

THE FARMER KING.

The farmer sat in his old arm-chair,
Rosy and fair,
Contented there.
"Kate, I declare,"
He said to his wife who was sitting near,
"We need not fear
The hard times here,
Though the leaf of life is yellow and sere.
"I'm the king and you are the queen
Of this fair scene,
These fields of green
And gold between,
These cattle grazing upon the hill,
Taking their fill,
And sheep so still,
Like many held by a single will.
"These barnyard fowls are our subjects
all;
They heed the call,
And like a quail
On fast wings fall,
Whenever we scatter for them the grain;
'Tis not in vain
We live and reign,
In this our happy and calm domain.
"And whether the day be dim or fine,
In rain and shine,
These lands are mine,
And fields of thine
In cloudy shade and in sunny glow
With overflow
With crops that grow
When gold is high and when it's low.
"Unwax'd with shifting of stocks and
shares,
And bulls and bears,
Stripes and cares,
And the affairs
Of speculation in mart and street;
In this retreat
Sweet peace can meet
With plenty on her rural beat."

By Telegraph.

PER WESTERN UNION TEL. LIN

CONGRESSIONAL.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, 5.—After prayer by the Rev. Joseph Cross, of Illinois, and the reading of the journal of Dec. 20th, the Chair laid before the Senate a communication from the Secretary of War, transmitting the report of the chief of engineers in regard to the amounts appropriated for the improvement of the mouth of the Mississippi river, Fort Jackson and Fort St. Philip; ordered printed and to lie on the table; and also a communication from the Secretary of War renewing the recommendation that the military reservations at Camp Crittenden and Camp Grant, A. T., be transferred to the Interior Department for disposal under the public land laws; ordered printed and to lie on the table.

Conkling presented a petition of citizens of New York City, asking the passage of an amendment to the Constitution of the U. S., prohibiting the appropriation of money for any religious sect; referred to the judiciary committee.

In the Senate Sargent, of Cal., presented the copy of a memorial from various officers and seamen of American ships which were destroyed by the *Shenandoah*, stating that they have been absent from the country, and asking that time for filing such claims before the Alabama Court be extended; referred to the judiciary committee.

Mitchell, of Oregon, presented a memorial from the Portland, Oregon, Board of Trade, for an appropriation for the construction of a canal around the cascades of Columbia river; referred to the committee on commerce.

Sargent introduced a bill to grant the right of way for railroad purposes through the U. S. arsenal grounds, at Benicia, Cal.; referred to the committee on military affairs.

Morrill, of Vt., introduced a bill to further provide for the redemption of U. S. legal tender notes in accordance with existing laws; ordered printed and to lie on the table.

Morrill said he introduced it on his own responsibility. He presumed no senator here desired to repeal the act of last session to provide for specie resumption; his purpose in introducing this bill was to make the execution of that law. He gave notice that he would ask to submit remarks explanatory of the bill after the expiration of the morning hour to-morrow.

The chair laid before the Senate a communication from the Secretary of War, stating that since the close of the last session of Congress

the preparation of the official records of the rebellion, both Union and Confederate, had rapidly progressed, and showing the amount expended on the work, the balance on hand, etc.; referred to the committee on appropriations.

After the expiration of the morning hour the chair laid before the Senate the state rights resolutions submitted by Senator Morton.

Morton said it was the desire of his colleague, McDonald, to submit a substitute, and as that gentleman was not present and several senators desired to discuss the resolutions, he asked that they be laid over, and it was so ordered.

The Chair then laid before the Senate the unfinished business, being the resolution of Morton to authorize the appointment of a committee to investigate the circumstances attending the recent election in Mississippi, and at the request of Morton the resolution was laid over till Monday next.

HOUSE.

The House re-assembled to-day. There were but few members absent. The oath of office was administered to R. I. Riddle, of Tenn., elected to fill the unexpired term of Fite, deceased.

A large number of executive communications, accumulated during recess, were presented and referred.

The speaker then called on the committees for reports, but no committee was ready.

On motion of Morrison the House went into a committee of the whole on the State of the Union, Wheeler in the chair, and the usual resolutions distributing the President's message to the appropriate committees were offered by Morrison, and adopted.

