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THE

Agassiz Association Journal.

Vol. I. LYNN, MASS., JUNE, 1885. No. 1.

PIKE'S PEAK MINERALS.

The Pike's Peak region in Colorado has been thoroughly prospected for mines; countless prospect holes have been sunk, and there have been several feeble and short-lived mining excitements started concerning different sections of it. But thus far no paying mine has been found. It is a profitless region for the prospector, but to the mineralogist there is hardly a more interesting region in all the world. Within a radius of a few miles there are more rare minerals found than in any similar space in our country. It has been for years an interesting field for collectors, but the discoveries of the past two years have made it doubly so. Let me mention some of the minerals thus far found. Among the more common ones are microline, (white and green, the latter called Amazon stone), and smoky quartz (cairngorm), which is cut and sold to the Colorado market as "topaz." These are found in a number of places. Large quantities of them, including many magnificent specimens, have been taken from Crystal Peak, fifteen miles northwest of Pike's Peak. Fine specimens of fluorite and gothite are found in the same place; also an occasional fragment of true topaz. Around Manitou, which is at the base of Pike's Peak, are found beautiful specimens of ribbon jasper, sardonyx, dendrites (forest-rock), also some calcite and aragonite.

In the vicinity of Specimen Rocks a few fine precious topazes have been found, and in connection with them some fine specimens of the rare gem, phenakite, which has not been found elsewhere in the United States, and is found in but four or five places in the world. Columbite is also found in this locality, and a banded mica which I have never seen elsewhere. Plates of it held to the light show very distinctly the lines of crystallization in the growth of the crystal.

In the vicinity of St. Peter's Dome are found astrophyllite, arfvedsonite, galenite, fluorite, very pure kaolinite (in crystals), beautiful hyacinthine zircon scattered thickly through white quartz, also fine larger crystals of opaque zircon set very thickly in the quartz gangue, and especially cryolite, pachtolite, thomsonite, gearsuite, prosopite, and a

new fluorite mineral discovered by Mr. C. W. Cross, of the U. S. Survey, and not yet named. These cryolite minerals are the first found in the United States, they are found in only one or two other places in the world. In this vicinity also are found the new and rare minerals, tysonite and bastnasite. What other rare things are to be found in this locality remains to be seen.

In the Garden of the Gods beautiful geodes of celestite have been found, also celestite in massive and fibrous forms. Some of the geodes contain little white balls of strontianite that look just like homeopathic pills. Geodes of dog-tooth spar are also found. Immense beds of gypsum are found in the same vicinity, in which are veins of beautiful satin spar. A few miles further south is a locality that furnishes fine crystals of selamite, calcite, baryta, and also perfect cones of that geological puzzle "cone-in-cone."

On the bluffs around Colorado Springs are found quantities of petrified wood in its different forms of wood agates, wood opal, wood jasper, and wood carnelian. Fine specimens of fire opal have also been found.

Some twenty-five miles north of Pike's Peak Mr. Walter Smith has found some of the finest topazes ever found in America. They are perfectly clear, and hence fine for cutting. Some almost perfect crystals weighed nearly half a pound.

Take it all in all the Pike's Peak region is a wonderfully interesting one to the mineralogist, whether he be amateur or professional, as it is also to the geologist and the lover of grand and beautiful scenery.

REV. R. T. CROSS,
Denver, Colorado.

A COMPANION FOR THE "WEEPING WILLOW."

In the island of Goa, near Bombay, there is a singular vegetable called the "Sorrowful Tree," because it flourishes only in the night. At sunset no flowers are to be seen, and yet after half an hour it is full of them. They yield a sweet odor, but the sun no sooner begins to shine upon them than some of them fall off and others close up, and thus it continues flowering in the night during the whole year.—*Boston Budget.*

ONE THING AT A TIME.

With this number we make our bow to the little world of naturalists, students and collectors, known as the *Agassiz Association*. In no manner shall we attempt to represent the association with this paper, but we shall endeavor to aid it in any way we can. The "No. 1" of almost every magazine is small and weak, and we are no exception to the rule; however we intend to take rapid strides to perfection, and ere long we hope to possess the leading magazine for amateur naturalists and collectors. We shall have each month an interesting article from the pen of some leading writer. We shall divide the paper into departments of Mineralogy, Entomology, Botany, Geology, Oology and Ornithology, Philately, Numismatics, Queries, Notes, Fraud List, Exchanges, and Advertisements of strictly reliable dealers. Besides the above, we shall have departments, occasionally, on Astronomy, Physiology, Chemistry, Conchology, Microscopy, Zoology, Anatomy, Biology, Prize Essays, New Publications, etc. We shall increase to double our present size, and add beautifully illuminated covers by an expert engraver. Surely, none will complain of our prices. Notice in another column the list of premiums, one of which we shall give away to every subscriber. Before our next issue we hope and expect to enroll at least two thousand new subscribers to our present list. Nobody will regret paying the small sum demanded, when the premiums which we will send each month are worth more than the cost of subscription.

On page four will be found the full terms of this paper, with special rates, etc. We are a little late this month, owing to several reasons, but hereafter we shall come out regularly the tenth of each month. Our offers are worth the consideration of every member, especially Special Offer No. 5. It will be an easy matter to bring a copy of this magazine at the next meeting, and after showing it to all the members, get them to each pay 40 cents to the secretary, or other officer, who will forward money to us. Remember that each subscriber will receive a premium every month. Should there happen to be any persons who do not care for the premiums, but desire the paper, we will discount 20 cents. Thus a chapter sending us ten full subs. and three subs. without premiums, would pay \$4.60. The chapter also has a chance to get Prize Offer No. 1.

It is very often the case that a chapter at the commencement attempts to take all of nature with one grasp. They begin to study, sometimes each one for himself, a different subject, or all subjects at once, in natural history. As a result they make a complete failure, for they cannot make any general observations, no special researches and no fair progress in any one branch of the study. And to this very fact is often laid the cause of lack of interest, which is eventually followed by dissolution. One of the best plans at the commencement is this: First consider well, before acting, what subject is the best to study. A large number of chapters study entomology, but at present the popular study is geology, and we think it is more instructive than the former. Whatever you undertake, push it through. Buy good books on the subject; do not borrow them, for you will want to insert your own pen notes. Go into the woods, out in the fields, and on the shore. Study with spirit, and success is certain.

SCRAP BOOKS.

Every chapter should possess scrap books. At some second-hand book store you can buy a number of old directories or government reports very cheap. Have one for each subject in natural history. Appoint a "Manager of the Scrap Books," whose duty it shall be to collect and insert in these books any interesting clippings which they may be able to obtain. In this way a large library may be formed at a very small expense, and a collection of this sort would be as valuable as an equal number of published volumes, for the latter can be bought at almost any time, while your own books are the only existing copies.

Philately and Numismatics are not included in natural history subjects, but we have decided to give our readers a column on the above subjects, inasmuch as at least three thousand or more of our readers are interested in that subject. Those who collect stamps or coins derive much pleasure from that source. So popular is the study that it supports a large number of magazines devoted entirely to the dissemination of knowledge concerning stamps and coins.

We intended to begin a department of Zoology in this issue, but not having room we are obliged to omit. As we shall probably enlarge next issue, we shall certainly give our zoologists a full column or more. Send us contributions.

Mineralogy and Geology.

TABLE OF ELEMENTARY SUBSTANCES, WITH THEIR SYMBOLS.

Aluminium—Al	Manganese—Mn
Antimony—Sb (1)	Mercury—Hg (6)
Arsenic—As	Molybdenum—Mo
Barium—Ba	Nickel—Ni
Bismuth—Bi	Nitrogen—N
Boron—B	Osmium—Os
Bromine—Br	Oxygen—O
Cadmium—Cd	Palladium—Pd
Calcium—Ca	Phosphorus—P
Carbon—C	Platinum—Pl
Cerium—Ce	Potassium—K (7)
Chlorine—Cl	Rhodium—R
Chromium—Cr	Selenium—Se
Cobalt—Co	Silicon—Si
Columbium—Cm	Silver—Ag (8)
Copper—Cu (2)	Sodium—Na (9)
Dysmium—Di	Strontium—Sr
Fluorine—F	Sulphur—S
Glucium—G	Tellurium—Te
Gold—Au (3)	Thorium—Th
Hydrogen—H	Tin—Sn (10)
Iodine—I	Titanium—Ti
Iridium—Ir	Tungsten—W (11)
Iron—Fe (4)	Vanadium—V
Lantanum—Ln	Uranium—U
Lead—Pb (5)	Yttrium—Y
Lithium—L	Zinc—Zn
Magnesium—Mg	Zirconium—Zr

POLISHING SPECIMENS.—Many specimens of minerals are very handsome when nicely polished, but polishing requires much time, labor and patience. A grindstone reduces certain specimens quite fast, but when there is a large surface to be ground, and the specimen is very hard, the labor becomes exceedingly tedious to one not accustomed to it. After grinding down to the required plane, rub with a finer grained stone, and lastly with one of still finer texture. Numerous varieties of agates, etc., present a fine appearance when nicely polished.

LABELING SPECIMENS.—The best way to label specimens and fossils is to attach to each a slip of paper with the name, locality and date; the number is convenient only when some reference is to be made in the note book. When the name is upon the specimen the eye gets accustomed to the name and specimen, and thus memory is aided. Fossils should have, in addition to name and locality, the geological age and period.

The best way to remove garnets and other crystals from limestone, is by the use of acids not affecting the crystals.

Botany.

MOTION IN PLANTS.

When an unbiased observer investigates the phenomenon of motion in vegetables, he would commence with them at their birth. For this purpose he will sow various seeds and watch their germination. Suppose some of these grains have been sown the wrong way the rootlet turned upward, and the plumule, or little stem, turned down. Suppose also that an observer can distinguish the rootlet from the plumule, and knows the functions of each, in a few days he will notice that the rootlet has risen to the surface of the earth, while the plantlet has sunk beneath it. He will not be surprised at this direction so detrimental to the life of the plant, but will attribute it to the position he had given to the grains in sowing them. Continuing his observation, he will see the rootlet double on itself in order to get into the earth, and the plumule curve correspondingly to rise in the air. The change in the direction will seem very strange to him, and he will begin to suspect that the organization he is studying is endowed with a sort of discernment.

FISH-EATING PLANTS.

Professor Baird, of the National Museum at Washington, has received from England a specimen of an aquatic fish-eating plant, known as the great bladderwort, which has been discovered to be peculiarly destructive to the young fish. The plant is large, has no roots, but floats free in the water, and its leaves bear small bladders which entrap the fish fry. Twelve or fifteen species of the plant are found within the limits of the United States, and it abounds in the fish commission's carp ponds in Washington, where it has been introduced at great labor and expense, having been heretofore regarded as excellent fish food. Professor Baird will warn carp culturists to destroy the plant wherever found.—*Tidings from Nature.*

It has generally been supposed that the leaves of plants neither absorb watery vapor nor water, but "that when the supply of water to the roots is sufficient, this is true; but if the supply to the root is insufficient, the leaves will absorb liquid water, but not vapor."

