



BY TELEGRAPH.

New York, Dec. 21.—The newspapers devote much space to the terrible fire and explosion in Barclay street. It is utterly impossible to form any idea of the loss of life until the ruins are cold. At this hour, 3,390, several engines are working on the debris; the fire is practically out. The Tribune says 29 of the injured are in the hospital; 21 are missing. The Sun says from 40 to 50 are probably lost, and the Times thinks the loss heavy, not more than 15. The pecuniary loss is probably under \$400,000. Chicago, Dec. 21.—The Times' Meville (N. M.) special says: Thousands of rumors are in circulation regarding the doings of Mexican bandits in El Paso county, from which it is sifted that all stores in the border towns of Socorro and Ysleta have been plundered. El Paso is threatened with the same treatment. The Texas rangers who gathered reinforcements, started yesterday to recapture the arms taken by Mexicans. It is reported the forces were encountered and a fight followed, in which Lieut. Mortimer, of the regular army, was killed, two soldiers captured, and that the invaders took a cannon from a detachment of U. S. troops. A detachment of the Mexicans then crossed the Rio Grande, whither they were followed by Texas rangers. Lively work may be expected at any hour. Gen. Hatch, with two batteries of artillery and one galling gun, has arrived at the scene of disorder. New York, Dec. 23.—A San Antonio special says: On Thursday last Lieut. Ward, in command of a detachment of United States cavalry, followed the trail of a party of Indians going out of Texas with stolen stock to the Rio Grande. Lieut. Ward notified the nearest Mexican officer, who appeared with a detachment of troops and the two commands joined in following the trail in Mexico. The joint scout was fruitless, but Mexican officers expressed a willingness to co-operate in pursuing the raiders when they crossed over into Mexico. The Dutch steamer Friesland from Java for Rotterdam has been lost, it is believed, with all hands, off Cape Finisterre. She passed Gibraltar December 5th. Wreckage has been sighted which there is little doubt came from the Friesland. The crew numbered about fifty. She had no passengers. New York, Dec. 23.—The Herald's London special says the matter of rapid transit in New York is settled. An English syndicate is to build the road, which is to be underground. Sir Edward Watkin is at the head of the movement. The money has all been raised and the company refuses to show its books. Work will begin immediately. The road is expected to cost from six to eight millions. San Francisco, Dec. 21.—A Tucson dispatch says: About 150 Indians camped near Janos, Sonora recently. Sonora troops attacked them losing 27 killed and a number wounded. Indian casualties not stated. The Indians were apparently victorious, as they subsequently stripped the country in the vicinity of Janos of stock. The Indians have been robbing trains in San Simion valley. Troops are in pursuit. Dispatches from the interior indicate that there was a general rain throughout the state during a portion of yesterday. It rained briskly in this city before daylight. Cold and cloudy weather following during the day. There has been the heaviest snow storm of the season in the mountains. Fifteen inches of snow fell at Blue Canon.

FOREIGN.

Chicago, Dec. 21.—The Times' London special says calls for the assembling of parliament have already effected infinite mischief in its influence, not only on English business and tranquility, but on the feelings of the Turks and Russians. A telegram from St. Petersburg says the moral obstacle from the seizure of Constantinople and the partition of the Turkish power in Europe. The programme of the war party is to send a British fleet to Constantinople and 20,000 men to assist in the defense of Adrianople. The occupation of the fortification of Galipolis is the first step to be taken in case of the declaration of war. Tiflis, Dec. 21.—Russians under Gen. Komaroff captured Adanabuch by assault on the 17th inst. Russian losses insignificant. Pers, Dec. 21.—The Russian concentration for an attack upon Erzeroum on the north has failed, and the attack is now improbable. Russians are suffering for provisions and forage. London, Dec. 21.—A Vienna correspondent telegraphs that although all apprehensions of seraglio conspiracies and coups d'etat at Constantinople seem to have disappeared, the least thing is sufficient to revive them. Thus the unexpected appearance of Suleiman Pasha at Constantinople with 10,000 men has given rise to the fear that something of the kind is impending, therefore it is not surprising that the sultan and his government should seek support in parliament, and make it share in the responsibility for the course to be followed. This movement of Suleiman and other reports of the withdrawal of the Turkish field forces from Rasgrad, seem to indicate that in the quadrilateral the necessary garrisons have been left to make the best defense they can; moreover that their energies will soon be taxed, for it is officially announced that Gen.

