

The Gaxton.

SCROLL SAWING.

By LANDIS.

This profitable as well as pleasing employment for the long winter evenings is almost daily increasing its popularity. The scroll saw was first exhibited at the Centennial Exposition at Philadelphia in 1876, and since that time many factories have been devoted to their exclusive manufacture, and today there are innumerable stores, at which they can be purchased.

The scroll saws range in price from twenty-five cents to as many dollars. The kinds most popular with beginners are the Holly, Demas, and the Rodgers, all of which are foot-power and work similar to a sewing-machine.

When a scroll-saw is bought, and received by express, care should be taken to have it set up right: make every screw as tight as possible, in order that the saw will not wobble, while in motion, for if this occurs, no accurate work can be done.

The blades are very frail and a beginner will break a great many while learning to saw.

When selecting wood be sure and select a piece free from knots, and not warped, and care should be taken while the wood is kept on hand, about the temperature of the room, in which it is placed, for if it is kept in too warm a place, it will warp in a very short time. The more common woods — Maple and Walnut — range in price from five to eight cents a square foot, depending upon breadth and thickness.

A beginner, when about to saw his first piece, should first select a common piece of wood, then a simple design (he should never attempt a difficult one at first) and paste it upon the wood. To do the latter work mucilage is preferable. Then, if there is any part of the design that cannot be reached without sawing through the black part of the pattern, drill a hole, so it would strike about the edge of the part which is to be reached. Into this insert the saw blade by loosening at the top, again fasten it to the arm of the saw, and proceed to saw the desired outline of the enclosed space. Do this way with all parts of the design, and lastly saw the outline of the whole pattern. It is best to saw the outline last, for if it is done first, some small portion of it, standing out by itself is likely to get broken in the constant turns, which the wood undergoes. It is advisable to paste the design right on the wood and not trace it, as many sawyers do, and rather than pay a few cents for a new pattern, make inaccurate work, because of the poor manner, in which the design is copied.

When one has completed what is described above, he should first sand-paper the wood, until the paper is all off, then a little varnish or shellac will give it a very pretty finish.

Sometimes work done in Holly wood, which is very white, painted neatly, will bring a very good price.

A steady day's work at a foot power saw, if the articles made be sold, will give a boy bountiful spending-money for a month.

CONTINUED STORIES.

Some editors attempt to publish continued stories. This foolish attempt—for it is foolish—rarely meets with approval, unless the story happens to be a good one, and not a repetition of some thrilling event taken from a flash paper.

This latter class appear generally in the new amateur journals, and when the exchanges criticise them severely, they make the excuse "That they did not know the ways of the 'Dom, when they commenced it, and that, when this one was finished, they would not have another."

We have but a word to say to these editors and that is "Look before you leap." Besides it harms your paper, as a person does not wish to take any interest in a journal that is half filled with trash. What the subscriber wants is short articles, spicy editorials and interesting items.

We are glad to see that continued stories are getting scarcer and scarcer, and we hope, that before long they may become a thing of the past.

 WHY?

Why are amateurs usually small? It's not because the press is small, it's not because the editor does not work hard enough, but because the public does not offer its support by subscribing or advertising.

Can a paper be expected to enlarge when it receives no support? Certainly not. Then why does not every amateur do his share towards helping the cause along? Simply because he does not think it worth while to invest 10, 15, or 25 cents in such a small paper; but would prefer to spend it foolishly (for some trashy novel for instance.)

Now rise up all ye amateurs and subscribe; solicit advertisements from business men, by doing this you do your duty and help the cause along.

THE 'DOM'S REPRESENTATIVES.

The Moon is an interesting weekly. Everybody should subscribe. See ad' last page.

The Battery is small but neat. Thanks for papers.

The Boy's Own is a good one, although a little to much Puzzle Department.

No. 1 and 2 of *Our Little Gem* to hand, neatly printed and good contents.

The Amateur Exchange is one of the best papers in the 'Dom. We will follow your lead "Tonnie" and have six numbers to the volume.

Sheaffer's elevation, in last month's *Enterprise*, is a master-piece of skill.

The Hornet is immense and there's no getting around it.

The Seminole has about as much reading matter as can be contained in a paper its size.

The Young America improves with every number.

The Brooklyn Advertiser is a poor attempt.

And still they come. *The Flag* is the latest from Stanberry, Mo., and a good one too. Success, Jim.

The Argus, too much puzzle.

The Stamp World is a splendid philatelic paper published by Collins & Mills of this city.

Poor paper, poor printing and poor contents make the *Stylate* a poor paper.

It seems to be the style now to issue philatelic papers. Mr. Geo. W. Logan, Box 305, of this city, will publish *The Queen City Collector* on Jan. 1, and says it will be the largest four-page philatelic paper in America.

Still Hunting in the *Bedford Gazette* is enirely too long.

Bill Bowney or How He Repented, in the *Truant*, is a highly interesting and moral story. Everybody subscribe so as to get the benefit of it.

The Caxton.

"It's not the size, that makes the paper."

VOL. 1. DECEMBER 1, 1881. No. 1.

FRANK MILLS,
Editor and Publisher.

124 Walnut Street. CINCINNATI, OHIO.

SUBSCRIPTION, 5 Months - - 10 Cents.

ADVERTISEMENTS - 30 Cents per inch.

Will exchange *only* with papers reaching us regularly.**EDITORIAL.**

One more added to the ranks!

And we hope it will prove a good one.

To-day we bring to light a new amateur journal.

Your editor, it is true, is a boy in size, though a giant in mind. (Ahem!)

Our aim is to make a paper, that will be a credit to the 'Dom, and it lies with the public, whether we will succeed or not.

We start out in a cold month, but we guarantee, that we will survive the winter. Having said this much, we await the approval or disapproval of the 'Dom.

To the sacred memory of my friend and teacher,

J. B. Chickering,

this number is affectionately dedicated.

ITEMS.

To the first to subscribe on receipt of this paper, we will give two good scroll saw designs.

An unused foreign postage stamp will be given free to every subscriber.

Gamb's revised coin list, showing the premiums on U. S. silver money, is a very useful book. Buy one and look out for premiums. There's is money in it. For sale at this office for 12 cents post-free to any address.

Golden Days will have an Amateur Department soon.

Pittsburg will have two more amateurs shortly.

Our Home and Science Gossip has an Amateur Department now.

Dealers in coins, stamps, curiosities &c. would do well to advertise, as most of our circulation is in this line.

St. Nicholas has a sort of an Amateur Department now.

Editors desiring to exchange ad's with us, must notify us of the fact, and if we are agreeable, all right, if not, we will say so.

Stanberry, Mo., is likely to have two more journals soon.

The editor of the *Hornet* assumes the *nom-de-plume* of the *Hornet-Man*. Possibly his name is Smith and he does not wish to acknowledge it.

Editors receiving this number, and not sending theirs in return, will not receive number three.

We send out this month over 500 sample copies with the hopes of enlarging our subscription list; therefore if you receive this number free, do not disappoint us, but send on ten cents.

The question now before the 'Dom seems to be whether "Amateurdom" or "Journaldom" should be the word. Although we are as yet father green, we should say that "Amateurdom" was the better.

Stamp collectors should read the dealers advertisements on last page. If you are not a collector, become one at once.

We have been promised a philatelic article by Landis for the next number.

In the next number we will devote a column (more or less) to a sort of amateur directory. To every editor sending 20 cents, we will insert in three numbers, the name of his paper, address, and subscription price. None inserted less than 20c.

Puzzlers having departments in papers, do not receive this paper free.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

The Moon.

A large 4-page 12-column weekly amateur journal, containing Literature, Poetry, Local Affairs etc., 50c. per annum. Sample copy on application. Will exchange with any paper coming regularly.

Address

P. & T. McCLEERY.

177 N. Market Street, Frederick, Md.

Established Twelve Years.

L. W. DURBIN,

Fifth and Library Streets, Philadelphia, Pa.

The cheapest and best packets in the market at from 5 cents to \$10.00 each.

Albums from 25 cents to \$12.50.

Circulars free to any address.

FREE! Send your address on a postal card for a Sample Copy of the "Monthly Reporter",

a large 8-page 40-column paper, devoted to Philately and miscellaneous matter.

Address, MONTHLY REPORTER,

Montpelier, Vt.

50 Varieties, together with 200 well-mixed foreign stamps, post-free, only 12 cents. Two varieties of large U. S. newspaper stamps, post-free, 23 cents. Send for price list.

GEO. W. LOGAN,

Box 305.

Cincinnati, O.

FREE! A large monthly literary paper 6 months on trial. A sample lot of funny comic envelopes. A beautiful 6x7 1/2 chromo and 6 funny comic transparent scenes, all free for only 15c. for postage, etc. Trial advertisements only 3c. per line. Address

"ASSISTANT,"

Oakland, Marshall Co., Ky.

THE BATTERY.**THE BEST OF ITS SIZE.**

THE BATTERY is an eight-page monthly amateur journal and filled with good literature, humorous sketches etc. Subscription 20 cents per year in advance. On trial 6 months for 10 cents. Send for a free sample copy to

THE BATTERY,
Box 224, Strawberry, Mo.**A Christmas Present.**

For 15 cents we will send you a pack of Magic Age Cards, and the CAXTON for 6 months. Send immediately. Address

FRANK MILLS,

124 Walnut Street,

CINCINNATI, O.

A FEW OFFERS.

100 mixed stamps, 6c.; 6 Mexico, 13c.; 4 Venezuela, 11c.; 5 Servia, 9c.; 2 Mexico Cards, 11c.; 4 Curacao, unused, 21c.; 4 Uruguay, 11c.; 8 Japan, 21c.—All post-free.

8-Page Circular Gratis.

Address

J. T. HANDFORD,

P. O. Box 3970.

NEW YORK, N. Y.

FOREIGN STAMPS!

Send for my new monthly circular giving terms, list of sets, albums, etc. just out.

F. TRIFET,

25 School St.

Boston, Mass.

STAMPS AND COINS. 118 Varieties Foreign Stamps, including 5 handsome Chromo Stamp Cards, only 30 cents. Catalogue showing prices paid for rare coins with copy of the "PHILATELIST", 12 Cents.

E. F. GAMBS,

621 South 5th St.

St. Louis, Mo.

Geo. D. Chester,**Foreign Stamp Importer.**

Sioux City, Iowa.

Send for "D" Approval Sheet.

For Sale Cheap!

The following Second Hand Articles in good working order:

1 Steam Locomotive and 3 Coaches with a circular track to run on. Almost new. Cost \$12.00. Price \$8.00.

1 Schooner, 36 inches long, with new sails and complete with an anchor. Cost \$10.50. Price \$7.00.

1 Victor Printing Press with complete outfit. Cost \$2.00. Price \$1.00.

2 Dark Lanterns. Cost each \$1.25. Price each 75c.

3 Magic Lanterns with Slides. 2 second hand and one first-class new. Second-hand cost each \$1.00. Price each 50c. New one cost \$3.00. Price \$2.75.

1 Pair of Good Clamp Skates. Cost \$2.00. Price \$1.25.

1 Good Sled. Cost \$2.00. Price 75c.

Any one wishing to purchase any of the above articles may write for particulars to

E. D. SMITH,

Community, N. Y.

The Gaxton.

Vol. 1.

CINCINNATI, O., JANUARY, 1882.

No. 2.

STAMP COLLECTING.

By LANDIS.

If you now are, or ever have been, a stamp collector, this article is not intended for you, but for the benefit of beginners we write this.

There are many different kinds of stamps, in each of which, in itself, there is enough variety to occupy the spare time of most boys. These may be mentioned as Adhesive Stamps, those which are pasted on letters; Envelope Stamps, those that are printed on the envelope; also Revenues, which, strictly speaking, are adhesives.

Collectors of Envelopes and Adhesives are most common, and a few Revenues may generally be found in the collections of younger philatelists.

Most writers advise new beginners to paste the first stamps they obtain in an old blank book. This is entirely wrong. If you intend to collect stamps, you must, sooner or later, obtain an album; and if one pastes his stamps in a blank book, in transferring them to the album, they are liable to be torn.

Albums cost from 25 cents to ten and fifteen dollars, according to style. (Circulars can be obtained by sending stamp to any dealers on the last page.)

A very good way to start a collection

is to buy packets, which all dealers have for sale. They generally contain a certain number of varieties, among which are some rare stamps, and they are all sold at less than the catalogue prices.

There are frauds in every trade, and philately has its share. These are in the shape of dealers who sell bogus stamps. Young collectors are, for the most part, their victims. When a collector receives a stamp which he knows is bogus, he should never again patronize the dealer from whom he got it. A rare stamp marked at one-third its value, from a doubtful dealer, is seldom genuine.

Torn or mutilated specimens, and any whose face is obliterated by a cancellation is never worth as much as if it were in a better condition. Many advanced collectors will not have a bad specimen in their collections. We would also say that when a collector procures a better specimen than that already represented in his collection, he should at once get rid of the old one and in with the new.

We will say in conclusion that, having ourselves been a philatelist many years, we found it to be an interesting and instructive amusement, and can heartily recommend it to every one as an enjoyable pastime.

