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The Collector's Miscellany

Incorporating The Bookworm

A Journal for Collectors of Old Boys' Books, Books, Stamps, Coins, Juvenile Drama, Cigar Bands, Postmarks, Xmas Stamps, Curios, etc.

New Series No. 7. Price Threepence December-January 1933-34

Wanted. Badges and Buttons relating to Police, Fire Brigades, Railways, Tramways, etc. Also American and Canadian Masonic Chapter Pennies and Dog tags or discs. Cash or exchange—Herdman, 47 Salisbury Place, Bishop Auckland, Eng. d

Exchange wanted. Safety razor blade packets, beer labels, cigarette cartons, tobacco labels and wrappers, British poster stamps. Xmas seals, flag day flags. Similar for exchange or can offer match labels, cigar bands, cigarette cards, coins, postmarks, etc. Parks Printer, Ivanhoe Press, Saltburn-by-the-Sea, Yorks., Eng.

"Cosmopolitan" girls; Doctors, Teachers Students, Rich widows, Aristocrats, and gents seek friends. Social exchange on 125 hobbies, ideas, education, languages, travel, migration, occultism, sports, journalism, nudecult, music, sex, law, domestic economy, philately, cards, money, diverse etc., Prospectus-2d. International Coupon. Editor: 'Cosmopolitan' Friends Correspondence Club, Delhi, 43, India. Asia. 1c

Wanted Old Songsheets, songbooks, chapbooks, ballads, early children's books, valentines, etc. A few duplicates for exchange only. Parks, Printer, Saltburn-by-Sea, Eng.

Thirty Country Mixture, Foreign and Colonial, with frequent finds. 1000 1/3. 200) 2/- Gray 40 Grange Road, Lewes. 6

Wanted Old Fire Insurance Plates for collection. Brown, 160 Friar Street, Reading 6

Wanted Best for Boys Library, 3d. & 6d. nos. Ching-Ching yarns published by T. Harrison Roberts. For Sale Jack of Warwick, Sword of Fate, Jack O'the Cudgel and Wat Tyler. E. C. Wells, 60 Stopford Road, Upton Manor, E. 13

Jack Holland, collector coins, stamps, antiques, cigarette cards, match labels, cigar bands, books, pictures, etc. 29 Bartlett Street, Brooklyn, N.Y. U.S.A.

Miniature Playing Cards, size 1 1/2 x 1 1/2 printed on cloth lined linen cards, beautiful finish, 6d. per pack, plus postage. Parks, Printer, Saltburn-by-the-Sea, Yorks, England.

500 U.S. and Foreign Stamps	5d
60 Different U.S. Stamps	— 5d
60 Different Precancels	— 5d
20 Diff. U.S. Commemoratives	5d
1 Complete set Bi-cent	— 5d
20 Different Mexico	— 5d

Summit Stamp Shop, -C-M, Summit Hill, Ohio, U.S.A.

Wanted. "Penny Dreadfuls" and fierce Boys Journals 1840 to 1900. Large collection ditto for **Sale or Exchange.** 3d. for list, World's Biggest Collector, Buyer, Exchanger. Barry Ono, 100, Ferndale Road, Clapham, London. d

Wanted. Ogdens—British Costumes, Kings & Queens, Soldiers of the King. Wills—Coronation. Owen 47 St. Lukes Road, Westbourne Park. W. 11. 6

Editor & Publisher:—J. Parks, Windsor Road, Saltburn-by-Sea, Yorks, Eng.

Wanted: For Sale: Exchange

Readers' small advertisements are inserted in this page at the prepaid rate of one halfpenny per word per insertion. Minimum sixpence.

Nudlife. Clean, wholesome, educational magazine. Single copy 4d; trial half-year 1/9 post free (U.S.A. 8c copy, 40c half-year, post free. Nudlife publishers, 30 (cm) James Street, Coalville, Leicester, England. 17

Catalog all U.S. Charity Stamps 1930 50c: Supplement revising lists and prices to 1932, 50c. or exchange. Want all European poster stamp catalogs and publications, old or new. Dick Green, 152 So. 4th East St., Salt Lake City, Utah, U.S.A. 8

Stamp Collectors all over the world read the "Stamp News." Do you? Articles, news, illustrations. Published quarterly, 1/-, (25c.) per year. Specimen copy 4d. (8c.) Stamps accepted. W. M. Thompson, Box 3595s, Sydney, Australia 8a

