

The Boys' Agency Circular.

Published on the First of every Month by Mr. W. LADERS,
Horsham, Sussex.

No. 1.

March, 1866. [Price One Halfpenny.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

COINS! COINS!! COINS!!!—Send One Stamp for Price List of upwards of 600 splendid specimens of Silver Pennies, of the Edward's, cheapest in the Kingdom, to G. H. Turner, 45, Lime-Street, Liverpool.

RARE STAMPS for sale at the lowest prices. Send 2 Stamps for Turner's Sheet of Stamps, for inspection, all of which are marked at the lowest prices; also packets of 12 varieties, 4d.; 20, 6d.; 32, 10s. Stamps bought and exchanged; postage 1d. extra; Turner and Turner, 4, Marlboro' Villas, Studly Road, Stockwell, S.

TO COLLECTORS.—I have to sell or exchange some cheap Foreign Stamps; address:—E. Price Dunstan Parsonage, Stafford.

MICE!—Notice of Removal:—F. C. has removed from 34, Finchley Road, to 42 York-Street, York Road, Lambeth, London, where all orders are to be addressed.

Read F. C's Book on Mice, post free 7 stamps. All kinds of Mice and Cages for sale.

BOY'S AGENCY.—Mr. W. Laders, Horsham, Sussex, undertakes to procure at wholesale prices, STAMPS, for Dealers and Collectors

Books of all descriptions; and will do his best to procure any orders he may be favoured with.

Young Gentlemen often buy at an exorbitant price, articles that they soon grow tired of, and they would before long like to sell; to these I recommend an advertisement in this Circular.

SCALE OF CHARGES.

9 words.....3d.

18 „6d.

TO OUR READERS.

In introducing this, the first number of the "BOYS' AGENCY CIRCULAR" to our readers, it becomes the Editor to sketch in a few words his plans for the future of the magazine.

The **Low Price** at which it is issued will doubtless cause it to have a large circulation if it only becomes known; and to our first subscribers we trust to proclaim its price and contents to the world.

The attention of all those who advertise is called to the advertisement papers of the circular and to the nominal charges. We hope each of our subscribers will favour us by scanning the pages to see if there be anything he would like to purchase at a really cheap price.

The proprietors have been fortunate enough to secure the services of **MR. LISLE ARCADINE**, to write a Tale for the Magazine, we hope he will satisfy our readers for many months to come.

Our subscribers are invited to send contributions to the office, where they will be perused by the Editor and if deemed worthy, inserted.

Articles on Botany, Coins, Stamps &c. are particularly requested.

If we can obtain a circulation large enough to enable us to do so it is our intention to enlarge the Magazine to 12 pages, the price, **ONE HALF-PENNY**.

We leave our fate in your hands and whether our journey be rough or smooth it will ever be our best endeavours to please those who favour us by purchasing our little Protege, Letters, requiring information will receive due consideration from the Editor.—You leave us in **SUSPENSE!**

CORRESPONDENCE.

- R. V.*—(Kensington Park Road.) The price is $\frac{1}{2}$ d. That price was a mistake. It is only to very large advertizers we allow it.
- R. T.*—Any article you may send will receive due consideration from the Editor.
- S. B.*—Thanks. Will insert them in next number.
- F. R.*—Shall be pleased to forward prospectus to any one who may write for any.

Mr. W. Laders' Celebrated Packets of Dried Ferns.

BRITISH

12 varieties, post free..	7d
20 " " ..	1s.
30 " " ..	1s. 9d.

FOREIGN

12 varieties, post free..	1s. 2d
20 " " ..	1s. 10d
30 " " ..	3s. 6d
40 " " ..	4s. 2d

Mixed British and Foreign.

12 varieties, post free..	9d.
20 " " ..	1s. 4d
30 " " ..	2s.
40 " " ..	3s.
50 " " ..	4s. 6d.
60 " " ..	5s.

Agents wanted; 20 per cent commission.

THE YOUNG VAGRANTS

(By *Lisle Arcadine.*)

INTRODUCTION.

The fir trees, as if in obedience to some supreme power, bent their heads to the wind; the leaves glistened with the pearl-like drops of rain which clung for one moment, and then were dashed down and replaced by other ones.—A very stormy night do I introduce to my readers.

A troop of Vagrants such as are commonly known by the flattering name of Zingari or Gipsies, had fixed their tents beneath the shelter of a forest of bending firs in a Midland County of England, and unlike their usual custom of cooking their breakfasts under the trees alone, were boiling a dainty meal in the tents. In one of them the smoke arising from the burning green-wood, causes an invalid woman, reclining on a rough and hastily made bed, to cough violently, and the only other person in the tent leaves the dish he had been preparing and goes to her side. He is a man of great proportions and bearing a very handsome though haggard countenance which shows the unmistakable marks of many days of anxiety and suffering: the two persons I have introduced are man and wife. "Henry," said the woman, "show your love, comfort me, for the hour of trial is near at hand.

One hour after two, two little beings were ushered into the world; the woman had been safely delivered of twins:—These, reader, are the young vagrants.

