

well tempered for the stubborn ears of the coming crop: or select passages for the rising generation."

GERRIT SMITH AND THE PRESIDENCY.—Gerrit Smith declines peremptorily a call on him to be a candidate for it at President. He says he has all his life been weighed down by the charge of a great landed property left by his father, which has deprived him of a chance to fit himself for the Chief Magistracy; and, though there would be no prospect of his election if nominated, he does not consider it right to run for an office without the qualifications for worthily filling it. If he were President, however, he would first stop the Mexican war, and ask pardon of God and Mexico for our wholesale murders of the Mexican people, returning the territory we have taken by force. 2. Utterly abolish the Army and Navy. 3. Abolish all Customs or Commercial restrictions whatever. 4. Establish a system of Direct Taxation alone. 5. Urge liberal expenditures for Light-Houses, Harbours, improving Rivers, &c., but none at all for Fortifications, Ships of War, &c. 7. Interpret and apply the Constitution as at deadly war with Slavery. 8. Stop selling Public Lands, allow every man who needs to take a portion of them, without pay, and render the Homestead Inalienable. 9. Discountenance distinctions between Native and Adopted Citizens. 10. Appoint no man to office who bases the Rights of Suffrage on Property or Colour. 11. Give no office to a Slaveholder, any more than to any other pirate. 12. Nor to any man in favour of the traffic in Intoxicating Drinks. 13. Nor to any adhering member of a Secret Society.—*Tribune.*

EMANCIPATED SLAVES.—On Saturday of last week a small colony of emancipated slaves passed through this place on their way to Ohio. There were forty-nine of them, and they stated that they had been emancipated on the Saturday previous, by their owner, Esquire Cochran, in Hampshire county, Virginia, who gave them \$500 to pay their expenses, and started them off for Ohio. There appeared to be three or four families of them, and they were well equipped for travelling—a four-horse wagon carrying the furniture, and another wagon the women and children. They were bound for Fayette County, Ohio. It is not many years since slave drivers took dozens of slaves along this road, on their way to the markets of the South. Now their place is supplied with gangs of free slaves, on their way to become farmers on free soil. If this is not progress, what is it? What were the means used to awaken the conscience of Esquire Cochran, we cannot say; but it is a gratifying sign of the times, that emancipations are becoming more frequent. May the Lord raise up thousands of such men as Esquire Cochran.—*Wash. (Pa.) Patriot.*

GRANT SHIPS.—The Great Britain iron steam-ship is not, as some persons imagine, the largest vessel ever built. She is 320 feet long, and 51 feet broad. But in the reign of Ptolemy Philopator, two centuries before the time of Christ, there were ships 420 feet long, and 57 broad, with 40 banks of oars! The largest oars were 57 feet long, and weighted with lead at the handle, that they might be used more easily. The vessel required 4000 rowers, and 4000 sailors were required to work the sails. The deck afforded standing room for 3000 soldiers. The Egyptian King's pleasure barge was 330 feet long and 45 wide. Hiero, King of Syracuse, made Philopator a present of a magnificent ship, fitted up with library, baths, an observatory, &c. It had eight towers for throwing stones at the enemy, machinery being attached which could throw stones weighing 300 lbs. each. The anchors, by means of sails and oars, could navigate the Mediterranean at the rate of eleven miles an hour.

OCEAN PENNY POSTAGE.—Elihu Burritt the Yankee Blacksmith, thus tells what he is about in England. Success to him:—"If my American friends wish to see me on their side of the Atlantic before the expiration of the present year, they must lend a hand to Ocean Penny Postage; for I have pledged myself, before several public meetings, not to return to America until Uncle John Bull will carry letters across the Ocean for a penny a piece. So, if you want to see my face in the flesh again, at least before my hair is gray with age, you must assist in redeeming my pledge. I am now in London, where I intend to issue a series of "Olive Leafs," for the English press on the subject. About forty papers have already inserted the articles I have prepared in this way, and several editors have commended the measure. I am sure all the Leaguers in America will coincide with their brethren in England in appreciation of Ocean Penny Postage, as a great instrumentality in "fusing the nations into one peaceful brotherhood," and in diffusing the principles of freedom, civilization and Christianity through the world. I am sanguine in the hope of getting this idea before the English Government in the course of a few weeks."