Wanted: early Marvels and Magnets, any Henderson publications, also old bloods and journals before 1900. Medcraft, 64 Woodlands Road, Ilford. 7

Postmarks. Large quantity of duplicates for disposal. Old, modern, numbered, services, paid, slogans, meter frankers Daniels, 12 Buxton Road, Brighton. 7

Pre 1900 tram and bus tickets and tokens wanted. Geeson, 182 Hamel Street, Bolton, Lancs. 7

Exchange stamps, postcards, curios, magazines, letters, with American collectors. Join "Club-Pan-America" Yearly dues only 1/-. Club journal 6d. Gerard, Manager, Warwood, Wheeling W., Va., U.S.A. 7

Exchange match labels and correspondence. E. A. J. Brown, Frampton, Dorset, England. 7

Reliable man wanted to call on shops, no selling or outlay, Good commission Write—The T.P.A., 57 Lichfield St., Wolverhampton. 7

Will exchange letters, view cards, old novels, etc. with anyone, anywhere. Arvid Dahlstedt, The Billboard, New York City, N.Y., U.S.A. 7

Vente! Echange! Achet! Timbres occasionnels (et cartes) d'expositions, congres, fetes, jubiles, aviations, en outre de militaire, bienfaisance, guerre patriotiques, mouvement des etrangers. Argent de necessite en papier, metal, porcelaine, cuir, etc. Timbres-poste en capsules, monnaies, medailles de toute sorte, decorations, obliterations, postales de progagande, cartes d'approvisionnement, etc. Otto Edenharter, Frundsberg Strasse 44, Muenchen 11, Munich, Germany. 7uct

Collector Dealers Monthly, specimen 2d. 12 word advert gratis in C.D.M. 12 U.S.A. stamp album, stamp mounts to approval sheet applicants. Postage 3d., abroad 1/- Neave, 23 Elgin Tce., Maida Vale, W. 9. 7

Sale cheap, or exchange, equal value various old boys book items, penny dreadfuls, etc., stamp for list. F. Jay, 179 Ribblesdale Road, Streatham, London, S.W. 16. 7

Wanted: Boys Leisure Hour, Boys Champion Journal, Young Ching-Ching. Robert Dodds, 3 Garngad Hill, Glasgow. 7

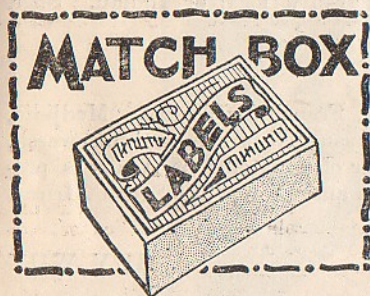
Wanted: Ching-Ching Mystery, vol 55 Boys of England. J. Wise, 53 King Edward Bldgs., Islington, N 7. 7

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INDIAN LABELS

SOME of the labels used in India, both of local and foreign firms, have titles that are Indian words written in English script.

Often a picture on the label is sufficient to show what the title is. For instance Bakri (pronounced Buckry) is a goat.

There are however many labels of which the title is not understood by anyone who does not understand the language used; and so perhaps the following lists of translations of some of these may be of interest to collectors.

In it I put the the title first; the English phonetic pronunciation, where necessary, second; and the translation third.

Agg, Ary, Fire.

Bersatea, Bersarty, Waterproof. Bulbul, Boolbool, an Indian singing bird.

Cheeta, Leopard. Chiriya, Bird.

Diasalai is now a recognised Indian word for matches, but is actually a corruption of the English "Give us a light."

Ekka, a light cart drawn by a pony.

Fakir, Fukeer, a religious beggar.

Ghari, Garry, Cart. Ghula or Gul, Gool, Rose. Gwala, Gwoller, man who keeps cattle and sells milk.

Hans or Hansa or Hounsa, Swan. Hathi, Harty, Elephant.

Jamrao or Jamphal, the Loquat fruit. Jhoola, Rocking-chair.

Khitmagar, Waiter. Kutub Minar, a minaret near Delhi.

Lall, Larl, Red. Lattoo, Top. Lotus, Giant Water-lily.

Mali, Marly, Gardener. Mayna, Miner, a common Indian bird. Musjid, Muzjeed, Mohommedan mosque or temple. Moorga, Cock. Machli, Muchly, Fish. Magar, Mugger, Crocodile.

