

The Philatelic Clipper.

A MONTHLY MAGAZINE DEVOTED TO STAMP COLLECTING AND JOURNALISM.

Vol. I.

BURLINGTON, KANSAS, FEBRUARY, 1892.

No. 5.

Written for The Clipper.

ABOUT STAMP COLLECTING.

By J. P. S.

Some people say that it is a foolish pastime, just boys play, but is it? If it is boys play, why is it that in nearly every hamlet, village, and city you will find stamp collectors? And are these all young boys? Of course they're not, stamp collectors consist of businessmen, learned physicians, clergymen, judges, and of great families, all classes of people. And what do they collect them for, you will ask. They collect them for the advantages it gives to education, history, business-education, letter-writing and it is one of the most instructive divisions. Why, in a small stamp, you have works of art, history of nations, use and fall of Governments, or great families, and you can read the World's history for 50 years or more without any kind of aid. This information lays all in a little postage stamp, and can be found out by any one who desires to learn the secrets of our hobby. Now take for instance a beginner, he commences with his glue pot, old copy book, and 1000 well assorted for 20c and thinks that he is going to be a great man. Well, he might be, but this is the way his stamp-collecting turns out. He makes such a muss with his stamps, smears them all over with glue, and then pastes them in his copy-book, and has them to stick as tight as a brick-

layer would have his bricks to stick together, and begins to show these stamps to older persons, who sees his copy-book with its stamps in, and that they are stuck together so that you would become discouraged with stamp collecting at once, and they will say to him about this time, "Oh this is just boys' play, just a craze for nothing," and will commence to make fun of him. Well, this will kind of discourage this boy, but he will try and get an answer in somewhere so he says so-and-so collects stamps, and can tell you by looking at the stamp all about it, and he says that it helps you in many ways and he likes to collect stamps, there are stamp societies, papers, and lots of other interesting things that you can find out through them. But some matter-of-fact people can't see into anything that they ought to, especially something that is a means to an education. But this is the just trial this beginner has had, and if he intends to make himself a good authority on stamps, he must be ambitious, clear-headed and of good judgement, and always must keep his eyes open for new discoveries in stamps, and be posted in all the philatelic news of the day. To do this it requires a little patience but like everything else at first it seems hard, till you become advanced a little to see what it is to be a philatelist. There are many more trials for beginners than the one I just

named but in different ways. Some people who commence to collect stamps just for a couple of months, then commence on something else, and when they get tired of that still keep shifting about from one thing to another, is one of the most discouraging things we have to contend with, and it has been the means of depriving us of many new recruits, and then they can get in the old gag, "Its just boys play. Well I will endeavor to show them that it is not boys play, that it is not a craze, and a foolish waste of time, so he goes. And here is what you see and hear all along your philatelic life. A very familiar question to us is, What good do they do you? Well you will try and tell them what the benefits of Philately are, that it is one of the best stimulants to geographical study that ever was or ever will be, and that for general information it can't be beat. You will hear some people remark how will they learn anything by collecting cancelled postage stamps. Well, I think if anybody wants to learn at all, and can't learn anything by collecting stamps, that is equal to saying that they never learned anything from their geography. Now just look in our beautiful albums, in them you will find the area, population, capitals currency and other good information, and if you have them filled with stamps and in a nice clean style, they will attract attention and be the cause of starting many a collector to worship at the shrine of Philately. And if you have this information before you and can get no good out of it there are few things that you ever will get any good out of. It is almost an impossi-

bility. Take a philatelist, one who is familiar with all the stamps and their countries, and then take one of our intelligent men and place them side by side, and see which one knows the most about the history of foreign countries and the United States. The philatelist will come out ahead every time, see if he don't. There are some skillfull men who could tell you the history of some foreign countries, and give some very interesting information concerning them. But they are only posted in a few. Then take a philatelist, they are very few things that he don't know concerning all the countries in the world of to-day. There are some independent countries who issue stamps that some of you have never heard of. We philatelists know it and have got some of their stamps, and can tell you the kind of people that inhabit the country, their past history, their rulers, and other items of interest. We all have, in our time, had a kind of craze for some thing, but stamp collecting is no craze, it is the means of acquiring a good education. A stamp collector educates himself from it. And finally becomes a student of stamps, and uses the stamps as subjects and thoughts of research, and by so doing we collectors are placing before ourselves subjects to instruct and improve ourselves for all kinds of business. Stamp collecting is also a great business educator. A beginner who commences to succeed and to go over all obstacles safely, will always be one of the leaders in Philately. He generally commences his way on the ladder of Philately about in this way. Suppose he has some

