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EDITORIAL.—With this number begins the fifth volume of the GAZETTE. We do not wish to press its claims too persistently, but at the same time, we do not wish them to be lost sight of, and the volume might as well begin as usual, with both a retrospect and a prospect. When, in November, 1875, the GAZETTE made its first appearance, bearing the already preoccupied name of BULLETIN, having four pages and not a single subscriber or contributor even promised, it was felt to be a hazardous experiment. If the usual methods had been employed, the GAZETTE would never have seen the light of day. In the first place, consultation with botanical friends would probably have frost killed the nascent bud. There would have been objections to the paper and more serious ones to the editor. If it had escaped this ordeal, the attempt to get subscriptions and notes before beginning would have destroyed the last lingering spark of life the frost had left. But those dangers were avoided by acting in no such prudent way, but by starting as if all botanists were encouraging and there was a large subscription list pledged. The end of it was that the GAZETTE was not a paying investment for the first year, and not much better the second. The third and fourth years have seen a rapid advance, and the time has come at last when it seems that the GAZETTE is really able to completely pay its way. At the same time the printed matter has been quadrupled and the subscription kept at the original price.

There has been another favorable change. The first volume or two were mainly editorial, and as neither of the editors had had a particularly large botanical experience, there was sometimes a good deal of space devoted to a very little matter. Now the editor need not write at all with the object of supplying the call for "copy," but only for the purpose of stirring up friends whose zeal begins to flag, and of convincing strangers that they had better be strangers no longer. In view of the fact, then, that in the struggle for existence the GAZETTE has seemed to be the fittest to survive, while others have perished, we would urge that botanists take vigorous hold and by means of subscriptions, advertisements and contributions, make this volume unexampled for its rapid advance.

CATALPA SPECIOSA, Warder.—A middle sized tree with grayish-brown, much cracked or furrowed, at last slightly flaky bark and light, yellowish gray wood; leaves large, truncated or more or less cordate at base, slenderly acuminate, soft downy on the under side, inodorous; flowers in large and loose panicles; tube of the corolla conical, longer than wide, its lower part scarcely protracted; upper lip before its expansion longer than the other lobes and enveloping them, lower lobe



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