THE NEBRASKA HERALD.

PLATTSMOUTH, - NEBRASKA.

SUPPLEMENT.

THE BEECHER SCANDAL.

Additional Statement of Frank Moulton.

The long-promised statement of Francis D Moulton, in reply to the statement of Rev. Henry Ward Beecher, was given to the public on the 21st. It is a formidable document, comprising about twenty columns of ordinary newspaper type. The salient portions only are here given. Mr. Moulton prefaces his statement with an explanatory card in which he details the circumstances which called it forth. He had been a friend of Mr. Tilton from boyhood and had always friend of Mr. Tilton from boyhood and had always entertained for Mr. Beecher the warmest admiration. In 1870 he had learned that Mr. Beecher had given Mr. Tilton a grave cause of offense, and because he believed the revelation of the scandal would undermine the foundations of social order and blast the prospects and blight the family of one of the most brilliant men of this generation he had labored assidnously to keen it concessed and effect, a harmoniously to keep it concealed and effect a harmoni-ous settlement of all difficulties. This labor had continued for four years, and, when it had falled to accomplish what was desired, Mr. Beecher had seen fit to visit on him (Moulton) the penalty of his own wrong doing, and at the same time de-manded that he should tell what he knew, as it

would justify his attack on him.

Mr. Beecher in his statement had said that he Mr. Beecher in his statement had said that he brought this investigation without Moulton's knowledge or advice. Even while mourning what seemed to him the unwisdom of the proceedings he had done all he could to avert the catastrophe. He had denied the united and public appeals made by both Beecher and Tilton to produce the evidence in his possession, but he had stated that clearly in an emergency he should speak in defense of his own integrity if assailed. speak in defense of his own integrity, if assailed. By the published accusation of Mr. Beecher his own self-respect made it imperative that the own self-respect made it imperative that the "truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth" should be told, and he therefore gave to the public the statement he had prepared for the committee, but which, at the earnest solicitation of the friends of Mr. Beecher, he had withheld. Its publication was not in the interest of either party, but solely for his own protection against public accusations which affected himself personally. He was profoundly grieved at the necessity which seemed to compel the publication, but his grief was alleviated by the fact that the disclosure could scarcely work more harm to Mr. Beecher at the present time than it would have caused him in January. than it would have caused him in January, 1871, when, but for his interference, the public would most assuredly have been put in possession of the whole truth. The statement to the committee here follows:

Mr. Moulton, after reconnting the fact of his acquaintance with Messrs. Tilton and Beecher, and his admiration of their genius, says that up to the date of Tilton's valedictory as editor of the Independent he had been frequently a visitor at Tilton's house, and had seen himself and Mrs. Tilton under all phases of social intercents but had never phases of social intercourse, but had never heard or known of the slightest disagreement or unkindness existing between them, and believed their marifal relations were almost exceptionally

pleasant.
On the 26th of December Mc. Tilton, returning from an interview with Mr. Bowen, told him that Bowen had made certain accusations against Beecher, and had challenged Tilton to write an open letter demanding that he should cease his ministry at Plymouth Church, which Bowen was to deliver. He told Bowen that he believed his accusations against Beecher because he had made improper advances to Mrs. Tilton. He afterward learned from Mr. Beecher that Bowen had delivered to him the open letter referred to. In a day or two after Mr. Tilton informed him that when he told Bowen that he was going to call on or two after Mr. Tilton informed him that when he told Bowen that he was going to call on Beecher he came up to the office in great anger and told him that if he should say to Beecher what he (Bowen) had told him concerning his (Beecher's) adultery he would dismiss him from the Independent and the Union. Tilton told him he had never been influenced by threats, and he would not be in the present case, and subsequently received Bowen's letter of dismissal.

On the evening of the 30th of December Tilton

On the evening of the 30th of December Tilton came to him and said that by his wife's request he had determined to see Beecher, in order to show to Beecher the confession of his wife of in show to Beecher the confession of his wife of in-tercourse between them, which he (Tilton) had never up to that time mentioned to Beecher, and the fact of the confession of which his wife had told him that she had never told Beecher; that her confession had been made in the July previous in writing, which writing he (Tilton) had afterward destroyed, but that his wife, fearing that if Bowen's accusations against Beecher were made public the whole matter would be known and her own conduct with Beecher become exposed, had renewed her confession in her own handwriting, which Tilton handed to him (Moul-ton) to read. Tilton wanted him to go down and ask Beecher to come up and see him (Tilton) at Moulton's house. He went and him (Tilton) at Moulton's house. He went me said to Beecher: "Mr. Tilton wants you to come and see him at my house immediately." He asked what for. Moulton replied: "He wants to make some statement to you in reference to your relations with his family." He then called to some one in the back room to go down and say that he should not be at prayer-meeting, and Moulton and Beecher went out together. It was storming at the time, when he remarked: "There is an appropriateness in this storm," and asked Moulton, "What can I do? "What can I do?" He said: what for. Moulton replied: "He wants to make "What can I do?" What can I do?" He said:
"Mr. Beecher, I am not a Christian, but, if you
wish, I will show you how well a heathen can
serve you." They then went to Moulton's
house, and he showed him into a chamber
over the parlor, where Mr. Tilton was,
and left them together. In about an hour Mr.
Beecher came down and asked him if he had seen
the contession of Elizabeth. He said he had.
Said Beecher: "This will kill me," and asked
Moulton to go walk with him. They walked to Moniton to go walk with him. They walked to Mr. Tilton's house together. On the way he said: "This is a terrible catastrophe. It comes upon me as if struck by lightning."

said: "This is a terrible catastrophe. It comes upon me as if struck by lightning."

