

contagious disease, the animal's appetite would fail, and other symptoms would be observable. At present the name of the disease is not known. None of the horses in any of the livery stable on the island have been infected. —*New York Times, March 27.*

Presidential Aspirants.

From a column going the rounds of the press, devoted to probable and improbable Presidential candidates in 1872, we take the following:

Charles Frances Adams is sixty five years old. If he is not nominated in '72 he may be in '76.

Gov. Geary of Pennsylvania, is the tallest candidate. He is fifty-seven years old. Not a favorite with Grant.

Senator Morrill, of Maine, would make a strong Presidential candidate. He is fifty-six, but his health is poor.

Charles Sumner was born in Boston, January, 1811. He is sixty-one years old. He might run in '72, in '76 or in '80.

All the old abolitionists should go for Wendell Phillips. He is sixty, and the first orator in North America.

Oliver P. Morton would be an available candidate if his legs were better. He will be forty years old next August.

Andrew C. Curtin must come home from Russia if he wants to run. But he is only fifty-four, and can try it in 1876.

George Francis Train is the Fenian candidate. Age forty-six; resources, five millions of dollars in Omaha city lots.

Phil. Sheridan will do for the bachelor's candidate. He is nearly forty, and there is danger that he will never get married.

Ben Wade was beaten at Chicago in 1860. How will it be for him in 1872? He is only seventy-nine and strong as a horse.

Another elderly candidate for the Presidency is Simeon Cameron. He is seventy-three years old, and 1872 will be about his last chance to run.

John A. Logan has aspirations. He is a handsome man, with splendid black eyes and hair, forty-six years old last February. He is pious.

Ben Butler would be glad to be President, but he can't. He is fifty-four in years and two hundred and fifty-three in tricks that are vain.

Gen. Frank Blair wants to be President, he is a Kentuckian, fifty years old last February. No chance for him this time.

Lyman Trumbull is also after the Presidency. He has every qualification but popularity. He is a Connecticut Yankee, and was fifty-nine years old last October.

If paying the public debt by enormous taxes is a good Presidential platform, George S. Boutwell should be the candidate. He is a Massachusetts Yankee, and fifty-four years old.

John Charles Fremont is still a favorite with the old school Republicans who voted for him in the wondrous campaign of 1856. He is fifty-eight years old. His legs are very good.

John T. Hoffman has declined to be a candidate, and that goes to prove that he is running more than ever. He is forty-five years of age; good for a short race, but not a four-miler.

Chief Justice Chase was born in New Hampshire, January 13, 1808. He is sixty-four years old. If his health was good and the people believed it, he would be the candidate of both parties.

Horace Greeley began to learn what he knows about farming at Amherst, New Hampshire, February 3, 1811. He is turned of sixty, and may yet be entered for several Presidential races.

Hannibal Hamlin has our sympathies, because he is a printer, and knows more about farming than Horace Greeley; but he is no use as a Presidential candidate. Age, sixty-three.

George H. Pendleton is an Ohio man of Virginia antecedents. He is a gentleman forty years old, and would make a better President than candidate. He has been beaten too much at State elections.

Judge Thurman, from Lynchburg, born there in November, 1813, but removed to Ohio in 1819. Is fifty-nine years old—a very good age for a President. He makes too many speeches.

Schuyler Colfax would make a pretty available Republican candidate, but he pretends to be for Grant. He was born in New York, and is fifty years old, and has a smile that is child-like and bland.—*Ec.*

THE FAMINE IN PERSIA.

Frightful Suffering and Mortality.

The details of the famine in Persia are frightful. Mr. Shedd, a person well acquainted with the country through his missionary labors there, says:

The population of Persia has been variously estimated, the lowest estimate being about 6,000,000, and the highest 14,000,000. As there is no census, the exact truth cannot be known. Let us take the lowest figure, 6,000,000, as a basis. From personal knowledge of the country and from all accounts of the famine, I judge that a third of the population, that is most of the provinces of Azerbaijan on the northeast, and Ghilan and Manazanderan on the Caspian, have harvested as usual, or nearly so, the present season. Another third of the population, in parts of the above provinces and in Irak and Ardelan, are in severe but

not unmitigated famine. They have a limited supply of food, but some of them must die unless supplies are sent them before next harvest. The remainder of the country lying east and south, and covering more than half its area, is now in danger of being depopulated. So, at the lowest estimate, between two and three millions of our fellow beings are in the crisis of misery and want.