Namaz, Namarz, Prayer. Nautch, Norche, Dance. Narangi, Orange. Pani, Parny, Water.

Ramphal, Rumparl, Mango. Rana, Rarnar, lady ruler or wife of Rajah.

Shikar, Hunting. Swadeshi, Swadayshy, local or Indian. Sher, Share, Tiger.

Tulshi, Toolsy, a sacred plant.

To this Indian list I add La Mouette, French for Seagull. Medjidie, a Turkish and Egyptian order or medal. Chasuwich, pronounced Sharweesh, Arabic for policeman. Sheikh, the leader of any tribe of Arabs is pronounced Shake and not Sheek! Waratah and Protea are South African flowers.

GUY WUY

FURTHER AMERICAN TRADE CARDS

SINCE the last issue of the *Miscellany* the following five sets of American trade cards have come to my notice.

Mystery Gum, a series of 500 cards showing tricks with coins, cards handkerchiefs, etc., issued by General Gum Co, Inc., Chicago, Ill. These are based on the same idea as the Murray (Irish) Puzzle Series, but are plain black and white, and extremely poor in quality.

In History's Spotlight is an interesting series of 24 coloured cards, pictures of American history, mostly battle scenes, being reproductions of famous paintings. Good quality, but printed without a border. Issued by Sperry Candy Co., Milwaukee, Wis.

Presidents of the United States is a series of 30, rather crude in composition. Issued by Gold Brand Confectionary, Inc., Allston, Mass.

Flags is an unnumbered series which comes packed in raisins, issued by Rose Seal Packing Co., New York City, N.Y.

Humpty Dumpty Up-to-Date is a series of 24 coloured cards, issued by The Shelby Gum Co., Shelby, Ohio.

ALFREDO

NATIVE WEAPONS



VERY interesting collection may be got together of the weapons used by savage and barbaric peoples in different parts of the world. Amongst the weapons of offence it is easy to distinguish three principle groups, viz: stones, sticks and clubs for stunning and crushing; darts, spears and arrows for piercing, and knives and swords for cutting. There are also a few types like the lasso and the bolas which are intended for entangling and trapping.

Firearms form an independent class. The principle forms of missile propelling appliances are the sling, the spear-thrower, bow and blow-tube. Wooden clubs are still in use in many parts of the world, especially where iron is not available for the making of other weapons. They present a wide range of variation in length and form, some being heavy two-handed weapons as is the case of most of those from Fiji, others being light enough to use as throwing clubs like many examples from Australia.

Decoration also varies greatly, most of the Pacific Island clubs being highly finished products of the wood worker, polished and decoratively carved. In New Guinea and New Britain stone headed clubs are used, the stone being perforated for the wooden shaft, gum also being used in New Britain to make it hold more firmly.

Some North American Indians used a stone headed club (the original tomahawk), but this was soon replaced by the iron head of European importation. It is common for such iron tomahawks to have a pipe bowl cast at the back of the head, the wooden handle being then pierced to serve as a pipe stem.

The scalping knife by which a circular piece of skin was removed from the back of the head with the skin adhering to it was always in later times an ordinary butcher's knife imported from Europe.

The knobkerrie is used chiefly by the Zulus and other South African tribes, the knob being on one side of the haft and sometimes flattened above and below. The most valued specimens are made entirely of rhinoceros horn but the usual material is wood, often decorated with wire or curved patterns.

The returning boomerang of Australia is simply a fowling-stick as the war-boomerangs do not return. A suitable stick is cut from the crooked stem of an acacia and softened in water. The two ends are then twisted in opposite directions while at the same time it is quickly hardened over a fire. The plane surface now has a spiral curve and when thrown rises higher and flies further than any other hand weapon, and returns to its thrower in an elliptical curve, or series of curves.

Spears made without metal are found in Fiji, Soloman Islands, New Herbrides, etc. The points are sometimes wood (fire-hardened) bone and flying fox barbs or sting-ray spines. These also occupy a considerable length of the shaft and are arranged in rows which produces a decorative effect.

