

Brawford 2417(5)
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—THE—

MONTHLY GLEANINGS.

Vol. I.

CHICAGO, APRIL 15, 1893.

No. 3.

Deep Down.

Deep down in the heart of the earth
Rare treasures undiscovered hide;
Deep down in watery caves a worth
Of jewels unpolished abide.

Deep down in that plant by the way
Lie perfumes unyielded as yet;
Deep down in that birdie's full lay
Is a songlet unwarbled, unset

Deep down in the heart of man dwell
Virtues undeveloped, concealed;
Deep down in the thoughts of God
Is a love unequalled—revealed.

Oh, the depths of mystery in nature!
Oh, the mysteries of deepness in man!
Oh, what marvellous works the Maker
Hath wrought in his wondrous plan!
—*Good Housekeeping.*

Lost Half a Hundred Fleas.

THE CATASTROPHE WHICH BEFELL A NATURALIST AT A WEDDING CEREMONY.

A naturalist, who is both an ardent student in his branch of science and absent-minded to a degree which keeps his family on the alert, recently celebrated his silver wedding, says the *Buffalo Commercial*. Many guests were invited for the occasion, and the house was made ready for the reception of the company. Just as the first guest arrived one of the daughters was sent to summon the father, who had not come from his study. Care had been taken that he should be reminded to dress in time, so he was all ready, and at the summons of the daughter he came to the drawing-room. When they reached the room the daughter noticed that he carried in his hand a small wooden box, and as he shook hands with the nearest guest she saw him drop it. The cover rolled off, but she gave a sigh of relief when she saw that the box was apparently empty. The naturalist, however, uttered a cry of dismay, and instantly went down on his hands and knees in an attempt to gather up something. "Have you spilled anything, father?" she asked. "Spilled anything!" he echoed, in evident indignation at her calm tone. "I have lost my fifty fleas that I have just received from Egypt!" The effect of this intelligence on the family was nothing in comparison to the effect the catastrophe had upon the company before the evening was over; and the only thing the naturalist said to his friends in answer to their congratulations upon his happy married life, so his daughters declared after all was over, was to ask that if they carried away any of his Egyptian fleas they would return the insects to him.

Playing Tricks With Vegetables.

Some very pleasant surprises for children may be obtained by getting fruits to grow inside of glass bottles. Some, especially of the cucumber family, can be inserted into the narrow mouths of bottles while young, the bottles attached to the branch, and after full growth it will be a mystery how these fruits got inside the bottles or jars. Besides the pleasant surprises many a youthful lesson on plant growth can be furnished by these tests. It is stated that King George III., of England, in the earlier stages of the insanity which subsequently overtook him, used to express his surprise to those who were dining with him as to how the apple got inside the dumpling, but with these fruits in glass jars the surprises to even the people are quite as interesting as the apple dumpling was to this unfortunate monarch. —*Mechan's Monthly.*

Boy Wanted.

A grocer tacked upon his door
A bit of paper; this it bore:

"Boy wanted! At the desk apply,
Pay sure—at first not very high."

Within two days, at early morn,
A grocer's baby boy was born.

His little brother, wild with joy,
Said to his father, "Here's your boy!"

"Take down the notice on the door,
For you won't need it any more."

Then added this: "We've got a prize!
Now, don't it pay to advertise?"

United States Revenues.

BY "STAMPIE JACK."

Our Revenues are rapidly coming into favor and we stampies are awakening to the fact that these stamps are not worthless and homely and to be got for the asking, as we formerly supposed. Let us look at some of our first series, which are the unperforated series, the 25c red Bond is catalogued at \$2.50, the 25c red Entry of Goods \$1.00, the 50c blue Probate of Will at \$2.00, the 50c blue Surety Bond at \$4.00, and the \$2.50 Inland Exchange mauve at \$5.00, the one of least value in the series is the 2c blue Bank Check, valued at 3c. There are many others in this series valued from twelve dollars down. The second series are perforated and are valued from one cent to ten dollars. The third series are perforated and sometimes called the blue and black series, in the centre there is a portrait of Washington, of a blackish color and the frame is blue, hence their name, these are catalogued from one cent to ten dollars. The fourth and last series of the Document stamps vary in color and are valued from one cent to five dollars. There is another kind known as Proprietary stamps and are valued from one cent up to ten dollars.

