

Volume VI, Number 1.

To-day we appear in holiday attire, because of the sixth anniversary of our first appearance. Five years have passed since first we made our bow to the public, and though those years have brought disaster to many a newspaper enterprise, to us they have been a period of almost uninterrupted prosperity. True, we have not grown rich, but industry and proper management have always enabled us to add little by little to our stock of material, and to-day we can truly claim the Carbon Advocate Printing office to be equal to any like establishment in the county. We are now prepared to do any kind of Job Printing. Our stock of material is not only equal to, but actually surpasses that of some of those who in the past dissuaded people from calling on us, because—as they said—we were not prepared to do the job for want of material. If this was ever the case, it is so no longer, and so far as our prices are concerned they are as low as the lowest, for supervising our business personally, why shouldn't they be so? Having successfully established the Carbon Advocate in the absence of nearly all county patronage, we may rightfully and without egotism claim to have accomplished more than those to whom public "pap" is a condition sine qua non. The absence of this has rather enabled us to more faithfully adhere to the independent course first marked out to ourselves, and to-day neither clique nor party can claim that they "own" our paper. In all our course, we have never endeavored to outdo our own political opinions and preferences, but have lauded where praise was due and condemned what was censurable. And thus we expect to continue.—Firmly established as we are, we can well afford to be so confident that all who have so nobly stood by us in the past, will do so hereafter. For our part we shall leave nothing undone that will have a tendency to endear the Advocate to the general reader. And with this short preface we enter upon the sixth year of our existence.

—Senator Blaine has so far recovered that he expects to go to Washington in the beginning of next week.

—Heavy floods have occurred in Virginia, Maryland and the southern portion of this State, in consequence of the great storm of last week. The rivers at Richmond, Charlottesville, Lynchburg and Danville rose as high as, or higher than, in the great flood of 1870. Great damage was done by the submerging of the lower portions of these cities, and railroad travel in different parts of Maryland and Virginia was interrupted by the destruction of bridges and washing away of tracks.

—The following persons, says the Harrisburg Patriot, are named as candidates for Secretary of Internal Affairs on the Democratic ticket: John Swan, Allegheny; Ben Whitman, Erie; P. Gray Meek, Centre; William Beitelman, Northampton; Charleston Barnett, Monroe; J. Simpson Afric, Huntingdon; William M'Sherry, Adams. Lieutenant Governor: Harman Yerkes, Bucks; J. K. P. Duff, Allegheny; William M'Connell, Allegheny; William H. Playford, Fayette; J. A. Stranahan, Mercer; Edwin Albright, Lehigh; William H. Snowden, Lehigh; William Hanson, Venango. Supreme Judge: Henry P. Ross, Charles A. Mayer, Samuel B. Wilson, S. S. Dreher, William Elwell and Furman Sheppard.

—The Carbon county School Directors are speaking of Prof. Hollinger, of Summit Hill, as a possible candidate for the office of County Superintendent of county schools. We do not know whether Mr. Hofford, the present incumbent, will be a candidate or not, but if he desires to remain in the position, as he has served very acceptably, it would be wise to retain him in it, for we do not believe in changing superintendents any more than we are in favor of giving up a good teacher simply for the sake of patronizing some favorite, and hence we have always been in favor of retaining Mr. Newlin, the able Superintendent of Schools in Schuylkill county, so long as he is willing to serve us; but should Mr. Hofford desire a change then we know of no man who we prefer to Professor Hollinger. He is an experienced and successful teacher, young enough to infuse energy into every department, and in every way a capable gentleman, and should a change be made Professor Hollinger should be selected by the Directors of Carbon county to fill the position.—Times Courier.

Mr. H. F. Hofford, the present gentlemanly and efficient County Superintendent, will be a candidate for re-election, and that he will be successful there in, at this time, not the shadow of a doubt. It appears to be an acknowledged fact, that the longer Mr. Hofford holds the position, the more highly appreciated are his services by our people.

