The Farmers' Leader.

CANTON, S. D.

FARMERS' PUBLISHING CO., PUBLISHERS

DENIAL THAT AFFIRMS

FRANCO-RUSSIAN ALLIANCE AN OPEN OR SHUT AFFAIR.

An Inspired Denial From St. Petersburg Which Practically Admits All—The Entente Is Established and Can Be Made Closer if Necessary.

The St. Petersburg agent of Reuter's Telegraph company has been furnished with the following inspired denial of the report that a secret treaty has been concluded between France and Russia. In denial, it is denied that either Admiral Gervais or any other French or Russian representative has signed or concluded verbally any convention between France and Russia. It is also asserted from the same source that no conference has been held on the subject and that the well known rapprochement between France and Russia does not date from the present time; but, it is added, it was occasioned long ago by international circumstances, rather than the spontaneous desire of the powers themselves, and that it since has continued to grow closer. The statement says that the visit of the French fleet to Cronstadt and the enthusiastic reception of Frenchmen only served to solemnly confirm the good entente previously existing. The "inspired official denial" also asserts that the visit of the French fleet had the effect of ripening the entente to such a point that it can be converted into an alliance should the conduct of the enemies of France and Russia render a formal treaty necessary. It is stated, in conclusion, that the alliance has not yet been concluded nor is it in preparation either in Paris or St. Petersburg. Such proceedings, it is explained, would be superfluous and might endanger the peace of Europe. Whether the friendly relations existing between France and Russia shall retain present status or resolve into stronger and more formal agreement, depends entirely upon the governments forming the dreibund.

The Northwest Harvest.

Harvesting is well under way all over the northwest and the promise of a big yield is more than fulfilled. Wheat averages from 25 to 30 bushels to the acre, and an increased yield from the increased acreage makes 150,000,000 bushels the minimum product for the Dakotas and Minnesota. Other grains are close to wheat, oats especially turning out well. Great trouble is experienced in procuring labor to handle the immense crop, and the railroads are hard at work preparing to handle the grain. Lack of storage facilities will compel a majority of the farmers to dispose of their grain soon, and the transportation facilities will be taxed to their utmost. The weather for harvesting is all that could be desired.

Eat Potatoes and Corn.

The Russian ministry of finance announces that the yield of rye is estimated at 711,000,000 koods, but owing to the present supplies being nearly exhausted, 994,000,000 koods will be required to supply the wants of the peasants for sowing. The deficit must be supplied by potatoes and maize.

Critical Situation in China.

It is no use disguising the fact that a most serious state of affairs exists in China over the agitation against foreigners and others and the combined fleet powers may be called upon at any moment to take effective action looking to a redress for the outrages by the Chinese government.

A Question of Ink.

Dr. Hogan, an expert, was on the witness stand in the Davis will case at Butte, Mont. He testified to the age of the will from a microscopic examination. He said the will was only two years old and that the signature of Sconce, a witness, was written after the pin holes were made.

Fighting the Alliance.

Nine district judges are to be elected in Kansas this fall. In several of the districts a fusion between the old parties has been effected to defeat the candidates of the people's party, from one end of the state to the other. The fight seems to be all hands against the new party.

Water Out West.

A cloudburst occurred in the vicinity of San Bernardino, Cal. It was the heaviest at Redmonds and Craftons. At the former the water flowed through the streets for hours, flooding all the business houses and washing away several small buildings. Much damage has been done the young orchards.

May Sell the Strip.

C. A. Farga, one of the new senators of the Cherokee nation, says he will introduce a bill in the Cherokee council in November to sell the Cherokee strip and divide the proceeds among the people of the nation. It is said a large number of members of the council have promised to support the measure.

Another Alliance Plan.

The latest in the way of alliance commercial organizations are shipping associations. They form a part of the alliance plan in Kansas for managing the wheat sales without the use of agents, and the charters of three organizations have been filed with the secretary of state at Topeka.

The Exports of Bread Stuffs.

The total exports of bread stuffs from the United States during the year ended July 31, 1891, were $166,279,000, an increase of $6,645,000 over the same period last year. For the seven months ended July 31, 1891, the exports were $84,710,000, a decrease of $8,063,000 for the same period of 1890.