THE DISCOVERIES OF 1846.—There can be no doubt, that the year 1846 will be memorable to the end of time, for the remarkable extensions or new applications, of human knowledge, which will come before future historians, as rendering illustrious its narrow limits. Most evident it is, that we are now living in the days predicted by the Hebrew prophet:—when "many shall run to and fro; and knowledge shall be increased." 1. Foremost among these may be placed, the use of ether, inhaled for the facilitation of surgical operations. Like all our other appliances of this kind, it meets with failures, and even with evil results, in a few cases. But, for one fatal result, and five failures, we have five hundred instances of vast benefit, in many of which, beyond all doubt, lives have been saved which would otherwise have been lost. Without describing it as infallible, or in all cases safe, or to be relied on, there can be no doubt that this discovery has conferred

vast benefits on mankind. 2. The substitution of a new explosive material—the gun-cotton—in place of gun-powder, is another remarkable event. The extent of its utility is not yet ascertained. Whether it will be largely adopted in warfare, is still a point on which no decided opinion has been formed. But of its great utility in blasting and mining operations, not the slightest doubt can exist. It is both cheaper and more powerful than gunpowder; and the absence of smoke gives it a decisive advantage. There can remain no question, that in all works of this description the new agent will rapidly supersede the old one. 3. The third discovery of 1846 is perhaps one of greater importance than either of the former. We allude to the lately patented process for smelting copper by means of electricity. The effect of this change will be quite prodigious. It produces, in less than two days, what the old process required three weeks to effect. And the saving of fuel is so vast, that in Swansea alone, the smelters estimate their annual saving in coals at no less than five hundred thousand pounds! Hence it is clear that the price of copper must be so enormously reduced, as to bring it into use for a variety of purposes, from which its cost at present excludes it. The facility and cheapness of the process, too, will enable the ore to be largely smelted on the spot. The Cornish mine proprietors are anxiously expecting the moment when they can bring the ore which lay in the mine yesterday, into a state to be sent to market to-morrow; and this at the very mouth of the mine. In Australia, also, the operation of this discovery will be of the utmost importance. Ten thousand tons of copper ore were sent from Australia to England last year, to be smelted at Swansea, and the result was only 1600 tons of copper. But Australia in future will smelt her own copper by a 36 hours' process; saving all this useless freight of the 8500 tons of refuse; and saving also the cost of the old and expensive process. In a very few years, Australia will send to market more copper than is now produced by all the rest of the world. So if our future penny pieces are to bear any proportion to the reduced cost and value of the metal, they must be made the size of dinner plates.—*Morning Herald.*

THE GAME LAWS.—A parliamentary paper lately issued discloses, in part, the wide spread demoralization caused by these laws amongst our working population in the rural districts. This consists of the abstract of "a return of the number of persons convicted of any offences against the game laws at any petty sessions, quarter sessions, or assizes; specifying the penalties or punishments inflicted, and in which county, and upon whose property, the offences were committed." This is in continuation of a similar return made in 1844. That from some cause or other this return does not show the whole of crime arising from the game law, we shall presently show. Yet it does show a number and severity of punishments inflicted for the preservation of game which is perfectly astounding. During the years 1844, 1845, and part of 1846—for the return was made before last August—no less than eleven thousand three hundred and ninety-two persons were convicted in England and Wales of offences against the game laws! Of these, 11,006 convictions occurred in England, and 386 in Wales. Of the English convictions, 209 took place at the assizes, and 10,797 at Petty and Quarter Sessions, or before judges deeply, passionately, interested in game preservation. The number of poachers convicted by game-preserving squire, sitting as judges in their own cause, in England, cannot average less than 4000; for the 10,797 of the return were convicted in less than two years and a half, and the return from several of the counties omit altogether the convictions at Petty Sessions. It is impossible to contemplate the conduct of the landowner, with regard to game and the game laws without wonder and awe. It is sheer fatality. Thousands are dying of famine in Ireland, because food-corn cannot be obtained in sufficient quantities; seed-corn is not to be purchased in Ireland for money. Yet landlords persist in the preservation of game to the destruction of several millions of quarters of grain yearly. Last year, from the extreme dryness of the season, was peculiarly favourable to the increase of game, so that not only was there vast devastation committed by these noxious vermin on the farmers' crops last harvest, but we hear that the injury to the young wheat has received from game throughout the country during the last severe winter, is quite without parallel. A tenant farmer in Wiltshire, for instance, writing to the *Economist*, says that he has had seventy acres of wheat eaten completely bare by rabbits and hares, and that with the most favourable season for its recovery, his loss will certainly be, on the most moderate estimate, twelve bushels per acre. And then, beyond this destruction of produce, we have the dreadful demoralization of our rural population indicated by the returns above referred to, and all this for the protection of the sport of a few persons who require such barbarous means of dissipating *ennui*.—*Daily News.*

THE SLAVE TRADE.—It is a melancholy fact, that negroes have become the only reliable staple of the tobacco-growing sections of Virginia.—the only reliable means of liquidating debts foreign and domestic. They are sold here by hundreds under the hammer of the auctioneer. The domestic cannot compete with the South-western demand for them, for the plain reason, that the tobacco-grower cannot make one half of one per cent per annum upon slave labour, while the cotton and sugar planter can, perhaps, from fifteen to twenty per cent.—*Richmond (Va.) Enquirer.*

AN EYE TO BUSINESS.—Among the names attached to the petition to the Massachusetts Legislature against the abolition of capital punishment, were no less than twenty rope makers.