

The Boys' of Worcester.

Vol. 1.

Worcester, Mass., January, 1879.

No. 1.

ORIGINAL.

Worcester, December 26, 1878.

When oft I take the poet's pate,
And turn to think of my sad state;
I wish to soar to worlds away,
And try to find a fairer day.

In looking o'er the lists of men,
Who once have filled the poets' den,
I find but one in all the town,
That can be called of great renown.

And he is Smythe of Edward Street,
As good a fellow as one may meet:
He wrote many poems of excellence,
Especially when on top of a fence.

As now I bring myself to an end,
Please do not hastily commend
This short and silly little poem,
Composed and written by John E.
Owem.

G. S. D.

For the "Boys' of Worcester."
Tom Mainstay and His Mermaid

—xx—

By Joseph D. Miller.

—o—

A change had come over Tom. He was not the same, gay, light-hearted fellow of yore; he went about the ship with a sad face, and in an indolent,

listless sort of way. Poor Tom! Time was when no better sailor walked the deck; but now all was changed. His large blue eyes gazed ever thoughtfully before him, as if searching for something beyond the illimitable waste of waters.

He acted as if these were some horrible secret on his mind, that he was afraid to divulge, but which held him powerless in its grasp. He seemed to more ever in perennial midnight, on a road beset with grinning goblins that shrieked at him from the darkness, and in hideous laughter mocked his misery.

I took him aside one day, and questioned him sharply. "Tom," said I, "you must tell me what ails you. You are not the same fellow you were two months ago."

Tom and I had grown up together, and I felt I had a right to question him. But he repulsed me rudely, and with a hasty exclamation turned away.

That evening as the twilight deepened, and the sun dipped lower, he seemed to be wrapped in a sort of ecstasy, so different from his usual demeanor. The fire in his eyes melted into dreamy softness, and as he sat upon one of the chests, he hummed a rude nautical song; but the air was sweet, and the voice that sang it—wondrously clear and resonant.

Over and over again he trilled the quaint old ditty, until every echo caught the strain, and the sea itself trilled with the wierd melody.

"Oh! fair the sea, and fair the sky,
But fairer the light of the mermaid's eye
Wherever my truant footsteps roam
I'll long for the light of the mermaid's
house—

The mermaid fair, the mermaid fair,
With the sea-blue eyes, and the sea-
weed hair!"

At last the sun sank out of sight, and darkness hovered on the ocean. And still he sat there, with the same glow in his eyes, and humming the same old ditty.

Then came a voice in reply, sweeter and more silvery than Tom's;

"Oh! youth with the eyes of the sunny
clime,

And the hair like the moon-lit waters
shine;

Our homes are bright, and beneath the
waves

Are emerald bowers, and coral caves—
Come youth of the golden locks with
me

To our love-lit palace beneath the sea!"

Tom was peering over the side. I followed his example, and there rising from the calm waters was the face and form of a beautiful woman. Her hair was long and like sea-weed; it floated in heavy masses around her. Oh! how beautiful she looked! Her face was the very soul of poetry, and the eyes that gazed up at Tom were deep and lustrous.

Poor fellow! I realized it all now. He was in love with a mermaid. I could see that her almost unearthly charms had made a deep impression upon him.

She repeated the last line of the song, and held out her arms as if to receive him.

Before I could form a plan to stop him, or give the slightest signal of alarm, he had leaped into the sea.

"Tom, Tom!" I cried, in an agony of apprehension. "Swim back." But it was useless. The mermaid clasped him in her arms. I caught one glimpse of Tom's face. The pale rays of the moon shone upon them, he radiant with happiness, she triumphant at her victory, and then—

"The waters roll'd, the waters swell'd,

The short suspense was o'er;
Half drew she him, half dropp'd he in,
And sank to rise no more!"

NOTES.

—You are invited to criticise this number of our paper.

—All amateur books send us will be impartially criticised.

—Worcester has now five amateur papers.