* * * * *

Two have passed, and once more the fir trees bend beneath the tower of a mighty wind; once more the Gipsies have encamped in the same forest, and once more the woman reclines on the same roughly made bed; two children sleep by her side, but the father is out on business. Slowly is the canvas which covered the opening of the tent drawn aside and a man enters; he is small and thin but of a lithe and active form, and he silently creeps up to the couch, seizing the two children he is about to bear them away when the woman awakes, and seeing the intruder, springs with a maniacal spring upon him. "Snark, villain!" was all she could utter. The conflict was short, for, finding the mother strong and fierce, Snark suddenly looses his right hand, and drawing a spring-knife from his pocket, stabbed the unfortunate woman in the side; with a loud despairing cry she sank mortally wounded at his feet; and

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he seeing the result of his blow, rushed from the tent, still holding the children in his arms.

One hour after, the husband of the murdered one entered; seeing the body he started back, uttered a mournful cry and thundered out one word:—"Snark!"

(To be continued.)

TABLE OF FOREIGN MONEY.

Denmark.		1 Drachmi	"	0 0 8
1 Skilling equivalent to	.. £0 0 0 $\frac{1}{4}$	20 " Gold	"	0 14 0
1 Mark	" " 0 0 4 $\frac{1}{2}$	Malta		
1 Dollar	" " 0 2 3	2 Lari	"	0 0 2 $\frac{1}{2}$
Germany		1 Scudo	"	0 1 7 $\frac{1}{2}$
4 Pfennig	" " 1 Kreuzer	1 Oncia	"	0 3 11 $\frac{1}{2}$
60 Kreuzers	" " 1 Florin	1 Spanish Dollar	"	0 4 4
90 " "	" " 1 Rix Thaler	1 Demi Louis, Gold	"	0 19 1 $\frac{1}{2}$
12 Florins	" " £1 Sterling	1 Double	"	1 18 1 $\frac{1}{2}$
4 Kreuzers, 1 Ruby	" " £0 0 1 $\frac{1}{2}$	Naples		
60 " 1 Florin Currency	" " 0 1 8	10 Grani, 1 Carlini	"	0 0 4
90 " 1 Rix Thaler	" " 0 2 6	20 Grani or 2 "	"	0 0 8
1 Crown Thaler	" " 0 4 6	1 Ducato	"	0 3 4
1 Mark of Cologne, 24 Guilders	" " 2 0 0	1 Old Ducat	"	0 3 4
Greece		1 New "	"	0 4 1
1 Pendelepta, 10 Leptas	0 0 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 Scudo	"	0 4 3
1 Hecalepta, 100 "	0 0 5	1 Gold Sequin	"	0 6 7 $\frac{1}{2}$
		1 Oncetta	"	0 10 3 $\frac{1}{2}$

(To be Continued.)

FERNS AS A STUDY.

If you wish to gain a thorough knowledge of the Botanical and common name of Ferns, there is nothing so good as getting together a nice collection of Dried Ferns, with names affixed, and studying them with a good work on Ferns: I can recommend Moore's 3s. 6d. Book. The best places for seeking Ferns are damp banks and woods, though some are to be found on dry sandy moors, such as the common *Pteris Aquitana*, &c.; by river sides and in ditches are Ferns to be found, if you are only diligent and patient in the search.—I shall now give you a list of the British Ferns

here to be easiest obtained, whether common or rare; I shall commence with the

A S P L E N I U M S .

- A *Adiatum Nigrum*, to be found on sandy banks, old walls, ruins and commons.
 A *Alternifolium*, abundant on the shores of Loch Lomond and L. Ness, in Scotland. A local and rare Fern.
 A *Fontanum*, found by the sides of small rivulets in Wales. Very rare.
 A *Complanatum* discovered in Ireland and Devonshire. Excess-

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	£	s.	d.
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Above four lines 3d. per nine words.			
A page	1	0	0
Half-page	0	10	0
Quarter-page	0	5	0

MR. W. LADERS, HORSHAM, SUSSEX.

Yearly Subscriptions, 1s. 6d. Half Yearly. 9d.—Post Free.
 A single number, 2 stamps; Two Numbers, 3 stamps.

All communications that require an answer to contain a stamp for reply, and to be addressed to Mr. W. Laders, Horsham, Sussex.

TO BE SOLD CHEAP.—200 Foreign Postage Stamps, neatly arranged in Oppen's Album, most of which are rare and unused; apply immediate with an offer to M. A., Post Office, Hindolveston, Guist, Norfolk.

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- A *Fontanum*, found by the sides of small rivulets in Wales. Very rare.
- A *Germanicum*, discovered in Ireland and Devonshire. Excessively rare.
- A *Marinum*, this pretty sea Fern is to be found on the coasts of Devon and Cornwall; Mt. Edgecombe abounds with them, and in the Channel Islands.
- A *Lancedatum*, grows in S. W. of England. Rather rare.
- A *Ruta Muraria*, a very small Fern, found on walls and roofs of old houses. plentiful but difficult to find.
- A *Septentrionale*, found in north of England and in Scotland, on walls and in stone quarries. A very rare diminutive Fern.
- A *Trichomanes*, a curious little Fern, growing in tufts on roofs of old buildings and old walls. Common.
- A *Viride*, similar to preceding one, but stalk green instead of black. Found in rocky situations in the N. E. of England. Rare.