—The terrible disaster on the American coast, in the wreck of the U. S. sloop-of-war Huron and the loss of nearly a hundred precious lives, will not only excite public sympathy, but we hope will lead to some searching investigation in regard to the condition of our Navy. Under every Administration, charges, not only of extravagant and wasteful expenditure, but of a more serious nature, are made. It has been asserted again and again that vessels are built not for public defence and for the safety of the noble seamen who are to risk their lives in them, but to promote the pecuniary interest of contractors and others. The truth in regard to these charges ought to be ascertained and made known. One thing is certain: we have very little in the matter of a Navy, to show for the great annual expenditure that has been made for half a century. We append the following particulars of the terrible disaster: The news reached here on Saturday that the U. S. sloop-of-

War Huron, which sailed from Fortress Monroe on the 27th inst., had gone ashore in the course of the night near North Star ten miles north of Oregon Inlet, on the North Carolina coast, and was a total wreck. The sadness of the calamity was in the great loss of life. Out of 130 officers and men on board only 34 are known to have been saved. The Huron left Norfolk on Friday while danger signals were displayed by the Signal Bureau. After she left there was thick weather and a fresh gale directly on shore. The fore and aft masts were set with a reef in the foremast and mainmast, which were carried away. The steamer struck between 1 and 1:30 o'clock, a. m. The bows were washed from the davits. A cutter was lowered, but was swamped about ten minutes later. The living saved themselves by swimming ashore. The North Carolina coast, upon which she was wrecked, is one of the most dangerous of any along the Atlantic seaboard. The coast line begins at Little River Inlet, on the borders of South Carolina, and runs nearly east to Cape Fear, thence north to Cape Lookout, thence in the same general direction to Cape Hatteras, and thence north to the Virginia line, a distance in all of nearly 400 miles. Along this whole stretch of coast there are sandy, barren, desert islands, from half a mile to two miles in width, separated by numerous inlets, few of which are navigable. From these islands shoals extend far into the sea, rendering the navigation of the coast exceedingly dangerous. Narrow, shallow lagoons, filled with constantly changing sand-bars, extend all along the coast south of Cape Lookout, between the mainland and the "Sand Islands."

—A FINE MICROSCOPE FOR A FEW CENTS.—A well made, genuine Microscope—not a bit of moulded glass in a paper or metal ring or tube—but one with triple Lenses, Diaphragm, Stand, etc., is not only useful in every family, but it is very interesting. Such instruments have hitherto been too costly for the general public.—The Editors of the American Agriculturist, in connection with an Optical Manufacturing Company, have after many experiments and much invention, succeeded in producing a genuine microscope, with three fine lenses, stand, etc., which by use of machinery, and very large manufacture, is now made at far less cost than has ever before been done. Scientific men, and others, say it is decidedly superior to anything ever before offered so low as \$2.50; but this one is sold for \$1.50. But one is given to every subscriber to the American Agriculturist, who simply adds 40 cents to the regular subscription price—that is, the paper is sent one year, with the \$1.50 microscope, for only \$2.00. If delivered free to any part of the country, 15 cents extra is to be added. A full description and all particulars can be had by sending your address on a postal card to GRANGE JUDG COMPANY, New York; or better still, send them 10 cents (half price) for a post-paid sample copy of the paper,—which will give a full description of the microscope, and also much valuable reading and engravings, etc., and be richly worth far more than its cost.

Our Washington Letter.