—Persons having complete files of amateur papers, wishing to sell, can find a purchaser by inquiring at this office

—After quite a long relapse amateurdom is awakening in Worcester. Our association is in a flourishing condition; some of the old amateurs of the city who were fossils have seen "the error of their ways," and are coming back. This is a sure indication of success for the coming year.

—It is reported about town that Oliver & Davis of the Gazette will retire and a stock corporation will be formed to run that paper, but nothing definite has been learned.

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PUBLISHED MONTHLY AT

274 Main Street.

ELLIS AND DICKINSON	}	EDITORS AND PUBLISHERS
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TERMS:

Subscription, 15 cts. per year.

Advertisements, 4cts. a line, 25cts. an inch, \$1.15 a column. Liberal discount on continued advertisements.

Good, sensible stories, sketches etc., always in demand.

We will exchange with any paper.

274 Main St., Worcester, Mass.

Boys' Favorite Print. Worcester, Mass.

Dear Readers:

We come before you this month with some fears as to how we shall be received. We know it is a great undertaking to edit an amateur paper, but with your help we hope to make it a success and to merit a degree of approval. Our endeavor will be to give to our readers each month the best reading matter that we can obtain, and shall abstain from putting anything sensational in our column. We shall reserve one column on the fourth page to be devoted to stamps, and though, this will not please some of our readers, still we think that it is just as good and more readable than a column of advertisements. Our subscription price we place at the low sum of 15 cts. which is within the reach of every one.

Yours truly,

The Editors.

—Please send in your subscriptions at once.

Stamp Collecting.

THE BENEFITS AND PLEASURE
DERIVED FROM IT.

C. B. R.

Of all the amusements and innovations introduced during the last decade, none have gained such notoriety and lasted as long as stamp collecting. Beginning its existence some fourteen years ago in the metropolis of France, it spread itself in a few months into Germany, Great Britain, and finely reached the shores of America. It sprang its self into the favor of the public, at once, and even at the present time holds itself in high position as a pastime, though the great furore it created at first it has settled down to a more matter of fact pursuit, and it has been strung on the same thread as Monograms, Autographs and the like.

As a source of general amusement we do not know of anything that will afford as much at a similar outlay, taking into consideration the benefits derived from it. There is much knowledge to be gained from stamp collecting, to begin with, always have neatness and clearness, it gives us an idea of system and arrangement, also how to contrast and blend colors, no collector if he has any taste at all will tolerate soiled spots upon the edges of his album, after he has once compared it with some other that has been better kept, for he cannot help seeing the vast difference between the one that has been cleanly and tastefully arranged and the other spotted and soiled. Then there are other lessons to learn

from it. We see a stamp that is new to us; we don't know where it belongs; we refer to our atlas and find that it belongs to Persia in Asia, (the specimen before us) there are characters upon its face new and strange to us, we look up the record of the country to enlighten ourselves upon the subject, the stamp has the portrait of the ruler, we refer to the history to find out who he is, we learn that he is the last Ed-Din, he was born in 1829, and succeeded his father to the throne in 1848, and reading further we find that his reign has not been a very prosperous one. Persia having been ravaged by a frightful famine and shorn of territory by foreign conquest since his accession, and so on we can read the history of a country, and it becomes a lesson that we do not forget very soon, with every new sovereign, as a general thing, comes a new issue of stamps bearing his likeness when the different issues are arranged in the album it needs but a glance to get a pretty accurate idea of the internal history of the country, and then if at any time we want to see the portrait of the ruler of a country we can readily find him by turning to the country.

Philatelic Department.

Conducted by C. B. RAUB.
P. O. Box 801, New London, Conn.
To whom all philatelic communications and exchanges should be addressed.

*Newly and Lately Issued
Stamps.*

Bavaria—The T. P. informs us that

there is a new issue of the 5 P. cards, with 5 in the upper corners instead of posthous.

