

The probabilities are, that this one letter will end the business. Should it not bring about a satisfactory result, the dealer will have to apply gradually severer methods as in the case of the habitual fraud.

Of course, there is the objection, that this method of securing returns is very troublesome, but the dealer and collector both will perceive that it is better to save an occasional fraud from becoming an habitual one, who will do vastly greater damage, and it is better to expel an habitual fraud from philatelic ranks than have him commit his depredations unchecked.

In a great many respects this paper is not what it ought to be, but we trust there may be found in it some useful thought on the stamp fraud, as well as some new ideas on treating the fraud by old methods.

This essay, from its nature, can only deal with the most common case of frauds, but it may give a hint at the treatment to be meted out to such as are but variations from one original Lewis Bishop type.

Next month we hope to deal with the speculative issue of stamps.

WHAT PHILATELY IS DOING

It is bringing together in a bond of friendship, men who have possibly no other two opinions, or interests, that are identical.

It is keeping three hundred thousand boys from spending two hundred million hours in mischief every year, and this means that they only devote two hours a day, for six days in the week, to their stamps.

It is training all of its followers to a closer observation of the minor details in everything, and in this way is presenting to the world an army of men who are of more value to themselves and everybody else than they would otherwise be.

It is causing between forty and fifty million pages of reading matter to be printed every year, and circulated into every part of the civilized world.

It is giving a great deal of assistance to teachers in our public schools in teaching geography. The boys and girls who collect stamps are always at the head of the geography class.

It is teaching forty nine out of every fifty among those who take it up, more governmental history of the world, than they would otherwise ever think of learning.

It forms an opening for the judicious saving, and investment of small sums, that in the aggregate have saved many a man from financial trouble, in which he has become involved in other ways.

It is claiming as devotees to its mystic shrine, some seven hundred and fifty thousand of the brightest men and women in America.

It is doing a thousand-fold more good than harm in this world, and, as the soap advertisers say, "is winning entirely on its merits."

YOU CAN'T!!!

Make a collection of stamps without learning something. "Don't try to."

Remove the paper from the back of stamps with an axe. "Don't try to."

Buy ten dollars' worth of stamps a week, if you're only earning five. "Don't try to."

Bid ten cents for a stamp worth six dollars and expect to get it next mail. "Don't try to."

Be dishonest in your Philatelic dealings and win the respect of everybody else. "Do try to."