Beecher went into Tilton's house, and Moulton departed for his own house. Within an hour Beecher returned, and shortly after left for his home. Moulton accompanying him. When they arrived at Beecher's house he wanted Moulton to stand by him in his emergency, and procure a reconciliation, if possible. He toid him he would, because the interests of women, children and families were involved, if for no other reason. That ended the interview that night. During this evening nothing was said by Beecher as to the truth or falsity of Mrs. Tilton's confession, nor did he inform him that he had obtained from her any recantation of the confession. Moulton returned to his house and had some conversation with Tilton, in which he told him that he had recited to Beecher the details of the confession of his wife's ministeries, and the remark which Beecher made was: "This is all a dearn." his wife's adulteries, and the remark which Beecher made was: "This is all a dream, Theo-dore," and that was all the answer Beecher made to him. Moulton then advised Tilton that for the sake of his wife and family, and for the sake of Beecher's family, the matter should be kept quiet and hushed up.

and hushed up. The next morning Tilton came to his house and informed him, with great anger, that Beecher had done a mean act; that he had gone from the interview of the night before to his house and procured from Elizabeth a recantation and re-traction of her confession. He said for that act he would "smite him;" that there could be no He said: "You see that what I have told you of the meanness of that man is now evident." Tilton said that Beecher, at the interview of last night, had asked his permission to go and see Elizabeth, and he told him he go and see might go, which by Beecher himse burpose might go, which statement was confirmed by Beecher himself, and Beecher left him for that purpose. Moniton said to Titon: "Now, don't get angry; let us see if even this cannot be arranged. I will go down and get that retraction from him." In the evening Moulton visited Beecher, and told him he had done a mean and treacherous act, treacherous, first, toward him, from whom he wanted help, in that he did not tell him on the way to his house the night before what he had procured from Mrs. the night before what he had procured from Mrs.
Tilton, and that he could not expect his friendship in this matter unless he acted truthfully and honorably toward him. He further said:
"Mr. Beecher, you have had criminal intercourse with Mrs. Tilton. You have thankfulness and gratitude. ore what he had procured from Mrs.

done great injury to Tilton otherwise. Now, when you are confronted with it, you ask permission of the man to again visit his house, and you get from that woman who has confessed that you have ruined her a recantation of the that you have ruined her a recantation of the truth for your mere personal safety. That won't save you." At that interview Beecher admitted with grief and sorrow the fact of his sexual relations with Mrs. Tilton. He said that Mrs. Beecher and himself, without knowing of the confession of Mrs. Tilton to her husband, been expressing great sympathy Beecher and himself, without knowing of the confession of Mrs. Tilton to her husband, had been expressing great sympathy toward Mrs. Tilton, and taking active interest with her against her husband. Moulton said: "Mr. Beecher, I want that recantation. I have come for it." "Well." said he, "what shall I do without it?" He replied: "I don't know; I can't tell you what will happen with it." He asked: What will you do if I give it to you?" Moulton answered: "I will keep it as I keep the confession. If you act honorably I will protect it with my life as I would protect the other with my life. Mr. Tilton asked for that confession this morning, and I said 'I will never give it to you; you shall not have it from my hands until I have exhausted every effort for peace."

Mr. Beecher gave him back the paper. When he went home with the recantation he found Tilton there and showed it to him. He expressed his surprise and gratification that he should have been able to get it, and he then showed to him how very foolish it would have been in the morning to have proceeded angrily against Beecher.

how very foolish it would have been in the morning to have proceeded angrily against Beecher. He made another appeal for peace, saying that, notwithstanding the great difficulties appearing in the way, if they were properly dealt with they would be beaten out of the way. He expressed his willingness and desire for peace.

On the 1st of January, in accordance with a previous understanding, he went to Beecher's house and went into his study, where he told him again of his great surprise that Elizabeth should have made the confession of his criminal commerce with her to her husband without letting him know anything about it, making his destruction merce with her to her husband without letting him know anything about it, making his destruction at any moment possible and without warning to him. He expressed his great grief at this wrong which he had done as a minister and friend to Theodore, and, at his request, Moulton took pen and paper and Beecher dictated to him the namer known as "the applore." all of which took pen and paper and Beecher dictated to him the paper known as "the apology," all of which was in Moulton's hand-writing except the words, "I have trusted this to Moulton in confidence," and the signature, which latter were in Mr.

Mr. Moulton says this was intrusted to him in confidence, to be shown only to Tilton. It has reference to no other fact or act than the confe sion of sexual relations between Beecher and Mrs. Tilton, which he at that interview confessed. and that he had also at subsequent interviews unqualifiedly confessed that he had been guilty of adultery with Mrs. Tilton, and always in a of adultery with Mrs. Tilton, and always in a spirit of deep grief and sorrow at the enormity of the crime be had committed against Mr. Tilton's family. At such times he would speak with much feeling of the relation which he had sustained toward them as pastor, spiritual adviser and trusted friend. His self-condemnation at the ruin he had wrought under such circumstances was full and complete, and at times he was so bowed down with grief in consequence of the foal wrong he had done that he threshed to the foul wrong he had done that he threatened to put an end to his life. In that interview Beecher was very earnest in

his expressions of regret at what had been done against Tilton in relation to his business connection with Bowen, and besought Moniton to do anything he could to save him from the destruction which would come upon him if the story of his (Beecher's) intercourse with Mrs. Tilton should be displayed.

should be divulged.
In compliance with the directions of Beecher In compliance with the directions of Beecher, Jan. 1, 1871, he took the paper which Beecher had dictated to him to Tilton, detailed to him Beecher's expressions of regret and sorrow, spoke to him of his agony of mind, and again appealed to him to have the whole matter kept quiet, if for no other reason for the sake of the children. To this Tilton assented. this Tilton assented.

