

Canada and the British Colonies were issued 403 periodicals of all classes. In 1871 the whole number was 5,983, showing an increase in 1872 of 449 over 1871, and an increase in 1873 over 1872 of 336.

In the Territories there are, in all, 107 periodicals, showing an increase of 20 over last year. In the Dominion of Canada there were this year published 387 periodicals, to the 374 of last year, and the British Colonies have 29, being precisely the same number recorded for them last year.

The total, complete, of the periodicals published in the United States, the Territories, the Dominion of Canada and the British Colonies, is therefore 7,291 in the current year, being an increase of 369 over the 6,922 periodicals of 1872.

In order that those interested in the matter may make such comparisons as may be desired, we have printed the tables of last year together with those of 1873.

It is a remarkable fact, and one of the best evidences of the prosperity of American journalism, that of this increase of 369 periodicals, more than one-third was caused by the publication of new daily papers, 125 of these having been issued during the past year. It will be observed, too, that the increase of weeklies has been large, there being 337 new weekly journals, or weeklies that have changed from semi or tri-weekly. But even with this advance the remarkable increase in daily papers is made still more prominent, from the fact that the number of new daily papers (369) exceeds, by 32, the number of new weekly papers.

On the other hand, it is noticeable that while the daily, weekly and monthly periodicals have been giving the best evidence of their prosperity, the tri and semi-weeklies and bi-monthlies have fallen behind, while in bi-weeklies the whole increase for the year has been but five. It rests, therefore, upon the highest authority that, although there may be some special cases of exception, semi and tri-weeklies and semi and bi-monthlies are not, as a rule, popular with American readers.

Although the number of journals published in a given locality, and the rate at which they increase numerically, must always be received in evidence of the condition of newspaper enterprise in a designated place, such evidence must be used with caution and in connection with other considerations, when comparative estimates are to be made of the state of journalism in sections which are subject to certain conditions not applicable to the section with which comparison is made. In New England, for example, journalism would not seem to a casual observer of the statistics to be progressing as rapidly as it really is, while in some other sections it may appear to be advancing more rapidly than is in reality the case; the reason being that in long-settled localities the tendency is rather to consolidate, to improve and to enlarge the old, than to experiment with new