

The Monthly Visitor.

VOLUME V.

HAVERHILL, MASS., FEBRUARY, 1892.

NUMBER 2.

LITTLE BY LITTLE.

LITTLE by little, but sure and slow,
We fashion our future for bliss or woe.
As time is passing away,
Our feet are climbing the stairway bright,
Up to the region of endless light,
Or guiding downward to endless night,
As the moments are fleeting away.

CRAZY CALEB.

IT was Saturday morning, and Mrs. Roberts was in the midst of her cooking. The sun was shining in at the east window, and the kitchen looked bright and pleasant.

"May I come in?"

Mrs. Roberts looked up quickly and saw Miss Curtis, the new school teacher, standing in the doorway. "Yes, indeed," she answered cordially.

"I didn't know as you would allow boarders in the kitchen when you were cooking."

"I allow them anywhere they want to go," returned Mrs. Roberts, smiling.

Miss Curtis seated herself by one of the windows and gazed out for a moment. Then she looked across the table, which was covered with dishes, paper bags and spice boxes, at Mrs. Roberts.

"What is that board fence, out there in the next field, for? and what is inside? I have seen it every day when on my way to school, and have wondered what it could be. Once I saw smoke coming over the top of it and—look! you can see smoke there now."

Mrs. Roberts glanced in the same direction, and then at Miss Curtis.

"Don't you know?" she asked with surprise.

"No," I'm sure I do not.

"There's a little house inside of the fence, and an old man lives there."

"Does he live all alone?"

"Yes. He's dreadful queer."

"Hasn't he any relatives? What is his name?"

"His folks are all dead, and his name is Caleb."

"What makes him live in such a place as that?"

"I don't suppose he has got much money, and he's so queer you can't account for what he does."

"What is that high fence for?"

"He built that—but I'll begin at the beginning. You see he was the oldest of a large family, but most of them died when they were small, and when his father and mother died there were only two left, Caleb and his youngest sister. He was twenty years old and the little girl three. Caleb sold the old place and bought that field, had a small house put up on it, and the two lived there. He thought everything of Florence, and she was the prettiest little thing I ever saw. She had blue eyes and yellow hair, and was the happiest child, from morning to night, that I ever expect to see."

"She was five years old when she had the scarlet fever, and Caleb went nearly distracted when he saw how sick she was. I went over there—it was soon after I was married, I had only been in the neighborhood a few months—and took care of the poor baby. We had a good doctor, but it was of no use, she died."

"Caleb acted as though he was crazy after she died, and he never seemed just right, since. He had that board fence built, you can see the spikes on top of it. No one has ever been inside of it. He is real kind hearted, and never does anything violent, but I think he's mildly insane."

"Is that he?" asked Miss Curtis, who was looking out of the window.

Mrs. Roberts paused in the act of trimming off a pie and looked in the same direction. An old man was coming out of the gate; he shut and locked it after him, and put the key in his pocket; he had a

book in his hand which he opened and began to read as he walked along towards the road.

"Yes," answered Mrs. Roberts. "You see, that's the way he always does, walks off with a book in his hand. Reads most all the time I should think."

Miss Curtis sighed. She thought of this house where she had staid a week and been "anywhere she wanted to go," and how she had vainly sought for some book to read in her spare moments, finding nothing but the almanic. Perhaps they have books, she said to herself, but they are probably too precious for every day use.

A week later Mr. Roberts remarked to Miss Curtis at the supper table: "Crazy Caleb seems to have taken quite a fancy to you."

"Why, John! you shouldn't call him that," exclaimed his wife.

"No, I don't suppose I ought to. He knows how to mind his own business, which is more than some folks in their senses do."

"He is very entertaining, and takes a great deal of interest in the school," said Miss Curtis.

At the time, Miss Curtis was enjoying a book which the old man had loaned her to read.

"Won't you come in and look at my books?" said Caleb. It was three weeks after she had first met him. They were coming from the direction of the school house, and had reached the footpath leading to the old man's house. Miss Curtis assenting, they walked slowly along through the field.

"You read a great deal, don't you?" he said.

"Yes, I enjoy it. And you do, too, I'm sure," she answered.

A troubled look came into his face. "No, I don't think I do much. I should if I could remember it; but see, I have been reading this for a long time and I can't keep my mind on it." He took a book from his pocket as he spoke, and then

proceeded to unlock the gate.

They passed through a small yard and went into the house. The room they entered was small and simply furnished; a fire was burning in the cook stove; one side of the room was taken up with a large book case filled with books. Miss Curtis went and looked at these while the old man put more wood in the stove.

"You have some nice books," she said, after she had examined them. "A great many of them I have read, and some of them I have wanted to read."

Caleb smiled. "Would you like to come in here sometimes, and read?" he asked.

"Yes, I should like to."

He took a large key from the wall and gave it to her. "You may have that," he said, "and when I am not here you can come in just the same. I'd be glad to have you read my books if you want to."

"Thank you very much," she said, taking the key.

"Well, I never!" exclaimed Mrs. Roberts when Miss Curtis came in, a few minutes later. "How happened you to go in there?"

After that, Miss Curtis spent many hours among Caleb Bennett's books. He was away a great deal, wandering about the woods. A lot in the corner of the old, neglected grave yard was visited by him more than any other spot; it was here that his brothers and sisters had been laid. Miss Curtis sometimes went walking with him, and he had taken her around the old burying ground and told her about the little sister that had died last.

One day as they walked along toward Mrs. Roberts' house, Miss Curtis said: "I am going home, the day after tomorrow, to stay till after Christmas."

The old man stood still and looked at her sorrowfully. "I wish you wouldn't," he said.

"I shall be back again in two weeks."

"But why can't you stay here?"

"I want to see my folks."

He walked along again. "I'm sorry you are going, but suppose you want to."

Mrs. Roberts was to carry Miss Curtis to the depot, and just before she got into the wagon, Caleb came over to bid her good bye.

Mrs. Roberts was in a hurry to

start, and they shook hands hastily.

The old man watched them. Miss Curtis looked back once, and he waved his hand to her. Then the team went out of sight, but still he stood there, with his hat in his hand and the wind blowing his gray hair about.

Miss Curtis enjoyed her vacation, and yet she often thought of the old man who had let her read his books, and she did not dread returning to her school, as she had expected to.

She did not tell Mrs. Roberts what day she was coming back, and so, when she stepped off the train at Wayside one bright January day, it was with the determination to walk to the Roberts' house and surprise her boarding mistress.

It was nearly sunset when she opened the back door, and entered the kitchen; she was rather surprised to find it empty, as Mrs. Roberts was in the habit of staying there.

"I'll run over and see Caleb," she said to herself as she ran up stairs after the key he had given her.

She walked quickly across the fields and unlocked the gate; she went through the little yard and into the house. The little room was in perfect order as usual, but it was cold and empty. She went up to the stove and held her hands over it; but there was no fire there.

"Perhaps he is in the cemetery," she thought. "I will go and look for him, but I should think he would want a fire here." She shivered as she went out and closed the door after her.

She went over to the corner where Caleb's brothers and sisters had been buried, and looked over.

The sun had sunk below the horizon; a cold wind began to blow from the north, and a few stars came out; still she stood there, leaning against the fence, with her head bent.

At last, with a sob, she turned and went toward the house.

Out in the corner of the grave-yard, under the cold sky, there was a mound that had not been there before.

SUSIE BROWN ROBBINS.

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F. H. Smith, Publisher.

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ADDRESS ALL communications to: THE MONTHLY VISITOR, HAVERHILL, MASS.

Entered at Haverhill Post Office as second-class matter.

A 'BOOM.'

"Man's destiny is to be, not dissatisfied, but for ever unsatisfied."

THE VISITOR experienced quite a "boom" last month, and the addition to our subscription list was very gratifying, and would satisfy most any thing upon this terrestrial sphere except a two legged specimen of humanity.

We are not satisfied. We do not "want the earth," but we must have more subscribers, "and more the merrier." The VISITOR now has quite a list of subscribers, but, like Oliver Twist, cries for more. And, then, we want to enlarge, and if sufficient encouragement is given us, we may—enlarge to either a four column four page paper, or a twelve page magazine with cover.

To those who subscribe for the Visitor during the past month, we extend our thanks, and shall endeavor to make it interesting and worthy of future support.

Our offer to receive subscriptions at five cents per annum, in clubs, still remains open, and we look for a large addition to our subscription list during the coming month. Now is the time to subscribe!

SOME of our old time friends and subscribers have called upon us and congratulated us upon again assuming charge of the VISITOR. We are very grateful for this, and would assure them that many have been the pangs that have crossed our memories over the events that insulated us from them during the past few years.

However, we are "in harness" again, and would be pleased to meet any of our friends who chose to favor this office with a call.

GEO. WASHINGTON.

ON the calendar of national holidays is entered the birthday of the immortal Washington. Hallowed memories are connected with his name—a name distinguished as the synonym of patriotism and honor.

When our country was involved in all the horrors of a long contested war, he in common with others of his countrymen took active part in the strife that was pending between Great Britain and the Colonies. His sterling love of country and unflinching patriotism, won for him the admiration and plaudits of his comrades, and it was not long before he received the highest military position that could be bestowed upon him—Commander-in-Chief of the American armies.

Under his skillful leadership success could scarce refrain attending his subordinates. In consequence of these victories Independence was soon inscribed on their banners.

A Congress was shortly held, from which flowed weighty results, affecting every citizen's interest. As quickly as the States were united under one common government, an executive head was needed. Such an one was not difficult to discover, for in Washington were found all the excellencies which combined to render a man respected, honored and good. For two successive terms he occupied the highest gift of the people, and his administration was marked by justice, purity and integrity. His remains lie sacred within a moss-covered vault at Mount Vernon, and his resting place is a consecrated and hallowed spot.

COUNTERFEITERS.

THE path of the young stamp collector is beset with many difficulties, and perhaps the greatest trouble he has to contend with, is the various counterfeit stamps which are shoved upon him by unprincipled dealers. As this class of dealers sell their imitations principally by packages he soon accumulates a large lot of duplicates without adding to his collection.

This of course discourages him, as he sees his collection growing

but slowly while his duplicates are rapidly increasing, and then to cap the climax, when he finds that after all his trouble and expence his collection, which he has spent hours in arranging, is worthless, is it any wonder that he throws up stamp collecting in disgust and pronounces it a humbug?

Such is the experience of many collectors who, having been swindled by the trash imposed upon them by these dealers, are caused to lay aside stamp collecting forever, when if they had only begun right they soon would have been deeply interested, and after a few years time had a collection to be proud of.

There are a certain class of collectors who will buy anything that is a stamp, providing it can be purchased for little or nothing. Of course we can expect nothing from these deluded persons. But there are many, who never suspecting that stamps are counterfeited, buy them where they can get them the cheapest, and as the counterfeiters offer them seemingly better inducements, they consequently purchase of them, and oftentimes accumulate quite a collection before they are aware that they are being duped.

It is this class of collectors that need advice, and if they would only subscribe to some of the numerous stamp journals that are published in the country, they would soon see the folly of their ways. To such we would give a few words of advice: don't buy a cents' worth of a dealer after you find he is cheating you, and be sure to inform all your stamp collecting friends that he is a scoundrel. Buy your specimens of a reliable dealer, and in a time, if the bogus concerns find they have no patronage, they will be obliged to leave the business.

If every collector will follow this plan, in a few years the country will be free of these pests of stamp collecting—Counterfeiters.

NOTES.

—Circulation 1000 copies this issue.

—Get your name on our subscription list, and use our exchange department.

—Have your advertisement appear in our next number. It will pay.

—Mention the *VISITOR* in writing to our advertisers.

—We would inform the "please insert and send bill" advertisers that we are not "in it." Our rates are low, and terms cash. Make a note of it.

—Show the rascals up seems to be the motto of the *Philatelic Fraud Reporter*. Mr. Green is doing good work in showing up the approval sheet swindlers, and should receive the support of every dealer and collector.

—The *Essex County Philatelist* is, as usual, full of interesting matter, and contains much real information for collectors.

—The *Collector*, Chester, Pa., comes to us in an enlarged form for December. Mr. Miller may well feel proud of his magazine.

ITEMS.

—Postage in China it paid by the receiving party.

—One of our U. S. firms have \$30,000 capital; it will soon be increased to \$100,000.

—There were more than one hundred thousand stamps exhibited at the Canadian Exposition.

—It is not quite convenient for the residents of East India to go to the post office every time to mail a letter.

—It is understood that there is to be a new issue of postage stamps for the U. S. in 1893, in commemoration of the World's Exposition. They will be similar to those issued in 1876.

—Mexicans are very much opposed against their government because postage is cheaper in the U. S. Those Mexicans living near the Rio Grande paddle across, buy a 2c. U. S. stamp, put it on their letters, instead of paying the high fee of their own government.

—In London, some twenty years ago, mails was collected at 5 p. m. by men who paraded through the streets giving certain signals for the people to bring their letters out. There were no mail boxes in those days.

PHILATELY.

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VOLUME V.

HAVERHILL, MASS., MARCH, 1892.

NUMBER 3.

Entered for the Post Laureateship.

MORTA.

NAY, why do you weep because she is gone:
Because her red mouth is frozen and chill;
Because your kisses can never burn down
From your false, white lips to her heart that is still?
Why do you mourn that her hands are folded
Above her heart, which grew weary of life?
Sweet, loyal heart that you carelessly broke,
Then left all alone, in its voiceless strife.
Oh! why do you grieve that her ears are deaf?—
Deaf to your vows which were hollow as air!
Why do you weep as you look on her face—
The dear face you kissed as you called her fair?
Ah! why do you shrink from her cold, cold cheek?
Do you think how it waxed so bitter white
As you held her close to your sinful heart
And laughed at her shame that terrible night?
Why do you turn from her form that is calm?
Poor, weary limbs that are safely at rest,
Soft, dimpled hands that are waxen and cold,
Full, loving lips which a false lover pressed.
Ah! why do you shudder and turn so white
While you lean to kiss her mouth grown chill?
You have kissed it many and many a time.
Go! Why do you stand there so dumb and still?

442 E. Mason St., Decatur, Ill.

Kathleen F. Smith.

THE GRAVE.

WHE sorrow for the dead is the only sorrow from which we refuse to be divorced. Every other wound we seek to heal; every other affliction, to forget, but this wound we consider it a duty to keep open. This affliction we cherish, and brood over in solitude. Where is the mother who would willingly forget the infant that perished like a blossom from her arms, though every recollection is a pang! Where is the child who would willingly forget a tender parent, though to remember be but to lament! Who, even, in the hour of agony, would forget the friends, over whom he mourns.

No, the love which survives the tomb is one of the noblest attributes of the soul. If it has its woes, it has likewise its delight; and when the overwhelming burst of grief is calmed into gentle recollection; when the sudden anguish, the convulsive agony over the present ruin of all that we most love, is softened away into pensive meditations on all that it was, in the days of its loveliness; who would root out such a sorrow from the heart?

Though it may, sometimes, throw a passing cloud over the bright hour of gayety, or spread a deeper sadness over the hour of gloom, yet, who would exchange it, even for the song of pleasure or the burst

of revelry. No, there is a voice from the tomb sweeter than song. There is a remembrance of the dead to which we turn even from the charms of living.

Oh, the grave! the grave! It buries every error, covers every defect, extinguishes every resentment! From its peaceful bosom springs none but fond regrets and tender recollections.

Who can look down upon the grave, even of an enemy, and not feel a compunctious throb that he should have warred with the poor handfull of earth that lies mouldering before him. But the grave of those we love; what a place for meditation! There it is that we call up the whole history of virtue and gentleness and the thousand endearments lavished upon us, almost unheeded in the daily intercourse of intimacy; there it is that we dwell upon the tenderness, the solemn, awful, tenderness of the parting scene, the bed of death, with all its stifled grief, its noiseless attendance, its mute, watchful assiduities; the last testimonies of expiring love, the feeble pressure of the hand, the last fond look of the gazing eyes turned upon us, even from the threshold of existence, the faltering assents, struggling to give one more assurance of affection.

Go to the grave of buried love, and meditate; there settle the account with conscience for every past benefit unrequited; every past endearment unregarded of that departed being who will never return to be so then by thy contrition.

If thou art a child, and hast ever added a furrow to the silvered brow of an affectionate parent; if thou art a husband, and hast ever caused that fond bosom that ventured its whole happiness in thy arms, to doubt one moment of thy kindness or thy truth; if thou art a friend, and hast ever wronged, in thought or deed, the spirit that

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FOR SALE.

A NOVELTY foot power hand Inking Printing Press, in good condition, with cabinet. Size of chase 6x10. Price \$5.00.

AN Adams Cottage Press; size of chase 18x15 inches, in good condition. Price \$7.00. Monthly Visitor, Haverhill, Mass.

R U SLEEPING?

IF not, then send for the finest and cheapest approval sheets on the market. Marked by Scott's 52d edition. Monthly price list free to every application. Every one answering this advertisement, and selling 20c worth from sheets, will receive an entire used postal card from Canada or the United States. THE TEMISCOVATA STAMP CO., box 25, Fraser ville, P. Q. Canada.

The Monthly Visitor.

VOLUME V.

HAVERHILL, MASS., MARCH, 1892.

NUMBER 3.

Entered for the Poet Laureateship.

MORTA.

NAY, why do you weep because she is gone;
Because her red mouth is frozen and chill;
Because your kisses can never burn down
From your false, white lips to her heart that is still?
Why do you mourn that her hands are folded
Above her heart, which grew weary of life?
Sweet, loyal heart that you carelessly broke,
Then left all alone, in its voiceless strife.
Oh! why do you grieve that her ears are deaf?—
Deaf to your vows which were hollow as air!
Why do you weep as you look on her face—
The dear face you kissed as you called her fair?
Ah! why do you shrink from her cold, cold cheek?
Do you think how it waxed so bitter white
As you held her close to your sinful heart
And laughed at her shame that terrible night?
Why do you turn from her form that is calm?
Poor, weary limbs that are safely at rest,
Soft, dimpled hands that are waxen and cold,
Full, loving lips which a false lover pressed.
Ah! why do you shudder and turn so white
While you lean to kiss her mouth grown chill?
You have kissed it many and many a time.
Go! Why do you stand there so dumb and still?

442 E. Mason St., Decatur, Ill.

Kathleen F. Smith.

THE GRAVE.

THE sorrow for the dead is the only sorrow from which we refuse to be divorced. Every other wound we seek to heal; every other affliction, to forget, but this wound we consider it a duty to keep open. This affliction we cherish, and brood over in solitude. Where is the mother who would willingly forget the infant that perished like a blossom from her arms, though every recollection is a pang! Where is the child who would willingly forget a tender parent, though to remember be but to lament! Who, even, in the hour of agony, would forget the friends, over whom he mourns.

No, the love which survives the tomb is one of the noblest attributes of the soul. If it has its woes, it has likewise its delight; and when the overwhelming burst of grief is calmed into gentle recollection; when the sudden anguish, the convulsive agony over the present ruin of all that we most love, is softened away into pensive meditations on all that it was, in the days of its loveliness; who would root out such a sorrow from the heart?

Though it may, sometimes, throw a passing cloud over the bright hour of gayety, or spread a deeper sadness over the hour of gloom, yet, who would exchange it, even for the song of pleasure or the burst

of revelry. No, there is a voice from the tomb sweeter than song. There is a remembrance of the dead to which we turn even from the charms of living.

Oh, the grave! the grave! It buries every error, covers every defect, extinguishes every resentment! From its peaceful bosom springs none but fond regrets and tender recollections.

Who can look down upon the grave, even of an enemy, and not feel a compunctious throb that he should have warred with the poor handful of earth that lies mouldering before him. But the grave of those we love; what a place for meditation! There it is that we call up the whole history of virtue and gentleness and the thousand endearments lavished upon us, almost unheeded in the daily intercourse of intimacy; there it is that we dwell upon the tenderness, the solemn, awful, tenderness of the parting scene, the bed of death, with all its stifled grief, its noiseless attendance, its mute, watchful assiduities; the last testimonies of expiring love, the feeble pressure of the hand, the last fond look of the gazing eyes turned upon us, even from the threshold of existence, the faltering assents, struggling to give one more assurance of affection.

Go to the grave of buried love, and meditate; there settle the account with conscience for every past benefit unrequited; every past endearment unregarded of that departed being who will never return to be so then by thy contrition.

If thou art a child, and hast ever added a furrow to the silvered brow of an affectionate parent; if thou art a husband, and hast ever caused that fond bosom that ventured its whole happiness in thy arms, to doubt one moment of thy kindness or thy truth; if thou art a friend, and hast ever wronged, in thought or deed, the spirit that

generously confided in thee; if thou hast given one unmerited pang to that true heart, which now lies cold and still beneath thy feet, then be sure that every unkind look, every ungracious word, every ungentle action will come thronging back upon thy memory, and knocking dolefully at thy soul; then be be sure that thou wilt lie down sorrowfully and repent on the grave, and utter the unheard groan and pour the unavailing tear, more deep, more bitter, because unheard and unavailing.

Then weave thy chaplet of flowers about the grave, console thy broken spirit if thou canst with these tender, yet futile tributes over the dead, and henceforth be more faithful and affectionate in the discharge of thy duties to the living.

THE ORIGIN OF THE ARBUTUS.

THE follow paper, read by ex-congressman Belknap of Michigan, before the Folk Lore Society, at Washington, D. C., giving the Indian legend of the trailing arbutus, will prove of interest to all lovers of this early spring blossom.

On the shores of Lake Superior, in the vicinity of the pictured rocks, grows to perfection the dearest and sweetest of all wild flowers, the arbutus—the plant that all the most skillful florists, the plant that the tender, loving touch of woman, even, cannot cause to grow in hot-houses or garden.

There are two things that the learned white man does not understand—the Indian and the arbutus. From time to time, sitting by the camp fires in the evening, I have been told of the creation of many animals and birds by the great Mannaboosho and his captains, the Manitos, and this is the legend, as told me, of the origin or creation of the arbutus.

It was many, many moons ago, that there lived an old man alone in his lodge beside a frozen stream in the forest. His locks and beard were long and white with age; he was heavily clad in fine furs, for all the world was winter—snow and ice every where. The wind went wild through the forest, searching every bush and tree for birds to

chill, chasing evil spirits o'er hill and vale, and the old man went about searching in the deep snow for pieces of wood to keep the fire in his lodge.

In despare he returned to his lodge, and sitting down by the few dying coals, he cried to Mannaboosho that he might not perish.

And the wind blew aside the door of his lodge, and there came in a most beautiful-maiden. Her cheeks were red and made of wild roses, her eyes were large, and glowed like the eyes of fawns at night, her hair was long and black as the ravens, and it touched the ground as she walked. Her hands were covered with willow buds; her bonnet was a wreath of wild flowers, and her clothing of sweet grasses and ferns, and her moccasins were white lilies, and when she breathed the air of the lodge became warm.

The old man said: "My daughter, I am glad to see you. My lodge is cold and cheerless, but it will shield you from the tempest of the night.

But tell me who you are, that you dare come to my lodge in such strange clothing? Come, sit here and tell me of thy victories, and I will tell thee of my exploits, for I am Manito."

He then filled two pipes with tobacco, that they might smoke as they talked, and when the smoke had warmed the old man's tongue he said: "I am Manito. I blow my breath and the waters of the river stand still."

The maiden said: "I breathe, and flowers spring up on all the plains."

The old man said: "I shake my locks, and snow covers the ground."

"I shake my curls," said the maiden, "and warm rains fall from the clouds."

The old man said: "When I walk about, the leaves fall from the trees at my command; the animals hide in their holes in the ground and the birds get up out of the water and fly away."

The maiden said: "When I walk about the plants lift up their heads, the trees cover their nakedness with leaves, the birds come back, and all who see me sing; there is music everywhere."

And thus they talked, and the air became warm in the lodge. The old man's head dropped upon his breast and he slept.

Then the sun came back, and a blue bird came to the top of the lodge and called: "Say-ee, say-ee! I am thirsty!" And the river called back: "I am free, come and drink."

And as the old man slept the maiden passed her hands above his head, and he began to grow small. Streams of water ran out of his mouth, and soon he was a small mass upon the ground, and his clothing turned to green leaves, and then the maiden, kneeling upon the ground, took from her bosom the most precious white flowers and hid them all about and under the leaves. Then she breathed upon them and said: "I give thee all my virtues and my sweetest breath, and all who would pick thee shall do so upon bending knee."

Then the maiden moved away over the plains, and all the birds sang to her, and wherever she stepped, and no where else, grows the arbutus.

In The Government Envelope Factory.

ENTERING the factory to get a few points on the double impressed envelopes, it took but a minute of time to demonstrate that these abominable types are absolutely worthless from any point in Philately. The envelope, unfolded, receives its impression as it passes over a plate from the lower side, the indented bed of dies being underneath, and rising as the paper passes it, forcing it against a disk of soft leather of the same size as the die, which is set in the machinery opposite with sufficient force to indent the leather, and leave a fine, clear impression on the envelope, which then run into a folder and come out ready for use.