PHILATELIC CORNER.

This department is started for the benefit of new collectors, and we hope they will appreciate it. To any collector enclosing a 3-cent stamp for return postage, we will answer any questions regarding Philately, such as Some good stamp journal, How to start a collection, Telling the countries to which certain stamps belong, &c. Do not be afraid to write because you think you cause trouble; for you don't, as we enjoy helping a new collector along. Address: Landis, care of THE CAXTON, 124 Walnut St., Cincinnati, O.

NEW ISSUES.

SPAIN.—A new series of war stamps are in preparation.

TURKEY.—A new 5 paras, black and green, has appeared.

PERU.—A 4 centavos postal card is in use.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.—The 3 pence stamp is again in circulation without the surcharge numeral 3.

LIBERIA.—A postal card of the value of 2 cents has come to hand. It is printed in blue and red on white.

VICTORIA.—This country now issues registered envelopes similar to those of Great Britain.

PERSIA.—Just received a new 10s. red; it is larger than the former issues, and is not well engraved.

GAUTEMALA.—Of the surcharged stamps another value value has been added: 5 centavos on $\frac{1}{2}$ real.

NEW CALEDONIA.—A 25c surcharged on the general issue of France is in use.

NOTES.

Mr. Durbin paid \$39 for the 500c Bolivia eleven stars at an auction sale last month.

Mess. Scott & Co.'s new International Album (Dec.) is out, and contains places for all the stamps issued up to about September.

The only difference between the stamps of Austria and those of Austrian Italy is in the money values, Austria being kreutzers, and Austrian Italy, soldi.

There are two varieties of the 1 penny Bahamas, namely, red and scarlet.

Care should be taken not to injure the perforation of the 60-62 issues of Finland.

Grecian stamps are found both with and without numerals on the back.

The '67 issue of Bavaria is both perforated and unperforated.

The general issue of India surcharged "service" are for official use.

NEWS ITEMS.

Stamp Dealers' Ads are classed with "Professional."

Can it be that the *Amaranth* has woodbined without our ever seeing a copy?

The first of this month brings forth several new publications.

The *New Orleanian* is a new one from New Orleans.

The *Young Nova Scotia* will be enlarged to 16 pages shortly.

The *Bedford Gazette* will suspend publication for a couple of months.

The *New Star* (Bedford, Iowa) has been discontinued.

It is barely possible that Cincinnati will have a press association this winter.

Amateur News has given place to Local Items in the *Moon* lately.

Pelham, of the *Venture*, intends to hustle things at the next N. A. P. A. meeting. Go it, Ben, we are on your side.

The Caxton.

"It's not the size, that makes the paper."

Vol. 1. JANUARY 1, 1882. No. 2.

FRANK MILLS,
Editor and Publisher.

124 Walnut Street, CINCINNATI, OHIO.

—SUBSCRIPTION.—

6 Months - - - - - 10 Cents.
1 Year - - - - - 20 Cents.

—ADVERTISEMENTS.—

Amateur, per inch - - - - 30 Cents.
Professional, " - - - - 50 Cents.
½ inch ads will be received at inch rates.Will exchange *only* with papers reaching us regularly.**EDITORIAL.**

It is with deep regret that we chronicle the death of Mr. CHAS. ELY, late publisher of the *Stylate*, who died at his home, Frederick, Md., Dec. 10.

Some papers are started during the summer vacation when the editor has plenty of time to work; but, when school commences, and the days grow shorter, he has not the time to devote to it. He therefore suspends publication, and his subscribers, if he had any, "get left."

This injures the cause, for a new paper coming out does not receive the subscribers it ought to, because they think it will suspend before they get their money's worth. Then the editor, receiving but few subscribers, feels discouraged, as well he might, and thinks the 'Dom does not appreciate his efforts.

Now, you can bet your boots that when you subscribe to this paper (THE CAXTON), you will either get your 6 or 12 numbers, or your money back.

All the money we received from subscriptions last month could be carried in our overcoat pocket. But why we received no more, we can not state, unless we are expected to give a beautiful 6x4 chromo away with each issue. But we would rather dispense with the useless things (subscribers) than descend so low.

If this paper is not worth 10 cents, then don't subscribe, that's all, for we don't expect you to, for "Blessed are they that expect nothing, for they will not be disappointed if they don't get it." But bear in mind you do not get this paper free.

Since our last number, we have received numerous requests to have a "Philatelic Corner," and as we are destitute of a Puzzle department, we comply, and commence it in this number, under the entire control of LANDIS.

It is impossible for us to chronicle all the papers received for want of space.

The exchange which said "that the funny papers would have plenty of reading matter now, as the new almanacs were out," struck it about right, for we have already seen one with a copied article, but no credit for it. But we do not blame the editor for not doing so, as it would sound bad to have everything in the paper copied.

—o—

Mark Marcy writes: The remarks of the *Thames Budget* in regard to Youth & Pleasure's prize contest receives our hearty support. It is to be hoped that some discrimination *will* be made, and the prize awarded solely to amateurs.

The *Budget*, however, touches on a subject that has long been occupying our attention, namely, complimenting amateur publishers. We have seen in several papers the expression "The editor should be congratulated for the fine appearance of his paper." Now, our worthy contemporary, the *Budget*, uses the word "complimented." Now it seems to us that the former term is usually employed in referenc to some person's good luck, and the latter may be, and occasionally is, used as flattery. We suggest the word "praised," thinking it much preferable to either of the other terms, even though it does not look so well.



The Gaxton.

Vol. 1.

CINCINNATI, O., FEBRUARY, 1882.

No. 3.

TO EDITORS.

Of course, editors who have been in the ranks for some time, know how a paper should be printed; but a few new ones do not, and it is for the benefit of these few that we pen this article. It may seem strange for us to criticise other journals, when this is only our third number, but we have kept our eyes open.

Nearly all the papers that come under the following criticisms, are printed by the editor himself, who of course is responsible for the looks of his paper.

One of the worst mistakes is to have the body work of the paper set up in more than one kind of type, as it mars the beauty greatly. Sometimes, however two kinds of type get mixed, and the editor being too lazy to sort it out, sets up his paper as usual, and the result is that it is not fit to be seen.

There is another thing that is simply horrible, and that is, placing "subscribe for this paper," or "Job Printing at this office," in heavy faced type at the bottom of every column where there happens to be a small space left over. A line or two of heavy type will sometimes spoil the looks of a whole page. If you have space left fill up with an item in regular body type, or else space the column out. So much for printing.

Now as to paper: Always, if possible, have a heavy or tinted grade, as it improves the looks of a paper one hundred per cent. Also have a large

margin, for the larger the margin is, the larger the paper appears to be.

If some editors would follow these few items, their papers would be greatly improved.

PHILATELIC CORNER.

Any items of interest will be gladly accepted from collectors. Questions answered through this column free of charge. Address, Box 473. F. L. MILLER, Cincinnati, O.

NEW ISSUES.

AUSTRIA.—A new series of adhesives in preparation. Design similar to the 1850 issue.

BOLIVAR.—The 5 and 10 peso stamps are in use.

LIBERIA.—A 3 cent adhesive has appeared.

NEPAL.—A set of three varieties are in use, viz: 1 anna blue, 2 annas purple, 4 annas green.

PERSIA.—A new 5 cent official has been issued.

INQUIRIES.

NASU.—I could not answer your question "as to whether the China stamps were genuine or not," so wrote to Mr. N. F. Seebeck, who replied as follows: "China stamps are undoubtedly genuine, but are issued, I believe, by a local company, who carry letters. The Chinese government has issued no stamps."

SNIDER.—Turk's Island is a British Colony, and has been since 1783. The stamp you have is the commonest of the set of three.

NEWS ITEMS.

No. 11 of the *St. Louis Paragon* was four pages, instead of eight.

The *Detroit Amateur*, 72 High st. E. has made a splendid beginning. Keep it up Rudy, old boy.

The Hive has enlarged, and is now a good paper.

Not much in *The Gossip*, but we hope to see it enlarge soon.

The Stranger's holiday number is just too-too sweet for anything. The printing is splendid; ditto contents.

The universal opinion—that the *Amateur Exchange* is one of the best papers in the 'Dom. Now why don't somebody say it would be the best if THE CAXTON were to suspend.

Those cuts in the Dec.-Jan. issue of the *Amateur Exchange* still haunt us though many a month has passed.

The *Youth and Pleasure* has, after a hard struggle, suspended.

The Moon has again devoted space for the 'Dom. That's right, P. & T. for "all locals and no 'Dom makes *The Moon* an unpopular paper."

The *Silver Plume* is good. Would like to see more from the same State.

Mr. Mathers writes us, that on account of his school duties he is unable to continue the publication of his paper, the *Union Spy*. All subscribers will receive their money back.

The *Christmas Bazaar* was very good; half reading matter and half ads. Commencing with the January number, it will be published semi-monthly.

From the numerous notices we had seen about the *Blushing Bud*, we were led to expect a large four-page paper, but we were astonished to find it smaller than ours. It is, notwithstanding, very good.

Thos. Swift, of *Our Favorite*, has left the ranks.

The *Hornet Man* has just added a "three-legged stool" to his sanctum.

We sent off our paper in such a hurry last month that we forgot to send two copies to certain exchanges. This will not happen again.

The Enterprise has not been well printed lately.

The Lantern prefers "journalism" to "journalism." Well, we don't know what we prefer.

The Webster Centennial number of the *Granite Echo* was fair.

The *Amateur News* is the official organ of the A. L. S.

The *Microgram* is still booming out in that glorious climate of California.

The *Stamp Collector's Review* is a good Philatelic journal from Rock Island, Ills.

The *West End Star* is improving. It chronicled about a half column of x's last month.

The Detroit amateurs have formed an association under the name of the Britton A. J. A.

The January *Young American* was too much leading article.

The holiday number of the *Miscellany* was very neatly printed; the cover especially.

The Star is the smallest newspaper in Canada; it is three inches long and two inches wide. It contains foreign and home news, and although hardly large enough to put in a wrapper, is entered as second-class matter.

Ye Oracle for January contained a full account of the C. A. J. A. meeting.

The *Phunny Phellow* has a new heading.

The *Hive* issued an extra, announcing the verdict in the Guiteau trial.

We are always sure to receive one piece of mail Monday morning—*The Moon*.

The Caxton.

"It's not the size, that makes the paper."

Vol. 1. FEBRUARY, 1882. No. 3.

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Editor and Publisher.

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1 Year 20 Cents.

—ADVERTISEMENTS.—

Amateur, per inch 30 Cents.
Professional, " 50 Cents.
½ inch ads will be received at inch rates.

Will exchange with every amateur paper in the World.

We notice that a few of our exchanges use old paper, such as hand bills, circulars, &c., for wrappers. Now this looks bad. Why not buy decent ones? It costs little and looks neat.

In looking over our old papers of '78 and '79, we find that the subscription price was much lower than at present. Then you could obtain a paper for 5, 10 and 15 cents a year, which you can seldom do now.

But then the circulation was not as large, some only having one or two hundred, while few climbed as high as 500.

Editors in announcing a new paper should give its full address, so that their readers and exchanges could send for a sample copy, and not merely say, "the— is a new paper from—; we wish it success."

The *Vigilant* and *Young Nova Scotia* are the kind of papers the 'Dom ought to be proud of. Their contents are free from the so-called "flash" literature, and both have excellent amateur departments. The latter has just begun a series of sketches of the lives of prominent amateur editors, and also bows to the new editor. While the former has a page or more devoted monthly to letters from the different States. If there were more journals

like these, the 'Dom would not have to support such departments as are in the *New York Boys* and *Leslie's Young America*.

But do not infer for a moment that we (THE CAXTON) support such departments, for we do not, and never intend to. We have not seen either of the above named departments, but we have seen the papers, and that is enough.

Out of the 137 papers we have been sending to since the first number, we have received only 68 in return. Now next number we will send only to editors who have favored us with a copy of their journal. So be sure and give us a place on your exchange list.

In an item last month we stated that we did not know whether there was an O. A. P. A. or not, and that if there was one, it was fossil or nearly so. Our ignorance of amateur affairs led us to make this statement. We afterwards ascertained that there is such an association, and that it is also active, Mr. Zerbe of the *Junior Record*, being president. It will hold its next meeting in this city, about a week before that of the N. A. P. A. takes place.

Editors can see that this paper is published for the purpose of exchanging, and is devoted entirely to amateurism, so please send us your paper regularly, and you will receive this one in return. We have a regular exchange book, and if you send us a copy we will put you down as a regular exchange.

"Well begun is half done." We began well and are half done—our first volume. This number we have better paper, which we think will improve the appearance.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

In answering "ads" please mention this paper.

Established Twelve Years.

L. W. DURBIN,

Foreign Stamp Importer,

Fifth and Library Sts. Philadelphia, Pa.

The cheapest and best packets in the market at
from 5 cents to \$10.00 each.

Albums from 25 cents to \$12.50.

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FREE! Send your address on a postal
card for a Sample Copy of the
"Monthly Reporter",

a large 8-page 40-column paper, devoted to
Philately and miscellaneous matter.