(*To be Continued.*)

THE BOYS' AGENCY CIRCULAR.—The Second Number of the Circular will be published on April 1st, and all advertisements must reach the office on or before 20th of March. The following are the Prices:

9 words.....3d.

DISPLAYED.

Half Column or 180 words, 5s. One Column or 360 words, 9s 6d.
One Whole Page, 18s.

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A GENTS! AGENTS!! AGENTS!!! wanted for this Magazine; 20 per cent commission.

LOOK HERE.—Silkworms' Eggs 2d. per 100; send '3 stamps to H. G. Tidy, Sittingbourne, Kent.

FOR SALE.—One of Mr. Statham's Boys' Own Laboratories, everything complete, price 8s. 6d., carriage free, apply to Mr. W. Laders.

FOR SALE.—A magnificent collection of Postage Stamps, 500 varieties, including the rare 25 cent Pony Express, 1 Kreuzer Black and 4 Kreuzer Brown, Austrian Newspaper Stamps, Mulready En., Nicaragua, Costa, Rica, Sandwich Islands, &c., &c., all warranted genuine, price 25s., carriage free, apply to Mr. W. Laders, Horsham.

PRIZES! PRIZES!! PRIZES!!!—Everybody should send 2 Stamps for Prospectus to the Second International Amateur Association, Bridlington, Yorkshire.

ON SALE.—A beautiful collection of 230 varieties of Postage Stamps, including Mulready Envelope, set of Spanish Officials, &c., in nice album, all warranted genuine, 5s. 6d., carriage free, apply to Mr. W. Laders.

BOTANY—Any Gentleman willing to join in a Manuscript Magazine are invited to write to Mr W. Laders.

TAKE YOUR CARTE DE VISITE—(without Camera,) at 8d. per dozen; send 7 stamps for method, Jas. Smith, Hedon, Yorkshire.

COINS—A collection of English silver and copper, and a few foreign on sale—Address: William Bolton, 9, Harrogate Street, Wigan, Lancashire.

COINS!—Send 2 stamps to Mr. W. Laders, for price list, Splendid specimens of the money used by our Forefathers. J. D.

THE CASSET OF WONDERS—Containing Pharaoh's Serpents, Egyptian Pythons, Jungle Reptiles, Enchanted Meteor Gleams, and Snow Crystals in Fire; post free 15 stamps, Reptiles of the Jungle, 4 in a box, post free 4 stamps—Manning and Co., London Road, Twickenham.

NOTICE!—Agents wanted for this Magazine in every town and school; 20 per cent commission.

TO STAMP COLLECTORS—Mr. W. Laders has a large number of collections of 130 varieties, containing many very rare; 2s. 7d., post free, Horsham, Sussex.

NOTICE.—The "Collector's Herald," price One Penny, monthly, yearly subscriptions 2s., post free, contains Angling, Tales, Articles on Ferns, Stamps, Coins, Franks, Insects and all kinds of curiosities, Beautifully Illustrated; Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8, post free, 9 stamps—Published by J. Cheeseman, Beverley Road, Hull.

TRINKETS FOR SALE—All as good as new, a Gold Chased Tea-Kettle (for watch chain, with gold ring,) and real bloodstone seal at bottom, price when new 9s.; an ebony and gold Dog Call, price when new, 3s., both to be sold for 7s. 6d; also 3 handsome gold chased Studs for shirt fronts, price when new, 10s. 6d., to be sold for 5s.—apply to Mr. W. Laders, immediately; rare chance.

A N OSCILLATING ENGINE With two steam taps, separate boiler, &c.; price 14s, apply to Wm. Smith, Brooklands, Uppingham

SILKWORMS' EGGS—Send 4 stamps for 200 **Silk**worms' Eggs, or 13 stamps for 700, all post free—Address; Y. K, Post Office, Watlingbury, Kent.

REVIEW.



THE COLLECTOR'S HERALD, PRICE ONE PENNY'

J. CHEESEMAN, HULL;



This well conducted Magazine has reached its seventh number and is steadily improving; In it have appeared articles on British Birds, Fern Collecting, Franks &c; a capital review of the Postage Stamps of all nations, an interesting story, and several other original articles, all of which are very well written.

The Herald is very nicely printed, and is altogether one of the cheapest and best of Magazines devoted to the interests of curiosity collectors.

THE "AMATEUR" PRICE TWO PENCE.

T. W. Jennings, Bridlington.



We can give a very favourable review of this capital Magazine its price is only twopence, it consists of twenty four pages of well printed letterpress. The tales are good and the usefull information which it contains is worth double the price charged for it.

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No. 2.]

MAY, 1866.

[ONE HALFPENNY.]

ADVERTISEMENTS.

FOSSILS! PEBBLES! and MINERALS! for Sale, very cheap.
Send two stamps for list, to C. A. G., Post Office, Burlington.

TO BE SOLD, to the highest bidder above one guinea, a Collection of 412 Foreign Postage Stamps, in an Oppen's Album, with 100 duplicates. Apply, by letter, to WILLIAM CARELTON WILLIAMS, 6, London Street, Southport.