Sometimes it happens during the day that the machinery is stopped and in such a case, when starting again, one of the printed covers is usually passed between the die and leather one or more times, to catch any surplus coloring. Thus we get our samples with several impressions. These are dropped into the waste basket; but occasionally one gets into a made up lot accidentally, and so to the public.

Nic.

The Monthly Visitor.

F. H. Smith, Publisher.

PUBLISHERS' NOTICES.

SUBSCRIPTION. 10 cts. a year; post-paid.

ADVERTISEMENTS: 5 cents per line; 50 cents per inch. Larger advertisement contracted for.

EXCHANGES: We will exchange with any paper published.

ADDRESS ALL communications to: THE MONTHLY VISITOR, HAVERHILL, MASS.

Entered at Haverhill Post Office as second class matter.

FRAUDS.

THIS subject is troubling our amateur contemporaries to such an extent that they have organized an association, known as the National Amateur Protective Association, to protect themselves from the sharp rogues and swindlers, who see that the field of amateurdom is one for their attention. They send the publisher an advertisement, with a "please insert and send bill" letter, and the publisher inserts the advertisement, but when he tries to collect the amount due, he finds that he is wasting his time, paper and postage.

That there are advertisers mean enough to defraud the publisher of his dues, we are well aware, but the fault is not wholly with the advertisers, as it is characteristic of the amateur publisher to claim a circulation larger than he really has, and thus defraud the advertiser who does pay his bills.

Before us is a little four page paper, about one third the size of the Visitor, whose publisher claims for it a circulation of 2500 copies monthly, and we believe the advertiser who advertises in it, is defrauded. We believe the association will prove of benefit to our contemporaries, but in contracting for advertisements we hope they will give their circulation correctly, and not lead the advertiser to believe it is treble what it really is. The only way to avoid being swindled is to demand cash in advance, and this rule, which is in force in this office, will prevent the amateur from being the dupe of dishonest advertisers.

Subscribe for the Visitor.

* Stamp collecting must be less profitable *
* It seems utterly useless to me.

OF the many "fads" with which we are blessed or cursed—have it as you will—stamp collecting is the most subject to ridicule. We opine that the author of the above sentence, which was quoted to us from a private letter, never had the pleasure of examining a collection of postage stamps. We never ridicule a person for collecting paintings, engravings,—or amateur papers, even,—and why, may I ask, should the idea of gathering together the stamps of the various governments of the world be subject to ridicule? But they are only a parcel of torn and dirty pieces of paper, is many times the answer of those uninterested. And yet how beautiful they are when unused.

No common engraver is now called upon to engrave them, but the most skillful engravers that the country can command is called into requisition, and some of the finest portraits of our leading statesmen appear upon our postage stamps.

Now that the care bestowed upon postage stamps have made them what they should be, works of art, we maintain that every argument that is advanced for the preservation of engravings, will apply equally as well to postage stamps. But paintings as well as postage stamps are worthless when defaced, and their beauty is destroyed, as well as our object in preserving them.

Therefore, if possible put into your album only unused or slightly cancelled stamps, and your collection will be fit to grace any parlor table in the land.

NOTES.

—Be wise, and subscribe for the Visitor

—Short and interesting articles of a philatelic nature are solicited from our readers.

—Postage stamps were first used in Great Britain in 1840; in the U. S. in 1847.

—At the request of the late publisher of the Visitor, and on the authority of President Swift of the N. A. P. A. that it is in accord with the constitution of the association, we insert a Laureate entry in this number.

—The *Land We Live In* comes to us freighted with good things. It is especially of interest to sportsmen, but there is something in it adapted to everybody's taste.

—The *Beacon*, Chelsea, Mass., is fast becoming one of the foremost school publications. The current number contains some very entertaining contributions.

—The semi-Monthly *Engis*, Oakland, Cal., is one of our best exchanges. The serial, "The Grifins Tale," is intensely interesting.

—By the addition of eight pages of "ready print," the *Youth's Delight* has enlarged to sixteen pages.

—The Loganville, O., Monthly *Gem*, has resumed publication.

—An apology is due our readers for the poor quality of paper used last month. It will not happen again.

—Volume I, number II, of *The Boy's Enterprise* has found its way to our sanctum, and it is a bright, meritorious monthly. It upholds the Mbapa faction of amateur journalism, and as such is the most able one of them all, lacking the vulgar, slanderous criticism of the other faction that has characterized many of the Mbapa papers. It contains sixteen pages of entertaining matter, and deserves, and we hope it will meet with, success.

ITEMS.

—It is estimated that letters will average about fifty to a pound.

—But ten states in the Union paid their post office expenses last year. Mass., being second on the list.

The receipts of the Boston post office last year were \$2,173,451, being the fourth largest in the country.

—The average daily mail collected in the central district of Boston, is one and a half ton. The collectors make eight or ten trips a day, and walk from fifteen to twenty miles each.

According to the annual report of the New York post office, the receipts last year were \$6,505,952.08 expenditures \$2,525,540.50; and the net revenue 3,980,411.58.

PHILATELY.

C. W. SMALL, EDITOR.

All communications for this department must be addressed to the editor at 37 Forest Avenue, Portland, Maine.

NOTES.

WE shall have a word to say in our next issue regarding packets; their composition, price and general utility. Look out for it.

At D. S. Wylie's recent sale a New Brunswick shilling brought \$27.50; a Nova Scotia shilling \$31.00; Newfoundland, \$41.00.

The number of post offices in the U. S. is said to be 64,391.

The first stamp paper published in the U. S. was the Stamp Collectors Record. Forty four numbers were issued, commencing in December 1865. S. Allen Taylor, the famous stamp counterfeiter was the publisher.

We have received Vol. 1 No. 2 of The United Association Philatelist, official organ of the United Philatelic Association. This organization is new to us, but it now has a membership of twenty four, and several applicants. The paper is well arranged and printed, and is published monthly from 2240 Cleveland Place, Washington, D. C.

Vol. 1. No. 1. of the Michigan Philatelist is at hand. It is a combination of stamp advertisements, humorous clippings and general notes. Its most prominent feature is its advertising rates.

The exact number of U. S. Department stamps issued by the different departments are as follows: Executive, 1800; State, 58,338; Treasury, 1,442,650; War, 1,144,573; Navy, 81,493; Interior, 533,622; Justice, 25,470; Agriculture, 86,800. It may be readily seen from the above figures why the Executive are so rare and high priced.

It is understood that the J. W. Scott Co., will issue a series of albums for specialists. It has become so evident that specialism has a great future before it that this concern has arranged a series of about fifty albums, arranged by

large countries, or groups of small-er ones. The price of each will be about \$1.00.

On Jan. 27 the Philatelic Society of Vineland was organized at Vineland, N. J., with Irving Buckminster, Pres. Burt Lawrence, Sec. D. Harlan King, Treas. The society has our best wishes for a prosperous career. Address all communications to box 854, Vineland, N. J.

The Mound City Stamp Co., St. Louis, has failed and gone out of business. The concern was incorporated for \$10,000, and the stock holders are out all they paid in and there is besides some \$8,000 in other debts, making upward of \$20,000 of liabilities, and not a cent remains to pay it with. The balance of stock of stamps has been turned over to Mr. F. Miller, to secure a debt due him, and he is carrying on the business as the Miller, McCormick Stamp Co. The Stamp Collectors Companion will not be continued. Mismanagement, lack of business knowledge and proper knowledge of stamps, is said by those supposed to know, to have been the cause.

On Jan. 21, P. O. inspector Hall arrested Charles W. Woodworth, who has been swindling stamp dealers by the use of several aliases, using among other the names of E. C. Holmes, C. S. Dayton and John D. Martin. He ordered rare stamps from various dealers and drew bogus checks on the New England Trust Co. His last scheme was to order stamps on approval, and appropriate them. At one time, less than a year ago, he carried on the stamp business at Columbus, Ohio, afterwards he returned to Malden Mass. his home. He not only used the mails for fraudulent purposes, but committed forgery in using the name of E. C. Holmes. He is held for trial in March under \$1500 bonds.

CORRESPONDENCE.

This department is for inquiries of a Philatelic nature, as well as for replies thereto. Address the editor at 37 Forest Avenue, Portland, Maine.

S.—Bogets next auction sale takes place March 15th and 16th.

A. J. C.—Cannot use your stamps. Should advise you to use our exchange department.

F. W. C.—Both systems are in use; some dealers prefer to have you bid for the lot, others ask for bids for each piece in the lot. Unless otherwise specified all stamps are sold to the highest bidder. When there is a reserve price given your bids must be equal to or exceed that amount.

EXCHANGE DEPARTMENT.

This department is for the free use of subscribers. Notices must not contain more than thirty words, exclusive of name and address. Nothing but strictly EXCHANGE notices will be inserted. Advertisements must appear in the advertising columns.

1851 U. S. halfcent to exchange for one of different date. Must be in good condition. Visitor, Haverhill, Mass.

Post-marks to exchange for those not in my collection. Send list of those you have to exchange and want. F. H. Smith, Visitor, Haverhill, Mass.

Wanted. Type, leads, etc. in exchange for stamps, old coins, etc. Type must be in good condition and type high. Everybody send for my exchange list. E. Gestafson, McPherson, Kansas, box 850.

100 3c green U. S. stamps, 1872 issue, for best offer in stamps. this office.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

In answering advertisements, please say: Saw advertisement in The Visitor.

THE Badger Stamp News, only 20c. a year. Edited by N. H. Mayer, and contributed to by Art. Smith 902 5th St. rear, Milwaukee, Wis. The support of every collector solicited.

AGENTS WANTED.

300 new workers wanted. 200 per cent profit. No experience needed. Everybody can sell them. A nice GOLD WATCH, ladies or gents, free to every agent. Agents, over 200 samples mailed you free for 25 cts. if you mention this paper. And show them to your friends. Act quick, big money in it. Catalogue 300 novelties 2 cents. Postal Cards, nothing. RANDOLPH NOVELTY CO. Randolph, Mass. 2-5

STAMPS ON APPROVAL.

1 WILL send Stamps marked at net prices. or at catalogue prices with a discount of from

30 TO 50 PER CENT.

to all applicants. Send a reference if convenient, and you will receive a larger and better consignment. Tell me how many stamps you have in your collection, and I can tell about what you want. C. W. SMALL, 37 Forest Avenue, Portland, Maine.

R U SLEEPING?

IF not, then send for the finest and cheapest approval sheets on the market. Marked by Scott's 52d edition. Monthly price list free to every application. Every one answering this advertisement, and sending 10c worth from sheets, will receive an entire used postal card from Canada or the United States. THE TEMISCOVATA STAMP CO., box 25, Fraserville, P. Q. Canada.

The Monthly Visitor.

VOLUME V.

HAVERHILL, MASS., APRIL, 1892.

NUMBER 4.

HOW TO COLLECT.

WITH our younger collectors the task of discrimination between the various modes of stamp collecting, is one of some moment, and the sooner a collector decides upon a plan, the better it is for him. A great many collectors admit into their albumus, every variety of shade, color and perforation which they can obtain, and while this plan has its advantages, and disadvantages, it presents a source of never failing delight and instruction to the true Philatelist, and for a dealer, or editor of a Philatelic publication, it is of great advantage as a reference; still it has some defects, being very expensive and requiring a large amount of time and labor to be properly arranged, and then again, a collection can never be made complete, as some of the varieties are now unobtainable, and others so extremely scarce that only a few are to be met with, and these being held at such a figure that only the wealthy collector can hope to give them a place in his album.

The other system—and one which has, we believe, the greatest number of adherants—which advises the collecting of only one variety in a stamp, and denounces the collection of every slight variety. This system is, perhaps, the best for young collectors; being more simple and requiring a smaller expenditure of money.

A collection arranged on this plan has more of interest to the casual observer, who cannot see why a distinction between two

stamps, because one has perforated edges and the other not; or one may be darker in shade than another when in all other respects, they are identical.

Another thing in favor of this system of collecting, is that a collection can more easily be made complete. A collector can very easily obtain one variety of almost every stamp, when if he attempts the feat of accumulating one of every slight variety, it will only be accomplished after years of time and labor, and at great expense.

The young Philatelist who is about to choose an album, for the first time, in which to mount his collection, needs some advice from those who have had more experience. The stamps may be arranged either Chronologically, Geographically or Alphabetically. For the beginner we should advise the selection of an album that contains space for the various emissions of every country of the correct shape of the stamp, by the use of such an album there will be but very little possibility of any mistakes being made in mounting the specimens. Now having selected an album, the collector has his stamps to mount.

If he collects only unused stamps, great care should be taken in their selection, only the cleanest and most perfect specimens being allowable, so also if he admits used stamps into his book, only those that are perfect, and slightly cancelled, should be given place in his collection.

Before mounting, if there is any paper remaining on the back of

the stamp, it should be removed; in mounting always use a hinge, as you may sometimes wish to change them over into another book, or remove them for the insertion of better specimens, but if gummed solid, they can only be removed by wetting, which injure the appearance of the album.

Keep your album clean. Don't handle it with dirty hands; many collections are ruined by being rubbed and soiled with dirty fingers. When you mount new specimens, or show your collection to a friend, be sure your hands are in a clean condition.

If you follow these directions, and keep clear of counterfeits, you will soon have a collection to be proud of, and one, if you look at it in a pecuniary point of view, will bring a good price whenever you wish to dispose of it.

CLIPPINGS.

People who hope are generally people who help.

A good way to learn to talk is to first learn to listen.

Unbelief never tried to pull anybody out of the ditch.

Backsliding seldom happens in time of adversity.

The best medicine for self conceit is to be well introduced to yourself.

The soldier who never makes any marches or fights is always dissatisfied.

 Subscribe for the Visitor.

PHILATELY.

C. W. SMALL, EDITOR.

All communications for this department must be addressed to the editor at 37 Forest Avenue, Portland, Maine.

BUYING STAMPS.

WHERE are quite a number of collectors in this country, who will not think of buying a stamp unless its price is forty per cent below the catalogue price. Such collectors make a two fold mistake, for they get only stamps that are very common, and which every dealer is well stocked with, and can afford to sell cheap, but they get together a very common collection, a collection that can be duplicated by every collector and which could be sold only far below what it cost its owner, because dealers will not buy stamps with which they are already stocked. It is better to pay an approximate catalogue price, for then a class of stamps is found that is not and cannot be held by wholesalers in quantity, and it is in this class of stamps that is constantly growing valuable. In almost every set or issue, there is one or more stamps that is worth all the others. It is well to get this one as early as possible, for it will advance in value by jumps—but it cannot be bought for anything like forty per cent discount.

There was arrested in St. Louis, a few days ago, a Spanish stamp dealer who was starting on an extended swindling tour. He had visited Cuba, Mexico, Galveston, New Orleans, Memphis and St. Louis. He carried an immense stock, enough to fill two trunks. His method was to make up sets of old Spain, the common stamps being genuine and the rare ones excellent counterfeits.

It is said on good authority, that foreign dealers are sending *fac similis* of the U. S. periodical

newspaper stamps to this country. Also perforated and gummed *proofs* of the periodical stamps are quite common as well, but they are held at high prices.

The various early issues of New South Wales, Victoria and British Guiana are being "doctored" by somebody. There are poor copies of unperforated stamps, also cut close and falsely perforated.

The Panama stamps in which the original value is blotted out and a surcharge added, is a fraud, according to the Postmaster General of that country.

It would be a good idea for collectors to get all the old Dutch colonies they need, as they will probably be a great deal higher priced before long. We refer to Curacoa, Surinam, etc.

In the Mekeel's last auction sale a complete set of unused Executive was sold for \$15.00; and an unused complete set of Treasury brought \$4.25.

The New York *Tribune* of March 6 contains a column article on "Costly Postage Stamps," which is well illustrated.

The Mekeel Company has issued a new album, specially designed for U. S. stamps and envelopes, with blank pages for new issues, revenues and locals.

There is a dangerous forgery of the Nova Scotia 6d. green, first issue, in circulation.

CORRESPONDENCE.

This department is for inquiries of a Philatelic nature, as well as for replies thereto. Address the editor at 37 Forest Avenue, Portland, Maine.

T. B. S.—Line engraving, or *taille douce* as it is commonly called, is a process of printing stamps. By this method the lines

which are to appear in color on the paper are cut into the plates, and the ink is found in relief on the paper. The blank part of the stamp appears to be sunk into the paper, although there is no evidence of embossing on the back.

G. L. P.—The Parker issue of Guatemala is the issue of 1876. The stamps were the outcome of a contract made with Mr. Parker, similar to what is now known as the Seebeck contract.

A. G. S.—The Guadalajara stamp is a Mexican local, very rare and high priced. It is counterfeited, and believed to have lately been reprinted.

T. F. H.—The earlier issues of the Argentine Republic have been reprinted. The stamps you mention are transfers of the 5c.

H. T. W.—The error in the 1c. Belgium stamp, reading BELGIQUE is supposed to have been caused by a broken Q.

CLIPPINGS.

Throwing stones and bad words at people are both prompted by the same spirit.

There are two sides to every question, but every man believes his side is right.

If the earth were covered with flowers all the year round, the bees would become lazy.

Any fool can ask questions, but it takes somebody who knows something to answer them.

The man who is not trying to make the world better, is willing that it should become worse.

People who are wrong in their thinking are sure to be wrong in their walking and talking.

If you want to find out how much clear dog there is in a man, find out how he treats his wife.

The Monthly Visitor.

F. H. Smith, Publisher.

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ADDRESS ALL communications to: THE MONTHLY VISITOR, HAVERHILL, MASS.

Entered at Haverhill Post Office as second class matter.

IN our advertising columns will be found an offer of a packet of stamps. This packet contains from 100 to 115 stamps with 100 varieties guaranteed, and is well worth the price asked for it. We should advise our readers who are interested in Philately, to carefully read the advertisement in question.

The Visitor, which is now in its fifth year of successful publication, is offered as a premium, and will be sent to all purchasers for one year.

That Mr. Small has faith that this packet will prove satisfactory to all purchasers is shown in his offer to refund the price of the packet to all who are not satisfied with it, and send them the Visitor for one year.

NOTES

—The Free Press, Auburn, Cal., is an enterprising weekly which has just completed its first volume.

—"School Discipline," the leading editorial in a late Rugbion, should be read, and considered, by the pupils of every school in the country.

—The Academy Journal, Alexandria, Va., is one of the oldest, if not the oldest, school publication in the country, having entered upon its XXIII volume. It is not as neatly printed as many other publications, but it contains many items of interest.

—Volume I. Number X of The Philatelist and Collector, Marlborough, Mass. comes to us for the first time this month, filled with news and notes of interest to philatelists.

—There is more truth than poetry in Redfield, So. Dak. Observers motto: "Man was born to hustle." To which the Chronicle aptly adds: "That it is so ternal true to the cruel facts, which the majority of men learn before they sigh their last sigh."

—A fine photo engraving of the foot ball team of the Newton High School is mailed as supplement to the High School Review.

—A good argument in favor of temperance can be found in the article entitled: "The Temperance Island," in the current issue of the Arms Student.

—Read Thalman & Co's advertisement.

—The Randall Novelty Co., not only conduct a general novelty business, but will mail your circulars as cheap as the cheapest. Give them a trial.

NOTES FROM CANADA.

THE latest addition to the British possessions is the island of Sokotra, lying 150 miles off Cape Guardafui, at the entrance of the Gulf of Aden. Its area is about 2500 square miles. The capital is Tamarida, and is situated on the north coast. Two values of Cyprus adhesive stamps have been surcharged "Sokotra" above and a new value below.

1 2 anna on 1 piastre, carmine

1 " 2 " blue.

There is also a post card issued, but surcharged "Sokotra Island" on one of Cyprus.

I received a call from a collector of Toronto, the other day. He has a collection of some 12,000 stamps,

among which are a great many rareties. There are two 12 penny Canada's, whole rows of Sydney views, Newfoundland New Brunswick and Nova Scotia shillings; also nearly all the early issues of all stamp issuing countries complete. Oh my, but didn't it make my mouth water!!

LEILA.

A PHILATELIC RESOURCE.

IN Paris there exists a regular stamp market. Not the least curious sight is the weekly gathering on Sunday afternoon, in the broad alley of the Champs Elysees, of these passionate stamp collectors, trading or selling their precious bits of paper. There is no noise. Every bargain is settled quietly. Signs often take the place of words. The sellers open their stamp books, and the treasures are looked at eagerly by the buyers, and as soon as he sees the stamp he wants, closes the bargain and walks off. Every man about means business. NICK.

ITEMS.

—The Austrian post office sells 8000 florins worth of stamps for the use of collectors annually.

—No less than 60,000 florins worth of Eastern stamps are imported from Vienna every year.

—John R. Tiffany won the album, offered by the American Philatelist and Collector, for the most popular Philatelist in America, receiving 104 votes of the 417 cast.

—In a few years the boys now collecting will be among the most energetic and prominent dealers and Philatelists.

The largest collection of stamps in Germany, is in the post office at Berlin; 30,000 stamps being exhibited.

AMATEURS.

DO amateurs aim high enough? Or rather do amateurs, as a rule, have an aim to commence with that will lead them to success? A few of them do I believe, but the majority of contributions to the amateur press are lacking in plot and character, and not worth printing. Is it not more common to find that a pride in the appearance of a paper, and the novelty of seeing one's thoughts in print, take the place of an aim to have a good paper, filled with interesting and instructive matter, one that makes no excuse on account of its size and still less because of the age of its editors?

Youthful precocity is admissible in literature more than in other directions, I am well aware, and the fact that a young mind can grapple the idea of a real paper and successfully execute the mechanical part thereof, is no criterion by which to judge of its intellectual maturity.

But some may argue that amateurs does not aspire to professional talent; they are amateurs. Professional ability does very well to talk about when it is the outgrowth of amateur talent; then it is worthy of consideration, but in general a dozen of the so called *literati* would scarce make a real amateur. Do not misunderstand me. An amateur is a lover of art for arts sake, while a professor is, in contradistinction, a lover of art for a pecuniary advantage.

The small size of the amateur publications would refute the idea that they are profitable speculations, they must be a labor of love and so far are entitled to be called amateurs. The question now presents itself whether this love is really a love of literature as an art. Can any one say that it is, and hold up a score of papers that I might

select from the ranks of amateurdom as artistic work?

What then shall be done? Shall the so called amateur sail under false colors and pretend to love and work for art, or live up to the honorable name? I doubt if any editor or author will hesitate a moment to decide upon the second course, and yet it is with the editors that the fault lies. You are the ones that have the power to veto the "effusions" that appear in the amateur press. Why not use more judgement and show more cultivation in the matter of selections?

Some will say that it is hard to fill a paper with unexceptional matter; and the only answer is that nothing is very good that is not worked for. If a month is not time enough for you to collect and write good articles to fill your paper, do not publish so frequently, or better still, use selected matter. That there are amateurs that can edit good monthlies, is evident from the perusal of some of the exchanges that come to the Visitor.

Let each editor be sure of the refinement of his literary taste, and never publish anything that falls below the standard. If amateur authors wonder why their productions are declined, let them be referred to Quackenbos for an hour's reading of the elements of taste and good style.

There is ability enough among the amateurs, if things are once started in the right direction. Aim at perfection and you will come much nearer to it than if you have no aim at all. Neatness is commendable and worthy in its way, but papers are not published to please the eye alone, and the contents as literary productions should be the first essential consideration.

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Trick Candy Box 20c.
Trick Cigar - 20c.
Get Our Free Catalog of
New Imported Novelties
AGTS. COIN MONEY.
POCKET PEN & PENCIL. STAMP, WITH NAME, Club of 14 P. & P. Stamps, 10c.
Self-Inker 20c. &c. postpaid for \$1.00 Bill.
Marked lines, cards, &c. New Agents, big money. Terms free.

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Baltimore, Md.

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IT COSTS MONEY

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DISAPPOINTING

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AGENTS WANTED.

300 new workers wanted. 200 per cent profit. No experience needed. Everybody can sell them. A nice GOLD WATCH ladies or gents, free to every agent. Agents over 200 samples mailed you free for 25 cts. if you mention this paper, and show them to your friends. Act quick, big money in it. Catalogue 300 novelties 2 cents. Postal Cards nothing. RANDOLPH NOVELTY CO., Randolph Mass. 2-5.

JUVENILE TYPE-WRITER 40c.

AND PRINTING OUTFIT, POSTPAID, ONLY. Will last for Years. Write Letters and Correspondence. Prints Cards, Labels, Envelopes, Linen, &c. No loose letters to get lost. Useful Invention. Clubs for \$1.00, 7 for \$2.00. Retail for 50c. IMPERIAL P.P. with name 10c. Club 11 for \$1.00 Post Paid.