Address, MONTHLY REPORTER,
Montpelier, Vt.

RARE STAMPS CHEAP.

Set of 2 Liberia, 10c; 3 Chinese, 5c; 3 Cape,
5c; 5 Mexico, 10c; 5 Egypt, 10c; 5 Argentine,
15c; 6 Sardinia, 10c; 6 Hamburg, 12c; 10
Heligoland, 25c; 5 Japan, 10c; 5 Jamaica, 7c.

The lot for one dollar, no two alike. Circulars
free. Address, H. W. MEFHAM,
1025 Winter St., St. Louis, Mo.

G. W. RODENBERG,

556 Main Street, Cincinnati, O.,

— OFFERS —

200 finely mixed stamps, containing Cy-
prus, Persia, Mexico etc. **Postfree 20 Cents**
in Coin. Agents wanted at 25 per cent com-
mission. Order early and address as above.
Cut this advertisement out and send with order.

STAMPS! STAMPS!

120 all different	25 cents
75 "	15 "
50 "	10 "
25 "	5 "
50 U. S. Revenues, all different.....	25 "
4 Brazil.....5 cts	10 Denmark... 5 "
4 Cuba.....5 "	10 France..... 5 "
10 Hungary.....5 "	10 Austria..... 5 "
10 England.....5 "	10 Sweden..... 5 "
10 German.....5 "	5 War.....5 "
8 Wurtemberg.....5 "	10 Italy..... 5 "

WM. LECKLIE & CO.,

3025 South Park Ave., Chicago, Ills.

LOOK! LOOK!

I will send **100 MIXED** Foreign Stamps, in-
cluding one from Peru, for 10 cts. in silver or
stamps. **50 Varieties** including India, British
Guiana, Dutch East Indies, &c., for only 21 cts.

Sheets on approval a speciality. Address,
F. L. MILLER, Box 473, Cincinnati, O.

THE MOON.

A large, 4-page 12-column weekly amateur journal,
containing Literature, Poetry, Local Affairs, etc. 50c.
per annum. Sample copy on application. Will ex-
change with any paper coming regularly.

Address, P. & T. McCLEERY,
177 N. Market Street, Frederick, Md.

50 Varieties, together with 200 well
mixed foreign stamps, post-free,
only 12 cents.

Two varieties of large U. S. newspaper
stamps, post free, 23 cents. Send for price-list.

GEO. W. LOGAN,

Box 305.

Cincinnati, O.

SEND 75 Cents to E. D. Smith,
Community, New York, for
a splendid black silk watch guard. Long
enough to fit around the neck.

DON'T ALL SPEAK AT ONCE.

ADVERTISE in THE ADVERTISING STAR

Large circulation. Fine advertising me-
dium. A 16-column monthly, containing
choice stories, reading, poetry, &c., for only
50c. a year, with premium. Agents wanted.

C. B. THURBER, Publisher,

Box 41.

Bay Shore, N. Y.

FOR SALE.

A Card Printing Press, 7 fonts of type,
type cases, cards, &c. For further particulars
send stamp to **R. S. BRUBARGER, Freeport, Ill.**

Fearless, Independent—Valuable Information.

COLLECTORS MONTHLY. 8 Page.
25 cents per year. Sample copy, three cent stamp.
Recognized journal of **LIBRARY**
Philately of this country.

Patronized by leading dealers and authors.
TABLE, FRAUDS EXPOSED MONTHLY,
AND NEW ISSUES CHRONICLED.

W. F. SMITH, Editor and Proprietor,
440 EAST 58th ST., NEW YORK, U. S. A.

COLLECTORS

Set of 5 Bergedorf.....	10 cents
" 5 Sweden official.....	5 "
" 5 " unpaid.....	5 "
" 20 Spain.....	10 "
" 5 Japan.....	8 "

Send for new price list, just out. Agents
wanted. **UNION STAMP CO., Fitchburg, Mass.**

Card Collectors! We will send you 100
FANCY ADVERTISEMENTS
CARDS, all different, with or without advertisements
printed on them, with our price list, for only 10 cents
stamps, post-paid. Address,

ADVERTISING CARD WORKS,
Montpelier, Vt.

The Gaxton.

Vol. 1.

CINCINNATI, O., MARCH, 1882.

No. 4.

THE BICYCLE.

By LANDIS.

When you mention the word "bicycle" to a certain class of people, a vision generally flits across their minds of a big wheel and a little wheel, surmounted by a man; and they know that a bicycle is generally considered an excellent machine for those who wish to commit suicide, but this is about as far as their knowledge extends. For the sake of this class of people, and the world in general, we write this article; and we hope it may enlighten them in that of which they are so grievously ignorant.

Some time ago an ingenious (so considered at that date) Frenchman invented a machine known as a velocipede, which had no pedals, but was straddled by the rider and worked by him pushing it with his feet, and the riding of it was much more laborious than walking. Shortly after this an Englishman invented the three-wheeled machine still in use. About fifteen years ago a French gymnast, for a joke, put pedals on the old two-wheeler, and attempted to ride, expecting that he might succeed in going three or four feet, possibly, but little dreaming that his "joke" would lead to one of the most useful and at the same time amusing enjoyments of the century.

With the aid of his friends he mounted his machine, and when fairly seated, he, to their utter astonishment, rode off perfectly easy.

When it was seen with what little difficulty the two-wheeled velocipede was ridden, manufacturers in this country, England and France began to make them; and when the public were convinced that there was not so much danger in them, a great many bought them. Recently a much better machine has been made by Englishmen, and within the past few years its manufacture has been commenced by Americans. This is the bicycle.

The riding of a bicycle is not at all difficult. When you are about to fall on the right side, throw the front wheel to the right; when to the left, throw your wheel to the left.

If you have a brake on the front wheel, never use it, for this reason: If going at all fast, it will stop you so suddenly the back wheel will, in all probability, rise up, and you will "take a header"—that is, go over the handles. If your brake is on the back wheel, you will find it not effective enough; so our advice is, when you want to stop, "down the pedals"—that is, as your pedal rises, to press down on it with your foot, and this will very effectually stop it.

[To be continued.]

—o—

PHILATELIC CORNER.

Any items of interest will be gladly accepted from collectors. Questions answered through this column free of charge. Address, Box 473. F. L. MILLER, Cincinnati, O.

NEW ISSUES.



No. 1.



No. 2.

CHILE.—The color of the five centavos stamp will soon be changed to blue.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.—This country has at last issued a news-band. (Cut No. 1.)

CUBA.—A new set in preparation.

SPAIN.—A new series (cut No. 2) has been issued.

VICTORIA.—A registration envelope has been issued.

—o—

NOTES.

The new Sandwich Island stamps have not appeared.

The stamps of South Australia surcharged "O. S." are for official use.

We clip the following from the *Hurricane*:

S. E. A. P. A.

At the Eighth Annual Convention of the S. E. A. P. A., held in New Orleans, La., 29th of Dec., 1881, to 3d of Jan., 1882, the following officers were elected, and have been notified by the Corresponding Secretary: George Keen, New Orleans, La., President; J. M. Salabes, Baltimore, Md., 1st Vice-P.; Miss Clara H. Tardy, Huntsville, Ala., 2d Vice-P.; Geo. R. Cake, Hampton, Va., 3d Vice-P.; W. S. Russel, Apopka, Fla., 4th Vice-P.; G. Watkins, ———, Ky., 5th Vice-P.; Miss Bessie Britton, Charleston S. C., C. S.; J. W. McLain, Philadelphia, Pa., Rec. Sec.; C. R. Waller, Washington, D. C., Treas.; John J. Wiessart, Pittsburg, Pa., Official Ed.

NEW PAPERS.

We are glad to chronicle the following papers, some of which will prove a valuable addition to the ranks:

The *Ohio Official* is the official organ of the O. A. P. A., and is devoted entirely to amateur affairs in the Buckeye State. Chas. Rickert, of Canal Dover, is the editor.

The *Ray* beams upon us from Boston. We wish to see this paper prosper, as it has made a good start. Exchanges wanted. Address, 33 Summer St.

The *Amateur World*, from Stanberry, Mo., is the official organ of the S. A. P. A. It might be better both in contents and general looks.

The *Golden Anchor*, 56 Broadway, N. Y., is one of these neat Journals just the right size and good contents. We do not wish to see it drop "anchor" for some time.

The *Standard Bearer* is a neat paper edited by A. Schmidt, of this city. This journal can hardly be called a new paper, as it is older than the CAXTON. We mention it, however, because we have not seen it chronicled before. Exchanges wanted. Address, 13 W. 3d St.

The *Eagle*, published by Harry Doll, of Frederick, Md., is small, but likely to grow.

Will T. Scofield has returned to the ranks with his "*Sanctum*." The February number shows he has not forgotten how to conduct a paper. His address is Philadelphia, Jefferson Co., N. Y.

The *Amateur Review*, Bethel, Va., is a large 4-page journal. It does not review any exchanges, however.

The *Alligator* is a rather sawed-off specimen of an amateur paper; but still it is better than nothing. Address, 11 Glen Park ave., San Francisco, Cal.

The *Eagle*, 231 New Street, Columbus, O., is neatly printed. The contents could be greatly improved.

The *Advocate*, Beverly, Mass., is neatly printed and well edited. Of course, not much amateur news in first number.

NEWS ITEMS.

Just before going to press, we receive the *Tomahawk*, dated Oct. and Nov., '81. Although it chronicles the February *Amateur Exchange*, is not the heading wrong?

A new paper will appear from Dayton shortly. One more for Ohio.

Sad to state the *Gleaner* does not contain much interesting matter.

The *Star*, of Bay Shore, N. Y., is a good advertising medium. We know from experience.

The *Detroit Amateur* is a paper after our own heart.

Reeve deserves great credit for the way in which the holiday *Times* was gotten up. It is the best number of an amateur journal we ever saw.

At last we received *The Bay State Press*. We like Sanderson's style of writing.

The Caxton.

"It's not the size, that makes the paper."

Vol. 1. MARCH, 1882. No. 4.

FRANK MILLS,

Editor and Publisher.

124 Walnut Street. CINCINNATI, OHIO.

— SUBSCRIPTION. —

6 Months - - - - - 10 Cents.
1 Year - - - - - 20 Cents.

— ADVERTISEMENTS. —

Per Inch, - - - - - 40 Cents.
½ inch ads will be received at inch rates.

Will exchange with every amateur paper in the World.

FOR PRESIDENT OF THE N. A. P. A.

FINLAY ARON GRANT,

Editor of the *Young Nova Scotia*.

EDITORIAL.

Some editors start their papers with the expectation of having them entered as second-class matter, and when they find they can not be admitted, they usually suspend publication. We know from experience that it is not very pleasant to lick four or five hundred stamps every month, but it can't be helped.

A few editors think that president Reeve ought to procure pound rates for them, but how Mr. Reeve could influence the Post Office Department, we do not know.

When we started this paper we did not once entertain the hope of having it entered. But how some good for nothing little papers get entered, while large interesting ones are excluded, is a mystery to us.

— We wonder does the would-be editor of THE CAXTON know the difference between an amateur paper and an advertising paper. — *Golden Anchor*.

Nay, friend Hanley, we do not; please explain. We stated that the *Brooklyn Advertiser* was a poor attempt, because it was badly printed and contained some very stale jokes. You state it was not an amateur; surely it was not professional?

Had we been asked what the N. A. P. A. was when we first entered the ranks, we would have had to keep silent. But now things have altered; we have read exchanges and written letters until we think we are on a footing (or nearly so), with our brother editors.

Slowly but surely the exchanging of advertisements is leaving amateurdom. It will not be long before a paper will have paying ads or none at all

The following journals are now published in the Buckeye State. *Junior Record, Standard Bearer, Cincinnati Amateur, and Caxton*, from Cincinnati. *Young American* from Dayton. *Sun and Ohio Official*, from Canal Dover. *Free Press and Columbian Press*, from Springfield, and the *Owlet, Acorn, Pearl, Eagle*, and *Ohio Star*, from Columbus, and the *Buckeye Boy*, from Tiffin, O.

A certain editor has an aversion to puzzles and will not devote space to them, and being somewhat of a philatelist, he has a "Philatelic Corner" instead, which he thinks is just as interesting; but his brother editors do not think so, and not having any too much brain, they call his paper a philatelic journal. Of course he objects, as it is no more devoted to philately than a paper with a puzzle department is devoted to puzzledom. Probably you can guess who this certain editor is. If you can't, it does not make much difference.

Some of the older editors, after reading our candidate for president of the N. A. P. A., will exclaim, "fool," or some other similar phrase. It does seem strange for us to dabble in politics already, but we know what we are about, and that's more than some editors do.

We hoist Grant's name with the intention of being at Detroit to vote for him.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

☞ In answering "ads" please mention this paper.

Established Twelve Years.

L. W. DURBIN, Foreign Stamp Importer

Fifth and Library Sts. Philadelphia, Pa.

The cheapest and best packets in the market at from 5 cents to \$10.00 each.