The shades of Revenues vary probably more than any other stamps ever issued, and some of them can be compared with almost any stamp issued for beauty.—Moral, if you don't collect U. S. Revenues begin at once

Some Prices of U. S. Stamps in the 50th and 53d Editions of Scott's.

"You are an idiot to spend so much time and money on stamps," or some remark like the above is often addressed to me after having paid out a "V" or "X" bill on stamps. Am I though? I don't think so when I look over the 53d edition and compare some of the prices with the 50th edition. Some of the largest advancements I will quote a few. First the 7 cent War Dept. has advanced from 50 cents to one dollar, the 90 cent Interior from 35 cents to one dollar, the 1851 5 cent brown (Jefferson) from \$2.50 to \$6.00, the 1868 90 cent blue embossing 9x13mm. from three dollars to ten dollars. There are many others whose price has advanced 40 to 50 per cent. After looking over these prices who can say that anyone is an idiot to spend his spare time and change on stamps, U. S. especially.

PHIL.

Kentucky's Wonderful Rocking Stone.

The "moving stone" at Lexington is one of the most remarkable freaks of nature in the state of Kentucky, the great caverns alone excepted. In the rear of the grounds attached to the home of the late Governor Gilmer is a huge bowlder standing alone on the edge of a stream. Resting directly upon the bowlder is another, weighing at least twenty tons. This upper bowlder rests upon a stone pinnacle not more than two feet square, and so evenly balanced that, although the slightest touch will cause it to rock to and fro, a hundred horses could not pull it from its socket. Geologists say that it must have been deposited in its present position in the time of the glacial epoch, and that the texture and composition of the bowlder argues in favor of the theory that it was transported from the Lake Superior region to its present resting place in a good field of ice before there was a single human being on the face of the earth.—*New York Journal.*

The Monthly Gleanings.

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Vol. I. APRIL, 1893. No. 3.

A new stamp paper is announced from Boston.

The *Post Office* is a credit to its publishers.

We will have some good articles in our next number which will interest both Amateurs and Philatelists.

In answering advertisements please mention this paper.

Our readers would do well to look over our advertising columns carefully—all are first class.

The *Canadian Philatelist* is half through the second volume and is "one of the finest" we have seen.

The *Pennsylvania Philatelist* will issue a special Columbian number, May 1st.

Stanton's *Philatelic Tribune* has reached its ninetieth number. How many papers can reach that?

Au revoir.

Seventy Thousand Forged Stamps.

THE REMARKABLE WALL PAPER WHICH IT TOOK THIRTY YEARS TO COLLECT.

J. W. Palmer, a resident of London, has a room at 281 Strand which is papered with 70,000 forged stamps. The place looks like an intoxicated mosaic, and Mr. Palmer, who is probably the most widely known stamp collector in the world, recently told a writer for the *Pall Mall Budget* that if the collection was genuine it would be worth \$5,000,000. The forgeries represent every known stamp, and were found in collections which Mr. Palmer purchased during his thirty-three years' experience as a collector. To collect the 70,000 forged stamps took almost thirty years. To make wall paper out of them kept four pairs of hands busy for three months. They are pasted upon canvas, so that in order to remove the stamps it will not be necessary to remove the building. Paste, not gum, has been used, as gum discolors stamps. Having been fastened to the canvas, the stamps were treated to a coat of shellac and were then varnished. In the "Chamber of Philatelic Horrors," as Mr. Palmer calls it, is a flat-topped desk. Instead of leather the top is inlaid with postage stamps. These are genuine and they number 1,440. Near the desk stands a screen. It is about five feet high and six feet long. Both sides are covered with stamps. The most valuable among the forgeries is a Brattleboro, an American stamp of the face value of five cents. If it were genuine it would be worth \$1,250. A genuine Brattleboro was sold by Mr. Palmer for that amount.

High-Pressure Persiflage.

"Feel dry?" asked the safety valve.

"Oh, no! I'm tanked up," answered the boiler.

"Glad to hear it," was the reply, "I was just about to blow you off;" and the rest of the conversation was lost in the hissing that followed.—*Exchange.*

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Write now and don't forget my address

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