Mr. Mouiton then gives a full history of Tilton's claim against Bowen, of the Independent, for damages for cancellation of the contract for editorial services, and the settlement of that claim by arbitrators, resulting in the payment to Tilton of \$7,000. After the above settlement the paper known as the "tripartite agreement" was signed by Bowen and Tilton, and subsequently by

In the form in which it was first drawn it bound the parties to say nothing of any wrong done or offense committed by Beecher, and fully exonerated him therefrom. After Bowen had signed it, it was handed to Tilton to sign, and he refused. He was willing to sign an agreement never to repeat again the charges of Bowen, saying that, if for no other reason, if the matter should thereafter ever come to light, it, would appear that there had been something between Beecher and Mrs. Tilton, and it might be used as wildone to the injury of himself and family as evidence to the injury of himself and family, as well as of Beecher, and, therefore, it was not for the interest of either Tilton or Beecher to sign it in the form first proposed.

occurred to disturb the relations between Beecher, Tilton and Bowen, or either of them, until the publication in Woodhult & Cloffin's Weekly of the elaborate story concerning the social relations between Beecher, Tilton and Mrs. Tilton. After that publication appeared it again came to the knowledge of Beecher that Bowen was making declarations derogatory to his character. This was followed by the publication of the tripartite covenant, which was done by Samuel

Wilkeson. Beecher was not a party to its publication, nor knew anything about it.

Another curious compileation of the relations of the parties arose from the publication by Mrs. Woodhull of the story in her journal. It is a matter of public notoricity that Mrs. Isabella Beecher Hooker, the sister of Reacher, but expressed the Hooker, the sister of Beecher, had espoused the cause of Mrs. Woodhull on the question of woman's suffrage and had been accused still further of adopting her social tenets. Beecher's re-lations to Mrs. Tilton had been communicated to her. This had been made a subject of communi-cation from Mrs. Hooker to her brother, and, after the publication by Mrs. Woodhull, Mrs. Hooker addressed the famous letter to her brother, in which she implored him to confide the whole

Then follows the letter from Rev. Thomas K. Then follows the letter from Rev. Inomas R. Beecher to Mrs. Hooker, in which he says that he respected Mrs. Woodhull but abhorred her philosophy, and that she was only carrying out "Henry's philosophy, against which I recorded my protest twenty years ago, and parted lovingly and achingly from him, saying: 'We cannot have ly and achingly from him, saying: 'We cannot work together.' He has drifted, and I have hardened like a crystal, till I am sharp-cornered

and exacting."
Mr. Moulton saw Mr. Beecher, conversed about these letters at various times, and Beecher said he was apprehensive that his sister, in her anyhe was apprehensive that his sister, in her anxiety that he should do his duty in presenting this truth as she understood it, and in protecting Mrs. Woodhull fromthe consequences of having published the truth, from which she was then suffering, would go into his pulpit and insist on declaring that the Woodhull publication was substantially true. Moulton suggested that he should see Mrs. Hooker, speak to her kindly, and exhort her not to take this course; and that Tilton should see her, and so far shake her confidence in the truth of the story as to induce her to doubt whether she would be safe in making the statement public. In this course Beecher agreed, and such arguments and inducements were brought to bear upon Mrs. Hooker as were likely to prevent her from doing that which would have certainly brought on an exposure of the whole business. During the consultations between Beecher and Moulton the consultations between Beecher and Moulton as to the means of meeting Mrs. Hooker's inten tions, no suggestion was ever made on the part of Beecher that his sister was then, or had been at any other time, insane. Beecher was exceed-ingly anxious that Tilton should repudiate the statement published by Woodhull, and denounc-ing her for its published. ions, no suggestion was ever made on the

statement published by Woodhull, and denouncing her for its publication.

Beecher asked Moulton to say to Tilton substantially: "Theodore may for his own purpose, if he choose, say that all his misfortune has come upon him on account of his dismissal from the Union and the Independent; and on account of the offense which I committed against him he may take the position against me and Bowen that he does. Yet the fact is that his advocacy of Mrs. Woodhull and her theories has done him the injury which prevents his rising. Now, in order to get support from me and from Plymouth Church, and in order to obtain the sympathy of the whole community, he must publish a card denying the allegations of Mrs. Woodhull, and un-

the whole community, he must publish a card denying the allegations of Mrs. Woodhull, and unless he does it he cannot rise." He also said the same thing to Tilton in Moulton's presence.

To this Tilton answered, in substance, to Beecher: "You know why I sought Mrs. Woodhull's acquaintance. It was to save my family and yours, from the consequence of your sets the er: "You know why I sought Mrs. Woodhull's acquaintance. It was to save my family and yours from the consequences of your acts, the facts about which had become known to her. They have now been published, and I will not denounce that woman to save you from the consequences of what you yourself have done."