The committee arose and reported the resolutions to the House, when Kasson called attention to the fact that among the subjects referred to the committee on ways and means were those of the redemption of U. S. notes, the partial repeal of the legal tender act and the gradual redemption of legal tender notes. Kasson suggested that as these subjects were specially within the jurisdiction of the committee on banking and currency the reference of them to the committee on ways and means would be apt to cause a clashing between the two committees.

The subject was further discussed by Townsend, of Pa., Cox and Wood, Burchard, of Ill., Kelley, of Pa., and Garfield, the point of discussion being that legislation referring to legal tenders belonged to the committee on ways and means, while that on national bank notes belonged to the committee on banking and currency. Finally resolutions were adopted giving the committee on banking and currency control of the subject of banks, banking and currency and the resumption of specie payments by national banks.

The speaker called attention to the fact that Hewitt, of the committee on public buildings and grounds, desired to be relieved from that committee because his business might often arise between his duty and his interest; the relief desired was granted, and Hewitt was placed on the committee on foreign relations, Ely exchanging.

Morrison said it was almost impossible, in distributing the President's message, to separate the subjects so that there should be no clashing between the committees, but the committee of ways and means, in preparing these resolutions, had followed precedents, and tried to keep the several committees within the line of their respective duties.

Mitchell introduced a bill extending the time for the completion of the Oregon Central railroad and telegraph line, from Portland, to Astoria and McMinnville, Oregon; referred to the committee on railroads. Also a bill for the further improvement of the Willamette river, in the State of Oregon; referred to the committee on commerce. Also a bill to provide for the construction of a military telegraph line from Fort Canby and Cape Disappointment, Washington Territory, via Ft. Stevens and Astoria, to Portland, Oregon; referred to the committee on military affairs. Also a bill providing for the removal of the Walla Walla, Cayusees and Umatilla tribes and bands of Indians on to a permanent reservation, to open to settlement the Umatilla reservation in Oregon; referred to the committee on Indian affairs.

Booth, of California, introduced a bill in relation to fruit brandy, and to punish frauds regarding the same; referred to the committee on finance.

Boutwell gave notice that on Thursday, next week, he would submit to the Senate resolutions relating to the services and public character of the late Vice President Wilson.

Sherman submitted a resolution that the commissioners of the Freedman's Savings and Trust Co., of the District of Columbia, are hereby directed to communicate to the Senate a detailed statement of the assets of said company remaining undistributed, and all the assets collected or charged in any way since the date of their report transmitted to the House of Representatives on the 14th of Dec., 1874; agreed to.

AMERICAN.

DENVER, Col., 3.—The Legislature met here to-day. The House elected Alfred Butters speaker; the council will perfect its organization to-morrow. The session will probably be short and devoid of more than local interest, as the constitutional convention is preparing a State constitution.

LEXINGTON, Ky., 3.—An explosion took place this a.m. at Hammon's steam mills, eighteen miles from the village of Leesburg, by which Andrew and Charles Hammon and a man named Driscoll were killed; Hammon's father had his leg broken. The mill is said to be totally destroyed.

PITTSBURG, 3.—The boiler of the Ashland woollen mills, at Steubenville, O., exploded with terrible force about 4 p.m., instantly killing Wm. Sutherland, engineer, and damaging the building to the extent of \$8,000.

WASHINGTON, D. C., 3.—In the case of H. W. R. Crouch, an agricultural claimant, against sundry mineral claimants, involving the title to twenty acres of land near Grass Valley, Cal., the commissioner of the General Land Office, to-day, rendered a decision, of general interest to mine owners and to agriculturists in mining regions. He holds that the land in question must be excluded from Crouch's pre-emption entry, because, although it is not mineral land, it is of little if any value for agricultural purposes, and is essential for the proper working of the deep gravel mines in that vicinity.

The following is the debt statement—Lawful money debt \$14,000,000; matured debt \$22,712,540; legal tenders \$371,893,862; certificates of deposit \$35,175,000; fractional currency \$44,147,072; coin certificates \$31,198,300; total, without interest, \$482,415,234. Total debt \$2,207,129,925; total interest \$38,819,062; cash in the treasury, coin, \$79,824,448; cash in the treasury, currency, \$11,117,344; total in the treasury \$126,116,790. Increase of the debt for December \$1,915,062; decrease of the debt since June 30th, 1875, \$8,856,531.