The branch coral grows at the rate of six inches a year, but the entire growth of a reef cannot be estimated by this.

The Agassiz Association Journal.

WM. E. SKINNER, EDITOR.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

IN THE INTERESTS OF

Amateur Naturalists, Students and Collectors.

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Cash in advance, unless the reference of local postmaster or other public officer can be furnished. Remit by bank draft, P. O. money order, postal note, registered letter, cash or U. S. unused 1-cent stamps. We prefer money order or bank draft, which may be sent at our risk. Foreign correspondents please send U. S. value in P. O. order, bank draft or unused low value stamps.
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AGENTS FOR ADVERTISEMENTS.—O. A. Dale, Georgetown, Mass.; Whilden's Philatelic Adv. Bureau, Pelzer, S. C.

OUR PREMIUMS.

We shall make a practice each month of giving a premium to every paid subscriber. The value of these premiums, we intend, shall equal the entire cost of the magazine. This month we offer choice of following curiosities and specimens:

1. Sea Urchin.
2. Star Fish.
3. Skate-fish Egg.
4. Finely preserved dried sea weed, not pressed, natural form.
5. A large and beautiful horse shoe crab (if 16 cents in stamps are sent for postage only).
6. Red Porphyry.
7. Jasper.
8. A fine fossil.
9. A foreign coin.
10. 25 fine stamps.
11. 100 labels for minerals.

12. Dendrite.

13. A book, "Receipts for Collectors."

14. 25 Data Blank.

Only one of the above articles or lots to each subscriber. Write us your choice on a postal card, and we will send articles. If no choice is received before July 1 we will use our own judgment in selecting premiums. We can supply only a few hundred of each of the above, and so those who desire to subscribe after receiving this issue should do so at once before our supply is gone.

PRIZE OFFERS.

OFFER NO. 1.

For the largest list of subscriptions to this paper, accompanied with cash, as in special offers No. 1 and 5, (premiums included), which we receive before July 1, 1885, FIVE DOLLARS IN GOLD. For second largest list, a one year subscription to the *Public Herald*, worth \$1.00.

OFFER NO. 2.

For best six hundred (or less) word essay on "How to Keep Order at a Meeting," we will give a year's subscription to any magazine costing \$3.00 or less. Choice of winner. Due July 1, 1885.

OFFER NO. 3.

For the best essay on any subject pertaining to mineralogy (unlimited as to size), we offer a prize of three dollars' worth of fine specimens. Due July 1, 1885.

NEWSPAPERS AND MAGAZINES.

Following is a list of newspapers and magazines which we will supply to subscribers only at following rates. Remit in cash, direct to us, and we will pay your subscription direct to publishers. These prices are for one year.

Age of Steel,	\$2.50
St. Nicholas,	2.90
American Microscopical Journal,	1.00
American Naturalist,	3.85
American Sports,	1.50
American Young Folks,	1.72
Art Amateur,	3.75
Arthur's Home Magazine,	1.75
Century,	3.85
Canadian Entomologist,	1.00
Coin Collectors' Journal,	1.80
Public Herald,	1.40
Golden Days,	2.80
Popular Science News,	.98
Popular Science Monthly,	4.65
Science Record,	1.00
School of Mines Journal,	.95
Scientific American,	3.00
Scientific American Supplement,	4.75
Both the above to one address,	6.75

For Special Offers see page 7.

Entomology

Ornithology and Oology

PRESERVING PREPARATIONS.

A very strong brine will preserve insects till something better can be procured.

Glycerine is good for preserving the color of caterpillars, but the internal parts decay somewhat and they will fall apart by rough handling.

For moths, etc., a very good article is made by adding 14 grains (troy) of arsenic to a pint and a half of alcohol. They should be kept in it from 12 to 24 hours and then dried.

Another for the same purpose is: 1-10 to 1 part of corrosive sublimate to 100 parts of alcohol. Insects should not be kept in this solution more than two or three hours and dried.

The nests, cocoons, and chrysalids of insects may be preserved by soaking them in benzine or carbolic acid.

Deep-sea spiders are remarkable for their colossal size, compared with those of shallower water.

For mending broken insects, such as wings, legs, antennae, etc., that have dropped off, a gum composed of inspissated ox-galls, softened by a small amount of water, will be found available.

A good killing bottle for insects is made by placing a few small drops of potassium cyanide in a bottle which has a very wide mouth. Now pour over this some plaster of paris, mixed with water. This hardens, forming a deadly floor upon which the insect falls on being put into the bottle.

"There is no rest for the weary," you say, and sigh for relief from the pestilence of mosquitos, gnats, etc. Just think of what life must be to the naturalist, as he sits all alone among thousands of such insects, studying their habits as they fly to and fro. Ah! but listen. Not one of those little creatures will touch him. And why? Each day during the summer months, he washes himself with the following solution: One ounce quassia chips; two quarts of boiling water; put in a tin basin, stir about five minutes, and when cold, strain and keep in a well corked bottle. Applied to the face, neck and hands and allowed to dry on, you are free from all insects.

Those receiving sample copies of this issue should bear in mind that we shall send out no more, and therefore they should subscribe at once.

Notes and other communications are solicited for this department from those interested. Address the publishers.

ALLIGATORS' NESTS.

The nests resemble hay-cocks. They are four feet high, and five in diameter at their bases, being constructed of grass and herbage. First, the alligators deposit one layer of eggs on a floor of mortar, and having covered this with a stratum of mud herbage eight inches thick, lay another set of eggs upon that, and so on to the top, there being commonly from one to two hundred eggs in a nest. With their tails they then beat down round the nest the dense grass and reeds, five feet high, to prevent the approach of unseen enemies. The female watches her eggs until they are hatched by the heat of the sun, and then takes her brood under her own care, defending them, and providing for their subsistence. Dr. Lutzemburg, of New Orleans, told me that he once packed up one of these nests in a box for the museum of St. Petersburg, but he was recommended, before he closed it, to see that there was no danger of the eggs being hatched on the voyage. On opening one, a young alligator walked out, and he was soon followed by the rest, about a hundred, which he fed in his house, where they went up and down stairs, whining and barking like young puppies.

PARUS HUDSONICUS.—Mr. Ralph A. Quinby of Boston had the good fortune to secure a specimen of Hudsonian Titmouse, while collecting in Quincy, Mass., March 14 of this year. It was with the common black-capped.

ON JUNE 11, 1884, I found a robin's nest in an apple tree. On gaining the nest I saw five little heads sticking out, the possessors of two of which were robins, but the other three, which were not half as large as the robins, I did not recognize. There was also an unhatched robin's egg in the nest. Six days after I went again, when the remaining egg was hatched, making six young ones. By the 18th they had grown so much that one of the house-wrens, for such they proved to be, died. On the 20th I found one of the wrens had mounted the nest, ready to leave. This I caught and examined closely, making sure that it was a house-wren. Is it common for house-wrens to deposit their eggs in other birds' nests? —X. Y. Z., in *Ornithologist and Oologist*.

Philately and Numismatics.

RARE U. S. COINS.

The rarest United States coin is the Double Eagle of 1849, of which there is only one in existence, and it belongs to the U. S. Mint cabinet. The next in rarity is the Half Eagle of 1815, of which there are only five specimens known to exist.

The Silver Dollar of 1804 is the rarest of the U. S. silver. Of this dollar only ten pieces are known to exist, all in the hands of collectors. Several re-strikes have been made of the 1804 dollar. A fine specimen made from the original die would cost, at the least, \$1000, though there are many dates which frequently sold for several dollars. Those of 1796-97, if in extra fine condition, will sell for \$40. The one dated 1796 is the rarer, and generally sells at a still higher price. The Quarter Dollars of 1823 and 1827, if in fine condition, sell readily at \$30 each, but if in extra fine condition double that sum is freely given by collectors.

Of the dimes there are more of extreme rarity, though the date of 1804 is the rarest of the dimes, and if in a good condition will sell for \$5 or \$10; but a real fine one would bring a great deal more. The Half Dime of 1804 is the rarest of the half dimes; and a very fine specimen will sell readily for \$100.

There are other U. S. coins much desired by collectors, and a good many coins that are worth a good price pass from hand to hand for their face value, and yet there are many collectors offering a large price for them. The price of any rare coin depends entirely upon its condition. All persons may become acquainted with the different dates and prices of coins by obtaining a premium coin book from some dealer.

PHILATELIC ODDS AND ENDS.

There are 150 dealers in postage stamps in Paris.

The first postal card appeared in the fall of 1869 and was issued by Austria.

The best paste for attaching stamps in an album is that made of rice flour.

The counterfeit Ten Cent, blue, Confederate States may be detected by the disproportionally large nose.

The blue numbers on the back of the 1875 issue of Spain denote where they were taken from the sheet, the stamps being numbered consecutively.

Our Fraud List.

As this department is published solely for the benefit of our subscribers, we solicit them to send us at once any proofs of fraud which they may discover. All correspondence will be treated as confidential. Address immediately on receipt of information, to W. E. Skinner & Co., Lynn, Mass., marking the letter "Personal."

W. H. HALE, "M. D."
Publisher of Health and Home, alias "Dr." Carson, is a fraud of the worst kind. As he is doing a great deal of advertising we warn our subscribers to be on their guard. He offers to sell or give to subscribers to his nasty sheet a piece of the Washington monument. This is a fraud, as he has none of the original granite. His address is No. 723 12th St., Washington, D. C. See *Public Herald* of April for further particulars.

WM. B. OSGOODBY
Lives in so many places and under so many names that it is hard to keep track of him. His latest alias is "The Housewife" and "National Agriculturist" of Nunda, N. Y., and "National Youth" of Buffalo, N. Y.

"GOLDEN DAYS"
Is a very good paper, but it openly advertises many of the most disgusting frauds. List on application.

GEO. BARNHART
Runs the Home Card Co., at Schooleys, Ross Co., Ohio. Money sent to him is "lost forever."

21 PARK ROW, NEW YORK CITY.
Is the post-office of a large number of frauds.

ONTARIO KORRESPONDING KLUB.
Publishers of amateur and philatelic papers are getting taken in by this concern, which is a fraud on its face.

E. P. TIFFANY AND CO.
Adorn the pages of *Golden Days* and many other papers with their fraud advertisements.

FREDERICK LOWEY
Is engaged in fraudulent schemes.

TRUE AND CO., AUGUSTA, MAINE.
Are exposed by the *Public Herald* of Philadelphia.

