

THE STAMP CHRONICLE.

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THE KIRKLEY FRAUDS.

CHAPTER I.

John and I first became interested in stamps when we were both very small boys, and the first twenty odd specimens we got, taken from letters mother received from abroad and kept on the original envelopes, are still to us the most valued in all our collection. Until we were big enough to earn money by doing odd jobs, our collection grew very, very slowly, but about the time the neighbors began to speak of us as "good big boys" the hobby took a new hold on us, and our collection began to spread, as it ought to have done, for all the odd dimes we could pick up went that way.

Even then we could not increase our collection as fast as we wished and we soon began to trade our duplicates and to sell stamps from approval sheets for various dealers always taking our commission in stamps, and although we were still not satisfied, we watched our now steadily increasing collection with much complacency, and studied with interest everything relating to stamps and many things besides which these things suggested.

That attempts to discourage us both by ridicule and by argument be frequent was to be expected. We heard both in silence, ridicule out of respect to ourselves and argument out of respect to our elders, nor did we allow their ridicule or their arguments to affect us in the least, except that we became more determined than ever to get all the benefit possible from the hobby.

Our continued interest in stamps in the face of all these attempts at discouragement excited after a time a curiosity in some of our friends to know what fascination the little bits of paper exercised over us, and some of them expressed a desire to examine more closely our collection. We took this as a sign of surrender and rejoiced much in secret but managed to be very dignified when we came to show our collection and told all we knew

about the various specimens with pardonable pride. We saw with pleasure that they were entertained, perhaps interested, and our invitation to look over them again some other time was readily accepted.

Other visits followed and we watched their curiosity change into interest, and their interest become eager, and we at last offered them a few of our duplicates which were accepted with restrained eagerness. From this time forward they were collectors, and our collection, small as it was, became a standard among the beginners, to whom the obtaining of a specimen which we did not have was an occasion for exultation to the fortunate possessor and of a friendly interest all around.

(To be continued.)

AROUND THE WORLD.

In the columns of "El Correo del Caribe," mention of which see on page 4, we notice an account of the journey of a postal card around the world, which is so interesting that we take the liberty of making a very condensed translation for the benefit of our readers. The card in question is the property of Mr. J. Solveyra of Buenos Ayres. That gentleman sent out twelve cards in different directions. Six were sent back from different cities accompanied by a statement that the post-office would not forward them, five were never heard from, the one remaining was returned to the sender after having visited the principal cities of Europe and making the circuit of the world. It was seven months and twenty days making the journey.

Don't let counterfeits or reprints have a place in your album.

Don't collect specimens that are torn or otherwise injured merely because they count.

Don't keep approval sheets three weeks and then get mad if the dealer suggests that it is time to return them.

Don't depend on your neighbor for philatelic literature if you want to be a first-class collector.

Don't lay aside a stamp until you know all there is to be known about it.

Don't expect your collection to take care of itself. It needs to be kept in order like anything else.

Don't think that, because some other fellow is going to subscribe, we don't want you. We need you all.

FOREIGN ECHOES.

The portrait of the young queen Wilhelmina of Holland will soon appear on the stamps of Curacao.

Greece is to have a Philatelic journal. It will be issued at Athens, in French.

The German 10 pfennig blue has been counterfeited. The number of perforations is one less than in the genuine.

A counterfeit of the Italian surcharge of 20c. on 50c. violet is out.

A new set of Hamburg locals is out. Figure of Atlas and Globe. "International" across the globe, "Drucksachen" on left "Beforderung" on right, "Hamburg" below, 2 in lower left-hand corner, "Pf." in right-hand corner.

1 Pf.	Black	Value in Black.
2 "	Red	" " "
3 "	Yellow	" " "
5 "	Blue	" " "
-10 "	Green	" " Violet.

The Orange-Free State 4 pence has been surcharged 1d.

EXCHANGE NOTICES.

Free to subscribers. Limit 30 words.

We will give one cigarette album for every 200 present issue U. S. stamps (no 1's or 2's) sent us. The Editors.

We will give one cigarette card for every 2 present issue U. S. stamps (no 1's or 2's) sent us, not less than 100 taken. The Editors.

We will give one number of the Golden Weekly for every 25 present issue U. S. stamps sent us (no 1's or 2's) or we will give 5 copies, Nos. 67 to 81 inclusive for 300 present issue U. S. stamps (no 1's or 2's). The Editors.

We desire correspondence and exchange with foreign collectors. The Editors.

I have 460 Dukes slips, 89 Allen & Ginters, 46 Editors cigarette cards, (lacking only 4 of being a complete set) 35 cigarette cards and certificates assorted for best offer of cash or good foreign stamps. Cash preferred. All in good condition.
Robt. Clements, 708 McGavock St. Nashville, Tenn.

THE STAMP CHRONICLE.

A PHILATELIC MONTHLY.

PUBLISHED AT NASHVILLE, TENN

ADVERTISING RATES:

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	One Page,		\$2.00

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Almost unknown to the Philatelic public, we present ourselves to your notice, and with us, an effort which we trust will be found not entirely worthless. Fully aware of the difficulties of our undertaking, we enter the field with a determination to stay, and to win a place among the leading stamp journals by sheer hard work. With this object, we solicit the assistance and support of the public. We will be glad to receive items of interest and our columns shall always be at the disposal of the public. Meanwhile to advance the cause of Philately, and to make our paper worthy of a welcome to the tables of our collector friends, is our greatest aim.

We note, with much satisfaction, the announcement that a stamp paper is to be issued in the West Indies. It is "EL COLOREO DEL CARIBE," to be published at Curacoa by CUEVA CEIRO & DE LIMA. The subscription price, \$1.25 per year is high judged by American Philatelic Papers, but is not, when the comparative prices of American and Spanish-American publications of all sorts are taken into consideration. The advertising rates are very reasonable. This is, we believe, the first stamp paper to be published in the West Indies and perhaps in all Spanish-America. As the first to enter this great and almost totally uncultivated field, we bespeak for it a liberal share of all patronage given by the Philatelic public to foreign journals. PH. HEINSBERGER is the agent for the U. S.

Nothing human is perfect, nor is there any good with which some bad is not mingled. Even our much-boasted-of Yankee ingenuity is not entirely without its drawbacks, the greatest of which is the large share which has fallen to the lot of some rogues. We say this with especial reference to the confidence man and his juvenile imitator, the stamp fraud. In view of the number and variety of schemes to which they resort to gain their nefarious ends, it behoves the public to be prompt in exposing them and careful in avoiding them when exposed.

While listening to Henry M. Stanley's lecture a short time since, it struck us as a characteristic indication of the world's progress, that, whereas the Livingstone Relief Expedition, in 1871, required five months to traverse the distance between Zanzibar and Ujiji, one thousand miles, the messages it carried being delivered at the cost of much money and many lives; in 1898 the same distance will be covered by a railway train in forty eight hours, carrying many hundreds of letters to which will be attached the stamps of all countries under the sun.

Penny postage is a long time coming but it's bound to get here at last. Meanwhile it is the duty of the Philatelic press, as of the general press of the whole country, to push this salutary reform. Many of our esteemed contemporaries have already "put their shoulder to the wheel", many more are in favor of it and those who are not might well be put down as second-class papers. To our contemporaries who have already taken up this matter we say keep up the good fight and to those who have not, who, we are glad to say, are few in number, "Fall into line"

A probable result of the present internal trouble in Chili will be the issue of a series of stamps by the provisional government established by the leaders of the revolt.

Every collector should have the new paper, the Post Office. Bremmel and Davison run it so you know it is good.

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