THALMAN MFG CO.,
Baltimore, Md.

No. 17 E Baltimore St.

Vol. V.

No. 5.

MONTHLY VISITOR.

MAY, 1892.

Subscript

10 Cents per Year.

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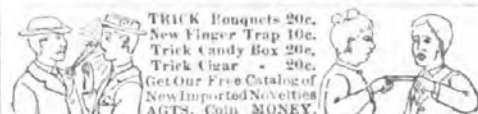
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Club of 100, a P-Stamp, postpaid for \$1.00 Ed.
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THALMAN MFG CO.,
Baltimore.

No. 17 E Baltimore St.

Md.

Vol. V.

No. 5.

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Subscript

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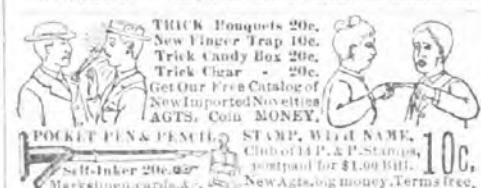
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Vol. V.

No. 5.

MONTHLY VISITOR.



MAY, 1892.

Subscript

10 Cents per Year.

MONTHLY VISITOR.

VOL. V.

HAVERHILL, MASS., MAY, 1892.

NO 5.

Adelaide Anna Proctor.

ON the death of Adelaide Anne Proctor, twenty eight years ago the second day of February, England mourned the loss of one of her best known women poets. Born in Bedford Square, London, on the 16th. day of October, 1825, she was the oldest daughter of Bryan Waller Proctor, who is undoubtedly better known in literature under the pseudonym of "Barry Cornwall." At a very early age Miss Proctor evinced a decided propensity for study, and when quite a small child acquired many of the problems of Euclid with but little difficulty, and with remarkable comprehension for one so young.

Under the nom de plume of Miss Mary Berwick, we find her in the spring of 1853 becoming a regular contributor to the weekly journal, *Household World*, conducted under the editorship of Dickens, a dear old friend of her father's. With the exception of a few other poems and verses, all her published writings first made their appearance in the above periodical or *All The Year Round*.

Invariably one is lead to imagine, as he becomes more familiar with the tenor of her poems, that she was disposed to be of a gloomy and desponding disposition, but on the contrary her temperament was of a decided bright and cheerful cast. In her letters written

home to England, while visiting an aunt in Turin, one finds abundant proof of the correctness of this assertion, for her natural vivacity and sense of humor shines forth therein predominantly.

The style of her poetry "without imitation has much of the paternal grace and manner," and abounds in beauty of thought and expression. Her writings are filled with passages containing the deepest tenderest emotions of the soul, and in purity of language are unexcelled. Who has read the following lines and failed to find a responsive chord awakened within his heart?

"Why shouldst thou fear the beautiful Angel Death.

Who waits thee at the portals of the skies,
Ready to kiss away thy struggling breath.
Ready with gentle hand to close thine eyes?

"He will give back what neither time nor night.

Nor passionate prayer, nor longing hope restore,

(Dear us to long-blind eyes recovered sight.)
He will give back those who are gone before.

"O, what were life if life were all?

Thine eyes are blinded by their tears, or thou wouldst see

Thy treasures wait thee in the far off skies.
And Death, thy friend, will give them all to thee."

In sublimity of character Miss Proctor was preeminent, and in the introduction to her collected volume of poems, the celebrated novelist, Dickens, has paid a fitting tribute to her memory.

He describes her as a "friend who inspired the strongest attainment; a finely sympathetic woman, with a great accordant heart and sterling, noble nature."

What higher eulogium and one

more merited could he have bestowed upon her? Possessed of a true Christian spirit this superior highsouled woman, by her gentle ministrations to the sick and suffering, wrought comfort and consolation in many a weary heart and home.

Indefatigable and self sacrificing in her great desire to benefit her fellow men, the time at last came when health and strength forsook her, and the gentle, holy influence which she had exercised so long and earnestly was to be felt no more.

"With all the sweet patience of her natural disposition, purified by the resignation of her soul," says Dickens, "she lay upon her bed through the whole round of changes of the seasons," and in that time her habitual bright, joyous temperament remained unchanged.

Gradually the tide of life ebbed peacefully away, and at length the weary weeks of watching and waiting for the happy transition were over. Surrounded by those whom she loved, at midnight on the 2d. of February, 1864, the calm, gentle spirit winged its tranquil flight from earth, and one of the noblest women the world has ever known was at rest.

"Open, O Heaven! No morrow
Will see this joy o'ercast.
No pain, no tears, no sorrow,
Her gentle heart will borrow—
Sad life is past.
Shielded and safe from sorrow,
At home at last."

FLORENCE L. LEAMING-LEGGE.
New Bedford, Mass.

 Subscribe for the VISITOR.

It won't do a bit of good to white-wash the well curb, as long as there is poison in the water.

Notes From Canada.

TWO cent postage has been refused by the Dominion Government.

There is a dangerous forgery of the first issue of Nova Scotia in circulation at present, namely the 6d. green. Collectors, be on the watch!

At a recent auction sale in London, England, a magnificent unused specimen of the "Connell" stamp sold for twenty one pounds or a little over one hundred dollars.

There is to be a new philatelic paper published here. It will be known as the *Ontario Philatelist* and is announced to appear May 1.

In pursuance of a suggestion made at various times within the past two or three years, and perhaps spurred on by the action of the Dominion Government in withdrawing the privilege of free postage from the civil servants at Ottawa, the Provincial Government had decided to act similarly with its employers in Toronto. In the past the personal letters written by the clerks have been put into the governmental mail bag, and the province has paid the bill. In the future the privilege will be withdrawn, and the clerks must pay their own postage.

The Canadian Philatelic Association is beginning to advance in the right direction again, and at present there are eighty five members on the roll, and several applications for membership. Those who are not already members, and do

ire to become such, should send for an application blank to the Sec'y Treas., T. S. Clark, box 184, Belleville, Ont.

NOTES:

An electric letter stamp is at present being tried in the postoffice at Washington, in which the time stamp is altered every minute.

Mekeel's Weekly for March 9, contains an interesting account of the arrest of Sr. Rosendo Frenau-
tez, of Madrid, Spain, at Saint Louis, Mo.

On May 1 there will be issued a Spanish Philatelic paper, at Saint Louis, Mo. It will be known as the *Revista Filatelica*, and issued monthly. The subscription price will be \$1.00 per year, and be under the editorship of Sr. Eduardo F. Botilla.

I was recently in receipt of the new letter card of Great Britain, and to my mind it is a comparatively simple affair; it has the current 1d. card stamp on the right, with arms and Letter Card in the centre. An inscription giving instructions how to open the card runs round the sides which are perforated. On the back half is a notice to the effect that if used for foreign postage the deficiency must be made up with adhesive stamps. The card is blue and the printing red.

The London forgers, of whom so much has been said lately, have been sentenced to imprisonment with hard labor. Benjamin and Jeffries, each got six months' and Sarpy four months'. Sarpy did not receive so long a sentence as

the others, as he did not appear to have been concerned in the business as long as they were. I might also add that Dr. Burnhardt Assums has been sentenced to three years' penal servitude, and to the mind of the Philatelic world he receives what he rightly deserved.

LEILA.

ITEMS.

--Boston postal district, with free delivery, covers 63 square miles, being the second largest in the country, and contains about 540,000 population.

--Postal system was carried on 2000 years ago, as we see by Darius who had couriers. The stations were 30 miles apart.

--Postmaster General Wanamaker has approved a contract for furnishing the postoffice department with 100 stamp cancelling machines at an annual rental of \$400 each. Among the offices to be supplied are New York, Chicago, Philadelphia, Hartford, Conn., Springfield, Mass., Providence, R. I., and Portland, Me.

--A bill has been reported favorably by the committee on postoffices and postroads, providing for an inquiry by three commissioners into the utility of introducing the pneumatic tube system for transportation of mail matter in cities of 150,000 population.

--There are 47,000 postmasters in this country, receiving an annual compensation of less than \$200, and 2000 yet less than \$100. One postmaster in North Carolina broke the record for the past year by getting the salary of 88 cents.

The Monthly Visitor.

F. H. Smith, Publisher.

PUBLISHERS' NOTICES.

SUBSCRIPTION. 10 cts. a year; post-paid.

ADVERTISEMENTS 5 cents per line; 50 cents per inch. Larger advertisement contracted for.

EXCHANGES: We will exchange with any paper published.

ADDRESS ALL communications to: THE MONTHLY VISITOR, HAVERHILL, MASS.

Entered at Haverhill Post Office as second class matter.

NOTES

—We desire to exchange with all Philatelic publications.

—750 copies of the *Visitor* were mailed last month; 1000 copies of this issue will be mailed.

Stamp dealers should not overlook the *Visitor* in contracting for advertising space. Our circulation is increasing and is fast nearing the one thousand mark. Special rates will be quoted for six months or longer.

The change in the form of the *Visitor* this month is one which was contemplated by the former publisher, but it has been left to the present one to carry it out. The change will in no wise curtail the amount of reading matter, as in this form the *Visitor* contains about the same amount of reading as formerly.

The sad intelligence of the death of Mr. Arthur Noyes, at Phila, Pa. has been received in this city, and learned with sorrow by his many friends. Mr. Noyes was a native of Haverhill, and was, we believe, travelling agent for a window screen manufacturing company, and died

suddenly after a few days illness. He was a collector of some years standing, and had succeeded in getting together some 5000 varieties.

Mr. George M. Frame, one of Haverhill's most energetic dealers and collectors, called at this office one evening recently. He was doubly welcome because he gave us an advertisement. Stamp collectors will find it to their advantage to examine his sheets.

A. B. Merrill, Everett, Mass. has sent us a copy of his *Advertised Philatelic Frauds*. It contains the names of some 600 approval sheets swindlers, also blank pages, properly ruled, for several hundred more. It is well worth the price asked, and will prove a valuable acquisition, as a book of reference, to the library of every stamp dealer.

The *New York Stamp*, a 12 page Philatelic magazine of some pretensions, has just issued its initial number. It presents its readers an interesting array of philatelic literature, and is well worth the price asked, 25c. per year.

—A collection of postage stamps contain many objects of interest not only to the collector, but to those who have the privilege of examining them. Show your collection to a friend, and he will ask more questions concerning it than you will care to answer. Nothing that one can collect at so small expense, will create so much interest as a good collection of postage stamp.

—The *Philatelic Era* is, undoubtedly the leading publication devoted to the "beautiful science of Philately" in New England.

No publication of this class has yet reached us that contains so much real information as this magazine. Its able review of philatelic publications, and its record of new issues of stamps and cards, render it a desirable magazine for the collector. Published at Portland, Maine. 25 cents a year.

—The *Philatelic Fraud Reporter* appears promptly each month, and does not lack for material to fill its columns. Approval sheet swindlers continue to multiply, as the current number contains a list of one hundred and sixty nine names. Some method should be derived to annihilate this fast increasing class of swindlers and prevent them from carrying on their nefarious work.

At a ball given under the auspices of the Boston Special Delivery Messengers Association, the dance orders were especially noteworthy, being very clever imitations of a letter, bearing imprints of a 2c. postage and a 10c. special delivery stamp, altered to suit the occasion, also the mailing stamp, the hour of the ball and the date of the ball.

REGISTERED MAIL.

It will be of interest to every one who have occasion to register letters or packages, to learn that a bill has been introduced in congress, by Mr. Kreebs of Pennsylvania, to indemnify the sender in case of loss or destruction is transmission. The bill, which has the approval of the post office department, provides for indemnification of the sender of registered domes-

tic matter to the amount not exceeding \$15.00 for letters, and \$8.00 for merchandise.

Last year the receipts from registered mail amounted to \$1,238,906. The number of pieces lost or destroyed was 918, for which \$10,000 would have indemnified the senders under the proposed act.

There are about 65,000 postoffices in the United States, but only about 10,000 are money order offices, leaving 55,000 offices depending on the registry system.

The registry business of the post office department yields a large profit and is the only branch which is self supporting. The registration fee is now 10 cents, and it ought to be reduced to one half that amount. The increase of business that would follow the reduction, would still keep this department self supporting, and tend to decrease the deficiency in the other branches of the postal service.

The reduction would prove of benefit to the stamp dealers, as they then could afford to send valuable approval sheets by registered mail. The sending of approval sheets by registered mail would prove a protection against the approval sheet swindlers, as but few of them would care to retain sheet forwarded to them for examination, which they had receipted for.

In case they should fail to return the sheets, it would prove of value as evidence to the dealer, should he desire to prosecute. We hope the bill will pass, and that the fee for registering letters and packages will be reduced to five cents.

Some peoples lives are like warm water on a hot day. Nice to look at, but one taste is enough.

Philately Department.

C. W. SMALL, EDITOR.

All communications for this department must be addressed to the editor at 37 Forest Avenue, Portland, Maine.

HERE is a certain publisher in New England, who has just purchased 5700 letters from a well known stamp dealer, who does not advertise in any of the philatelic papers, but confines his patronage to juvenile and literary periodicals. These letters were mostly received during the year 1891 and from collectors who are unfamiliar with the many dealers of this country.

The publisher is going to keep the writers of these letters well supplied with his paper and advise advertisers to make contracts at once. The scheme is certainly novel enough to be successful, but the Visitor can do better by its advertisers. Our rates are lower, our circulation as large, and many of its readers do not know of any other paper devoted to Philately. This may seem preposterous, but it should be borne in mind that the Visitor for nearly five years has been circulated among the juveniles of this country and has made no effort until very recently to catch the support of the older members of the fraternity. We do not ask for contracts, but give you rates for single insertions, so if you are not satisfied with the results you can discontinue and you have not got to fulfill an undesirable contract.

The Post Office is devoting considerable argument and much of its space to advocating the consolida-

tion of all large stamp associations into one big body. The idea is meeting with considerable favor, but we are not very decidedly in favor of it.

The newspaper stamps so sought after by collectors are not allowed to go out of the hands of department. They are used instead of receipts, the value of the stamps covering the amount of money paid from one clerk to another. As they are used they are cancelled or punched and sent to Washington, where the accounts are verified and every three months they are all burned there.

It is reported that G. B. Calman, the New York wholesaler, purchased all the Seebeck "remainders." We are sorry to have to give any notice to these labels, but the only way to kill them is to stop collecting them, and make any such contract as the Seebeck an improbable one. They are pretty to look at, and a good thing for a dealer to sell, but we should advise to buying of genuine used specimens.

There are a very few of the surcharges that we believe in, and should advise collectors to put very little money into this class of stamps. A great many of them are printed in some out of the way colonial postoffice for the sole purpose of selling to collectors, and are never put into use, as the home government would refuse to accept them in payment of postage. You will notice that such "goods" are priced as unused, not used, in the catalogues.

A great many copies of this is-

sue are sent to people who have never seen a copy of the Visitor. If you are one of them your attention is kindly called to our subscription and advertising rates.

We cannot promise how long these prices will be current only they will never be any cheaper. We have issued fifty four numbers of this publication, and trust you will consider this sufficient guarantee of our stability to lend us the support you possess for either department.

It is our intention to make the Visitor a paper you will enjoy reading, and upon whose reliability you can trust. The editor is a collector and dealer of a number of years experience, and his services are at the disposal of any reader for any service or information he can give. We are so independent that we shall protect our readers interests in the matter of advertisements, for anything that borders on the "phenomnal offer," "give away," etc., will be investigated before we consent to admit it into our advertising columns.

Any unfair dealings that you may have with a dealer will be promptly looked after, and we will see that that dealer gets not a little free advertising. We trust to you for a good word for the Visitor and in return wish you to feel that you can trust us.

CORRESPONDENCE.

This department is for inquiries of a Philatelic nature, as well as for replies thereto. Address the editor at 37 Forest Avenue, Portland, Maine.

B. F. K.—There is a duty on

stamps brought into this country. It does not matter whether they are sent to you for exchange or purchase. The duty is 25 per cent. ad. volorem. Unless the duty amounts to more than 10 cents no charge is made.

N. P. E.—No decision has yet been made by the P. O. Department as to the issue of a "World's Fair postage stamp."

A. E. P.—There is a slight difference in the 5c. Garfield. One has a lined background, the other is apparently formed by crossed lines.

A. B. F.—The Salvador issue of 1891 is now on the market. The complete set of adhesive envelope, wrappers and all cost \$1.00. We personally do not consider them worth collecting unless used.

R. F. N.—The difference in the Centennial Envelopes is in the lines under the word "Postage." The Hartford die has a single line under the word, where the Philadelphia die has a double line.

F. H. S.—Postal cards spoiled in printing or addressing are not redeemable, but entire envelopes so spoiled will be redeemed in stamps.

NONE CHEAPER!

FEW BETTER!

TEN CENTS sent for a years subscription to the

MONTHLY VISITOR

is the best investment you can make. Has a Philatelic department conducted by a dealer and collector of twelve years experience. Sample copy free. VISITOR, Haverhill, Mass.

FIFTH YEAR!

8 PAGES AND COVER!

HINTS TO BEGINNERS.

THE best way to start a collection is to buy a few packets. In this way you get the common stamps for little or nothing, and the duplicates may be exchanged with your friends for stamps not in your collection. When you have several hundred varieties it is advisable not to buy the ordinary trade packets, as they are similar and contain only the common stamps.

The best method is to buy from approval sheets which any dealer will send you on application. It is well to send him a reference giving the name of some business man you are acquainted with, and tell him about how many stamps you have in your collection, about what countries you desire to collect and about the average price you want to pay for stamps.

He will send you, probably, one hundred stamps at catalogue prices and allow you a commission of about one third. Make your returns as promptly as possible and do not try to do business with too many dealers. So long as any particular one pleases you, give him the bulk of your trade. He will make just as good prices to you as the others, and if your purchases are large enough may increase the rate of discount.

It is better to give a dollar to one dealer, than to divide it among several, for then you will get a better assortment. Above all things be honest. Do not think that the dealer will let you keep a small lot because you are a boy, or that he will in time forget that he sent you any, or that he cannot find you

in a large city. He simply reports the matter to the Post Office detectives, and they soon find you.

Do not take stamps from sheets and substitute some of your duplicates. All dealers have a method of detecting this practice, and it will cause you trouble. Take several stamp papers, and read them, advertisements and all.

* *

The German Philatelic Association, "Germania," (Deutsch Amerikanischer Briefmarken Verein,) of New York has members, (German speaking only,) in all countries on earth. The library is well filled with philatelic papers and books in all languages, and "Germania" offers more benefit to collectors of stamps than any other American philatelic society. Germania has official organs in Germany, Austria, England and the United States. German speaking stamp collectors be united and become members! Deutsch sprechende Marken Sammler seid "sinig und werdet unser mitglied Address Ph. Heinsberger, 9 First Avenue, New York, U.S.A.

At the present time monthly publications cannot be delivered by carrier in the place where published, and the bill, now before Congress, extending this right to them, ought to pass. The prohibition of local delivery by carrier has cost the Visitor \$25.00 a year during the past three years, on account of having to refuse local subscription only to those who would call at this office and get their papers.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

In answering advertisements, please say: Saw advertisement in The Visitor.

DID YOU EVER DISCOVER

A GOLD MINE ?

IF not you should send for my fine approval sheets at 35 per cent commission. Good reference or a deposit of \$1.00 required. 1000 assorted stamps, 30 cents. 100 nice, all different, Greece, Mexico, etc. only 20 cents.

GEORGE M. FRAME,
Haverhill, Mass.

38 Lindell Street,

Mass.

WANTED a few more reliable agents to sell stamps from my

Unexcelled Approval Sheets

at 33 1/3 commission. I also make a specialty of stamps for beginners to whom I allow 60 per cent. commission, as I wish to clear off my stock of cheap stamps. Write me for a trial selection, enclosing stamp.

A BARGAIN! is my special packet "B" which contains 75 stamps from all quarters of the globe. I will guarantee these packets to catalogue over \$1.00 or refund the money and give a years subscription to this paper. Price only 30c. two for 50c. Remit in unused 1 and 2c stamps of Canada or U.S. to

HENRY ADES FOWLER.

C. P. A., 265, S. of P. 138 P.S. of C. 47, etc.
24 Shannon St., Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

AGENTS WANTED.

300 new workers wanted. 200 per cent profit. No experience needed. Everybody can sell them. A nice **GOLD WATCH**, ladies or gents, free to every agent. Agents over 200 samples mailed you free for 25 cts. If you mention this paper, and show them to your friends, Act quick, big money in it.

Catalogue 300 novelties 2 cents. Postal Cards, nothing. **RANDOLPH NOVETY CO.** Randolph, Mass. 2-5.

THE Badger Stamp News, only 20c. a year. Edited by N. H. Mayer, and contributed to by Art. Smith 902 5th. St. rear. Milwaukee, Wis. The support of every collector solicited.

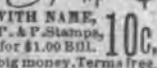
BOYS. 35 pictures of just what you want to Boys. know and see. 15c silver. Actress Photo Co., 151 Taylor Street, Cleveland O.



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New Finger Trap 10c.
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New Imported Novelties
AGTS. COIN MONEY.



POCKET PEN & PENCIL STAMP, WITH NAME,
Club of 14 P. & P. Stamps,
postpaid for \$1.00 BDL.
Marklin, Cards, etc. New Agts. big money. Terms free.



THALMAN MFG CO.,
Baltimore.

No 17 E Baltimore St.,

Md.

IT COSTS MONEY

TO advertise, and it costs money to put up stamp packets and to sell them for almost nothing. But it is an effective way of advertising. Stamp packets are usually

DISAPPOINTING

to the purchaser; he does not get what he expected and he says he will not buy another. Now I have got a packet which

WORKS THE OTHER WAY

It is guaranteed to contain 100 VARIETIES and

Catalogues For Five Times Its Cost.

But this is only a part of the cost. We have arranged with the publisher of the **VISITOR** to give every purchaser **A YEARS SUBSCRIPTION TO THIS PAPER**. This is another part of the cost. The **VISITOR** now in its **FIFTY** YEAR of publication is alone worth the price of this packet. **NOW** if you are not satisfied return the pack **NOW**, and I will give you the subscription.

PRICE 18 CENTS.

C. W. SMALL,

Portland, Maine.

37 Forest Ave.

JUVENILE TYPE-WRITER 40c

AND PRINTING OUTFIT, POSTPAID, ONLY
Will last for Years. Write Letters and Correspondence. Print Cards, Labels, Envelopes, Linen, &c. No loose letters to get lost. Useful Invention. Club of 3 for \$1.50, 7 for \$2.00. Retail for 50c. **IMPERIAL P.&P.** with name 10c. Club 14 for \$1.00 Post Paid

THALMAN MFG CO.,

Baltimore.

No. 17 E Baltimore St.

Md.

100 assorted U. S. stamps, 10c. Max Strakosch, 138 E. 22 st. N. Y. City, N. Y.

STAMPS ON APPROVAL.

I WILL send Stamps marked at net price or at catalogue prices with a discount of from

30 TO 50 PER CENT.

to all applicants. Send a reference if convenient, and you will receive a larger and better consignment. Tell me how many stamps you have in your collection, and I can tell about what you want. C. W. SMALL, 37 Forest Avenue, Portland, Maine.

NONE CHEAPER!

FEW BETTER

TEN CENTS sent for a years subscription to the

MONTHLY VISITOR

is the best investment you can make. Has Philatelic department conducted by a dealer and collector of twelve years experience. Sample copy free. **VISITOR**, Haverhill, Mass.

FIFTH YEAR!

8 PAGES AND COVER

Vol. V.

No. 6.

MONTHLY VISITOR.



JUNE, 1892.

Subscription,

10 Cents per Year.

MONTHLY VISITOR.

L. V. HAVERHILL, MASS., JUNE, 1892.

NO 6.

SOMEDAY.

WHEN others clasp your little hands,
And praise your beauty, and your grace,

When laughter rings through all the land,
Will you recall—my face?

Will you remember other days

When life was warm and young?

Will your sweet life recall my kiss,

As I, and songs we've sung?

When others voice, or tender eyes

Shall thrill again your pulses, deep,

The while you smile in swift surprise

Your heart will only sleep.

How I have loved you, then you'll know!

That hour, that song, that kiss will be

A bond between us. Where I go

A talisman to me.

When you shall feel a weary loss,

And turn aside with bitter tears,

And tell yourself too great life's cost,

Remember then—through years.

That still with yearning love I wait

Until your heart shall turn to me

In longing for my kiss—then I

Shall come where'er I be.

KATHLEEN F. SMITH.

ADVENTURES OF A POSTAL CARD.

SO much is being written this year about the phenomenally slow time made by Columbus in crossing the Atlantic that it is refreshing to find him out done. His strongest admirers only claim two months and a half as the length of the voyage, while in this year of grace the passage from America to Spain has safely been completed in just four and a half years.

