

gentlemanly spirit which always characterized our lost friend's writings, will display itself in his successors. Two numbers of the *Chronicle* have come to hand, and although in size it is only four pages, it contains nothing but really useful information, and has not got sundry "puffs" of its publisher's stock in every second line, after the usual manner of journals of this size. The second number opens with a well written article on the "Bancroft Local" in which this spurious stamp is justly condemned. We notice that the publishers intend if possible to enlarge their paper to sixteen pages, in their endeavours we wish them every success.

*The Stamp Collector's Guide.*—AMERICAN STAMP COMPANY Meriden, Ct.

We had been wondering what had become of the *New Jersey Magazine*, when to our surprise we received it in a new and elegant form from Connecticut, "edited by its original editor, published by its original publishers." The new series opens with a readable article called: "What is stamp collecting," then follows, "Suggestions on mounting stamps," and the balance of the reading matter consists of editorial scraps, new issues, extracts etc. altogether making a very fair first number. The editor intends to "take lance in combat for the American School of Philately against the French system" but he will make the *Guide* "popular with all classes of collectors," and opens its columns to all philatelic articles, whether the subjects be treated in accordance with his views or not. This is certainly liberal, and although the editor differs from us in opinion, we wish him every success, and congratulate the American school collectors upon their having so able a champion.

THE PHILATELIST:—We would suggest to the editor of this magazine, if it is his intention to continue his article on "The Philatelic Press," that he should either employ an assistant or else get himself a new pair of spectacles; if he had done so before the appearance of his December number he would have seen that our leading article is not on "official postals" but "on local stamps"; how "official seals used for returned letters, the admiralty impressed

stamp etc," can be called locals, we leave the *Philatelist* to decide. We would also take occasion to remark that the said editor never saw any such ungrammatical expression in our columns as "bogus forgeries," and the spurious penny Prince Edward Island surcharged TWO CENTS has never been mentioned in our magazine. With regard to the spelling of the names of the Russian towns, we do not vouch for the correctness of the list in our second number, but we do say that it is an exact copy of a list published in Moscow, whether the Russians know how to write the names of their own towns or not, we cannot say.

### A chat with Juvenile Collectors.

There are so many young collectors now, that a word or two of advice to them on the subject of their collections may not be out of place. Boys are seldom able to purchase very expensive stamps; they must, as a rule, be content with the cheaper varieties. But they need not regret that their limited supply of pocket-money precludes them from obtaining great varieties; for it is a well-known fact that the cheapest stamps are the handsomest. The 1 cent Nova Scotia, 1 lept. Greek, 1 kop. Russian, and several others which we might name, are not exceeded in beauty by any of their costlier contemporaries.

It would be well for a young collector, unless he can draw upon the parental purse *ad infinitum*, to discard the idea of collecting sets of stamps. The better plan would be to rest content with obtaining the common varieties of each country, which are easily secured. By this means he would be possessed, at a cost of not more than five-and-twenty shillings, of about 120 unobliterated specimens of the stamps of nearly every part of the world, which, thus gathered, would afford more instruction than a number of sets.

For such a collection a large book would not be necessary. A boy need not exhaust his little store in purchasing one, but will find a small album, or even a large sheet neatly ruled, sufficient; for stamps look much prettier when placed together than when scattered in twos and threes over a