Tolstien has been appointed commander-in-chief of the Rostobuk army. This looks very much as if the siege of Rostobuk is imminent likewise. Gen. Zimmerman will probably seize the opportunity of advancing against Silistria. There is nothing as yet to indicate the destination of the army of the czarowitch; whether it is to advance on Shumia or join the force at Tirnova and thence advance across the Balkans. It will take some time before operations on a large scale will be possible, although the movement of troops near Plevna in various directions has begun. Some days must pass before the influence at work at the front is felt. London, Dec. 23.—The Saturday Review thinks it is probable the house of commons may be asked to make an extra grant for military and naval purposes, and though the period for the meeting of parliament is in some respects unfortunate it will probably admit of justification. The Spectator believes the real meaning of the summons of parliament is that Lord Beaconsfield desires to encourage the Turks to continue the struggle in the hope of ultimate British assistance and that the Turks will so interpret it; that England when it comes to the point will decline to fight for the Turks, who will at last be compelled to purchase peace by withdrawing to their natural home in Asia. Chicago, Dec. 22.—The Tribune's London special says the Servians tried St. Nicholas pass by assault on Wednesday. They have nearly wholly invested Nisch and Widdin. London, Dec. 22.—During the past twelve months ships have been constantly carrying stores to Gibraltar and Malta, where there is now a vast accumulation of war material. Orders have been received at Woolwich for the manufacture of sixteen pounder field pieces. It has also been determined that four eighty-ton guns for inflexible are to be chambered at that place. Edinburgh, Dec. 22.—The Scotsman says in influential circles considerable credit is given to the report that the government contemplates the purchase of the Porte's suzerainty over Egypt. London, Dec. 24.—A telegram from Erzeroum reports 20 battalions of Russians have been seen northeast of Erzeroum. Considerable Russian forces are also concentrated behind the Devo Boyan. St. Petersburg, Dec. 24.—The total Russian loss by war to Dec. 20th was 80,412. London, Dec. 21.—Constantinople dispatches say it is declared the port is determined to carry the war to the last extremity should the request for mediation fail. Great distress prevails among the poor of Constantinople. Prices of provisions are rising in consequence of the depreciation of the currency. Difficulties are feared if the price of bread rises higher. London, Dec. 24.—A dispatch from Athens announces M. Coumanandouris submitted bills to the chamber for nominating officers of the Mobile National Guard and immediately calling out the reserve of the regular army. Constantinople, Dec. 21.—The porte has issued a proclamation deposing Prince Milan, of Servia. Bucharest, Dec. 22.—A snow storm which commenced on the 18th in Bulgaria and Roumania, has been unusually heavy. It is feared hundreds of Turkish prisoners and Russian troops caught on the march must have perished. Of a convoy overwhelmed at Cotronea, a suburb of Bucharest, 40 horses and 20 men were frozen to death. Pera, Dec. 24.—The arrival of Suleiman Pasha in Constantinople has strengthened the war party. He counsels resistance, outrage and the grand vizier supports him. Constantinople, Dec. 24.—A dispatch via Syria says: It is reported the Russians are within an hour's march of Sophia. The heights above Kamari are now the only positions held by the Turks to defend Sophia. London, Dec. 21.—The portion of the British fleet in Besika Bay is expected to proceed to the Gulf of Kolo. A dispatch from Constantinople says the Servians attempted to carry Yatrie by assault and have been repulsed with immense loss. They were pursued by the garrison of Yavor about 5 miles. The Edinburgh chamber of commerce today agreed to memorialize the government to continue its neutrality in the present war. Only two members of the chamber were opposed to the resolution. Bucharest, Dec. 21.—It is expected the Russian headquarters will shortly be transferred from Bogot to Selvi, which is about 25 miles southwest of the former place. Grand Duke Nicholas telegraphed from Bogot to Prince Milan of Servia congratulating him upon the successful opening of the campaign by the Servians. Vienna, Dec. 21.—The insurgents in Crete have convoked the national assembly to establish a provincial government. London, Dec. 25.—A Vienna correspondent says: The commander of the Russian advanced corps has received orders to remain on the defensive until reinforced by troops from the neighborhood of Plevna. It is said 25,000 men with 70 cannon lately passed Balatz. A part of these crossed the Danube by the Ibrahim bridge, while the remainder went in the direction of Kalarrash. It is thought these reinforcements will join Gen. Zimmerman and operate against the eastern side of the quadrilateral, primarily against Silistria; while a division of grenadiers and a division of the reserve formerly before Plevna will go to Biela and join the twelfth army corps for the siege of Rostobuk. Grand Duke Nicholas will join the army operating against Sophia. The czarowitch is expected to command that destined to advance through the Balkans further east, probably through the Trojan Pass. London, Dec. 24.—Stanley, the African explorer, has arrived at Aden. The Times' special says: At a recent meet-