Though our government conceals at present from our citizens what it communicates to the European governments in regard to Cuba, it can be stated that the American circular does not propose, as a solution of the Cuban question, according to the London correspondence of the *Manchester Guardian*, that Cuba and Porto Rico be formed into a federation, with a governor-general appointed by Spain.

NEW ORLEANS, 3.—The legislature met to-day; everything passed off quietly. The House, after receiving the Governor's message, adjourned out of respect to the memory of L. H. Southard and E. L. Pierson, deceased members. Governor Kellogg's message was exceedingly elaborate. He congratulates the people on the hopeful prospects of the State, which he ascribes mainly to the fact that they are now on the threshold of the full fruition of those financial reforms urged by him, which, by the last election, by the unquestioned vote of the majority of the people, were engrafted on the constitution of the State.

BOSTON, 3.—The jury on the body of Mr. Kemp, killed by the South Boston gas explosion, rendered a verdict, this afternoon, in effect that the explosion which caused his death was from the ignition of gas in a confined space under the sidewalk; that the leakage of gas was due to gross carelessness on the part of those who had charge of the drip cocks; that the laying of the gas pipe in the manner in which it was laid was culpably de-

fective and dangerous; that the pipes on the Boston side of the bridge, being laid in the same manner, the city authorities should cause them to be relaid in such a manner as to avoid the recurrence of accident.

BOSTON, 3.—The *Evening Journal* states that the Rev. Robert Laird Collyer has accepted the call of the second church in this city, and will leave England on Jan'y 8th, entering on his duties here within a few weeks.

BROOKLYN, 3.—The prosecution of Loader and Price, for perjury in connection with the Tilton-Beecher case, was discontinued to-day, on the application of the district attorney for a *nolle prosequi*, before Judge More, in the court of sessions, the ground of the motion being that the affidavits of these persons were not made to be used in court, but simply to affect public opinion.

CINCINNATI, 3.—The large barn of the North Family of Shakers, at Lebanon, O., was burned on Saturday night, together with thirty-seven head of fine imported cattle and a full winter supply of grain and hay; loss heavy.

SPRINGFIELD, Mass., 3.—The operatives at the Blackington woollen mills, on account of ten per cent reduction, have burned the barn of the mill manager and threatened his life.

NEW YORK, 4.—Benedict Bros., the jewelers robbed a few nights ago, have made an assignment. It is said that the Benedicts have been hardly pressed by their creditors since the publication of the robbery, but S. N. Benedict says they have more than enough to pay in full. In 1870 the firm failed, and paid about thirty cents on the dollar.

The Boating Association of the American colleges began its regular session to-day. The colleges represented were Cornell, Princeton, Columbia, Union, Hamilton, Harvard, Dartmouth, Bowdoin, Amherst, Williams, Trinity, and Brown. Saratoga was selected as the place for holding the Centennial contest by a vote of 9 to 4.

ST. ALBANS, Vt., 4.—The Charley Ross sensation is still the absorbing topic, and bets of five hundred to fifty are offered that the boy is the real Charley Ross. The authorities are claimed to hold the boy until his real identification is established, and have offered to pay Mr. Ross' expenses to come and see him. A Philadelphia gentleman saw the boy to-day, and avowed that he was sure it was Charley Ross.

CHICAGO, 4.—The *Tribune's* Washington special says it is believed that, soon after the re-assembly of Congress, a resolution will be passed calling for information on the Cuban question, and that copies of the recent correspondence will then be sent to Congress; it will then probably be seen that the danger of war with Spain, if any has ever existed, has passed, and that Secretary Fish has, as on former occasions, shown his ability to deal with the most delicate diplomatic question in a manner that will meet the approval of all fair-minded persons. One of the most reassuring signs is the fact that the President continues to be guided by the advice of the Secretary of State, and there is almost universal confidence in Washington that the latter will not, while he remains in office, allow this government to unnecessarily assume an attitude that will make war necessary or probable.