Cashmere—The three lately issued stamps in new colors are

- ½ a Lilac.
- 1 a Red.
- 2 a Violet.

China—The stamps in use are similar to the 1st. issue. Shanghai stamps, we have seen two values.

- 3 candareens brick red
- 5 „ yellow

Falkland Islands—We have another addition to our albums, these islands have just issued a neat pair of postals bearing the diadem and profile of the Queen to right with name in arched line above and value below the values and colors are

- 1 Penny Claret.
 - 6 Pence Green,
- (To be continued.)

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FOREIGN STAMP IMPORTER

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No. 2.

Newly and Lately Issued Stamps.

Bavaria.—An International card was announced to appear in November last.

China.—We have received, of the same design as that described in last months number.

Cuba.—According to the Belgian Magazine, the following values exist imperforated.

- 1876. 50c. de p. blue.
- 1 peseta black.
- 1877. 12½ and 50c. de p.
- 1878. 5, 10, 12½ 25c. de p.
- and 1 peseta.

We have received two values of the 1879 issue.

- 25c. de p. blue.
- 50c. de p. slate.

Japan.—A band for registered papers is in use, it differs from the "wrapper for journals" in the absence of the characters in the leaves at the sides.

India.—We have received the official stamps with such surcharge

Ou		Ou
H. M.	instead of	H. S.
S.		M.

as heretofore, the following are the values surcharged

- ½ anna blue. 2 annas yellow.
- 1 anna brown. 8 annas carmine

France.—The 25c. stamp is now black on red-vermillion.

India.—The Journal of Leipzig announces two envelopes bearing a peculiar design,

- 5 annas yellow.
- 5 " blue-green.

Maderia.—50 reis with surcharged inverted.

New Zealand.—has added two new values to its list of stamps.

- 2 shillings pink.
- 5 " grey.

Panama.—The "Guia" informs us that it has received a postal card, the value of which is indicated by half of the 20c. stamp, from which it infers that the 10c. stamp has not been issued.

Peru.—A 1 centavo is in use
1 " orange.

Germany.—On Oct. 1, a card was issued for use in the postal union,
10 pfaring, carmine.

Great Britain.—has a new wrapper the design consists of bust of Victoria to right, in oval, surrounded by wide band with "Postage" above "One Penny" below.

1 penny, brown.

Cypurs.—The "Union" states that a provisional series has been issued for the island of Cypurs, the latest English acquisition. The values are 20 and 50 pafas black on yellow and blue paper and 10 pafas rose. The stamps bear "Cypurs Government" in English letters.

Perſia.—Another provisional of the lion type.

1 Kiau. yellow.

Wurtemberg.—A new postal card for use in the postal union is announced.

10 Pf. red on chamois.

Tollma.—Le T. P. announces a new value.

5 Peso's brown.

Porto Rico.—We have the following stamps unperforated.

1877 5, 10, 15, 25 c de p.

1878 1 Peseta.

Samoa.—Three more values are in use.

1 s. yellow.

2 s. brown.

5 s. green.

Victoria.—An envelope of 1 penny type of the 2 pence is in use.

1 h. green.

Peru.—A 1 centavo is in use.

1 centavo orange.

Philippine.—The Tiubre Post says the following values exist unperforated.

2 c de p. blue.

10 c de p. blue.

12 c de p. lilac.

25 c de p. green.

625 mils. de p. lilac.

25 mils. de p. black.

50 mils. de p. lilac.

200 mils. de p. rose.

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—In the latest number of the Eastern Sunbeam, we notice that the egotistic editor of that paper begins to howl over Oliver again. He is truly brave making statements which he knows Oliver who has no paper now can not answer publicly. He is like a little boy who, not able to whip another boy whom he dislikes, openly, comes up behind him and strikes him in the back. But Mr. Frye makes statements which are not entirely true. He says that Mr Oliver had to pay him the money for the October Gazette which he printed. This is slightly wrong. The committee did not wait to hear Oliver's side of the story and then they did not give Frye all the money he wanted and Oliver has told us that he never refused so pay the money but the exorbitant price which he wanted. Mr. Frye who got the best of that little business? Talking about Babies, Mr. Frye we would give you a motto which would exactly hit your case. 'People in glass houses shouldn't throw stones etc. etc.'