FOUR PER CENT. LOAN.
This fraud is advertised very extensively. We have no room for particulars, but any sensible person will see fraud on the face of the advertisement.

W. H. SIZER
Advertises very extensively, but is a cheat.

BLJOU NOVELTY CO.
Is an alias of Sizer, New York City.

NEW BEDFORD.
Has a number of frauds—Bristol Piano Co., Subbeam Pub. Co., and Leavitt & Co., alias Russel & Co. We are now investigating Chase & Co. and Globe Co., who send out circulars of Ivoryine and Labor Saving Soap. Their circulars are exactly alike, and they each offer to give away a \$125.00 organ for a few dollars worth of orders.

NEXT MONTH

We shall make some very startling exposures of certain dealers of high standing. We are now collecting proof. Be sure and get next issue, which will be sent to subscribers only.

Queries and Answers.

Q.—When I first began to collect eggs I had the foolish habit of marking directly on the egg with inks. Now I desire to get the stains off. How?—A. M. C., Manchester, Mich.

Ans.—Use a weak solution of sulphuric acid and water, five drops of acid to every tablespoonful of water. Wash the egg after each application, but if the ink has penetrated the entire thickness of the shell it cannot be removed.

Q.—How can I soften an old bird skin?—W. H. R., Salem, Mass.

Ans.—Remove stuffing, fill the interior with tow saturated with water, but not dripping. Put pads of the same under the wings, wrap the bill and legs in damp cloth, and set in a dry, cool place for some time.

Q.—How is Agassiz pronounced?—T. N. T., Brooklyn, N. Y.

Ans.—The common pronunciation is Ag-as-se, with the accent on the first syllable. We have sometimes heard Ah-gah-siz, with the accent on the second syllable.

Q.—What is the premium on cents of 1848, '49 and '77.—WILLIE R., Newport, R. I.

Ans.—No premium on the former, unless in fine condition. The latter is worth about four cents in very fine condition.

Q.—Our chapter is divided as to the cause of the humming sound on telegraph wires. Can you help us?

Ans.—The humming sound is not caused by any electric current as might be supposed, but by the vibrations caused by the wind. It is a sort of a mammoth æolian harp.

Correspondence.

In this department we would be pleased to publish any correspondence from our subscribers, such as criticisms, reports, "finds," progress, notes, deaths, etc. Write only on one side of paper.

This month we fill this department with other matter.

OUR SPECIAL OFFERS.

OFFER NO. 1.

The regular subscription price of this paper is one dollar per year, but as we desire to increase our subscription list at once to a large list, we make the following offer, good only till July 1, 1885: THIS PAPER ONE YEAR, AND A PREMIUM EACH MONTH, FOR ONE-HALF PRICE, FIFTY CENTS, to any member of the *Agassiz Association*. See list of premiums on 4th page.

OFFER NO. 2.

This paper one year, with premiums and *St. Nicholas* one year, for \$3.25. Subscription to either paper may begin at any time, but must be paid before July 1, 1885.

OFFER NO. 3.

This paper and premiums one year, also *Scientific American* one year, for \$3.30, if paid before above date.

OFFER NO. 4.

We will on request send a list of many other offers like the above, but of various papers.

OFFER NO. 5.

When one Chapter of the A. A. sends two or more subscriptions to this paper before above date, the rate will be FORTY CENTS for each.

CURIOUS FACTS.

"Live" ostrich feathers repel sand and the dealer's test is to rub the suspicious feather over loose sand.

Seven inches from the outside of a log in a Pennsylvania mill the saw passed through a walnut which was imbedded in the solid wood. The shell and kernel of the nut were sound. The growth of the tree shows that the nut is at least fifty years old.

The wide awake citizens of Boston have been sadly bitten by a bogus issue of the old Pine Tree Shilling currency, got up by a smart Gothamite.—*American Notes and Queries*, July, 1857.

The above shows that all the above mentioned currency in possession of collectors may not be strictly genuine.

Notes of Interest.

174, Easton, Pa., is alive again. Local Chapter papers please.

Our fraud list may save some of our readers' money.

Wanted, suggestions as to how we can improve this paper.

A deposit of rich phosphates has been found near Selma, Ala.

Portland, Or., B. 340, has commenced the study of electricity.

Read Special Offer No. 4, page 4. Now read the rest of the offers.

Advertisers must not ask for credit, as we cannot afford to give it.

A twenty-cent piece (U. S.) of 1877 or '78 is worth from one to three dollars.

Will Chapters and individuals send us any notes of interest which they possess?

The best way to get anything you want—a small advertisement in this paper.

It is now supposed that *kaolin* is produced by the mechanical decomposition of mica.

Madison, Wisconsin, Chap. 325, has a number of fine aquariums, recently enlarged.

Williams College will send an exploring party next summer into the Rocky Mountains.

See last page of cover for price list of printing. Satisfaction guaranteed. No amateur work.

Prof. Alexander Winchell, of the University of Michigan, offers to aid geological students.

Dr. E. M. Wadsworth has found picotite, a chrome spinel, in the basalt of Mt. Shasta, California.

528, Huntingburg, Ind., boasts of 100 per cent. average attendance. What Chapter can beat this?

Advertisers should send in copy before the 28th of this month, in order to secure space in the next issue.

Wm. B. Greenough, Amherst, Mass., asks us to expose G. W. Jackson, Jr., Baltimore, Md., as a cheat.

Will our subscribers who are interested in chemistry, botany, oology or numismatics please let us know?

We will give a year's subscription, without premiums, to this paper for any three copies of *St. Nicholas* since 1880, and prior to 1885, or 1000 common U. S. stamps, used, not torn.

A. A. Chapters all over the world seem to be flourishing by increase in size as well as knowledge. Good.

Extra copies of this issue will be sent for distribution among members of chapters who will send stamps for postage.

Our subscribers need have no fear of sending money to advertisers in this paper, as we do not aid unreliable firms.

We can furnish *St. Nicholas*, to our subscribers only, at the rate of \$2.90 per year, which is less than publishers' rates. See another column.

We have a few copies of "Hubbard's Premium Coin Catalogue," showing prices paid for rare coins, which we will supply to our readers for 10 cents each.

We desire A. A. members to send us communications of interest, which we will publish in our Correspondence column. No names will be mentioned, if desired.

Our premium distribution will undoubtedly become very popular. If subscribers will tell us what specimens are most desired, we will endeavor to procure what they want with only charge for postage.

The coming summer offers to be one of the most prosperous seasons ever known in the A. A. New chapters are constantly organizing, old ones reorganizing and interest increasing in all branches of natural history.

Chapters or members of chapters who have any good specimens to sell, should insert a small advertisement in this paper. As we reach 9000 naturalists, mostly A. A. members, an advertisement would give profitable returns.

We trust that all our readers have "read," "reflected" and "acted" on our fourth page offers. A magazine like this with 12 choice premiums for 50 cents, or less, should be subscribed for by every genuine A. A. naturalist.

Now is the time for open air meetings, on the shore or in the woods. The practical study of nature is much better than to study from books. Some chapters have even arranged to "camp out" for a week or so during the hot months. They will probably get some undesired information concerning mosquito-ology.

We believe that the privileges of cheap advertising should not be restricted to wealthy dealers who can afford to pay for a page at a time. We have accordingly made our prices at a very large discount from those of any other like paper, and in doing so we solicit the support of every advertiser. See 4th page for rates.

Exchanges.

We shall open this department for the benefit of our subscribers who desire to exchange any articles they may possess. We shall not act as third party in any exchange, but will do all we can to secure a friendly communication between subscribers. Exchanges will not be limited as to size, but we reserve the right to refuse or modify any which we receive. None of the nature of an advertisement will be inserted except at regular advertising rates.

Having no exchanges this month we occupy this column with other matter.

A "SMART" FRAUD.

Too late for our Fraud List comes the particulars of a fraud in the South. In almost every amateur philatelic journal may be seen of late:

100 DOLLARS for every \$10 you invest. W. W. Fondren, Langston, Alabama.

Young man writes to tell Fondren that he has \$10.00 to invest. In a few days he gets circulars of a very confidential nature; in fact he wishes to employ the young man to "handle" his "greenbacks, which are perfect imitations, and will pass anywhere." "Send your money in a plain letter and I will send a lot of samples to order from." Can Fondren be arrested for handling counterfeit money? No, because he doesn't handle any. If silly dupe sends his \$10.00, Fondren will pocket the money without saying anything. Silly dupe won't dare to "sneak" because in doing so he would expose his own dishonesty. Look out.

The rule of the publishers of this magazine is to pay no attention to anonymous communications.

Eight thousand members of the A. A. will read this issue, besides a number of other amateur naturalists. Advertisers should remember that our space is limited.

Mr. L. W. Stillwell of Dakota will contribute regularly to this magazine. We shall employ a corps of ten of the best special writers to furnish us with interesting articles.

The recent sudden death of a son of one of the professors of the Columbian University, Washington, was accounted for by the physicians who investigated the case by the youth's habit of persistent cigarette smoking. The primary cause of death was aortic regurgitation, which had been increased by the inhalation of cigarette smoke.

TIN IN THE BLACK HILLS.

BY L. W. STILLWELL.

America imports her tin, consuming vast quantities. The most of her tin comes from Cornwall, England. Several discoveries of tin ore have been made in this country, but the "prospects" never proved rich enough to warrant the erection of reduction works. The discoveries in the Black Hills within the last two years come nearer to encouraging the thought that the day is not far distant when we shall be less dependent upon England for our supply of tin than now. Thirty-five miles west of Deadwood, at a point called "Nigger Hill," is a group of tin mine claims. Rock from these claims is found in large bodies, yielding from three to eight per cent. tin metal; and, while the cost of extracting would be much more expensive here than in England, yet it is believed the yield would be so much greater that these mines would pay well. The discovery of "Nigger Hill" was first made through "placer mining" for gold at the base of the hill. The dark, heavy cubes in the gravel, once thrown aside, on examination and test proved to be the richest of tin ore, called "Stream Tin." After the discovery the gravel was washed over to save the Stream Tin, and this ore is now bought up quickly by parties in Deadwood. The Stream Tin ore is nearly pure cassiterite, and pure cassiterite contains 78 per cent. metal of tin. Tin bars made from this Stream Tin may be seen displayed in several of the merchants' show windows in Deadwood. Tin ore in the stream is as indicative of a ledge from which it came as gold dust in the vicinity; hence, on examination of the hills contiguous to the Stream Tin, the prospector soon discovered plenty of Tin Rock, and now thousands of feet are located as tin mines, and the prospects are very flattering. Specimens which I have sent to scientists, and which were assayed by metallurgists, were pronounced veritably excellent tin ore, and created more interest than any other ores; and, on one occasion, was productive of a lecture on tin, in Chicago, before a gathering of scientists and leading men. It is hoped that home production sufficient for our needs may some day, not far distant, become a veritable fact.

