexing subjects which ever stirred the sympathies of awakened the solicitude of Christian hearts, we desire, first of all, humbly to acknowledge our need, and fervently to implore the illumination of that wisdom which is from above.

As members with you of the body of Christ, and particularly as joined with you in the fellowship of the Congregational Church of the land, we feel the truth of the words, "Whether one member suffer, all the members suffer with it, or one member be honored, all the members rejoice with it." We have rejoiced in your prosperity; we have been proud of the good name and world-wide influence of your pastor. We have had unquestioning faith in his purity and Christian earnestness. We have admired his fervor and boldness in the defense of his convictions of truth. All the more, therefore, have we suffered when accusations of immorality have been made against him with a definiteness and persistency which have by degrees shaken, in the minds of multitudes not only of irreligious men, but also of many in our churches, that confidence in his integrity which once was universal.

When these charges were no more than vague aspersions we, together with other Christians, deemed them worthy only of contempt. Even long after they assumed a more definite form, it was enough and more than enough, that apparently they awakened in youth minds no misgivings, and that they were directed against one whose established reputation raised him above such assaults. No real solicitude arose until, while accusations grew bolder, he remained silent. And when at length that silence was broken, and denial uttered, relief was well nigh as instantaneous as it was instantaneous.

When, afterward, Mr. Beecher was represented as having himself acknowledged some great offense, and at his request you instituted an investigation, it was hoped that the exact and whole truth would be developed, and that in consequence every cause of suspicion would be removed. But the result of that inquiry, though powerfully reinforced by your unanimous adoption of it, failed to satisfy a large portion at least of the public, including many members of our churches, partly because the evidence against him as elicited from his own letters and conduct was unexpectedly weighty, and partly because it was believed that important witnesses had not appeared. Then followed the long legal investigation—inconclusive as respects the verdict of the jury, and unsatisfactory in that there remained in the public mind the sense of something still unexplained, and the belief that important testimony had not yet been heard.

Since the legal trial closed allusions to this unproduced evidence have abounded in the public journals. Names have been given, and without contradiction, of responsible witnesses, members of various Christian churches, who, it is affirmed, have something to say which is essential to a correct judgment in the case.

In view of this, we have looked to see you demand the most searching public investigation. We have waited to hear from you a challenge for everybody who can testify, of his or her own knowledge, anything against Mr. Beecher's integrity or purity, to come before you and bear witness. But this our reasonable hope has thus far been disappointed, and the painful impression has been produced on many minds that you desire to avoid, rather than to secure, that exhaustive examination which is needed. This impression has been deepened by the fact that when at length you have called from various parts of the land an ecclesiastical council to advise you respecting your discipline, we find no indication in the letter missive of a purpose on your part to institute that investigation which most vitally concerns your usefulness and prosperity as a church of Christ, and is absolutely essential to the vindication of the good name of your pastor. * * *

It should not be overlooked by you that Mr. Beecher is not simply a member of your church, nor even merely its appointed leader and ensample, but the most widely known and conspicuous minister of Christ in our communion. His eminence brings with it proportionate responsibility. That he should be widely and increasingly believed to be guilty of shameful crime when his innocence might be fully established, not only leaves his name exposed to ignominy, but also brings reproach on the Christian ministry and the Christian church. * * *

In view, then, of these public facts, the recognized eminence of your pastor, the confidence and gravity of the accusations made against him, the responsible character of the persons making them, the general conviction that these charges imperatively require a thorough examination, the open taunt thrown out, by the world that a gross offense exists which neither you nor your brethren of other churches are able or willing to remove, the suspicion thus awakened that our polity has no effective method of procedure in cases of such magnitude, the daily increasing aggravation of this evil by your prolonged delay to solicit a definite and exhaustive examination through the agency of an ecclesiastical council, your seeming unwillingness to admit that there is even a *prima facie* case against your pastor requiring an investigation, the dishonor which is consequently left resting upon him, and upon the cause of Christ—in view of all this, we are constrained in Christian faithfulness, and by a conviction of duty to our Congregational brotherhood and to the kingdom of Christ, to advise you of the burden of reproach which rests upon us and upon the Christian name, and which must remain so long as this great public scandal shall seem to be tolerated by a sister church.