Lepers at Large.

Tsang Ding and Ong Moy Toy, the two Chinamen who were taken to the Charity hospital, New York City, have been declared lepers after a careful examination. The hospital authorities have released them, asserting that they have no power to hold them, and they are now at large.

A Kilkenny Time.

The South Jersey farmers had their annual outing at Penville, N. J. During the afternoon two young men quarreled and friends took up the fight, which soon became general. As a result one man was fatally injured, twenty badly hurt, and 200 received cuts and bruises.

A Powder Mill Blows Up.

A large powder mill at Central City, twelve miles from Cattlettsburg, Ky., was blown up by the accidental discharge of powder. The explosion was in the glazing mill, a building which was twenty-five feet square and two stories high. There were about two tons of powder in it. John Bayless and Timothy Cooney were in the building at the time it was blown to pieces. Two buckets full is all that can be found of their bodies. George Wells, who was in a house 300 yards away, had his skull fractured by a fragment of iron which flew through the window and will die. Three workmen in the big mill 400 yards away were severely injured by the flying fragments of the demolished building.

EUROPE IN A TURMOIL.

A Bread Famine Looms Up in Alarming Proportions.

At a meeting of millers in Germany it was decided to send a telegram to Chancellor von Caprivi asking him to abolish the corn duties, saying that otherwise the Russian ukase would likely ruin the mill industry and throw thousands of hands out of employment. The *Vossische Zeitung* demands free entry for all provisions, tea, coffee and petroleum, and urges the abolition of the prohibition of American foods and the reduction of freight rates. So far the chancellor seems to be unmoved and the ministers support him. The grain market at Berlin still shows an upward tendency. The price of rye for August delivery has advanced 8 marks and is now strong at 249 marks. September and October delivery has advanced 4 marks, and is now at 232 marks 50 pfennige. August wheat has advanced 3 marks and is now at 229 marks 50 pfennige. September and October delivery is now at 225 marks 50 pfennige. Rye has risen 8 shillings in Amsterdam, and both there and in Berlin it is decidedly dearer than wheat. America is known to be unable to supply the loss of rye shut off from export by Russia's ukase. It will have to be replaced by wheat. Much now depends upon the next fortnight's weather. Alarm is already felt in Europe owing to the report that the American farmers are mortgaging their cropr in order to hold the wheat back.

EUROPE EXCITED.

A Russian Ukase Forbidding the Export of Rye Comes as a Surprise.

The ukase forbidding the export from Russia of rye and rye meal of every kind and brand, which was published in the official journal at St. Petersburg, created an enormous sensation in Berlin and London. The ukase came as a complete surprise to the dealers in grain in Europe. The influence of this action on the part of the Russian government was immediately felt on the bourse in Berlin. The effect was to generally depress prices, although values did not fall as low as it was expected they would, as many leading brokers received secret advices as to the probable promulgation of decrees. One effect of the ukase has been to raise the price of rye to almost the price of wheat. Chancellor von Caprivi is deaf to all appeals made to him to remove grain duties. The Russian measure will not be fully felt for several days. Rye imported by Germany from Russia cannot be replaced by that of any other country. A further and rapid increase in the price of bread stuffs must be expected. This will greatly strengthen the agitation conducted by the leaders of the friesinninge party and promises to augment the opposition to the Von Caprivi government. Russian finances will also suffer from the prohibition.

THE BOND SCHEME A FAILURE.

But Few Will be Continued at 2 Per Cent. From Present Outlook.

Inquiry at the treasury department develops the fact that Secretary Foster's plan for continuing the 4½ per cent. bonds at 2 per cent. has so far failed to meet with the favor anticipated by its advocates. Up to date $185,000 worth has been continued, but others aggregating $23,000,000 must be presented on or before September 2, or the secretary must be prepared to redeem them on presentation or make terms with the holders for an extension of time at the present rate of interest, 4½ per cent. The available cash balance outside of the fractional silver and deposits in the national banks, is $13,500,000, and is gradually increasing. While there is no question of the government's ability to redeem the bonds, it is well known that it would prefer to continue them. There is no doubt that the $8,000,000 held by the banks will be continued; the uncertainty is in regard to the $15,000,000 in the hands of individuals.

