

remaining untouched, showing no date whatever as it would if genuine. By examining the genuine stamps, any one will readily see that a different style of cancellation was used with almost each issue. The originator of these forgeries was so sad a bungler that he did not think of these details which immediately strikes a Philatelist.

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## Stamp Collecting.

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Judging from the numerous articles which have been written concerning the advantages to be gained from stamp collecting, the subject would seem exhausted and that nothing remains to be said. If such were the case, there are good reasons for keeping the arguments, so often advanced, before the philatelic fraternity, to encourage the the older members and enlighten the latest accession to our ranks. The votaries of philately are almost universally intelligent, well bred boys, for no others could have an inclination for such a pursuit or diversion. They have, too, those qualities so necessary for success in any enterprise, energy and persistence.

Given collectors of these qualifications, it is easy to see to what extent the pursuit of their hobby will increase their knowledge of the location, extent, kind of government, history and general characteristics of the countries of the world, information which will be of the greatest value to them in after life. There is no risk in saying that collectors of the kind referred to far excel, in accurate knowledge of the world, all boys who have had only the advantages of even the best schools. The latter have as a rule only vague notions of the existence of many of the most remote and least known parts of the globe and of their form of government, political relations, etc., while the former must from the nature of their favorite amusement, become familiar with all these things.

Is there no reason for inferring that the boys now engaged in collecting stamps, will within a few years, be amongst our most energetic, intelligent, and consequently most successful business men?

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