

From it, it appears that there are in Richmond 17 printing offices, employing 269 hands, having an invested capital of \$177,300, and making annual sales amounting to \$318,325; one type foundry, with four hands, \$10,000 capital, and \$25,000 annual sales; three engraving and lithographing establishments, with 24 hands, \$25,100 capital and \$60,823 annual sales; two paper mills, with 95 hands, \$105,000 capital, and \$175,500 annual sales; five blank book and paper box factories, with 452 hands, \$31,500 capital, and \$127,300 annual sales.

The following officers of Richmond Typographical Union, No. 90, have been installed for the present year: Henry Meyer, president; G. W. Wilde, vice-president; Thos. T. Hurdle, recording secretary; Wm. E. Wood, corresponding and financial secretary; A. W. Tyree, treasurer; C. A. J. Hill, sergeant-at-arms.

Some of the readers of the new year edition of the *Dispatch* were a little surprised to learn that there exists in the city another printers' organization besides the Typographical Union. Among the colored unions reported appears the "Printers' Union—Richard L. Hewlett, president—membership, 4." This organization is, I suppose, composed entirely of negroes employed on the *Virginia Star*, a weekly newspaper, published, edited and printed by negroes.

A new job office has been recently started by Clemmitt & Andrews, both of whom were formerly in the office of W. Ellis Jones. Andrews enjoys the reputation of being the best fancy job printer in this section, and Tom Clemmitt is a good printer and a popular fellow. They are determined to do only good work, for which they will expect fair pay, and leave the "slop-shop" patronage for others to scramble over. They deserve well of the craft and the public, and their success, so far, is, I hope, but prophetic of the good things in store for them.

The catalogue of the late Judge Greene's library—printed by W. E. Jones—makes a volume of 210 pages. The library, which contains 10,000 volumes, is being sold at auction in this city.

I can think of but little news from other sections of the State. The West Point *Star*, under the management of Messrs. Bagby & Stubbs, is flourishing. It is one of the neatest "country" papers I have seen lately. The office of the Burkeville *Sentinel* was burned down

recently. The Norfolk *Day-Book* has suspended. The Fredericksburg *News* has recently put on a new dress. Danville, with a population of about 8,000, has been trying to run two dailies and two or three weeklies. The *Post* (daily,) was recently sold out by the sheriff, and, I believe, one of the weeklies has suspended.

It may not be *news*, but will nevertheless be of interest to some of your readers to know that the first paper published in Virginia was the *Virginia Gazette*, which was started in the town of Williamsburg, (then the Capital of the State,) in 1736, and was printed on a half sheet of foolscap paper. The "Declaration of Independence" first appeared in this paper. A copy of the paper, dated January 3, 1780, contained the following announcement by the publishers: "All persons may be supplied with this paper at \$50 a year, and have advertisements (of moderate length) inserted for \$10 the first week, and \$7 each week after."

More anon.

TEMPLE.

P. S.—Since the first portion of my letter was written, inquiries in regard to the state of the trade lead me to the conclusion that more job work is being done in this city just now than at any time for several years past. In conversation with an employing printer, he informed me that the employers felt the necessity of an effort to break up the amateur offices, but that no one would take the lead. Several had talked with him on the subject, but none had made any effort whatever to accomplish the much-to-be-desired end. I am every day more and more impressed with the desirability of some such move—both for the good of the employers and of the journeymen—and I hope the day will soon come when those who have capital invested in the business will move in the matter.

Ottawa News.

OTTAWA, Dec. 30.

Kemptville, North Leeds, has a new paper. It is called the *Advance*, and G. E. Watt is the proprietor. The publisher intends to insist on "advance" payment of subscriptions, hence the name adopted.

The Canada Central Railway authorities intend to give the members of the press in this section an excursion trip to the Western Extension shortly. The Bohemians will vote them "jolly good fellows."