Kennan's Writings in Europe.

The articles on Siberia from the pen of George Kennan have meet with a remarkable reception in Europe. Authorized translations into French, Danish, Dutch and Czech languages have been arranged for and they have already appeared in book form in Hungary. In Italy and France they have been published as feuilletons in a number of papers. The articles have been the prime cause of the foundation of "Free Russia" societies in England, and have stirred public opinion in Europe more than any other writings that have appeared.

Will Demand Protection.

A dispatch from Pekin says it is evident from the action taken by the powers that they intend to compel China to protect foreigners residing within its borders. Representatives of several powers there addressed a fresh joint note to the Chinese government in relation to the outrages perpetrated by Chinese mobs upon the mission, missionaries and others in the Tang Tse Klang valley, demanding that China take immediate steps to protect the lives and property of foreigners.

Equal to an Assignment.

Judge Brown, of Dupage county, Ill., sitting in the county court, rendered a decision to the effect that S. R. Howell, the insolvent lumber merchant, created a voluntary assignment for the benefit of his creditors when he conveyed his property to the First National bank of Chicago, which by the decision is declared to be the assignee.

Made a Bold Escape.

Juan J. Weeks, a United States prisoner at Denver, threw a handful of pepper in a deputy marshal's face, then jumped from a window in the court room over the postoffice and escaped. He had just been sentenced for complicity in the piano frauds in Omaha, Kansas City and Denver.

THE MARKETS.

CHICAGO.

CATTLE—Common to prime	$3.00	@	5.95
HOGS—Shipping grades	4.10	@	5.45
SHEEP	4.10	@	4.50
WHEAT—Cash	1.07⅜	@	1.07⅝
CORN—Cash			.64½
OATS			.28⅞
RYE			1.04
BARLEY			.67
FLAX			1.01½
BUTTER—Western dairy	.14	@	.16
EGGS—Western	.13½	@	.14½

SIOUX CITY.

CATTLE—Fat steers	$4.00	@	5.00
CATTLE—Feeders	2.50	@	3.50
HOGS	4.85	@	5.05
SHEEP	3.25	@	4.50
WHEAT			.75
OATS			.28
CORN			.50
FLAX			.90

OMAHA LIVE STOCK.

CATTLE—Common to prime	$3.00	@	5.00
HOGS—Shippers	4.80	@	5.30

NEW YORK PRODUCE.

WHEAT	$1.10	@	1.13½
CORN	.75	@	.78
OATS—Western	.33	@	.37

WHEAT MARKET WILD.

BULL NEWS FROM EUROPE LIFTS WHEAT OUT OF SIGHT.

Scenes of Excitement and Confusion on the Board of Trade in Chicago—The Top Price for December Wheat Stops at $1.18 on the Curb After Closing.

Wheat has gone on a wild boom at Chicago and New York on account of the news of crop failures in Europe and India. In Chicago December wheat on Saturday reached $1.08 on the regular board of trade and sold on the curb at $1.10. Some deals are reported at $1.18. All sorts of stories are flying about. A number of traders talked about a shortage in Europe. Others asserted that "Jim" Keene, of New York, is responsible; that he is taking revenge for that experience in 1878, when the little flyer on the Chicago board cost him several millions. Some said Keene, Philip Armour and B. P. Hutchinson were responsible. Others that Keene was backed by a powerful syndicate of New York capitalists and that Hutchinson was one of the leaders. There is nothing reliable about any of these rumors. The fact remains that the market simply went wild. The scenes of confusion and excitement on the floor were indescribable. Every time there was an advance the bears got frightened and exerted every effort to unload at the top price, for fear of a drop as sudden as the rise. Then five minutes later, when the market had again advanced, the men who had sold were clamoring to buy back, being willing to pay from one to three cents more than they had sold for. From the visitors' gallery the wheat pit looked like an assembly of dangerous lunatics. The men crowded together in a mass, discarded coats and hats and clawed each other like wild animals, while a constant deafening roar, out of which no intelligible sound could be picked, rose to the ceiling. After the market closed there were many traders who were frightened at the idea of holding wheat over Sunday at $1.06½. The timid ones, however, seem to have scared the other traders, for, as noted above, December wheat went to $1.10 on the curb before 4 o'clock, and adventurous brokers were slinging calls at from $1.14 to $1.18.