Albums from 25 cents to \$12.50.
Circulars free to any address.

FREE! Send your address on a postal card for a Sample Copy of the "Monthly Reporter," a large 8-page 40-column paper, devoted to Philately and miscellaneous matter.

Address, MONTHLY REPORTER,
Montpelier, Vt.

THE MOON.

A large, 4-page, 12-column weekly amateur journal, containing Literature, Poetry, Local Affairs, etc. 50 cents per annum. Sample copy on application. Will exchange with any paper coming regularly.

Address, P. & T. McCLEERY,
177 Market St., Frederick, Md.

Card Collectors! We will send you 100 Fancy Advertising Cards, ALL DIFFERENT, with or without advertisements printed on them, with our price list, for only 10 three-cent stamps, post paid.

Address, ADVERTISING CARD WORKS,
Montpelier, Vt.

☞ Fearless, Independent—Valuable Information.

COLLECTOR'S 8-Page MONTHLY.
25 cents per year. Sample Copy for a three-cent stamp.
Recognized journal of Philately of this country.

LIBRARY

Patronized by leading dealers and authors.

TABLE. FRAUDS EXPOSED MONTHLY,
AND NEW ISSUES CHRONICLED.
W. F. SMITH, Editor and Proprietor,
440 EAST 58th ST., NEW YORK, U. S. A.

ADVERTISE IN THE ADVERTISING STAR.

Large circulation. Fine advertising medium.

A 16-column Monthly, containing choice stories, reading, poetry, &c. for only 50c. a year, with premium. Agents Wanted.

C. B. THURBER, Publisher,

Box 41, Bay Shore, N. Y.

NOW READY,

J. T. HANDFORD'S INTERNATIONAL STAMP COLLECTORS' DIRECTORY. Price, 25 Cents.

52 pages, 1,000 names.

Send for it at once and be surprised. Address,

J. T. HANDFORD,

Box 1870, New York City.

J. STRAUS,

Wholesale and Retail Dealer in

Foreign Stamps

122 Orange St. Cleveland, O.

25 stamps and my price-list for 6-cent stamp 116 Hamburg Loens, 25 cents; 19 Hamburg, 25 cents; 7 Sardinia, 6 cents; 7 Russia, 5 cents; 9 Sweden, 5 cents.

☞ Postage on any of the sets. Price Lists free. ☞

The HEART and SQUARE PUZZLE.

The Best in the World, made of brass wire; and 10 Foreign Stamps, mailed free to any address for

ONLY 20 CENTS.

E. D. SMITH, - - - Community, N. Y.

SEND at once for a copy of large 8-page Magazine, illustrated, 1 year, and 25 Comic Envelopes, with name and address for 25 cents; providing you mention this paper.

USEFUL INSTRUCTOR,

HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA.

STAMPS.

50 Varieties, including Angola, French Colonies, United States, Venezuela, Wurtemberg, Sweden official and unpaid, U. S. Columbia, Russia, Cuba Brazil,..... 25 cents

50 Varieties including Mauritius, Iceland, Egypt, Jamaica, N. S. Wales, Russia Steam Navigation Co.,..... 25 cents, postage extra.

F. T. ICENBARGER, Delaware, O.

LOTS OF FUN.

A pack of Magic Cards tells any one's age instantly. Price only 8 cents. Address,

FRANK MILLS, 124 Walnut St. Cincinnati, O.

STAMP COLLECTORS.

The **Queen City Collector** is the kind of paper that is universally praised and recommended for philatelic news. Subscription only **20 cents** per year. Sample **FREE**.

Address, G. W. LOGAN,

Box 305, CINCINNATI, O.

Gamb's Coin Book Showing the prices paid for U. S. Silver money, big Premiums. Price only 10 cents. For sale by FRANK MILLS, 124 Walnut Street, Cincinnati, O.

ONE MILLION

Collectors Wanted to send to

R. L. HARPER, Jr.

Dealer in Foreign Postage Stamps

118 Mt. Vernon St., Boston, Mass.

For his cheap price-list of single stamps, packets, &c., FREE

H B. SEAGRAVE

STAMP IMPORTER.

11 Woodridge Street, Detroit, Mich.

Stamps sent on approval. Agents wanted. 33 1/2 per cent. commission given.

3500 VARIETIES CONSTANTLY ON HAND.

The Stamp Collector's Companion

(Ready April 1st.) A book for the philatelic fraternity, both old and young. Price only 15 cents.

50 pages, neatly bound. Address,

COLLINS & MILLS,

Cincinnati, O.

OUR CONVENTION AT DETROIT.

By WINSLOW.

Shall it be the last one?

It might just as well, if it is not to be successful in itself and practical in its results.

We have had six conventions. The first one, in 1776, at Philadelphia, was the most national in its complexion; the second, at Long Branch, the largest in its attendance; the third, at Chicago, interesting; the last three, too near to failures to furnish reasons for encouragement.

The success of the first convention was largely owing to Centennial patriotism, of the second, to a sharp rivalry between two local associations of New York City, of the third, to the fame the preceding conventions had attained throughout the West. There was nothing specially working in the favor of the last three conventions, whilst the failure of each imperiled the success of the next.

If it was certain that there would be fifty amateurs at Detroit, it would be almost certain that there would be eighty there.

How then can those who wish to attend a big convention be assured, a week in advance, that they will see one in Detroit?

One of the best ways is by written pledges of attendance, addressed to the editor of the *National Amateur*, and published in their issue and published in their next issue. Confidence would supplant doubt.

Amateurism will never want for heroes, nor heroes for admirers. Carlyle has written strongly of hero-worship, and this instinct or weakness of our nature will outlive the race. But before we care for a long pilgrimage, we must feel confident of finding something to worship.

But, candidly, when the idols are met, I am not sure that the results are altogether beneficial. The mystery that surrounded them is dispelled, and familiarity may breed contempt. Until we actually "set eyes" on the classic poet, and the keen-edge satirist, we were impressed with a very high idea of their exceptional greatness. We were confident he did not look like other boys or

talk that way. A reaction may ensue from finding your idols smoking cigarrettes, and talking more meekly and stupidly than the bright fellow, who is courting your cousin. You never thought, "the beau" could write anything that was worth your time to read, and *mirabile dictu*, you may return from the convention with waning faith in the literature of your idols.

But, after all, it is better to know the very worst about the very weakest. Let all the idols and all their worshippers, who can be at Detroit next July, publish the fact as soon as possible.

PHILATELIC CORNER.

Conducted by LANDIS.

Stamp Collectors are invited to contribute to this column, and also to make inquiries, which will be answered to the best of our ability, free of charge.

NEW ISSUES.

We have only a few to announce this month which will be very disheartening to the collector. The "Garfield Stamp" has appeared and is now for sale. The engraving is elegant and the color a beautiful brown. Porto Rico follows Cuba with a complete set of adhesives. Argentine Republic and Guatemala both promise new series shortly. Italy and Paraguay issued Postal Cards, the former being both double and single.

INQUIRIES AND ANSWERS.

I. NASU.—We most emphatically say, that reprints are not as good as the genuine, although they are very handy when the strictly genuine can not be obtained.

W. B. D.—Your question is hard to answer, as we do not know whether you include revenues or locals.

ROB. ROY.—The stamp you mention is Egypt, 1872 issue. It is not counterfeit. There quite a number of them issued, with the oval inverted and they are now considered a variety.

NEW PAPERS.

The *Hoosier Press*, Evansville, Ind., appears in eight-page form neatly printed and good contents. It supports Miss Britton for President of the N. A. P. A.

Our Own Favorite is another new one from New York, it is printed in pica, and not very neatly executed. Address exchanges to 601 E. 11th street.

The Monthly Echo, is a neat four page paper, published by the Echo Literary Association. Exchanges wanted, address 1241 North Tenth Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

The Satellite is another one from Philadelphia, printed in small type and contains plenty of reading matter. The sketch on the first page is not very good, but omitting this, the paper is very good. We notice, that the editor hoists Grant's name, so Philadelphia is not entirely solid for Riale.

The Ohio Star starts out in 12-page form and cover. It will be published weekly in a short time.

The Youth's Favorite, Cuba, N. Y., is a small eight-page paper. It is neatly printed although it does not contain much.

 ITEMS.

Glad to hear that Sanderson intends to publish more "cabinets".

Amateurism now has a stereotyper, what next.

A new paper from Osage, Kansas, soon.

Even Steel has his portrait on the third page of his paper. We would do likewise, only we want a few more subscribers.

If the weather permits we will be in Detroit in time for the convention, but if it rains, we don't know whether we will arrive, as we are N. G. walking on muddy roads.

We see by an advertisement in the *Young American*, that the Bazoo Almanac is for sale. If we didn't have Vennor's we would invest in one.

Webster's Dictionary should be one of the Amateur Journalist's closest companions.—*Young American*.

Yes, and Worcester's another.

All the Stanberry papers seem to be down on Reece.

The N. A. P. A. Convention takes place at Detroit, July 11th. Paste this in your hat.

We were compelled to omit the continuation of our "Bicycle" article this month as the copy could not be obtained.

The *Bazoo* man has added a "Telephone Pay Station" to his office.

Thanks to Sanderson, Price and others for back copies of their papers.

The editor of the *Pittsburg Star* should obtain a new pair of scissors, he has been using the present pair so incessantly during the last few months that they will no longer cut paper.

Welcome back, friend Smart, we thought you had left us.

We all feel better since we know, who the *Hornet Man* is.

We received a postal lately stating that the *West End Star* would be suspended. Another star gone glimmering.

The *Hoosier Press* states that the *Blushing Bud*, *Boys' Reporter* and *Cresette* have suspended.

The editors of the *Bazoo* and *Midget* are pulling each others hair in a most horrible manner.

Yes, it is very smart for an editor to state that his paper is entered as first or third class matter. Undoubtedly.

New York City seems to have more amateur papers, than all the rest put together.—*Pedestal*. Well, this is news.

We crossed off about 40 exchanges last month. We are sorry to do so, but we will not send our paper free.

We have another article by "Winslow" and one by "Numis" in store for our readers.

Thus far everything that appeared in this paper is original, either from the pen of the editor, or has been expressly written for us.

Now that the Western A. P. A. is about to be reorganized, the eastern boys bestir themselves and think of following the *West's example*.

The *Hornet* has the reputation of being the spiciest paper in the 'dom, and its editor the best paragrapher. Well, others may think so, but we prefer Fischer.

The criticisms on the *Amateur Exchange* seem to have taken effect, judging from the last number.

The Caxton.

"It's not the size, that makes the paper."

Vol. 1. APRIL, 1882. No. 5.

FRANK MILLS,

Editor and Publisher.

124 Walnut Street. CINCINNATI, OHIO.

— SUBSCRIPTION. —

6 Months 10 Cents.
1 Year 20 Cents.

— ADVERTISEMENTS. —

Per Inch, 40 Cents.

 $\frac{1}{2}$ inch ads will be received at inch rates.

Will exchange with every amateur paper in the World.

FOR PRESIDENT OF THE N. A. P. A.

FINLAY ARNON GRANT,Editor of the *Young Nova Scotia*.**EDITORIAL.**

We would like to have all editors read "Winslow's" article on first page.

We received one of Sanderson's "cabinets" and were very much pleased with it. But why was our next president (Grant) stuck way off in a corner?

"If the CAXTON lives long enough, its editor may sometimes realize, that a reprint of a stamp journal is not a good amateur paper.— *Hornet*."

The above is what the *Hornet Man* thinks of us.

It is all the rage now for editors to have their "devil" or some other imaginary person issue a small sheet. This is foolish, as the paper is of no use and only takes time, which might be used in improving his regular paper.

We are not sure, but we think when we entered the ranks, we brought our motto with us. Since then several editors have used it, but have not had the decency to use quotation marks.

We are pleased to hear, that V. Winters, Jr., will publish an amateur directory of the United States and Canada, sometime in July. This book will be published and no mistake, and will fill a long-felt want.

Some journals have lately published pen sketches of the lives of prominent amateur editors, we are glad to see this, for there is nothing a new editor enjoys more than reading how the "old stauibys" prospered.

"Stars" and "Eagles" have become very numerous of late. Both are good names for a paper, but lately nearly every new editor has assumed the appellation of one of these, the latter probably because he could obtain a cut of an eagle, with which to decorate his heading.

It seems to be all the fashion now to have some two-worded epithet at the head of the editorial column, such as Rickerts' "Ravings", "Spencer's Scribblings" etc. We like the style of these, but there are too many of them at present, so we will not have "Mills' Meanderings", but the plain "Editorial."

It is with pleasure, that we welcome the second number of the *Young Nova Scotia* in its enlarged form. The sketches are good and in fact the "general make-up" is excellent, and is in our opinion the best amateur paper published. Finlay Arnon Grant is one of its editors, and will be the next president of the N. A. P. A., if all things go well.

Since sending off our last number we received several letters stating that we were wrong in supporting Grant for president, that if he was elected, he would not help the cause along etc. To these we reply by clipping an item, which appeared in last CAXTON:

"We hoist Grant's name with the intention of being at Detroit to vote for him."