Several thousand *nematite* specimens have been quarried in the serpentine and trap ridges of New Jersey by Prof. Leeds of Stevens Institute.

Publications Received.

RECEIPTS FOR COLLECTORS.—This is a little manual in the Natural History Series, containing a number of valuable receipts for collectors. H. M. Downs, Rutland, Vt., publisher. 8 pages. Price 4 cents. Also for sale by us at above price, postpaid.

AGASSIZ ASSOCIATION HANDBOOK.—We have received the second edition of this valuable little work from Prof. H. H. Ballard, Principal of Lenox Academy, Lenox, Mass. As this book is so well known among members of the Association, it needs but little notice here. — pages, handsomely bound in cloth and gold. Price, only 54 cts., in cash or stamps.

HINTS ON INSECT COLLECTING.—This is a most valuable little manual, especially for beginners. Contains full description of the outfit and valuable recipes. Its low price will commend itself at once. 20 pages, bound in paper. Price 10 cents. Address the publisher, George H. Richmond, Northfield, Vt. Also for sale by us at above price, postpaid.

THE COIN HANDBOOK.—This most valuable work contains a mint of information for those interested in North American coinage. Glossary of technical terms applied by numismatists; tables of fineness; statements of yearly issue, and tables showing the price which will be paid for rare coins. 62 pages, fine printing, bound in paper. Price 50 cents. Address Numismatic Pub. Co., E. L. Johnson, manager, Springfield, Mass.

AGASSIZ ASSOCIATION CONVENTION.—We have received from The Philadelphia Assembly of the Agassiz Association, P. O. Box 259, Philadelphia, Pa., a full report of the proceedings of the recent convention, held Sept. 2, 3 and 4 of last year. To the members of the Agassiz Association this book will be as interesting as Prof. Ballard's Handbook. 85 pages, finely printed and bound in heavy paper covers, for only 25 cents, which hardly pays cost. Address as above.

THE INTERNATIONAL COLLECTORS' GUIDE.—Students of Philately will find this a most interesting work on their hobby. It contains among other things an exhaustive treatise on the "Stamps of the Confederate States," also an interesting article on "Old U. S. Posts" (not fence posts, but mail posts). — 50 pages. Bound in paper. Price 25 cents, which includes a photograph of Mr. L. W. Durbin. Address W. G. Whilden, Jr., Pelzer, S. C. Also for sale by us at above price.

Fine mucilage for labels: Dextrine, 2 oz.; water, 6 oz.; alcohol, 1 oz.; glycerine, 1 dr.; mix and melt.

Advertisements.

When answering advertisements found in this paper, please do us a favor by mentioning "Saw advertisement in A. A. JOURNAL."

COLLECTORS! ATTENTION!

Fine specimens of Calespar, Epidote, Silver, Copper and Lead Ore, Mica (fine transparent), Dendrite, Porphyry (3 kinds), Ophite, Calcareous Tufa, Slag, Red Jasper, Selenite, Mica Schist, Coquina, Shale, Dimonite, Greenstone, Zinc Ore, etc., 10 cents to \$1.00. Six good minerals, (2x2 or over), 60 cents. 12 fine specimens (2x2 1/2 and larger) for \$1.00. All postpaid and labeled.

Fine Sea Curiosities.

Such as Star Fish, Sea Urchins and Sharks' eggs, 5 to 15 cents each. Six good Star Fish, Sea Urchins or Sharks' eggs for 25 cents. The lot, together with 8 good sea curiosities, postpaid for 25 cents. A fine lot of Confederate Bills, 10 cents; 3 for 25 cents. Chinese horn nuts for 10 cents. 10 cents' worth of anything advertised free with every order of 40 cents or over. Large reduction to clubs and associations. Write for what you want. Address

**E. G. HARLOW,
LYNN, MASS.**

W. G. WHILDEN, Jr.,

PELZER, SOUTH CAROLINA.

SPECIAL ADVERTISING AGENT,

For the Philatelic Press in America and Europe. Advertisements inserted at short notice at a discount from publisher's rates. Also will receive subscriptions for any paper. Recommended by the publishers, W. E. Skinner & Co.

STAMPS! STAMPS! STAMPS!

15 foreign, all different, 5 cents. Send deposit or reference for approval sheets, 33 1-3 per cent. commission. All stamps warranted strictly genuine. "V" nickels without word "cents," 15 cts. each. Old collection scrip for sale cheap. Send for price-list.

ROUNDY & BEAL, Foxboro, Mass.

RECEIPTS FOR COLLECTORS.

A collection of receipts invaluable to the collector, including "Preservative Fluids for Insects," "Killing Bottle," "Safe Chemical Preparations," gum paste for closing holes in drilled eggs, oil paste, scale of hardness, fine mucilage, preparation for preserving skins, etc., etc. Sent by mail to any address for 4 cts.

W. E. SKINNER & CO., Lynn, Mass.

PRINTERS! A Bargain. For sale, a 64A, 1000 font of this **NONPAREIL Full Face**, good as new, cost me \$4.50; will sell for \$2.00, cash, as I want a heavier face for newspaper work. **F. H. PINKHAM, Newmarket, N. H.**

Advertisements.

When answering advertisements found in this paper, please do us a favor by mentioning "Swiss advertisement in A. A. JOURNAL."

WANTED, OLD COINS. Premium List, 10 cts. W. E. SKINNER & CO., Lynn, Mass.

100 FOREIGN STAMPS, with large new catalogue, 5c. GEO. H. RICHMOND, Northfield, Vermont.

WANTED AT ONCE! Minerals in lots at low prices. W. E. SKINNER & COMPANY.

A RUBBER STAMP. Complete, with your name, ink, pad, etc., post free, 50 cents. G. F. MOERS, Perryville, Ohio. Any editor inserting this will receive a stamp free.

OLD COINS. 10 Foreign, 25 cents. \$133.00 in Confederate money, 20 cents. Premium Coin Book, 13 cents. G. L. FANCHER, West Winstead, Conn.

TO ANY PERSON SENDING me 25 cts. and a two-cent stamp, I will send a specimen of Jeffersons, with its analyses and test. This mineral is found in only one known locality in the world, and is correspondingly rare. MORRIS B. MILLES, Wallingford, Del. Co., Pa.

Send for one of my Approval Sheets of Stamps, at same time promise to return in 7 days, 25 per cent. commission. Set of Swiss, '82, 11 varieties, 15 cts.; Swiss, unpost, 7 varieties, 12 cts. 100 varieties foreign and price list, 5 cts.

JOHN A. THALHEIMER,
44 East Biddle St., Baltimore, Md.

WM. P. BROWN,
203 Gates Avenue, Brooklyn New York.

100 Foreign Stamps, all different, 10 cents; 300 Mixed, 10 cents. First Issue Japan, set of 4, UN-USED, 40 cents. Sheets of stamps sent on approval, with proper reference.

WM. V. D. WETTERN, JR.,
WHOLESALE DEALER IN

POSTAGE STAMPS,
176 SARATOGA ST., BALTIMORE, MD.

Price List free on application, to dealers only. All kinds of Postage Stamps bought for prompt cash.

FOR SALE

Mazon Creek Fossils, consisting of Ferns, Plants, Fish remains, Crawfish, Bugs, Flies, Caterpillars, etc. Choice collections of these fossils from \$1.00 to \$100.00, sent to any part of the world. Satisfaction guaranteed. The Mazon Creek Fossils are the finest in the world. For further information, address, mentioning this magazine, H. D. HILL, Morris, Ills.

OLD COINS WANTED. Send 10 cts. for large illustrated catalogue, showing prices we pay. W. E. SKINNER & Co., Lynn, Mass.

HANDBOOK of Insect Collecting, for Beginners. By mail for 10 cents. GEO. H. RICHMOND, Northfield, Vt.

CHINESE "CASH" COINS. Antique and choice. 6 cents each, 5 for 25 cents. W. E. SKINNER & CO., Lynn, Mass.

100 FOREIGN STAMPS and large new Circular sent for 5 1-cent stamps, if you name this paper. GEO. H. RICHMOND, Northfield, Vt.

THEODORE SIDDALL,
Buys and sells used U. S. Postage Stamps for cash, or pays list prices for them in stamps from his approval sheets. Lists 2c. Box 734, Philadelphia, Pa.

RUBBER STAMP AGENTS WANTED. Your name and large canvassing outfit, sent by mail for only 30c. New 144-page catalogue, 15 cents. None free. C. J. CONNOLLY & CO., Rochester, N. Y.

WANTED! Just complaints against C. H. Meekeel, alias Carson Stamp Co., alias Haviland, or Poplar Ridge, N. Y., Chicago and St. Louis. Also proof that he now holds instruments by which "Allen's locals" were printed; also proof that he gave Scott of New York a number of the Allen locals, in order to force a sale. Send proof and full address to "RAYMOND," care of this paper.

PORPHYRY, RED.

100 to 1000 pounds for sale, in lots to suit. Sample half pound, 15 cts. 100 Sea Urchins, for \$3.00, cash. W. E. SKINNER & CO., Lynn, Mass.

SEND for copy of Beldyere Herald, Publish- ed monthly, 200 copies. KIRK H. BANCROFT, 12 Alder St., Lowell, Mass.

MEMBERS OF THE A. A.

All need Cabinets, Cases, Drawers, etc., for specimens. You will find it cheaper to let us make one for you than to try to make one yourself or employ a carpenter to do it. We are large manufacturers of collectors' cabinets, and can supply any kind to order, at bottom prices.

SPECIAL DISCOUNT

To A. A. members or chapters who are subscribers to this paper. Send for estimates, or call personally. Mail orders will receive the same attention as personal ones. Express charges on our work are light.

GOLDER & STILPHEN,
Warerooms, 53 and 55 Central Ave.,
LYNN, MASS.

HINTS ON INSECT COLLECTING.

A manual for the beginner. Useful and interesting to every entomologist. Price 10 cts. in cash or 1-cent stamps. W. E. SKINNER & Co., Lynn, Mass.

A TRIAL OF The Baltimore Jobber

WILL CLEARLY SUBSTANTIATE

SIX ESPECIAL POINTS OF EXCELLENCE.

1st—It is the easiest running press made.

2d—It is as Strong as any press made.

3d—It is the most Durable press made.



4th—It will do as good work as any press made.

5th—It will take less to keep it in repair than any press made.

6th—(Last but not least) It costs less than any first-class press made.

ALL SIZE PRESSES, TYPE,

And Printers' Supplies.

CATALOGUE FREE.

J. F. W. DORMAN,

21 German St., BALTIMORE, MD.

A BOSS OFFER!

