

## To Our Readers.

The first volume of the STAMP COLLECTOR'S GAZETTE with this number is complete. Twelve months have we earnestly laboured in our task of placing stamp collecting in its true light before the public, and explained as well as we could the many benefits arising from this interesting amusement. To keep our readers well informed as to the newly issued stamps &c., was at first no easy matter; but thanks to our large corps of correspondents-who month after month, in their leisure moments kindly sent us specimens and valuable information-we have succeeded far beyond our most sanguine expectations.

The whole course of the GAZETTE from its commencement has been marked with peculiar and gratifying success. When it first made its debut in St. John it was just one half its present size; but in the month of October we found, the pressure upon our advertising space so great, and in order to accomodate our subscribers as well as our advertising patrons, we enlarged the paper to double its original size, and it now is the largest timbrophilic publication in America. The manner in which this periodical has been conducted has drawn around us many friends, both at home and abroad, whilst we have we regret to say, made a few enemies, particularly those whose little swindling schemes we have effectually "nipped in the bud :" but the independant and truthful character of the GAZETTE is so well known, that all the base and contemptible stories set afloat by the knaves, who are still writhing from beneath our scathing remarks (in reference to their impositions upon collectors with forged stamps, and stamps which never existed;) pass by as the idle wind, and the GAZETTE'S reputation remains unsullied.

We are indeed sorry to have to caution our friends so often to beware of forgeries. So large a trade is being done in these stamps, that with most people the pleasure of stampcollecting is fast departing. Why; no later than to-day we learned from our London correspondent, that

we feel that we have done our duty in cautioning collectors against them in time.

We thank our friends cordially for their munificent support during our existence, and trust they will continue the same in the future as in the past.

Those of our subscribers who commenced with the GAZETTE for June 1st, 1865, will, if they desire the paper another year, please remit to us their subscriptions as early in the present month as possible, so that our mailing clerk will not be unnecessarily delayed in making out the subscription book for 1866 and 186

We shall endeavour as far as lies in our power, to make vol. 2 of the GAZETTE even more interesting to the general reader than its predecessor, and with pleasure announce that we are now making ar angements to have a new font of type to be used expressly for this journal.

In conclusion we tender our sincere and heartfelt thanks to the gentlemen of the press of this city and elsewhere, who, in the kindest manner possible, thought fit to recognise our efforts to raise stamp collecting to a proper standard in this community, by giving us every encouragement in their power, and many flattering notices.

A slight misapprehension, appears to exist with many of our United States correspondents in reference to the scale of postage between that country and the British Provinces. We have received several letters now and then bearing a 3 cent instead of a 10 cent stamp-and of course for the letters had to pay 10 cents each. The 3 cent stamp is obliterated by theU.S. authorities but does not count as anything, and the letter comes as if nothing was affixed thereto; the whole postage (10c.) being charged upon its arrival. We hope this will be borne in mind by "our American cousins" and considerable inconvenience will be saved thereby.

THE amount of money orders paid at the St. John post office for the month of April was the complete set of new Egyptian stamps have been counterfeited and made their first appearance in England last month. Of course many of these are on their way to America; therefore, that of April 1865.