OCTOBER, 1896.

The Kentucky Philatelist.

Kentucky's Only Stamp Paper.

Volume 1.



Number 1.

WATKINS & BURBA,
HODGENVILLE, KY.

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No. I.

PHILATELY DEFINED.

FOR THE BENEFIT OF BEGINNERS AND NON-COLLECTORS.

BY W. L. MOISE.

There is a general tendency in human nature, which breaks out at all times in the form of collecting some article. Various branches of this occapation can be distinguished; some people collect old papers, relies, curios, coins, shells, Indian relies, bird eggs, or stamps. Now the last mentioned is, and always will be, the most important tributary to the collecting world.

There is no other branch which is so far advanced as the gathering of stamps in the album made for the purpose. To give the non-collector an idea of the importance of our hobby, I will give a few facts relating to the number of collectors, dealers and periodicals which are devoted to stamps. It is estimated by a well informed philatelist of the U.S. that there are about 1,020,000 collectors of the postage stamp in the world, that there are over 400 dealers, and bundreds of stamp periodicats; beside this, there are 40 different kinds of albums issued for the insertion of stamps therein.

The following is an extract from a letter from John K. Tiffany to a stamp society: "Stamp collecting

may not be a great and glorious occupation; it may not entitle anyone to very great praise or distinction, who has followed it as long and devotedly as I have; but it is a pleasant pastime, a great resource in moments that would otherwise hang heavily on our hands, a legitimate relief to minds otherwise overworked, an education of no mean kind, and adds its little mite to the world's history in an important direction.

"And when I say education, I do not mean so much what it teaches those who follow it, as what it develops in the followers themselves. Close observers of what goes on around them, accurate observers of nice distinctions, careful observers of things, are rare, as every one who follows my profession (the law) well knows. The followers of stamp collecting are often, if not always, led to become close, accurate and careful observers, and it is therefore an educator of no mean pretentions.

"I do not think anyone who has been a stamp collector but will admit upon reflection that it has developed faculties within himself that have aided and influenced in no small degree his after life. I, therefore, am a warm advocate of collecting."

As he says, it is a pleasant pastime, and I would advise any non-collector to make the experiment, and see if it is not a very profitable way of passing our leisure hours.

OUR PHOTO. GALLERY.



The Mexican 25c stamp issue of 1866. Printed in blue on pink; some stamps of this issue do not bear the period in

last line, while others do.

The Argentine Republic, five centavo stamp of 1888 issue; printed in carmine.





The Paraguay one centavo stamp.

Issue of 1892-3.

PARAGUAY.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

FRIENDLY ADVICE.

There are in this world many boys who are honest -raised that wayand who, when they take up collecting, are so charmed with an approval sheet of stamps that they cannot resist the temptation to postal back to the dealer that the sheets were not received. Now young men, we tell you as a friend who feels an interest in you, don't do this.

Buy your stamps or use some other honest means of securing them, =\$1.00 Columbians sell at \$5.00.

and you'll be a great deal promier of your collection in the end. When you show your collection to a friend you can do so with a clear conscience while if you have gotten the stamps through fraud you cannot. The old saying, "Honesty is the Best Policy," may be appropriately applied to this branch of Philatelia.

MOUNTING STAMPS.

When mounting stamps in your album, don't do as though you were putting them there to stay always. Use good hinges and mount carefully, so that you may remove the stamp without injury, should you obtain a better specimen or purchase a new album. Many mistakes are made in this respect; a hinge is an insignificant looking little thing, but it may cause a great worry. A poor hinge is worse than no hinge; when you buy hinges, remember that the best are none too good for you.

COMING EVENTS.

Beside numerous illustrations of stamps, etc., next month, we will present the life and portrait of a prominent philatelist, and how he became a collector. Subscribe now and get the benefit of this.

-The highest price ever paid for 2 single stamp was \$4,400, which the 10c Baltimore recently brought This stamp was found near Louisville, Kv.

WHY I COLLECT STAMPS.

AMY L. SWIFT.

Thinking, perhaps, that my' remarks, being feminine, will have a distinctive flavor all their own, ye editor sends me the above title, and requests that beneath it I will trot out for public inspection my reasons for being a stamp collector. subject is one I have never explored even for my own satisfaction, so at first thought it seemed as if said reasons would be many, beginning with the one "Because all my class mates did," but on looking back more carefully along my philatelic career I can find but one real reason and this runs through all the eleven years, connecting them without a break. It can be given in five words because I love my stamps. And this love? It is unexplainable, undefinable even to the owner, who yet finds it all-satisfying. It has nothing to do with the love of gain which animutes the speculator, causing him, -it is generally a him-to hold tightr to specimens collectors gaze at with longing eyes, because they will probably "go higher next logue," it is a pure delight in and over the stamps themselves as one by one they are added to the collection. Happy the philatelist who can give as his reason for collecting the answer that I do, "I collect just because I love the stamps."

SEVERN'S SAYINGS

Your album may become out of date, but your stamps never will,

Those who find it easy to begin collecting never find it easy to stop.

It s all right to make your own album and your own hinges, but don't try to make your own stamps.

You can never tell what is inside an album by the looks of its cover.

While it does not always pay to run a good stamp paper, it always pays to subscribe for it.

All some people need to begin collecting is a little encouragement.

Some persons have said that the more they see of other hobbies the more they like philately.

(More next month.)

—Young collectors will find that the collecting of revenues will be particularly suited to their capabilities and circumstances. There is not so much difficulty in arranging them, as in the case of postage stamps; they are obtainable in greater variety and at less cost; present a very attractive appearance, and are fast becoming a staple in the philatelic market. Start at once; look over all the old documents you have access to, as there are a number of revenue stamps which command very good prices, and it is not improbable that you will find some very designable specimens for your collection.

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Address the Editor on other subjects

HOWD'Y!

With this issue we begin the publication of THE KENTUCKY PHILA-"Kentucky's only stamp TELIST, paper. We will advocate forming of new recruits and trust that through our columns not only the beginner but the average collector may find something of inceres'. Our circulation will be confined mostly to the younger class and dealers wishing to reach that class---the class which buy stamps--will do well to try our columns. Our subscription price is low, within the reach of all.

wishes of all connected with our art - Philately - , and hoping for a share of your patronage, we remain Fraternally,

Watkins & Burba

It seems as though the issuing of State Directora's is an endless task. By the way, you can get the Kentucky Directory for 1896 free, by sending fifteen cents for one year's subscription to this paper. Mention this offer, and send at once, as the supply is limited.

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