We ask you, therefore, to unite with us in calling an ecclesiastical council empowered to make a thorough investigation of this painful case.

We propose that the council meet as soon as the preliminary arrangements can be made, in some suitable hall or church in Brooklyn, N. Y., or its vicinity; said council to be composed of representatives of not less than 12 or more than 20 churches, together with not less than six nor more than ten individuals of recognized standing in our denomination, selected one-half of you and one-half by us. Before this tribunal, let every one who knows anything respecting the charges of adultery and perjury, or anything whatever of a kindred nature against Mr. Beecher, or who can, by testifying, help in such an investigation, be invited and challenged to appear, or else forever after hold his peace.

Brethren, permit us to add that only a conviction of duty could impel us thus to address you. An emergence manifestly in which requires that some church should assume this responsibility. The duty is a plain one. We cannot hold ourselves exempt. * * *

We do not overlook the fact that your attention is at present largely occupied with other matters, but, deeming the subject which we have now presented to be of great and urgent importance, we would ask for a reply to our request at your earliest convenience.

By vote of the church this letter is signed in its name by the moderator of the meeting and by the clerk, and will be conveyed to you by a committee of the church.

JOHN E. TAYLOR, Moderator and Acting Pastor.

EDWIN C. SMITH, Clerk.

Mr. Shearman—This letter was delivered to the clerk of the church by Prof. Smyth, Mead, and Churchill.

Mr. Beecher thought the action of Andover seminary in taking was premature, and it was a question with him whether it did not violate Congregational usage and law. He would now that it be referred to the Sixth Committee with power to report.

The matter was subsequently referred to a special committee, consisting of the Rev. Dr. Bacon, Prof. Dodge, the Rev. Dr. B. Spaulding, Dr. Weltman, Dr. Samuel Wolcott, the Hon. R. R. Wood, and the Hon. J. R. Grinnell.

Mr. Lee of Cleveland wished to know why Mr. Beecher and Mr. Shearman had stood quietly and persistently ignoring a demand to reopen Mr. Beecher's case. Mr. Shearman replied that notes had accepted Mr. Wells's communication as such, he (Mr. Beecher) hoping that it had been received until the letter from the Andover Seminary Church.

NO DEFINITE CHARGES AVOIDED.

Mr. Beecher—I want to say one word on this subject. Gentlemen, you will not suspect me of any disrespect to you, but I want to put a home question to you. This church has been occupied in publishing to the world for the last three years a statement of these facts that have set you perfectly against as novel and wonderful. What are we going to do when the representatives of the morality and the intelligence of this nation won't read a word that is published of the results of the church investigation and the court investigation, but coming up after they have been published for months, yet are amazed by the simple statement of that which has been in the newspapers and the court records during all this time. Are we forced not only to forge wedges of intelligence, but use beaters to drive them into your minds? We have stood doing everything that man could do in openness, in publicness, and as far as it took any skill to assign a meeting. Out you cannot hunt a stench. You can an arrow, but a smell you can't. And because the odorous beast is going up and down the streets, casting some vapor and some odor—we can't spend the time of our life in chasing a stench; nothing more or less. Am I to run after every rat in creation? Am I to run after every weed and worm, and every venomous thing? * * *

You have a right to demand of us that we shall meet accusations when they come up responsible, sinister, courses responsibly made—that we shall meet them. But we not meet them the moment the "Bacon letter" appeared? Within the time that was necessary to bring me back from the country and back to the city, did we not manfully meet them with a call for investigation in the Church? Was not that investigation made with a proclamation to the world to bring in everything known? It was not zeal covering me, it was detection, and when the investigation had been made it was published to the world. No sooner had it been completed than we all distributed ourselves in the country for rest. When we came back I went instantly to a church court. Last term was spent for several weeks entirely on my return, and I continued for six continuous months in that court-room and every paper in the United States helped distribute the information of the facts that were then disclosed. In July or August the court adjourned and we went back in the country. We had scarcely come back again from the Summer vacation before we took the matter up again in regard to members of this church, and issued processes upon them, and this process has been that which has filled the whole time since, the newspapers and the clerical mind of the country. When has there been time and space in which we could institute anything else? Have we not been busy? Or shall we stay up all night, and turn Sunday into a judicial day, and investigate somewhat more?