This really remarkable voyage, the time of which clearly put in the shade the much vaunted record established 400 years ago, begun at Hull, Mass., Sept. 1, 1887, and ended near San Fernando, Spain, Feb. 28, 1892.

The gay season of 1887 had closed at Paddock's Island, and the so-journers were turning homeward. In a sailboat that was making Hull stood Mr. Charles McLean, forcing a cork into a bottle. He had placed in the bottle a postal card addressed to himself at No. 4 Mill street, Roxbury, Mass., with the request that if found the postal should be returned to him.

The bottle was then launched from the stern of the boat, and was carried out to sea by the strong running tide.

Mr. McLean did not see the card again until it was returned to him endorsed:

Department of State,

Washington, D. C. March, 28, '92.

This card was found in a bottle with a paper said to have been sent adrift at Hull, Mass., Paddock's Island, Sept. 1, 1887. Found Feb. 28 1892 near San Fernando, on beach. Sent here by consul at Cadiz in dispatch No. 181, March 1, 1892.

F. O. St. Clair,

Clerk of Consular Bureau.

Mr. McLean is now book-keeper for J. Donaldson, No. 341 Washington Street, and resides at No. 27 Holborn Street, Boston.

The log book of this voyage, if it could be obtained, would tell a more wonderful story than was ever set afloat in a copper cylinder, or told by grizzled tars around a tavern fire.

Philately Department.

C. W. SMALL, EDITOR.

All communications for this department must be addressed to the editor at 37 Forest Avenue, Portland, Maine.

FORGED INDIA STAMPS.

FROM the Dominion *Philatelist* we clip the following: The report of the Indian Postmaster General for the year contains an interesting account of the manner in which a large number of rupee stamps were forged. The forger was a Poona Brahmin, who was formerly in the service of the Trigonometrical Survey. He had prepared a die of the one rupee stamp in white stone, which was set in wood, and had made thirty nine of these dies before a sufficiently accurate one was obtained. This was thoroughly cleaned with mangastren and then covered with an oily substance or ink the color of the stamp, which was carefully spread over it by the forger. A piece of paper was then placed on the die and rubbed with a shell, and on being removed was found to bear a wonderfully close representation of the genuine stamp. The stamp so prepared was then placed with its face down on a piece of metal, moistened with water, and had a watermark die that had been separately prepared, gently hammered upon it. It was afterwards put upon a small square of tin, the size of the genuine stamp, marked with the correct number of holes for the purpose of perforation, and perforated with a small needle like

instrument. The whole process occupying about ten minutes. The number of stamps successfully passed was about 1000. The forger and his accomplice, who was a stamp vender, were caught and sentenced to ten years transportation.

During the past year 974,533 letters and postal cards were sent to the Canadian dead letter office.

Complaints are beginning to be numerous about the Narragansett Stamp Co., of West Kingston R. I. We understand that the P. O. Inspector has the matter in charge.

The demand for used specimens of the 3c. and 6c. current issue U. S. is so great that dealers find it hard to fill orders at all times.

Be careful when you buy the high values of 1870 issues, with grill, as some unprincipled rascal has flooded the market with counterfeits that almost defy detection. *Be careful.*

It is very probable that the bill to exempt stamps from duty will never come to a vote. The general opinion at Washington among those who should know, is that the proper influence is not being used.

Well informed people in Richmond say that the well known essay with the Confederate flag in the centre, was actually prepared for issue, but was never used, for the reason that the flag was officially changed as the stamp was about to go into service.

The authorities of Honduras and Ceylon have taken measures to stop the speculative surcharges of these countries.

CORRESPONDENCE.

This department is for inquiries of a Philatelic nature, as well as for replies thereto. Address the editor at 37 Forest Avenue, Portland, Maine.

A. B. H.—The Gilbralter stamps which are made by surcharging Bermuda stamps were made for that purpose. The color of these does not agree with the regular Bermuda stamps.

W. H. S.—We take little stock in the Jamaica revenue used postally, as they were never authorized. We understand that you can buy them at the P. O. there and they will cancel them for you.

S. H. C.—We cannot tell. Perhaps about one half the native Indian State stamps "were made to sell."

H. A. L.—The native states in the Straits Settlements use stamps of their own by surcharging stamps of the country. Major Evans says that they were supplied in small quantities, and every time a fresh supply was needed, the type was set up again and a great many varieties thus created. We consider them unimportant and uninteresting.

THE reduction of postage on merchandise packages, which has already passed the senate, and been favorably reported by the House, is likely to be followed by another important postal reform, extending the free delivery service to towns of 5000 population or gross receipts of \$5000.

The present limit for free delivery is a population of 10,000, or

gross receipts of \$10,000, and if the bill should pass, it would make free delivery by carriers a possibility in about 200 towns, of which 28 are in Massachusetts, 15 in Connecticut, 20 in Pennsylvania and 5 in Illinois.

Postmaster General Wanamaker's idea of a folio postal card has now taken definite shape, and the contract for the making of the same has verbally been awarded to the American Envelope Company.

The machinery has been ordered and work will be begun upon the new cards as soon as it can be made ready and the postoffice department can furnish the designs.

The Postmaster General has not yet decided how many he will have made as a trial order, but it is understood that the department is thinking of giving a supply to all the postoffices in the country, and in that case it will be necessary to make 24,000,000.

The probable size of these double cards will be 5 1-2 x 3 1-2 inches. The card will be folded in the middle, and will thus present four surfaces, the out side surfaces for the addresses and the inside surfaces for the messages.

The card is perforated at the fold, so that the recipient can tear off the message sent to him and then write and address the reply. They will be sold at 2 cents.

—It now is under penalty of law to forge stamps in Germany.

—The number of postmistresses in the United States at the beginning of the year was 6335.

The Monthly Visitor.

F. H. Smith, Publisher.
C. W. Small, Philatelic Editor.
Exchanges, and all communications intended
for Mr. Small should be sent to 37 Forest Ave.
Portland, Maine.

PUBLISHERS' NOTICES.

SUBSCRIPTION. 10 cts. a year; post-paid.
ADVERTISEMENTS. 5 cents per line; 50 cents
per inch. Larger advertisement contracted for.
EXCHANGES. We will exchange with any
paper published.
ADDRESS ALL communications to: THE
MONTHLY VISITOR, HAVERHILL, MASS.
Entered at Haverhill Post Office as second
class matter.

NOTES.

—A junior Philatelic club has
been organized at Worcester, Mass.

—The first convention of the S.
of P. will be held at Gettysburg,
Pa., July 4th. and 5th.

—It is rumored that a new Phi-
latelic publication, the *Pentucket
Philatelist*, will soon be issued from
this city.

—We desire to exchange with
all stamp papers, or those having
a stamp department.

—Original articles on all subject
pertaining to philately are solicited
from our readers. Due credit will
be given all contributing to our
columns.

—We have received several ad-
vertisements from dealers without
the cash. We desire to state again
that our terms are cash. We know
too well that credit does not pay.

Several approval sheet swindlers
have been arrested and convicted

lately. Let the good work go on
until the country is rid of these
scamps.

—All stamp dealers are request-
ed to send their catalogues, price
lists etc., to this office. Notice of
them will be given in this column.

—The Worcester County *Phila-
telist*, "devoted to our hobby," is
neat in appearance, and contains
many items of interest to collec-
tors. Like the *Visitor* it is not
published with a view of pecuniary
gain, and will prove a success.

—An exchange, not a hundred
miles from Eden Valley, N. Y., in-
variably addresses the *Visitor* as
the *Monthly Breeze*. The *Visitor*
never has been considered a "windy
sheet," but it has enough to "blow
its own horn" when occasion re-
quires it.

—The *Canadian Philatelist*,
London, Ont., is a philatelic pub-
lication of good size. From the
appearance of its advertising pages
we should judge it to be a financial
success.

—The *Collector*, New Chester,
Pa., is a fine philatelic magazine.
The contributed matter is enter-
taining, the editorial notes timely,
and as official organ of the S. of P.
is a credit to the society. It de-
serves, and we hope it will be re-
elected official organ.

—Harry Clarke Godley, editor
of *The Young Helper*, an amateur
publication, died Jan. 13. 1892.
The memorial edition, which has
been issued, contains many contri-
butions of commendations to the
youthful editor, whose object in
publishing his paper was to furnish
shoes for the two homes for desti-

tute children at Jersey City, N. J., devoted to their care.

"He * * * who cherished
Noble longings for the strife.
By the roadside fell and perished,
Weary with the march of life."

The *Postal Guide*, issued by the postoffice department, contains a complete list of postoffices in the United States, also all the money order offices, rulings of the postoffice department, and the arrival and departure of foreign mails. It contains about 934 pages and sell for \$2.50.

There was received at the Bradford, Mass., May 31 '92, a postal card dated Alexandria, D. C., Dec. 1880, eleven and one half years ago. The man whose name was signed to it has been dead eight years, and the man to whom it was directed died last week. Where it has been is a conundrum.

PERSONAL. Mr. C. W. Small, Philatelic editor of the *Visitor*, who has been making an extended tour of the states, passed the 27-8 of last month among friends in this city, and during that time was a welcome visitor at this office. We found Mr. Small a pleasant gentleman, thoroughly posted in regard to stamps, having been a dealer and collector for over twelve years. He has a very fine collection, a portion of which we had the pleasure of examining.

FOR several months past we have been deliberating on the advisability of devoting the *Visitor* to "stamps." It is a change that cannot be made in a day, and we have been feeling the Philatelic pulse by devoting not a little space to stamp matters in late

issues. There are many good papers already in existence, covering all departments, from which the philatelic public are able to read their fill.

Nevertheless we trust that the *Visitor* will warrant a share of your patronage. A great many of its subscribers are not "stamp cranks," and we are morally under contract to them, and must supply some reading of a miscellaneous nature, which we trust will be entertaining to all parties.

The *Visitor* is not dependent on its subscriptions or advertisements for its vitality. You will notice that this is number fifty-six, and while its publishers are not over burdened with this worlds riches, they can back it for fifty-six more if necessary. We do not enter the list in competition with any body, neither do desire to crowd out any contemporary—we are in the race to stay.

To advertisers we can offer a field that is as yet "unworked." We have been sending every month for a year past from eight to twelve hundred copies of this paper over the United States, to schools and societies. Many of its readers do not know that there is any organized movement to collect stamps. The trade can be handled by advertisements in the *Visitor*. We don't beg for your custom—but we can give you the worth of your money.

To subscribers we submit the magazine for inspection. It is cheap now, but future improvements will make it even cheaper. If you think it is worth the nominal sum asked for a years subscription, we should be pleased to have your name on our list. We promise you twelve numbers.

Notes From Canada.

THE Toronto Journal of *Philately* is a new one published at Toronto, Ont., by the Toronto Philatelic Publishing Company.

I received a postal card from Denver, Colorado, on the 16th. of May, which had been posted there on January 15th. '92, and was post-marked with that date. It was post-marked as having reached Toronto on May 15th, and therefore was exactly four months on its journey. I am trying to find out where it has been all that time.

The latest dodge I have seen in the stamp faking business is being used on the 3c. red 1856 issue of the U. S. It consists of a line drawn round the outside with ordinary red ink, so to make it appear like the 1857 issue with the outer line.

NOTES:

The Czar of Russia is a most enthusiastic collector of postage stamps, doubtless finding some respite from his careworn existence, in pursuit of our "hobby."

It may not be generally known that the handsome bird figure on the stamps of Guatemala is called the "Quetzall"

Obock, a small French Colony, on the East coast of Africa, cannot

do without a set of stamps to itself, feeling I suppose jealous of the other French Colonies in this particular, so the current French Colonies stamps have been surcharged "Obock" in black. What next!

It is not generally known that Florida received its pretty name from the fact that on the Spanish Pasqua de Flores, or breast of flower Ponce de Leon discovered, in 1589, this lovely shore.

I recently noticed an advertisement which read: "Father ——— will thankfully receive any used stamps (the older and rarer the better, of course) also old coins, gold or silver, in fact anything saleable. He denotes the proceeds to church decoration and the support of his small school and mission which is in great need." By this we see that a church and even a school is helped to be maintained by the sale of postage stamps.

The biography of Mr. Gwielb, a well known English dealer, was published in the P. J. of G. B., not long ago, and a copy fell into the hands of a young and beautiful lady, who was much interested with the story. She procured an introduction to him, and the result is a wedding, which took place not long ago. Mr. Gwielb also figured in the great London forgery case. Success to them in the future!

In the Illustrated Buffalo Express,

April 30th. there appeared a half column article entitled: "Postage stamps and their Missions." It goes on to say that Mr. John A. Truss, a Buffalo collector, has thirty six other collectors in different parts of the world, who collect stamps and send them to him, and he then forwards them to Wurtemberg, Germany, and they are there catalogued and sold. He says he sends them to Europe on account of the better prices realized there. The ordinary 2 cent stamp are worth from \$2 to 2,50 per pound, and it only takes 10,000 to make a pound. The rarer ones are sold to collectors, and the common ones are sent to China and sold by the pound. The Chinese use them to paper their houses with, preferring them to wall paper. The money received is distributed among the various Roman Catholic missions, and the Rev. Mr. Stein says the sum is considerable.

The London staff of letter carriers now consist of about 10,000 men, with wages ranging from 18 s. in the lowest to 36 s. in the highest grade. Beside these regulars, there are 1600 auxiliaries, who are paid according to the work they do. In the provinces there are 8000 regular town postmen, with wages ranging from 16 s. to 30 s. and nearly 3000 auxiliaries. In the country districts there are 4000 regular postmen, with wages rang-

ing from 15 s. to 22 s., and several hundred odd men. Altogether the postmen of the United Kingdom make up a small army of more than 20,000 men.

There has been a reduction of rates in connection with the "Express Delivery" of Great Britain. This reduction of rates shows that the system has proved a success so far, and the desire is still more to develop its usefulness. The fee now is 3d. per mile in all cases, which covers the messengers expenses for travelling by omnibus, tramcar or train, while if the package is carried by messenger throughout, the mileage charged covers the whole expense of transmission up to and includes a pound weight. There are two special directions, namely, that the package must be handed in over the counter and the words "Express Delivery" must be legibly and boldly written by the sender above the address in the left hand corner. This Express Delivery is similar to the U. S. Special Delivery, but much quicker.

LEILA.

—A strenuous effort is being made by persons interested in the passage of the bill recently introduced in the house of Representative Post of Illinois, to reduce letter postage from 2 to 1 cent.

From The Philatelic Era.

IT IS REPORTED THAT

New York City is to have a stamp or Philatelic Exchange, to be conducted similar to the Stock Exchange. It is now being agitated and is said to be meeting with universal favor.

The *United Association Philatelist* has been discontinued and the U. P. A. will probably be consolidated with the Philatelic Society of Canada.

The Tapling collection bequeathed the British Museum is being arranged for exhibition. Mr. Tapling left a sum of £1,000 for that purpose.

There is no foundation for the rumor of the withdrawal of the four-penny stamp of Great Britain as has been announced recently in various papers.

There is a gang of approval sheet swindlers in Riga, Russia, and dealers and others are cautioned to be careful in dealing with unknown persons there.

A French dealer was "done" to to the tune of 1000 francs by one of the gang.

The work on the United States envelopes, which Messrs. John K. Tiffany, R. R. Bogert and Joseph Rechert have been nearly six years compiling is soon to be placed on sale by the National Philatelic Society.

There is an attempt on foot to

establish a branch of the International Union of England in the United States. Mr. C. Brown, Box 354, Nashville, Tenn., is Deputy for the States and should be addressed for particulars.

Editor Corwin left considerable unused copy when he retired from the *Metropolitan*. The April Review looks that way, as it is some two or three months old and shows "Corwinism" in the comments.

The Philatelic Society of America is of little benefit to philately and might as well be annexed to the A. P. A. At present it gives a few members the honor (?) of holding offices, but its members are not recognized as being interested in the affairs of the society.

Boston, Mass., is soon to have another aspirant for philatelic honors to be the *Yankee Philatelist*. If nothing happens No. 1 will appear June 1st.

EXCHANGE DEPARTMENT.

This department is for the free use of subscribers. Notices must not contain more than thirty words, exclusive of name and address. Nothing but strictly EXCHANGE notices will be inserted. Advertisements must appear in the advertising columns.

1851 U. S. half-cent to exchange for one of different date. Must be in good condition. Visitor, Haverhill, Mass.

Wanted. Type, leads, etc. in exchange for stamps, old coins, etc. Type must be in good condition and type high. Everybody send for my exchange list. E. Gestafson, McPherson, Kansas box 850.

100 3c green, U. S. stamps, 1872 issue, for best offer in stamps. This office,

THE MONTHLY VISITOR.

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In answering advertisements, please say: Saw advertisement in The Visitor.

DID YOU EVER DISCOVER

A GOLD MINE?

IF not you should send for my fine approval sheets at 35 per cent commission. Good reference or a deposit of \$1.00 required. 1006 assorted stamps, 30 cents. 100 nice, all different, Greece, Mexico, etc. only 20 cents.

GEORGE M. FRAME,

Haverhill,

38 Lindell Street.

Mass.



TRICK Bouquets 20c.
New Finger Trap 10c.
Trick Candy Box 20c.
Trick Cigar 20c.
Get Our Free Catalog of
New Imported Novelties
AGTS. Coin MONEY.

POCKET PEN & PENCIL STAMP, WITH NAME,
Club of 14 P. & P. Stamps, 10c.
Self-Inker 20c. postpaid for \$1.00 Bill.
Marked lines, cards, &c. New Agts. big money. Terms free.

THALMAN MFG CO.,

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Baltimore,

Md.

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Catalogues For Five Times Its Cost.

But this is only a part of the cost. We have arranged with the publisher of the VISITOR to give every purchaser A YEARS SUBSCRIPTION TO THIS PAPER. This is another part of the cost. The VISITOR now in its FIFTH YEAR of publication is alone worth the price of this packet. NOW if you are not satisfied return the packet and I will give you the subscription.

PRICE 18 CENTS.

C. W. SMALL,

37 Forest Ave.

Portland, Maine.

JUVENILE TYPE-WRITER 40c.

AND PRINTING OUTFIT, POSTPAID, ONLY
Will last for Years. Writes Letters and Correspondence, Prints Cards, Labels, Envelopes, Linen, &c. No loose letters to get lost. Useful invention. Club of 3 for \$1.00, 7 for \$2.00. Retailer for 50c. IMPERIAL P.P. with name 10c. Club 14 for \$1.00 Post Paid.

THALMAN MFG CO.,

Baltimore,

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Md.

\$20 FOR \$2.

I AM about to give up business, and so special packet

Bluebell,

containing from 20 to 50 stamps, and teed to catalogue over \$1. and they are 15 cents each: 2 for 25; 9 for a one dollar and 20 for a two dollar bill. Every purchaser of 4 or more packets receives free subscription to the MONTHLY VISITOR. Send at once to

HENRY ADES FOWLER.

C. P. A., 265, S. of P. 128 P.S. of C. 47
24 Shannon St., Toronto, Ontario, C.

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GUY W. GREEN, STROMSBURG, NE

125 varieties of stamps 12c. 40 from 40 tries, 15c. R. WEEKER, Farmland

200 RARE STAMPS and a nice album. W E Billings, No. Leominster, M

THE Badger Stamp News, only 20 cts year. Adv't rates 30 cts. per inch appear next month. N. H. Mayer, 902 5th rear, Milwaukee, Wis.

BEST approval sheets, 50 per cent. discount 25 stamps FREE, R. R. HOBBS Big Rapids, Mich.

STAMPS ON APPROVAL

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TEN CENTS sent for a years subscription to the

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Vol. V.

No. 7.

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JULY, 1892.

Subscription,

10 Cents per Year.

MINIATURE TYPE-WRITER 40c.

PRINTING OUTFIT, POSTPAID, ONLY
1 for Years. Write Letters and Correspondence. Prints
Labels, Envelopes, Linen, &c. No loose letters to get lost.
vention. Club of 3 for \$1.00, 7 for \$2.00. Retail for 50c.
BIAL, P.&P. with name 10c. Club 14 for \$1.00 Post Paid.

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Kansas box 850.

100 3c green, U. S. stamps, 1872 issue, for best
offer in stamps, this office,

\$1 worth of stamps from my sheets for every
Canada 8c. registered stamp sent me. Also
want any stamps of Nova Scotia. Send with
lowest exchange price to Henry Ades Fowler,
24 Shannon St. Toronto, Ont.

To every body who sends me 8 philatelic
papers, I will return by following mail a com-
plete novel. Jack S. O'Meara, 3 Stanislas St.,
Quebec, Can.

I would like to exchange stamps with other
collectors. Copies of philatelic papers wanted.
David Magbill, Georgetown, Mass. Box 228,

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MONTHLY VISITOR.

VOL. V. HAVERHILL, MASS., JULY, 1892. NO 7.

ABOUT DEALING.

A SHORT time ago an enquiry was addressed to us for a few hints about starting a stamp business; the best way to get stamps intended for sale; the capital required; its average profit etc. We edged from the phrasology of the letter that two young collectors desired to do a business in stamps, and the advice given was the time honored injunction of *Punch*: "Don't."

We told them in substance that it took money to start the thing, and it called for more money to carry it on. Even an old and advanced collector is not well enough backed in good stamps to start a business, at least not one in ten. To go into the market and buy a stock at wholesale prices is "woeful judgement," and a fair stock of stamps cannot be bought off hand. Collections must be hunted up and bought, and here is where the advanced collector's judgement is his stock in trade. Auction sales must be patronized, but a novice cannot get his money's worth. You are got to buy your auction experience. Exchange with foreign collectors must be a prolific source

of supply, and here again, experience and money are both required, for a correspondent who has such stock as you want wants good stuff in return, or you have got to pay for what you get from him.

"Competition is the life of trade." So it is in a double sense, for if you have "sand" and money enough you will pull through. The big dealers do the business they are willing you should catch what penny trade you can, for they come pretty near regulating the supply, demand and price of the marketable stamps.

There are to-day hundreds of collectors who are doing a stamp business in connection with their collecting, but they cannot really be called dealers, for their entire stock in trade consists of a few approval sheets, containing their duplicate stamps. They cannot fill a list of wants from a brother collector, and are themselves buying for their own collection from the big dealers. Competition of this sort certainly is the life of the business, but when these dealer-collectors allow big discounts from their sheets of duplicates, discounts which they cannot maintain except on stamps they do not care for personally, they are lending no support to the trade, but on the

MONTHLY VISITOR.

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contrary are spoiling the market.

Legitimate dealers cannot quote such prices and collectors refuse to buy, hoping that the big discount sheets will in time have the stamps they want. Of course dealers of this sort quit the business before year closes, or make a lower discount and bid for legitimate business.

The profits are good, just the same as in any business if rightly handled. Business methods pay in any business, but trying to do a big business on little capital, or on time without collateral, is just as disastrous here as anywhere.

A trade must be worked up, acquired and held, and it takes time, money and stock in every way to do this. You must advertise, that takes money; you must have something for sale, and that takes both time and money to acquire.

Don't be in a hurry to be a dealer in stamps. Don't think you can sell all the stamps you can buy. Don't "give away" what you offer for sale. Don't think that you can compete with Hatton, Scott and Mekeel. Don't buy a lot of stuff because it is cheap. Don't throw away this little bit of advice.

A Canadian, N. J. lady deposited her purse containing \$257 in a newspaper letter box and it was returned to her by the postmaster.

Notes From Canada.

The post office at Sault St. Marie was recently burned down.

The Ontario Philatelist has postponed making its debut till the fall.

The Ottawa Philatelist has presented its initial number to the collecting public.

Resignations are beginning to make their appearance in Canada National society, (?) the P.S. of C.

The New Brunswick 1857 5 cent "Connell" stamp is fetching a good price now. One sold recently for \$105, and at an auction sale in N. Y. City one sold for \$100.05.

The Sons of Philatelia held the first convention at Gettysburg, Pa. July 4th. and 5th. inst. The Penn. Stamp Collectors League held the annual meeting at the same place.

There are a lot of fakes of Canadian stamps in circulation at present. They are the stamps printed in green, the green being chemically changed to blue. They originate from St. Catharines.

A young man (boy) named Charles W. Purdy, appeared before Police Magistrate Hare at Silsonburg, Ont., Saturday, to answer to a charge of using cancelled postage stamps upon letters mailed at Silsonburg. He pleaded guilty and was fined \$10 and cost, \$9.50. This boy has given the post office authorities considerable trouble. He has been operating for some weeks past. He is a stamp collector.

lector, and has been corresponding under the name of Chas. A. King. Mr. Barker, P. O. Inspector prosecuted on behalf of the department. He (Purdy) is the son of a poor shoemaker.

NOTES.

The stamp collectors Monthly is announced for August, from Buffalo, N. Y.

The rarest of the U. S. revenue, namely the \$500 red, green and black, sold at a recent auction sale for \$151.

It has been officially reported that the "six" cent surcharge on the British Honduras stamps, are not authentic.