ROBBED IN A HOTEL.

A Prominent Capitalist Chloroformed in a Leading Hotel at Memphis.

R. D. Frayser, president of the Security and Memphis City banks, secretary of the Memphis City railway, principal owner of the *Public Ledger*, and one of the most prominent and wealthy citizens of Memphis, was chloroformed and robbed at the Dayose hotel by a man asserting himself to be John A. Morris, of New Orleans. Morris engaged a room at the hotel, sent for Frayser, who went to the hotel, and after a talk regarding a matter on which Morris asked information, the latter asked the other to take a drink. Frayser declined. Turning to face Morris, the latter pulled two revolvers, saying: "I despoil men; no money; family in New Orleans destitute; must have cash; you indorse check for $5,000." Frayser argued the matter. The parties finally compromised by Frayser indorsing a check for $500, hoping the cashier at the bank would suspect something wrong and refuse to cash it, as he indorsed it R. D. Frayser and usually indorsed checks "R. Dudley Frayser." Morris then chloroformed Frayser, and sent the bell boy to the bank for the money. The room door was burst open in the evening, something wrong being suspected, and Frayser was found unconscious, his watch, $50 and Morris being gone. The check was on the table, payment at the bank having been refused. Morris' whereabouts are unknown.

A Famine in Mexico Now.

Advices from many points in the states of Cahuila and Durango, Mex., are condensed into this: Water is scarce, poor crops and no money. A good cotton crop has been made in but one settlement, the colony of Tlahualilo, in which President Diaz and one of his ex-ministers have a personal interest. These people have obtained water from the river Nazas, thereby depriving the planters of that district and their hundreds of dependents. A riot has been narrowly averted. Corn in Durango is selling at $4.50 per venega of 168 pounds. A deputation of citizens recently visited the City of Mexico to induce the government to reduce the duty on American corn, but was not successful. Many of the poorer classes of Durango are destitute and their needs have converted them into very dangerous characters.

Slant-Eyed Passengers Stopped.

The landing of Chinese from the steamer Oceanic was stopped at San Francisco by order of Collector Phelps. The order was due to a circular from the treasury department, quoting the decision of the supreme court of the United States in the case of Wan Twing. The latter is a laborer and wanted to land on the ground of prior residence. The court held that no Chinese, merchant or other, could land in the United States unless provided with a consular certificate. To obtain the certificate he must prove that he was conducting a mercantile business in the United States, which would be almost an impossibility in China. Phelps holds that it practically excludes all Chinese except those connected with the diplomatic corps.

Not Guilty of Contempt.

The Montana supreme court has decided that Editor J. A. MacKnight, of the Helena *Journal*, was not in contempt for refusing to tell Judge McHatton, of Butte, who was his informant in an article reflecting on McHatton's partiality in the Davis will case. The article was published about a month ago, purporting to be an interview with an "Old Montanian," and said "neither court or jury in Butte but were prejudiced against the contestants of the alleged Davis will." McHatton had MacKnight before him for contempt and wanted the name of the "Old Montanian." MacKnight refused to tell and was committed to jail for contempt.

A Scarcity of Money.

There is a great scarcity of money in the lower Rio Grande section of Texas. There has been no rain to speak of for eighteen months, the ranchmen are all in debt and the farmers have been unable to raise enough for their actual needs. The scarcity of money was emphasized at Roma, where 278 fat and healthy sheep, capable of growing four pounds of wool annually, were sold for 38 cents apiece.

Wrecked by Dynamite.

Richard M. Juvenal's residence in Kansas City, Kan., was wrecked by an explosion of dynamite. The occupants escaped any serious injury. From accounts the explosion was caused by a woman with whom Juvenal kept company before his marriage

French Wheat Crop.