Spears barbed with slender bone splints are characteristic of the Soloman Islands. Vegetable fibres are used to tie the barbs to the shaft and greater firmness is attained by a coating of gum which becomes hard with exposure. In the Gilbert Islands the teeth of sharks, have been used not only for arming long spear-like weapons, but also of forms like knives and swords. The teeth are perforated and tied in rows along the wooden shaft. On the naked skin of a savage such weapons produce nasty wounds and lacerations. Metal spears are found all over Africa.

Spear-throwers are flat pieces of wood with a socket for the butt of the spear in the end, these supply the arm with an additional length and joint as it were, enabling the spear to be thrown much further. They were widely used in Australia.

The blow-tube and poisoned darts are used in South East Asia and Tropical America, even a scratch of these darts may mean a fatal wound. The practice of poisoning arrows is characteristic of certain parts of Africa the Bushmen having two or three kinds of poison. In one case it is made of spurge juice mixed with an extract from the poison gland of the puff-adder. Another kind of mixed poison has the venom from a large black spider mixed with plant juice and snake vemon. The most deadly however, is obtained from a small grub or larva by squeezing out the soft internal organs and the fluids of the body on to the end of the arrow. The poison is not only speedily fatal, but gives rise to great agony before death.

The Maori of New Zealand uses short spatulate clubs of jade, whales' bone and wood which were called Mere, and long axe-shaped clubs (tewhatewha). Staffs called hani were carried by chiefs and men of rank. Spears were also used but are very rare.

Care should be taken when buying to get genuine articles for weapons made by natives to sell to tourists and fakers abound. (This also applies to the Egyptian antiques mentioned in my last article, for the manufacture of them must support quite a community in Cairo). The London auction rooms or reputable dealers are safest to deal with. The commoner weapons are quite cheap and can be picked up for a few shillings each.

H. A. OWEN

CIGARETTE CARD COLLECTING AS A HOBBY

VERY little has been heard up to the present of cigarette card collecting, this is most likely due to the fact that most people consider such a hobby as childish, and a more ridiculous statement was never made.

It is now some years since cigarette manufacturers began inserting cards, or stiffeners as they are called in the Trade, in their packets of cigarettes, and those who were far-seeing enough to collect them, have now very useful and interesting collections.

It is surprising that a hobby with so many advantages over other hobbies has not made a wider appeal. To consider a few of these advantages, there is first and foremost the one of cheapness. Sets of cards can be collected if one is a smoker, for nothing, from the packets of cigarettes, or they be bought for very little from other collectors or the firms which deal in such things. The information which can be learnt from these cards is literally vast. No encyclopedia yet published is able to give the same amount of information as these cards. As for space, a collection of 10,000 cards will occupy about as much room as a small bookshelf.

In comparison such hobbies as philately and numismatics are suitable only for those who have comparatively large sums of money at their disposal. When it is considered that as much as £10, or £100 may be given for one stamp, it will be seen that above statement admits of no argument. Numismatics in addition to being expensive are also bulky and require a lot of room for their proper display.

So, whichever way it is looked at, it can be easily seen that the hobby of collecting cigarette cards has much to commend it, and there is very little that can be said against it.

The day of the *Chartopholist* is arriving, and very soon the collecting of cigarette cards will be looked upon every bit as favourably as those of philately and other well-known hobbies.

H. D. WILSON

RECENT BRITISH CIGARETTE CARD SETS

Wills' *Garden Flowers, Strange Craft, Do You Know* (4th series).

Ogdens' *Smugglers and Smuggling*.

Players *Cage and Aviary Birds*. (All mentioned are sets of 50).

SOME PHILLIP'S SETS OF INTEREST

IN selecting the cigarette card issues of Godfrey Phillips' as my topic, I am choosing a firm, which in my opinion, have issued some of the most distinctive sets. We see various sets of Butterflies, but when we turn to Phillips we find them pictured on a black background in their set of 25 *British Butterflies*. There are two issues of this set, one with pale blue printing on the backs, and the other in a darker blue. The pale blue set is the older issue.

Turning to their set of *Olympic Champions, 1928*, we find what I would term a semi-photo type of card, distinctive by the tone or tint of the photo which is of an unusual brown shade.

I cannot think of another set of *Red Indians* issued in Great Britain save the set issued by Phillips. This is a set of 25 with the ordinary coloured pictures, and the printing on the backs in a rich blue. The anonymous set of *Indian Chiefs* is issued for British Guinea, by Messers. Wills.