After Moulton had carried to Mr. Tilton the paper of apology which referred to Beecher's adultery, and had received assurances that all between Tilton and Beecher should be kept quiet, Moulton conveyed the information to

Mr. Moulton here states that Mrs. Morse, the mother-in-law of Mr. Tilton, who was from time to time an immate of his family in Livingston street, had, as he had been informed both by Mr. and Mrs. Tilton, learned from her daughter ested interdicted all parties from having comstreet, had, as he had been informed both by Mr. and Mrs. Tilton, learned from her daughter the criminal relationship existing between Beecher and herself, and who could not understand why that matter had been settled, and who had not been told how it had been adjusted, and who had had a most bitter quarrel with Tilton, accusing him of not having so carried his affairs as to keep what fortune he had, and who had called upon Beecher about the relations between Tilton and Mrs. Tilton, and who had, as Beecher had informed him (Moulton), filled the minds of Mrs. Beecher and himself with stories of Tilton's infidelity and improper conduct to his wife, wrote a letter to Mr. Beecher, under date of Jan. 27, 1871, in which letter Mrs. M. speaks of the suffering in Mr. Tilton's family, and especially of neglect and want endured by Mrs. T. She says:

"Neither Mrs. B., yourself, nor I can have done anything to ameliorate her condition. She has been for the inst three weeks with one very indifferent girl. T. has sent the others away, leaving my sick and distracted child to care for all four children, night and day, without fires in the furnace, or anything like comfort or nourishment in the house. She has not seen any one.

the furnace, or anything like comfort or nourishment in the house. She has not seen any one. He says 'she is mourning for her sin.' If this be so, one twenty-four hours under this sheet I think is enough to stone for a life-long sin, however heinous. I know that any change in his affairs would bring more trouble upon her, and more suffering. I did not think for a moment when I asked Mrs. B. as to your call there supposing she knew it, of course, as she moment when I asked Mrs. B. as to your call there, supposing she knew it, of course, as she said you would not go there without her. I was innocent (sic) of making any misunderstanding, if there was any. You say, keep quiet. I have all through her married life done so, and we now see our error (sic). It has brought him to destruction, made me utterly miserable, turned me from a comfortable home, and brought his own family to beggary. I don't believe, if his honest debts were paid, he would have enough to buy their to beggary. I don't believe if his honest debts were paid, he would have enough to buy their breakfast (sic). This she could endure, and thrive under, but the publicity he has given to this recent and most crushing of all trouble is what has taken the life out of her. I know of twelve persons whom he has told, and they in turn have told others. I had thought we had as much as we could live under from his neglect and ungovernable temper. But this is the death-blow to us both, and I doubt not Florence has hers. Do you know when I hear of your cracking your jokes from Sunday to Sunday, and think of the misery you have brought upon us. I think with the from Sunday to Sunday, and think of the misery you have brought upon us. I think with the Psalmist, 'There is no God.' Admitting all he says to be the invention of his half-dranken brain, still the effect upon us is the same for all. He believes it. Now he's nothing to do, he makes a target of her night and day. I am driven in this extremity to pray for her release from all suffering, by God's taking her to himself, for if there is a Heaven I know she'll go there. The last time she was in his house she said: 'Here I feel I have no home, but on the other side I know I shall be no home, but on the other side I know I shall be more welcome. Oh, my precious child, how my heart bleeds over you in thinking of your sufferfreart bleeds over you in thinking of your siner-ing. Can you do anything in the matter? Must she live in this suffering condition of mind and body, with no alleviation? Sir, you or any one else who advises her to live with him when he s doing all he can to kill her by slow torture is anything but a friend. I thought anything but a friend.

I thought
the least you could do was to put your name to a
paper to help reinstate my brother in the Custom
House. Elizabeth was as disappointed as myself. He is still without employment, with a sick
wife and five children to feed, behind with rent,
and averathing also helpful dead of the court wife self. He is still without employment, with a sick wife and five children to feed, behind with rent, and everything else behindhand. If your wife has adopted Lib (sic), or you sympathize with her. I pray you do something for her relief before it is too late. He swears so soon as her breath leaves her body he will make the whole thing public, and this prospect I think is one thing which keeps her living. I know of no other. She's without nourishment (sic) for one in her state, and in want, actual want. They would both deny it, no doubt, but it's true."

In reply to the foregoing Mr. Beecher writes a short letter which contains the following: "My course toward you hitherto should satisfy you that I have sympathized with your distress, but Mrs. Beecher and I, after full consideration, are of one mind, that, under the present circumstances, the greatest kindness to you and to all will be, in so far as we are concerned, to leave to time the rectification of all the wrongs, whether they prove real or imaginary."

Mr. Moulton says he purposely omits the name of the young girl in the expression by Miss Morse that "Tilton has sent —, with the others, away," and adds that "the reason why it was desirable she should be away from Brooklyn, as given me by Mr. and Mrs. Tilton, was this: She had overheard conversation by them concerning Mrs. Tilton's criminal intimacy with Beecher.