In my note last month in the paragraph relating to Florida, Pasqua de Flores, or the *breast* of flowers, should read Pasqua de Flores, or *feast* of flowers.

An unused, unserved pair of Ed. U. R's of Great Britain, recently fetched sixteen guineas at an auction sale in London, Eng.

The new set of Siberia are an attractive issue comprising twelve stamps, and ranging in value from one cent to five dollars.

Mr. Morris Gwiell's bride (whom I made mention of in my notes last month) was Miss Natalie Hayman, and their honeymoon was spent in Paris.

It now appears that the surcharged "Sokotri" on Cyprus stamps is a fraud, as no stamps have been officially issued for use on this island.

Utah derives its name from the Utes, a tribe of Indians originally inhabiting it. It was originally a part of upper California, and was conveyed to the United States by Mexico by the treaty of 1845.

The P. O. Department rules that mail matter with an indefinite address written or printed thereon, such as "The Leading Architect," or "Any Intelligent Builder," is not deliverable.

Among the latest of countries to issue stamps is the "Cook Islands Federation." There are four values, and very few of each were issued. The principal Islands are Raratonga, Atiou, Harvey and Mangeia. This group is sometimes called the Harvey Archipelago. They are about 2000 miles north of New Zealand.

I saw in a recent advertisement of an English firm of stamp dealers, a block of four very rare stamps offered for sale. They were the Saxton 1851 1-2 mgr, eight blue, *error of color*. Only 120 of these stamps were printed, and only 20 of them are in existence; the remaining 24 being destroyed. The price asked was \$1500 for the four, or \$800 per pair.

More anon!

LEILA.

NOTES.

—The first country in Asia to use postage stamps was India.

The earliest known coins were issued in the 7th. century before the Christian era.

The Monthly Visitor.

F. H. Smith, Publisher.

C. W. Small, Philatelic Editor.

Exchanges, and all communications intended for Mr. Small should be sent to 37 Forest Ave., Portland, Maine.

PUBLISHERS' NOTICES.

SUBSCRIPTION: 10 cts. a year; post-paid.

ADVERTISEMENTS: 5 cents per line; 50 cents per inch. Larger advertisement contracted for.

EXCHANGES: We will exchange with any paper published.

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Entered at Haverhill Post Office as second class matter.

NOTES.

The Philatelic *Exchange* is a small magazine from Toledo, O.

The Philatelic *Era* has reduced its subscription price from 35c. to 25c. per year. It was cheap at the former price.

The *Postal Card*, official organ of the Postal Card Society of America, is full of entertaining reading for card collectors.

The Royal *Exchange* is the name of a promising little publication which has just completed its first volume.

The May number of the Essex County *Philatelist* is a sixteen page issue, and filled with interesting notes.

Most of the new papers devoted to Philately are of good size and well filled. The International Philatelic *Monthly* is one of them, and is published at Taunton, Mass.

"Buckey Boy" contributes an entertaining article entitled: "The Suppression of Fraud" to The Eastern *Philatelist*.

We acknowledge the receipt of a catalogue of the 3d. auction sale of stamps, issued by C. H. Holden, Port Dover, Ont. It contains a list of 294 lots, among them there being some rare and valuable stamps.

Many of the Philatelic publications which we receive are new to us, and many of them are neat in appearance and interesting in contents. There are none of them with which the Southern *Philatelist* need suffer in comparison. We should call it the *Punch* of Philatelic publications.

The Eagle *Philatelist* comes to us for the first time this month, and will always be a welcome visitor to our sanctum, there is much in it to interest one, both in editorials and miscellany, and the biography of noted Philatelist is not the least pleasing feature.

Volume I, Number 3 of the Detroit *Philatelist* teems with good things the editorials and "Our Contemporaries" being especially well written. It favors the amalgamation of all Philatelic societies.

Haverhill is to have a live, wide-awake progressive philatelic publication. The *Pentucket Philatelist*, and the first number will be out in August. It will be an 8 page and cover magazine, filled with matter of interest to collectors, and under the management of Messrs Frame and Gram will rank first among publications of this class here in Mass. We wish it success.

Our present Post Master General is a good man to manage a bargain counter, a good man to talk to a Sunday school class, and a pretty fair sort of a man generally, but when it comes to telling publishers how many sample copies they ought to send out his judgement isn't worth a cent.

The Seive.

THE new postal law, relating to publications having second class rates, which the Post Master General is making strenuous effort to have passed, and which limits the sending of sample copies to one half the number of subscribers possessed by a periodical, is a most arbitrary one and would prove injurious to many publications, and especially to one just entering upon its career, and will meet with a determined opposition from the press of this country.

There is, however, a certain class of publications, to which the Post Master General should pay his attention, and derive some means to regulate their sending of sample copies. We refer to the many so called "agent papers," whose existence is made possible by advertisements, many of which are of a "catch penny" kind, and whose circulation is mainly made up of sample copies.

Hardly a month passes but a score or more of these publications come to this office. They violate the law in many instances, as but few of them are properly stamped, and it is to this class of publica-

tions which the Post Master General should look after and prevent them from overloading the mails.

IN mounting a collection it should be the aim of every collector to have his or her specimens present as an attractive appearance as possible. I do not mean by this that you must not be content until you possess the finest album extant or the rarest stamps obtainable, but where a little system of taste is exercised, your collection will always present a pleasant aspect, and prove a source of constant enjoyment.

Another matter of importance in connection with stamp collecting, is to study carefully each specimen you deem worthy a place in your album, in this way you will not only obtain a vast amount of information, but it will enable you to give the history of the stamps you possess to any one examining your collection.

Always exhibit to the best of your ability the interest you take in your collection, and you will find that your friends will immediately catch your enthusiasm, and be ever interested in the welfare of your collection. This I have found out by experience, and some of the specimens that I have received from those to whom I have shown my stamps, have proved valuable additions to my collection.

Philately Department.

C. W. SMALL, EDITOR.

☞ All communications for this department must be addressed to the editor at 57 Forest Avenue, Portland, Maine.

THE stock of old stamps remaining on hand of the islands for which the new Leeward Island stamp was issued, was sold to Mr. Thompson of Bishop, Audland, for £5500, or about \$27,000. The face value was a little less than £1800. The price precludes the possibility of a drop in price of these stamps, and they certainly will increase in value.

A. M. Griggs of Clinton, S. C., is accused of "manufacturing" used Confederate stamps on the original cover. The stamps are genuine, the envelopes are old and the general appearance is well calculated to deceive. They are put on in blocks and strips and lightly cancelled: "Clinton, S. C."

A letter was recently received in Worcester, Mass., that was prepaid with 32 two cents stamps of the 1863 issue. It was, of course, from one philatelist to another, and the exclamation of the P. O. clerk who cancelled them is better thought than uttered.

In Pemberton's hand book for 1878, we read that through the stupidity of the Singalese officials, the entire stock of Ceylon envelopes was destroyed, and that hereafter specimens could only be obtained when large collections were broken up. History as usual

repeated itself in 1881, when the remainder of the old issues of U. S. postage were destroyed in New York.

Collectors should be in no hurry to complete their sets of New Brunswick, as a large "find" has just been made, and prices are going lower. We understand that "these found" are unguessed. With the stamps of Newfoundland it is different, as all the remainders, except a few thousands of each of the 6 pence and 1 shilling, are now in the hands of the dealers, and prices are sure to go up on the pence issue.

It is rumored that the fifty cent value of the postage due stamp will be retired from use, there being no call for this value. There were comparatively few of them issued, and its retirement would make it rare in a very short time.

Another great "fake" has been exposed. The Bavarian 12 kreuzer money order cards are sold for a few cents, the stamp is cut out and "skinned" until they are as thin as ordinary paper. Then they are "doctored" and put into the market and sold for \$3 or \$4. The face of the stamp is genuine, the texture of the paper appears "K." the perforations are a little rough, but the stamps "goes," as that is what the fakers are after.

The Postmaster General of the Sandwich Island has ordered that the 2c. rose, 1885, 5c. blue, 1885 and the 12c. rose, 1883 stamps be sold only when the word "reprint" is stamped on them, thus establishing a value for the original

In 1866, when the new rate of postage to America came into effect, the dark 5c. was used and the 5c. and 13c. 1853 became useless.

The Hawaiian authorities then surcharged their stamps with the word "specimen," which is consequently a proof of their being genuine. There is some slight difference between them and the reprints, the chief one being that the reprint is whiter and the gum is also lighter. The die shows some slight difference, easily detected when side by side with the original, but otherwise the reprint would be hard to distinguish.

The recently chronographed stamps of Sokotra are bogus.

Counterfeit Swiss stamps are freely advertised by Geneva parties.

CORRESPONDENCE.

This department is for inquiries of a Philatelic nature, as well as for replies thereto. Address the editor at 37 Forest Avenue, Portland, Maine.

P. R. S.—The Portugal stamps are reprints. All the obsolete stamps of the country have been reprinted, and are sold by the freshness of the colors and whiteness of the gum.

F. L. K.—It is quite probable that the 56 and 100 lire Italy are ever employed as postage due stamps. They are said to be used principally in connection with the post office saving bank.

G. H. S.—The Russian stamps of the early issues are watermarked but hard to distinguish. The stamp after printing was covered with an emerald solution in water. This was done to prevent them from use the second time. The later issues are not so susceptible.

A. S. N.—We do not believe in the invented network of the Alsace and Lorraine stamp. They are not reprints, but imitations, and it is a question whether or not the government sanctioned the issue. They differ from the originals in that the points of the network are downward. The word *Postes* occupies a longer space, and the colors are not well imitated.

EARLY METHODS.

IN earlier times the way of forwarding mail was very poor. The letters were placed at a restaurant, coffee house or inn, and when a person saw a letter addressed to a person with whom they were acquainted, they were allowed to take it. Some very far off living colonists, who were obliged to stay at home, the next nearest neighbor were requested to get their mail at the inn.

The first postoffice in the United States was at Boston, Mass., in 1638. In Virginia law required all planters to have a messenger to carry the mail from one colony to another. If the law was disobeyed the planter was sued and fined. At last in 1682 a postal route was constructed from New York to Boston.

Nick.

EVOLUTION OF A COLLECTION.

THE majority of beginners in the United States are the "Young America," many just entering their teens and many others still in their boyhood. To tell these collectors that they must have a standard album, complete catalogue, color chart, metric-rule, perforation gauge and numberless other articles used by the elder members of the Philatelic family is like putting the last straw on the camel's back. The magnitude of the great beyond, the intricacies of watermarks, roulettings, engravings, lithographs and surcharges, still stagger the older Philatelist, but what are they to a beginner, when complicated with the dastardly dealings of the counterfeiter. How he longs to have a collection numbering in the thousands; how happy would he be, if he could distinguish the watermarks, prints, and many kinds of paper; but his hopes and ambitions are all dashed to the ground by the many kind, but hasty advice of friends, and the endless varieties of stamps set forth in his newly purchased catalogue. If it is impossible for him to have a complete collection, he will give up all hope of having any. Thus the hope of beginner after beginner is dashed away in Philatelia's flood of discouragement;

and many overburdened by the weight of catalogues, metric-rules, watermarks, etc., sink in the Ocean of Bewilderment to rise no more.

As Nature requires the infant to pass through boyhood and youthhood before he can become a man, so, also, it is generally necessary for the collection to first pass through a scrap album, and then a stamp album before finally it finds its resting place in an original self-prepared album, or sheets of card board made to suit the collector's taste.

When the collection is transferred to a publisher's album, the desire for metric rules, charts, etc., will come as naturally as did his first desire to found a collection. There is no need to press all these things upon the youthful collector, and force him under. First let him try his mettle on packets and sets, and then if he is still in the field, he will favor some dealer with an order for an album, and after that all other things will be added in due time.

The Collector.

ITEMS.

Postage stamps were issued in Mexico in 1856.

—The weight of books from the Agriculture Department and other matter sent under frank, reaches 4000,050 pounds per annum.

"The only complete and trustworthy book of the kind published."

THE RELIABLE COIN AND STAMP GUIDE.



Few people have any idea of the value of old, rare, odd and obsolete coins and stamps. Did you know that a Boston shoemaker sold a collection of coins for **TWENTY THOUSAND DOLLARS**? Did you know that some rare American stamps are worth as high as **SIX HUNDRED DOLLARS EACH**? It is a fact that the rare 1853 quarter is worth \$300.00, the 1823 quarter is worth \$25.00, the 1894 silver dollar is worth \$300.00, half cents made between 1840 and 1850 are worth \$1.00 to \$1.00 each, the large old style copper cents are worth as high as \$6.00 each. Some issues of Continental and Confederate bills are rare and valuable as well as certain pieces of fractional currency or "script." Besides these, many rarities in half cents, cents, three-cent pieces, half dimes, dimes, twenty-cent pieces, quarters, half dollars and dollars are worth a big premium over face value. **The Reliable Coin and Stamp Guide** gives accurate information, and you may depend upon it.



While a great many people collect old coins, there is more demand for rare postage and revenue stamps, and some comparatively recent stamps are now scarce. Collections of stamps often fetch **A THOUSAND DOLLARS**. Stamps from letters sent during the war, sell as high as **10 CENTS TO \$10.00 A PIECE**. revenue stamps from patent medicine bottles, match wrappers, old documents, etc., are in great demand, and are worth from **10 CENTS TO \$10.00 A PIECE**. Look over your old letters in the garret and elsewhere; perhaps you may find some rare things. This book gives all particulars, with prices, pictures, etc., and gives addresses of reliable firms **SPOT CASH**. No matter if you handle but ten cents **EVERYBODY NEEDS IT**. Farmers, Storekeepers, Clerks, Mechanics, Agents, Postmasters, Doctors, Lawyers, in fact it will be found more than necessary. It is worth its weight in gold to any wide-awake person. Boys and girls should send for it and explore attics and cellars in search of old letters, which may contain rare stamps. Who knows? A small fortune may be in your very midst. Do not write for particulars; do not ask questions; do not send us the coins or stamps, but get the book. It tells all. Where you can sell them at prices given, what they are, what they look like, and why they are rare. This book gives reliable figures only; no fictitious dates or values whatever. It is issued under the supervision and authority of the greatest stamp and coin collector and dealer in **NORTH AMERICA. SATISFACTION GUARANTEED.**

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SPOT CASH.

No matter if you handle but ten cents

EVERYBODY NEEDS IT.

Farmers, Storekeepers, Clerks, Mechanics, Agents, Postmasters, Doctors, Lawyers, in fact it will be found more than necessary. It is worth its weight in gold to any wide-awake person. Boys and girls should send for it and explore attics and cellars in search of old letters, which may contain rare stamps. Who knows? A small fortune may be in your very midst. Do not write for particulars; do not ask questions; do not send us the coins or stamps, but get the book. It tells all. Where you can sell them at prices given, what they are, what they look like, and why they are rare. This book gives reliable figures only; no fictitious dates or values whatever. It is issued under the supervision and authority of the greatest stamp and coin collector and dealer in North America.



SATISFACTION GUARANTEED.

Price, 25c. per. Copy, postpaid.



Sample, 20 cents, silver or stamps. Agents Wanted! Big Profits!
Holyoke Novelty Co., Lock Box 365, Holyoke, Mass.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

In answering advertisements, please say: Saw advertisement in The Visitor.

DID YOU EVER DISCOVER

A GOLD MINE ?

If not you should send for my fine approval sheets at 35 per cent commission. Good reference or a deposit of \$1.00 required. 1000 assorted stamps, 30 cents. 100 nice, all different, Greece, Mexico, etc. only 20 cents.

GEORGE M. FRAME.

Haverhill,

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Mass.

TRICK Bouquets 20c.
New Finger Trap 10c.
Trick Candy Box 20c.
Trick Cigar 20c.
Get Our Free Catalog of New Imported Novelties AGTS. COIN MONEY.

POCKET PEN & PENCIL. STAMP, WITH NAME, Globes 14 P. & P. Stamps, postpaid for \$1.00 each. 10c.
Self-Inker 20c.
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New agents big money. Terms free.

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Baltimore.

No 17 E Baltimore St.

Md.

IT COSTS MONEY

TO advertise, and it costs money to put up stamp packets and to sell them for almost nothing. But it is an effective way of advertising. Stamp packets are usually

DISAPPOINTING

to the purchaser; he does not get what he expected and he says he will not buy another. Now I have got a packet which

WORKS THE OTHER WAY.

It is guaranteed to contain 100 VARIETIES and

Catalogues For Five Times Its Cost.

But this is only a part of the cost. We have arranged with the publisher of the VISITOR to give every purchaser A YEARS SUBSCRIPTION TO THIS PAPER. This is another part of the cost. The VISITOR now in its FIFTH YEAR of publication is alone worth the price of this packet. **NOW** if you are not satisfied return the packet **NOW**, et and I will give you the subscription.

PRICE 18 CENTS.

C. W. SMALL.

Portland, Maine.

37 Forest Ave.

Vol. V.

No. 8

MONTHLY VISITOR.

August, 1892.

Subscription,

10 Cents per Year.

ONLY ONE ON EARTH!

WHAT is? Why THE PHILATELIC FRAUD REPORTER is. It is a queer magazine, a "hammer with horns." Ever seen it? If not why not? Send for a free sample copy right now. You will be surprised.

GUY W. GREEN, STROMSBURG, NEBR.

\$9 FOR \$1.

I am selling off my duplicates and offer my special packet

Bluebell,

guaranteed to catalogue over \$1. for the small sum of 15 cents each: 2 for 25; 9 of them for a one dollar bill. Send at once while they last to

HENRY ADES FOWLER,
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Special. Every purchaser of 3 or more packets receives free a years subscription to the MONTHLY VISITOR.

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Will last for Years. Writes Letters and Correspondence. Prints Cards, Labels, Envelopes, Linen, &c. No loose letters to get lost. Useful Invention. Club of 3 for \$1.00, 7 for \$2.00. Retail for 45c. IMPERIAL P.A.P. with name 10c. Club 14 for \$1.00 Post Paid.

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Md.

STAMPS ON APPROVAL.

I WILL send Stamps marked at net prices or at catalogue prices with a discount of from

30 TO 50 PER CENT.

to all applicants. Send a reference if convenient, and you will receive a larger and better consignment. Tell me how many stamps you have in your collection, and I can tell about what you want. C. W. SMALL, 37 Forest Avenue, Portland, Maine.

BARGAINS IN U. S.

1870. 1 cent. grill,	-	-	16 cents.
1870. 2 cents, grill,	-	-	8 cents.
1870. 3 cents, grill,	-	-	4 cents.
1888. 30 cents,	-	-	20 cents.
1888. 30 cents, pair,	-	-	50 cents.
1888. 90 cents,	-	-	40 cents.
1888. 90 cents, pair,	-	-	\$1.00

All the above are used and in good condition. Postage extra on orders under 25 cts.

SPECIAL.

To all purchasing \$1.00 or more from above list. I will give a years subscription to The PENTUCKET PHILATELIST.

GEORGE M. FRAME, S. of P. 264,
Haverhill,
Mass.

38 Lindell Street.

MONTHLY VISITOR.

VOL. V.

HAVERHILL, MASS., AUGUST, 1892.

NO 8.

Notes From Canada.

IN my notes last month, Silsonburg should have been Tilsonburg.

Partly printed and partly written notices issued by societies for the purpose of notifying members of the date and place of meetings to be held must, in future, be prepaid at letter rates.

Foreign newspapers and periodicals brought into Canada by mail or otherwise, may be posted in Canada by news agents to address in this country at the rate of one cent per pound, payable by postage stamps on each separate package.

There is considerable advertising done by stamp dealers in the local papers in Toronto, Ont., and their advertisements are kept in regularly, proving to a great extent that local advertising pays. A twelve penny Canada was advertised in one of them lately.

The *American Philatelist* and *Collector* was the first paper to reach my sanctum containing a full report of the Sons of Philatelia convention, held at Gettysburg,

Pa., on July 4. and 5. The cover, or rather the outside, was painted in red ink, and arrived exactly eight days after the holding of the convention.

The Grand Trunk authorities received a telegraph message from a detective at Port Huron, Mich., saying that he had captured a man, name unknown, who had in his possession \$1,000 worth of Canada postage stamps. The authorities here could not indentify him from the description given, but it is believed he is one of Toronto's crooks, and that he is one of three who about a month ago were engaged in robberies along the Northern Division of the Grand Trunk Railway. The stamps found on the man were one cent, three cent and five cent registration.

The time for holding the annual convention of the Canadian Philatelic Association is rapidly drawing near, and there is a large attendance expected. It will be held at Niagara Falls on the Canadian side and the session opens on August 17th. at 10 a. m. Let every member make it a point of taking his holidays at this date and spend them at the Falls, or at least part of the time, so as to be present at

THE MONTHLY VISITOR.

the convention. The election of officers will be particularly interesting, and the important subject of "Incorporation" will be brought before the members to debate upon. Let ever member, or let him instruct his proxy to vote "Yes" when the subject it is up for ballot. There will be nothing about "Amalgamation" said as that dreaded disease has not entered our fold.

NOTES:

A Moldavian postage stamp of the value of 81 paras sold recently in London, Eng., for \$249.

Much has been said about the new 4 1-2d. stamp of Great Britain, but so far it has failed to make its appearance.

The Indiana Philatelic Society has changed its name to the Hoosier Philatelic Society, on account of there being another society having the same initials, I. P. S.

From July 1st. penny post cards are available for transmission to the South African Republic (Transvaal.) Orange Free States and British Bechmanland.

The Postmaster General announces that from July 1st. the postage on letters addressed to destinations outside of the United Kingdom, without exception, will be fixed uniform at 2 1-2d. the half ounce.

The British Colony of Natal this

month enters the Postal Union and prepaid correspondence to that colony will thence forward be subject in every respect to the conditions of transmission applied to correspondence addressed to countries of the Postal Union generally.

I clip the following from a local newspaper: "A new series of postage stamps have been issued by the republic of San Salvador. All stamps previous to 1892 have been called in, and only the new stamps will be accepted in payment of postage hereafter."

The new post office at Detroit, Mich., is going to be a magnificent structure, and will be ready for occupation about next July. On a recent visit there I had a chance of seeing it in an advanced stage, and the work is progressing rapidly. It is needed, as I nearly broke my neck stumbling over the rough entrance that is there at present, trying to get at the delivery wicket.

Burglaried at post offices seem to be the order the day at the present time, and below is one I recently secured an account of: On Friday the post office at Churchdown Village, near Gloucester, was entered by burglars, and a large amount of stamps and postal orders, a date stamp, and several other articles were stolen. The thieves obtained admission by removing a portion of a broken window pane, enabled them to unfasten the latch-

New York letters have been delivered in London by the Hamburg-American Steamship line in 169 hours and 4 minutes from the New York post office to the General P. O. in London. The White Star Steamer *Tentonic* has delivered them in 178 hours and one minute, and the Cunard steamer *Ethuria* in 186 hours. If the port of call, of the Hamburg-American steamers, had been Plymouth instead of Southampton, four hours would have been saved. This is exceptionally quick time and out of 122 dispatches sent by the New York post office, 101 have been sent by this route.

A rare find and addition to the Philatelic world, was made recently by Mr. E. B. Sterling, Trenton, N. J. He was attending an auction sale of old autographs in Philadelphia a short time ago, and purchased among other lots, a lot consisting of eight letters, written by Prof. Benj. Silliman, of Yale College, New Haven, Ct., and dated between January 11th, 1822, and February 15th, 1846. There being nothing of special interest in them he laid them aside, and in looking them over recently, found a New Haven stamp on original cover. It is a perfect specimen and said to be the only one in existence that is so fine a specimen. There is only one other copy of this rare stamp known. He values it at \$2,500. He has refused offers of \$1,500 and

\$2,000, waiting until he receives the full amount of its estimated value before he parts with it.

LEILA.

ITEMS.

The post office department spends \$85,000 annually for twine.

A \$50 Confederate note was recently forwarded to Postmaster General Wanamaker, from Italy, for redemption.

In Paris, recently, M. Mayer, an accountant, occupying an important Government post, was arrested for dealing in forged stamps.

CORRESPONDENCE.

This department is for inquiries of a Philatelic nature, as well as for replies thereto. Address the editor at 37 Forest Avenue, Portland, Maine.

J. C. B.—The small square surcharged stamps of Honduras are of doubtful value. We doubt the authenticity of many of them.

E. A. S.—The 1886 issue of Guatemala is known as the Parker issue. The Parker contract was very similar to the one known as the Seebeck.

S. B. C.—Your Antigua stamps are genuine. The 1873 issue is perforated, 14 as well as 12 1-2.

T. H. S.—The later issue of St. Vincent are found in several shades, for it seemed impossible for the printers to print two lots of the same value in the same color.

The Monthly Visitor.

F. H. Smith, Publisher.

C. W. Small, Philatelic Editor.

Exchanges, and all communications intended for Mr. Small should be sent to 37 Forest Ave. Portland, Maine.

