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P R E F A C E.

The AMERICAN NEWSPAPER DIRECTORY for 1874 exhibits the names of 7,784 Newspapers, issued in the United States and Dominion of Canada; an increase of 493 over last year, 862 over the count for 1872, and 1,276 over that of 1871.

The new newspaper enterprises embarked within the year just passed have averaged four a day, or twenty-eight each week; but a large number have failed to obtain a foot-hold, while a considerable number of the older ones have been consolidated or have died, thus keeping down the actual increase to the figures given.

The increase has been divided among the various States as follows: Alabama, 19; Arkansas, 7; California, 19; Connecticut, 8; Delaware, 2; Florida, 7; Georgia, 7; Illinois, 44; Kansas, 16; Kentucky, 14; Maine, 2; Maryland, 7; Massachusetts, 11; Michigan, 33; Minnesota, 6; Mississippi, 7; Missouri, 21; Nebraska, 22; Nevada, 3; New Hampshire, 4; New Jersey, 9; New York, 97; North Carolina, 15; Ohio, 41; Oregon, 6; Pennsylvania, 21; Rhode Island, 2; Tennessee, 9; Vermont, 5; Virginia, 1; West Virginia, 6; Wisconsin, 12; Territories, 29; Dominion of Canada, 29.

In other States there has been a decrease in the number of periodicals issued, as follows: District of Columbia, 9; Indiana, 21; Louisiana, 15; South Carolina, 2; Texas, 1. The State of Iowa issues 324, exactly the same number as last year.

We find 29 daily, 403 weekly, 10 semi-monthly, 70 monthly, and 1 quarterly more than in 1873; while tri-weeklies and semi-weeklies have fallen behind; a similar state of affairs to that chronicled last year, showing that these sorts of papers are not appreciated by the public.

The circulations, as given in the volume, will be found generally smaller than in previous issues, and possibly more nearly what they should be. Not claiming any right to ask proof of circulation where no claim is made, the Editor of the DIRECTORY has disposed of the matter in accordance with a plan set forth at some length in another place. In no less than two instances proprietors of prominent journals have furnished affidavits at figures which were notoriously false. These affidavits, when found to be false, were