For only 50 cents we will send all the following articles, postpaid, to one address:

- 1 California Gold Quarter,
- 1 Gold-mounted Lead Pencil,
- 1 Little Gem Autograph Album,
- Choice Album Quotations,
- The Language of Flowers,
- 1 Chinese Cash Coin,
- List of premiums paid on Rare Coins,
- \$10 in Confederate Money.

The above articles if bought singly would cost 90 cents, but for the next 60 days we will send the entire lot for only 50 cents, if you mention this paper.

T. S. CRAYTON, JR.,

P. O. Box 33,

ANDERSON, S. C.

O. N. WARD, Lock Box 23, Newmarket, N. H., wants specimen copies of amateur, curiosity and stamp papers, also circulars and price-lists, with a view to subscribing and purchasing goods.

Look! Great Discount to All!

I HAVE THE

BEST RUBBER STAMPS

In the world, and want 1000 Agents to introduce them. Large commissions. New 100 page Catalogue of Rubber Stamps, Cards, Printing Presses, etc., for 15 cents; none free. Large discount on California gold half and quarter dollars and stamp photos. Send stamp for wholesale list. Immense lot of Second-Hand Goods, list for stamp. Any one wanting to buy or sell a good second-hand printing press or outfit will do well to write to me.

Fine Rubber Stamps for Naturalists,

For marking labels, data blanks, etc., at a small cost. AGENTS WANTED AT ONCE.

T. S. SPARROW,

(Mention this paper.) NEWTON, N. H.

[Publishers inserting above and this will receive rubber stamps, made to order, worth \$1.25. Send two papers.]

WHALE TOOTH. Fine specimens for \$1.00 each. WHALE'S EAR \$1.00. Star Fish, 5 cts. Sea Urchins, 9 cts. Skate Eggs, 6 cts. W. E. SKINNER & CO., Lynn, Mass.

F. H. PINKHAM, Specialty Job Printer, NEWMARKET, N. H.

We make a specialty of all kinds of mercantile printing, also printing for stamp and curiosity dealers. Having formerly been in the stamp business we understand what is required for printing in this line.

Amateur and Class Papers

Of all sizes neatly and cheaply printed. Send for samples and prices.

1000 Printed Envelopes for \$2.00!

We have a job lot of large size, heavy envelopes, white or amber, which we print for \$2 per M.

When in want of any kind of printing, you can save money by getting our estimates. State just what you want, enclose stamp for reply, and address as above.

GARFIELD.

On September 26, 1881, President Garfield was buried. The next day, Sept. 27, a double size edition of the *Boston Globe* was published in heavy mourning. The first page is entirely filled with tributes in poetry by the most noted poets. In the body of the paper is a long "life" of the dead president, with a large portrait. Also an extended report of burial services, etc., etc. This is called Garfield Memorial Number. Copies are now very rare and much sought after as relics and mementoes. We have obtained a few copies, which are in very good condition. Those desiring may obtain them from us, if they write before our small supply is exhausted. Price by mail 10 cents, or to subscribers only for three 2-cent stamps. W. E. SKINNER & CO., 31 State St., Lynn, Mass.

THE Agassiz Association Journal.

VOL. I.

LYNN, MASS., JULY, 1885.

No. 2.

WOOD COLLECTING.

A very neat and beautiful collection of woods, and one which will well repay the trouble of procuring, is thus prepared:

Cut a board five inches wide by eight inches long and one-fourth of an inch thick, and, if convenient, select specimens showing both sap and heart wood on the same specimen. Plane smooth on both sides; then cut from a sapling, or if not to be had, from a good limb two and one-half inches in diameter of the same kind of wood, a cross section one-fourth inch thick, showing the bark and annual rings of growth. This piece should be carefully smoothed on one side, so as to remove all the saw marks. Use a rasp to smooth this cross-section with. A ten or twelve-inch rasp is about the right size, which can be procured at any hardware store. Finish the wood with fine sand-paper. Then fasten the small piece to the centre of the board with small screws from the back.

If desired, the small piece and one-half of the board can be polished or varnished, which brings out the grain of the wood and shows to better advantage. For small trees or shrubs a very good specimen can be made one-half inch thick, one and one-half or two inches wide and from three to five inches long. Leave the bark on one edge and bevel the inner edge. Label the specimens neatly with the scientific and common names, and give the locality where the specimen was procured.

A CLAM-SHELL DEPOSIT.

Near Astoria, Oregon, there is a deposit of clam shells which covers an area of over four acres, and is piled in places to the depth of ten feet. The amount of shells is incalculable. Over 1,000 loads have been hauled away to make roads, but that amount is hardly noticed in diminution of the immense heap. From time to time relics of the old clam-eating tribes that made that place their headquarters are found. A party recently found a clam-opener. It was made from a whale's tooth, is about eight inches long and is ground sharp at the end. There is some sixteen inches of soil on top of these immense clam beds, on which grew fir trees, some of them 400 years old.

AN AUTOGRAPH OF SHAKESPEARE.

Mr. C. F. Gunther, of Chicago, Ill., has in his possession a genuine autograph of William Shakespeare, the famous tragedy writer. It was claimed that there were only three genuine autographs of Shakespeare in existence, and these were in the British Museum. The autograph which Mr. Gunther owns is written on a small piece of paper which is pasted on a leaf in the famous Ward Folio. Mr. Gunther prides that relic as the most interesting of his archæological collection.

THE TYRIAN DYE.

A dog playfully bit a murex-shell to pieces on the beach at Tyre. The juice colored his lips purple. His master took the hint. The sharp, shrewd Tyrians took the hint. The murex was collected in millions of bushels, ground up and utilized. The rich purple dye of Tyre became an object of prime commercial importance. To commemorate the fact and give due credit to the dog, coins were struck, still extant, showing the original dog and the shell, and the word "Turio-rum" (of the Tyrians).

THE PRODUCTIVE RABBIT.

The rabbit is probably the most productive of the whole rodent genus; a single pair may be answerable for a population of half a million within five years. Originally natives of Spain, the rabbits once multiplied in that country, as well as in some of the islands of the Mediterranean, in such an alarming manner that the people appealed for military aid to assist in their destruction.

DON'T HELP ON THE FRAUD.

There are certain parties in Brazil advertising for United States stamps obliterated with red or violet aniline ink. The publishers of these papers are probably unaware that they are abetting a fraud on the United States Post Office Department, by inserting an advertisement for stamps cancelled with a particular kind of ink, which can easily be removed and the stamps used a second time.

Editorial.

Again we come before our readers with our little load of information for those interested in our affairs. We have received a large number of subscriptions; everybody says that our paper is "very fine," "best yet," "worth ten times the price," "wouldn't miss a copy for anything," "better than the usual No. 1," etc. and with all this "soft soap" come little bills, round metal pieces, adhesive or scraps of paper in the shape of postal notes, bank bills, coins and unused stamps. Almost every chapter has representatives on our subscription List, and in order to have every chapter represented in this magazine we make a continuation of last month's grand discount offer. (See other page.) We are especially complimented on our bold Fraud list, and we shall keep it up monthly with a list of persons black-listed by us for their evil doings. No names will be removed unless we have full evidence that the accused has left his bad business for a better one.

HOW BEAVERS CUT DOWN TREES.

BY DR. G. A. STOCKWELL.

About the middle of August beavers begin to build. Trees are felled and cut into suitable lengths with the front or incisor teeth. Commencing at a height of twelve or fourteen inches from the ground, a distance easily reached while sitting upon the tail and haunches, the tree is gouged around in a complete circle equally on all sides, but gradually growing deeper and deeper with each circuit, forming as it were, two cones whose points meet at a common center. Steadily and faithfully he labors, rarely resting, and then but to take a refreshing bath in the nearest pool. At last he frequently pauses, and erecting himself on his hind legs, feels the trunk with his paws, as if to determine which way it will fall, or whether it shows any signs of yielding; finally, when perhaps but an inch of the heart remains uncut, he gnaws vigorously upon the side toward which he desires it to fall, and as the warning crack is heard, whips himself with great celerity and adroitness to the opposite side to avoid being crushed in its descent. Next the trunk is divided into lengths, and dragged by aid of teeth, paws and chin to the water, where it is floated to the dam or store-house. When large trees are chosen, they almost invariably stand upon the margin of the water, into which they are made to fall.

OUR PRIZE OFFERS.

We were late in getting out last issue so that many who desired had no time to compete for the prizes. We have therefore decided to continue our offers till August 15.

OFFER NO. 1.

For the largest list of subscriptions to this paper, accompanied with cash, as in special offers No's 1 and 5, (premiums included if desired), which we receive before August 15 1885. FIVE DOLLARS IN GOLD. For second largest list, a one year subscription to the *Public Herald*, worth \$1.00.

OFFER NO. 2.

For best six hundred (or less) word essay on "How to Keep Order at a Meeting," we will give a year's subscription to any magazine costing \$3.00 or less. Choice of winner. Due August 15, 1885.

OFFER NO. 3.

For the best essay on any subject pertaining to mineralogy (unlimited as to size), we offer a prize of three dollars' worth of fine specimens. Due August 15, 1885.

Those who sent subscriptions in competition for Prize Offer No. 1 last month will be credited with the number sent. Send subscriptions as soon as received, with cash for same, and we will credit you with every one.

THE CANDLE-NUT TREE.

BY HARRY A. BABB.

In the South Sea Islands is found a tree which produces a curious nut called the candle-nut. It is about the size of a walnut, and from it is extracted an oil used for food and also as a lamp-oil. In the Society Islands the natives after baking the nuts and extracting the kernels, bore holes through them and string them on rushes. Four or five of these strings are placed in a leaf of the screw pine and serve as torches used in fishing by night, and make a very brilliant light. Lampblack, which was used in tattooing, was also obtained from the candle-nut.

A MOUNTAIN OF SALT.

In the island of San Domingo there is a remarkable salt mountain, a mass of crystalline salt nearly four miles long, estimated to contain 89,337,600 tons, and said to be so clear that type can be read through a block a foot thick.

Papers who desire to suspend can transfer their business to ours on most favorable terms. Write for particulars.

Mineralogy and Geology.

URANITE.

BY L. W. STILWELL.

This wonderful Black Hills country,—this isolated group of mountains surrounded by plains, like an island in a sea,—seems to have been designed to represent, in greater or less quantities, most of the metallic minerals of the world. Some startling discovery is being made every few months, and one by one the list of precious metals is extended, until its length and variety astonish the "old-timer" himself, and the "tenderfoot" finds, as he enumerates its products, the Black Hills to be "a good country to stay in."