MR. BEECHER WEARIED WITH VEXATIONS.

I don't know—as long as God knows and my mother, how it is. I have come to about the state of mind that I don't care for you or anybody else. [Applause.] Well, you know that is not so—you have lost your slap. I do care and I don't, and I do again and then I don't—just as it happens to feel. I am tired of you; I am tired of the world; I am tired of men that make newspapers and men that read them; I am tired of a community that has not a particle of moral reaction. I am tired of an age which will permit the newspapers to be flooded and to make themselves the common racers of filth and scandal; I am tired of a community that can read them, and read them, and read them, without revolting. I am tired of waiting for an honorable man that shall stand up and say in the name of honor and manhood: "This at least is outrageous!"

I am tired of it, and yet I am going to bear it, and I am going on preaching and I am going to preach here, and when I am silent up here I don't know where I shall preach; but I don't believe that I shall live long after I have stopped preaching. But what I want is to do God's work, and if to do it, it is necessary to have a reputation in Andover or a reputation in Chicago—if it is necessary that I should go through that course before I am to preach it may as well stop at once—I shall not have a reputation there. But my own feeling about it is this. I am intrusted with the tidings of salvation to dying men, and the first wish of my heart is not my good name nor my reputation. Dear as they are to me for my children's sake, and for the sake of my family, after all there is a name that is better to me than mine, there is a name above every other name—for my trouble has brought me very near to it and the glory of Christ. God's glory, and God's delicacy and sweetness and love were never made so apparent to me as since I have felt the need of them in other folks.

DRS. STORRS AND BUDINGTON DECLINE.

The Committee that had been appointed to confer with Dr. Storrs and Dr. Budington reported that those gentlemen had received them cordially and kindly, and had expressed respect for the Council and for the respect which the Council had shown them. At the same time both declined to make any communication to the Council.

Toward the close of the session Mr. Shearman desired to make a few remarks relative to the cases before the Council, and in the course of his address said, concerning Mrs. Tilton:

In these days of woman's rights—and all this miserable filthy scheme comes from among a set of persons who have made themselves special advocates of the rights of woman, and yet no consideration has been shown for a poor innocent woman. Who asks what her feelings may be when she is being dragged again upon the rack and placed again in torture? Who cares what imputations are thrown out again and again upon her name? Who cares how often they are printed in the newspapers, with the most damnable lies that ever came from the father of lies, and that ever will sink again to his home? Who cares for her? A woman that I am not ashamed to say that I shall ever honor, though she has faults; by whose side I shall stand as long as she lives, and for the sake of Henry Ward Beecher I will never see her rights sacrificed.

The session soon after adjourned.

EVENING SESSION.

MR. BOWEN EXAMINED AS TO THE REASONS WHY HE DID NOT APPEAR BEFORE THE PLYMOUTH INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE.

At the evening session the Hon. Nelson Dingley, the Chairman of the evening, announced Mr. Bowen in the following words:

This hour was designated by the Council for the purpose of hearing Mr. H. C. Bowen in response to the order of the Council at the forenoon session as follows:

Whereas, This Council has received a letter from Mr. Henry C. Bowen implying part at denial of the statements submitted by Mr. Winslow of the Investigating Committee.

Resolved, That Mr. Bowen be invited to be present and substantiate that denial before this Council and members of the Investigating Committee.

Under that order Mr. Bowen will be now heard.

A stir of anticipation swept over the great mass of people, and this increased as Mr. Bowen mounted the platform, drew off with some agitation his glove, and took a proffered seat in front of Mr. Raymond, one of the Examining Committee of Plymouth Church. The Chairman then said:

Under the order of the Council the inquiries are to be propounded by the Moderator of the Council, the Rev. Dr. Bacon, or by the Chairmen of the Six Special Committees. Mr. Bowen is now in order.