duplicates which he wishes to dispose of. His idea is to swap with some other collector. But this other collector has none of his stamps along and has none of what this other collector has. So he says, I will buy them from you. They strike a bargain, and the collector who sells them begins to get an idea into his head, and that idea will just stay there. He can't make it go away. Then he will try and set this idea moving. Ah! won't it look nice to see his name in stamp papers, philatelic societies, on letter-heads, envelopes, etc. All this time he has continued selling his duplicates instead of "swapping" as it is usually called by some collectors, till he has got a couple of dollars worth saved. With these few dollars he buys some stamps at wholesale, sells them all right, and has got about four dollars more now. He buys another wholesale assortment, and has arrived at the critical point. He is, or rather thinks he is, a stamp dealer. But he is, perhaps, one of the dealers who come one month and go the next. But we hope he is not. We want to see him stay and be at home with the rest of us. In all this time his knowledge is moving in a slow but sure way. He has become advanced enough to tell the difference in stamps at a glance, values of them, and other items of interest. He begins to have an inkling of the ways of this world: how business is transacted, and the meaning of debit and credit. He soon begins to master the art of bookkeeping. Perhaps not a double entry system, but a good practical one, nevertheless. Probably letter-writing also, and knows how to

strike a bargain when he sees it. And, I think, last but not least, he will have some correspondence with stamp fiends. This will make him look very sorry for loosing one or two dollars worth of stamps. But we've all been there before, yes, many a time. In a hundred more ways he acquires knowledge which will be of use to him in this busy world of business life which he has entered. I will write a few lines on letter writing. Here is a question. Did you ever see a philatelist without a string of correspondents? No, I don't think you ever did or ever will. Why, a philatelist has friends by the hundreds. I believe he could go to any city where they live and get a warm reception. I think I could, and I am sure that I could find many friends I never knew till I found Philately. This is a great science, as every one acquainted with our hobby will say. It is the youngest of all sciences, and the best of all, in dear Philatelia. It is just about 35 years ago that Philately found its first victim. As time passes by on fleet wings, with it go many of the old customs. Our numbers count away up in the thousands, almost a million, and to-day we are in the advance, with banners of Philately floating in nearly every city in the world. And do you think that all these philatelists are following philately for nothing. Ah no, they know what it gives them for merely nothing. You ought to be glad to have an opportunity to come into our ranks, and with all you have read and heard, will you still stay out? You might have heard some well ad-

(Continued on sixth page.)

The Philatelic Clipper.

Published Monthly at
BURLINGTON, KANSAS.

THE PHILATELIC CLIPPER
PUBLISHING COMPANY.

CHARLES EDWARD SOUTH,
Editor-in-Chief.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

One Year,.....25 cents.

ADVERTISING RATES.

Price for one insertion:

One inch 25c. | 1 Column \$1.50

¼ Page 75c. | 1 Page 3.00

20 per cent. discount on advertisements of 3 months or longer.

Address all communications to

C. E. SOUTH,

Burlington, - - - Kansas.

SALUTATORY.

To Our Friends and Brother Philatelists:—

With this issue "The Clipper" drops from the ranks of amateur journalism and THE PHILATELIC CLIPPER comes up and takes its place. This is our first attempt at philatelic journalism and we hope to receive your hearty support. We are not in a position to say positively that it fills a "long felt want" but we hope to fill a niche in the hearts of Collectors by giving them a good, bright, newsy and interesting journal. It is with great satisfaction that we place this paper before you and if you experience the same pleasure in reading it as we have in preparing it for the press, our work has not been in vain. We

take pleasure in announcing to you that we have secured two of the most popular philatelic writers of the day to write regularly for us. They are Messrs. J. Percy Stetler, of Altoona, Pa. and Ph. Heinsenberger of New York. Now in conclusion to our little salutatory we will say that we are not publishing this journal for "the fun of the thing" and you remember that Sir Robert Walpole said, "All men have their price" and so it is with us. The price of THE PHILATELIC CLIPPER is 25c. a year. Won't you allow us to call on you for 1892?

THE EDITOR.

EDITORIAL ETCHINGS.

A ROUGH estimate of the stamp collectors in this country places their number at upward of 300,000, probably in the whole world there are half a million persons engaged in this very instructive pastime. About 13,000 different stamps have been issued by the various countries throughout the world since they were originally introduced by the English authorities. This, of course, does not include the varieties in color, shape, etc., whose number, if catalogued, would mount up into many additional thousands.

WE send you this copy of THE PHILATELIC CLIPPER with the earnest request that it will be carefully read by you, and that your subscription or advertisement will be the result. The publisher will let no opportunity, which will advance the standard of the paper, slip from his hands. Instructing and interesting articles and notes on stamp collecting

bright and crisp editorials and a reliable class of advertisements will always be found in our columns. As an advertising medium THE PHILATELIC CLIPPER will be difficult to excel in its class. It circulates from Hudson Bay to the Gulf of Mexico and beyond, it goes when you want it to go and when it will do the most good. We want it to go with you.