We next come to their set of *Evolution of the Navy*, a set of 50. We find a rough card, with a raised, or embossed border in the centre of which is a delicate coloured picture of the subject of the set. No. 40 of this set is very difficult to obtain and was when the set was on issue. I know of instances where the firm have been approached in an endeavour to obtain this particular card from them.

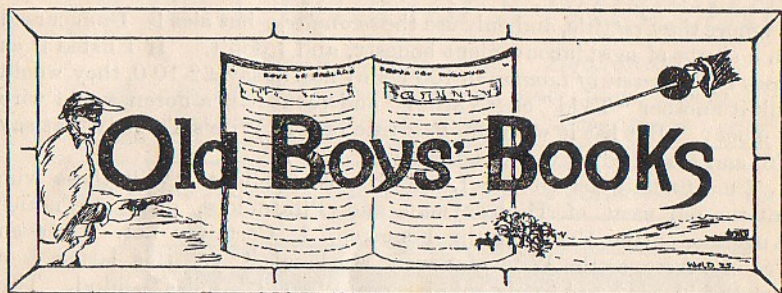
In selecting a set to conclude this article I am taking a set which I should term *Novelties*. This set consists of cards of a very amusing nature. You have seen the same thing in Xmas stockings, you pull a small tag at the bottom of the card and the tongue of a comical face slides out, the eyes change their expression, and so forth.

Whilst there are numerous errors in cigarette cards, Phillips have the distinction (though not solely) of never having any, at least careful research has failed to reveal them.

JOHN W. THORNTON

HOW TO MOUNT CIGARETTTE CARDS

YEARS ago I became disgusted with the antiquated and limited usefulness of the ordinary cig. card album, and to-day all my collection is mounted on stout, white, royal 4to. cards. I use a good peelable stamp hinge, and the cards can be removed at any time without damage. These cards display (without cramping) 18 to 20 of the usual small cigarette cards, but can of course be used for all sizes.



CAMOUFLAGED "BLOOD" TITLES.

MY early youth was spent in the late Victorian era, when everything but the good little boys' *Boy's Own Paper* was sweepingly designated a "penny dreadful" or "pernicious literature," when intolerant schoolmasters and parents without troubling to read them, would punish you for reading the fine historical tales of Brett in the *Boys of England*, *Young Men of Great Britain*, etc. So I used to buy the *Boys Own Paper* and with the title very ostentatiously displayed outside, would be reading my currant number of "Sweeny Todd," "Handsome Harry" or "Spring Heeled Jack" inside. I thought I created the dodge, but in real fact I hadn't. Earlier on, in the Sixties, when as is alleged, they seized "The Wild Boys of London" and magistrates blamed "Charley Wag, the New Jack Sheppard" for the bulk of the juvenile crimes then perpetrated, there is no doubt the publishers of "bloods" got the wind up. I suppose E. Lloyd really commenced it in the fifties.

After issuing "Gentleman Jack," "Claude Duval," "Varney the Vampire" and several of the most lurid, I suppose it got a bit hot. So we come to "Ada the Betrayed" and that preceded a veritable epidemic of most sickly but certainly most innocuous "girl" titles. This lasted right up to 1889, when we got "Paul's Perils." Now there's a dear little Sunday School title for you. Might be all about some sweet little cherub of a boy, who *would* go straight, in spite of the temptations of his naughty schoolmates, etc. In short, the male equivalent of "Jessica's First Prayer." But bless your heart, it was really Lloyds "Paul Clifford, or Hurrah! for the Road" very much abridged, and newly illustrated.

When Fox dished up Lloyd's "String of Pearls" and rechristened it "Sweeny Todd, the Demon Barber of Fleet Street" he made a fortune out of it, but it was the "Demon Barber" that was the touch of genius.

Now here is an instance. Published in 103 penny numbers we get Lloyd's "The Wife's Tragedy, or the *Secrets of the Sewers of London.*" When listing this, I always feel I want to be guilty of a little mendacity,

and ignore the *first* title, and only use the *secondary*, but alas! I am cursed with a strata of most inconvenient honesty, and I don't. If I listed it as *Secrets of the Sewers of London* in 103 penny nos. at say £2-10-0, they would think it another "Todd" or "Varney" and about half a dozen would wire the money. But list it with the *first* title of "A Wife's Tragedy" at say 17/6, and everybody gives it the bird.