Dr. Bacon—It was stated here yesterday by Mr. Winslow, in giving an account of the investigation, which was held by the Investigating Committee of 1874, that in answer to a question from Dr. Warren, "Did you send for Mr. Bowen?" he said, "Not by any written summons. We sent Mr. Claflin, and the answer came that he was at Woodstock, and had nothing to say. Not that he didn't know anything, but that he would not say anything." Mr. Bowen's letter says in reply to the above, "I was twice in the city during the sessions of the Plymouth Church Investigating Committee. I never was invited to be present, nor was any hint or any intimation given that I was wanted. On the contrary, I was told by one of the Committee that I would not be called." And the first question that has been put into my hands is, "Who told you that you were not wanted by the Committee?" Will you be kind enough to relate the conversation, Mr. Bowen?

Mr. Bowen—Mr. Moderator, I don't remember of any special conversation with any one of the Committee on the subject of being present. I recollect of receiving an invitation from a member of this Committee addressed to me at Woodstock, inquiring when I would be in the city, and I believe I have already answered the question which you have put to me substantially in my communication to this Council through the Moderator.

Dr. Bacon—You say, "I was told by one of the Committee that I would not be called." Will you be kind enough to say who of the Committee that one was?

Mr. Bowen—It was Mr. Horace B. Claflin.

Dr. Bacon—Another question that has been put in my hand: "Would you have fully testified if you had been invited before the Investigating Committee in 1874?"

Mr. Bowen—I should have testified before that Committee; to what extent I am not able to say to-day or this evening, but I should have appeared before that Committee.

Dr. Bacon—Another question: "How long a notice would you have required the committee to give in 1874 before you testified? How much time would it have required for you to be able to testify?"

Mr. Bowen—I have said frequently, and that will apply to your question, that I have always held myself ready; I think I have said five minutes' notice to appear before any proper tribunal to answer according to my best judgment any questions that might be put to me.

Dr. Bacon—I am proposing questions which have been put into my mouth, and another is this: "Have you not kept the Examining Committee of Plymouth Church waiting for some weeks for you to get ready to tell what you know, and why such delay?

Mr. Bowen—I waited to find out what was wanted of me by the Examining Committee of Plymouth Church.

Dr. Bacon—Will Mr. Bowen please give his recollection of the conversation between himself and Mr. Claflin, time, place, and circumstances?

Mr. Bowen—It strikes me that I have a right to ask this Council if what I stated last night is contradicted.

Dr. Wolcott reminded Mr. Bowen that he had been called to solve artifice his own declaration.

Mr. Bowen—I again deny that I never was invited, either directly or indirectly, at any time or anywhere, by any person. The most that was said on that subject was an incidental meeting with Mr. Claflin in which he said he didn't say that I was not wanted, but that he didn't think I would be called. And now in regard to the whole matter, I have some other documents which I desire to present on the subject. I stated in my communication that I was twice in the city. I came down on both occasions on Tuesday morning, and left on Friday evening for Connecticut. On one of these occasions I didn't see any member of the Committee that I recollect of. I came in town on both of those occasions on business, but still I had leisure in the evenings and at other times, and I was at Brooklyn, and there was nothing to prevent my seeing either of those committees or attending to any of their requests providing they had been given to me. On the 21st day of August, 1874, a letter which I hold in my hand was addressed to me at Woodstock, signed by H. B. Claflin. That is the letter which invites me to see Mr. Claflin. I wrote according to my recollection the same day to Mr. Claflin, perhaps I telegraphed him. I am not quite sure on that point, but I came to New-York on the morning of the 25th, and according to my recollection I wrote to Mr. Claflin that I should be here that morning. If I didn't do so, I presume I sent a messenger to Mr. Claflin on that morning, saying that I was in town. He didn't say what he wanted; or me, but I presume that I wrote to him from Woodstock. Mr. Claflin called at my office to see me. I saw him for half an hour or more; perhaps for a less time. I am not quite sure on that point, and in order to refresh my recollection I refer now to memoranda which I took at the time, at my office, of Mr. Claflin's letter and to Mr. Wilson's letter, which was addressed to Mr. Claflin (indorsed in the letter from Claflin to Bowen), both of which I have here and put it away in my iron safe, and I didn't know that I had the memorandum to-day. I am prepared to prove the genuineness of it, the date, etc., by the Rev. Dr. Ward, who is here. This memorandum which I hold in my hand does not take the substance of all that transpired between Mr. Claflin and myself. I wrote it down, signed it, dated it, and put it into my iron safe, where it was kept until to-day. I will read you my memorandum. It is given in this way:

Aug. 25, 1874.