PUBLISHERS' NOTICES.

SUBSCRIPTION. 10 cts. a year; post-paid.

ADVERTISEMENTS 5 cents per line; 50 cents per inch. Larger advertisement contracted for.

EXCHANGES: We will exchange with any paper published.

ADDRESS ALL communications to: THE MONTHLY VISITOR, HAVERHILL, MASS.

Entered at Haverhill Post Office as second class matter.

NOTES.

In sending subscriptions to the *Visitor*, send silver, or one or two cent stamps. We have but little use for higher values.

After breasting the stormy sea of philatelic journalism for over two years, the *Essex County Philatelist* discontinues publication and all unexpired subscription and advertisements will be filled by the *Pentucket Philatelist* of this city.

The *Stamp*, Long Branch, N. Y. is fast pushing its way to the front ranks of philatelic journalism. The July number contains a full report of the S. of P. convention at Gettysburg, Pa., and other stamp news.

Of the many approval sheets sent to us for examination, none presents a neater appearance than

those of Henry Ades Fowler, 24 Shannon Street, Toronto, Ont., the stamp thereon being very clean and lightly cancelled. His packets, advertised in this number are cheap and the purchaser is sure of receiving the worth of his money by investing in a few of them.

The *Malden Philatelist*, Malden, reached us for the first time this month, and it contains some good philatelic literature, the "Historic Sketch of the Boston Post Office" being especially so. By perusing this article one gets a good idea of the increase of business at the Boston Post Office when first established, and at the present time.

There is no hope for one cent postage at the present time, as congress has adjourned. The loss which the reduction of letter postage to one cent would entail upon the post office department is estimated at \$15,000,000, and to create such a deficiency—when at the present rate the department is not self supporting—would not be considered good judgement, although a portion of the deficiency would, no doubt, be made up by the increase of mail matter. The American people have no just cause to complain, as the two cent postage is no great hardship, when one considers the amount of work the government does for this small sum. One cent letter postage will come—sometime, but not this year.

THREE YEARS RECORD.

IN three years more than one sixth of the whole number of post-offices in existence have been established. The number of Presidential postoffices have been increased 18 per cent. In three years the postal revenues have been increased \$40,000,000; in the three years proceeding the increase was \$24,000,000. A comparison of similar periods that only one piece of registered matter in 15,500 pieces mailed is lost instead of one piece in 14,500. Almost 55,000,000 miles of post routes have been traversed, and over 2,100 new routes have been opened and 255 new cars put on.

Almost 33 per cent more of mail matter has been handled by railroad postal clerks, and 34 per cent, more mail matter have been distributed by postal clerks for city delivery.

Money order offices have increased from 873 at the end of the last administration to 12,065 at the end of the first three years of the present one; the present year will probably see the number of money order offices doubled.

Free delivery has been put on in 150 offices, and 2400 additional carriers have been appointed.

For the three years prior to 1879, the increase of dead letters was almost 20 per cent.; for the last three years the increase has been less than 10 per cent. The

office of fourth assistant has been created, and the department system reorganized on business lines.

THE "RED CENT."

THE old cent which has now passed out of use, was first proposed by Robert Morris, the great financier of the Revolution, and was named by Jefferson two years after. It began to make its appearance from the mint in 1792. It bore the head of Washington on one side, and thirteen links on the other.

The French Revolution soon created a rage for French ideas in America, which put on the cent instead of the head of Washington, the head of the Goddess of Liberty, a French Liberty with flowing locks. The chain on the reverse side was replaced by the olive wreath of peace. But the French Liberty was short lived, and so was her portrait on our cent.

The next head or figure succeeding this—the staid classic dame, with a fillet around her hair—came into fashion some sixty years ago, and her finely chisled Grecian features have been but slightly changed in the lapse of time.

Like the Visitor, the *Golden Star*, Taunton, Mass., is misnamed, as the title in no way denotes that it is devoted to Philately. The *Star* is neatly printed, and the current number contains some short, interesting contributions. It seems to be in a prosperous condition.

OUR POSTAL SYSTEM.

IT is quite interesting to trace the history of the postal service in this country during the last 75 years. Postage was not reduced to 2 cents at once. The rates May 1, 1816 were as follows: Less than 30 miles, 6 cents; over 30 and not over 80 miles, 10 cents; over 80 and not over 150 miles, 12 1-2 cents; over 150 and not over 400 miles, 18 3-4 cents; over 400 miles, 25 cents. Letters could be sent without being prepaid, and the whole system as it then existed, was annoying to every body. Instances were common when people waited a month or more for an opportunity to send letters by private hands, rather than cause friends to pay such high rates of postage. These rates continued until July 1, 1845—a period of over twenty-nine years—when a reduction was made to 5 and 10 cents, as follows:

Under 300 miles 5 cts; over 300 miles, 10 cts; drop or local letters 2 cents. It is a markable fact that the reduction in postage caused only a small falling off in the revenue and that for one year mainly. This reduction of postal rates was largely due to the persistent effort of Lysander Spooner, a prominent Boston man of that period. By his efforts letters were sent from Boston to New York at the low price of 5 cents. A little later Adams Express company started, and pack-

ages, including mail matter, was carried at low rates between New York and Boston and other points. This solved the question of cheaper postal rates effectually and the government hastened to yield to the popular demand for still lower rates. And it may be stated as a fact that the great and most effectual argument used in congress at the time in favor of the reduction was not the blessing of cheap postage to the people, but that, without the reduction, the post office department would be seriously crippled by competition and would have to be supported by direct taxation. And so in the spring of 1851 the three cent rate was established, not exceeding 3000 miles if prepaid, but unpaid, 5 cents, and greater distance, double rates.

When the war came an tremendous impulse was given to letter writing. Everybody had relatives or friends in the army, and the interchange of letters was frequent, notwithstanding the low rate of postage the income of the department was largely increased and the matter of cheap postage effectually settled.

But still further reduction was demanded by the people, and later, in 1883, the rate was reduced to two cents to all parts of the country.

Postage stamps were authorized by an act of congress in 1847, and stamped envelopes in 1852. Postal cards were first issued in

1873, with the sales the first year of \$91,079,000. Now the sales amount to over five hundred million.

Postal notes were first issued Oct. 1882, and what is known as the free delivery system was established by act of March 3, 1873. From the first, and all away along, there were crockers who persistently held up the idea that low rates of postage would run the department into debt, and a direct tax would have to be levied to make up the deficiencies. But these fears were never realized, and the facts prove they were groundless.

A \$60 postage stamp—whoever heard of such a thing! A natural ejaculation from \$9 men out of a 100 to make if you talk of a stamp so valuable. And yet there are such stamps in daily use.

There are \$48 stamps, too: \$36, \$24, \$12, \$9, \$6, \$3, \$1.92, 96 cts. 84 cents, and so on down to and including one cent, all of a peculiar kind, which, not one in 10,000 unless he be a postal employe, ever heard of or ever saw.

It's a matter of considerable question whether many of the men throughout the United States, whose money goes to pay for these stamps, know that such stamps are in existence; far fewer ever saw one.

These stamps are for the payment of postage on newspapers and periodicals. There was a time when stamps were placed direct upon periodicals; now Uncle Sam

does all the stamping himself. He has all the fun of licking the stamp pasting them on and spoiling their handsome faces with ugly black cancellation marks.

The stamps used for this postage are about three quarters of an inch in width by an inch and a quarter in length. From 1 cent up to 12 cents they are slate color; from 24 cents to 96 cents, red, while the higher priced ones are red, blue, yellow and green.

The stamp bears upon it the words newspapers along one side and periodicals on the other, the denomination marks being in the corner. The postage on the papers is paid by cash, and stamps to the extent of the postage are then selected.

These are then affixed in a row to a sheet in a large book and cancelled. Once every quarter these books are sent to Washington, where they are kept for record.

None of these stamps are ever sold, so that even if one passed into dishonest hands it would be of little use, for it is not a legal tender and could not be used for postal purposes.

COINS AND STAMPS.

The "Reliable Coin and Stamp Guide" is a comprehensive work upon the above subjects, and worthy the perusal of every stamp and coin collector. It contains illustrations of many rare stamps, and gives a description and value of all American and foreign coins and stamps, and the price which a reliable firm will pay for the same. It is worth the small sum asked, and should be possessed by all collectors. See advertisement.

POSTAL CARDS.

THE first postal card appeared in Austria in 1870, and since that time have been adopted by nearly every stamp issuing country. They have become popular everywhere when introduced, and the consumption in the United States has run up into the millions annually. The advantage derived from the postal card is the convenience of writing a note wherever one may be, and dropping it into the first letter box, without the trouble attendant of writing a letter, when in a hurry, or when all the materials necessary are not at hand.

The double, or "reply-paid" card, which consists of two cards joined together—one to be torn off, the answer to be written on it; and to be returned by the same postman if desired, of our own government will soon be issued, and that it will prove of practical benefit is conceded by all.

Since introduced postal cards have been put to various usage. During the Franco Prussian war, the German army had what was known as "the field postal card." The soldiers carried them in their knapsacks, or pockets, and after a battle, even before they had left the field, they could write the glad tidings that they had safely passed through the affray. The "postal wagon" would soon pass along, and long before the soldiers could get into camp their postal cards were being hurried to anxious wives, mothers, fathers and sweethearts.

The collection of postal cards is now second only to stamp collecting, and many devotees of Philately have added postal cards

to their collections. To such an extent has the collection of postal cards advanced during the past few years, that an album especially for them will soon be issued by an enterprising New York collector.

It is desirable, in some of the foreign cards, at least, to show the back as well as the front of the cards, and a good way for mounting them would be to take heavy sheet of card board, cut to uniform size. Cut out a space the size of the card, leaving a little projection in each of the corners. Split this projection, and insert the corners of the card. The entire card, if mounted in this way, can be seen, excepting the little space under the projection.

EXCHANGE DEPARTMENT.

This department is for the free use of subscribers. Notices must not contain more than thirty words, exclusive of name and address. Nothing but strictly EXCHANGE notices will be inserted. Advertisements must appear in the advertising columns.

Wanted. Type, leads, etc., in exchange for stamps, old coins, etc. Type must be in good condition and type high. Everybody send for my exchange list. E. Gestafson, McPherson, Kansas box 850.

\$1.25 worth of stamps from my sheets for every Canada Se. registered stamp sent me. Also want any stamps of Nova Scotia. Send with lowest exchange price to Henry Ades Fowler, 24 Shannon st. Toronto, Ont.

To every body who sends me 8 philatelic papers, I will return by following mail a complete novel. Jack S. O'Meara, 3 Stanislas st. Quebec, Can.

Stamps and old coins to exchange for some not in my collection. Copies of philatelic papers wanted. David Maghill, Georgetown, Mass. Box 228. All letters answered.

A \$140, 54 inch Victor Light Roadstar Bicycle, Albums, Envelops, Postal cards and other articles for a good stamp collection. E. B. Jones, Ruthven, Iowa.

FOR SALE.—2000 mixed cards; 1000 mixed scrap-pictures; 3 small fonts of type with spacers, etc. The above has been placed in our hands to dispose of. If interested send your address and stamp for sample and prices. Holyoke Novelty Co., box 363, Holyoke, Mass.

"The only complete and trustworthy book of the kind published."

THE RELIABLE COIN AND STAMP GUIDE.



Few people have any idea of the value of old, rare, odd and obsolete coins and stamps. Did you know that a Boston shoemaker sold a collection of coins for **TWENTY THOUSAND DOLLARS?** Did you know that some rare American stamps are worth as high as **SIX HUNDRED DOLLARS EACH?**

It is a fact that the rare 1833 quarter is worth \$300.00, the 1894 silver dollar is worth \$300.00, the 1893 quarter is worth \$25.00, the 1894 silver dollar is worth \$300.00, half cents made between 1840 and 1850 are worth \$3.00 to \$5.00 each, the large old style copper cents are worth as high as \$5.00 each. Some issues of Continental and Confederate bills are rare and valuable as well as certain pieces of fractional currency or "script." Besides these, many rarities in half cents, cents, three-cent pieces, half dimes, dimes, twenty-cent pieces, quarters, half dollars and dollars are worth a big premium over face value. **The Reliable Coin and Stamp Guide** gives accurate information, and you may depend upon it.



While a great many people collect old coins, there is more demand for rare postage and revenue stamps, and some comparatively recent stamps are now scarce. Collections of stamps often sell as high as **A THOUSAND DOLLARS.** Stamps from letters sent during the war, revenue stamps from patent medicine bottles, match wrappers, old documents, etc., are in great demand, and are worth from **10 CENTS TO \$10.00 A PIECE.** Look over your old letters in the garret and elsewhere; perhaps you may find some rare things. This book gives all particulars, with prices, pictures, etc., and gives addresses of reliable firms.

who buy them for

SPOT CASH.

No matter if you handle but ten cents a day you should have this book.

EVERYBODY NEEDS IT.

It is worth its weight in gold to any wide-awake person. Boys and girls should send for it and explore attics and cellars in search of old letters, which may contain rare stamps. Who knows? A small fortune may be in your very midst. Do not write for particulars; do not ask questions; do not send us the coins or stamps, but get the book! It tells all. Where you can sell them at prices given, what they are, what they look like, and why they are rare. This book gives reliable figures only; no fictitious dates or values whatever. It is issued under the supervision and authority of the greatest stamp and coin collector and dealer in North America.



SATISFACTION GUARANTEED.

Price, 25c. per. Copy, postpaid.



Sample, 20 cents. silver or stamps. Agents Wanted! Big Profits!
Holyoke Novelty Co., Lock Box 366, Holyoke, Mass.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

In answering advertisements, please say: Saw advertisement in The Visitor.

NONE CHEAPER!

FEW BETTER!

TEN CENTS sent for a year's subscription to the

MONTHLY VISITOR

is the best investment you can make. Has a Philatelic department conducted by a dealer and collector of twelve years' experience. Sample copy free. VISITOR, Haverhill, Mass.

FIFTY YEAR!

8 PAGES AND COVER!



TRICK Bonquets 20c.
New Finger Trap 10c.
Trick Candy Box 20c.
Trick Clear 20c.
Get Our Free Catalog of
New Imported Novelties
AND COIN MONEY.



POCKET PEN & PENCIL. STAMP, WITH NAME, Club of 147, & P-Stamp, 10c. Self-Inker 20c. postpaid for \$1.00 Bill. Marked then, cards, etc. New Agents big money, Terms free.

THALMAN MFG CO., Baltimore, Md.

No. 17 E Baltimore St.,

Md.

IT COSTS MONEY

TO advertise, and it costs money to put up stamp packets and to sell them for almost nothing. But it is an effective way of advertising. Stamp packets are usually

DISAPPOINTING

to the purchaser; he does not get what he expected and he says he will not buy another. Now I have got a packet which

WORKS THE OTHER WAY.

It is guaranteed to contain 100 VARIETIES and

Catalogues For Five Times Its Cost.

But this is only a part of the cost. We have arranged with the publisher of the VISITOR to give every purchaser A YEARS SUBSCRIPTION TO THIS PAPER. This is another part of the cost. The VISITOR now in its FIFTH YEAR of publication is alone worth the price of this packet. NOW, if you are not satisfied return the packet, et and I will give you the subscription.

PRICE 18 CENTS.

G. W. SMALL, Portland, Maine.

37 Forest Ave.

MONTHLY VISITOR.

VOL. V. . HAVERHILL, MASS., SEPT., 1892.

NO 9.

Philatelic Department.

C. W. SMALL, EDITOR.

All communications for this department must be addressed to the editor at 37 Forest Avenue, Portland, Maine.

THE question no doubt occurs to every collector: why are there no more of the 30 and 50c. U. S. postage due stamps in circulation in a cancelled condition. The reason is that there two values are seldom used, even when opportunity occurs. The postal clerks seldom have call to use a higher denomination than 10c. and when called upon to supply larger amounts use several tens instead of hunting up a 30 or 50. We found a report a few days ago which gave the number of due stamps issued in 1890 and append it for general inspection.

1 cent. 6320,000; 2 cent. 3560,230; 3 cent. 148,900; 5 cent. 519,220; 10 cent. 1340,206; 50 cent. 140

To the Yankee any pursuit which promises the almighty dollar, is attractive. Visionary schemes in which the profits are limited only by the fecundity of the schemers' imagination are the most magnetic. A doubling of the original investment in five years is common (on paper); ten per cent. on "preferred," and seven on "common" has been earned for years past. Capitalists bite at such bait; hazard

small fortunes in questionable investments—and laugh at stamp collectors who, while satisfying a desire for possession, are making an investment of "pin money" that will yield big returns. One is liable to total loss, assessments, the market fluctuations and dangers of competitive business, while the other costs only the original investment, and from natural causes is more valuable the older it becomes.

In looking over some old papers I came across a comparison of prices of U. S. envelopes in 1874 and 1891. The 10 cent. green on white paper advanced from 15 cents to 50 cents; the 12 cent. from 25 cents to \$2.50, and the 24 cent. green and red on white from 50 cents to \$4.00. In the succeeding issues the 6 cent. pink went to 40 cents from 10 cents; 3 cent. brown from 6 to 50 cents; 9 cent. yellow 12 cents to \$1.00, and the higher values in the same proportion. The 1879 issues continues the same story, if anything adding emphasis, for there we find that the two most in use show a very gratifying increase. In seventeen years the price of the 3 cent. green rose from 2 to 10 cents, and 6 cent red from 5 to 55 cents, while the 12 cent. purple went from 15 cents to \$3.50, the 15 cent. orange in the same ratio.

This marvelous increase in value is genuine and not due to the cornering of the market. The adher

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New Finger Trap 10c.
Trick Candy Box 20c.
Trick Glass 20c.
Get Our Free Catalog of
New Imported Novelties
AGTS. COIN MONEY.





POCKET PEN & PENCIL. STAMP, WITH NAME, Club of 14 P. & P. stamps, postpaid for \$1.00 BHL. New Agts. big money. Terms free.

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G. W. SMALL, Portland, Maine.

MONTPELIER VISITOR.

VOL. V. HAVERTHILL, MASS., SEPT., 1892. NO. 9.

Philatelic Department.

G. W. SMALL, EDITOR.

All communications for this department should be addressed to the editor at 57 Forest Street, Portland, Maine.

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This marvelous increase in value is genuine and not due to the cornering of the market. The adher

sives show the same wonderful growth in value, in many cases outdoing the envelopes.

Now had a collector at the prior date made a slight purchase every day; so slight that its cost would not have been noticed, so at the end of the year he would have invested an amount not over \$50.00. he would have had a bundle of envelopes that he would have had enjoyed looking at any time. They would have been saleable at any time for the amount of the original cost; and at any time seventeen years later they would have returned dimes in some cases, quarters in many, for pennies originally invested. And there would have cost nothing, caused no anxiety in any way and have been a source of profit.

The same arguments is applicable to other countries beside our own. The most prominent example being the British North American possessions. The rise in value of Canadian and Provincial stamps has been marvelous. Liberia, the issue of the islands comprising the Leeward Islands group, Brazil, the Confederate states and many others and to an already numerous list.

When one stops to think of the vast number of collectors of the present day, and the rate at which its numbers are increasing, it is not strange that the supply does not equal the demand. As a field for small investment, promising sure and good returns, philately offers to the thoughtful collectors an opportunity not to be slighted.

All letters relating to subscriptions, advertisements, exchanges

&c, should be addressed to the Visitor Haverhill. All philatelic contributions, letters of enquiry, or for information, should be sent to the philatelic editor.

CORRESPONDENCE.

This department is for inquiries of a Philatelic nature, as well as for replies thereto. Address the editor at 37 Forest Avenue, Portland, Maine.

A. S. B.—There is a duty on stamps, your friend's statement to the contrary notwithstanding, and in all probability it will not be removed for several months yet.

S. B. C.—Your question has been answered before in the May issue. The various watermark referred to in the catalogue are illustrated on the last few pages of the book.

C.B.A.—The Montenegro stamps are genuine, in spite of the perforations varying. Some are perforated 10 1-2 others 12 to 13.

A. A. M.—The paper you refer to is an English publication, and is devoted to "scientific" articles. It is for advanced collectors.

M. B. S.—The present issue of U. S. stamps will probably be suspended for the year, the Columbian Fair stamps taking their place for the time being. They will in all probability be resumed in 1894.

THE STAMP COLLECTORS UNION.

ORGANIZED JAN. 1. 1892.

PRESIDENT: Ralph Ascroft, 63 Irving Place, Brooklyn, N. Y.

VICE PRESIDENT: Nelson R. Lowry, Raleigh C. H. W. Va.

SEC.—TREAS: F. Williams, 17 Hancock St., Boston, Mass.

LIBRARIAN: W. J. Bliesner, Box 286, Wassaug, Ill.

EXCHANGE SUPT: Henry Morgan, 56 Myrtle St., Boston, Mass.

AUCTION SALE MANAGER: C. W. Kissinger, Reading, Pa.

OFFICIAL ORGAN: *Monthly Visitor*. (Temporarily)

NEW MEMBERS.

Robert Robertson, Raleigh C. H.,
West Va.

Maurice Rypinski, Bryan, Tex.
Ralph Spooner, 53 Cedar Street,
New York.

Henry Morgan, 56 Myrtle St.,
Boston, Mass.

Initiation fee and dues for 1892
only 20 cts silver.

LIBRARIAN'S REPORT.

I have this month received quite
a number of stamp papers from
members. A list of them and rules
on taking papers can be had of the
secretary for five cents. Pub-
lishers and members are earnestly
requested to denote odd stamp
papers to library. List of those
denoting any papers will be pub-
lished in the Official Organ every
three months.

Very Truly Yours,

W. J. Bliesner.

EX. SUPT. REPORT.

I have not had time to get my
part out for this number, but
will have it in next number, also
all particulars of way I am going
to recruit.

Respectfully,

Henry Norman.

SECRETARYS REPORT.

This month we have grown con-
siderably, and have received seven
new members, but I expect a still
larger list of new members for
next month. Each member is re-
quested to bring in as many new
members as possible. Remember
that initiation fee and dues for
1892 is only twenty cents and you
will receive official organ free.
The Monthly Visitors will act as
our official organ for September,
October and November. For De-
cember we expect to have a paper
of our own for official journal.
Members or advertisers who want
to take any space in official journal
for December, write me enclosing
stamp for special rates. Members
are also wanted to send in any
original poetry or notes for publi-
cation.

Yours Very Respectfully,

F. Williams.

Presidents and Auction Sale
Managers reports will appear in
next number of the official journal.

A new election will soon take
place, and every member will be
allowed to vote.

The Monthly Visitor.

F. H. Smith, Publisher.

C. W. Small, Philatelic Editor.

Exchanges, and all communications intended for Mr. Small should be sent to 37 Forest Ave., Portland, Maine.

PUBLISHERS' NOTICES.

SUBSCRIPTION. 10 cts. a year; post-paid.

ADVERTISEMENTS: 5 cents per line; 50 cents per inch. Larger advertisement contracted for.

EXCHANGES: We will exchange with any paper published.

ADDRESS ALL communications to: THE MONTHLY VISITOR, HAVERHILL, MASS.

Entered at Haverhill Post Office as second class matter.

NOTES.

In order to gain a little on "Father Time" we omit our cover this month.

The Malden Philatelist has consolidated with the Pentucket Philatelist.

A number of advertisements and exchange notices are omitted this month.

The Nebraska Stamps issues an entertaining initial number; we wish it success.

The first stamps used in Germany were issued in 1849.

The large size U. S. postal cards seems to be the most popular—to use when sending for sample copy of the Visitor.

If you are a subscriber, why not use our exchange column. It will cost you nothing and may be the means of adding to your collection.

Postal cards in France are sold at the value of the stamp.

Mr. H. H. Johnson, who has been appointed postmaster, takes possession of the Haverhill post-office October 1. May his administration be marked by the same efficiency that has characterized that of the retiring postmaster, Mr. Sleeper.

The Visitor has been appointed official organ of the Stamp Collector's Union, and all official matter will, for the ensuing three months, appear in our columns. This society is one of the lately organization of Philatelists, and efforts will now be made to push it to the front ranks of Philatelic societies.

THIS number of the Visitor is late—a fact which we are loth to admit—but as the date betrays us, we can but admit it. It is not creditable to a publication to be always late, or irregular in appearing, but owing to other duties we have been unable to give the Visitor the attention we desired, but now being free to do so every effort will be made during the coming months to overtake "Father Time," and have the Visitor appear with the promptness with which it has been issued in the past.

STAMP collecting is not such a fol y as some, who are not interested, and know but little concerning it, claim it is, and a novice is usually surprised at the number

engaged in collecting "these little bits of colored paper."

The collecting of postage stamps has become general, not only in the United States, but the world over. And of the many devotees of Philately, all speak of the pleasure derived from it. The time passed in sorting and mounting additions to our collection, is time pleasantly spent, and during the coming winter evenings, thousands will be engaged in this pleasant occupation.