Some papers publish letters, which state (or are intended to) what the condition of amateur affairs is in that part of the country from which they come. Editors when publishing these letters should be careful to see whether they are all "O. K." for some correspondents use their departments to lay out their spite on certain editors. If the editor finds, that his correspondent does this, he should immediately dismiss him.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

In answering "ads" please mention this paper.

FREE! Send your address on a postal card for a Sample Copy of the "Monthly Reporter," a large 8-page 40-column paper, devoted to Philately and miscellaneous matter.

Address, **MONTHLY REPORTER,**
Montpelier, Vt.

NOW READY.

J. T. HANDFORD'S INTERNATIONAL STAMP COLLECTORS' DIRECTORY. Price, 25 Cents.

52 pages. 1,000 names.

Send for it at once and be surprised. Address,

J. T. HANDFORD,

Box 1870.

New York City.

SEND at once for a copy of large 8-page Magazine, illustrated, 1 year, and 25 Comic Envelopes, with name and address for 25 cents; providing you mention this paper.

USEFUL INSTRUCTOR,

HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA.

Card Collectors! We will send you 100 Fancy Advertising Cards, ALL DIFFERENT, with or without advertisements printed on them, with our price list, for only 10 three-cent stamps, post paid.

Address, **ADVERTISING CARD WORKS,**
Montpelier, Vt.

STAMP COLLECTORS.

The **Queen City Collector** is the kind of paper that is universally praised and recommended for philatelic news. Subscription only **20 cents** per year. Sample **FREE**.

Address, **G. W. LOGAN,**

Box 305.

CINCINNATI, O.

W. F. GREANY,

827 Brannan Street, - - - San Francisco, Cal.

Dealer and Collector of American and Foreign coins and medals. Also Colonial and Continental currency. Confederate notes and bonds, match, medicine revenue and postage stamps.

Finely Illustrated Catalogue for 3-cent stamp.

Stamps sent on approval to responsible parties.

EVERYBODY!

SUBSCRIBE FOR

"THE STAR"

The cheapest and best paper for the money in the world. Subscription price 25c. per year. Advertising rates 5c. a line. Specimen Copy 3c.

Address **THE STAR,** Box 41, Bay Shore, N. Y.

Schlingloff & Schmeltz,

FOREIGN STAMP DEALERS,

44 North Pearl St., ALBANY, N. Y.

50 foreign stamps, no two alike, and our list for 2 3-cent stamps. The cheapest and best packets in the market at from 5c. to \$10.00 each.

NUMISMATISTS!

7 Varieties of Chinese coins, 25c.; California Gold 50c. pieces, 65c.; Gold Quarter Dollars, 40c.; 1 Japanese silver coin, 20c.; all for \$1.20. Large assortment of U. S. Cents and 1/2 Cents.

J. W. MILNES, Bloomfield, Cal.

WANTED—Will pay cash for old coins, name lowest cash price or will set a price on coins.

UNITED STATES AND CANADA

AMATEUR PAPER DIRECTORY

NOW BEING COMPILED!

To be published in July or August 1882. Advertisements taken at 25c. per inch, 75c. per page.

For full particulars see *Young American*. Address,

V. WINTERS, JR.

113 W. Third Street, Dayton, Ohio.

WE WANT

AGENTS EVERYWHERE

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PRES. GARFIELD.

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HOW MUCH IS HONESTY WORTH?

By WINSLOW.

How much is it worth in dollars and cents? How much is it worth from a business stand-point? How much is it worth to a man in the world?

I love to ask such questions, for I think they form themselves into the briefest and strongest essays. Your mind is invited to the point, and you solve the problem to your own satisfaction.

But Benjamin Franklin will help you to answer my questions. He is the best advice I can recommend to you. He is the most practical of all philosophers.

Now you know what I am going to say what he said: "Honesty is the best policy."

When Franklin said "policy," he was not talking to Sunday Schools. "Policy" is a word that carries a cruel, narrow, financial, materialistic, expedient sting in every letter. There is nothing sentimental, weak, æsthetic, or like feather-beds and bouquets about it. In making that speech Franklin meant to talk business. He was giving his best rule for making money, keeping it, living successfully, and making points. He thought the sharpest frauds were the weakest fools. They did not even know enough to be honest.

Now, America may have some smart young men, both in the dom and out of it, who are more practical and philosophical than Franklin, but I am not personally acquainted with them.

Indeed, the nearest I ever came to being personally acquainted with a smarter young man than Franklin, was to correspond with one who thought that he was. He seemed to utterly scorn the idea that honesty was the best policy. But I believe he was sincere in his views, for he practiced them. I have tried to forget just how much this young man's honest difference of opinion with Franklin has cost me, but I believe I might recall it precisely if I should ever behold his sham-a-tem face. However, he must have reformed; judging not from any-

thing he has ever sent me, but from the fact that he was recently elected president of a Western State Association, and his message to the boys fairly teemed with beautiful allusions to integrity and honor.

But, to be thoroughly honest, we must not even deceive our own selves. Here I would suggest the second point. An honest man will "see himself as others see him." What a blessing! If he has no legal capacity, he will admit it to his own heart and to his own future, and so be saved from failing at law. He counts his qualities as he does his money, and never tries to do a larger business than his mental capacities justify; consequently he is always solvent in the emergencies of his calling, as well as in the account with his bank.

Wherefore, I conclude that Socrates was only enunciating Franklin's maxim when he commanded, "Study to be, rather than to seem." Only honest men can "be," dishonest ones are satisfied with the "seeming."

NEW PAPERS.

The *Peninsular Official* is the official organ of the P. A. P. A. It is neatly printed and well edited. Address all exchanges to 16 East Larned street, Detroit, Mich.

The *Gazette*, Frederick, Md., although small, is much superior to the other papers from that city, both in contents and printing.

The *Queen City Amateur*, Box 2851, Denver, Colorado, has made a splendid beginning. The editor seems to know what he is writing about, and the editorials and items are very interesting. Surely in this case, "its not the size that makes the paper." But why is it the *Queen City Amateur*, Denver, is not the Queen City.

"*Youth*," is a large, 8-page, 24-column journal, filled with interesting sketches and items. The editor intends to have a sketch of a prominent Detroit amateur every month; Mr. F. H. Bolton, of the *Newtonian*, being the first victim. All exchanges should be addressed to 303 Woodward avenue, Detroit, Mich.

Another *Eagle* from Frederick, Md., and although it is larger than the first, it will never amount to much, unless the editor makes up his mind to let "city affairs" alone.

The *Phalanx*, North Webster, Ind., although a new journal, the editor seems to have had experience before, and lights right into the matter by going for Grant; no doubt he has heard by this time that Grant has withdrawn.

The *Detroit Official*, 210 E. Congress St., is the official organ of the D. A. J. C. It contains some very good articles, and also accounts of the various meetings of the Club. B. Benj. Pelham is the editor, and acquits himself with honor.

And last, but not least, comes *Russell's Amateur Transit*, with John Russell as editor. It contains several good items, and also an article on the foundation of a national library, where any book or paper could be obtained; which we think should be considered at the next convention, as it is a good scheme.

o

I T E M S .

Mr. C. J. Pretzman, of Springfield, writes that he has discontinued the *Free Press*.

We learn from a New York letter that *Our Own Favorite* has suspended on account of the death of the editor.

The *Bumble Bee* has enlarged to a small three-column sheet. There is still a lack of amateur news however.

We have it rumored that the *Moon* of Frederick, Md., has suspended publication on account of postal troubles, and as we have not received a number for quite a while, we suppose it is true.

The *Daisy* has just finished what is supposed to be a humorous story. Take our advice Mr. Editor, and never have another like it.

We have been favored with a copy of the *Mystic Knight*, but as we do not know much about the contents, we can not tell whether it is good or bad. We infer the former, however.

The *Silver Plume* has again enlarged to three columns.

The May issue of the *Young American* will be enlarged to a twelve-column sheet.

The *Bantam* has been swallowed up by the *Young American*. Henceforth the paper will appear in twelve-column form, which will give plenty of room for young Grigg's fun to shine out.

The appearance of the April *Enterprise* is much improved, but more care should be taken with the proof.

A. T. Lewis, publisher of the *Review*, Bethel, Va., intends to issue a directory soon.

Niblack has returned from his southern trip, and will continue to issue his paper as before.

The *Salamagundi* had a few notes in the last number. Why not devote at least a column to amateurdom, Mr. Editor?

Number 2 of Sanderson's Cabinets is now ready for distribution, and number 3 will appear soon.

Sanderson states that he prints twenty-eight amateur papers monthly.*

The M. A. P. A. meets at Boston, on July 4th. A good time is expected.

The March number of the *Amateur* contained a splendid article on the "History of Amateur Journalism."

The *Maryland Amateur* is, in our opinion, about as "bad as they make them."

The last number of the *Criterion* contained the portrait of J. Weissert. We hear that he has withdrawn from the presidential contest.

The *St. Louis Paragon* has suspended on account of pound rates.

The MSS. for this issue was written late at night by a tired editor, so please excuse small mistakes.

The *Acorn* now has a neat engraved heading. This shows prosperity.

What say you to an amateur library?

The *Nugget*, although small contains a great many notes.

The Caxton.

"It's not the size, that makes the paper."

Vol. I. MAY, 1882. No. 6.

FRANK MILLS,

Editor and Publisher.

124 Walnut Street. CINCINNATI, OHIO.

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FOR PRESIDENT OF THE O. A. P. A.

V. WINTERS, Jr.Editor of the *Young American*, of Dayton, Ohio.**EDITORIAL.**

Editors who wish to have their vote counted at the Detroit Convention must become members before June 1st. To become a member first apply to C. C. Rickert, Canal Dover, O., for membership, and if accepted, send on two dollars to H. K. Sanderson, Warren, Mass., for initiation fee and one year's dues.

This number finishes our first volume, and as we enter a new one we make new resolves. We do not think we have improved much, but of course the public are better judges than ourselves. But in future we will do all in our power to improve. We have never for a moment regretted the starting of our paper, and it will be a good while before we will.

Some of the older editors seem to think that the new ones should write renowned editorials like themselves, and when they don't, they censure his paper. Can he be expected to write such editorials? and if so, why? He is a new recruit, and ten chances to one never saw an amateur paper until about a month before he issued his paper. He edits his paper for improvement, and if he were perfect at the start he would not issue it. So let not the old resurrected "fossils" judge too harshly.

Editors should be careful how they treat a paper, for a harsh statement will cause it to suspend. We do not mean that it should be covered with "taffy" and merits that it does not possess, displayed; but that they should receive a just criticism, their faults kindly pointed out, and also where improvement could be made most.

Just as amateurdom was on the point of electing a successor to Reeve, and just as all things were doing nicely, came the intelligence that Grant was to discontinue the *Young Nova Scotia*, and remove to Massachusetts, and that he would no longer be a candidate for president. This news "broke us all up," for we had set our heart on having Grant for president, but we will not hoist another name until all hopes for Grant are gone.

The chronicleing of papers received has been run into the ground by new editors, so that now to pick up a paper you will find that about half of it devoted to exchanges. This would be all right if the items were of any interest at all, but when a paper says, "the *Caxton* received," or "the *Bazoo* is on our table," there is not much news. What the editor wants is to know what is going on in the amateur world. Now in future we will devote a full page to items, which we will try and make as interesting and newsy as possible.

When an old fossil returns to the ranks, he considers his paper very old, just because he issued three or four numbers four or five years ago, and accordingly places "fifth publication year," in heavy type, at the head of his editorial notices, although in reality he has only issued about half a dozen numbers. We like to see fossils bestir themselves, but we do not like to see them make out that their paper is old when it is not.

The Ohio Amateur Press Association will hold its next annual meeting July 1, in this city. All who are not members of the above association should send in their names to V. Winters, Jr., Dayton, Ohio. A full attendance is desired, and a good time anticipated.

IMPORTANT.

If this notice is marked, it signifies that your subscription expires with this issue. If you wish to still receive the paper, renew immediately.

PHILATELIC CORNER.

Conducted by LANDIS.

Stamp Collectors are invited to contribute to this column, and also to make inquiries, which will be answered to the best of our ability, free of charge.

NEW ISSUES.

Straits Settlements issues a new 5 and 10 cent stamp. The design is similar to the current issues of India. This will do away with the surcharges of these values, and make them very rare (if genuine).

Portugal has issued a series of telegraph stamps, the design of which is much better than that of the adhesives now in use.

Ecuador has issued a 50 cent green adhesive of same type as preceding issues.

The design of the Mexican stamps is not very good, and does not compare favorably with the other issues.

The 25 and 50 cent Venezuela are found in two shades of yellow and brown, respectively.

As for postal cards, Grenada has issued two, a 1 d. and a 1½ d., and Holland a 5 cent blue.

THE SUNGEI-UJONG STAMPS.