given me by Mr. and Mrs. Tilton, was this: She had overheard conversation by them concerning Mrs. Tilton's criminal intimacy with Beecher, and she had reported these conversations to several friends of the family. Being young, and not knowing the consequences of her prattling, it seemed proper for the safety of the two families that she should be sent to a distance to school which was according to the safety of the safety of the safety of the two families that she should be sent to a distance to school which was according to the safety of the ordingly done. She was sent to a boarding-school in the West, and the expenses of her stay there were probably paid through me by Beecher, to whom I had stated the difficulty of having the whom I had stated the difficulty of having the girl remain in Brooklyn, and he agreed with us that it was best that she should be removed, and offered to bear the cost of her schooling. The bills were sent to me from time to time as they became due, a part of them through Mrs. Tilton." Here are given two short notes in Mrs. Tilton's handwriting, signed by this girl, purporting to exonerate Mr. Tilton from any improper attempts toward the voung lady, saying that Mrs. Tilton's mother had repeatedly sought to hire her by offering money and presents to go to certain persons and tell and presents to go to certain persons and tell them stories injurious to the character of Mr. Tii-ton; that she had not, at the time of this occur-rence, thought Mr. Tilton's caresses were for any bad purpose, and that she did not want to be used by Mrs. Morse or any one else to bring trouble on her two best friends, Mr. and Mrs Tilton. She characterizes a story that Tilton had

at one time used violence toward her for a bad purpose as a "wicked lie."

Mr. Moulton says this young lady, while at school, informed a friend of Mrs. Tilton (a Mrs. P.) of the stories of the family relations, and these stories having come to the knowledge of his (Monlton's) friends, creating an impression upon their minds unfavorable to Mr. Tilton, he took their minds unfavorable to Mr. Tilton, he took pains to trace them back to the one to whom the girl had told them, and soon after received from Mr. Tilton a letter written by Mrs. Tilton to Mrs. P. in which she says: "I have mistakenly felt obliged to deceive... these two years, that my husband had made false accusations against me, which he never has to her or any one, in order that he may not appear on his defense, thus adding the terrible exposure of a lawsnit. Will adding the terrible exposure of a lawsuit. Will you implore silence on her part against any indignation which she may feel against him—for the only ray of light and hope in this midnight gloom is his entire sympathy and co-operation in

Mr. Moulton here gives a statement of account Mr. Moniton here gives a statement of account of the girl's school expenses, and says all these sums were paid by Mr. Beecher and he (Moulton) forwarded the money to settle them through Mrs. Tilton, or sent money directly to the principal of the school at her request.

Mr. Moulton says: Mr. Beecher was anxious to ascertain Mr. Tilton's feeling toward him, and to get a statement in writing that would seem to free him (Beecher) from imputation thereafter.

free him (Beecher) from imputation thereafter, and a letter is given, dated Feb. 7, 1871, from Mr. Tilton to Mr. Moulton, in which Mr. T. writes: "I say, therefore, very cheerfully that, notwith standing the great suffering he has caused Elizabeth and myself. I bear him no mailer, shall do him no wrong, shall discountenance every project, by whomsoever proposed, for any exposure of his secret to the public; and, if I know myself at all, shall endeavor to act toward Mr. Beecher as I would have him in similar circumstances. would have him in similar circumstances act to

Mr. Moulton says he had known Mrs. Tilton well and had had no suspicions of infidelity on the part of either her or her husband toward the other up to the time of the readle. the part of either her or her husband toward the other up to the time of the reading of her original confession. On the 31st of December, 1871, he received a letter from Mrs. Tilton asking that he bring to her, that they might be destroyed, her letters, the one he (Moulton) had and the one she had given Mr. Beecher at his dictation the evening before. Mr. M. did not accede to this request because "I had pledged myself to Beecher that her retraction on the one side and her confession to Tilton on the other (which are the papers she to Tilton on the other (which are the papers she refers to as 'my letter which you have and the one I gave Mr. Beecher') should not be given up. but should be held for the protection of either as against the other."

A letter is given by Mr. Moulton, written to him by Mrs. Tilton Jan. 4, 1871 (but dated b mistake 1870), in which she emphatically and in dignantly denies that she had ever sought a sep aration from her husband. The story tha aration from her husband. The story that she wanted a separation was a "deliberate falsehood carried by my poor mother, who said she would bear the responsibility of this and other statements she might make, and communi-cated to my husband's enemy, Mrs. H. W. Beech-er, and by her communicated to Mr. Bowen."

tion to the peace of the family and parties inter-ested interdicted all parties from having com-munication with each other except husband and wife, unless that communication was known to him, and the letters sent through him or shown to him. Mr. Tilton and Mr. Beecher both faithfully complied with their promise in that regard so far as he knew, but on his return from Florida in the spring of 1871 Mr. Beecher placed in his hand the following ansigned letter from Mrs. Titton, in her handwriting, undated, but marked, in his handwriting, "Received March 8:"
"WEDNESDAY. "WEDNESDAY,

"Wednesday,"
"My Dran Friend-Does your heart bound toward all as it used? So does mine. I am my-self again. I did not dare to tell you till I was sure, but the bird has sung in my heart these four weeks, and he has covenanted with me never again to leave. Spring has come * * Because I thought it would gladden you to know this, and not to trouble nor embarrass you in any way, I now write. Of course I should like to share with you my joy, but can wait for the share with you my joy, but can wait for the beyond, when, dear Frank says, I may once go to old Plymouth. I will thank the dear Father. beyond, when, dear Frank says, I may once go to old Plymouth. I will thank the dear Father.'

He did not show this letter to Mr. Tilton, or inform him of its existence. On the 21st of April, 1871, Mr. Beecher received another letter, unsigned, from Mrs. Tilton, saying: "As Mr. Moulton has returned, will you use your influence to have the papers in his possession destroyed? My heart bleeds night and day at the injustice of their existence." Mr. Moulton could not comply with this request, nor did he show this second letter to Mr. Tilton, or tall Mrs. T.'s attention to it. On the 3d of May Mr. Beecher handed him still another letter, unsigned, but in Mrs. T.'s handwriting, and reading as follows:

"Brooklyn, N. Y., May 3, 1871.