ALL BOYS should send stamp for Prospectus of Manuscript Magazine, on a new and attractive plan.—GEORGE CRAIK, Hampton Park, Bristol.

AGENTS WANTED, to sell Amusements, 20 per cent. commission. Apply, enclosing stamp, to W. RIDING, jun., and Co., 62, Albion Street, Everton, Liverpool.

ALL STAMP DEALERS and Collectors should have a share in our Drawing. The First Prize consists of the whole stock of a Large Stamp Firm; genuineness of every stamp warranted. The Second Prize: the contents of this parcel is calculated to lick the philosopher's stone into fits, and will make the fortune of the lucky winner. The other prizes consist of large collections, albums, &c., and all sorts of stamp novelties. Tickets 3d. each. Every purchaser of a dozen will have one chance free. Agents wanted; liberal commission.—FROUD AND MUSGRAVE, 74, Great Saffron Hill, London, E.C.

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New Scale of Advertisement charges. Advertisements must be sent in before the 20th.

	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
4 lines or 36 words	1	0	A Page	1	0	0
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COINS!—Send two stamps to Mr. W. LADERS for price list. Splendid specimens of the money used by our forefathers.—J. D.

MAGIC.—The 8d. MAGIC POCKET BOOK, with which ten different Tricks can be performed; also the Changeable Cards will perform five different tricks, post-free, 10d.—R. BLAKEBOROUGH, Ripon, Yorkshire.

N.B.—Twenty tricks explained.

COINS!!—Wanted to Purchase, Gold, Silver, and Copper, of every description. Parties having the same to sell, will please forward wholesale list and specimen. If the price is right, quantity no object.

N.B.—One Hundred good Foreign Stamps given for any old English or Foreign Silver Coins.—W. H. MILLS, 6, Cambridge Terrace, Southsea, Hants.

STAMPS! STAMPS! STAMPS!—My Sixpenny Packet of Fifteen Colonial Stamps contains Ceylon, Prince Edward's Island, Hong-Kong, Mauritius, Australian, Canadian, &c. Two old Guinea Notes for sale, 2s. each; also a number of Coins.—E. GOODALL, Headingley, Leeds.

FOWLS FOR SALE.—Apply to W. H. M., care of Mr. W. LADERS, Horsham, Sussex.

REGISTRAR.—Mr. W. LADERS has a Registrar. Send price, &c., of anything you have to sell. No charge if not sold.

BARGAIN.—To be Sold, a Postage Stamp Album, "Oppen's," with about a hundred varieties of stamps. Apply to L. P. J., care of HENRY M'LACHLAN, Accountant, Coatbridge.

GRATIS.—A polished Moss-agate, with the half-crown collection of six agates, jet, &c.—Address, C. A. G., Post Office, Bridlington.

THE YOUNG VAGRANTS.

CHAPTER I.

AT the corner of a small street in London, where it joins a large one, stand two boys of the usually happy age of fourteen, and one of them, who bears the name of Alfred Snark, addresses his brother:—

“Where shall we go now, Frank? Wherever we go we cannot well be used worse than father used us.”

“No, we can't. Suppose we turn up here and see what will happen.”

With elated spirits at their temporary liberty they stride on with elastic steps, firmly believing that something extraordinary *must* turn up to make men of them. They had not proceeded far, however, when a gentleman of rather advanced age, who had been long watching them, stopped and addressed them. He had observed, from the listless and careless manner in which they sauntered about, that they were not quite sure in which direction their destination lay.

“Well, my little fellows, have you wandered about until you have lost your way in this wondrous city? Perhaps you will tell me the name of the street, so that I may direct you towards it.”

“Please sir, we ain't got any home now,” began Frank.

“And ain't got no money,” broke in Alfred.

“And I am very hungry,” continued Frank.

“Well, come with me, and I will see if I can't give you first something to eat, and after that something to do, to earn a little money to live on;” and their kind new friend took them into a chophouse and bade them choose whatever they liked, promising to pay for it. Having satiated their appetites, and the gentleman having paid their bill, he took them up street after street until our heroes were thoroughly tired; but at length they turned into a small courtyard, surrounded by moderately-sized houses, but begrimed with soot and dirt. No brass plate or other notice indicated the trade or profession of their occupants, and they bore an appearance of painful quietude, much suggestive of desertion.

Into one of these dismal dwellings (for they *were* dwelling-houses) the three entered, and our boys found themselves in a nice, light, and well-furnished house. Their conductor opened a door, and ushered them into a room where, at desks of great height, sat four clerks, whilst a man in a white blouse was folding newspapers below.

“Here, James! give each of these boys a couple of dozen Telegraphs and we will see if they are made of the stuff I take them to be,” said the gentleman, who took such a strange interest in our heroes, to the folder of newspapers.

“Yes, Mr. Baker. Shall they be folded or unfolded?”

"Oh, unfolded! And you can show the boys how to fold, for I expect they do not know much about it yet."

"Very well, sir."

Mr. Baker then went out by a side door, leaving the young vagrants alone, wondering, staring, and trembling at their loneliness.

James (the man in the blouse), having taken down from a shelf an enormous quantity of damp newspapers, commenced initiating Alfred and Frank into the mysteries of the art of folding "Telegraphs."