I must admit the average Lloyd title is repellant. Will those who want the red meat of Highwayman and Pirate lore, deign to notice "Angeline, or the Grave of the Forsaken,"? Certainly not. Or even "Pedlar's Acre, or the Wife of Seven Husbands," yet this latter is a "blood of bloods" and to my mind leaves "Todd" miles behind. The "Seven Husbands" certainly does suggest gruesome possibilities, which is borne out, as this angelic lady kills all her husbands while asleep by emptying a ladle of molten lead into their ear, and the description of their death throes, and their final awful shrieks, would have un-nerved "Todd" himself. Yet list it as "Pedlars Acre" and who wants it?

Then we have "The Blighted Heart," "The Bridal Ring" "Love and Mystery," "The Lady in Black," "Black Mantle," "The Old House of West Street," and about 200 more of Lloyd's, not one with a selling title. Yet they bristle with pictures of pirates waving black flags, and the skull and cross bones emblazoned on their chests in real diamonds, masked highwaymen, secret passages, murders, abductions, etc. Yet those in search of the gruesome pass them by, because it is the "Angelina" or "Belinda" title that does it.

Leaving Lloyd we come to Malcolm J. Errym, with "Edith the Captive, or the Robbers of Epping Forest" in 104 nos. Certainly the secondary title does suggest a few naughty gentlemen might appear in it, but who would suppose it was another version of "Jack Sheppard and Jonathan Wild?" The sequel in 104 nos. is "Elith Heron, or the Earl and the Countess" which is even worse.

Then we have "Dora the Duchess, or Lover's Trials." A mystery of the highway which is just simply and purely a highwayman tale. Then "Rankley Grange" and "The Marquis of Daleswood" dished up by Edward Viles from old Lloyd stuff, and claimed as his own.

I know I groan when I get a fine lot of real old stuff, with terrible pirates, highwaymen, body snatchers, and gentle ladies boiling their husband's heads for a pastime, and find they are all called "The Broken Heart" or "The Wife's Dream." Give me certainly good honest "Dick Turpin" or "Jack Rann" but what is a poor vendor of "penny bloods" like myself to do when Dick and Jack are hidden behind the petticoats of some innocent little maiden of the village?

Confound the camouflaged "penny blood." Give me the good old honest "Demon Barber," or "Varney" and his "Feast of Blood" for after all, it is the "bill matter" that does it not the book.

BARRY ONO

SCARCE "DREADFULS" IN THE
BARRY ONO COLLECTION.

4th. LIST.

(Continued from No. 6.)

- "Edith the Captive, or; the Robbers of Epping Forest," 104 numbers. J. Dicks, 1861.
- "Edith Heron" (sequel to "Edith the Captive,") 104 nos. J. Dicks, 1863.
- "The Felon's Daughter, or; Pamela's Perils," 23 nos. J. Dicks, 1864.
- "George Barrington, the Pickpocket." 22 nos. J. Dicks, 1865.
- "Little John and Will Scarlett, or; the Outlaws of Sherwood Forest," 40 nos. H. Vickers, 1860.
- "Jack Sheppard, his real life and Exploits," 18 nos. Chas. Fox, 1886.
- "Jack Sheppard, or; London in the Last Century," 15 nos. G. Mansell, 1847.
- "Jack Sheppard, the Housebreaker," 20 nos. F. Glover, 1840.
- "Jack Sheppard" (Unparalleled Exploits of,) 12 nos. Thos. White, 1842.
- "Jack Sheppard" (Surprising Adventures of,) 30 nos. Jas. Caton, 1843.
- "Jack Sheppard" (Life and Adventures of,) 27 nos. G. Purkess, 1847.
- "Jack Sheppard" (History of,) nos. vauge, 480 pages. J. Williams, 1840,
- "Jack Sheppard" (Adventures of,) nos. vauge, 526 pages. J. Cochrane, 1845
- "Dashing Duval, the Ladies' Highwayman," 18 nos. Sully & Ford, 1891.
- "Moll Cutpurse, the Lady Pickpocket," 18 nos. W. Strange, 1846.
- "Under the Blood Red Flag," 12 nos. Best for Boys Co., 1891.
- "The Double Man," (another "Gentleman Jack the Highwayman,") 14 nos. J. Loft, 1856.
- "The Ghost's Secret, a tale of Terror," 9 nos. E. Harrison, 1863.
- "Mazepa, or; the Dwarf's Revenge, 12 nos. Newsagents' Publishing Co., 1866.