The bulletin Des Hales, of Paris, reports, as the result of an investigation, that the wheat crop of France will not exceed 85,000,000 hectolictres. To meet the normal demand of the country it will be necessary to import 85,000,000 bushels of wheat.

SOUTH DAKOTA NEWS.

Events of More Than Usual Interest All Around the State.

Two of the most noteworthy lawsuits ever tried in the northwest will be tried at the fall term of the circuit court for Davison county in November at Mitchell. These will be the celebrated Douglas county warrant cases, two of which are docketed for the Davison county court, that of Maj. Wm. A. Moore, of Pierre, and Nathaniel T. Hauser, of Aberdeen, the former involving the validity of warrants to the amount of $45,340.98, and the latter for $2,282.44. These suits, which are to be tried at Mitchell on a change of venue from Bon Homme county, have been well known for a number of years and have already taken up the time and attention of a number of terms of court. The reason why Douglas county refuses to honor these warrants is on the ground that the warrants are illegal and that their issuance was brought about through fraud. The present holders of the warrants hold that they are innocent purchasers of the same on one hand and on the other that the warrants are legal and were issued upon some bona fide equivalent. The value of the warrants will, with interest from the time they were issued in 1881, amount to over $90,000. At least $5,000 has already been spent in the prosecution of the cases. The probabilities are that the cases will all be tried this fall so that the supreme court will have them in hand in 1892.

After Counterfeiters.

The United States deputy marshal at Pine Ridge agency has captured a complete counterfeiting outfit. The capture included moulds for the manufacture of dollars, halves and quarters. The spurious coins made were excellent counterfeits and a large number had been placed in circulation before their character was detected and suspicion was directed against Charles Wilson, colored, for making and passing them. Wilson was captured at Cambria, Wyo. He is believed to be an important member of a gang of counterfeiters who have flooded the Black Hills with spurious coin during the last few months. It is thought his arrest will lead to other important captures and will break up the gang.

A Dakota Glass Eater.

Blunt has a freak in the person of one John Miller, the queer point about the man being that he can, without any seeming ill-effects, eat glass of any kind. A correspondent saw him when in the act of devouring the half of a large-sized lamp chimney. Miller says he began eating glass when but a boy, and so far has not suffered from so doing. He is now a man of about 45 years of age and in good health.

A South Dakota Scandal.

The Third judicial circuit in South Dakota is in a state of excitement owing to the rumors which involve Judge J. O. Andrews in a scandal of grave character. It appears that in October, 1889, the judge, after a persistent siege, seduced Sadie Jones, a pupil of the state agricultural college at Brookings, who lived in Judge Andrews' family. A movement is on foot to impeach him, which his friends strenuously oppose.

Congressman Gamble Dead.

John R. Gamble, congressman-elect from South Dakota, died suddenly from paralysis at Yankton. He was greatly admired by many friends who mourn his untimely loss. The governor will by law call a special election to fill the vacancy.

LATE NEBRASKA NEWS.

Happenings of General Interest in the Prosperous Commonwealth.

Dr. Kernan and Dr. Marsh, of Lincoln, had a peculiar experience that might have terminated fatally. They were out in the marsh west of that city hunting snipe when they stumbled into a treacherous mire, out of which they were unable to extricate themselves. They gradually sank in the mud until the greater portion of their body was enveloped, when their shouts for help were finally heard and help extended to the swamped hunters. Boards were lain over the mire and on these the rescuers worked with shovels and ropes to extricate the prisoners. The fire department was sent for, but before the boys arrived the doctors were extricated after about two hours' imprisonment in the mud.

Nebraska Crop Report.

The following is compiled from crop reports from thirty-five counties in Nebraska for last week: The warm dry weather of the past week has been very favourble in every respect and corn has made a rapid growth. The temperature has been above the average, varying from two to five degrees in various parts of the state. The sunshine has also been above the normal, except in one or two counties. The rain of the week has fallen in scattered showers, and has been generally light. The largest reported was an inch and three-quarters in Hamilton county, and several stations reported none at all. Threshing is in progress and reports thus far received would seem to indicate an average yield of about twenty-five bushels of wheat and fifty of oats to the acre. Corn has made rapid progress during the week and has attained a large growth of stalks which is earing well, but continues decidedly backward.