—Giving up the publication of the Gazette, on the plea of 'no time,' when he was assisted by three gentlemen, it is hardly consistent for Oliver to undertake the issuing of a new paper unaided and alone. Yet such is his intention and to avoid gossip and maledictions, we would advise him to drop it at once.

—Knight, with a parting denunciation of Oliver, ceases his interest in amateur affairs.

—There is a visible decline in Worcester in regard to philately. At the beginning of the winter many were the collectors all eager for new varieties and issues, but now how different, the collectors are few and far between and we must say of new issues, the supply is greater than the demand.

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are most earnestly solicited to aid in this undertaking, to subscribe and advertise in it, a most excellent investment.

We remind our readers that amateurs, singly, have united as a whole frailty has become strength the Minute Press has placed itself in the wake of the professional and solicits the notice and respect of New England.

Conscious, are we, that it is a bold step, boldly undertaken and we hope it will be boldly carried out, if it is successful it will establish one important point, that Young America is at last able to assert its power with a strong and mighty voice. For, "The pen is mightier than the sword."

"In Union, There is Strength"

From where this statement first proceeded, with whom it originated, is to a an obscurity.

But we do know that because of the truth therein expressed, it passed from lip to lip, rose to the honor of being a states motto, and the ancient maxim becomes a self evident axiom.

The Worcester amateurs, ever awake to the interests of amateurdom, ever alive to its importance, have undertaken a new project, scarcely chronicled before in amateurdom's annals, namely, of publishing a representative paper upon the stock plan.

The number of shares has been limited to one hundred. at fifty cents each, already thirty three have been taken up by the local members of the fraternity, the remainder are in the market.

It is proposed not to confine the membership to Worcester, but to extend it to all New England.

This enterprise cannot fail of excellent results, all money which amateurs see fit to invest in shares, will undoubtedly be safe and placed where it will do great good; and subscribers

C. M. A. P. A.

Organized on the 10th of October, 1877, the C. M. A. P. A. has already had a long-lived existence; in truth, the interest has been never falling for nearly two years.

At one time a rival of Lowell, now, by far, her superior. The first meetings of this worthy association never lacked interest or excitement yet there was a noticeable lack of parliamentary law and general good order; in this respect, the improvement has been vast, and classed among others her showing would not only be creditable to herself but to her members.

The association is still in a flourishing condition, her membership though not large, is active, her treasury supplies all wants, and her officers prompt in their decisions.

Such is the result, "Great oaks from little acorns grow."

LOCAL.

—The excuses which Martel gives for a delay in the publication of his worthy paper, pardon us, magazine, increases worthily in ingenuity and plausibility.

—Geo. Davis is happy. Relieved from the financial embarrassment in publishing the Amateur Gazette, he finds rest and solid enjoyment in the Treasurer-ship of the stock company.

—We have seen advance sheets of the resurrected Amateur Press. Its editor is fierce in his condemnation of Oliver. Starkie may have reformed since he has entered the Academy, but that is certainly no reason, why he should deny any of his past faults or attempt to obscure them from outsiders.

—There is a certain gentleman in this city, who is continually grumbling about the instability of every venture unless he, himself, is prime imperator. If this gentleman would cease his idle prattle, he would confer a pleasure, not only upon us, but upon all our local brethren.

—We are always ready to encourage perseverance in a young writer, always ready to assist him in his search for fame, but there is a time when our assistance has a limit, in our own city is a gentleman, who continually grinds out articles in which the lack of rhythm is too perceptible. Without any intended disrespect for the gentlemen, referred to above, we would advise him to cease his poetic labors, and turn his attention to other duties more suited to himself, for genius is born, not made.

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