"Mr. Beechen.—My future, either for life or death, would be happier could I but feel that you forgave, while you forget me in all the sad complications of the past year. My endeavor was to entirely keep from you all suffering, to bear myself alone, leaving you forever ignorant of it. My weapons were love, a large, untilring generosity, and nest-hiding. That I failed utterly we both know, but now I ask forgiveness."

Mr. Moulton says the contents of this letter were so remarkable that "I queried within my

know, but now I ask forgiveness."

Mr. Moulton says the contents of this letter were so remarkable that "I queried within my own mind whether I ought not to show it to Tilton; but as I was assured by Beecher, and verily believed, and now believe, that they were unanswered by him. I thought it best to retain it in my own possession, as I have done until now; but from the hour of its reception what remained of faith in Mrs. Tilton's character for truth or profaith in Mrs. Tilton's character for truth or pro-priety of conduct was wholly lost, and from that time forth I had no thought or care for her repu-tation, only so far as it affected that of her chil-

Mr. Moulton having learned that Mrs. Tilton had been making declarations which were sully-ing the reputation of her husband, and giving it to be understood that her home was not a happy one, because of the want of religious sympathy between herself and husband, and sometimes speaking of her unhappiness without defining specially the cause, thus leaving for the busybodies and intermeddlers to infer causes of unhappiness which she did not state, he called upon her and cantioned her in this respect, and upon her and cantioned her in this respect, and subsequently received a letter from her dated Feb. 11, 1872, in which she says that until he had called her attention to the fact she had not seen nor felt that whenever in conversing with others to the shadowing of Theodore she became his enemy, and that it was her who had hindered the

enemy, and that it was her who had hindered the reconciliation more than any one else. She says: "I have not been equal to the great work of the past year. I have done much to cause the utter misery of those I love best—my mother, husband, Mr. B., my dear children."

After the signing of the "tripartite covenant," Mr. Tilton desired the return to him of his wife's confession, to relieve her anxiety as to its possible falling into wrong hands. Mr. Moulton gave up the document, which Mr. Tilton subsequently informed him his wife had destroyed, and she also confirmed the statement. Some time afshe also confirmed the statement. Some time af ter this Mr. Moulton learned from Mr. Beecher that Mrs. Tilton had told him that when she made her confession to her husband of her infldelity with him (Beecher) her husband had made a like confession to her of infidelities on his part with other women. Mr. Moulton never hav-ing heard Mrs. T. claim that her husband had made any such confession, although she had freely admitted her own transgressions with Mr. freely admitted her own transgressions with Mr. B., brought the matter to the attention of Mr. Tilton, who promptly denied that he had ever made any such confession, or that his wife ever claimed that he had. They then bad an interview with Mrs. Tilton, who then, in the presence of Mr. Moulton alone, acknowledged that she had told Mr. Reecher that her husband had made the alleged confession of infidelity on his part. Then, in the presence of Mr. Tilton, imediately afterward, she said she could not have understood Mr. Moulton's question relating to this matter, adding: "Because it isn't true that Theodore ever made such confession, and I didn't state it to Beecher because it is not and I didn't state it to Beecher because it is not

The next morning Mr. Moulton received the following letter from Mrs. Tilton, without date, but it was after the tripartite covenant:

"DEAR FRANCIS-I did teli vou two falsehoods at your last visit. At first I entirely misunder stood your question, thinking you had reference to the interview at your house the day before but when I intelligently replied to you I replied falsely. I will now put myself on record truthfully. I told Mr. Beecher that, at the time of my confession, T. had made similar confessions to me of himself, but no developments as to perme of himself, but no developments as to persons. When you then asked for your own satisfaction, 'Was it so?' I told my second lie. After you had left I said to T., 'You know I was obliged to lie to Frank;' and I now say, rather than make others suffer as I now do, I must lie, for it is a physical impossibility for me to tell the truth; yet I do think, Francis, had not T.'s angry, troubled face heen before me, I would have told you the truth. I am a perfect coward in his presence, not from l am a perfect coward in his presence, not from any fault of his, perhaps, but from long years of timidity. I implore you, as this is a side-issue, to be careful not to lead me into further temptation. You may show this to T, or Mr. B. or any one as an effort made for truth. Wretchedly, "ELIZABETH " (Signed)

After the publication on the 2d of November 72. in Woodhull & Claffin's Weekly of the story of Tilton's and Beecher's conduct in relation to Mrs. Tilton, Mr. Moulton was continually asked if such story was true, and he found it quite difficult in making an answer. In some cases he doubted not inquirers supposed he denied the truth of the charge, but upon that point he was very careful not directly to commit himself. Finding that his silence was working injury to the cause of the suppression of the scandal, he told Tilton that he wished to be suppressed by his Mrs. Tilton, Mr. Moulton was continually asked told Tilton that he wished to be authorized by his wife to deny it. Soon after he received a paper without date from Mrs. Tilton, in which she said "For my husband's sake and my children's, I hereby testify with all my woman's soul that I am innocent of the crime of impure conduct alleged against me. I have been to my husband a true wile in his love. I wish to live and die. My early affection for him still burns with its maiden flame, all the more for what he has borne for my fiame, all the more for what he has borne for my sake, both private and public wrongs. Having had the power to strike others, he has forborne to use it, and allowed himself to be injured in-stead. I bless him every day for his faith in me, which swerves not, and for standing my cham-

which swerves not. and for standing my champion against all my accusers."

