

TEST DEATH CHAIR FOR MRS. FARMER

Slayer of Sarah Brennan Will
Spend Last Sunday on Earth
in Husband's Company.

EXPECTED TO DIE BRAVELY

Rumored That She Will Leave a Con-
fession Exonerating Farmer from
Complicity in Crime—Priest
Her Adviser.

Special to The New York Times.

AUBURN, N. Y., March 27.—A part of Sunday, her last day upon earth, will be spent by Mrs. Farmer, convicted of the murder of Sarah Brennan, in the company of her husband, James Farmer, also convicted of the same degree of the same crime, in the very shadow of the room containing the electric chair in Auburn prison.

In accordance with the orders of State Superintendent of Prisons Collins that the woman, who has not seen her husband since they were together confined in jail at Watertown, might if she desired see her husband, Warden Benham officially notified the Rev. John J. Hickey, pastor of the Holy Family Church, the Catholic Chaplain of the Prison and the spiritual adviser of both Mr. and Mrs. Farmer. When Father Hickey made his daily visit to the woman to-day she received him without any show of emotion, although for some time previous to his arrival she had been apparently engrossed in a Prayer Book. When Father Hickey communicated to the woman that upon her request she would be allowed to see her husband she brightened a trifle and said simply: "I would like to see Jim."

Father Hickey informed Warden Benham at the men's prison and announced to the newspaper men that the interview would take place either to-night or to-morrow morning, but it later became known that all arrangements have been made to bring the woman from her room at the women's prison early to-morrow morning, and unless present plans are altered she will not be returned there. Instead, she will be kept for the few hours remaining before her death in a temporary cell which was constructed near the room of cells for the condemned a short time ago, when there were more prisoners under sentence of death than there were cells.

No Glimpse of Outside World.

Most of the prison officials will be in ignorance of the time of the woman's departure from the women's prison, but she will probably be removed while the inmates of both institutions are at Sunday services in the chapel and by a passageway not often used, which connects the two institutions. The journey will give the woman no glimpse of the outside world.

The prison officials expect that the last talk between convicted husband and wife will be protracted, but hardly look for any display of real feeling on the part of either. Thus far neither has said any-

thing about their infant son, Peter Farmer, who is somewhere in the care of a brother of Jim Farmer, and who will, it is said, be reared by him.

Rumors have been flying thick and fast that Mrs. Farmer will leave a confession in which she will exonerate her husband from complicity in the crime, but the prison officials believe that the only confession she will make will be to Father Hickey as her confessor, and that following the execution he will have no statement to make to the public.

It is believed that the woman will go to the chair as bravely as any man who ever paid the penalty of his crime here. If the present plan to keep her in the temporary cell is followed out she will have a longer walk to the chair than any other condemned prisoner has had, because it will be necessary for her to pass in the rear of the five cells occupied by the condemned men, including the one containing her husband, but not in sight of the inmates thereof.

Woman Attendant on Death March.

A woman attendant as well as the men keepers and Father Hickey will accompany her on the march to the chair, and there will be at least one woman physician at the execution. Although no names are given out by Warden Benham, it is pretty well understood that Dr. Nettie E. Jenkins of this city, a practitioner of high standing who has been a witness before when men have been electrocuted, will be on hand in the death chamber on Monday morning.

A prison official said to-night that the skirt of the woman would be slit up the side, just as the trousers of the men victims are slit, and that the adjustment of the electrodes will be just as easy in this case as it is in the case of any man.

State Electrician E. F. Davis and his assistant, E. B. Currier, reached the city to-night, and to-morrow they will give the death-dealing apparatus its final test. Warden Benham will do his utmost to rob the second execution of a woman by electricity in this state of every possible sensational feature. The official summons calls the witnesses to report at the Warden's office at 6 o'clock sharp on Monday morning, and a half hour after that they will have signed the certificate of death and the body will have been turned over to the physicians for the autopsy, which will be in charge of Dr. E. A. Spitzka of the Jefferson Medical College of Philadelphia, a specialist on brain diseases and also on deaths by electricity, for he has attended more than thirty executions, including that of Czolgosz, the assassin of President McKinley.