

THE STAMP COLLECTOR.

Three months ago he did not know

His lessons in geography;
Though he could spell, and read quite well,
And cipher, too, he could not tell
The least thing in topography.

But what a change! How passing strange;
This stamp collecting passion
Has roused his zeal, for woe or weal,
And lists of names he now can reel
Off in amazing fashion.

I hear him speak of Mozambique,
Heligoland and Bavaria,
Cashmere, Japan, Thibet, Soudan,
Sumah, Spain, Waldeck, Kohran,
Ceylon, Siam, Helvetia.

Schleswig-Holstein, Oh! boy of mine,
Genius without a teacher!
Wales, Panama, Scinde, Bolivar,
Jellalabad and Kanahar,
Cabul, Deccan, Helvetia.

And now he longs for more Hong-Kongs,
A Fiji, a Mauritius,
Greece, Borneo, Fernando Po,
And when he'll stop no one can know,
He's grown so avaricious.

—Exchange.

NOTES FROM THE WORLD'S FAIR CITY.

Mr. N. E. Carter, of *Badger State Philatelist* fame, and now a resident of Minneapolis, was in the city a few hours a short time ago.

S. B. Bradt & Co. held their seventh auction sale Wednesday evening, Sept. 14. A number of good lots were catalogued, and experience has proved that Chicago sustains its reputation as an auction center as well as the future center of the universe. Messrs. Bradt & Co. are now at work cataloguing the collection of Mr. Chas. Townsend, Akron, Ohio, which will be sold in October.

The heat of the summer months has not had its usual effect on philately this year, and especially has this fact been a noticeable one here in Chicago. The meetings of the C. P. S. have been always well attended, from 12 to 20 members usually dropping in during an evening. The C. P. S. has a variety of members; there are summer members, winter members, indifferent members, and in fact, a complete category of variations. There are some though, who are always on hand, and who do not have to be reminded that there is to be something of grave importance to be transacted. P. M. (Wolsieffer) is one of those members who hasn't a string tied around his finger at all times, and the second and fourth Thursday of each month always finds him ready for roll call. The *new issue* at home, of course, has something to say as to Pa's assiduity. P. M. you know is in the music business too, and as a part of his trade is compelled to often hum over a new song to some aspiring beauty, and, as a matter of course, new songs are not always easily sung at first sight; but when a young lady recently asked for Emmett's "Lullaby," P. M.'s face lighted up, and it is said he sang for dear life. It

evidently was not an old song. Our genial secretary C. E. Severn, is another of the old stand-by's, always at his post of duty, and ever mindful of the society's business. Although he has been ill considerable of of the summer, he always manages to call the roll and mark the delinquents. He is one of those pleasant and agreeable fellows, the kind that characterizes this world of ours by their usual sagacity. Dilg is not one of our summer members. The C. P. S. exchange department takes too much of his time I presume. Be such the case or not, it cannot be denied that the wonderful success of this department is due to his efficient service. He doesn't love the *American Philatelist* though. (Did any one say ep-i-tome? Ask Dilg.) Mr. Jansen is another of our non-summerites, and he is our worthy president too. Mr. Fritz has a night off once in a while, that is when the brewery is closed for the summer, and drops in at a meeting occasionally and livens matters up a bit. Speaking of breweries reminds me of the St. Louis Convention, of Beardsley, the hat, etc. Mr. B. will be compelled to look to his laurels if he comes to the Chicago Convention in '93, if Bro. Fritz is here. If Chicago runs dry Milwaukee is close at hand.

The question of permanent quarters is at present a perplexing one for the C. P. S. We want a place to entertain our friends in '93, but we can't buy the Grand Pacific or the Aetna either, can we P. M.? "Speaking of Ellen," excuse me, I should say "Aetna," again reminds me of P. M.'s experience as a member of the committee of permanent location. Rooms were offered him in the Aetna Hotel, and the proprietor was very agreeable in displaying and relating the special advantages of his house. "A quiet game" would not be disturbed, nor would any questions be asked, etc. Some people do have such natural propensity in "sizing" up a man, but we never believe it of P. M. But what was best of all was what P. M. saw through an open door. The C. P. S. will engage the whole floor.

I have heard nothing definite from the Iowa Convention of philatelists at Des Moines, on Aug. 31. I read, some place, that Mr. C. D. Reimers would represent his *Western Philatelist* at the meeting, but as I saw him that day at the Park Theatre, I doubt very much if he "broke away" in time; Harris saw him later though.

Rumors of an attempt to organize an Illinois State Philatelic Association are hovering about our World's Columbian Exposition city. Why not? Illinois is second to but one state in the union in philatelic importance, and has an excellent field for such an organization. Let it be done by all means. What is the object of an association? Rather, what should be the object of such an organization? To further the interests of our pursuit. Let us organize an association with practically one object; to create an interest in our hobby among the younger generation; interest our young friends in our pleasure; initiate them into the mysteries of our art. Let someone start the ball.

The *Western Philatelist* for September is quite an improvement over former numbers, but not yet typical of Chicago's publication of old. It contains 12 pages and cover, and its general make-up looks very much like Spooner's *Stamp*; it is, too, published in Maryland. The Review department is quite an interesting feature and is quite extensive. Chicago is an unfortunate city for philatelic publications, but here's for good luck.