

All civilized countries issue postage stamps and the collector becomes familiar with the location of each place, its principal cities, its climate, area, and many other points regarding each country. This is geography.

The styles of engraving, printing, kind of paper, how perforated, coats of arms, flags, names of the rulers and great men on the stamps, kinds of money used, postal arrangements between the different countries, his is general knowledge, in which the stamp collector will find that he far excels his elders. On the stamps of Egypt we find the ancient pyramids, on Tur-



From Central America

key the star and crescent. China and Japan with their hieroglyphics, while England and her vast possessions portray the face of their honored queen.

On the United States stamps are seen the portraits of her great men from Washington to Grant; on Spain we gaze at her baby king. The designs in fact are so numerous as to present a panorama of notable facts, faces and events in the world's history.

The collecting of postage stamps, while being one of the most elevating and instructive pursuits, is still one which seems to eclipse everything else in the pleasure gained from it, and its immense growth is the best proof of this assertion.

Postage stamps were first used about fifty years ago, and since that time the number of collectors has increased, until now they are numbered by the hundreds of thousands.

The pursuit is so fascinating that thousands have continued it from their

boyhood days down through the prime of life, and they are more interested now than ever.

When a boy starts a stamp collection, he finds the pleasure so great, that he prefers it to all other pastimes, and thousands could testify to the absorbing interest it creates.

Before you place any stamps in the album, all the paper should be removed from the back of the stamps. To do this, put them in a cup of water and in a short time the paper will come off after which allow the stamps to dry.

The stamps are placed in the album by using a small narrow strip of gummed paper about this size:



This is called a "hinge" one half of the strip being pasted to the upper part of the stamp (back) and the other half to the album. The stamps are mounted in this way so they can be turned up to see the back, and if you desire to place a better specimen in the space you can do so without hurting the one already in, as you only have to tear the hinge in removing the stamps.

The hinges are furnished by all stamp dealers at 10c per 1000. In mounting stamps put them squarely in the centre of the spaces as only in this way do they look well. When your collection is well mounted, even though it be small in numbers, your friends will



Old New Brunswick

take great interest in looking it over, and you should show it to visitors as it often leads to them obtaining stamps for you.

If you are in a city where foreign steamers arrive, by calling at the office