The latest excitement is the discovery of what is dubbed "The Tin Mountain," said to be a mountain of tin; surface rock assaying very high. Here are gold, silver, copper, tin, lead, iron, platinum, also mica, salt, coal, oil, etc., but who would have thought of finding the ore of Uranium (the rare and costly mineral confined mostly to Bohemia) in this new country? So it is, the veritable pitch-blende exists here. A foreigner from the centre of Germany is the discoverer; locality, Bald Mountain, nine miles south from Deadwood. Connecticut and North Carolina yield Uranium ores very sparingly. The specimens of Uraninite, Johannite and Auturite (ores of Uranium) from Bohemia, in my possession, are none of them showy specimens. When it comes to selection of specimens by the collector, the plain pitch-blende is not the sort taken, but the *Uranite*, so beautifully flecked with bright greenish, canary-yellow spots, is what attracts. This incrustation is termed *Uran-Mica*, which resembles small fish-scales, or a waxy coating. The green-yellow upon a brown surface makes a fine contrast. A large mineral dealer in Germany is sending here for these *Uran-Mica* specimens, and giving a large price for them. A several hundred pound shipment was made recently from Deadwood to Germany. The demand from that source is indicative of a superior specimen here, or a scarcity there. The oxides of Uranium are used in painting upon porcelain, yielding a fine orange in the enameling-fire. When extracted from the ores, variously named and concentrated to a fine artistic material, Uranium is then said to be worth upwards of one hundred dollars a pound.

SCALE OF HARDNESS

To aid in determining the different minerals a scale of hardness has been adopted, as follows:

- 1, Talc.
- 2, Rock Salt.
- 3, Calc Spar.
- 4, Fluo Spar.
- 5, Apatite,
- 6, Feldspar.
- 7, Quartz.
- 8, Topaz.
- 9, Sapphire.
- 10, Diamond.

If a mineral is found no harder than talc, its hardness is 1. If it can be scratched by quartz, but can itself scratch feldspar, the hardness is between 6 and 7.

Queries and Answers.

A. H. M.—No, we find no fault with the *Housewife*, other than it inserts fraudulent advertisements, but the publisher is a dead beat.

L. C. S.—The New Brunswick Lottery was a swindle, but has been broken up.

J. C. R.—The mineral is Apatite.

W. M. A.—That Brattleboro "purchase" of Henry Collins was a scheme adopted by him to gain a free advertising reputation. He never had the stamp.

W. A. T.—Yes, all our advertisers are strictly reliable.

S. M. T.—We recommend you to W. H. Warner & Co. for A. A. medals. They do a fine job and cheap. See their advertisement elsewhere.

R. W. B.—The firm of Tripp & Johnson have dissolved. The business is now carried on by T. N. Tripp.

Mr. W. F. Greany is doing a rushing business. He has in stock 1000 Pacific Coast birds' eggs. 827 Brannan street, San Francisco, Cal.

When possible we answer all communications same day as receipt, but those who wish an answer for their own benefit should enclose stamp for return postage.

BIRDS PLAYING "POSSUM."—The black vulture, when wounded, will play "possum." I hung one up the other day thinking him dead, but after some hours found him perfectly hearty, barring a broken leg and wing. The simulation of lameness in many birds in the presence of an intruder too near their nests or eggs might be considered an active phase of the same phenomenon.—*Walter Hoxie*.

The Agassiz Association Journal.

WM. E. SKINNER, - - - EDITOR.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

IN THE INTERESTS OF

Amateur Naturalists, Students and Collectors.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

1 Year (with 12 premiums),	\$1.00
6 Months (with 6 premiums),	.60
1 Year (no premiums),	.60
6 Months (no premiums),	.30
See list of Premiums elsewhere.	
Discount twenty per cent. to clubs of 4 or more.	
Special terms to agents.	

ADVERTISEMENTS.

Apply to the publishers for any special size or term not in following list.

Per Line,	10 cents
Inch, 12 lines,	\$1.00
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Column,	5.00
Page,	8.00
Reading Notices, per line,	25 cents

Discount 33 1/3 per cent. on continued advertisements. When matter is changed we charge 12 cts. per inch or one cent per line extra for our trouble.

NOTICE.—All advertisements of frauds will be refused at any price.

TERMS.

Cash in advance, unless the reference of local postmaster or other public officer can be furnished. Remit by bank draft, P. O. money order, postal note, registered letter, cash or U. S. unused 1-cent stamps. We prefer money order or bank draft, which may be sent at our risk. Foreign correspondents please send U. S. value in P. O. order, bank draft or unused low value stamps. Address,

W. E. SKINNER & CO.,

LYNN, MASS.

AGENTS FOR ADVERTISEMENTS.—O. A. Dale, Georgetown, Mass.; Whitden's Philatelic Adv. Bureau, Pelzer, S. C.; Geo. P. Rowell & Co., New York; R. L. Watkins, Prospect, Ohio; Horace Dodd, Boston; T. C. Evans, Boston; Frank M. Davis, Madison, Wis. S. M. Pettengill & Co., Boston and New York.

Entered at Lynn, Mass., P. O., as second-class matter.

PARTICULAR NOTICE.

We learn at present date of writing (June 25) that an attempt is being made by a certain jealous person (or persons) to publish something detrimental to our paper. Such attempts will be in vain. We are now safe for two years at least, even if we do not receive another subscription. The success which is attending our efforts is very flattering. We pledge our word and reputation that every person who has money invested in our paper will receive his (or her) money's worth. Pay no attention to idle and jealous statements of anyone, but trust that we have yet a reputation to lose; and to prove our

statement we will say that anybody doubting this may send us subscriptions without cash, and should we fail to deliver them the paper or premiums as per bargain, they need not send us a cent.

Yours Very Respectfully,
THE PUBLISHERS.

OUR PREMIUMS.

We shall make a practice each month of giving a premium to every paid subscriber. The value of these premiums, we intend, shall equal the entire cost of the magazine. This month we offer choice of following curiosities and specimens:

1. Sea urchin.
2. Star-fish.
3. Skate-fish egg.
4. 100 labels for minerals.
5. A large and beautiful horse-shoe crab (if 18 cents in stamps are sent, for postage only).
6. Red porphyry.
7. Jasper.
8. Dendrite.
9. A book, "Receipts for Collectors."
10. 25 data blanks.
11. A U. S. war cent (rare).
12. A rare stamp.
13. A choice U. S. Department stamp.
14. The secrets of the manufacture of rubber stamps, so simplified that anybody possessing type, etc., may make the stamps at a small expense.
15. A pressed four-leaf clover (genuine). A fine keepsake for the botanist.
16. A sea-crab. (Careful packing, six cents extra.)
17. "Merchant's Songster."
18. "How to Play Games."

An entirely new list of premiums will be given next month. Only one of the above articles or lots to each subscriber. Notify us of your choice by postal card. When a few stamps are sent we will send finer and larger specimens. Should no choice be received before next issue, we will use our own judgment in selecting the premiums. Those who begin with No. 1 may choose two of the above. No articles warranted, but we promise to use our utmost care in packing and mailing the specimens.

IOWA NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.

This is a creditable enterprise recently started in Chariton, Iowa. It has now a membership of nearly one hundred members, and is rapidly increasing. For further information address C. O. Simmons, Secretary, Chariton, Iowa.

The new monthly, *Our Birds*, has suspended for lack of obtaining those all-important second-class postage rates.

CAUTION!

To the Members of the A. A.:—We desire to call your attention to an article which appears in the July (1885) *St. Nicholas*, in which the writer attempts to mislead you into the idea that, as *St. Nicholas* holds the valuable (?) title of "official" organ of your Association, you therefore violate the constitution by aiding our or any similar publication. We shall make no criticism of this statement, for you all see the point that the writer is driving at, namely, to hold the monopoly, if possible, in *St. Nicholas*. You will therefore please take notice that you have a perfectly free right to aid our magazine by contributions, reports or otherwise, and that you in no way violate the constitution of the A. A. Matter in our magazine is of course non-official, but the mere name amounts to nothing. "Official" news, etc., is that emanating from headquarters, but nevertheless "unofficial" news can be just as reliable, and in our case it is. We publish no false statements. Trusting that you will shun any future attempts to deceive you, we remain. THE PUBLISHERS.

RECEIVED.

We have received from Messrs. W. H. Warner & Bro., 1123 Chestnut St., Philadelphia, a sample of the medal issued for the "National Soldiers' Reunion. Encampment and Competitive Drill, Fairmount Park, Philadelphia, June 26th to July 6th, 1885." The above is on the reverse. The obverse is a beautiful design of army implements and flags, on which is perched the American eagle. White metal. See advertisement in another column.

Also received, a pair of curious Chinese chop-sticks and two horn nuts, from Mr. Russell E. Bartlett, of Kalamazoo, Mich. See advertisement elsewhere.

The catalogue of Messrs. Ellis & Webster, of Boston, is on our desk. It is a fine affair, the largest we have seen. The above firm are large dealers in naturalists' supplies, and have a very large assortment. See advertisement elsewhere.

The Oologist's Directory. A fine volume from the office of Messrs. Davis & Baker, North Granville, N. Y. Contains 400 addresses of egg collectors and other useful information. Printed on beautiful toned paper. Price 35 cts., for sale by us.

TO OUR READERS.

Owing to the short length of time that we have had to prepare copy for this issue, we have been obliged to put in matter "harum scarum," with little regard to its particular heading. However, this will make no material difference, and our readers will still get as much reading matter.

Exchanges.

We shall open this department for the benefit of our subscribers who desire to exchange any articles they may possess. We shall not act as third party in any exchange, but will do all we can to secure a friendly communication between subscribers. Exchanges will not be limited as to size, but we reserve the right to refuse or modify any which we receive. None of the nature of an advertisement will be inserted except at regular advertising rates.

Birds' eggs, coins, books, watches, and other articles, for a self-inking printing press, chase 6 1-2x9 or larger; or good books, minerals, fossils, shells, curiosities, etc. Send a list of what you have. F. N. Massoth, Jr., Hanover Centre, Lake Co., Indiana.

Correspondence in oology and lepidoptera. Harry Compton, Sec. 803, Wyandotte, Kansas.

Specimens of jasper and also sea curiosities to exchange for Indian relics, rare coins, stamps, minerals, curiosities, etc. C. C. Treadwell, 28 Smith St., Lynn, Mass.

Correspondence on mineralogy and paleontology. W. H. Plank, Pres. 803, Wyandotte, Kansas.

We will give a year's subscription to the AGASSIZ JOURNAL for twenty-five old stamp papers, or three copies of *St. Nicholas* dated since 1881. Publishers.

Chapter 803 has for exchange, minerals, fossils and bird eggs for the same. Address Harry Compton, Sec., Wyandotte, Kansas.

Minerals, fossils, ocean curiosities and eggs, for Indian relics, eggs, minerals, fossils and ocean curiosities. Send your lists for mine. W. L. Morse, 25 Harrison St., Syracuse, N. Y.