ing of the Paris Academy of Science a paper was read by M. de Lesseps, in which some further particulars are given of the proposed canal across the Isthmus of Darien. The line advocated by Lesseps, starting from the Pacific coast, ascends in the first place the river Tyro as far as the Island Perleque, or Alligators. From this point straight cutting 16,200 metres long connects the Tyro with the Chanuque near the point where the Tepisa flows into the latter river. The line then ascends the Chanuque for 11,400 metres; then turning to the northwest, it continues up the valley of the Tiati to a point where, for reasons of economy, it would be preferable to make a tunnel rather than continue the deep cutting. The tunnel passes to the south of the peak of Gandi under a remarkable ridge, from which on one side an arm of the Tubuacat, the Topia and Tiati flow down toward the Pacific, and on the other the Tolo and Acacul to the Atlantic. On emerging, the canal continues through an open cutting about ten kilometres long down the valleys of the Acacul and Tolo to the deep waters of Port Candi. The probable length of the tunnel is estimated at between 13 and 14 kilometres, and the cost of making the whole canal equal to 600,000,000 francs. NATIONAL GRANGE PROCEEDINGS. From the daily Grange Bulletin, published at Cincinnati, during session of National Grange, copies of which have been kindly furnished us by Hon. Wm. Cyrus, Master of Oregon State Grange who was in attendance, we get the following items: The National Grange assembled Nov. 21, and was accompanied by "many hand-shakings, joyous reunions, and welcoming of new members." Twenty-two States were represented by forty members. The address of Master Jones, of Arkansas, claims that the Order has been instrumental in cementing union between the sections and procuring a return of good feeling. Retrospect is full of encouragement in advancing the mighty reform initiated. The Order has advanced in good works while freeing itself of dead branches. It now stands, a healthy body, confident in its strength and value to the nation. Co-operation is now regarded as a science needing exposition and definition simply; it pays a common interest on the pro-rata contributions of capital, and divides a common pro-rata share in the profits, proportionate to the trade of the several members yielding that profit. The address cites success of the Rochdale plan, which the Grange has adopted, and which is spreading from ocean to ocean, providing for inter-state and international co-operation. He contrasts the agency system with this uniform system of co-operation to show that the latter possesses far the greater advantages, because interesting all in common for united action to secure its success. The constant intercourse required among members also develops business capacity. The address is largely devoted to the matter of co-operation, international as well as at home and we cannot do justice to its reasoning with the space at our command. Master Jones considers it unfortunate for the Order that any Grange business agencies should have been established until the true principles of co-operation were better understood with us. The Order has not made much progress in Europe but has been received with fortunate auspices. Deputies have been appointed for the United Kingdom, France and Germany. Cordial relations exist with the Dominion Grange of Canada, they express a strong desire to unite in carrying out the purposes of the Anglo American company. The amendment proposed to the constitution, allowing each State Grange to fix its fee for membership, has failed. In his extended acquaintance he was led to believe such amendment to be advisable. The report of the executive committee was published in a paper which never reached us. The Lecturer's report stated that only four months had been devoted to the work the past year, most of which was expended in Pennsylvania, New York and Indiana. The Grange Record has since been substituted for the work of the Lecturer. THURSDAY, NOV. 22. The Treasurer's report shows \$3,468 68 in the treasury, besides which there appears to be a fund of \$50,000 that draws 6 per cent. interest. Drafts on the treasury the past year have been, for all purposes, \$43,432 48. We find that Master Cyrus, of Oregon, is serving on several important committees, especially those of accounts, and claims and grievances. The report of Secretary Kelly, the cleventh he has made, having served from the first, is full and interesting. Alluding to the errors