Current 2 cent Straits Settlements are surcharged *Perak-Selangor* and *Sungei-Ujong*. They are used in native states of the Malay Peninsula where there are British residents. These stamps are only used on letters passing from one to another of these states, or on letters addressed to the Straits Settlements colony. Formerly the stamps used in these native states were surcharged with a star and crescent and with the letters P. S. or S. U., respectively. Some years ago some of the 2 cent stamps were issued to the Maharajah of Johore, whose dominions were adjacent to Singapore, but these only bore a star and crescent. The word *perak* means silver, and *Sungei-Ujung* is the Malay for river end.—*Phil. Record*.

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In answering "ads" please mention this paper.

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7 Varieties of Chinese coins, 25c.; California Gold 50c. pieces, 65c.; Gold Quarter Dollars, 49c.; 1 Japanese silver coin, 20c.; all for \$1.20. Large assortment of U. S. Cents and ½ Cents.

J. W. MILNES, Bloomfield, Cal.

WANTED—Will pay cash for old coins, name lowest cash price or will set a price on coins.

For The Caxton.

COIN COLLECTING.

By "NUMIS."

The subject of coin collecting is not a new one by any means. It has been written on many times and still the subject is not exhausted. But the aim of the writer is not to write a scientific article, but one that will be acceptable to the average collector. For the past five years more attention has been given to philately, and consequently the attention given to numismatics was on the decline, but now the situation is reversed which will be gratifying to collectors as it will enhance the value of their collections. In the first place a collector should commence with U. S. copper coins as they do not cost as much as silver coins, and therefore, quite a collection may be obtained for a small amount. However, if his collection of copper coins is complete then he may commence with the lower values of silver money and work his way up, providing his purse will admit of it. If a collector wishes to buy coins to complete certain sets, it is advisable for him to have at least lists of five different dealers, as their prices differ a great deal as can be seen by the following: Before me are four lists of dealers who offer the following for a cent of 1793: the first offers \$2.00, second \$2.20, third 75c, fourth \$3.00; also the nickel cent of 1856: The first offers \$1.00, second 75c, third 50c, and fourth \$3.00. The foregoing is given to show collectors the importance of having more than one list, as the benefit of the difference of prices will amply repay them for the small sums expended for them. To clean coins is an operation no one should attempt to do; copper coins should not be cleaned with acids, as sweet oil is the only thing that will loosen the dirt without injury to the piece. Silver coins, if dipped in a weak solution of ammonia and then rubbed with chamois skin are made considerably brighter. Proof coins are those issued especially by the mint for collections, and especial care is taken to make them perfect in every detail. The dies and planchets are

polished and burnished to the highest degree before striking, and in degrees of condition proof coins are first. These proof sets can be obtained of any first class dealer, but very high prices have to be paid for them. Gold quarter and half dollars of 1881 are now obtainable at slight advance on face value, and form a valuable addition to a collection, or are excellent for watch charms. To conclude, let me say that there is a greater demand, at the present time, for amateur journals devoted to numismatics than there has ever been. Those going to publish papers should take note of this and act accordingly. The writer has had many inquiries as to "where can I subscribe to a coin journal at a low rate of subscription," namely, 25 to 40c per annum. Those issuing such journals will send sample copies to Editor of this paper who will forward same to me.

Expressly for The Caxton.

VARIETY.

CARIE B. WILSON.

Variety is the flavor of existence, the main stay of endurance to human conception of all vivacious animation in the three recognized kingdoms of earth.

How inspired! how absolutely unendurable would life be to man, if seasons never changed, if each day were only a history of recurring incidents, if men and beasts all bore the same form, lived upon the same food, and enjoyed the same sensations; if each bird were like its fellow, and all sang the same note; if trees reared their leafy heads to the same height, and one foliage of one particular kind of green upon them; if in all the floral kingdom, with the non endless variety of fragrance and beauty, sent forth but a single hue in simple form and unvaried scent.

The greater part of man's enjoyment in communion with nature, is the sense of pleasure derived from variety; the leafy canopy, with every form represented in the rustling foliage, the cuneiform, the lancelet, the cordate, incised—till the whole category of botanical names is told; each difference

in shape, suggesting, to the thinking mind, a broad expanse for thought in the origin, growth, use, class, and species of each; the blooming flowers, growing in profusion around us, each presenting some special characteristic, for which it claims ascendancy in our admiration: the singing birds, such a chorus of changeful voices! each one essaying to sing the loudest, each note filled with striking sweetness, each one singing in his own peculiar happy God-given voice.

Human form and face, what a variety! no two faces exactly alike. There may be some resemblances, but each differ in some respect from the other. No two natures just the same; a man may be selfish and his neighbor may be selfish; but this one is beneficent to the poor, that one is miserly. This one does good deeds because it gives his own self pleasure, it adds to his renown, it makes him friends; that one finds no pleasure in the law of liberality. Both are selfish. This variety of feature and disposition is the bond of recognition, the tie of earthly friendship. One is loved for attraction of feature or form, or goodness of nature, or all of these, if every body possessed those identical attractions, where, then, the holy law of love? where happy connubiality? where virtue? It is the love of variety that leads to many discoveries in the mineral and floral kingdoms, and in the department of the lesser living portion of the animal world.

Variety is science itself. The classification of plants, trees, flowers, and herbs according to their differences, make up the science of Botany. Minerals, with their manifold properties and relations, their appearance and formation in all their variety reduce to the abstruse science of metallurgy. Where the complicated formulæ, rules, and principles of the grandest science in all the catalogue,—Mathematics—it one rule could fit to every principal, and verify every formulæ? Pity it would be to rob the world of this vast knowledge and power of thought.

There is wisdom in variety; it is indicative of the beneficent Providence, which has so wisely ordained all the workings of the created world.

WE have heard it rumored that the N. A. P. A. committee on finances will devote several dollars to the purchasing of peanuts for the members assembled.

For the Caxton.

THE Q. Z. A. J. A.

BY SMYTHO.

It was Saturday. It was 11:30 P. M. It was very cold, but the editor of the *Amateur Wind Bag* sat in his sanctum trying to think of one more item to complete his next number, when a knock at the door was heard.

"Stay out," cordially invited the editor, who was expecting a tailors' bill. Then, thinking it might be a load of coal, he got up and went to the door.

It was not a tailor's bill, it was not a load of coal, but exactly what it has we will not attempt to say.

The editor of the *Wind Bag* looked at the stranger, then got up and shut the window.

The object was the first to break the silence. It was not a human voice, it was rather like the inhuman, grating of an ungreased cart wheel, that said, "Good morning Roderigo."

The editor looked first at the object and then for some means of escape, but finding none he simply replied "Good morning."

"Ye know me not, Roderigo," said the object.

The editor certainly did not, though he feared that it might be Peugh of the *Kosuth Joker*.

"Then know ye, I am a stage-struck amateur editor, and mark me, Roderigo, not five years will flit away, ere the fame of Smith will extend over all the civilized world."

The editor was about to ask about the uncivilized when the object proceeded.

"But the object of my visitation was not to sing of my own future fame, but to start an Amateur Journalist's Association, and with thy kind permission I will proceed, Mr. Smith in the chair."

"The meeting will now come to order. I will appoint the Chairman a committee of one to get a name. The Chairman having handed in his report he suggests the initials Q. Z. A. J. A. which I approve, and I appoint the editor of our official organ the *Amateur Wind Bag* to fill them out. Next meeting at Padunk, Pa., to-morrow afternoon at three P. M. There being no other business the meeting is adjourned."

And he skipped, leaving the official editor to repeat what the immortal Billy had said before his time, "What fools we mortals be."

The Caxton.

"It's not the size, that makes the paper."

Vol. II. JUNE, 1882. No. 1.

FRANK MILLS,

Editor and Publisher.

124 Walnut Street, CINCINNATI, OHIO.

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FOR PRESIDENT OF THE O. A. P. A.

V. WINTERS, Jr.Editor of the *Young American*, of Dayton, Ohio.**EDITORIAL.**

When an editor clips an article now, he usually places "selected" after it. Why not give the author who wrote it and the paper that published it credit? It looks much better.

"The *Caxton* for May is an improvement over its former issues. Stamps spoil it. Stamps are worse than puzzles."—*Detroit's Favorite*. We would like to give that editor a bit of our mind, only he would thump us at the Vention. However, we boldly affirm that we differ from his highness, and that we defy him and his Detroit gang to prove it.

Editors in general seem to think that they should start out large even if they ensmall with the second issue. It is much better to start small and grow.

With this number we drop our Philatelic Department, which has only been a source of trouble to us. We hope this will quiet the minds of several editors.

When will the *Eagle* suspend?—*Detroit's Favorite*. We don't look for its suspension until every amateur paper has suspended. The same may be said of the *Star*.

Once again we state that the O. A. P. A. will meet July 1st in this city. Every Ohio editor who wishes to raise the Association to its old standpoint (the best) should attend.

Which is better to come out three months late or issue a double number? We prefer the latter, as it does not make much difference whether two numbers are combined into one, but it looks bad to be several months late.

He who sells his exchanges will be cast into eternal hotness.—**SOCRATES.**

He will also receive the condemnation of the amateur editor, which is even worse. Therefore, beware ye sinners and sin no more. Remember, an editor does not publish a paper for his brother editor to make money.

Last month we stated that the *St. Louis Paragon* had suspended on account of postal troubles. This was a horrible mistake, as we afterward learned. The editor is only taking a little rest, and will appear in magazine form shortly, and whats more he is still solid with the P. O.

Through the *Bay State Press* we learn that Grant has re-entered the race. All who wanted to see him assume the chair, and were disappointed to learn that he had withdrawn, can again bestir themselves and make another "Grant boom."

After the Vention is over nearly every paper will have about a couple of pages on what happened, the officers elected, &c. We do not think we will, however, for from Detroit we intend to go east, and consequently will not issue an august number.

Once, again, we would state that Winter's Amateur Newspaper Directory will be out in July. This will not be a mere vision, but will appear and on time. We learn from the publisher that it will be as complete as possible, and will be well printed.

SMILES,

Cracked by "SMITHO," Artistic Paragrapher.

Note.—Diagrams of any of the following furnished on application.

AMATEUR NEWS.—Sells' Brothers Immense Hippodrome was here on the 18th inst., and V. Winters, Jr. came down on the 21st. Cincinnati is overrun with circusses now.

Its a shame that amateur papers have to put "Laughable," "Jokes," or something of the kind at the head of their humorous columns, but still it must be done as, otherwise the reader would not know to what branch of amateur affairs the department was devoted.

Is the name of *Salamagund's* editor a Terry-er something else?

"D'Arnett," exclaimed an amateur, "the Brit(t)on came down on me like a Hurricane, and *Owl-et* wanted was my arrest to complete the business.

Following is a poem translated from the Hindoo—Kloksjetfrlhmnean dialect—of Pomer. It is, as may be supposed, a love song:

Oh! Choohomini, child, I for you wait,
(But don't give it away.)
I am hanging over the garden gate,
(But don't tell the old man.)

TRANSLATOR'S NOTE.—In first line I was obliged to abbreviate the lady's name, and even had I given it in full, the newspapers might have gotten hold of it, and the outcome would have been a scandal.—Second line read:—C fli X j l ; j X .! S m é, but I was as literal as possible.

AND STILL ANOTHER.

Just before going to press we received the *Excelsior*, edited and published by Frank Bissel, of Dayton, Ohio. The printing is not neatly done, and the contents mostly clipped matter.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

In answering "ads" please mention this paper.

NUMISMATISTS!

7 Varieties of Chinese coins, 25c.; California Gold 50c. pieces, 65c.; Gold Quarter Dollars, 40c.; 1 Japanese silver coin, 20c.; all for \$1.20. Large assortment of U. S. Cents and ½ Cents.

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10 Foreign Coins, all different, 25 cents. \$205 in Confederate money 20 cents.

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UNITED STATES AND CANADA

Amateur Paper Directory

NOW BEING COMPILED!

To be published in July, 1882. Advertisements taken at 25c. per inch, 75c. per page.

For full particulars see *Young American*.

Address, V. WINTERS, JR.,
113 W. Third Street, Dayton, Ohio.

IMPORTANT!

If this notice is marked, it signifies that your subscription expires with this issue. If you wish to still receive the paper, renew immediately.

The Caxton.

Vol. II.

CINCINNATI, O., JULY—AUGUST, 1882.

Nos. 2 & 3.

Expressly for The Caxton.

CHOOSING A PROFESSION.

CARRIE B. WILSON.

A profession is genteel; there are hundreds of men sporting gold watch-chains and white hands, with some collegiate degree attached to their names, who are eminently respectable, highly genteel, even aesthetic, and there are many men with the degree who have not the other characteristics. Professions are noble. It is grand to be able to enter into all the mysterious details of any one or any department of the complex laws of nature or science, and faithless must be the man who would dare to degrade his profession. But many of them do almost bring dishonor to the nobility of their "calling," bring a stigma upon its name, and in most cases because they have mistaken their destiny in life and turned aside from the course for which nature intended them. It is a common question among business men to the scion of partner or friend, or to even a stranger upon the streets, What are you going to be my boy? Or, what profession will you choose? It is absurd: a boy can not choose his profession; he may meditate upon it, he may consider his abilities, he may prepare himself for a certain avocation, but his profession will choose him.

