



# THE CRESCENT.

Vol. I. ST. ALBANS, VT., SEPT. and OCT. 1875. No. 8 and 9.

Written expressly for the Crescent.

## SAM BROUCE.

BY WINSLOW.

Sam Brouce was no fool, the man who thought so was a little cracked himself. It is true he remained firmly at the foot of his class through three awful years of Sam's existence, but one's standing at the Spittsfield district school did not prove everything, and Sam's finally leaving in disgust indicated no lack of pluck. The boy was sensitive if not over studious, and he could not stand the success of those more fortunate ones forever. Sam knew he had genius, and if it run in a different channel from the others, what of it? who's BIZ' was it? so thought Sam, and Sam was right.

Now the boy had done his level best, and whilst every one is ready to say "angels can do no more," they don't all practice what they preach, if they did, more sympathy would be felt for the dull boy of the school. If Sam did sometimes whittle kite sticks in school hours, and did occasionally fire a spit-ball at his more studious neighbor, it was simply because he could not help it, his eyes refused to be fastened on that dull geographical yarn about the boundary of China, and his

mind took no pleasure in those mathematical problems which afforded so much delight to the others.

But nevertheless Sam admired scholarship and fair-play, and when one-day big Tom Bates was about to whip little fragil Jim Walker for getting ahead of him in the spelling-class, Sam pulled off his coat, rolled up his sleeves, told Tom that "spelling was spelling," and if he was not satisfied about it, he could sail into Sam Brouce, but he must under no consideration touch little Jim Walker. Well Tom subsided in the shortest period possible, and Jim was spared a whipping.

But Sam's highest feat that which made him the hero of Spittsfield, and was worth more than half a score of spelling medals, was performed shortly after he had quit school. You see he led a rather wandering life, helping around home what he could, but having lots of idle time on his hands. Well, one day, he was playing and rambling about down on the railroad track, a good ways below the station. He had been trying all sorts of feats, seeing how many yards he could jump, how far out in the river he could throw, whether he might not stand on his head as long as the circus

[CONCLUDED IN NEXT NO.]

## COIN DEPARTMENT.

All communications relating to this department must be addressed to F. A. Turner, No. Adams Mass.

A western numismatic journal gives the following description of a curious French dollar. LOUIS XVI ROI—DES FRANCOIS. Head to left, with long curly hair tied at the back, bare neck and breast. A walking lion below the bust, the sign of the Mint Director, Roettier de Monlateau. Below: 1793.

Reverse: REGNE-DE-LA-LOR. The Genius, writing with the scepter of Reason, the word CONSTITUTION, in two lines, on a tablet which is held by his left hand on a round altar. At the foot of the altar: DUPRE. At the right are faces with a cap, and an antique lyre; at the left, a chanticleer, and the letter A. In exergue, in two lines: L'AN 5 DE LA LIBERTE. On the edge: LA NATION. LA LOI. ET LA ROI.

This Dollar is without parallel in history. The National Convention met on September 21, 1792, and declared France a Republic. The striking of coins with the head of Louis XVI., and the date 1793, is one of the most curious circumstances of that bloody period.

From August 10, 1792, to February 1793, no law whatever was passed re-

lating to coinage. In such a case it would have been natural to continue, in 1793, the issuing of coins dated 1792, as was often done in other times and countries. But the making of a new die, with the image of the King and date 1793, after the King had been formally deprived of the throne, and the Kingdom abolished by the proclamation of September 1792, is something extraordinary.

To be continued.

## NEW EXCHANGES.

The Western Shore, East Oakland, Cal. A good exchange.

Amateur American, Syracuse, N. Y. A large 4 page monthly.

Amateur Record, Seneca Falls, N. Y. A new one out Sept. 1.

Amateur Reporter, Lawrence, Kan. Very good.

The Times, \* West Union, Iowa. Published weekly.

Young Enterprise, Sandwich, Ill. A good 4 pager.

Amateur Telegraph, Danvers, Mas. Neatly printed.

The Excelsior, Troy, N. Y. Printing could be improved.

The Jolly Joker, Omaha, Neb. A neat monthly.

Our Boys, Toledo, O. A large 8 page paper and well edited.

Boys' News, Washington, D. C. Four pages, 8 columns.

Continued in supplement.

# Supplement to THE CRESCENT.

Vol. I.

ST. ALBANS, VT., SEPT. and OCT. 1875.

No. 8 and 9.

## NEWLY ISSUED STAMPS.

### SPAIN.

Spain has received a new set of six stamps. They are printed on very thin paper, and the reverse side of each stamp is covered with a blue pattern, enclosing a label bearing numerals denoting the number of the stamp.

### QUEENSLAND.

The fourpenny Queensland is now printed in yellow, and watermarked Q and crown.