The region of starvation begins in the province of Irak, near Hamadan, the capital of Ancient Media, and extends eastward for seven or eight hundred miles, and southward to the Persian gulf.

Two successive years of drouth have brought the population *en masse* into a state of desolation. For the same reason the area of famine is greater now than it was a year ago. The distress has extended northward, so that multitudes in Tabreez and the surrounding country are in need, and other multitudes are starving to the westward in the valley of the Euphrates and Tigris in Turkey, in the region of Basora, Bagdad and Mosul. The famine region covers the seat of Ancient Empire, with the tombs of Cyrus, Darius, Daniel and Esther, and abounds in the most wonderful antiquities and rock inscriptions in the East.

No language can exceed the truth. In Teheran, the royal residence, the resources of the government and the efforts of the foreign residents have prevented the extreme of suffering to which other places have been reduced. In Ispahan, the number of deaths by famine up to August last was stated officially at fourteen thousand; the actual number was doubtless far greater. In Shiraz and vicinity, whole families died off and lay unburied, and in some instances the corpses were devoured by the survivors. Further east, throughout the great provinces of Kerman and Khorsan, this famine has been increasing for three successive years, and in many places half the population has perished. The capital of the last named province is Meshed, a very celebrated city and shrine, with 100,000 or 120,000 inhabitants. From all accounts, two-thirds of this population have perished the past summer from hunger or disease, or have fled.

In some localities, as in the vicinity of Ispahan, there was last season a partial harvest, which alleviated the distress for a time. But the short store of provisions is by this time consumed, so that the severity of suffering has returned and must increase for some months to come, even if the grain sown this season brings a harvest. Thousands more in the towns and villages must die unless relieved from abroad. But outside the fixed population are the Elyats, or pastoral tribes, numbering in the famine region certainly more than a million of souls. Among these at the present time the direst miseries are experienced. The famine is not only one of cereals, but of forage also. These tribes have been fighting, for two years past, the drouth, and as the pastures have dried up, the flocks and herds have perished, their dependence for food is gone. There are at this time tens of thousands of the Elyats of Persia with their horses dead, their cattle and sheep largely so, and with no place where bread could be bought if they had the means to buy. There is little left for them but to sit down in the Mohammedan resignation of fatalism, and live on short allowance of roots and similar food till either relief or death shall come. The grass may revive with the spring, but it will be three years before the flocks and herds can be renewed, and one year before there can be a harvest to supply them with bread.—*Ec.*

A SKULL-CRACKED MAN.

The cracking of skulls is a matter of common occurrence, but it is rare that the victim ever recovers from a cracking as a Mr. Cress, of Lewiston, lately received, or enjoys the novel sensation of carrying about bits of skull as a curiosity, as does Mr. C. About two months ago a four-pound hammer fell upon Mr. Cress' head from a height of ninety feet, inflicting a terrible fracture, and it was thought impossible for him to recover. He was a tough subject, however, and instead of succumbing to the frightful blow, as most men would have done, persisted in getting well, and only a day or two ago astonished the editor of the *Lewiston Journal* by walking into his office and displaying a little box full of fragments of his own skull, removed by trepanning shortly after the accident. When Mr. C. removed his hat he exhibited an ugly evidence of the blow inflicted by the hammer. An integument has formed over the brain at the point lacking the skull bone, and if one could see a man think he might almost watch the beating of the brain beneath its frail window-pane. For some days after the accident he had severe headaches; subsequently he had difficulty in remembering events, and could with difficulty keep up a connected line of thought. This trouble, since he became convalescent, has gradually disappeared, and once more, apparently, his head is "level." He sleeps well, has a good appetite, and seemingly gets along comfortably with a part of his cranium in his pocket.—*Indianapolis (Ind.) Evening News.*

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