Upon the strength of this paper he then afterward said Mrs. Tilton denied the story.

About the 16th of December, 1872, Mr. Carpenter and Dr. Storrs undertook to look up the reports with the intention of advising some public statement, or as being concerned in some investigation of the matter, and Mrs. Tilton wrote for them the name hearing that date, as follows: them the paper bearing that date, as follows:

"In July, 1870, prompted by my duty, I informed my husband that Mr. H. W. Beecher, my friend and pastor, had solicited me to be a wife to him, together with all that this implied. Six months afterward my husband felt impelled by the circumstances of a conspiracy against him, in which Mrs. Beecher had taken part, to have an interview with Mr. Beecher, in order that Mr. B. might know exactly what I had said to my husband. I wrote a brief statement, I have forgotten in what words, which my hussaid to my hashand. I wrote a brief statement, I have forgotten in what words, which my hashand showed to Mr. Beecher. Late the the same evening Mr. B. came to me, lying very sick at the time, and filled with distress, saving I had rulned him, and wanting to know if I meant to appear against him. This I certainly did not mean to do, and the thought was agonizing to me. I then sign of a paper which he wrote to clear him in case of a trial. In this instance, as in most others when absorbed by one great interest or feeling, the harmony of my mind was entirely disturbed, and I found on reflection that this paper was so drawn as to place me most unjustly against my husband and on the side of Mr. Beecher; so, in order to repair so cruel a blow to my long suffering husband, I wrote an explanation of the first paper over my signature. Mr. Moulton procured from Mr. Beecher the state-Another letter of Mrs. Tilton is also given to show that the story that she desired a separation from her husband did not emanate from her, and ment which I gave to him in my agitation and fict, and use one of us to destroy the other, if

excitement, and now holds it. This ends my con-

Bection with the case.

(Signed) ELIZABETH R. THATON.

(P. S.—This statement is made at the request of Mr. Carpenter, that it may be shown confidentially to Dr. Storrs and other friends with whom

my husband and I are consulting."

This paper was delivered to Mr. Moulton and the theory of the confession then was that Mr. and Mrs. Tilton should admit no more than the solicitation, but that endeavor to make an explanation of the business fell through, and after nation of the business fell through, and after it was shown to those interceted, as I was told, the paper remained with me. Mr. Moulton received no further communication from Mrs. Tilton until the 25th of June of this year, 1874, and that communication came to him in this wise: When Mr. Tilton showed him his (Dr. Bacon's) letter, he most strongly and earnestly advised against its publication, and said to Mr. T. in substance that while he admitted the wrong and injustice of Dr. Bacon's charge, that he (Mr. T. had lived by the magnanimity of Beecher, and that he was a dog and a knave, when he (Moulton) believed he had acted a proper and manly part in endeavoring to and a knave, when he (Moulton) believed he had acted a proper and manly part in endeavoring to shield his family, yet that its publication would so stir the public mind that an investigation would be forced upon him and Beecher in some manner, and that the truth would in all probability have to come out, or so much of it that Mrs. Tilton and Mr. Beecher would be dishonered and destroyed, and Mr. Tilton himself be subjected to the severest criticism, Mr. Tilton insisted upon the publication of the letter; the only modification ton himself be subjected to the severest criticism, Mr. Tilton insisted upon the publication of the letter; the only modification Mr. Moulton was able to get being that, whereas the letter originally read that, whereas the letter originally read that Mr. Beecher had committed against Mr. Tilton and his family a revolting crime," as published it said "an offense committed against me." Mr. Moulton secured this change in the letter in hopes that a reconciliation might yet be effected between all the parties concerned, and an exposure be thus avoided.

After giving a brief note from Mrs. Tilton, in

After giving a brief note from Mrs. Tilton, in which she asks his forgiveness for having coupled his name with Mr. Carpenter's as having advised the publication of the Bacon letter, Mr. Moulton says that having now placed before the committee his statement of facts concerning Mrs. Tilton, and documentary evidence that he had to support them, and as they are diametrically opposed to nearly all that Mrs. Tilton appears to declare in her published statement, be deems it his duty to himself and to his position in this terrible busi-ness to say that during this affair Mrs. Tilton has more than once admitted to him and to another person, whom he does not care to bring into this controversy, the fact of her infidelities with Mr. Beecher, and that she never has dealed them other than in written papers prepared for a pur-pose which he had already exhibited.

pose which he had already exhibited.

Mr. Moulton here gives a portion of the history of the connection of Mrs. Woodhull with this case after the fall of 1871. He produces a letter from Mrs. W. to Mr. Beecher, to the effect that two of his (Mr. B. 8) sisters were assailing her character, and that he (Beecher) knew that it was in her power to strike back in a very disastrons way, and demanding an interview. The interview was held, at which Mrs. Woodhull desired Mr. Beecher to preside at her meeting in Steinway Hall, and Mr. Tilton also urged him to do so. Mr. Tilton subsequently presided at the meeting, thus, as Mr. Moulton believes, preventing Mrs. Woodhull's attack on the Beecher family being made at that time.

woodnin's attack on the Beccher family being made at that time.