After having been shown how to fold two or three, the boys took to it naturally, and in a few minutes had completed the allotted number, two dozen each. Then James took down, also from a shelf, two small patent-leather wrappers, and, having enveloped each allotment, handed them to our heroes, and bade them go forth and sell as many as possible.

A few other hints were kindly given by James, and then they were shown the way out, and as they passed into the street, were fortunate enough to dispose of one paper each, to two young city clerks who were going to their daily work.

They directed their course towards London Bridge, and in a very short time arrived there, and began calling out, "This morning's papers!"

No doubt the open honest faces of the boys brought them more custom than was afforded other newsvendors, for in a brief period all the "Daily Telegraphs" were disposed of, and they began to think of returning to Mr. Baker to pay in the money they had received, and inquire what was next required of them. They were then at the opposite side of the bridge to where their destination lay, and as they were crossing over, Frank suddenly exclaimed, "Oh, Alfred, that boy has stolen that dark gentleman's pocket handkerchief." Alfred looked, and saw an affecting scene which followed.

One of those characteristic good-looking city arabs had so far forgotten himself as to lay pretensions to, and his fingers on, a gentleman's handkerchief, and holding it in his hand, dashed across the bridge. But although the owner himself had not noticed the theft, several other persons had, and, amid general cries of "stop thief," began to pursue him. The unlucky boy seeing the impossibility of escape, threw down the cause of his temptation, and rushing back to the man he had robbed, threw himself on his knees, and in eloquent and touching words gushed forth a prayer for mercy. The boy's fine dark eyes were melted with tears, and his lips quivered with emotion, as he poured forth his unavailing words. But a rough policeman came up, and seized him by the collar of his jacket, and bidding the dark gentleman to follow him, dragged off the wretched culprit to the police-station.

Alfred and Frank could not help feeling for the boy, and the scene altogether produced such an effect on them as was not easily effaced.

"Take care of your money, Frank," said Alfred, remindful of what he had seen.

Frank felt in his pockets. *His money was gone!*
(*To be continued.*)

ON STAMPS AND STAMP COLLECTING.

By WILLIAM RIDEING, JUN.

CHAPTER I.

ITS ORIGIN, AND A FEW REMARKS.

STAMP collecting was commenced some years ago, and is said to have originated from the following simple reason: "A Paris tutor one day suggested to his scholars, that they should obtain the stamps of foreign countries and place them on the blank pages of their atlases, where they could be easily referred to, to find out the different countries to which each stamp belonged." Soon others took the plan, and have made large collections, notwithstanding that many persons have objected to it, believing it to be a worthless and expensive "mania," which would soon die out. But it does not seem so, for there are, at the present day, thousands of enthusiastic collectors; and I believe with Dr. Gray, that they tend to teach the knowledge of History, Geography, and the currency of Nations, as they lend an interest to the study. They also afford room for the display of much artistic taste in the arrangement of the many and beautifully-coloured varieties. I must now desist, but promise, with the consent of the editor of this good and valuable little *BOY'S MAGAZINE*, to give, in the next and following numbers, a list of the rare stamps of all nations.

(*To be continued.*)

POULTRY.

By W. H. M.

CHAPTER I.

No boy's magazine would be complete without an article on Poultry, and how every boy may keep them with profit as well as amusement to himself. Let us suppose that our readers are anxious to know how to commence business in the fowl line. The first thing to be considered is, what fowls you will keep; and you have a choice of many varieties.

The Dunghill, Game, Dorking, Spanish, and Bantam fowls are the most common and useful. If you live in a town, I would recommend the Spanish, on account of the largeness of its eggs, and the common Four-clawed on account of the quantity of its eggs. Of all the breeds, the

plumage of the Game Fowl is the most beautiful and glossy; but these are not good fattening chickens, nor first-rate layers. The Dorking is known by having five claws, and can be recommended as uniting the virtues of all the other fowls. The distinguishing characteristic of the Poland is a compact tuft on the head; of the Hamburgh, or Pheasant fowls, the rich bay ground of their plumage. Of the larger kind of fowls, the Cochinchina is the greatest favourite, as they lay better in the winter than any other breed.

Having thus given a short description of the different varieties, I shall next dwell on the *Fowlhouse*, and the *run* where the fowls are to be kept, as it is very important to have everything ready for the fowls before buying them, and I should advise those who have only a small piece of ground, to limit their stock to a cock and a few hens. A simple poultry-house may be made of wood against a wall for a few shillings; and I have made a very good flooring to mine of *mortar* for *eightpence*, one great advantage of which is, that it remains hard and can be swept every day, although some breeders prefer ashes or gravel. The perches should not be much more than three feet from the ground, and should be reached by means of a hen-ladder. The laying-boxes or nests, may be filled with clean straw and should contain a nest-egg made of chalk or wood, to tempt the hens to lay; and the nest-boxes as well as the whole inside of the fowlhouse, should be well washed once a month with lime water. The poultry-house should have a door large enough to enable the keeper to collect the eggs and clean out the house, and there should be a trapdoor for the fowls, which should be let down at night. Ventilation must be ample in a fowlhouse, and a good plan is to cut a small aperture in the house, and put in a piece of perforated tin. Next month I shall treat of the management of fowls.

