

Are You a Stamp Collector.

If not you should start a collection at once. There is no pastime for one's leisure hours which compares with it in interest and permanent value. It matters not what one's business or one's age may be, one who engages in the collection of stamps will find in it just the measure of relaxation from the more serious business of life which one's nature craves. It is something which makes a strong demand upon the attention and by its means the business man, who desires at the close of his day's labor to throw off all his cares that he may attain needed rest, finds himself able to do all he wishes and forget the day's turmoil and all its disturbances, both great and small. Many a business man who has had his interest aroused through seeing his children playing with stamps has taken the collection from them and enlarged and beautified it far beyond any idea which his children had in making it. There is no city in the land where there is more active, earnest business life of all sorts than New York; and there is also none wherein there is so large a proportion of these same men engaged in stamp collecting. Some suppose that the main business in stamps is done with the young, but any one who visits the offices of New York dealers will soon satisfy himself that the greatest number of their customers are grown people.

The time was when many of these customers would pretend that they were buying for their children, but so many men of first rank in business and society are now known to be stamp collectors that such pretence has passed away.

The best thing about stamp collecting is that it is within the reach of all.

A very little money will procure a good representative collection, showing different stamps from all parts of the world, and if one desires to spend considerable upon it, one can do so without difficulty, and be sure at the same time that one will lose nothing by it. The strange thing about a collection of stamps is that if it is made with any reasonable care it never declines in value. Good stamps are always increasing in value, and if one takes the pains to buy many of those not in use, one soon finds one's collection worth much more than it cost.

A great many parents, ladies particularly, are coming to appreciate one thing in stamp collecting which is of inestimable value. This is the perfect

Greece

1860-61, 1 lept dark brown, Senf No. 1a	2 80
.. 1 lept dark red-brown, Senf No. 1b	3 75
.. 10 lept orange	3 50
.. *1 lept pale pink-brown, Senf No. 11c	1 50
1875, 60 lept green, No. 47	1 05
1862-76, 10 lept orange, Tchak. No. 815	1 25
.. 10 lept orange, Tchak. No. 816	1 50
.. 20 lept ultramarine, Tchak. No. 818	1 50
Unpaid, 1878, *200 lept green and black, :: 10½	1 05

Hamburg

1866, 1½s rose	1 25
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Hayti

1881, 20c red-brown	1 75
1886, 7c dark blue, :: 16	3 50
.. 20c red-brown, :: 16	1 40
.. 5c yellow green, :: 14	1 75
.. 7c dark blue, :: 14	1 40

Heligoland.

1871-73, ½s green and rose, No. 6	3 50
1879, *1m green, rose and black, No. 35	7 00

Iceland.

Official, 1873, *8s mauve	2 10
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India.

1866, 6a lilac, No. 32	1 05
Official, 1866, 8p lilac, wmkd.	1 00

Bhopal.

1888-84, *¼a green, "ANAWAB"	1 50
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Jummoo.

1870, *¼a light ultramarine	1 75
.. *¼a deep ultramarine	1 75
.. *¼a black	2 45
.. *¼a ultramarine	3 50
.. *¼a carmine-red	1 60
1874, *¼a sage green	3 50

Gwalior.

1885, *¼a brown	1 25
.. *2a blue	1 05

Italy

1851, *20c blue	1 75
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Japan

1875, *½s slate, pl. 4, o.g.,	3 50
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Malta

1863-64, *½p golden yellow, ribbed	5 00
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Mauritius

*878, 2r50c on 5sh mauve	1 25
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Mexico

1872, 50c yellow, No. 147	1 40
1879, 100c black, No. 241	1 40
1884, 1p blue, wove	1 75