Sea curiosities for Indian relics. T. N. Tripp, Lynn, Mass.

Rare Western eggs, both first and second class, for rare Eastern eggs. Send list. A. M. Shields, Los Angeles, Cal.

FOR SALE—Rare U. S. Revenues, Envelopes, Departments, Locals, etc. GEO. B. MASON, 104 Eleventh St., Brooklyn, N. Y.

Philately and Numismatics.

See "Caution," page 17.

For Numismatic notes see other pages.

The Confederate States issued 75 stamps.

We want to exchange with every stamp or coin paper.

It is a well known fact that stamp papers do not pay.

Nearly 700 new varieties of stamps were issued in 1884.

The *Southern Collector* and *Collector's Caprice* have suspended.

Those in need of rubber stamps should write to F. K. Rising, Lena, Ill.

The *Empire State Philatelist* makes a good "hit" on the editor of the *P. J. of A.*

We send this paper for 12 cents per year to any who advertise, even if only once.

Philately means the collecting of stamps, and Numismatics that of coins or medals.

The oldest stamp paper is *The Philatelic Monthly*, published by L. W. Durbin of Philadelphia.

Our three best exchanges are *Empire City Philatelist*, *Collectors' Companion* and *Capital City Philatelist*.

We have received a sample of one of H. G. Spaulding's packets. He warrants them all like the sample. Don't fail to get one.

Dealers and others sending us the names of approval sheet frauds, will please send full particulars, so that we may investigate.

The dude of the trade is Mr. John Chesterchire, who conducts the *Quarterly Exchange*, which is published by the proprietor, Mr. Robert Barrie.

One ounce of matter can now be sent sealed by mail for 2 cents instead of 4 cents as formerly. Dealers can now afford to send packets by sealed mail.

Our stamp papers will do us a favor by mailing an extra copy of their paper to Mr. F. H. Pinkham, our printer, Newmarket, N. H. Being an old-time dealer, he likes to keep posted on "modern" philately.

Stamp and coin dealers write that our paper pays better than any stamp paper, because we reach a better class of buyers, and they have but little competition, and no competition whatever with the frauds which infest stamp papers. Try us.

Zoology.

FISH IN FISH.

Naturalists tell us that almost every whale in the seas has more or less of an extra load to carry, says the *Pittsburg Dispatch*. There are several species of fish which are poor travelers that take advantage of the whale's good nature, and fasten themselves to it in such a way that they do not have to exert themselves at all to get from one place to another. There are several species of fish that have smaller fish within them, thus having to forage for two mouths instead of one. The inner fish belongs to the eel family, and are so slippery that they pop down the throat of the fish they are going to board with before it can shut its trap. When once down it is safe, besides being sure of a living. Sharks, those avaricious denizens of the deep, have for companions pilot fish. These are handsome fellows, with nothing terrifying either in manner or appearance. They are supposed to locate the prey for the sharks, and come in for a share of the plunder after the raid has been made. Notwithstanding the shark owes much of his success to the pilot fish, he does not hesitate to swallow one of them occasionally.—*The Naturalist*.

ENDURANCE OF CAMELS.

Samuel W. Baker, the African explorer, is quoted as saying that camels will cross a desert with a load of 400 pounds at the rate of thirty miles a day in the burning heat of the summer, and require water only every third or fourth day. In the cooler months, the animal will work seven or eight days without water; and if grazing on green foliage, without labor, will only drink once a fortnight.

Next month we shall publish a secret formula for preserving star-fish and similar curiosities. Those who have tried to prepare these "pesky critters" will appreciate the value of this. Those who "must" have the secret before next issue, will receive it by mail in manuscript for 25 cts. It is a "sure cure," guaranteed reliable, and costs about five cents per thousand specimens.

Chapter 803 has four new members, a full cabinet, and best of all a wide-awake chapter. They have had several debates and celebrated Agassiz's birthday by a picnic and entertainment.

A SUGGESTION.

Would it not be a good and profitable scheme for some of our young naturalists to collect large specimens of minerals during fair weather? Break them into small specimens of convenient cabinet size, label them and store them away until winter. Then bring them out and prepare them to send away. Put a price on them which would give you a fair profit, bearing in mind that the postage would be quite heavy. Then put a small advertisement in some natural history paper. If the specimens prove to be good and desirable, a good sum can thus be realized. Specimens should be packed in cotton in pasteboard boxes, and addressed on a tag. Be sure to prepay full postage, one cent per ounce, or the matter will remain dead in the post office.

The *American Osprey* has suspended for "private (?) reasons." We can guess them. Second-class rates? The new paper, *Our Birds*, has also gone under for the same reason. The *Collector's Caprice* and *Southern Collector* have also taken the final dive. We are, however, in a flourishing condition, and our paper is good for two years yet, even if we do not get another subscriber.

To preserve fungi place them into a solution of 10 parts water and 1 part calcium chloride. This will change the fungus to phosphate of lime, after which it will keep well.

We are preparing for a large issue for January next. It will be the greatest and best attempt ever made. Further particulars next month.

Those who are in need of printing, should correspond with those who advertise in this issue. We know that each do fine work.

Members-desiring assistance in the study of lichens should address F. L. Sargent, 415 Broadway, Cambridge, Mass.

More frauds: Jay B. Adams, Stillwater, Minn., G. W. Jackson, Jr. Baltimore, Md., Jas. E. White, Gardiner, Me.

Subscribers not receiving this paper or our premiums promptly will please notify us by post card.

Mr. W. D. Shaw, 34 St. Peter Street., Montreal, Canada, is the Canadian secretary of the A. A.

Blow the eggs of lizards, alligators, turtles, etc., the same as birds' eggs.

There are now nearly 900 chapters in the A. A.

THE FRAUDS HATE US.

The frauds that we expose monthly kick and squirm under our exposures. The GREAT and ONLY T. H. Wise, feeling sure from his guilty conscience that our expose of him must come sooner or later, endeavors to anticipate us by false and malicious statements in his paper. Quack! Quack!

We have just received the following note from Mr. G. H. Richmond too late for change in his advertisements.

BROOKLYN, N. Y., 6, 20, '85.

Please change address from Northfield, Vt., to 210 Ninth St., Brooklyn, N. Y., and oblige. You send out a very fine magazine and I hope you will meet the success you deserve.

Yours Truly, GEO. H. RICHMOND,
Formerly of Northfield, Vt.

We state it as a fact that we refused \$9.00 worth of advertising in two weeks, because the parties were not reliable. One of the advertisements was alone \$6.00, and that from a well-known dealer, but as we have good proof that he is unreliable we refused.

Says the *Young Mineralogist*, "The Cataracts of the Nile are due to granite veins which the river, while working through the sandstone, had been unable to destroy or remove."

We are a little late this time, but shall make up in following issues. We shall send out no double issues, but shall come out each month as near the 10th as possible.

"Truth is mighty" (scarce) with the publishers of some papers.

Advertisements.

When answering advertisements found in this paper, please do us a favor by mentioning "Saw advertisement in A. A. JOURNAL."

AGENTS WANTED

Everywhere to sell stamps on commission. Only reliable parties need apply, who will promise to make prompt returns. Send stamp for postage. Postals not noticed. I. W. RISSON, Cambridgeport, Mass.

NICKELS, (1883, without cents,) 25c. each; 100 old copper cents, \$3.00; 100 foreign stamps, 5c.; or 30c. per 1000 Send for lists.

B. W. KUMLER, Seven Mile, Ohio.

CHINESE "CASH" COINS. Antique and choice. 6 cents each, 5 for 25 cents. W. E. SKINNER & CO., Lynn, Mass.

HANDBOOK of Insect Collecting, for Beginners. By mail for 10 cents. GEO. H. RICHMOND, Northfield, Vt.

Notes of Interest.

Papers finding this notice marked will please exchange two copies regularly.

Advertisers should send in copy as soon as possible, as we go to press July 28.

We would like to have some one write us a short article on insect collecting, for publication.

Those desiring extra copies of this issue may have them for 4 cents each. Positively none free.

The competition for our prize offers is very brisk. The leading list is 14 subscriptions from one chapter.

We have received a copy of W. F. Greany's large catalogue. It should be in possession of every collector.

Shall we have regular departments on Chemistry, Physiology or Archæology? Let our friends vote on the subject.

We are glad to state that the *Tidings from Nature* has the grit to exclude fraudulent advertisements. Such a paper should receive support.

Our subscription list is booming. We desire our readers to send us short notes on any subject treated herein. Original ones should be signed by the writer, but this is not necessary.

Our popularity among advertisers is shown by the large number of advertisements received. Advertising pays if kept up. Those dealers who "rest" during the summer will surely get left.

The *Young Mineralogist and Antiquarian*, which accuses us of "cribbing" from it without credit, copies itself from other papers without credit. Those who live in glass houses should not throw stones.

Subscribers who may happen to go away for a few months in the summer may have the paper sent to their changed address while they are absent. We strive to please, and will give all the accommodations we can for subscribers.

We hereby warn all persons to ignore T. H. Wise, Wheaton, Illinois, and his black-mailing sheet known as *The Young Mineralogist*, etc. He is unworthy of the support of advertisers and collectors, being unreliable and unbusiness-like in his dealings.

Our Fraud List is a success. A correspondent in Hartford, Conn., recently wrote us that if he had received a copy of our paper June 7, or before, it would have saved him seventy-five cents, for he sent that amount to Geo. Barnhart, whom we exposed last month. He has not heard from his money and never will.

CARDS. 40 elegant chromo cards, assorted, name on all, for only 10 cents. WILL E. RODKEY, Clover Creek, Blair Co., Pa.

STAMPS! 500 well mixed, 25c.; 100 var., many scarce, 25c. New list free. J. A. Nutter, Montreal, Can.

FLORIDA MOSS, 3c. per oz., 30c. per lb.; polished Bleeding-tooth shells, 15c.; common Fla. shells, 5c. per oz.; Coquina, from Fort San Marco, St. Augustine, Fla., 10 and 15 cts.; Indian pottery, 1 to 5 cts.; Sea-beans, red or gray, polished, 8c., unpolished, 1c. F. C. SAWYER, Beauclerc, Fla.

100 FOREIGN STAMPS and large new Circular sent for 5 1-cent stamps, if you name this paper. GEO. H. RICHMOND, Northfield, Vt.

NATURALISTS' SUPPLIES!

Cheapest and best supply depot in the country. Glass Eyes at 60 cents on the dollar. Send 2c. for catalogue. Indian Axes and Pestles, at 35c. each; Arrow Heads, 50c. a doz. FLETCHER W. NOE, 130 E. New York St., Indianapolis, Ind.

SPECIAL NOTICE!