(To be continued.)

FERNS AS A STUDY.

THE *Allosorus Crispus* is the only one of its species. It is a very small fern, having like the *Doodias* and *Blechnums*, its barren and fertile fronds. It is generally found on the tops of walls, and grows well on rockwork. Generally found in south east of England. Of all the British Ferns, the next on our list stands foremost in beauty. It is the *Athyrium Filix-fœmina*, commonly known as the Lady Fern. It is very common, and can be found almost everywhere, from the shady, damp wood, to the dry, dusty roadside bank; it can easily be brought to a wonderful state of perfection, if planted in a shady place and kept well watered, as indeed all rockwork ferns should be. It is recognized by its graceful, drooping, and feathery form.

(To be continued.)

SEA-WEEDS.—The 1s. packet contains twelve varieties; the 9d. packet, ten; the 6d. packet, eight; and the 3d. packet, six varieties; post-free 2d. extra. Walrus tusks, 3s. each.—Address, C. A. G., Post Office, Bridlington.

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A BARGAIN.—ALPHA, 27, Constitution Hill, Birmingham, has a Brass Model Vertical Steam Engine, with Brass Lamp and Tap (oscillating cylinder), to exchange for a Musical Box, or 15s. Send stamped envelope for further particulars.

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FOR SALE, or in exchange for a Fishing Rod, a Collection of Eggs, containing four Kingfishers, Golden Oriel, &c. Apply, with stamped envelope, to J. JACKSON, Riding School, Ripon.

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20 used "	0	5	50 "	0	4
35 " "	0	7	100 "	0	7
50 " "	1	0	200 "	1	0

Packets of stamps sold to the trade. Stamps of all nations at current prices.
All stamps warranted genuine.

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HULL	J. CHEESEMAN, Beverley Road.
ABERDEEN	JAS. GRAY, 123½, Union Street.

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JULY, 1866.

[ONE HALFPENNY.]

MESSRS. LADERS, RIDEING & Co., LIVERPOOL.

JULY ANNOUNCEMENTS.

THE B. A. C. SIXPENNY PACKET of Unused Foreign Stamps contains 12 good varieties, including Belgium (Arms,) Wurtemberg, Helvetia, &c., &c. Post-free. seven stamps.

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STAMPS! STAMPS! MESSRS. LADERS, RIDEING & Co., beg to call attention to the wonderfully cheap sheets of Foreign Stamps, that they send on approval to those who apply. Any stamps can be obtained at 20 per cent. below the usual charges. 62 Albion Street, Everton, Liverpool.

THE BOY'S TELEGRAM of news mostly concerning him. Advertisements 3d. per nine words. Mr. R. HEYE, Ham, Surrey.

SWIMMING! SWIMMING! SWIMMING!—This useful and necessary art easily and speedily acquired, by the use of Thomas's New Invention, the "Aquafluct," which gives to the most timid a perfect confidence in the water. Easy of adjustment and cannot get out of order. Send fourteen stamps to Mr. A. H. THOMAS, Broad Straet, Bath. Can be carried in the pocket.

RARE STAMPS.

MEXICO, BERMUDA, ST. KITTS, ST. LUCIA, Republic Honduras, British Honduras, Egypt, New Granada, Monte Viedo, Buenos Ayres ship blue, Modena B. G. large letters, Re-union reprint set of six, Caledonia, Corrientes, Ocean Pacific, Honolulu, Moldavia, French envelope essays, Ecuador, Spain, Newfoundland, Vancouver, British Columbia, Hanover and Spain essays. Rare stamps and essays of all sorts at cheap prices.—Stamps wanted:—Ceylon 4, 5, 6, 8, 10d., 1s. 9d., 2s. Liberia, Mauritius first issue, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick 6d. and 1s. New South Wales 6d. and 8d, laureated, view of Sydney, Victoria 6 each side, Too Late, Registered, Queensland 1s. New Zealand 3d. with N. Z. in watermark, and 4d. rose, 4d. yellow. Address, GUSTAVE LEGLISE, Dunkerque, France.

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STAMP AND COIN DEALER'S ADVERTISER.—This Magazine is illustrated with engravings of stamps. Post-free for one stamp. Advertisements 4d. per ten words. J. C. Wroe, 10, Fairclough Lane, Liverpool.

WHISKERS AND MOUSTACHES can be grown heavily in three week's time by use of either of my two formulas, which act upon the sebaceous glands, without injuring the skin. No. 1 post-free for ten stamps, or both for thirteen stamps. Baldness cured or prevented. Address J. Charles, Fairclough Lane, Liverpool.

AGENTS! AGENTS!—Wanted to sell the "Boys' Telegram," a Monthly Magazine, 25 per cent. commission. R. HAYE, Ham, Surrey.

THE YOUNG VAGRANTS.

CHAPTER III.