Fortunately the Ties Were Rotten.

An attempt was made by unknown persons to wreck a passenger train between Graf and Tekama. A pile of rocks and ties were placed on the track, but they were discovered by Farmer Cooper, who flagged the train with his handkerchief. The engineer could not stop his train and it crashed into the obstruction at the rate of twenty miles per hour. Fortunately the ties were rather rotten and broke easily and the rocks were thrown to one side. The train kept the track, and the passengers, beyond a lively shaking up, were not injured.

Plumbers Go to Work.

The plumber's strike is at an end in Omaha. The men who struck at Rowe & Co.'s shop have returned to work. They did not get what they struck for on account of the work being dull, but they came back to their benches at the terms made by the bosses and a committee of the journeymen plumber's union. They will work eight hours per day and get eight hours' pay. They will get $3.60 a day where they formerly got $4.

A Woman's Desperate Suicide.

Mrs. Mary Hill committed suicide at McCook, Neb., by lying down on the railroad track and permitting the train to run over her body. She was mangled almost beyond recognition. About a year ago she lost two children by diptheria, and the next day her husband, James Hill, was taken with typhoid fever and died. This so preyed upon her that she became despondent.

Fatal Wreck in Nebraska.

A passenger train running at full speed struck a carriage full of people two miles east of Seneca, Neb. A. H. Burnett and Miss Frances Fuller were killed outright. Mrs. P. P. Fuller, Mrs. Geo. Restenberger and her two children, aged 2 and 4 years, were seriously injured.

TO THE COURT OF GOD.

J. RUSSELL LOWELL'S SPIRIT HAS FLED.

The Renowned Poet and Diplomat Dies at the Age of 72—Sketch of His Life and Literary Successes—A Typical American.

James Russell Lowell, the great American poet and diplomat, died at Cambridge, Mass. He was born in that city Feb. 22, 1819. He graduated at Harvard College in 1838, and studied law, but soon abandoned law for literature. Before leaving college he published a class poem. A volume of miscellaneous poems entitled "A Year's Life" appeared in 1841; a new collection, containing a "Legend of Brittany," "Prometheus" and others, in 1844; "Conversations on Some of the Old Poets," containing a series of well-studied criticisms, both in prose and verse, giving indications of Mr. Lowell's interest in the various political and philanthropic questions of the day and of his attachment to those principles of which he has since been the champion, in 1845; a third collection of poems and "The Vision of Sir Launfal," founded on a legend of the search for the San Grael, in 1848; "A Fable for Critics," in which he satirically passed in review the litterati of the United States, and his most remarkable work, "The Biglow Papers," a collection of humorous poems on political subjects, written by "Hosea Biglow," in the Yankee dialect, in 1848. "Fireside Travels," including graphic papers on Cambridge in old times, and the second series of the "Biglow Papers" appeared in 1864.

In 1869 Mr. Lowell published "Under the Willows and Other Poems," and near the close of the same year "The Cathedral," an epic poem; in 1870 a collected volume of essays entitled "Among My Books," and in 1871 "My Study Windows." "Three Memorial Poems" appeared in 1876. In 1855 he succeeded Longfellow as professor of modern languages and belles-lettres in Harvard College. The degree of D. C. L. was conferred upon him in 1873 by the English University of Oxford, and that of LL. D. by Cambridge in 1874. The latter degree he received also from St. Andrew's, Edinburgh, Harvard and Bologna. From 1857 to 1862 he was editor of the *Atlantic Monthly*, and he had previously been connected with *The Pioneer*, a magazine of high character, the *Anti-Slavery Standard*, *Putnam's Monthly*, and from 1864 to 1866 was editor of the *North American Review*. He had also been a lecturer before the Lowell Institute, in Boston, on the British poets.

