

The Stamp Collectors' Companion.

A MONTHLY DEVOTED TO THE INTEREST OF COLLECTING.

VOL. I.

AUGUST, 1891.

NO. 1.

A VISIT TO A STAMP FIRM.

G. W. S. MAC.

One of the most pleasant afternoons which I ever spent was in a visit to the Central City Stamp & Publishing Co., of Jackson. The business is located at the residence of the manager Mr. A. W. Shaw.

The walls of the room are covered with cases containing pigeon holes, extending from about two feet from the floor nearly to the ceiling. Each country and a great many times each var., has a separate pigeon hole. The stamps are kept in little wooden boxes which are placed in the pigeon holes.

The packets are kept in a special case each packet having a pigeon hole.

It would interest you to see the young collectors which are always there, buying from 5c. to \$1.00 worth. Some bring their albums and look at every stamp to see if they have it, and then if the price asked is too high for their pocket books, reluctantly lay it back again.

The stamps usually sold to these collectors, average in price about 3c. each, although sometimes they purchase stamps as high as 50c. each.

Some of the letters received are very amusing. I was shown one in which the correspondent was sure no-body could beat him on stamps that he came from New York, and knew all about stamps, so be sure and send him a good selection. There was also one when a correspond-

ent remitted 3c. for 18c. worth of stamps and reasoned it out as follows that as they forgot to put in the 4 var. Mexican stamps which the firm give free he was entitled to 10c. and the commission of the remaining 8c. was 3c. leaving 5c. due after deducting 2c. postage, 3c. was remitted.

The mail arriving about this time, I left to allow them to answer their large mail, having spent a very pleasant afternoon.

HOW TO COLLECT STAMPS.

First, you want an Album for your collection. A neat album can be purchased for 35c. or less, having spaces for about 1,000 or 1,500 stamps. The best albums, such as the International, etc., have spaces and pictures for nearly every stamp issued; but these albums cost more and are too high priced for beginners. In putting stamps in your album, use hinges of thin paper, such that will not swell the book. But by all means, never stick the stamp in with mucilage or paste for by so doing you cannot remove the stamp without spoiling it and the album. When you want to put a stamp in, take a hinge and bend it in the middle, attach one end to the under side of the stamp, and the other end to the book. In this way you can examine the back of a stamp without taking it out of the album, and if you want to remove it, you can do it easily.—WESTERN PHILATELIC EMPIRE

(CONTINUED NEXT MONTH.)

Philately.

SWEDEN.

It may not be generally known, but of the 1855 issue, Sweden, the 8 skill. Banco stamps, orange, are also found in yellow and pale yellow color, these varieties are extremely scarce, and are held in high price by Swedish collectors. Another variety of color is found in the 1858 issue, 12 ore, blue, printed in ultramarine in this color they were only used for a short period during the year 1862, and are also very scarce.

At a small inn at North Bersted, near Bangor, is to be seen a room the wall and ceiling of which are covered with stamps of all nationalities. The proprietor has been indulging in his hobby for three years and he calculates that at least a million stamps, worth before cancellation £14,000, have been used on the room.

A gentleman in Seirra Leone lately offered a lot of monkey skins in exchange for old stamps.

The Belle City Stamp company of Racine, Wis., have retired from business on account of time,

The N. Y. Philatelist publishes a long list of those "dreadful frauds." Beware of them!

Mr. Charles Beamish has given up the

stamp business and disposed of his stock to parties in Philadelphi.

Although Mr. Beamish has discontinued to deal he still retains interest in stamps and keeps posted on the philatelic subjects of our time, as he patronizes liberally the various periodicals published. He still holds his position with the Morse, Williams Elevator Co., as head book-keeper, which stands to prove the satisfaction he has given the firm, having started in as office boy only five years ago.

Michigan should have a philatelic society. It is about the only state that has not one. Let some one step forward and organize one at once.

COIN COLLECTING AS AN AMUSEMENT.

The field for collectors is large and varied, extending from the period when the first medal took the shape and name of a coin seven hundred and fifty years before Christ, in an almost unbroken line down to the present time.

It cannot be said that coins are without interest, or that they possess less fascination, than other objects of curious research, whether antique, mediæval or modern. They lead to such a knowledge of history and art, as cannot otherwise be obtained. There is no truer saying than that "we all have our hobbies." Hence we speak a word for Numismatics, commending the same to your careful consideration, asserting that it will be found entertaining and instructive to a degree that challenges all other sciences or pursuits. Scott & Co.

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A MONTHLY FOR COLLECTORS.

BERT WESLEY, EDITOR AND PUBLISHER.

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Editorial.

This being the first number of the STAMP COLLECTORS' COMPANION, it is a trifle small, but next month it will come out enlarged. I would like to have different collectors write up articles of interest for collectors as it helps to make the paper of interest.

Publishers, send me a copy of your papers and I will exchange with you.

NOTES.

The Essex County Philatelist appears in a smaller form during the summer months as many other papers appear.

The Youths' Journal is now the Collectors' Journal devoted to the interest of collecting.

You will notice in another column, an ad. of ours showing that we do all kinds of job printing. Write for samples and terms.

Humorous.

PRESENCE OF MIND.

Miss Plumpleigh, (chocking)—Oh, Mr. Dudekin, I-I really think I've swallowed a dreadful fly! What shall I do?

Dudekin—Deah girl, better swallow some fly papah.

BORN LAZY.

Mc Corkle,—Isn't Briggs naturally a lazy man?

Mc Crackle,—Not exactly lazy; but he seems to think that it is unhealthy to work between meals.—Exchange.

FOOLED !!

Miss G. (smiling)—What have you got that old postage stamp in your watch charm for?

Mr. H.—I received that on a letter from you, and I took it off, kissing it many a time after your sweet lips had passed over it.

Miss G.(sourly)—I am sorry to say, but I pressed it against dear Fido's nose to dampen it.

REFRESHING HIS MEMORY.

"Johnny, who discovered America?"

"I'll be switched if I know."

"You'll be switched if you don't."

"Under the circumstances then," said the boy, "I should say that Columbus the man."

Advertising Pays. See the point?

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