The *Times* Washington special says it is announced that General Grant and Secretary Bristow have been summoned to testify in the case of Babcock at St. Louis. This was so unexpected, and indicates so unmistakably the extent to which the whiskey prosecutions have gone beyond the expectation of those who originally began them, that the partisans of the President are thoroughly alarmed, and are striving to throw legal impediments in the way. So soon as the rumor reached the street that the President would be summoned with Secretary Bristow, it was met by a counter report, that the law did not permit the President to appear, nor authorize a court to summon him as a witness. Diligent scrutiny of the authorities, however, reveals the fact that any official of the Government may be summoned to testify in cases where the Government itself is concerned. Babcock's counsel have summoned the President to testify in his behalf, and it is understood that Gen. Grant is willing to do what he can to save the perilous fortunes of his Secretary. Why Mr. Bristow should be called upon is not known. His knowledge of the whiskey raids

is confined simply to hearing the revelations of inculpated distillers, and the reports of detectives who have examined cases in this city and at the scene of operations. It is surmised that Bristow has been summoned by the United States prosecuting attorney, and that Grant has been subpoenaed on the part of Babcock's counsel, although the store, as it now stands, is to the effect that both the President and Secretary Bristow have been summoned by the counsel for Babcock.

BOSTON, 4.—George N. Biddle's carriage wheel factory, at Amesbury, was burned last night by an incendiary; a workman who endeavored to save his tools was burned to death.

HARRISBURG, 4.—The Senate was called to order by Governor Latta. E. W. Davis was chosen President *pro tem.* by twenty-eight republican votes, the democrats refusing to vote on the ground that the officer had been elected, Davis having been chosen at the end of the session of 1875. The House was called to order by Speaker Patterson, and business at once proceeded.

BUFFALO, 4.—During the temporary absence of the jailer this morning, all the male prisoners in the county jail made an attack on the janitor, who had charge of the door; he rang an alarm, however, and the jailer arrived promptly and compelled the prisoners to go into their cells.

WASHINGTON, 4.—The U. S. steamer *Supply*, now at New York, will be ordered to Civita Vecchia, where she will receive the monument to be erected here to the memory of those in the naval service who fell in the defence of the Union, and all such contributions as American artists wish to send to the Centennial Exhibition. She will then proceed for Leghorn, for contributions from artists in that section. On her way home she will touch at Tunis and Morocco. No vessel will be sent to the north of Europe to secure contributions. The *Supply*, it is expected, will return to Philadelphia early in April.

The Attorney General will press the suits entered about a year ago by Attorney General Williams, for the payment of 5 per cent. on the net earnings of the several Pacific railroads. The case against the Central Pacific will, according to his instructions, be proceeded with at once.

The Treasury Department decides that, under the law, domestic spirits cannot be transferred in bond from a bonded warehouse to a manufacturing warehouse, then to be manufactured into an article for exportation, with rebate or drawback of internal revenue tax.

Columbus Alexander and other citizens interested in the prosecution of the so-called safe burglars intend to ask the passage, by Congress, of a special statute, so that the statute of limitations will not run in this case.

Captain Brickenstein, of the wrecked steamer *Deutschland*, will demand an inquiry into the loss of that vessel.

ST. CLAIR, Mich., 4.—A fire in the store of S. Bendit & Co., destroyed stock valued at \$25,000, insurance \$7,000.

ALBANY, 4.—The legislature organized to-day, and elected Senator Robertson president of the Senate; and assemblyman Husted speaker of the House; the organization was a tedious proceeding, owing to the administration of a long anti-bribery oath to the members, each one swearing that he had not used money or other influence to secure votes.

Governor Tilden, in his message to the Legislature, advocates a continuance of reduced tolls on the canals. He says a good word for the Centennial without favoring the appropriation of any public money. He discourages the policy of building palaces for the insane, saying that few families can afford to pay so much house rent as is paid by the State for insane persons. He dwells at length on the financial condition of the country, holding that the remedy for existing evils is in a return to sound principles of government, and that prosperity must rest on the old foundations.

ERIE, Pa., 4.—The tug *J. C. Ingram* called here this morning on the way from Buffalo to Ashtabula; she stopped at Long Point last night, and reports the lake free from ice, and no impediment to navigation beyond the discontinuance of the lights in the light-houses.