"UGH! how cold it was. The damp air pierced the very skin of those who ventured out. No stars could be seen in the sky, but one immense cloud seemed to shut out all light from the earth. It had been raining all day unceasingly, and the rain continues to pour down with as much violence as ever. The wind had increased in force, and now had reached an awful pitch. Chimney pots, powerless to hold their own, were mercilessly dashed from their pedestals to fall into the streets below with smashing violence. But no one braved the storm, and no danger was experienced. The sewers, swelled, pour into the river, which, augmented by the unusual supply, rushes on, allowing the mud no time to settle. How unwholesome the river looked. The boats are all placed high upon the bank, and the boatmen have gone to their sheltered homes, unable to stand the tempest's strength. The village presents a dull appearance, the shops are still open, and the brilliant lights reflect on the pouring rain and give the water the appearance of falling diamonds. The gossips of the place are all assembled at the bar of the only inn, where all are comfortably provided for, and discuss the latest news over their stiff tumblers. Near the outer door of the bar is a tall archway, over the arc of which the painter of the village has written 'JAMES SCART, LICENSED TO LET HORSES FOR HIRE,' in a very creditable style. The doors, or rather gates, of the yard are open—in fact, they are never shut,—and the archway has often given shelter when it has been raining like the day in question.

The glimmering light from a candle placed in an old lantern hung over the entrance, shows through the misty horn a figure crouched in a corner, huddled together to make warmth. It looks up. A woman, pitifully clad, gazes at the lantern. Such soft blue eyes she has. So large and round, and how much softer they look now that they are almost melted in tears. A delicately formed outline is the one of that face, but so thin and haggard is the face itself; every feature seems contorted with pain.

She looks down and a pair of hands, most lady-like in formation, draw aside the thin shawl which completely envelopes her crouching form. On the lap formed by her posture reclines a child of about a month's age, coarsely but neatly dressed. It slumbers, and its little bosom heaves with the measured breathing.

The mother gazes sadly on the picture of happiness.

Her sad thoughts betray her history.

She had been admitted into a hospital during her labour, and had been permitted to remain there three weeks, when she was ejected to make room for a more apparently deserving patient. The matron, pitying her case, kindly gave her a shilling, and for six days the poor girl had subsisted on this.

And this is the seventh day.

She has begged yesterday and to-day at every house in the village without once receiving more than a crust of bread and a mug of water. And how was the child to live, if the mother eat nought but bread, and drank nought but water!

Not even hay had for the last two nights eased the repose she so scantily sought. Last night she slept in this archway, and to-night she is endeavouring to snatch some sleep, in a posture, excruciatingly painful to herself, *but comfortable for her child.*

Oh! the fondness of mothers!

The poor girl's torture causes the tears to pour from her weary eyes. How ill she felt; she seemed seized with every disease in man's imagination. But only one had possession of her, and that one combined all others. IT WAS FAMINE.

She fell asleep.

Ten o'clock; Eleven! Twelve!

The child cries. It is hungry. Awake, mother.

The candle is burnt down to the last inch.

She awakens. See her look. She springs up with the child in her arms. What a different aspect she bears now! No longer the same calm, mournful expression, her face bore before, but now a fierce mad one. Her eyes are staring and bloodshot. Distending the skin, as if wishing to eject themselves from their natural home, they flash fire, and yet seem to see nothing they are directed upon.

Her whole appearance is changed.

The mouth bears a demoniacal smile, which replaces the placid expression it bore before. The nostrils quiver and distend. She rushes from the archway, *laughing heartily.* But oh! *such a laugh*—an indescribable laugh—one that would have frozen the blood of a hearer, had she one!

Disregarding the rain and violent wind, she rushes at an awful pace to the river. Swollen higher than ever, it rushes beneath the bridge, roaring like thunder, and hiding the highest water-mark.

It is dark, but the insane creature knows her way. On she rushes, and now she reaches the bridge. Her shawl has been lost, and the scarcity of her clothing reveals the splendid symmetry of her form.

At the bridge she arrests her course.

She awaits an instant. Tearing off her bonnet, she throws it over the bridge. With staring eyes she stands in an attitude of profound attention. No, the roar of the current drowned the slight splash caused by it. She feels for a stone, and at last finds a monster. Placing her child on the stone bench, let into the wall of the bridge, she raises it in both hands and succeeds in throwing it over.

Again the attitude of attention.

Yes! she hears the loud splash!

With a repetition of her freezing laugh, she seizes the tiny legs of her infant child, and swinging the body high in the air, throws it into the raging tide, then, placing her hands upon the stone wall, she is apparently about to take the fatal leap. But no; her resolution wavers, and she rushes a little way back, with her hair streaming behind. Again she returns, and, ignoring the help of the stone bench, springs over, and her body disappears as the mad and shrieking laugh once more is echoed around."

"There, that is all the gentleman's story; what a jolly one it was, too, wasn't it? But here we are at the police station."

(To be continued.)

ON STAMPS AND STAMP COLLECTING.

BY W. RIDEING, JUN.

CHAPTER III.

ISLE OF REUNION.

THE stamps of this Island are known by but few collectors; it was discovered by Mascarenhas, a Portuguese navigator, in the year 1545. When discovered it was beautiful and fertile, but entirely devoid of human inhabitants. Its first colonists were a dozen convicts who were united to a set of Madagascar ngresses. Doubtless the reader thinks this lot a very unpromising stock to colonise an Island, nevertheless, they fell into good habits by degrees. A lot of different tales were for a long time circulated among the timbrophilic community, for instance, in the first edition of Mount Brown's catalogue it was stated that only one stamp, 30 centimes, black on green paper, had been issued; while Moens, later on, describes one 15 centimes, black on green paper, the same as the 30 centimes.