Toward the close of 1874 Mr. Lowell was offered the post of Minister to Russia, which he declined, but in 1877 accepted that of Minister to Spain, from which he was transferred in 1880 to that of Minister to Great Britain. On the change of administration in 1885 he resigned this position and returned to the United States. The speeches which he delivered in England were republished in 1887 under the title of "Democracy and Other Addresses." Though a lifelong Republican, Mr. Lowell supported the candidacy of Mr. Cleveland for reelection to the presidency in 1888. During the slavery agitation prior to the civil war he was a prominent advocate for its abolition, and had been equally outspoken in more recent years in urging the reform of the civil service.

"Harvardiana," which Mr. Lowell edited in 1837-8, was a notable poem, composed under peculiar circumstances. At the time of writing it the collegiate senior was undergoing a brief period of rustication at Concord in consequence of inattention to his text books. His forced sojourn in this Arcadia of scholarship and reform brought him into relationship with the transcendentalists, who at that time were in the habit of gathering at the home of Emerson, with whom then began that friendship which, despite the playful sallies of the younger poet in his earlier writings, only terminated with the death of the elder. The young satirist saw the humorous side of the social movements of the day, and the class poem, scintillating with wit, attacked the abolitionists, Carlyle, Emerson and the transcendentalists.

In the winter of 1887 Mr. Lowell read a paper before the Union League Club, of Chicago, on the authorship of "Richard III." Since his return to private life Mr. Lowell's home had been with his only child, the wife of Edward Burnett, at Southboro, Mass.

BOMBARDED THE SKIES.

Farwell's Rain-Makers Are Abundantly Successful in Texas.

The rainfall expedition sent out by the United States Department of Agriculture under the charge of R. G. Dyrenforth arrived at Midland, Tex., last week, and has scored its first success. Last week was spent in conveying the supplies to the ranch of Nelson Morris, of Chicago, which is located twenty-three miles north of Midland. A part of the apparatus was set up and a test of it was made in which a number of blasts were fired.

The explosions of "rackarock" bombs caused great concussions, and were heard and felt distinctly at a considerable distance from the field of operations. The explosives were all fired from the ground by means of electric batteries. The trial was made primarily to test the apparatus, and was not calculated to be on a scale extensive enough to secure rain. However, in about ten hours after the explosions clouds began to form and gather over the Morris ranch and surrounding country, and about seventeen hours after the operations the rain began to fall in copious quantities.

The storm seemed to gather directly over the ranch and the fall of the rain was heaviest at that point. The storm extended over a space of 1,000 square miles and at the ranch the rain continued to fall for a space of six hours. About two inches fell at that point. This storm breaks a drought of long duration in this locality and is the best rain that has fallen on the Morris ranch for more than a year. All the apparatus will be in position in a few days when full trial will be made, which will be watched with greatest interest.

As if he did not have enough to do with his projected observatory on top of Mont Blanc, M. Eiffel has cabled the World's Fair directors for permission to erect a tower in Chicago that shall be superior to the one at the Paris exposition. He has been notified to send on his proposition and it will receive immediate consideration. But is Chicago enterprise going to let a Frenchman take the crowning honors of the great fair with a second-hand show that has lost its novelty?—*Philadelphia Bulletin.*

GOES without saying—a mute.

RUSSIAN RYE IS SCARCE.

EXPORTATION OF THE CEREAL PROHIBITED.

Extremely Likely that Europe's Shortage in Breadstuffs Will Have to Be Supplied by American Corn—Virtues of the Golden Grain but Little Known There.

Until a generation or so ago the staple bread of the New England farmer was a mixture of rye flour and corn meal, popularly known as "rye and Indian." The main ingredient was the meal. Rye has never been a popular food product in this country, except among those of our people who came from the continent of Europe. Occasionally the early frost would nip the corn in the milk and the farmers would be obliged to rely mainly upon rye. The time seems to have come for corn to fully repay all its indebtedness to rye as a substitute, not only upon the continent of Europe but here at home, where the indebtedness was incurred. Wheat has very nearly taken the place of all other cereals as food for man in this country, unless it be that the South still clings to corn. The working classes of the world, on the contrary, can not afford "white bread," especially at semi-famine prices. Whatever the producers may realize on their crops, the European consumer is bound to pay exceptionally dear for his bread, be it black or white.