that have been made in changing laws too hastily, he says there is ample stability left; the Order is a fixed institution and must exert a strong and permanent influence. "It is a satisfaction to know, with all the laws and amendments that have been passed, we are gradually returning to the constitution as it was before the Georgetown session. The Order was built upon the constitution of 1872, and it cannot prosper under any other. Our members generally are being convinced that a successful secret organization cannot be run upon the great American co-operation plan. We have other successful secret societies, such as the Masonic and Odd Fellows, and it is very doubtful if we can make our institution a success by running a directly opposite course. We can profit by their years of experience, and thereby add great strength to our Order. While it was very agreeable to see our Order spread rapidly, and every effort was encouraged to make it the largest society that ever existed on this continent, and while it still holds that rank, yet we must acknowledge there was a premature growth." Alluding to the haste with which the Order was originally introduced, he says: "Now it becomes our duty to do all we can legitimately to reduce our numbers, by consolidation, reworking of charters, and soliciting the surrender of the feeble ones, until we can get in each State a suitable number of good, solid granges, and commence work fresh on a solid and permanent foundation. Propose and advocate whatever plans you please in the several States, to advance the interests of the Order, and let the National Grange cull out and adopt the best for the Order at large; but whatever you do, first reduce the number of granges, until none but strong ones are left, and by this I mean granges with halls, libraries, museums, and money in their treasuries; such will be permanent. While five thousand such great granges scattered over the United States, we will have a foundation on which to build a magnificent structure." "Where some have been reported to my office as 'dead,' the following quarter they have paid up. In over two hundred cases where charters have been received and recorded on my books, and the revolution sent to State secretaries, the next report shows the grange in good working order. Ours is a peculiar association; its membership knows no law, understands no law (possibly the laws are past comprehension), is flooded with law, and cares little about it. Those who are true Patrons at heart and belong to strong subordinate granges, are governed more by the precept in the ritual than by organic law; they need but little while those who need much law make but passable Patrons." During the year ending Sept. 30th, 165 new granges have been established in the United States. 70,000 copies of the Grange Record have been published. "It is a subject of congratulation that the National Grange has not been committed in any of the serious failures that have taken place among grange agents and grange enterprises. Strong efforts have been made repeatedly by individuals to secure the endorsement of the National Grange and Executive Committee, but fortunately we have been kept outside of all alliances, and as the Order is not, and never can be, a commercial organization, I sincerely hope you will keep aloof from all such entanglements. If you depart from such a course failures will continue to follow, and the very first will empty your treasury. Keep the Order, and build it up purely as an association of agriculturists, and never pledge a dollar in any commercial enterprise. Let the education of the masses be the great object. An intelligent and active subordinate grange will exert a powerful influence in the community where it is located. Our membership generally is composed of a class who never have been organized before; it is rough material to work with, and it will require time before they learn the necessity and advantage of being prompt. Such a body has to be educated for years before it will be ready to embark in any great enterprise, and the probability is that the rising generation now coming on the stage, the boys and girls of our farms, will be the first to really appreciate and derive the real and permanent benefits of the Order. I assure you when I look back over ten years, and see what we have attempted to accomplish, the errors we have made, the experiments that have been tried and failed, the various amendments to our constitution and laws, the chaos and confusion that has been seen, to say nothing of outside influences aimed to destroy the Order, it is a source of satisfaction to know we still have the largest secret organization in the United States. It has been most truthfully said: Let the educational and social features of the grange system be paramount to all other considerations. Let the Patrons first convince the world that their precepts and methods conduce to the improvement of rational farming, to increased crops at lessened cost, to the diffusion of modern and progressive ideas concerning the culture of the soil, to the beautifying of homes and villages, to the encouragement of that neighborly sentiment which shall make men charitable and unselfish." A public reception was given the National Grange in which the civil authorities of the city participated. Delegates were allowed 5 cents a mile traveling expenses and \$5 per diem for all time expended. SATURDAY, NOV. 24. A resolution that only Masters of the State Granges shall cast votes with National Grange, (thus making their wives only