Through the great rarity of these stamps the forgeries are very numerous, therefore, as these stamps are unattainable, we will conclude by advising collectors not to be taken in by purchasing an imitation.

(To be continued.)

POULTRY.

BY W. H. M.

CHAPTER III.

I propose in this third and last article to speak of the diseases of fowls, and also to say a few words on poultry shows. Chickens are liable to various diseases, of which, the *pip* is the most common, the symptoms are—great difficulty of breathing, and loss of appetite, and when this is the case, the chicken must be put in a warm place, fed on improved diets, and have about a teaspoonful of castor oil. There are many other diseases to which fowls are subject; but with care and *unceasing* attention you will find none of your fowls on the sick list.

An article on poultry can hardly be considered complete without an account of poultry exhibitions. Their great utility consists in the advantages they offer to the amateur for improving his stock, &c. Poultry shows are of modern date: the first we hear of was held at the Zoological Gardens in 1846; since that period they have multiplied greatly. There are, at present, three great annual exhibitions of poultry held, at Birmingham, the Crystal Palace, and the Agricultural Hall, Islington, of which the Birmingham show takes the lead. It very often contains nearly 2,000 pens of poultry. Persons wishing to exhibit fowls at these shows can obtain entry lists, also the rules and regulations, from the committees.

My task is finished, and I hope satisfactorily. I have forced the fowl from the egg; I have traced it at the show; I have traced it in disease; and I have traced it in health.

THE WIND.

The wind it blew a tempest loud and strong,
 It blew with force the largest ships along;
 It broke huge trees that battled with its power;
 It shook the turrets of the strongest tower.

G. F. CRAIK.

NEW STAMPS.

HAMBURG presents us with a new set of envelopes, at present composed of seven varieties. They are similar in design to the current adhesive postals of this free city, excepting that the four corners are cut off, making them octagonal in shape. The colors of these new comers are identical with their twin values in the adhesives, as follows:— $\frac{1}{2}$ schilling black, $1\frac{1}{4}$ sch. mauve, $1\frac{1}{2}$ sch. pink, 2 sch. orange, 3 sch. blue, 4 sch. green, 7 sch. magenta. Three values used in the adhesives (1 sch., 2 sch. and 9 sch.) are unrepresented in the new galaxy, but we presume they will not be long withheld. Hamburg has also a new adhesive to be noticed this month—a $1\frac{1}{2}$ sch. pink.

SWEDEN offers her contribution in the shape of two new stamps, respectively valued at 17 and 20 öre. In design they are said to resemble the brown 3 öre stamp. The 17 is lilac in color, and the 20 scarlet.

HAYTI struggles on in the upward path of civilization and brings as a token a medio stamp, color light green, design similar to the real previously in use.

FINLAND has a new postal, value 13 pennia, printed in red and green on white paper.

NORTH GERMANY enlarges her list by a black $\frac{1}{4}$ silb gr.; same type as the higher values of the present issue.

TURKEY has a new local stamp, value $3\frac{1}{2}$ paras.

RATHER PATHETIC.—We were enveloped in darkness, when suddenly the Irishman called out, "I say, George, this is rather pathetic, is it not?" "Why so," I asked. "Because its so *feeling*," answered my friend, as we groped about for the door.

Orfila, the celebrated French chemist, being examined on a capital trial, was asked by the President what quantity of arsenic was requisite to kill a fly. The doctor replied—"Certainly, M. le President, but I must know beforehand the age of the fly, its sex, its temperaments, its condition, and habits of body—whether married or single; widow, or maiden; widower, or bachelor. When satisfied on these points I can answer your question."

ADVERTISEMENTS.

CHEAPEST HOUSE IN THE TRADE.—Established Five Years. The one shilling packet contains new issues of Finland, Newfoundland, Confederate States, old and new Sweden, New Granada, &c., &c., all warranted genuine and perfect, satisfaction guaranteed, if not they can always be returned. Rare stamps bought in any quantity. Dealer's packets supplied wholesale.

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INDUSTRIA & Co., Stamp Merchants, Preston. Engravings of all new issues appear monthly in the circular. **INDUSTRIA & Co.**, Preston

NOTICE.

MESSRS GEORGE STEWART, JUN., of St. Johns, N.B. also **A. B. MASON**, of Chicago, will please send us copies of their Magazines monthly, we send ours. **LADERS, RIDEING & Co.**, Liverpool.

THE BOYS' AGENCY CIRCULAR.

Scale of Advertisement charges. Advertisements must be sent in before the 29th.

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4 lines or 36 words.....	1	0	A Page	1	0	0
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HULL	J. CHEESEMAN, Beverley Road.
ABERDEEN	JAS. GRAY, 123½ Union Street.

Published by **MESSRS. LADERS, RIDEING & Co.**, 62, Albion Street, Everton, Liverpool, where all communications must be addressed, post paid.