The Contest for political Ascendancy—The Republicans out Manoeuvring in the Outlook of the Country—A Brief Recapitulation of the Proceedings of the Senate—What Patterson and Governor say for Themselves—The President's Position—Tilden to the Front—Hillard and Sanford.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Nov. 29, 1877. The desperate straits in which the Republicans find themselves in the Senate is due entirely to the bad management of their leaders. After a full survey of the situation, upon the adjournment of the Senate on Friday, it is evident that the Democrats have shown tactics more skillful and more prudent of result than their opponents. When Congress met it was evident to every one that the strength of parties was so evenly balanced that any mistake, on the part of those holding control, would be attended by serious consequences. It was also known, but seems not to have been appreciated, that it would be necessary for the Republicans to hold their forces together, and to well understand their plans, and to carry them out promptly and effectively. The success of the Republicans depended from the first upon the action of the Committee on Privileges and Elections. Before that committee were three cases of contests for seats in the Senate. At the highest, the Republicans could not count with certainty upon a majority more than barely sufficient to keep their heads above water. For some months it had been known that Patterson, in the interests of his freedom from prosecution in South Carolina, intended to vote for the admission of Butler to a seat in the Senate as against Corbin. It had also been known that for some time Democratic influences had been at work with Corbin to secure his co-operation in the seating of Butler. In the face of these facts, when Congress met we saw, the Committee on Privileges and Elections started on an elaborate consideration of the Kellogg-Spofford case. The minds of the members of the Committee, at the moment of their meeting, were fully made up as to what action they would take, so that the voters in which they have been indulging themselves for the past thirty days were so much time wasted. The Kellogg case could have been reported to the Senate weeks ago with the same results, as when they reported it on last Friday at twenty-four hour's notice. This would have placed this question before the Senate, and would of course given it precedence without a contest. Here the Democrats showed their shrewdness. Instead of remanding the Committee of their tardiness in reporting this case before them, they quietly permitted the time to pass to the close of the session, at the same time watching for a favorable opportunity when the ranks of the Republicans would be reduced by the absence of a sufficient number to warrant a contest, Thurman, acting in accordance with instructions from the Democratic caucus, made his motion to discharge the Committee on Privileges and Elections from the further consideration of the case of Butler. It was new, for the first time, realized by the Republicans of the Committee that they had been playing a very stupid part, and that they had been caught in their own trap. The Republicans in the Senate, generally, had been so busily engaged in finding fault with the President, and in trying to thwart his efforts to organize his administration in his own way, that they had lost sight of the damages of their own position in the body of which they were members. This oversight they now realize, but there is some danger that it is too late to avail them. At all events it throws the balance of power practically in the hands of Patterson and Corbin. Neither Patterson nor Corbin yet admit that they have come over to the Democrats. In the Republican caucus on Saturday, Patterson, in justification of his course in the Butler case, made the following statement: That he called upon the President early after his inauguration and explained the situation of affairs, and earnestly recommended certain appointments which were assigned to the Republicans in the South Carolina from the various parts of the old rebel element; that after the troops were withdrawn from the support of Chamberlain, the Republican caucus was suggested, so that what he then feared has now come to pass, that Northrup, the District Attorney appointed at the instance of Wade Hampton, as he must believe, to cover up the Hamburg massacre, has of late been using the whole power of the Government in a wise course and unjust persecution of the

Republicans of South Carolina who had anything to do with the rebellion, and that he was included in the list; and that if the President had appointed Chamberlain, or any other good man, this condition of things would not have occurred. He also says that in the case of the conviction of arch-rebels, who sentences will be pronounced on Monday, two of the jury colored men afterwards swore that they voted guilty because the white men on the jury threatened that they would kill them if they did not. The Senator further says that if the President had appointed a District Attorney who was not in league with the authorities now in power, he would have been able to go before a United States Court and show that he could not obtain justice, which would have enabled him to have the charges against him tried in a court where he could get justice. In this dilemma, he now finds himself compelled to vote for the Hampton applicant, or go to the Penitentiary. Corbin has been led to believe that by voting for Butler he will be returned to the Senate from Florida. This belief is not of recent arrangement. Last spring it was his boast that he had no anxiety about his future prospects—that he had his re-election sure. It was then a mystery to everyone. The means by which this is to be accomplished are now apparent. In their emergency the Republicans find some difficulty in getting their forces together. Short telegrams that he cannot be here until the end of December. On questions other than the admission of Butler, Patterson may be regarded as certain to co-operate with the Republicans, but is extremely doubtful whether Corbin will do so. All the chances are that he will not. In the midst of their tribulations, the Republicans are now running to the President for assistance, but as was said in administering circles yesterday, it is difficult to see what the President can do in the premises. His efforts have been from the first directed to the pacification of sectional differences so that aside from the fact that it would be exceeding his powers to intervene or to operate in a question of the admission of a Senator, it is essential for him to say some word to the members of the other party in the Senate, which, from the course taken by some Republican senators, has become quite an essential feature in success of his measures. In a word, the Republicans in the Senate will have to take care of themselves. Finding themselves unable to frustrate the efforts of the Democrats to press the motion to discharge the committee in the Butler case, the Republicans will doubtless attempt to gain time by entering into a protracted discussion. 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