### PHILIPPINE ISLAND.

A new Philippine stamp bearing the head of Alphonse XII, has appeared. It is nearly of the same design as the new Spanish.

### JAPAN.

Another envelope stamp has made its appearance, value 6 sen, lilac brown. The adhesives appear in a new colour.

### GREAT BRITAIN.

The halfpenny newspaper wrapper has lately been issued with the following notice above the stamp. "This Wrapper must be used only for Newspapers, or for printed papers which may be sent under the Book

Post; otherwise the packet will be charged with Postage."

### PORTUGAL.

A new value, 15 reis, has just been issued. It is of the same design as the other stamps of the series.

### BAVARIA.

A new series for Bavaria will be issued in January 1876.

### UNITED STATES.

The international stamp is in active circulation. It is printed in dark blue, and bears the full face portrait of Gen. Taylor. Above the oval is the usual inscription U. S. POSTAGE; below it, the figure 5.

The new postal card has made its appearance, printed in black on the same color of paper as the old ones. The border is omitted being ornamented with a very pretty stamp and the government legend.

### AUSTRIA.

A new post card, for use in the branch offices abroad, has been issued, and is no doubt intended to replace the 4 soldi card. The value is 5 soldi red.

### SWEDEN.

The 7 skil. brown has been withdrawn, and replaced by a 6 skil.

## GOLD COIN.

**V**ERY few persons ever saw a quarter dollar gold coin, and the few that have ever appeared have been quickly snatched up and treasured as mementoes, charms, ornaments, &c., I have, however, secured a small lot of genuine quarter dollars, pure gold, which I will sell to those who wish them, for keepsakes. Of course in New York and elsewhere, the few that appear bring \$1 each and upward, but my arrangement enables me to offer them prepaid for 50 cts. each five for \$2; sent sealed and prepaid. The actual cash value is nearly 30 cts in currency, and if you a curiosity which few have and very few can get send for a Gold Quarter. Can be had only from F. A. TURNER, No. Adams Mass.

WANTED.—500 boys to subscribe to the

## BOYS GEM,

Only 15 cents a year. postpaid,  
Address, G. W. Bertron, 2022 Sanson St. Philadelphia, Pa.

Editors inserting the above with this notice, will receive an equivalent in the Boys' Gem.

**T**HE Times is a weekly Amateur Journal issued over Friday by L. T. Hobson. Terms, 25 cents per annum. Send for specimen copy. Will exchange with any paper. Address, The Times, West Union, I.

## NEW EXCHANGES,

Amateur Banner, Madron, Ind  
Badly printed.

Southron Boy, Dallas, Texas. A very good 8 page weekly.

National Humorist, Brooklyn, N.Y.  
The Bric-a-Brac, Bellaire, O. 8 pages just out.

Little Critic, Newburgh, N. Y.  
Printed on a post card.

The Boys of Atlanta, Atlanta, Geo  
Every two weeks and a good one.

Youthful Emerprice, Carbondale Pa. Edited by a girl of 14.

Quite a number stand over to be noticed in our next.

## PREMIUM LIST,

For 3 Subscribers, one copy free, or 25 neatly printed visiting cards.

For 5 Subscribers, any 25 c packet of Stamps, or a copy of Adrift upon Lives Ocean.

For 10 Subscribers, 100 good Foreign Stamps, or a 3-bladed knife.

For 15 Subscribers, \$1 00 cash.

For 25 Subscribers, a Centennial printing press.

For 50 Subscribers, a Centennial printing press and office.

The Stamps offered are from our lists only.

**B**Y Sending a 3 cent stamp to THE YOUNG ENTERPRISE you will receive it for 3 months free. Address THE YOUNG ENTERPRISE, Drawer 1, Sandwich, Ill.

# THE CRESCENT.

C. E. Foster, Editor & Prop'r.

## Terms.

Subscriptions per year, 25 cents.  
Single Copy, 3 cents.

Will exchange with any Stamp or Amateur paper.

## Advertising Rates.

One line, one insertion, \$0 05  
One fourth column, 50  
One half column, 1 00  
One column, 2 00

Address all letters to

Chas. E. Foster,  
St. Albans, Vt.

SEPT. & OCT., 1875.

## Our Sanctum.

Well, here we are after our summer vacation a little changed, as will be readily seen. We will hereafter appear under the name of the CRESCENT, we offer large and costly premiums this month and would say now is the time to get up clubs, we have a large corps of first class contributors and we hope to make the Crescent a successful enterprise.



Stamp given  
every

Our new circular of Foreign Stamps will be issued soon. Wait for it.

Read the Premium list offered in supplement.

What Next! has been changed to the Maple Leaf, and appears to us on tinted paper.

Don't forget to work for the prizes offered for the Word Hunt on last page.

The Bric-a-Brac seems to be a little inclined to be a professional journal.

