

THE TWO CANDIDATES.

Certain points of contrast in the character and record of the two Presidential candidates have been effectively presented by Mr. EVARTS, and other speakers. Mr. DORSHEIMER, in his superserviceable zeal, has ventured more than once to speak contemptuously of Gov. HAYES' military career. "As a soldier," says the Tilden man-of-all-work, "he achieved no distinction." If this means that Mr. HAYES emerged from the war with some smaller glory than that of Major General, it is, of course, true. There were heroes in the conflict who never rose to the dignity of epaulettes; and it is no reflection on Mr. HAYES' courage or skill that the limit of his promotion was a Brigadier Generalship. He earned the honor honestly and wore it modestly, caring more for duty than for distinction, and prizing the devotion and love of his men even higher than the praise of his commanders. A less self-sufficient man than Mr. DORSHEIMER, however, would see the damage done to the Democratic candidate by the comparison which suggests itself when HAYES as a soldier is mentioned. At the very time the latter was qualifying himself by drill and study for service in the field, Mr. TILDEN was writing letters upholding the principle on which the rebels relied for justification. When Mr. TILDEN was standing aloof from the Union movement, and giving as much indirect aid and comfort to the enemy as he dared to do without peril to his precious life, Mr. HAYES, with his regiment, was marching into West Virginia, to begin active service by helping to drive out FLOYD and his rebel army. HAYES lay wounded on the battle-field of South Mountain about simultaneously with TILDEN's plotting in New-York in the interest of the enemy. Again, HAYES had been wounded three times, and still was under fire, when TILDEN and his copperheads were formally declaring the war a failure, and asking the North to elect McCLELLAN to end it. Pick out any eventful date in the long record of the war, and it will be found that HAYES was gallantly risking his life for the country, while TILDEN was safely picking flaws in the war policy of the Government, and disputing on constitutional grounds the authority by which war was waged. The whole story is so humiliating and discreditable to TILDEN, so honorable to HAYES, that we wonder at the fatuity which impels Mr. DORSHEIMER to speak of military science, or of Mr. HAYES in connection with it.

There are other aspects in which comparison may be instituted with equal advantage to the Republican candidate. Take, for example, the different methods by which the two men were nominated. TILDEN nominated himself, or, to state the case more precisely, his nomination was the result of his own persistent efforts. He was not simply a candidate; he was a candidate who intrigued, and spent money, and subsidized newspapers, and sent round agents, and retained delegates to force his nomination upon the convention. His plan was predicated upon his ability to control the convention. Nothing was left to its judgment, nothing to its disinterested preference. It was to be captured; that was the idea with which Mr. TILDEN's managers began their work at St. Louis. The organization they manipulated had this end in view, and nothing else. Delegates who went thither and nothing else. Delegates who went thither would be had, and that the

would follow a frank

eration of qualifications urged in behalf of the various candidates, discovered that everything had been arranged in advance—not in obedience to some hearty, popular impulse favorable to TILDEN, but by TILDEN's agents, by a free use of the money with which he had supplied them. How much he paid this man or that—what consideration had been promised in this quarter, and what in the other—we have no means of determining. The essential fact is that TILDEN spent money freely to secure the presence of delegations pledged to his support, and that his nomination was the result of influences which were as degrading to himself as to the persons through whom he operated. What, meanwhile, had been the experience of Mr. HAYES? We cannot correctly say that he had not been named as a candidate prior to the assembling of the Cincinnati Convention. He had, indeed, been talked of as combining fitness with availability. His merits had been recognized by the Reform element in the Republican Party as qualifying him for the high position which others were striving to attain. He had, too, a small body of earnest friends in his own State, whose experience had familiarized them with his sterling character and his administrative abilities. But, in the sense in which candidacy implies pretensions presented in his own behalf, he was not a candidate. He had not taken one step, nor said one word, nor given one dollar, to bring about his nomination. He was not privy to any effort in that direction on the part of his friends. The nomination was, to him, a surprise. It was unsolicited and undesired. The difference between the courses of the two candidates in this respect is, therefore, the difference between an unscrupulous pursuit of a nomination and the modest acceptance of a nomination which came unbidden.

The same difference of character and conduct has been apparent at every stage of the canvass. Mr. HAYES' letter of acceptance was prompt, unequivocal, and more pronounced in two or three important particulars than the platform on which he had been nominated. No desire to temporize, to win favor at the cost of principle, could be traced in any line of the document. It was outspoken on the financial question, outspoken on the Southern question, outspoken beyond the utterances of any other public man on the question of civil service reform. Mr. TILDEN, on the contrary, dallied and delayed until the disgust excited by his evident disingenuousness became irrepressible even among his supporters. For weeks he was engaged in the attempt to reconcile his hard-money professions with the soft-money predilections of the party behind him. The consequence is apparent in his letter, which, on the financial question, is a surrender to the inflationists and repudiators. The letter, in fact, is destitute of conviction and consistency. It is the plea of a man who has a certain part to play, and plays it in a perfunctory manner. The contrast becomes more striking when the subsequent courses of the two men are noted. Mr. TILDEN, having worked for his nomination, now wants to secure the election. He has taken the management of the Democratic canvass into his own hands, and has given himself up to it. Although still Governor of this State, and required by the duties of his office to be at Albany, he has abandoned his post of duty and has taken charge of his bureau and committee-rooms in this City. Here he remains week after week, leaving the Governorship practically vacant, and devoting to the furtherance of his own ends, the time and energy which the State pays him to employ in its service. His State officers neglect their duties in the same way. They are employed here, there, and everywhere, save at Albany, where they should be, and always doing the work of their master, the Democratic candidate. So he exemplifies his theory of civil service reform: Now in managing a party convention, the salaried officers of the State forsaking their departments to obey his orders at Saratoga; now, in sending forth, through his officials and his bureau, lying dispatches to the country press; in concocting frauds to overcome majorities of honest voters; and in getting up bogus lists of supporters among business men. In this way Mr. TILDEN, by the infamous methods he is employing in the canvass, eclipses the infamy which attached to his nomination. The shamelessness with which he intrigued and bribed to obtain the nomination is surpassed by the indecency of his active participation in the tricks and falsehoods of the campaign. And all the time Mr. HAYES is quietly discharging the duties of his office as Governor of Ohio. He accepted the nomination because it was put upon him. He wrote a letter of acceptance because a statement of his views was due to the party that had nominated him and to the country. There Mr. HAYES' electioneering ended. He remains at Columbus minding his official business. The State officials under him are not used as lackeys, running his errands hither and thither, nor as party hacks, giving effect to his commands in the direction of the canvass. The Presidential nomination sought him, and he will be carried to the White House by the force of popular confidence, made all the stronger by his non-participation in the struggle for party victory.