New stamps are being constantly brought to the attention of the young collector, and when he purchases a new specimen, he naturally desires to know something about the country from whence it came, and in looking it up, studies history and geography in an interesting manner, and many youthful collector of postage stamps is better informed concerning the government of foreign countries than many older persons.

To our readers who are not interested in the "beautiful science of Philately," our advice is to start a collection at once. It is a step you will never regret taking as you will find the collection of postage stamps both a pleasant and instructive diversion to occupy your leisure time, and in case you should ever become dissatisfied with it, and have been careful in selecting your specimens, your collection can be disposed of, in many instances, at nearly its first cost.

After September 30th, 1894, it will be unlawful for the Post Master General to have requests for

the return of letters printed upon envelopes sold by any postmaster or the post office department. This means thousands of dollars in the printers pockets throughout the country, but it does not mean increase efficiency in the postal service.

POSTAGE STAMPS.

SOME years ago a gang of swindlers made a great deal of money by advertising "a finely executed steel engraving of George Washington for 25 cents," and sending the eager purchaser a 3 cent stamp. It was a finely executed steel engraving, as all the heads on the stamps issued by the government, small and cheap as they are, as much care and skill are employed in making postage stamps as one hundred dollar bills.

The design of the stamp is engraved on steel, and in printing plates are used on which 200 stamps have been engraved.

Two men are kept busy at work covering these plates with colored inks, and passing them to a man and a girl, who are equally busy in printing them with large hand presses. Three of these little squads are employed all the time.

After the small sheet of paper containing 200 printed stamps have dried enough, they are sent into another room and gummed.

The gum used for this purpose is a peculiar composition, made of the powder of dried potatoes and other vegetables, mixed with water.

After being again dried this

THE MONTHLY VISITOR.

time on little racks fanned by steam power, for about an hour, they are put between sheet of paste-board and pressed by hydraulic presses under a weight of 200 tons.

The next thing is to cut the sheets in two, each sheet, of course when cut containing 100 stamps. This is done by a girl with a large pair of shears, cutting by hand being preferred to that by machinery, which would destroy too many stamps.

They are then passed to another squad of workers who perforate the paper between the stamps.

Next they are passed once more and then packed and labeled and stowed away to be sent out to the various offices when ordered. If a single stamp is torn or mutilated, the whole sheet of stamps is burned.

The greatest care is taken in counting the sheets of stamps, to guard against pilfering by the employees; and it is said that during the past twenty years not a single sheet has been lost in this way.

During the process of manufacturing, the sheets are counted eleven times.

17th, and there were nearly fifty present or represented by proxy. The following officers were elected:

President, E. F. Wurtele.

Vice President, A. A. Bartlett.

T. S. Clark was re-elected Secretary and Treasurer.

The next convention was wanted for Quebec and Toronto, and after voting, Quebec won the day.

Some of the members present were Messrs. Albrecht, Bradt, Bogert, Deats, Chumney, C. H. McKee, Mott, Rogers of "Auction fame," and others.

The American Philatelic Association held its seventh annual convention at Niagara Falls, N. Y., on Monday August 15th, and following days. There were almost 175 represented either in person or proxy. This does not look as though the A. P. A. was a thing of the past.

President Tiffany was re-elected for another term, there being only one vote cast against him.

Secretary Walton was not present at the opening, he being delayed outside of Buffalo on account of the strike.

The report of the literary board showed that the American Philatelist was not a paying investment.

W. C. Stone moved that the numbers be changed to those on the stock certificate. Mr. Davidson objected, as he held stock certificate number 31 and his original number was nearer one. R. B. Bogert also objected, as he has held number 2 since the foundation of the A. P. A., and so as to allow him to keep his number, it was

Notes From Canada.

NOTES:

The American Manuscript Association held its annual convention at Niagara Falls, N. Y., on Wednesday Aug. 17.

The Canadian Philatelic Association held its annual convention at Niagara Falls on Wednesday Aug.

THE MONTHLY VISITOR.

owed that Pres. Tiffany be number

The numbers are to be changed. The dead ones dropped and those in good standing moved up. Those in arrears are to be allowed a stated time in which to pay up.

The Presidents report lasted 30 minutes and was heartily applauded.

Mr. A. R. Rogers held his annual sale, but not many lots were sold. It took about one hour and half to go through 737 lots.

The dues were reduced to \$1.00 a year.

On Tuesday afternoon about 20 of the members went for a carriage drive, and it was while out driving that the "Philatelic Brownies" had their photograph taken.

A. B. Slater and J. A. McKeel had a wheelbarrow race.

Mr. Davidson moved that a new list of members be printed, giving names of references and guarantees for those under age. Secretary Walton objected, but it was passed just the same.

It is said that the Father of Philately got lost, but happily was found again.

H. E. Deats bought a Canadian square, and it had to be photographed, too!

The banquet on Tuesday night was the best part of the convention, and there were 36 present—and somebody says several bottles of champagne.

The next convention is to be held at Chicago, within 30 days from the 1st of August, '93, the date to be appointed by the President.

There are to be two classes of exchanges, the cash and credit, so that all can be suited in the exchange department.

There were several "unserved pairs," also some "very fine specimens" present; and as a member remarked, several "blocks" of one around the Falls.

When Mr. Bogert's account came up, Mr. Doebelin moved that Mr. Bogert strike off half the amount and the association the other half. (Laughter.)

It was decided to continue the American Philatelist, but on a different basis. Mr. McKeel is to print the paper in the same style and size as present, for which he is to receive 50 cents for every yearly subscription furnished the association, and all money's received from advertisements to go to the association. He also agrees not to use any personal advertising space except what was approved by the official board.

Mr. Rice made his report on the convention photograph, and Doebelin said he visited another photographer, but after looking at Rice decided not to risk his camera; but Rice said it was not so, as the camera was not large enough to take in Doebelin's "bay window," and that they could not have the "Falls" for a background as Doebelin would hide them all if he was in the photograph.

The members all got photographed in a body on Tuesday afternoon. The photograph is a very satisfactory one, according to the proof shown.

The titles of several of the officers were changed.

LEILA

ADVERTISEMENTS.

In answering advertisements, please say: Saw advertisement in The Visitor.

IT COSTS MONEY

TO advertise, and it costs money to put up stamp packets and to sell them for almost nothing. But it is an effective way of advertising. Stamp packets are usually

DISAPPOINTING

to the purchaser; he does not get what he expected and he says he will not buy another. Now I have got a packet with

WORKS THE OTHER WAY.

It is guaranteed to contain 100 VARIETIES and

Catalogues For Five Times Its Cost.

But this is only a part of the cost. We have arranged with the publisher of the VISITOR to give every purchaser A YEARS SUBSCRIPTION TO THIS PAPER. This is another part of the cost. The VISITOR now in its FIFTH YEAR of publication is alone worth the price of this packet. **NOW** if you are not satisfied return the packet and I will give you the subscription.

PRICE 18 CENTS

C. W. SMALL,
Portland, Maine.

37 Forest Ave.

JUVENILE TYPE-WRITER 40c.

AND PRINTING OUTFIT, POSTPAID, ONLY. Will last for Years. Write Letters and Correspondence, Print Cards, Labels, Envelopes, etc. No loose letters to get lost. Durable invention. Club for \$1.50, 7 for \$2.00. Retail for 40c. IMPERIAL PAPER with 10c Club for \$1.00 Post Paid.

THALMAN MFG CO.,
Baltimore, Md.

No. 17 E Baltimore St.

ONLY ONE ON EARTH!

WHAT IS WHY THE PHILATELIC TRADER'S DIRECTOR is. It is a queer magazine, a "handy with money." Ever seen it? If not why not? Send for a free sample copy right now. You will be surprised.

W. W. GREEN, STROMBERG, SKILL.



AGENTS wanted! 33 to 50 per cent Com. 125 rare var. only 25c. 200 assorted, each packet containing 125 var. some catalogued at 15 to 60 cts. each, only 50 cts. 300 assorted, 150 var. cat. 1c. to \$1.50 each, only \$1.00. 1000 common assorted only 30 cts.

Miller-McCormack Stamp Co.
Room 53 Emille Bldg. St. Louis, Mo.

BARGAINS IN U. S.

1870, 1 cent, grill,	-	-	16 cents.
1870, 2 cent, grill,	-	-	8 cents.
1870, 3 cent, grill,	-	-	4 cents.
1888, 30 cent,	-	-	20 cents.
1888, 30 cent, pair,	-	-	50 cents.
1888, 90 cent,	-	-	40 cents.
1888, 90 cent, pair,	-	-	\$1.00

All the above are and in good condition. Postage extra on orders under 25 cts.

SPECIAL

Call purchasing \$1.00 or more from above. I will give a years subscription to THE PENTUCKET PHILATELIST.

GEORGE M. FRAME, S. of P. 254,
Haverhill, Mass.
38 Lindell Street.



TRICK Bouquet 20c.
New Finger Trap 10c.
Trick Candy Box 20c.
Trick Clear - 20c.
Get Our Free Catalog of
New Imported Novelties
AGTS. COIN MONEY.



POCKET PEN & PENCIL, STAMP, WITH NAME, Club of 14 P. & P. Stamps, 10c. postpaid for \$1.00 bill. Marksluene, cards, etc. New Agts. big money. Terms free.

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EXCHANGE DEPARTMENT.

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WILLIAMS, Morgn, Box 1149, New Orleans, La. will exchange vol. 3, 4, 5, 6 or 7, of Philatelic Journal of America bound or unbound for American Philatelist, American Journal of Philately, etc. All letters answered.

Indian relics, curioses, photographs, novelties, etc. to exchange for stamps and coins. Send list and I will do the same. Box 21, Stonington, Conn.

I will give in fine foreign stamps full catalogue value for every U. S. postage Department or envelope stamps catalogued at 5 cts. or over. Fred J. Disaver, Aurora, Ill.

Have many duplicates stamps to exchange with collectors. Send sheets for exchange. Sample copy of philatelic papers wanted. Correspondence solicited. Geo. B. Klebes, Sheffield, Mass.

Fine specimens of Gypsum and Iron Pyrites for Indian relics or minerals; also 100 pair of brass hinges for a 5x5 photograph outfit. Chas. Miller, Jr., 212 Jefferson St. Grand Rapids, Mich.

MONTHLY VISITOR.

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HAVERHILL, MASS., OCT., 1892.

NO. 10.

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The International Philatelist is a new one from Toronto, Ont.

The Toronto Philatelic Club is the name of a new society for stamp collectors of Toronto, Ont. It is to be a local club and composed of advanced collectors only, so I believe.

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from Detroit, Mich., with W. F. Dessotell, formerly publisher of the Michigan Philatelist, as editor.

Look out for the man who advertises that upon the payment of 50 cents he will tell you how to make 1 cent postage stamps do the work of 2 cent stamp. If you send him 50 cents, you will get the following answer by return mail: "Use two of them."

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The Philatelic Fraud Reporter, just at hand, contains thirteen columns of "alleged frauds," reaching

the enormous total of an even three hundred. Of these five are substitutes and eleven are foreign, that is other than Canada and the U. S. The number of Canadian frauds are ever on the increase, and there are fifty four credited to Canada in this number. The total amount aggregates \$157.00 with four who have not any amount against their names. The smallest amount is seventy three cents. There are a number who hail from Livermore, Cal., and I believe if it was looked into thoroughly they would be found out to be but one person writing under the different names reported.

On several of the Indian stamps in my collection, there appears besides the postmark cancellation, a word written in ink, apparently before it was posted. I have wondered what it was there for, and as the old saying goes: "Those who live longest, see the most," I have at last found it out. I was fortunately enough a week or two ago, to meet a missionary who had just returned from India after nine years laboring among the natives, and from him I learned the history about it. As most people know, the wages of the native servants is not exorbitant and as a result they are not averse to taking things that are not theirs to take. One of their ways is when sent to post letters to remove the stamps and

sell them to dealers at one half their face value, who in turn sell them, and in most cases to the person to whom it originally belonged. To guard against this the people, especially the missionaries, write their name or a word across them, partly on the stamp, or stamps, and partly on the letter. By authority of the postmaster they are allowed to do this. As the stamps on the letters they are entrusted with to post are worth to them, even after selling them at one half their value, a days pay, it may readily be seen that the temptation to remove them is very great. When the stamps are written across of course they are valueless to sell again, because if stuck on a letter again would not show the word written on them.

There are some handsome stamps issued by the foreign governments, these of Guatemala being especially so, but it is expected that the "Columbian issue" will surpass them all in beauty of design and coloring.

The annual report of the sixth auditor of the U. S. treasury shows that during the year ending June 30th. 1892, the revenue of the post office department was \$70,930,476, and the expenditures \$76,323,286, making a deficit for the year of \$5,393,286. During the year \$438,752 was paid for steamboat service \$5,440,326 on account of "Star Route" service, and \$27,190,814 for railroad service.

THE STAMP COLLECTORS UNION.

ORGANIZED JAN. 1, 1892.

PRESIDENT: D. E. Hazen, Thonotassa, Fla.

VICE PRESIDENT: Nelson R. Lowry, Raleigh C. H. W. Va.

SEC.—TRES: F. Williams, 17 Hancock St., Boston, Mass.

LIBRARIAN: W. J. Bliesner, Box 286, Warsaw, Ill.

EXCHANGE SUPT: A. H. Brett, 44 N. Pearl St., Albany, N. Y.

AUCTION SALE MANAGER: A. B. Conger, Brushton, N. Y.

OFFICIAL ORGAN: *Monthly Visitor*. (Temporarily)

MEMBERS.

1 A. H. Brett, 44 N. Pearl Street,
Albany, N. Y.

2 Frank Brown, Albany, N. Y.

3 H. Washburn, Albany, N. Y.

4 Chas. H. Smith, Brushton, N.
Y.

5 Wm. Briggs, 105 Jeff Street,
Albany, N. Y.

6 Geo. Briggs, Albany, N. Y.

7 A. B. Conger, Brushton, N. Y.

8 Arthur Maynor, 19 Hooper St.
Utica, N. Y.

9 W. J. Battin, West Troy, N. Y.

10 F. Williams, 17 Hancock St.,
Boston, Mass.

11 Rev. H. E. Cresser, 2 River-
dale Ave. Greenbush, N. Y.

12 Henry Morgan, 56 Myrtle St.
Boston, Mass.

13 F. P. Tyron, St. Reges Falls,
N. Y.

14 A. R. Hughes, Oakland, Cal.

15 Frank Griffin, Brushton, N.
Y.

16 Wm. Haskell, Albany, N. Y.

17 W. J. Bliesner, Warsaw, Ill.

18 F. C. Myers, 207 Jay Street,
Albany, N. Y.

19 N. R. Lowry, Raleigh C. H.
West Va.

20 Ed. Danforth, Brainbridge,
N. Y.

21 Robert Robertson, Raleigh C.
H. West Va.

22 F. L. Smith, Amsterdam N.
Y.

23 M. Rypinski, Bryan, Texas,

24 Ralph P. Spooner, 53 Cedar
St. New York.

25 Geo. Sharpless, Cattawissa,
Pa.

26 Chas. Remington, 705 Univer-
sity Ave, Syracuse, N. Y.

27 Sidney Fromn, 53 Waterloo
St. Albany, N. Y.

28 Dan. E. Hazen, Thonctassa,
Fla.

29 M. C. Chapman, 17 Ontario
St. Cohoes, N. Y.

NOMINATIONS.

The following nominations have

already been made for the next election. If nominations do not suit you send in your choice at once.

For President:

Dan. E. Hazen, Florida.

For Vice President:

N. R. Lowry, West Va.

E. P. Tyron, New York.

For Secretary:

F. Williams, Mass.

For Treasurer:

C. H. Smith, New York.

Ex. Supt:

A. H. Brett, New York.

Auct. Mang'r:

A. B. Conger, New York.

Librarian:

W. J. Bliesener, Ill.

SECRETARYS REPORT.

Starting the Stamp Collectors Union under the many disadvantages that we did, and at a time when new societies were unwelcome, it is with great pleasure I look back upon our rapid growth and present success and prosperity. We have now secured for our society, officers who are competent men, and well known philatelists, and what is more men who are willing to give both their time and money in making the Stamp Collectors Union the world's largest and best philatelic society.

We have taken great pains to make the exchange department a success and we think have succeed-

ed, and I am almost certain that no young society can boast of a better one. Exchange sheets can be secured of the Exchange Superintendent at ten cents a dozen, post paid. Three circuits have already been made with good results. The Auction Sale Department is also in good working order and the third sale will soon occur. Members having duplicates or stamp literature they do not want should dispose of them through this department. Only ten per cent. is charged for selling.

The library is a department that was but recently added, and at present contains but 68 papers which were contributed last month by five members. Want every member to denote about a dozen papers to library this month; if so, we will soon have the largest Philatelic Library in the world. List of members denoting any stamp journals, with number denoted, will be published next month in this paper. We would like to have each present member secure a new member.

For the S. C. U.

F. Williams.

Initiatin fee and dues until Jan. 1st. 1894 are reduced to only 40c. in advanced, payable to the Secretary. This entitles you to receive the Yankee Philatelist as official organ free. If you also want this paper sent you, you must send 15 cents extra, or 55 cents in all.

The Monthly Visitor.

F. H. Smith, Publisher.

C. W. Small, Philatelic Editor

Exchanges, and all communications intended for Mr. Small should be sent to 37 Forest Ave. Portland, Maine.

PUBLISHERS' NOTICES.

SUBSCRIPTION. 10 cts. a year; post-paid.

ADVERTISEMENTS: 5 cents per line; 50 cents per inch. Larger advertisement contracted for.

EXCHANGES: We will exchange with any paper published.

ADDRESS ALL communications to: THE MONTHLY VISITOR, HAVERHILL, MASS.

Entered at Haverhill Post Office as second class matter.

NOETS.

The Stamp, Long Branch, N. Y. has been appointed official organ of the Philatelic Society of Canada.

The advertisements in the Sept. number of the American Philatelist and Collector, make interesting reading.

We have received a catalogue of the 8th. auction sale of U. S. and foreign stamps, from the S. B. Bradt Co., Chicago.

The Philatelic Postal Card, printed on a large size U. S. postal card, is the latest.

"Corbett and myself," remarked the postal card, proudly, "are never licked." Phil. Press.

The Philatelic Journal of Canada, London, Ont., Philatelic Facts and Fallacies, San Francisco Cal., and The Philatelic Lasso, are among the latest announced publications devoted to our "hobby."

Why does the Monthly Visitor say so much of stamps and postal cards? Are the editors interested in mails(?)? H. S. Record, Abington.

Interested in both mails and females.

A postal card was recently sold in Paris for \$50. It had gone around the world after the person to whom it was addressed, and bore 72 postmarks.

A contract has been executed between postmaster general Wanamaker and the International Navigation Company for carrying the mails between New York, N. Y. and Southampton, Eng. The contract calls for weekly mail between these two points, and will require an outlay of from \$8,000,000 to \$9,000,000 by the company for new ships.

The conscience fund has been swelled by the receipt of 2 cents, which the sender acknowledges having made some years ago by reusing a postage stamp that had not been cancelled. A Two Cent-sitive individual, aptly remarks the Philadelphia Ledger.

A curious thing in Venezuela is the way they cut their postage stamps in two. The public make free use of the stamps. If they want to send a one cent letter, and have nothing but a two cent stamp they will take their scissors and cut it diagonally across, putting one half on the envelope, and putting the other half away for future use. The denomination of each stamp is shown in every corner, and stamps so mutilated are received for one half their value.

MAIL COLLECTING.

Postmaster General Wanamaker has just issued an order, deputizing postmasters in free delivery communities to put up house letter boxes for the collection, as well as the delivery of mail, whenever twothirds of the householders on a given route signify their desire to have this double service. The letter boxes selected for this double service are of the kind which the government have been testing in Washington and St. Louis during the past two years.

The test shows that collections as well as deliveries are possible without any loss of time on the average, and where circumstances are favorable, as on compactly settled routes, time is actually saved.

It is a remarkable thing to have discovered that the collection and delivery of mail at everybody's door without delay, and in safe receptacles, where the little disk indicates that mail is to be collected, are now possible.

There are important incidental advantages in the house to house collection system. The chief one is, perhaps, that the safety of the mail would be much greater. The chance of securing booty enough to pay for the risk would be too small for a mail robber, with practically all the mail dropped at house doors, and the chance of de-

action would be practically sure.

Another incidental advantage is that the revenue of the department would be, in the aggregate, very much increased, as the test in St. Louis undoubtedly shows; and there would be no letters kept in coat pockets for weeks any longer. A third advantage is that the householders would be able through the medium of the carrier directly to purchase stamps.

The departure is also of the greatest significance to country districts. It is well known that the country free delivery tried in forty six communities for the past year has been a complete success, and that it is now continued for another year. The postal Improvement Company, the owners of the St. Louis or inside collection and delivery box, have already proposed to equip one or more of these country routes free of cost to the department and to the people served, so that it might appear from actual experience, just what the increase of revenue and the increase of circulation of newspapers would be.

DEPARTMENT STAMPS.

A collector of postage stamps always takes pride in his U. S. Department stamps. Some of these stamps come very high, for an example, the \$20. green and black State Department is valued

at \$25.00. The \$10. of the same is valued at \$15.00. These stamps are not to be used hereafter. Here is a copy of a notice I received in reply to a letter asking if I could purchase a set of War Department stamps unused.

WAR DEPARTMENT,

Washington, D. C., Aug. 22 '92.

Respectfully returned.

The use of official stamps having been discontinued, by law, those pertaining to this Department have been returned to the Post Office Department for cancellation.

By order of the Secretary of War.

John Tweedle,

Chief Clerk.

By this we can see that the Department Stamps have been discontinued, and that they will be constantly on the rise, so now is the time to purchase Department stamps.

GERALD I. LAMONT.

COLLECTING.

WITHIN the last year a perfect craze has sprang up in Germany for collecting postage stamps. It is not confined to hobby riders but like in France to prominent men and grown up people. It infests all ranks of society. A Stamp Exchange has been opened in Vienna and holds its meetings in a six to eight windowed apartment and has an official organ.

Collectors under 18 years are not admitted. The hobby is a sort of madness with some. Collecting is the road to complete geographic study.

RAILWAY MAIL SERVICE.

ONE of the most important branches of modern mail service is the railway service. This branch is under the charge of a general superintendent, whose duty it is to supervise the distributing and dispatching of mail on all railway and steamboat lines. Years ago it was found that much of the work of sorting mails, between stations far apart, could be done on cars and accommodations for such service were provided. For this work the country was divided into nine divisions. The work is very arduous, and much of it has to be done in the night. The roll of time has also brought forth a railway mail service in the different states, where the stations are but 60 or 70 miles apart.

N. H. MAYER.

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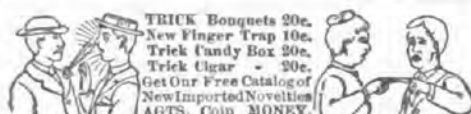
1870, 1 cent. grill, - -	16 cents.
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5c. worth of good stamps for every 16 page philatelic paper or, for every 100 U. S. present issue sent me; a photo free with every exchange. Lock box 21, Stonnington, Conn.

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3000 foreign stamps and a lot of old papers philatelic to exchange for novels, no Wide Awakes. Correspondence solicited. N. H. Mayer, 902 5th. St. rear, Milwaukee, Wis.

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⁵⁰In answering advertisements, please say: Saw advertisement in The Visitor.

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to all applicants. Send a reference if convenient, and you will receive a larger and better consignment. Tell me how many stamps you have in your collection, and I can tell about what you want. C. W. SMALL, 37 Forest Avenue, Portland, Maine.

MONTHLY VISITOR.

VOL. V.

HAVERHILL, MASS., NOV., 1892.

NO. 11.

A MILLION STAMPS.

IN a recent issue of the Ladies Home Journal is an article on the use, value, disposal and possibility of gathering this number of stamps. The article in question goes on to state that at Locle, a small Swiss town near Neuchatel, there exists a model orphanage for girls, whose funds have been for many years largely increased by the sale of cancelled postage stamps. The home was established in 1814 by a Swiss lady and was designed as a place of shelter for orphan girls, irrespective of creed or nationality. The stamp trade connected with this home was started by a lady who heard that old stamps could be disposed of at advantageous prices and she volunteered to help by begging stamps from her friends and sell them by the aid of certain dealers who would waive their rights of commission.

Her efforts soon became known, and it required but a few years, by the means of the papers, to have the story go all over the world, and now the home receives packages from all quarters. No notice is paid to offers of stamps for cash, and donors are requested

to send only good specimens, i. e. not clipped, trimmed or torn copies, that, as the prices realized can often only be decided by experts, contributors are asked to forward indifferently any kind of stamps; envelope stamps must have a fair margin, but it is not necessary to remove adhesives from the wrappers; it is labor lost to divide them into packages of 50 or 100. The address of the institution is L'Aisle de Billodes, Locle, Switzerland.