We have received a copy of the Youthful Enterprise, a semi-monthly of four pages, edited and printed by Miss Libbie Adams, Carbondale, Pa. This is something unusual for the feminine sex, one of only 14 years, doing all the work in the office herself. Success to you Miss Libbie as you well merit.

A western philosopher discourses after the following wise, and we publish it for the benefit of our home readers: "Do you chew gum? The price of three pieces a week, at one cent apiece, amounts to \$1 56 per year, or in sixty-seven years to \$104 52. That sum will purchase a complete set of Appleton's Cyclopedia, a marriage license, a black bombazine dress for your aunt, a German silver coffin plate, and a cheroot. Cut this out, young man, and paste it on the back of your girl's photograph.

### A Post-Office Scene.

The following colloquy actually took place at an eastern post-office:

Pat—"I say, Mr. Post-master, is there a littler for me?" "Who are you my good sir?" "I'm meself, that is who I am." "Well, what is your name?" "An' what do ye want wid the name, isn't it on the littler?" "So that I can find the letter, if there is one." "Will, Pat Byrne, thin, if ye must have it." "No, sir; there is none for Pat Byrne." "Is there no way to git in there but through this pane of glass?" "No, sir." "It's will for ye there isn't. I'd teach ye betther manners thin to insist on a gentleman's name; but ye didn't git it after all—so I'm aven wid ye; divil a bit is my name Byrne!" [Eclipse.]

### ADVERTISEMENTS.

Persons answering add's in this journal, will confer a great favor upon us by mentioning the fact.

## THE ECLIPSE,

12 long columns of reading matter every month. Wit, humour, and the news. Valuable prizes in every number. Agents wanted all over the Union to work for cash commissions. Only 25 cents a year. Send for specimen copy to THE ECLIPSE, 427 Fifth Avenue, New York.

x1t

**For Sale.** A No. 2 Excelsior Press prints 5 x 7. Address, This Office.

## WORD HUNT.

We offer this month a number of prizes, for the largest number of words made from the word

### "FRANKLIN."

1st. 50c. cash and 25cts. worth of Stamps.

2nd. 25c. cash and an Amateur Book.

3d. A years subscription to the Crescent.

### Conditions.

1st. Open to none but subscribers; subscriptions however, may be sent in with answers.

2nd. A letter must not be used more than twice in the same word.

3d. Only words found in an English dictionary to be used.

4th. Solutions must be sent in before October 25th.

## THE CRESCENT.

A 4 page Amateur monthly devoted to Stories, Sketches, Stamps, Coins, &c., Prizes given to getters up of Clubs, and for Grand Word Hunt. Only 25c per year. Formerly known as the Vermont Philatelist. Address Chas. E. Foster, St. Albans, Vt.

**50** Fine Visiting or Address Cards, Repp, Granite, &c., (10 kinds in all) post free for 25c. Samples 3c. Agents wanted, send stamp for terms. No postals noticed. Address: Johnson E. Wilcox, Painsville, Ohio.

**25** cts, a year, The "Crescent."



# THE CRESCENT.

Vol. I.

ST. ALBANS, VT., NOVEMBER, 1875.

No. 10.

For the Crescent.

## SAM BROUCE.

BY WINSLOW.

Performer who had just passed through the town, and in this way he kept wandering along until he finally found himself upon the great railroad bridge which spanned the Tadkin river.

There had been a heavy rain the night before, and high torrents had washed down from the great mountain's side yet the boy thought what destruction it had wrought. But Sam's sharp eyes were not long in detecting it, A WHOLE SPAN WASHED AWAY, and who would have found it out in this remote mountainous solitude, where no sound disturbed the silence, save the harsh croakings of the crow, or the shriller screech of the morning Express.

Sam realized all this like a flash, and as he gazed down that awful opening with the warning, foaming river beneath a quiver ran over him such as he had never felt, not when standing between Tom Bates and Jim Walker on the school-ground. But no time was to be lost, even then

Sam imagined he heard the locomotive whistle about the bend. To rig up an old pole, with his jacket and dirty handkerchief tied at the top, was the work of a moment, to clamber over the horrid chasm at the imminent peril of his life upon the few remaining piles and ties was likewise instantly accomplished, and now Sam Brouce was running along the track at breakneck speed, waving his curious signal in the air. One screamed louder than the rest and the train dashed round the bend, "danger ahead" shrieked Sam, and the jacket and old handkerchief shook furiously, "Brakes down", Sam understood the signal, and now the great iron-horse struggled valiantly to check that burden of human freight it had set in motion. Thank Heaven, it succeeded, and as if the two heroes of the day should stand side by side, it stopt stark still, puffing and blowing from its exertions, at the feet of Sam Brouce.

If you wish your neighbors to notice you, buy a dog and tie him up in the cellar all night. They won't sleep for thinking of you.

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C. E. Foster, Editor & Prop'r.

