

The shilling as I have before mentioned has become almost unattainable on account of the comparatively few that passed through the post, two 61 or four 3d being generally used when the postage was of that amount.

In 1860 the currency of the country was changed from the old £. s. d. to dollars cents, a new issue of stamps being the result, at the time of the change a large quantity of the old stamps were lying in the post office at Halifax several offices for which were made to the Government by dealers, but they foolishly thinking that the dealers would put them to some illegitimate use, gave orders for them all to be burnt.

(To be Continued)

SOMETHING IN IT.

By CLIMAX.

A good many persons think stamp collecting a very foolish thing because they can see nothing to be gained from it: This results from the fact that they know nothing about it. Stamp collecting is one of the most profitable and instructive pursuits in which one can engage.

1st It is profitable because as there are now such a number of collectors all of which are continually acquiring more stamps, the older and obsolete ones are ever getting rarer and demand a higher price each year.

Thus the dealers who buy in quantities from parties in all parts of the world and sell singly to collectors make a profit, and the collector need never lose as he can always dispose of a stamp for what it cost him.

When we remind these who are not acquainted with the value of stamps that the 1 shilling of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick are worth from \$8 to \$12, and others such as "The Connell" "Battleboro" etc. are worth from \$100.00 upwards, they will readily see there is something to be gained in it.

2nd. It is instructive apart from being considered as a science, in a geographical point of view as every country that issues stamps, has some particular characteristic belonging to the country on them. Take for instance our own Canadian stamps, the moment one looks at one of them, he sees that it belongs to a colony of Great Britain, and knows its government. Take the Egyptian stamps, we see upon them a representation of the Pyramids, and one's imagination is carried back to the time of the Pharaohs, and the bondage of the Israelites, and we know that they must represent that country. Again if we take the stamps of the United States one will be able to trace its history, its form of Government and coinage, for on them we see the portraits of its Presidents, and many historic events.

Now parents assist your boys if they show an inclination to collect these little pieces of paper, and you boys endeavour to obtain all the instruction and good out of your stamp collecting that you can, and when your Father or Mother are doubtful as to the existence or location of any place, bring into use your knowledge and show that the time spent in collecting these stamps, has not only been pleasantly but profitably spent.

THE INVENTION OF THE POSTAGE STAMPS.

A great amount has of late been said and written in all Philatelic circles and Publications in regard as to whom the right of invention of the postage stamp belongs, and still no definite conclusion has been arrived at. One writer advocates Sir Rowland Hill, another James Chalmers, another Dr. Gray and so on, until we have at least a half a dozen for whom the honour is claimed, now, they cannot all have invented it at once, some one of them must have been first, and from what we can gather of the subject, Mr. James Chalmers appears in our Union to be the one.