Dec. 30, 1871. Mrs. Woodhull sent a letter to Beccher desiring that he would speak at a Woman's Suffrage Convention in Washington, in the following month. This letter Mr. B. returned

Woman's Suffrage Convention in Washington, in the following month. This letter Mr. B. returned to Mr. Moniton with a reply and a note to Mr. Moniton in which he says: "I do not mean to speak on the platform of either of the two suffrage societies. What influence I exert I prefer to do on my own hook, and I do not mean to train with either party, and it will not be fair to press me in where I do not wish to go."

Other letters are given by Mr. Moulton from Mr. Beecher, in one of which, dated March 25, 1872, he says: "I have been doing ten men's work this winter, partly to make up loss, and partly because I live under a cloud, feeling every month that I may be doing my last work and anxious to make the most of it. When E-sau sold his birthright he found no place for repentance, though he sought it carefully with tears; but I have one ablding comfort. I have known you, and found in you one who has given a new mean ing to friendship."

A letter is also given from Mr. Tilton, writen in the fall of 1871, or thereabouts, on board of a passenger car on the Hudson River Railroad, Mrs. Beecher being also a passenger in the same car. Mr. Tilton says in the letter:

"Mrs. Beecher sits in the next seat. We are almost elbow to elbow in the palace-car. She is white-haired and looks a dozen years older than when I last had a near view of her. My heart has been full of pity for her, notwithstanding the crue! way in which she has treated my good name. Her face is written over with many volumes of human suffering. I do not think she has been aware of my presence, for she has been absorbed in thought.

If I am

has been aware of my presence, for she has been absorbed in thought.

If I am ever to be vindicated from the slander which she has circulated, or which Mr. Bowen pretends to have derived from her and Mrs. Morse, why would it not be well to get from her and Mrs. Morse a statement, under oath, by such a process as last evening—documents made easy and harmless—of the exact narrations which they made to him and to others? It would be well to have them say what they said to him.

My sullen neighbor keeps the dark and lurid past vividly before my mind. If she actually knew the conduct which her priestly husband has been guilty of I believe she would shed his blood; or, perhaps, sparing him she would wreak her wrath on Eis victim.

After the publication of the tripartite covenant

him she would wreak her wrath on his victim."
After the publication of the tripartite covenant
was made Thion deemed, from the comments
from the press, that the statement reflected upon
him and he desired that in some way Beecher
should relieve him from the imputation of having
circulated slanderous stories about him without ustification, for which he had apologized, and by advice of friends he prepared a card for Mr. Moulton to submit to Mr. Beecher for him (Mr.

Montion to shimit to Mr. Beecher for him (Mr. B.) to sign and publish in his vindication.

Mr. Beecher felt much aggrieved at this claim on him by Tilton, feeling that the matter had been all settled and adjusted, and he answered Tilton's application in this regard by letter, under date of June 1, 1873, published in ft il in Mr. Tilion's application in this regard by letter, under date of June 1, 1873, published in fell in Mr. Beecher's statement, and beginning "My Dear Frank: The whole earth is tranquil, and the heaven is serene." Meanwhile charges were preferred against Tilion for the purpose of having him dismissed from Plymouth Church. This action, which seemed to threaten the discovery of the facts in regard to the troubles between Beecher and Tilion, annoved both very much, and Mr. Moulton feared that serious difficulty would arise therefrom. Upon consultation with Beecher and Tilton, Mr. M. suggested a plan by which that investigation would be rendered unnecessary, which was in substance that a resolution should be passed by the church amending its roll, alleging that Tilton having voluntarilly withdrawn from the church some four years before, therefore, the roll should be amended by striking off his name. This course had been suggested by Mr. Tilton. In a letter to Mr. Moulton, dated Dec. 31, 1871, Mr. Beecher says to press action in the case would only serve to raise a profit-loss excitement; there were already complexities enough. He suggests that "if a letter is written it had better be very short, simply announcing the withdrawal, and, perhaps, with an expression of kind wishes, etc."

But when the meeting of the church was held for that necessed these characed these that Tilton

expression of kind wishes, etc."

But when the meeting of the church was held for that purpose, it was charged there that I'lton had slandered the pastor. Tilton took the stand, and said, in substance, that if he had uttered any slanders against Beecher he was ready to answer them, as God was his witness. Beecher thereupon stated that he had no charges to make, and the matter was dropped. But when the resolution was passed, instead of being put so as to exonerate Tilton, it was declared, in substance, that, whereas, certain charges had been made against him, and as he pleaded to those charges "non-membership," his name be dropped from the roll. This action of the church very much exasperated Tilton, who thought Beecher should have prevented such a result, and that he might have done so if he had stood by him fully and fairly as agreed. In that, however, Moulton believes Tilton was mistaken, because Mr. William F. West, who preferred the charges against Tilton, did it against the wish of Beecher and without any consultation with him. Meanwhile, through the intervention of Dr. Storrs and others, an Ecclesiastical Council had been called. The efforts of this council in attempting to disfellowship Plymonth Church were very displeasing to Beecher, and caused him much trouble, especially the action of Dr. Storrs, which he expressed to Mr. Moulton in a letter, dated March 25, 1874, in which he expressed to Mr. Moulton in a letter, dated March 25, 1874, in which he says: "I am indignant beyond expression. Storrs course has been an unspeakable outrage. After his pretended friemship for Theodore he has turned against him in the most venomous manner, and it is not sincere. His professions of faith and affection for me are hol-But when the meeting of the church was held venomous manner, and it is not sincere, professions of faith and affection for me are