THE PHILATELIC CLIPPER has recently added a complete printing outfit to its office and is now better prepared than ever to print any and all kinds of amateur papers. We guarantee our work to be good and our prices reasonable.

Dark storms may gather o'er our heads,

And rush with vengeance down:
Nor can we e'er avert their path,
But by pursuing virtues path,
And thus we gain renown.

WE desire to exchange papers and notices with all amateur and collectors papers.

EXCHANGE COLUMN.

Exchange notices of not more than 20 words will be inserted free to all subscribers. Non-subscribers will be charged $\frac{1}{2}$ cent per word. "Ads." $\frac{1}{2}$ cent per word.

—Leo. W. Mauck, Burlington, Kans. reading matter, albums, cards, etc., for coins.

—F. M. Bach, P. O. News Stand, Burlington, Kans., A 22-cal. Colts revolver to trade.

—Chas. Pottinger, Burlington, Kas. Novels, papers, books, stamps, coins,

etc., for rare stamps. Dealers send sheets on approval.

—Percy Stetler, Altoona, Pa., has papers, type etc., which he would like to exchange for good foreign stamps.

—Chas. E. South, Burlington, Kan. has novels, 15 albums, 1000 cig. pictures, 150 nos. of story papers, a magic lantern and a typewriter to exchange for a printing press and outfit, or will give \$2 worth of good Foreign stamps for any one of the following books:

Boy Broker, by Munsey. No. 91, or the Adventures of a New York Telegraph Boy, by Arthur Lee Putman, Tom Tracey, by Putnam. Under Fire by Munsey. Afloat in a Great City. Ragged Dick by Alger. Bound to Rise.

The cheapest and simplest gymnasium in the world—one that will exercise every bone and muscle in the body—is a flat piece of steel notched on one side, fitted tightly into a wooden frame, and after being greased on both sides with a bacon rind, rubbed into a stick of wood laid lengthwise of a sawbuck.

THE PSALM OF TRADE.

Tell me not in mournful numbers
Advertising does not pay;
For the man's non compos mentis
Who would such absurd things say.
Life is real! life is earnest!
And the man who hopes to rise
To success in any calling,
Must expect to advertise.
Lives of rich all men remind us
We can make our lives sublime;
And by liberal advertising
To the highest summit climb.

TRIBUNE.

vanced collectors talking some time about Philately, surcharges on stamps, new issues, and all kinds of philatelic news and talked the way they did, something you knew was about stamps, but you didn't know the meaning of those words, it might of made you think that you would never learn all they said. But when I just commenced I had heard such talk too. I didn't know their meaning, but I resolved that I was going to learn all I could about Philately, and that I would get many friends by persuing it and could pass many a pleasant hour with my album and stamps, that before I commenced, I didn't have anything to pass away my spare hours. I did not know what to do, I read papers, but I got tired of that till Philately got me as one of its many victims. Now if you are not a collector, and want to become a good philatelist, don't let some philatelist's talk discourage you. Make up your mind to succeed, and you will. We've all had, in our time, a craze for collecting something, but it is very seldom that you get the advantages which are offered to you by Philately. If you want to have an album filled with rarities, it will require a considerable outlay of money, just as it does to enjoy any other pleasure. But here again it differs from others, which is very important and speaks in favor of it. You can start a collection which it will be an honor to show to your friends, and you can start one which it will be a dishonor to show to them. But my advice is to start a collection within the reach of your pocket-book, and you will be well pleas-

ed with it. But keep a clean album, and try and get as lightly cancelled stamps as you can, and you will see the pleasure that it gives you. Some collectors collect awhile and then something else occupies their time, which I think is not a good plan. After a while they get the stamp fever again and start another collection. Now if they had saved their first album, it would contain many memories of their stamp collecting days. I think I would prize a stamp as highly as anything else, especially my first ones. These I would always save and call them relics, as they might remind me of the many happy hours spent in search of stamps, in old garrets, trunk, etc. But if you have made up your mind to sell them and do nothing else probably they will not bring as much as they cost you, but the pleasure derived while making the collection is worth something but a collector should never lose interest in this pleasing pastime and any one of the right sort won't. Most parents, as a rule, encourage their children to anything that will benefit them in any way. Then why not encourage them? More knowledge in a week than any kind of books they study for a year. The public may call stamp collecting what they please, but we know its advantages. Now, in conclusion I will say that the gates of Philately are again wide open to you. The wonder of wonders, a mystery to all who are not acquainted with our hobby. I hope that within the next century the banners of Philately may float on every breeze.

THE END.