honorary members) was voted down 35 yeas to 8 nays. Resolutions were introduced in favor of having a cabinet officer to represent the Department of Agriculture. It was resolved that the next session of the State Grange be held at Richmond, Va. MONDAY, NOV. 25. Communication from the Dominion Grange showed there exist 625 Granges in Canada. Resolution to abolish all degrees above the fifth was lost. A paper read by Samuel Adams, contained the following: "All the rational aims of our people may be accomplished, but we must remember it will take time. We should go slow; walk circumspectly; and weigh well what we say and what we do. Let us know no North, no South, no East, no West, no large States, no small States; but let us be animated solely by the desire to be a united household, laboring only to accomplish great good for all. May we so legislate that we shall be enabled to hand this Order down to future generations; the pennant's theme and the post's inspiration, challenging through countless years the jubilant praises of an emancipated people, and the plaudits of an admiring world." A resolution of Chambers of Alabama, against resumption act and the demonstating of silver, after a sharp contest, was adopted. The vote being 30 yeas against 14 noes. THURSDAY, NOV. 29. After strong debate it was passed that each State be allowed two representatives in the National Grange and one more for each 10,000 paying members, in excess of 10,000. A resolution was adopted that each State Grange shall hereafter retain \$7.50 from the entrance fee paid by each Grange newly organized. We have in the foregoing, selected the most interesting and important acts and sayings of that came to us in the National Grange proceedings, but several copies are missing, and in the list received, the Grange had not then adjourned. Words for the Season. It is not often that December visits even this favored clime with so mild a touch of winter as we have known the present month. During the shortest days of the year, when the sun hangs low in the west, the earth feels so much less impulse of light and heat upon its surface that the presence of clouds and fogs is a matter of course, but for all the days and weeks of the present month we have known but five rainy days, with no severe cold, the grass growing and the strawberry vines blooming the while over hill and plain. So far we are having a mild Winter, notwithstanding the prognostications of the weather-wise and the fears of many; the farmer plows in December the fields that were too wet in October and November, and we have every indication of a prosperous season to come. While Eastern Europe and Western Asia are surrounded with the roar of cannon and fertile fields changed to scenes of blood and carnage, our country has enjoyed all the blessings of peace, and the grace of reconciliation is replacing the bitterness of spirit that followed our own civil war. While the eastern portion of our own country has known the stringency of "hard times" and poverty and extreme hardship have fallen over many, the rich as well as the poor; and while our sister State, to the south, has been impoverished by famine, we have trod fields of plenty, lived under benignant skies, harvested the richest gifts of Ceres and Pomona, and been more prospered and favored than any other of the great American sisterhood of States; more, no doubt, than any land or people that the sun shines upon through all his journeying past the zones of earth. For all these things that bless us in the present, and for the further fact that we are so naturally favored in our western clime that we fear for the future no visitation from "war, pestilence or famine," we need to be thankful, and these entitle us more than many of our fellow mortals, to enjoy the holiday season, with each other the "Merry Christmas" and the "Happy New Year," and enter fully into the rejoicing spirit of this joyous time. Through the clouds and storms of winter few can look so surely as we upon the promise of spring-time and the certainty of harvest. While we are removed from the presence of great events and do not recognize the reality of wealth and magnificence as they exist in effete and older civilizations and more populous lands, neither does the bitter curse of poverty lay its blighting hand here as elsewhere. Therefore we can with confidence wish every reader of the FARMER a Happy New Year. Say what you will against the "heaven Chinese," but you never saw one that parted his hair in the middle.