AMATEUR PHOTOGRAPHY.

For those who have not yet been initiated into the mysteries of Photography there is a great source of pleasure in store. Its hosts of admirers are swelling year by year. It has become one of the most popular pastimes of the day.

Since the invention of the gelatine coated dry plates, eighteen years ago, photography, with its simpler apparatus and many improvements, combined with the small outlay required for the purchase of the "necessaries," has placed it within the reach of all.

The amateur in selecting a camera should consider the use to which he wishes to put it. Only the best instruments will do good work, both inside and out doors.

The lens is the most important part of a camera. It is better by far to buy a small camera with a good lens, than a larger one of inferior quality, as the lens is the essential part for successful work.

Excellent results have been obtained from the five dollar plate camera, but the majority of cheap ones are only a source of annoyance to the owner. Before buying, the camera should be thoroughly tested; all parts may work easily and yet not fit perfectly, the plate holders must be light proof, and the springs true.

With the growth of the wheeling clan, the demand for a portable instrument has increased rapidly. To this the manufacturers have responded nobly. There are now dozens of models, of all sorts and sizes, on the market, each claimed to be the best. The magazine hand cameras are the most popular for tourists. They vary in size from the small watch-case instrument, weighing but a few ounces, to those a foot or more across.

To gain a full knowledge, the amateur should begin with the bellows camera and tripod; the smallest tripod cameras use a 2¾x3¼ inch plate, and the hand cameras range from 1¾x1½ to 8x10. The 4x5 inch plates are large enough for most purposes and are of the most convenient size and artistic shape.

The best models carry from six to twelve sensitive plates, these drop down automatically into the receiver at the bottom of the camera. As they are exposed, a fourth plate is always before the lens.

As regards films, the gelatine coated celluloid film is becoming quite popular, but the best results are still obtained from the glass plates. Genuine artists use no other.

(To be continued.)

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Uncle Ed.

NOTICE.

The public is invited to take notice of a new star in Berlin's constellation of artists. After over a quarter of a century's thought over matters in general, Uncle Ed. has at last yielded to the urgent appeals of his numerous friends to unload his many and often thunk thoughts into the sanctum of ENERGY. They will in time appear in its columns. Uncle Ed. has thought of a variety of subjects. Whenever other great thinkers would think a thought upon any subject which his thinker had never thunk, he would gather it in with his scissors. He also has bought many choice imported thoughts. Many of the thoughts that the ancients thunk have been sent to the repair shop and re-enameled, and are now in his thinker as good as new. They will all appear in time, beginning with next issue.

Uncle Ed. is a member of the great L. L. C. and has developed his gift of oratory. All the wealth of assorted many thunk thoughts above referred to are embodied in a series of lectures. These are delivered with a recklessness and a picturesqueness of a Liberal victory parade, and these features, combined with a personal beauty that would stop a clock, make an evening long to be remembered by the public. His lectures are endorsed by all leading physicians, undertakers and himself.

Any churches, schools, or societies who would like to have a lecture are requested to send him a V for which he will send a circular containing a family group of himself, and a number of high-priced testimonials, and other etc. This circular is a chunk of literature that should be in every home. The picture is warranted to drive away all rats in two days. Address, Uncle Ed., care of ENERGY.

Premiums.

Send us 50c for one year's subscription to

"Energy"

and select as a premium one of the following books, some of which are cloth bound and are alone worth 50c each. None of them sell at less than 25c each in the regular way:

Goldwin Smith's Life of Cowper.
Kenilworth. Essays of Elia.
The Sketch Book.
Public School Temperance.
She Stoops to Conquer.
The Lady of the Lake.
Gage's High School Chemistry.
Longfellow and Hastings.

Of Local Interest

Written for ENERGY.

THINGS THUNK.

BY SETH.

Berlin people at home and abroad, at least in the majority of cases, are ever profuse in their expressions of loyalty to their own town. When visiting other towns and cities they wax very fluent in their unbounded praise of Berlin. Most of them carefully refrain from mentioning anything about our streets, our abominable water, or the many other little vexations which are continually thrusting themselves into our lives. This is all very well for persons who are out of reach of all these annoyances, but for us who are being continually disgusted by them, it is perfectly right for us to raise our voices in protestations loud and long. This by way of introduction. You know now in a measure what to expect. My first kick is anent our water supply. Where else on this green earth can we find such an abhorable water supply as in this same laudable town of Berlin. Just think of it! at times it is so *dirty* that people refrain from washing clothes in it for that reason. And citizens of the best town in Canada are expected to quench their thirst with water (or mud) of this kind. Verily it is astounding. Of what use is it to try to dispel contagious diseases from our midst when such a mighty disseminator of disease germs is *forced* upon us.

The water works plant has cost the town an immense sum of money, but it is my candid opinion that steps will have to be taken soon to get water from some other source, as many citizens put little faith in the proposed sinking of additional artesian wells out at the pumping station. It takes a vast amount of water to supply this town, and wells will have to be sunk in other parts of the town in order to obtain an ample supply for the needs of the town. Would it not be a good plan to lay altogether new pipes to convey drinking water, and use the present system for washing, lawn sprinkling and power only?

HARD LINES.

The hobo came to a cottage door,
And asked for food, for he hungered sore,
And the young bride gave at the tramp's demands
A biscuit, made by her own fair hands.
Said Weary William, with husky groan,
If a man ask bread, will ye give him a stone.

—Lewis' Lie.