

opposed by a new organization. It promptly came to the support of the Free Democratic State ticket nominated at Jackson, February 22, 1854, and in July following as heartily espoused the cause of the newly organized Republican party, in which the Free Democratic party had been merged. It was ever after a Republican journal. In the publication of the weekly edition, its proprietor, Aaron B. Turner, had associated with him as business partners: in 1848, James Scribner; in 1849, A. H. Proctor; in 1851-52, his father, Isaac Turner. Among contributors to its editorial columns were: C. F. Barstow, George Martin and Ralph W. Cole.

The Daily Herald.

Alphonso E. Gordon came to Grand Rapids from Brunswick, N. J., and on March 19, 1855, began the publication of the Grand Rapids Daily Herald, the first daily newspaper in the city. Ostinently it was a neutral paper as far as politics was concerned, but later came out squarely in support of the Democratic party. It quickly obtained a fair patronage in a community which until then had been supplied with only weekly papers for its local news. It was published until May 1, 1857, when it was consolidated with the Daily Enquirer.

The Daily Enquirer.

Jacob Barns & Co., of the old weekly Enquirer, began the publication of a daily issue November 19, 1855, with Charles H. Taylor as editor. William B. Howe was engaged as city editor, and this marked a new departure in local journalism. Jonathan P. Thompson became its editor in August, 1856. The Daily Enquirer was published under these auspices until May 1, 1857, when A. E. Gordon of the Herald purchased it, and consolidated the two papers. For a brief time a semi-weekly was published in connection with the daily Enquirer.

Daily Enquirer and Herald.

Associated with Mr. Gordon in this enterprise was Jonathan P. Thompson, a political and news writer, and the firm name was Gordon & Thompson. The partnership did not last long, on account of disagreement. The office property was seized upon a chattel mortgage, and, being carried away by unskilled hands,