It does not take a man long to find out when he is in an atmosphere that he can not breathe; then the sooner he gets into home air the better. There is no sight more pitiable than to see a youth, who might have been a shining star in his proper latitude, turned aside by the force of uncontrollable circumstances to an uncongenial business. It mars his whole existence, places bitterness where pleasure ought to flow, turns his friends into enemies, makes him morose, disobliging, suspicious, miserably unhappy. It not only tells upon him in the hey day of his existence, but more forcibly does it mark his after years—crushed manhood, downcast countenance, locks silvered before their time; and aside from all these external ap-

pearances, there is the inevitable disgrace of failure, for no man who has mistaken his calling can succeed.

In the latter remarks I do not mean by the term professions, *only* the professions, but trades, and any and all avocations in which men may engage. Be he artist or artissn, a man must know the peculiar wants of his nature in his business as well as in the diet on which he lives: that avocation which satisfies him; that, in which he takes a pleasurable pride, in which he feels a glowing delight, is the only one he should ever endeavor to follow.

By no means, is it to be inferred that one should sit down and wait for the knowledge of one's adaptability to circumstances to come to him. Far from it. *Work* should be the motto of every girl and boy, young man and young woman that ever grew to those honorable states of being. Work from the time they are able to lift their tiny hands in the great turmoil of life till the summer of Death shall call them to rest, and boys, especially, you should not be particular, for awhile, about the kind of work; anything honest in its foundation and principles should not be frowned downed; when you have struck the key-note of your success you will know it! Choose then your future, you may make it what you will. Choosing your calling in life is something which should not be done hastily or without deep consideration. Every argument pro or con the profession your mind is debating should be weighed in the hair balance of disinterestedness, and impartiality. Study yourself—work—find out what you have been placed in the world for, then do it *with all your might*. Choose your work—look clear to the summit of eminence in that work, climb to the top and cut your name deep and sure in the massive mountain of fame, for

"Sculptors of life are we as we stand,

With our lives uncarved before us,

Waiting the hour, when at God's command,

Our life dream passes o'er us,

Let us carve it then on the yielding stone

With many a sharp incision,

Its heavenly beauty shall be our own,

Our lives that angel vision."

O. A. P. A.

Is Again In a Flourishing Condition.

LARGE AND SUCCESSFUL MEETING.

An Active Ticket Elected.

When we entered the ranks in December, 1880, Ohio had but a few journals; and, although there was an association in existence, it was gradually sinking into foidom. But owing to the untiring efforts of several of its officers and members it is again flourishing. On Saturday, July 1st, the Tenth Annual Convention was held in this city, at the parlors of the Indiana House. Of course all the members were not present but that could not be hoped for. Amongst those present were Mess. Arnett, Hauser, H. & E. Beck, of Columbus, G. W. Biehn, of Ripley, V. Winters, Jr., of Dayton, besides several others including the Cincinnati faction and reporters for the daily press. The meeting was called to order at 11.10 by President Zerbe, who made a few remarks as an opening ovation. Then came the reports of the different officers, all of which were accepted. The report of the credential committee show that several new members had been admitted. Then followed the election of officers, this was not a political fight where candidates are slandered and quarrels ensue, but every member wished to see the best men fill the offices, therefore it was not strange that several (Mr. Arnett being among the number) were unanimously elected. The officers elected are as follows, F. Arnett, President; F. L. Mills, First Vice.; E. Beck, Second Vice.; J. A. Hauser, Secretary; J. H. Kuhlman, Treasurer; G. W. Biehn, Official Editor; H. Beck, Sergeant-at-Arms. A Sergeant-at-Arms was elected not because the members were in any way disorderly but because the constitution calls for it. The Treasurer reported a balance of \$7.40 in the treasury. A vote of thanks to the proprietors of the hotel was then passed. The literary exercises were omitted as the members whose duty it was to entertain the members assembled had remained away. The literary exercises for the next meeting are as follows: Orator, Mills; Essayist, Biehn and R. L. Zerbe. A committee consisting of Zerbe, Winters and Mills, were then appointed to amend the constitution, after which the meeting adjourned until 2 P. M.

SECOND SESSION.

The amendments to the Constitution were read and accepted, after which some minor business was transacted. The CAXTON was chosen the official organ. Meeting adjourned at about 3 P. M. Next place of meeting Columbus.

During the evening the members were extertained at the house of Mr. E. B. Swift, an old time amateur.

IT WAS A SUCCESS.

What the Professional Press thing of our Convention.

The tenth annual Convention of the Ohio Amateur Press Association was held in the parlors of the Indiana House yesterday. It was an occasion of much interest to the young journalists. In addition to the usual routine business there were literary exercises which celebrated the tenth anniversary of the organization. The addresses were delivered in a style that was a credit to the young journalists. The following officers were elected to serve the ensuing year:

President—F. S. Arnett, of Columbus.
 Vice-President—F. L. Mills, Cincinnati.
 Second Vice-President—E. Beck, Columbus.
 Secretary—J. A. Hauser, Columbus.
 Treasurer—J. H. Kuhlman, Cincinnati.
 Official Editor—G. W. Biehn, Ripley.
 Sergeant-at-Arms—H. Beck, Columbus.

The following appointments were made for the literary exercises at next convention, which will be held in Columbus.

Address of Welcome—F. S. Arnett.
 Essayist—Geo. W. Biehn.
 Poem—R. L. Zerbe.
 Oration—F. L. Mills.

The Convention adjourned, to met at the call of the President—*Cincinnati Commercial*.

The boy editors of the Buckeye State, better known as the Ohio Amateur Press Association, met in this city yesterday in tenth annual Convention. Mr. Richard L. Zerbe, of Cincinnati, publisher of the Junior Record, and President of the Association, called the Assembly to order shortly after eleven o'clock in the new parlors of the Indiana House.

The morning session was devoted to hearing reports of the officers of the work during the past term and the election of new officers. This latter resulted in the choice of the following:

President—Frank S. Arnett, of Columbus.
 Vice-President—Frank Mills of Cincinnati.
 Second Vice-President—Edwin Beck, of Columbus.
 Secretary—J. A. Hauser, of Columbus.
 Treasurer—J. H. Kuhlman, of Cincinnati.
 Official Editor—George W. Biehn, of Ripley.
 Sergeant-at-Arms—Hugo Beck, of Columbus.

In the afternoon the Constitution was submitted to the usual annual dissection and several articles were amended. For place of next meeting Columbus

The Caxton.

"It's not the size, that makes the paper."

Vol. II. JULY—AUGUST, 1882. Nos. 2 & 3.

FRANK MILLS,

Editor and Publisher.

124 Walnut Street.

CINCINNATI, OHIO.

— SUBSCRIPTION. —

6 Months - - - - - 30 Cents.

1 Year - - - - - 50 Cents.

— ADVERTISEMENTS. —

Per Inch, - - - - - 40 Cents.

 $\frac{1}{2}$ inch ads will be received at inch rates.

Will exchange with every amateur paper in the World.

EDITORIAL.

We are pleased to inform our readers that F. A. Grant has been elected President of the N. A. P. A., and Mr. Steele Official Editor, now look out for a boom.

On account of Winters' departure, some time in August, for a trip occupying one year's time, his *Young American* will for the present be suspended. He shall remain active, however, as with our September number he becomes associate on the *Caxton*. Exchanges will please mail to his usual address until further notice.

Not long ago Stebbins wrote a very terrific editorial upon the "Associate Editor," in which he stated that they were only a "two copy" dodge. Now Stebbins accepts the associate editorship of a paper. Surely amateurdom is degenerating.

We started our paper in December, 1880, and have issued it regularly and on time ever since, but now comes the time when ye editor must have "his much needed rest," we therefore combine our July and August issues into one, and go east (not west) for the summer.

We have been much amused by the way in which our amateur printers break words, some will break them so as to only have a single letter on one line and the rest of the word on the line following. No regular printer would be guilty of such an offense. It does not look bad to space a line out, but it does to break a word in the wrong place.

Lately several editors have stated that the literature that appears in the *Golden Days* is "flash," although in a mild way. This is carrying the "flash literature" question too far. What if the stories are a little improbable, they don't hurt you to read them. For that matter what book is not "flash" that is not history or travel. Those who think they will be corrupted by reading this fearfully trashy paper had better subscribe for *Harper's Young People*, the stories in which are very plain and free from "flash literature.

Some of our journals have no subscription price but are published solely for exchanges. We like to see a paper with both subscription price and advertising rates, even if they are only for show, as it looks business like.

When we first entered the ranks we supposed that all the editors were boys from 10 to 16 years old, and when we learned that some of our best authors and editors were married we were considerably surprised, and could not for the life of us see why men should take an interest in an amateur paper.

What the O. A. P. A. wants is an official organ, not a department in some paper, and it should have one. Say it would cost four dollars an issue, that would be sixteen dollars per year, there are fully sixteen members, who would willingly give a dollar. We wish the president would agitate this question, for an official organ would do more good than a dozen departments.

NOTES AND NOTICES.

The editor who clips all his articles and copies all his editorials is not likely to improve.

What is an editor to do when he has his house and stable filled with exchanges, it would be cruel to burn them, and wicked to sell them.

"Early campaigning is forbidden by rules of the N. A. P. A." Yes, wait until the proxy votes are cast then publish your ticket.

When Shakespeare wrote "Who steals my purse steals trash," he did not for a moment suspect that someday it would apply to about three-fourths of the amateur editors of the United States.

[Continued from page 30.]

closed the day, and in the Capital City the eleventh meeting of the Association will be held July next. The boys spent the afternoon in taking in the city, and in the evening they were entertained by Dr E. B. Swift, an old time amateur, and his wife, *nee* Viola Addison, at their residence on Everett street.—*Cincinnati Enquirer*.

THE POSTAL FIEND.

AS REGARDED BY AN A. E.

First of all an amateur editor does not generally send a sample copy free, but requires a three cent stamp. To him the sight of a postal asking for a "sample" is always sure to bring on an angry fit. But there is also another kind who does not mind the fiends but merely throws the postal in the waste basket. There is also a third kind who receives the postal and sends the desired copy, but of this kind only a few are to be found.

Now, which is the better "to send or not to send" as desired. "Is it better to risk a cent to gain a subscription?" We are of the above third class and favor the fiends. We notice that most of our subscribers have come from that class. When an editor advertises a sample copy for a three cent stamp he should remember it costs the sender six cents to send for it, which he does not want to do as he is not certain to receive it, while on the other hand he would readily write a postal. Of course we don't expect editors who are prejudiced against the fiend, to comply with our ideas, but this is our idea of the matter.

Winter's Amateur Directory is now ready for sale. It is a splendidly compiled and neatly printed book.

Something tells us that Sells' Amateur directory has gone—gone—busted.

Reeve states in his *Times* that some enterprising publisher could make a pile of money by publishing the Laureate Essays in book form. Why don't you try it, Doll, size of Eastern Directory.

What has become of the "Editor's Easy Chair," it must have been used for kindling wood as we seldom hear of it now.

If you look in the second number of a paper that is printed by the editor, you are pretty sure to see "An Amateur Printing Office for sale cheap, address this office."

ADVERTISEMENTS

In answering "ads" please mention this paper.

EVERYBODY!

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The cheapest and best paper for the money in the world.
Subscription price 25c. per year. Advertising rates
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Address THE STAR, Box 41, Bay Shore, N. Y.

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Send 13 cents for Premium Coin Book.

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Foreign Stamps,

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SUBSCRIBE and ADVERTISE in the "Monthly Oracle," a large, interesting, instructive Journal, devoted to Wit, Humor, Science, etc. The best and cheapest miscellaneous sheet ever issued. Subscriptions 15c. per year. Advertising rates 40c. per inch. Special rates on standing or larger ads. Every body send for sample copy free.

ORACLE PUBLISHING CO.,
248 Longworth Street,
CINCINNATI, O.

[Mention this paper.]

BACK NUMBERS.

NOW is the time to obtain a complete file of this paper. We have a few complete files which we will sell for 10 cents. Remember Volume one for 10c. Address, THE CAXTON,

124 Walnut St., Cincinnati, O.

THE VALUABLE PACKET.

Contains 50 Varieties of Foreign Stamps, including India, Finland, Queensland, Victoria, &c. Price only 10 cents. It is the best packet made for the money. Address, F. L. MILLER,

Box 473 Cincinnati, O.

IMPORTANT!

If this notice is marked, it signifies that your subscription expires with this issue. If you wish to still receive the paper, renew immediately.

The Caxton.

Vol. II.

CINCINNATI, O., SEPTEMBER, 1882.

No. 4.

SCARCITY OF AUTHORS.

By JAMES J. O'CONNELL.

The literary excellence of our papers is always to be judged by the number of amateur authors. When no encouragement is offered our young writers, they lose heart and cease endeavoring to improve themselves. No recruits are willing to fill up the gaps in the ranks, for they know that their efforts will not be appreciated. To the superficial observer, the dearth of amateur authors has no apparent effect on our papers. New journals spring up and old ones continue; selected articles and notices of exchanges take the place formerly occupied by original literature—but the papers still remain. The average amateur expects no more; as long as he receives the usual number of exchanges, it little matters to him whether the literature is good, bad, or indifferent. But to the careful observer, he who does not skip over the poem, sketch or essay, the absence of original articles is a matter of regret.

