

# The Stamp Reporter.

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## A Talk to Young Collectors.

BY J. EDWARD SOHN, JR.

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In the prime of their age when between 10 and 15 year of age the boys and misses generally enter the ranks of philately.

They are generally ignorant to the degree in which the hobby is pursued and they are the only ones of a few who seem cranky (?) enough to admit that they throw (?) away their money in this way.

Now while it is an undoubted fact that beginners will declare that they are cranks to throw (?) away their money for stamps, they again declare on the other hand that it is a save investment.

This changing and shifting about of ideas must finally lead them to do one of two things to drop from the ranks as a collector or continue to pursue and retain an interest in the hobby.

Now to all beginners who may chance to read this article, I want them to give me their whole attention in the next few paragraphs. Having been a collector since the age of 8, I am very familiar with the malicious ideas which creep into the heads

of beginners, and cause a confusion between their conscience and their ideas or thoughts and the result is that they dispose of their stamps acquired in a few months or fortnights ago, at a cost much lower than they originally cost them.

This will make them still more serious and will decry philately as a humbug to any person or friend who may want to take up the study of stamps. Buying stamps is advertised as a safe investment, and so it is if you will only keep them long enough, say two or three years and then dispose of them, when you will have made a neat profit, and the longer they are kept the larger your gain. For example take the 10c. black U. S., 1847, which was priced at 30c. in 1871, to-day they are catalogued at \$4.00; likewise the 24c. purple U. S., 1861, which was catalogued 20c. 27 years ago, and is now held at \$1.50. To get down more to our present time take the 90c. used U. S., of 1861 which in 1864 was worth \$1.25. now it is catalogued at \$4.00. In 1894 the 90c. black and carmine U. S., 1869 was worth \$10.00, to-day they bring \$20.00.