Mr. Claflin called on me, and said he called by request to see me. I did not ask who requested him. He wanted to know if I could not explain the Woodstock letter to Tilton so as to have it relate only to business matters and differences between me and Mr. Beecher. I said no, most emphatically. I said when I did speak I should speak the exact truth. He asked me if I would tell the truth if by that course I would crush any one. I said, "I will not willingly crush any one, but if I speak I shall speak the truth, and the truth only, and leave the results to follow as may be just. This was the substance of the interview. I took him I had kept my word with Beecher. I had held my tongue, had been friendly to Mr. Beecher, but that Mr. Beecher's friends had seemed to lose no opportunity to kick me whenever they could find a chance."

Mr. Claflin is the only person who ever said to me that he didn't think I would be called. I didn't know what meaning to attach to that, and I don't wish to interpret it at all.

* * * * * * *

Dr. Spaulding—Mr. Bowen, I wish to ask one question: You stated you had expressed a willingness on five minutes' notice to attend any proper tribunal. Was there any particular significance to be attached to that word proper?

Mr. Bowen—I meant any impartial tribunal.

Dr. Spaulding—How would you denominate this Investigating Committee?

Mr. Bowen—I had no invitation to be present, Sir, and as it was held at a private house and the doors were guarded, I didn't think it proper for me to go there and ask for an invitation. In fact, I expected to be called, and I knew that the sessions of that committee were prolonged, and I did not know at what minute I might be called on. I was in town on two occasions, and expected, as my family were informed, to receive an invitation to appear there, and not having an invitation, I did not appear there.

Dr. Spaulding—Did you regard that investigating tribunal as a proper one?

Mr. Bowen—I cannot answer that question, Sir, on this occasion.

President Storrs—Mr. Bowen says that twice he was in the city during the progress of that investigation. I would like to ask if at any other time he had any conversation with Mr. Claflin upon the subject?

Mr. Bowen—My impression is that I met him once in the street—probably in Walbot. I am not sure that when I met him that remark was made, that he did not suppose I would be call d.

Dr. Wolcott—I would like to ask Mr. Bowen whether according to his recollection, from the time of the appointment of that Committee to the close of its labors, any one of that Committee ever approached or inquired of him as to whether he would be able to throw any light upon the matters before them?

Mr. Bowen—I have no such recollection of any such questions being put to me.

Dr. Wolcott—I would like to ask whether, in the absence of any such questions, he ever volunteered to the Committee during that period, any suggestion or hint on the subject, whether he would be able to?

Mr. Bowen—I would say in reply to that that I was out of town during all the time of the sessions of that Committee, except during the six or eight days from Tues ay to Friday in those different weeks.

* * * * * * *

The Rev. Dr. Ward was then examined and made statements in corroboration of those of Mr. Bowen.

The document known as the "Tripartite Agreement" was, by request, read by Dr. Bacon. Dr. Bacon began reading the original draft which was never signed, and was interrupted and set right by Mr. Shearman.

Mr. Bowen requested that the original draft should also be read, but this was ruled out of order.

At the close of the reading, Mr. Bowen handed up a paper which Dr. Bacon read as follows:

I did not say in the tripartite covenant, as has been here said, that I knew nothing against Mr. Beecher's moral character, but only that I knew nothing which would prevent me from extending to him my most cordial friendship, confidence, and Christian fellowship. [Laughter.]

Dr. Bacon—Did you at the time you declared you knew nothing which would prevent you from extending to Mr. Beecher your full Christian confidence and fellowship, consider him as an innocent man, or as an absolutely and reformed man?

Mr. Bowen—As a penitent and reformed man.

The Council adjourned to this morning at half-past nine o'clock.

MR. BOWEN'S CASE.

THE EXAMINING COMMITTEE GIVE NO SPECIFICATIONS, BUT RENEW THE DEMAND FOR HIS TESTIMONY.

The following is a copy of the letter sent to Mr. Bowen by the Examining Committee, in answer to his demand for charges, and the questions which would be propounded to him:

BROOKLYN, Feb. 17, 1876.