The first blow at the amateur author was made in 1878, when the "all-editorial" paper came into vogue. The idea gained ground for a time; but only among the more experienced editors, upon whom the novelty of amateur journalism had lost its enthusiasm, and who were better pleased with publishing a small paper filled with their own writings, than a larger miscellany. I do not propose to comment upon the disadvantages of such a plan; that has already been done. Yet, I do not think any previous writer ever remarked the most pernicious effect of that innovation, viz: that it tended to decrease the size of our papers. But as the idea was only prevalent among the older editors, as they retired, one by one, it met with a slow and easy death. There was no one to continue it, because scarcely any of our young editors have the ability to fill their papers with editorials.

Since then the decay of the amateur authors has been gradually going on. I can attribute it only to a lack of appreciation and encouragement. At the present day an

author is not thought half so much of as the editor of a picayune sheet, filled with trash and vulgarity. He is insulted on all sides. Although he writes ten times as much as the average editors, he is called a fossil. If he charges for his manuscript, he is told that he is living off of amateurdom, by the very persons who would do the same, had they but the ability. Yet the small remuneration he receives should not be considered as an equivalent for his articles, because, at best, it is but a paltry return for his labor. Let it rather be regarded as a reward for his industry. Unless an author has a reputation, he seldom receives pay for his compositions; and a name is only obtained by unceasing perseverance and a long career in amateurdom.

Until within the last year or two, it was customary for every editor to mail a copy of his paper to each author of any prominence. Such a thing is unheard of now; for the editor of the present day even objects to sending an extra copy to those papers having two editors. This paltriness may be mathematically correct, and an editor can not be forced to send more than one copy; but it is a matter of courtesy which he could fulfill with little inconvenience.

The prize contest, when fairly conducted, is a very feasible plan for benefitting our literature. It tends to create an honest rivalry among our authors, and brings many a young writer into prominence. The official organ of the National would be greatly improved if the association offered four prizes annually for essays on amateur journalism, the successful articles to be published in the *National Amateur*.

The few suggestions I have made in this brief paper, are very practical. If they be acted upon a visible improvement in our literature will be immediately perceived.

THE LOVED ONE.

Amateurdom! A lovely maid is she, beautifully, but rather delicately formed, one might think, but still the bloom of health is plainly visible upon her fair cheek

A little while ago it was not so. Sickness and death hovered over her fair form for many months. But now, thanks to the competent nurses, and physicians, she is well again. At the tender age of sixteen she possesses all the grace and beauty of a handsome woman. Around her throne gather worshipers from all ranks. The son of the workingman and that of the millionaire she receives with like treatment. Few of all her hundreds of admirers are smiled upon by her. Only the most worthy and deserving doth she reward, and those happy ones having gained their end soon leave her little world quite satisfied. Does she miss these, her most ardent and useful supporters? Yes, sadly for a time, but having many other lovers, her coquettish nature soon drives all thoughts of them from her mind. "Most charming creature, shall we ever forget thee? Shall we ever cease to remember the debt that we owe thee? Although we, as Enoch Arden, wander to the ends of the earth, and perhaps never be with thee again, ever shall our thoughts turn toward thee with warmest wishes for thy welfare.

V. WINTERS, JR.

ASSOCIATES DEPARTMENT.

V. WINTERS, JR., Quilldriver.

The Amateur who accused Arnett of wanting office, grossly misrepresented that gentleman. Frank S. Arnett is one of the most generous and unselfish amateur we ever met. If he had wanted office the treasurer-ship of the National was within his grasp.

The *Indianapolis Bulletin* published the only satisfactory report of the Detroit Convention, we have yet seen. Many published accounts that were almost worse than nothing, but Harrison succeeded in getting out an exceptionally accurate account. Accept our congratulations, Tommy.

How such a one as Imire could have secured the office of Second Vice-President at Buffalo is something we can not understand. Possessing no editorial or oratorical ability whatever, he is what Thad Scofield might well call a nonentity. Moreover, his sneaking withdrawal of the name of W. O. Wylie from the First Vice-Presidency contest, proclaims him to be an undeniable crank.

It is very amusing to note the ridiculous conclusions drawn by some amateur editors upon the state of affairs at the National Convention. We venture to say that there was not an editor who was not present at Detroit, who did not think that Scofield was almost broken hearted over Grant's election.

The "Redoubtable" Steele and Thad. Scofield are two of the most pleasant gentlemen we ever met. The former will make the best official editor our National Association ever had. He began collecting mss. for his September *National Amateur* as soon as elected to office.

Hollenback's Directory, if regarded as a *rare curiosity*, is indeed with the small price asked. It is so cramped and crowded, that it has the appearance of a person just recovering from a severe attack of cholera. Clinton Chauncey evidently had a very small font of type, if we may judge by the frequent use of lower case letters for caps, but determined that before he bought a new font, he would "fight it out on this line, if it took all summer. It did not take him all summer to complete the work, but perhaps it might have had a handsomer appearance if it had.

E. E. Pasco is one of the cheekiest fellows in the United States. He was forever forcing his company upon the boys at Detroit, sat for his picture in the cabinet just as much as if he was connected with amateur journalism and made money by selling badges at 15 cents apiece. Jud. D. Russell you have a rival in Pasco.

We intended issuing an eight-page July-August number of the *Young American*, as soon after the Convention as possible, but found that it would be utterly impossible for us to find time to do so, on account of our departure from home, early in August for a trip round the world. We will be absent fully one year, but on our return we will, if all is well, once more issue the *Young American*, and attend the 1884 Convention of the National, which, if justice rules, will be held in Cincinnati. Hurrah for Cincinnati in 1884!

[NOTE.—Here is an excellent chance for some one to say something about "too premature."]

The Caxton.

"It's not the size, that makes the paper."

Vol. II. SEPTEMBER, 1882. No. 4

FRANK MILLS,

Editor and Publisher.

124 Walnut Street, CINCINNATI, OHIO.

V. WINTERS, Jr.,

Associate and Traveling Correspondent.

—SUBSCRIPTION.—

6 Months 30 Cents.
1 Year 50 Cents.

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½ inch ads will be received at inch rates.

Will exchange with every amateur paper in the World.

EDITOR'S WILD SAYINGS.

Russell, in the last issue of his paper, stated that he only nominated himself for second Vice-President in fun, and intended to back out when his next number appeared. Strange that his second number should not appear till after the 'vention. But don't agitate yourself Russell, you were not even nominated.

When an editor receives a dig from a brother editor, he seems not to mind it, and talks a great deal about "free advertising," and all that, although he is "sore at heart" and vows vengeance on the writer.

Why does not Cincinnati have a boom? It has three journals, two of which, *Record* and *Review*, are large and well edited sheets. The last issue of the *Review* was greatly improved, and although the *Record* is a little irregular, it would, we think, remedy this fault in case of a "boom." Clark promises to reissue his paper in November or December, which will be a great addition to Cincinnati and the 'Dom at large.

Any body wishing to do us a favor, can do so by sending us a good sketch or poem—*Columbus Official*.

Would the editor consider it a favor if we were to send him a poem of our own composing?

Boehm says he will attend the next N. A. P. A. Convention. Strange, very strange, that he should make such an emphatic statement, taking into consideration the distance he is compelled to travel.

The *Amateur Journal* advocates the forming of an Arkansas A. P. A., which is extremely foolish, as the western A. P. A. is again in full blast and needs your help. If the amateurs from the above mentioned state should form an Association, the chances are that they would not attend both their own and also the W. A. P. A. Convention. Stick to the W. A. P. A., boys.

While in New York, we received a sample copy of *Frank Tousey's Boys' Weekly*, which, of course, we read (so as to be able when the time arrived, to write an editorial on flash literature.) In the correspondence column was the following answer to a correspondent.

"Amateur Journalism is almost dead now. It was only a sort of disease that seized hold of the boys, just as velocipede fever and the uecalomania and postage stamp craze did"

The editor who wrote the above may be able to compile trash for his paper, but when it comes to answering questions which he knows nothing about, he had better remain silent.—The "amateur press" and the "flash papers" are not on "speaking terms," hence the above notice might have been maliciously written. The "stamp craze" has not died out. We think that editor had better let his devil answer questions, while he goes and learns a few things.

Russell, in the last issue of his paper, stated that Winters' Directory was a failure, the only decent thing being the printing. We are extremely sorry to learn that it was a failure, but there is no doubting that it was a failure, for Mr. Russell says so. We suppose Mr. Russell's Directory that was to contain the addresses of all the amateur editors, engravers, printers, &c., in the United States, Canada, Great Britain and New Zealand, is a grand success (although it never appeared).

The editor of the *Grit* is astonished because he receives letters from one of his contributors; all of which commence, "My Dear Friend." Why, that's nothing, Price, we often receive tailor's bills that commence exactly the same, but we suppose the ending is a little different.

The other day we received a postal from an Eastern editor, who wanted us to write him a "humorous sketch not over 800 words." We spared the editor the reputation of his paper, and the amateur fraternity in general by not doing so.

ITEMS.

Russell has joined a society where the dues are five cents per month. The latter clause explains the former.

Our last number should have appeared on the 5th instead of the 20th, when the report of the O. A. P. A. meeting and several other items were rather old.

We have stated several times that we entered the ranks in 1880. This is a mistake, as it should be 1881.

Now is the time for the fossils who roused up so as to attend the Convention, to retire.

Who came out with the news of the N. A. P. A. Convention first?—*Splinx*.
It was not the *Splinx* by a good deal.

Exchanges will please remember that we are a "two copy fiend now."

Well, ye editor has had his vacation, and once more settles down to the "stern realities of life;" but as the stern "realities" are mostly pleasures we do not mind.

The *Star*, West End, Alameda, Cal., wants persons to advertise in it as it has a guaranteed circulation of *two hundred and fifty* (250) copies. Where on earth did so much paper come from?

Has Collamer's advertising agency gone under? It is too bad, as it was in *such* a flourishing condition.

There may be a little disturbance over in Egypt, but there is war among the amateurs of Indiana.

The *Columbus Eagle* has changed to the *Young Days*, which is much better.

The *Golden Gate* will appear from San Francisco, shortly. We hope it will be as good as the journal published under the same name in 1878.

The *American Youth* is now printed by O'Connell. As may be expected, it is greatly improved.

From this issue on we become an uncertain publication, appearing once in a while.

Let's see, Boston should have the Convention in '85.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

50 In answering "ads" please mention this paper.

50 CHROMO CARDS, no two alike, with name neatly printed thereon, for only four 3-cent stamps, 6 packs for 20 3-cent stamps. Address: UNION CARD CO., Montpelier, Vt.

FREE 200 BEST GILT EDGE CARDS, four varieties or 300 floral cards, 50 varieties, to any person sending 50c. for one year's subscription to a LARGE, ILLUSTRATED MONTHLY PAPER. New styles of cards described each month. Only paper of its kind published. 1000 floral cards, fifty varieties, 75c.; 1000 floral cards (imp.) 100 varieties, \$1.25, post-paid; gilt-edge cards, \$1.50 per 1000 post-paid. Send 25c. for New Fall and Winter Sample Book of Bevels, or 25c. for floral cards book, to N. E. CARD CO., Woonsocket, R. I. Address, PENMAN'S AND PRINTERS' GAZETTE, Woonsocket, R. I.

The "DADDY" Set.

The Funniest Set of Cards Yet Out,
Only 10c. post paid, or 3 for 25c.

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THE BOYS' JOURNAL

A large, 8-page, 24-column monthly paper, containing poems, stories, amateur news, notices of exchange, correspondence, a fine philatelic department, and our puzzle table. 50 cents per year, 25 cents for 6 mos. Advertisements 50 cents per inch. Send 1 cent stamp for sample copy. J. H. ACKERMAN, Mention paper. 162 Madison St., Brooklyn, N. Y.

THE GAZETTE

A monthly journal devoted to coins stamps, and interesting matter. Price, 20 cts. per year, sample copy. Address, THE GAZETTE, Lansdale, Pa.

STAMP COLLECTOR'S COMPANION.

A **50** page book on stamp collecting, sent post-free, upon receipt of **15** c. It is the only book for the price in America. Address.

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"I'M IN LOVE."

Hold your breath till you see the new set of comic cards, companion to "I'm a Daddy." Better than the Daddy. Send 11 cents (stamps) for the "Love" cards. H. S. SIMMONS,

205 Grand Street, N. Y.

AGENTS WANTED.—We have just purchased 10,000 pairs of Oil Chromos, subjects: *Fast Asleep and Wide Awake*. We will send sample pair to agents for 25 cents, postpaid. 100 pairs, ten dollars, by express. N. Y. CARD CO.,

205 Grand St., New York.

IMPORTANT!

If this notice is marked, it signifies that your subscription expires with this issue. If you wish to still receive this paper, renew immediately.