JOTTINGS AND CLIPPINGS.

"Every newspaper man," says an exchange, "has at some time in his business met the man who 'now takes more papers than he can read.' Several of these men can be found in this city every day. They wipe their noses on the awnings, try to blow out the electric lights after failing to light a cigar on them, put a nickle in the slot and curse the postmaster and Wanamaker because their mail don't appear, want to lick the cashier of the bank because it closes before dark, watch the signs on a Neosho Street jewelry store and denounce it as a humbug because it don't strike the hours, and walk in the street to avoid the holes in the sidewalks.

Written for *The Clipper*.

THERMOPYLÆ.

Unloosen your ears, hearers and lend them to me while I as a true historian of the past, bring vividly to your recollection the terrible battle of Thermopylæ.

This terrible battle was fought between two opponents: the Greeks and the Persians, and was brought about by the Alabama claims. Greece you are aware lies on the 20th. page of Barnes atlas, while Persia is a kingdom lying off the coast of the Pontical sea in 20 degrees north lat. and 13 degrees east longitude, and contains an area of many square miles and a population of quite a lot. The Persians had also been seriously annoyed by the Spartans stealing their chickens and getting in their watermelon patches. Xerxes who had long ago spotted

Greece, swore that he would not leave a greece spot of her; so raising an army by a patent derrrick he started, singing, "We are coming"

Leonidas hearing of the proposed raid, hastily gathered three hundred home guards together, armed with nothing else but swords and grindstone to sharpen them, and went and took his stand at the pass of Thermopylæ. There wasn't a bit of fighting, and every thing went smoothly until the appearance of the Persians, when their advance guard, composed of Louisiana regiments came upon the Spartans on foot, and went down on their heads immediatly for the Spartans, who were all blacksmiths with brawny arms, battled them by battalions, and these went to grind their swords. Xerxes finding his men going down, but failing to come to time or anything else, ordered his artillments to shell the Spartans with a little Giant corusheller and then bumble bees to get the bomb ready; then, he arranged his draygoons in single saw file and charged the Spartans severely to behave themselves and go home to their mother, intimating if they didn't, he would arrest them and confine them in Libby Prison for stopping the procession; but the Spartans only ground their swords again, and whetted them on their boots, and stood their ground against the irresistible tide of the enemy, that swept down upon them with brooms, and immediately went back to dust. Did you ever fall off a fence and try to run your head through a brick pavement! If so, you can imagine the utter impossibility of the Persians piercing the Spartan lines.

Xerxes sent a messenger asking them if they would surrender, and what their terms would be. They returned an answer that their terms were cash; and that under no earthly consideration would they consent to move until the first of May; which is general moving day, and that they would continue to wage war until they got better wages. Xerxes boiling over with rage and vexation, seized a buggy whip and attempted to drive them from their position but they stood by their guns and showered brickbats into the brick-ades of the enemy.

Up this time the Spartans had lost but 280 men, but the battle showed no sign of stopping until the fighting was ended.

The brave Leonidas, amid all the hue and cry, continued to cry and hue down the Persian; only stopping once to light his pipe and blow his nose.

His CLIPPER flashed in the sun like spokes of a new carriage wheel, and heads flew off about as fast as they do at the commencement of a new administration. At this time all the brave 300 Spartans were alive except 296 men, and they showed no signs of going home to supper, and as they had only two million men to oppose, they fought braver than ever, with six swords in each hand firing their revolvers with their toes, while the Persians continued to come down like a sheep on the fold.

At night fall there was one Spartan left, and with a turning lathe he succeeded in turning the chromatic scale of battle, and the Persian were sole proprietors of a number one defeat.

The remaining Spartan did not re-

main long; but ran home to tell the news and brag about the "scrap" and get the nomination for sheriff of the county; but he fell into a mistatement of the facts and broke his neck, and never got over it.

So beware, my readers, how you fall into mistatements unless you have extra confidence in your necks.

Something New! Just out!
A flowing pen, superior to cheap fountain pen. Flows freely, never blots. Sample pen, 5c. Recipe for Magic Ink Eraser, and Circulars free with each pen.
G. BUNCE, 553 4th Ave., Brooklyn, N. Y.

U. S. & FOREIGN STAMPS.
I make a specialty of used and unused of all above. Also have fine approval sheets to parties giving good references.
CLEVE SCOTT,
Central City, - - - Nebraska.

MALTT
Stop long enough to read our "ad." and you will find that it is necessary to be
TO THE FRONT!
if you would succeed. To be up to the standard of the times you should have your printing done by the popular printers,

PERSINGER & BENTON,
Central City, - - - Nebraska.
JUDGE US BY OUR WORK!
We print this waper. If you like our work, send us your orders. Send for price lists etc.