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ST. JOHN, NEW BRUNSWICK, JULY 1, 1865.

[PRICE 5 CTS.]

We beg leave to offer our sincere thanks to our friends and the stamp collecting and trading community generally, for the generous support and patronage which they have conferred upon us in the way of advertisements, subscriptions &c., by which we have been enabled to defray the expenses incurred in the publication of our Journal. It affords us much pleasure to note this, for it shows that the want of a publication of this kind has been felt in these provinces and our attempt to establish one has met with the approval of those interested in the stamp movement. We respectfully solicit a continuance of the favours which have been extended to us thus far. We also take this opportunity of thanking the press of New Brunswick and other provinces for the many kindly notices with which they have greeted us. Again, we repeat, thanks, thanks to all who have in any way contributed to the success of our enterprise.

The following letter, which was received from a gentleman of this city a few days ago, will be perused with interest by the readers of the *Gazette*:—

“St. JOHN, JUNE 21, 1865.

“To the Editor of S. C. M. G.

“Enclosed please find fifty cents for one year's subscription to your journal. I highly approve of your plan of establishing a paper of this kind in St. John, and hope it will succeed. Two or three months ago I would have put it down as a useless undertaking, but a little incident which took place in my family changed my mind considerably. It happened that a gentleman from the country, who was staying with us a few days, was one evening engaged in a conversation with me, the subject of which was the politics, &c., of the German States, and I happened to make use of the expression free city of Bremen. My friend objected to it, believing me to be mistaken in supposing Bremen to be a free city, whereupon a little shaver, a son of mine, not quite ten years of age, looked up and said, “Oh yes sir,—Bremen is a free city—just like Hamburg you know.” And pray how do you know?” inquired the gentleman somewhat amused. And then the little fellow went on to tell how he had been putting some Hamburg and Bremen postage stamps in his “collection,” and wanting, (I think he said), to put all the German ones together, he had to refer pretty often to his Atlas, and by these means had obtained a very considerable insight into German geography. I was surprised at this, for that subject is not by any means a very simple one, especially to youngsters, besides which I knew that master Freddy was formerly not very fond of this branch of study. Feeling somewhat curious about the matter I questioned him pretty thoroughly, and found that he was about as well posted in the geography of other places as

in that of Germany; and although at first I could hardly believe it myself, I think I am safe in saying that he learned more geography from his stamp book than he ever did at school, which he had been attending for about three years steadily.

“My friend intends introducing stamp collections among his boys, and thinks it will have a good effect: not only interesting them in geography but in history also, and I believe he is right.

“You might send a copy of the *Gazette* to his address, which you will find enclosed, and most likely he will subscribe to it.

“I remain yours &c.,”

“What is the use of those old stamps,” is a question we sometimes hear asked. We often meet with certain individuals who, although they do not pretend to understand it, yet do not hesitate a moment to pronounce it to be such too childish and puerile an object to merit any attention whatever from a really sensible person. We would advise any such to peruse the foregoing letter from one who, although he might once have thought likewise, now sees that he was greatly mistaken, and, with most admirable promptness and candour, at once proceeds to acknowledge his error. It may be that they will do the same themselves, and perhaps be induced to admit that stamp collecting is not the mere useless waste of time they are now pleased to term it.

A wise man, whose name we do not remember, once said that the young should be taught that which would be likely to prove most useful when they grew older. Now stamp collecting has a decided tendency towards accomplishing this most desirable object, as our correspondent has very plainly shown, acting the part of Tutor in a most creditable and efficient manner.

There are many other advantages to be derived from the practice of stamp collecting which we may not enter into at present; but before closing our remarks we would observe that a knowledge of geography and history is not the only thing to be learned from it. To obtain even an ordinary collection necessitates a good deal of trading and exchanging, and thus habits of close calculation and observation will be acquired which will prove most valuable to all in after life, for the youth will thus be prepared for the more active duties of counting house &c. And even the young lady will not find these qualities altogether useless, either in the position of house keeper or whatever other station fortune may be pleased to assign her.

Much more might be said on this subject but space forbids. At some future time we may