We will pay for information concerning U. H. Mekeel of St. Louis. A word to the wise is sufficient. We want a secret agent in that city. None of Mekeel's or Hackett's "put up" agents need apply. We mean business. W. E. SKINNER & CO., Lynn, Mass.

Look out for important exposures in next issue of the AGASSIZ JOURNAL.

Next issue of the AGASSIZ JOURNAL will be sent to subscribers or purchasers only.

STAR Fish, Sea Urchins, Skato's Eggs, at wholesale, for 37c. a dozen. Box 187, Lynn, Mass.

Our New Coin Book will go to press August 20, 1885. It will be better than any heretofore published, and will be circulated all over the country. Dealers may have their ads. inserted for 5c. per line. Send copy now and pay after the book is issued. W. E. SKINNER & CO., Lynn, Mass.

PEYSTONE PHILATELIC GAZETTE is published by Mann & Kendig, Altoona, Pa. Sample copies, 2 cts.

WANTED! Back numbers of Stamp and Collectors' Papers, especially Foreign. We will give the AGASSIZ JOURNAL one year, without premiums, for 10 back numbers of any of the above in good condition, and 12 cts. extra for postage. Remit the 12 cts. in 1 or 2 cent stamps. The JOURNAL one year, without premiums, for 10 Indian arrow-heads in good condition, or 12 foreign coins. THE AGASSIZ JOURNAL, Lynn, Mass.

NOTE HEADS, etc., printed to order for members of the A. A. at low rates. A. L. STEVENS, Claremont, N. H.

EVERY STAMP COLLECTOR Should try my fine sheets. I have a large stock of stamps, which I am selling at lowest prices. Send 2c. stamp for choice trial sheet, promising to return in ten days.

I. W. RISON, Cambridgeport, Mass.

EGGS CLEAR! Night Hawk, 32c., White Ibis, 30c., Snake Bird, 30c., Alligator, 20c., Razor-billed Auk, 15c., Coot, 5c. All above eggs blown through one smoothly drilled hole in side. Sent per return mail. Data Blanks, large size, 12c. per 100. D. & B., Lock Box 2, No. Granville, N. Y.

WANTED! Sample copies of stamp, coin and curiosity papers, with advertising rates. Box 187, Lynn, Mass.

Ornithology and Oology.

Notes and other communications are solicited for this department from those interested. Address the publishers.

Always empty the contents of an egg through one smoothly drilled hole in the side. End-blown eggs are next to worthless.—*American Osprey.*

What is the world coming to? At times the collecting fever seems to drive the sense out of the heads of those who have it. Now, when young, we used to hunt through the fields and woods for eggs. We found out the names as best we could. We did not label them, but remembered the simple names. We punched holes in the ends with an awl, and "sucked" or "blew" the contents, and we venture to say that we "old time" collectors had as much fun as you modern "cranks," with your fine black walnut cases, "side-blown" eggs, blowers, probers, pans, handbooks, and what not. Our implements consisted of a good slung-shot, and I venture to say that we could capture more birds or eggs in a day than any of our modern egg-hunters, with their gun, knapsack, ladders, climbers and traps, and we are now told by the aforesaid "modern cranks" that our good old-fashioned end-blown eggs are "next to worthless." "What fools these mortals be." W. E. S.

One of the most curious and interesting studies in nature is afforded by a thoughtful examination of birds' nests in all their wide variety, especially if we are permitted to witness their construction by the marvelous "artists of the air." One of the wonders of our childhood was the "hangbirds" nest, swaying so gracefully suspended from the branch of a lofty elm; and another childhood wonder, which still clings to us, is why the night-hawk should choose to substitute for a nest a simple flat rock in an open field fully exposed to attack and to the scorching rays of the midday sun, while some birds use every possible endeavor to secrete and guard from attack their nests. The pine-pine builds a singular nest. It is a double nest in two compartments; the mother sits in the alcove; in the vestibule watches the father, an attentive sentinel to repulse invasion.

GUM PASTE FOR CLOSING HOLES IN EGGS.—Gum arabic, 4 oz.; white sugar candy, 2 oz.; corrosive sublimate, 2 gr.

TO KEEP EGGS FROM FADING.—Rinse them with a solution of isinglass and sugar. This will also strengthen them.—*Receipts for Collectors.*

NEWSPAPERS AND MAGAZINES.

Following is a list of newspapers and magazines which we will supply to subscribers only at following rates. Remit in cash, direct to us, and we will pay your subscription direct to publishers. These prices are for one year.

Age of Steel,	\$2.50
American Agriculturist,	1.30
American Poultry Journal,	1.00
Agents' Herald,	.40
American Microscopical Journal,	1.00
American Naturalist,	3.85
American Sports,	1.50
American Young Folks,	.72
Art Amateur,	3.75
Arthur's Home Magazine,	1.75
Century,	3.85
Canadian Entomologist,	1.00
Coin Collectors' Journal,	1.80
Golden Days,	2.80
Journal of Anatomy,	5.85
Public Herald,	.40
Popular Science News,	.98
Popular Science Monthly,	4.65
St. Nicholas,	2.90
Science Record,	1.00
School of Mines Journal,	.95
Scientific American,	3.00
Scientific American Supplement,	4.75
Both the above to one address,	6.75
Youths' Companion, new subs. only,	1.40
Address	W. E. SKINNER & Co., Lynn, Mass.

NOW OR NEVER! As a premium for getting up clubs to the leading natural history magazine, *Tidings from Nature*, we will give to anyone who will send us 10 subscriptions, at 40 cents each, a fine dissecting microscope, with box, needles, etc., suitable for botanical or other work. Samples and terms on application.

TIDINGS FROM NATURE, Rutland, Vt.

S. A. HOWES,

— DEALER IN —

Natural History Specimens and General Curiosities,

Oological specimens, instruments and supplies a specialty. Lists on application. Can give special rates on California Eggs and Skins.

BATTLE CREEK, MICH.

Specialties in Colorado Minerals.

COLLECTORS,

Send for my 25c. and 50c. collections of Florida, Bahama and West India Curiosities. Rose Coral, 15c.; Red Coral, 25c.; Porcupine Quills, 10c. per doz.; Sea Beans, 6c.; Urchins, 10c.; Alligator Teeth, 10c. to 50c.; Cotton Balls, 10c. Catalogue and nice curiosity, 10c. All post-paid. Address

JOHN B. WHEELER,

East Templeton, Mass.

OLD COINS. 10 Foreign, 25 cents. \$183.00 in Confederate money, 20 cents. Premium Coin Book, 13 cents. G. L. FANCHER, West Winstead, Conn.

THIS PAPER is from the press of F. H. PINKHAM, Newmarket, N. H. See ad. 3d cover page.

Our Fraud List.

As this department is published solely for the benefit of our subscribers, we solicit them to send us at once any proofs of fraud which they may discover. All correspondence will be treated as confidential. Address immediately on receipt of information, to W. E. Skinner & Co., Lynn, Mass., marking the letter "Personal."

"We'll bust 'em all,
Both great and small."

SPECIAL NOTICE.

Our Fraud List is a success in every sense of the word. Ever since we sent out last issue we have been receiving congratulations for our exceedingly bold venture. We are now establishing a list of secret correspondents all over the United States, and as soon as any fraud shows its head information will be dispatched to us, and in this way we will be able to make quick and sure exposures. Our correspondents will please notice that we shall not bother with their enquiries regarding frauds unless stamps are enclosed for replies. When sending us the name of a supposed fraud be sure and give all the information in your power. We especially desire circulars from persons, which appear to be fraudulent in their nature.

FRAUD NOTES.

Notwithstanding our last month's exposures, the *New England Philatelist* inserts Fondren's advertisement, and *Rambles in Nature* is "sucked in" by that fraudulent "J. Hicks," (probably an alias) Secretary of the Ontario Korresponding Klub.

Our American Youth, now published at 2700 Ninth street, St. Louis, Mo., is unreliable. We have noticed in it the advertisements of lotteries. True & Co., Ontario Korresponding Klub, Miguel Salvador, J. E. Morse, Novelty and Card Co., and several other questionable persons. What think ye of this?

MORE FRAUDS.

We have positive proof that Louis Caspar, alias Lou. Caspar, alias Miss Lou. Caspar, alias R. Gun Manufacturing Co., of China Grove, N. C., is a fraud of the vilest kind. Louisiana State Lottery, and all other lotteries, are *cheats*. S. Foster, alias Foster & Co., alias Cincinnati Publishing Co., alias *Agent's Aid*, are old frauds. E. Duncan Sniffen is the advertising agent for medical frauds.

EXTRA!

Sizer, whom we exposed last month, has been arrested, but has probably got

out on bail, as he is at another game. Look out for his aliases.

LATEST EDITION!

We have just received a dispatch from a correspondent (name confidential) in Washington, stating that *through our exposure* last month the government has just arrested W. Fondren, of Langston, Ala., for obtaining money under false pretenses. We sent a copy of the A. A. JOURNAL to the post-office department in Washington, for entry at second-class rates, and while examining our paper the officials took note of Fondren's exposure.

STILL LATER!

Another dispatch, just received, states that Fondren has been tried and convicted.

We have also just received good proof that T. H. Wise, publisher of the *Young Mineralogist and Antiquarian*, is unreliable. *The Eastern Collector* is unreliable. Beware of W. S. McLean, Englishtown, N. S. Particulars next month.

Important fraud news next issue. Sent to subscribers only.

IT CAN'T BE BEAT. Our 10-cent package of Foreign Stamps. Contains 75 different stamps, that cannot be purchased separately for ten times the price. Choice approval sheets sent on receipt of 2c. stamp and good reference.

HILL & BEEKMAN,
Grand Crossings, Ill.

NOTICE!

All dealers advertising in the A. A. Journal are recommended by the publishers, for we insert the ads. of none who have not an A 1 business reputation.

DEPARTMENT STAMPS!

Now obsolete and rare, such as Executive, Interior, Justice, State, Agriculture, War, Navy, Post Office, Treasury, etc.,—adhesives and envelopes—at lowest rates. Also, old U. S. stamps. Mention the AGASSIZ JOURNAL. J. H. HOUSTON,
204 B St., N. W., Washington, D. C.

100 STAMPS, 30c.; 10 unused, 15c. Good agents wanted. IRA C. GREENE, 65 High street, Fitchburg, Mass.

100 XX WHITE ENVELOPES,

Your name and business printed on corner, post paid, 40c. WILL E. RODKEY, Clover Creek, Pa.

THE PUBLIC HERALD, our brother fraud-smasher, of Philadelphia. We will take subscriptions for it at 40 cts. each. Publisher's rate 1s 50 cts. W. E. SKINNER & Co., Lynn, Mass.

FREE! FREE! FREE!

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