Mr. HENRY C. BOWEN—SIR: The Examining Committee have directed me to say that they are acting under express instructions from the church, embraced in a resolution, a copy of which has been transmitted to you. In the judgment of the Committee, there is no ground for your assertion that you are on trial. They are making a preliminary investigation into insinuations or charges which you have made against a fellow member of the church, concerning which you have repeatedly expressed yourself ready to give the essential facts. Those facts they demand. The Committee therefore renew their request that you appear at the time and place specified in my letter of the 12th inst., for the purpose therein named.

Respectfully, S. B. HALLIDAY, Clerk.

PROF. PHELPS AND PLYMOUTH CHURCH.

Prof. Austin Phelps of Andover Theological Seminary has written as follows to *The Boston Journal*:

To the Editors of The Boston Journal.

The report in *The Journal* of this morning respecting a certain "scene" at a meeting of the "Advisory Council" in Brooklyn, makes it proper for me to say that I have addressed no letter to Mr. Beecher, or to the Plymouth Church, or to any member thereof, or to the Advisory Council, on the subject of the recent action of the church in the Andover Theological Seminary. Nor have I authorized the publication of any letter on that subject.

It is true that I have been addressed by letters of inquiry and of criticism respecting that action, to which, in the ordinary course of my private correspondence, I have replied as seemed to me truthful and wise. Probably some one of those replies has found its way to the hands of individuals in Mr. Beecher's confidence. I make this statement not because I have any opinions on the subject to conceal from those who care to know them, but in the interest of the kindly relations subsisting between me and the Seminary church, and those of my colleagues from whom I have been reluctantly compelled to dissent in this matter.

If all good men can but possess their souls in patience respecting this most painful mystery, which for the present clouds our Congregational firmament, we shall all see eye to eye in the end. AUSTIN PHELPS.

Andover, Feb. 17, 1876.

HARVARD ALUMNI DINNER.

TENTH REUNION FESTIVAL AT DELMONICO'S—LARGE ATTENDANCE OF GRADUATES—ADDRESSES BY JOSEPH H. CHOATE, PRESIDENT ELIOT, DR. BELLOWS, AND OTHERS.

The tenth annual dinner of the Harvard Club of New-York City, held last evening at Delmonico's, was largely attended by resident and other alumni of the College. Many classes were represented, the more recent graduates being present in larger numbers than those of longer standing. Two members of the Class of '29 were present—the Rev. James Freeman Clarke and Prof. Benjamin Peirce. Beside these venerable Alumni, there were present President Eliot of Harvard, Joseph H. Choate, President of the Club; the Rev. Dr. Henry W. Bellows, Dr. John O. Sone, John O. Sargent, James C. Carter, Judge Howland, United States District-Attorney Bliss, William M. Prichard, Everett P. Wheeler, Horatio Alger, jr., Henry E. Anderson, William G. Choate, John C. F. Chandler, Peter B. Olney, and the Rev. Thomas W. Bishop of Wilbraham, Mass. Between 80 and 90 Alumni were present in all. The festivities were prolonged until a late hour.

There were no regular toasts, but after the social part of the exercises were concluded the President of the Club, Joseph H. Choate, made an address, the first part of which was in his peculiarly humorous style. He has been recently elected President of the Club for the third time, and began by saying that he had told the members of the Club before the election that unless under some unforeseen circumstances, which were not likely to arise, he would not consent to run for a third term. However, he could not commend such a wanton abuse of the elective franchise. The unhappy choice, he thought, had been dictated by the difficulty experienced in finding a candidate. As in regard to a higher office there was a candidate from each state, so in this election there had been a candidate from each class. Fortunately, there had been nothing in the Constitution to prevent the reflection of an officer as many times as was thought best. He then continued:

I am convinced that our Alma Mater is more youthful, more vigorous, and more prolific than ever. The President has stated in his annual report—which I always read when preparing for this occasion—that every year it is becoming harder to get into Harvard College, harder to stay in it, and harder to get out of it. [Laughter.] I am glad that we have here two members of the Class of 1829, one of whom, in order to come here, dropped his unfinished sermon, and the other his "undistributed" problem. The older I grow the more I believe that