The latest edition of Mulhall gave the rye product of Europe as 1,290,000,000 bushels, and of wheat as 1,167,000,000 bushels, a difference in favor of rye of 123,000,000 bushels. Those figures give a fair idea of the relative yield of ordinary years. Fully one-half of all the rye of Europe is grown in Russia which produces at least three bushels of rye to one of wheat, while the United States produces about fourteen bushels of wheat to one of rye. There are not far from 200,000,000 people in Europe who rely upon rye as the staff of life. When, therefore, Russia prohibits the exportation of rye, as it did the 11th of this month, it may be said to take the bread out of the mouths of many millions of people and compel them to either go hungry or eat something else.

Fortunately for the poor of Europe, there is every prospect of the greatest corn crop in this country that was ever known in agricultural history. There seems to be a disposition in some quarters to condemn the policy of Russia as cruel. If there were no other sources of supply, it would be mean to shut off the exportation summarily and rigidly, but there is really a good quantity of food in the world, and ample facility for its transportation. Russia might keep every kernel of its rye at home, and the United States would come to the rescue with its corn. The sooner all the parties in interest know what to expect the better it will be.

It is highly probable that the lesson of necessity will outlive the necessity itself, and that American corn will gain a foothold in Europe during the next year from which it can not be dislodged. Russia may be building better for the farmers of the United States than for the Russian peasantry. Ordinarily a country is anxious to find a market for its surplus, and so far from putting an embargo on exports is happy in the prospect of a foreign demand. It is probable that American corn will be able to retain in future years much of the advantage it is about to enjoy. If Russia is not careful it will overdo the prohibition policy and inflict permanent injury on its own agriculture. Certain it is that corn is quite as good food as rye, and many of the millions who try it for a year or so will learn to prefer it. That feature of the present relations of corn to rye may prove to be the most important of the whole case.

WILL FIGHT THE LAW.

Indiana Bankers Will Refuse to Expose the Accounts of Their Depositors.

The bankers of Indiana have announced their determination to fight the proposed effort of the State Board of Tax Commissioners to compel them to expose the accounts of their depositors. With that end in view the associated banks of Indianapolis have already taken action, and at a meeting of a special committee, composed of President Haughey, of the Indianapolis National; President Gallup, of the Meridian National; and President Malott, of the Indiana National, a course of action based upon the advice of Addison C. Harris, the attorney for the Clearing House Association, was agreed upon.

Bank officials refuse to say much as to the course they will pursue, but the sentiment against the law and its enforcement is pronounced and unanimous. President Haughey says that there is not a banker but will refuse to make his customer's business relations known.

"A merchant may have a large balance on deposit," said he, "and he may have given his check for two-thirds of the amount; but, as we have not received the check, he is credited with the full balance, and upon this they propose to tax him. He may purchase a negotiable certificate of deposit, assign the next day, but it may not reach us for a month, but still our books will show that man credited with the certificate. Bankers are justified in resisting the law."

As the officers of all the 51 banks in Indiana have been cited to appear before the board and show their deposits it is probable that a test case will be made up at once and decided as soon as possible. It is claimed by the bankers that this feature of the tax law is in conflict with the National Banking act, and furthermore, that a compliance with it would ruin the banking business of Indiana. In answer to a question as to how they would do this it was replied: "Because just before the first day of April all depositors who are now in the habit of understating their deposits or not putting them in at all, will draw out from the banks and conceal the money. It will practically compel the banks to call in their loans and go into liquidation once a year, and that would paralyze business."

James Russell Lowell.

IN every regard James Russell Lowell was a grand character, and his life and work shed luster upon the republic.—*Buffalo Enquirer.*

MORE than all, he was a true American, a thorough patriot, and did much to secure the abolition of slavery and to preserve the Union.—*Elgin News.*

JAMES RUSSELL LOWELL, poet, scholar, orator, author and diplomat, has passed away. The whole civilized world will mourn with America the loss of one of her most distinguished sons.—*Pittsburg Chronicle.*