Not a little has been printed about the use of a million stamps, and one quite frequently hears that the collection of that number is impossible as that they are of no use after completion. This result has been accomplished more than once in this country, and upon one occasion the lot was sold to a stamp dealer at auction. They filled several barrels and were of little value from a philatelic standpoint.

* * *

The first Newfoundland stamps were issued in 1856.

The United States reply cards are out.

The Postal Card is the latest "victim" of the third assistant P. M. General.

The Monthly Visitor.

F. H. Smith, Publisher.

C. W. Small, Philatelic Editor

Exchanges, and all communications intended for Mr. Small should be sent to 37 Forest Ave., Portland, Maine.

PUBLISHERS' NOTICES.

SUBSCRIPTION. 10 cts. a year; post-paid.

ADVERTISEMENTS: 5 cents per line; 50 cents per inch. Larger advertisement contracted for.

EXCHANGES: We will exchange with any paper published.

ADDRESS ALL communications to: THE MONTHLY VISITOR, HAVERHILL, MASS.

Entered at Haverhill Post Office as second class matter.

NOETS.

The Western Philatelist will afford a half hour of pleasant entertainment to all devotees of the Goddess Philatelia.

In typography and contents the Washington Philatelist will compare favorably with its contemporaries. The serial: "A Postage Stamp Adventure," is interesting.

Stanton's Philatelic Tribune is a small but lively publication, and contains many interesting personal notes about stamp collectors.

The International Philatelist is a new one from Toronto, Ont., and contains an unusual amount of interesting reading for an initial number. Its record of births, marriages and death of philatelic publications is a new feature, and

will be read by all interested. May the births out number both the marriages and deaths.

The Son's of Philatelia has enrolled 437 members, and the last issue of its official organ publishes 87 applications for membership. At the present rate of increase its members will be numbered among the thousands by the time for holding its next convention arrives.

The Philatelic Era is a most excellent publication, and its contents are crisp, newsy and "up to date." It is one of the leading philatelic publications of this country, and its lately added department, "The Philatelic Literary Review," edited by Mr. C. W. Small, places it far ahead of many of its contemporaries.

IT is announced that the postoffice department will begin supplying the new house letter boxes at the rate of 2000 a day after the first of next month. These boxes are to be introduced in all cities and towns having free delivery, will enable every householder to mail his postal matter without crossing his threshold, and to buy stamps or stamped envelopes with equal facility by enclosing his order, with the money, in the box. There are two compartments, the lower one for the reception of letters or packages delivered by the carrier, and the upper one for letters or

packages that the carrier is to collect—the act of lifting the lid to place a letter or package inside displaying the word “mail” as notice to the carrier. Experiments have shown that the house letter box is a success and it is expected that it will supersede the street letter box some day, though the latter will doubtless be continued for the public convenience.

CORRESPONDENCE.

This department is for inquiries of a Philatelic nature, as well as for replies thereto. Address the editor at 37 Forest Avenue, Portland, Maine.

S. H. M.—The first issue of stamps for Gibraltar were made from the plates of the Bermuda stamps. They were not surcharged in Bermuda, but in England, because a supply of stamps was required before plates could be made.

O. A. S.—The Mexican Porte de Mar stamps are a subject for discussion. They are called stamps, fiscals, counterfeits, etc. by various good authorities. I am not willing to pass judgement upon them.

F. H. P.—British Bechnanaland stamps surcharged “Protectoral” were used in territory under British protection, but not forming a part of that country. These stamps are no longer used or issued, as the protected country has been annexed.

EXCHANGE DEPARTMENT

This department is for the free use of subscribers. Notices must not contain more than thirty words, exclusive of name and address. Nothing but strictly EXCHANGE notices will be inserted. Advertisements must appear in the advertising columns.

Have 31 paper novels all new to exchange for stamps of any kind; correspondence solicited. David B. Crockett, 28 1-2 High St., Newark, N. J.

15c. novel or one covered philatelic paper for every stamp catalogued at 5c; large lot to exchange Edgar White, Haymarket Sq. Bangor, Me.

Stamps and old coins to exchange for those not in my collection; sample copies of philatelic papers wanted. David Maghill, box 228, Georgetown, Mass.

Contributions for philatelic papers to exchange for stamps, adv. and philatelic papers: 3000 stamps for miscellaneous philatelic papers. Correspondence wanted. N. H. Mayer, 902 5th St. rear, Milwaukee, Wis.

SEND 15c. for Fire eater and Water Burner, post free. 3000 stamps to exchange for philatelic papers. Send me one pound and I will do the same. N. H. M. 902 5th St. rear, Milwaukee, Wis.

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While a great many people collect old coins, there is more demand for rare postage and revenue stamps, and some comparatively recent stamps are now scarce. Collections of stamps often sell as high as **A THOUSAND DOLLARS**. Stamps from letters sent during the war, bottles, match wrappers, old documents, etc., are in great demand, and are worth from **10 CENTS TO \$10.00 A PIECE**. Look over your old letters in the garret and elsewhere; perhaps you may find some rare things. This book gives all particulars, with prices, pictures, etc., and gives addresses of reliable firms who buy them for **SPOT CASH**. No matter if you handle but ten cents, **EVERYBODY NEEDS IT**, a day you should have this book. Farmers, Storekeepers, Clerks, Mechanics, Agents, Postmasters, Doctors, Lawyers, in fact it will be found more than necessary. It is worth its weight in gold to any wide-awake person. Boys and girls should send for it and explore attics and cellars in search of old letters, which may contain rare stamps. Who knows? A small fortune may be in your very midst. Do not write for particulars; do not ask questions; do not send us the coins or stamps, but get the book. It tells all. Where you can sell them at prices given, what they are, what they look like, and why they are rare. This book gives reliable figures only; no fictitious dates or values whatever. It is issued under the supervision and authority of the greatest stamp and coin collector and dealer in North America. **SATISFACTION GUARANTEED.**

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75 mixed stamps, 5c 30 good varieties 30c. T. Kimball, 2034 College Ave, Spokane, Wash.



AGENTS wanted! 33 to 50 per cent Com. 125 rare var. only 25c. 200 assorted, each packet containing 125 various catalogued at 15 to 60 cts. each, only 50 cts. 300 assorted, 150 var. cat. 1c. to \$1.50 each, only \$1.00. 500 common assorted only 30 cts.

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The Monthly Visitor.

VOL. VI.

HAVERHILL, MASS., MARCH, 1893.

NO. 3.

GEMS.

BBETTER to stem with heart and hand
The roaring tide of life, than lie,
Unmindful, on its flowery strand
Of God's occasions drifting by!
Whittier.

WE cannot make bargain for blisses,
Nor catch them like fishes in nets;
And sometimes the thing our life misses
Helps more than the thing which we get.
Alice Cary.

MY MEMORY.

I KNOW my memory is not always
to be relied on, and I have never
tried to make folks think it was,
but there is one person who seems
to have difficulty in realizing its
imperfections. Yesterday he was
telling me about an old mill catch-
ing fire.

"Don't you remember seeing it
burn?"

"No," I answered. "It happened
when I was only a year old."

"Did it?" he said. "Well, I
don't know but it did." Then
after a pause, "But you remem-
ber when it was built, don't you?"

When I said that I did not, he
looked at me incredulously and re-
proachfully.

"I thought you'd remember *that*,"
he said in an injured tone.

I could mention dozens of like
cases when my memory has played
me false, but in one respect it is
superior to this patriarch's. I very
seldom tell the same story to the
same person more than two or three
times, while he has told me one
story seventeen times, and I did
not count the first five or six
times, either. I have heard that
story so often that I can repeat it
word for word.

This is it:

"You remember when they had

toll gates? You *don't*? Why they
used to be all along the turnpike,
and everybody that wanted to go
through had to pay toll.

"My uncle John kept the one
that was just this side of where
the new school house is now. He
used to be plagued a good deal by
the marketmen running toll. They
would go to Boston on market day
to sell their vegetables and other
things they had raised, and wouldn't
come back till after dark. Five or
six of them would come along to-
gether, and when they got within
a few rods of the gate they'd whip
up their horses and go through
quick without paying.

"Old Daddy Miles was generally
ahead. He used to sit leaning
forward, resting his elbows on his
knees, with the reins in one hand
and a little short stick in the other.
He had an old white horse that
could go like a streak. He'd say:
'Git up Old White,' and just
touch him with the stick, and he'd
go like everything.

"They did this a great many
times, and uncle John got kind of
sick of it, and made up his mind
he'd put a stop to it. So one night
he got a big log and put it across
the gateposts on the side toward
Boston, and propped it up so it was
about a high as a horse's breast.
Then he sat down to wait.

"Before long he heard the mar-
ketmen coming, Daddy Miles ahead
as usual. When they got pretty
near the gate, Daddy touched his
horse and said: 'Git up Old White.'
Old White started up and the rest
of the marketmen came after as
fast as they could, but when Old
White got to the log he stopped
quicker 'n he'd ever stopped be-
fore. Daddy didn't stop, though,
he went right on over Old White's

head and lit on the ground.

"Uncle John came up as inter-
ested as could be. 'Seems to me
you got out rather quick, Mr.
Miles,' he said.

"Old Daddy always smacked his
lips before he spoke, and he talked
kind of quick. He picked himself
up, smacked his lips and said:
'Quick's I cleverly could sar!'"

Then I laugh—for it was ex-
pected of me—as though I had
never heard the story before. To-
morrow if I lead up to the subject
skilfully, I shall have the pleas-
ure of listening to it again.

SUSIE BROWN ROBBINS.
Abington, Mass.

KENTUCKY MUSINGS.

WHEN the warm sun that brings
Seed-time and harvest has return'd again
'Tis sweet to visit the still wood, where
springs
The first flower of the plain.
Longfellow.

A FEW short weeks ago, and the
thought of Spring's appear-
ance was beyond realization. The
Ohio river had given up its attempt
to flow, and the freezing hand of
rentless winter stilled it as if by
magic. Even the thermometer's
heart sank low in its effort to seek
a warmer atmosphere, but—hard
as it is to believe—Spring has come
again, and with it the early violets,
crocuses and—millinery bills.

I would proceed further and draw
some similitude between Spring's
coming and my own return to the
staff of the Visitor, but—modesty
forbids.

Very few amateur papers have
reached me during the winter.
Christmas issues were "conspicuous
by their absence" with but very
few exceptions.

Bugle came out in a very dainty
dress of white and gold. Its con-
tents were beyond anything ever
presented by this magazine for-
merly.

The *Northwest* and *Prairie Breezes* rivaled *Ink Drops* in regularity the past winter. By the way, most of the life of the Wapa has been displayed in Dakota during the past year.

The *Autocrat* made up very faithfully for the delay in its appearance by a double February number. *Autocrat* has made more progress in a short time than any other paper in a. j. during my connection with the "history." Starting as it did with a staff almost wholly of recruits, it has appeared regularly, each issue bearing the marks of progress in both selected articles and editorial ability.

Miss Brooks' opinion is one in which all readers can share, not only in amateurdom but in professional journalism. Nom de plumes are annoying enough but initials are abominable, I think.

"A Human Paradox," by Mrs. Grant, in January *Prairie Breezes* provides material for our new "scientific critic," Lester Kirk. It is the most scientifically perfect article I have ever noticed in amateur journalism.

Miss Nettie B. Woodzalle, contributes a poetical query to the same issue of the, *Breeze*, entitled: "I Wonder Why?" If I should attempt to reply to the query, I might bring some fire into that "stony gaze," so I will merely suggest a possible answer by a remark I recently overheard concerning the same "stony gaze":—"It may be sadness, it may be scorn, it may be anything, but my opinion is that it is pure meanness." Selfish sorrow is not worthy of earnest sympathy, and hence cannot be in the touch or harmony of true friendship.

"Please do not, Miss Harrison." Anything to please you, Mr. Kirk. I can grind out either kind of writing, and as my "moods" never last long so I may be able to write fewer articles, if I write only in one particular mood. You must not attempt to read my articles with your "mouth," however, because I am not accountable for the flavor—nor effect—of printers ink.

In all seriousness, however, I would like to ask if the "mood" has any right to be used in criticising the scientific work of a literary production. My understanding of true criticism is, that an article is judged not by what could have been

used in its place, but by its own merit. An author's ability to portray the emotion he attempts to present—be it joyous or sad, morbid or cheerful—should be the question, and not his or her moods. The aim in "Theo. and I" was an artistic one more than anything else, and there was no "mood" behind it except an artistic ramble.

I have no objection to criticism—in fact I am desirous of it—but I beg that you stick to your text, Mr. Kirk.

CAPITULA LEN. HARRISON.

AMATEUR JOURNALISM. From A Scientific Standpoint.

"Know thou thyself * * * The proper study of mankind is man."

THE *Daily Fargo Forum*, Feb. 6th, contains the following item of interest to amateurs:

"Alson Brubaker, in the holiday *Ink Drops*, not only does himself pride but places Fargo in the front ranks as the place where the best amateur journal is published. It is handsomely illustrated, and paper and presswork are of the best. *Ink Drops* is a credit to Fargo as well as the editor. By the way, Mr. Brubaker is corresponding secretary of the National Amateur Press Association, and his writings are crisp and to the point."

"You can never tell what's inside until you open it," is the unique and significant suggestion, along with the illustration upon the cover of this New Year's number of *Ink Drops*. As we recall the dog days, and summer boarding house biscuit, some of us poor mortals sigh: Verily "you can not tell what's inside until you open it!" The inner side of the satiny cover is rendered professional in appearance by the table of contents, of which contributors and the enterprising editor may justly feel proud. Following the New Year's greeting is a frontispiece—a fine picture of Mr. F. S. George—Brubaker's candidate for the next president of the W. A. P. A.

"Dream-Haunted" is one of poet laureate Emery's word painted thoughts, oddly complete in its suggestive incompleteness. "Nan," from the pen of Miss Harriet Cox, is but another proof that this young lady's best talent lies in the portrait of child life. Nan is a real-

istic gamin; however, Miss Cox has driven a wedge into the good effect of her story where she causes Nan to affirm:

"I'll help you to be socialiaists, do just all I can."

This adds nothing ennobling to the sketch, rather otherwise.

In "The Fascinations of Editorship," John L. Tomlinson portrays the sunnyside of editorship. While President Spencer shows us how realistically his imagination can co-ordinate with his logic (while intellect slumbers) in his graphic sketch, "A Dream After the Play."

Edwin B. Swift furnishes a few pointers in "A Story of A Campaign;" where as Mr. Brubaker leaves us a trifle in doubt as regard the significance of the illustration does finishing the page.

"Isolation," a poem by Mrs. Bertha York Grant, is deserving of more than one reading, since the depth of the thought therein, lies like the best treasures of the sea, far below the surface.

Space prevents us reviewing "Whitney's Whims." We only pause to suggest that he try a new mailing list; possibly the recruits have a larger supply of postals on hand than the neglected fossils!

Miss Leola B. White has filled her space with a sketch of a child writer, which although interesting, leaves us questioning if the amateurs would not have found an article originating in Miss White's brain of more moment.

Mrs. Grant nobly comes to the rescue of man, in her story of "A Notionist Outdone." Much, and meritorious have been the essays detailing the rights, and virtues, of women; how few have taken the defensive for man? This talented young lady writer has looked into the philosophy of life, through the medium of her characters, and has produced a truly meritorious sketch. Her hero, Dr. Baker, is a philosopher, as is substantiated in the extracts from his letters. The central figure of the story—the Notionist—although a trifle slow in understanding the complications of love, at last sensibly realizes that after all, as to each of us, love—even life itself—is solely the amalgamation of the varied endowments of our natures, with sympathetic (or reverse) endowment of other natures. It could not be otherwise.

Mrs. Grant touches the key note in the following: "To say that one cannot love a second time is to insist that with the perishing of the first love dies from the heart all human ideals."

"A Day on German Soil" is an interesting, descriptive sketch by Theo. B. Thiddle; which is followed by a humorous, serious, sarcastic and sometimes forcible, but always entertaining "Random Remarks" by Ella Maud Frye. Unquestionably no two persons ever thought alike upon every subject—from electricity to the future state of the soul. They never can until two brains and minds are counterparts—a phenomenon which never will exist. It is not so much "prejudice" which impells mortals to "see that which they wish to see." A deeper investigation into the denser laws of life must demonstrate that each sees but that which his own brain impells him to see.

Last, but not least, we are entertained by a few energetic remarks by Mr. Brubaker himself. Various topics are touched upon with impartial interest, in a terse, individual manner of his own. That (to quote himself) he don't believe in any kind of exclusiveness, is proven by his eagerness to assist all recruits, and his untiring efforts to advance the interest of the amateur press. His following suggestion is a good one:

"There is only one way to succeed in anything, and that is to put all your energies to work upon it."

LESTER KIRK.

ROUND ABOUT PAPERS.

WHEN we see the great things that are accomplished all around us, it is hard to believe that the great whole is the result of perfected littles. When we see someone who excels in anything, above the ordinary, we wonder how it was done and bewail the fact that we have not the time to do this or that. While we admire we are prone to overlook the main elements of success—the concentration of our powers towards one end. So anxious are we to grasp everything that we lose that concentration which might be said to be the mainspring of success.

This tangle which we call life is at best a knotty problem, and the knots will grow more instead of fewer, until we have a settled purpose

—a goal towards which to strive. First the purpose of our life must be decided and then surrounding circumstances must be made to conform to the main idea. This can be done to a much greater extent than at first seems possible. The goal to be reached must be kept constantly in mind. This will prevent in a measure the going off at a tangent after the first new "fad" that appears.

It is not work that wearies us, but the worrying and fretting caused by our discontent. If we are not satisfied, fretting will only hinder, not help.

System too, will aid the busy man or woman to accomplish many of the things so much desired. The system though does not want to be complex. It would be absurd to burden the memory with a system which had so much machinery about it as to tax the mind more than the minutes details of all one's work.

Miss Brackett, in her *Technique of Rest*, which is well worth a careful perusal, gives some excellent suggestions to busy people. Perhaps one of the best is her suggestion of a paper memory. Any thing that will relieve the mind of the burden of petty details is most certainly a gain, for then there is just so much more strength for something better.

We would by no means be less busy, but it is sometimes worth while to make sure that we accomplish something, and that we are not engaged in busy idleness.

FRANCES A. PARSONS.

Westfield, Mass.

PHILATELIC NOTES.

The Argentine stamps issued on the 12th. of October, in memory of Columbus, are selling at £4 the pair.

The people use more than two billion stamps yearly, in the U. S.

The fee for registering mail matter was reduced to 8 cents Jan. 1 1893.

Postal notes to the amount of \$11,895,765 were issued by the P. O. money order offices last year.

The number of post office money order offices in the United States is 19,689.

There was but one error made

for every 5466 pieces of mail handled by the U. S. postoffice department last year.

Mr. George M. Frame, Haverhill's leading stamp dealer, is a frequent caller at the *Visitor* office. He represents stamp business as being lively in this vicinity, having all he can attend to.

Great Britain received over one third of the foreign mail sent from the U. S. last year.

The new Columbian stamps, of which there 15 varieties, bear exceptional fine devices. The three and four cent denominations are the most striking though the least used.

Five million dollars were added to the gross receipts of the postoffice department last year, and the deficit reduced nearly a million dollars.

The *Postal Card* has issued over one hundred numbers. It is a publication which should be in the hands of every collector of postal cards, and every stamp collector will find something of interest in its columns.

The *Stamp* is one of the most interesting philatelic publication. It is neat in appearance and its articles well written and interesting. It has obtained second class rates, a right which should never have been denied it.

The Christmas number of the *Canadian Philatelist* comes to hand with a new colored cover. The contents are always of interest to collectors, and the papers: "Philatelic-Sub Studies," by the editor, are of especial interest to the novice, and tends to keep up the high standard of Canada's leading philatelic magazine.

The Postmaster General recommends the issuance, by the post office department, a postoffice money card, of the denominations of 10c. 25c. 50c. and \$1.00. The cards to be exactly similar to the ordinary postal card on the address side, and the reverse side an order on the postmaster of the city addressed for the fixed sum, payable on the signature of the payee in the address.

In earlier times, when the rates of postage was very high in both the U. S. and England, people used any method to avoid the payment of postage and obtain the desired information, payment or dues being collected on the delivery of the mail.

The Monthly Visitor.

C. W. Smith, Publisher.

PUBLISHERS' NOTICES.

SUBSCRIPTION. 10 cts. a year; post-paid.

ADVERTISEMENTS: 5 cents per line; 50 cents per inch. Larger advertisement contracted for.

EXCHANGES: We will exchange with any paper published.

ADDRESS ALL communications to: THE MONTHLY VISITOR, HAVERHILL, MASS.

Entered at Haverhill Post Office as second class matter.

SCHOOL JOURNALISM.

WHAT Amateur School Journalism is fast becoming a fixed institution, is shown by the many publication of this class now in existence. Every month new papers come to this office, and Massachusetts is not backward in this respect as many of the latest and best school magazines are from the Old Bay State. The contents of our school exchanges show careful study on the part of both editor and contributor, and some very meritorious articles are published therein, and in the years to come some of these embryo editors and authors will occupy a prominent place in the broader fields of professional journalism.

The opportunity these school journals offer the pupils of our public schools for training the mind and imagination—of forming opinions and ideas—which we believe are the foundation of all excellence, either in literature or art, cannot be over estimated, for he who would produce anything well, who would draw a heroic character, must first conceive it in his mind, and depend greatly for the success or value of his work on the use he makes of these faculties.

The constant communication with others, through exchanging of their papers, in far off distances, brings the pupils of our public schools into close communication with each other, and tends to broaden their views

and, acquaint them with the manner and custom of actual life.

Let the editors of and the contributors to the many school publications in the country improve the opportunity to convey their thoughts; give careful study to what is sent forth, and then will the improvement be real and substantial.

THE increase in number, and the interest evinced by the young ladies in amateur journalism, cannot be otherwise than gratifying to every devotee of the 'dom, and at the present rate of increase it is only a matter of time before they will equal in number those of the opposite sex. As usual in affairs pertaining to a. j., Massachusetts takes the lead, having ten of the fair sex to her credit in the list of members as published in *The National Amateur*. This does not include them all, however, as there are several who are interested who are not members of the association, and a number of names are credited to other sections of amateurdom, whose owners belong in Massachusetts, but who are temporarily residing outside its borders.

Massachusetts to the front!

NOTES:

The Edgewood *Sun* has enlarged.

Many of our exchanges show the effect of "cold weather printing."

We greatly enjoyed reading "Eine Weihnachtsgeschichte" in the *Review*, Washington, D. C.

The contents of the Guilford, N. Y. *Mail*, are rendered unreadable by indifferent press work.

The *Youth*, Cincinnati, O. "for the independent youth," is a new aspirant for journalistic fame.

The *Eagle*, Brainbridge, N. Y. has just commenced its weekly visits to our office. We wish it success.

Eastern *Amateur* is a sprightly sheet from the home of Carpenter and Emery.

The *Hard Times* begins its second volume by issuing an eight page and cover number.

The Christmas number of the Central *Luminary* is a creditable one. "A Study in Red," and "That Prize Poem," a humorous sketch, are meritorious.

The National *Amateur* still keeps up the high standard of excellence we have been accustomed to expect from the editor.

"Mt. Holyoke College" is one of the leading contributions in the *Volunteer*, Concord, N. H. It also contains numerous illustrations of this famous seat of learning.

The Kimball *Union* contains some very good reading matter. "Class Standing as a Test of Ability" is better than the average contributions to school publications.

Baptist *Bits* is a monthly journal devoted to the cause of religion. It is edited by Chas. A. G. Thomas, pastor of the Baptist Church, Greensboro, N. C. and contains a number of "bits" of interest.

Are you a member of the New England Amateur Press Association? If interested in amateur journalism, and reside in New England, you ought to become a member. Look the association up; we wish to enrol every N. E. amateur as a member this year.

The Christmas number of the *Sentinel*, Whitman, Mass., is a fine one. The publishers are to be commended upon the energy displayed in issuing it. The cover is a handsome one, and the contents up to the average of amateur contributions.

The December number of The Philatelic *Era*, is one of the finest lately issued. Among the leading articles are "Different Specialties and Advance in Price;" "An Afternoon With a Dealer," and miscellaneous items of interest to its readers. The Philatelic Literary Review, edited by C. W. Small, put the philatelic world in possession of a great deal of information which is of value, and places the *Era* at the front of philatelic publications in this country.

After "Lucre," Eh?

"Hunting Moonshiners," from the pen of Everard Jack Appleton, lately appeared in the Detroit Free Press. Mr. Appleton has contributed many better articles to the amateur papers. Feb Visitor.

But the Free Press pays a little more!

EVERARD JACK APPLETON.