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C. E. Foster,  
St. Albans, Vt.

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NOVEMBER, 1875.

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## Our Sanctum.

It will be seen that our first page was accidentally printed on the wrong side, which if corrected, would necessitate a delay, and our going to press a little late this month, we deemed it advisable to let it remain as it is.

The Youth's Ledger is a new one from Hicksville, L. I.

Once in a While now appears in magazine form.

A. E. Kemp is the lucky one to receive the prize offered in last number.

Early to bed and early to rise  
Will all be in vain if you don't  
advertise.

The western amateurs are bound to have their say in regard to their representation at the Centennial.

The press offered for sale in another column is in good condition, and been in use but a short time. This sheet was printed on it.

Mary had a little lamp.

'Twas filled with Kerosene  
And Mary down the chimney  
And left this earthly [blew,  
scene.

I have just received a fine stock of Foreign Stamps, and my new circular will be issued soon, so send a stamp and receive 10 Foreign Stamps and circulars.

A handsome youth being questioned by a rather stylish lady as to his occupation, replied that he was "an adjuster of movable alphabets." He was simply a printer.

Here lies our darling little John  
He neither screams or hollers;  
He lived just one & twenty days  
And cost us forty dollars.

We do all kinds of printing at this office on short notice. Give us a trial, satisfaction guaranteed



## How Our United States Stamps Are Made.

In the first place, a number of designs for stamps are furnished the government by the Bank Note Co. These designs are upon steel, and engraved in the finest style of the art. Should a design be accepted, it becomes necessary to duplicate it, as it would be impossible to print the large number of stamps required from a single plate. To do this, the original die is transferred to steel plates, three hundred designs being upon one plate. The plates being finished, they are sent to the press-room, and are ready to receive the ink used in printing. The printing is done by hand presses, and, although seeming laborious, the company are now printing one-million-and-a-half stamps daily. The plate is first inked by an ordinary roller, then wiped with a cloth, and finally with the operative's hand. This is a very nice operation and requires much dexterity. The paper used is of a fine variety, manufactured expressly for the purpose, the amount consumed annually being over sixteen tons. As the sheets of stamps are printed, they are laid carefully away to dry; as soon as they are dry, they pass to the gumming room, and

receive their coat of gum. It is laid on the backs of the sheets (which are held fast by an iron frame), with a large brush somewhat resembling those used for white-washing. After receiving the gum they are placed on wire frames, and deposited in a drying room. They are perforated by girls, on peculiar constructed machines, and are then subjected to the action of a powerful hydraulic press to get rid of all wrinkles, and to give the sheets a finished appearance. The sheets are then cut in halves, and in this condition are ready for the postmasters.

[Boys' Own.]

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No new issues of Stamps of importance this month.

Our Coin department Mess. not having been sent in at the regular time, we are compelled to go to press without it this month.

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### PRESS FOR SALE.

As good as new



Been used but little.

An Excelsior, prints 5 x 7. Reasonably good. Address This Office.

# FOREIGN STAMPS.



1873. ESTABLISHED 1873.

FALL CAMPAIGN JUST OPENED.

Send 3 ct. stamp and receive 10 Foreign Stamps and circulars.

NEW STOCK NEW CIRCULARS!

Address Chas. E. Foster, St. Albans, Vt.

## Winners of Prize's.

The prizes in last number were awarded as follows:

First prize.—50 c. cash and 25 cts. worth of Stamps, to A. E. Kemp, Brookline, Mass., 65 words.

Second prize.—25 c. cash and an Amateur Book, to Miss Mattie Waggoner, Delaware, O. 62 w'ds.

Third prize.—A years subscription to the Crescent, to John P. Mc Crea, Pittsburgh, Pa., 57 w'ds.

## HONORABLY MENTIONED.

John L. Eichberg Jr. Memphis, Tenn., 31 words; Chas. Wilhelm Pittsburgh, Pa., 31 words; W. J. Walker, Montgomery, Ala., 22 words.

**J**OB printing of every description done at this office on short notice. Satisfaction guaranteed. Give me a trial.

**S**end 10 cents for Humpty Dumpty's great book, *Born to be Hung.* Elegantly gotten up. Get it—this talented author's best book. Send stamp for Almon E. Pitts' book circular. Address Almon E. Pitts, Publisher and Book seller, Box 55. Newark, Ohio.

Editors and publishers inserting the above will receive several amateur books. Insert this notice also. It

## ATTENTION PRINTERS!

**D**O you know that the **Amateur Reporter** offers Splendid Prizes for the best specimens of printing? Do you know that it is to your as well as everybody else's interest to send their address on a P. C. for a specimen copy? Do you know that 50 per cent is the commission to agents? So send along your address on a P. C. to the **Reporter** Lawrence, Kan. and receive a

**SPECIMEN COPY FREE.**