- "Old Bartholomew Fair, an Historical Romance," 12 nos. H. Lea, 1860.
- "The Sailor Crusoe," (Percy B. St. John,) 25 nos. London Herald Office. 1871.
- "The Arctic Crusoe," (Percy B. St. John,) 18 nos. Chas. Clarke, 1868.
- "Green as Grass, a Jolly School Story," 14 nos. Chas. Fox, 1887.
- "Boys of Canem Academy," 12 nos. E. Head, 1873.
- "Tom Truant, his Adventures as Schoolboy, Soldier, Sailor, Actor," 20 nos. R. Hearnden, 1864.
- "Ned Kelly, the Iron Clad Australian Bushranger," 38 nos. J. Isaacs, 1881.

(To be continued)

None of the above are for sale, only inserted to interest readers of "The Collector's Miscellany."

MORE LIGHT ON BRACEBRIDGE HEMYNG

(AUTHOR OF "JACK HARKAWAY," ETC.)

I HAVE just become acquainted with the following news concerning this favourite author. Whilst in U.S.A. he lived on Staten Island, then a separate part of New York City, now a part of Greater New York City. He lived in regal state.

His wife, when he came over to U.S.A. at the instigation of Frank Leslie, (who by the way was an Englishman) became a deep thorn at his side. She would go into flights of fitful tempers and throw at Hemyng whatever came to her hand. She often hit the servants and poor Hemyng with all kinds of implements. Strange to say Hemyng with all the fineness of a real peaceful and submissive soul, bore it all.

One day in February she ran out of the house and was found the next day in a very bad condition, she died a few weeks later due to the exposure. He lived on in Staten Island until 1881, when he returned to England, but never returned to the U.S.A. While in England he began to practice law, remarried and wrote many serials for magazines, periodicals, etc., and was very contented. He died the week preceeding September 23, 1901, in London. It is estimated that he wrote about a hundred serials, tales, romances, etc., one of which was entitled "Dick Lighthouse among the Redskins," a sequel to Brett's Scrapegrace series.

FRANK JAY

THE LURE OF OLD "BLOODS"

I HAVE perused with enjoyment the notes by Blood Brothers Ono and Jay, and like everything they write, their contributions were full of meat. At first I was inclined to wholly agree with friend Jay's prophecy that in a few years such literature would be quite forgotten. We all feel (rather mournfully) that as we die off gradually, "a new generation arises which knows not Joseph!" Items over which I drool and drivel create not one responsive throb in the bosoms of my children.

Nevertheless, the old "bloods," representing as they do a phase in the history of periodical literature, are almost sure to eventually carry a value as objects of antiquarian interest. Another attribute which they possess is their sheer piracy. Space will not allow me to enumerate the glaring cases with which I am familiar, but I think Lloyd's "Hebréw Maiden" would take a lot of beating as a travesty of Walter Scott. The number of Dickens piracies published by Lloyd are well known, and this should hold out some allure for a Dickens collector; even an ordinary Lloyd item would be, in a sense worth adding to the bag. I gave a lecture once to the Dickens Fellowship on this point and the audience seemed to sit it out with remarkable fortitude, and were, I believe, really interested. In many of my broadcast talks I have enunciated the same view. Personally I have never been much concerned with the value of these old books. I managed to preserve a number which had solaced my soul as a boy in the eighties and nineties, and have picked up a few that had strayed from the fold. Then, imbued with desire to possess the original of such favourites as I owned in book form, I began to gather up the old periodicals wherein they had first appeared. Price or condition gave me little worry and I was amazed when I learned how these old journals had risen in value.

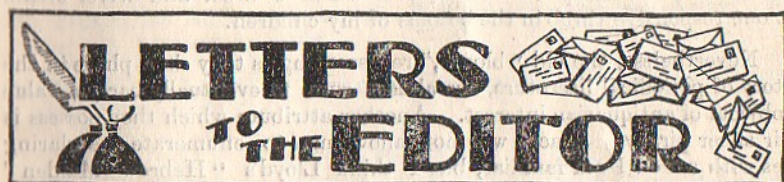
As I am not an all-round collector, I must speak guardedly or Brother Barry will start to shake his gory locks at me. My most prized possessions (made up after much patching and restoring) are the first 20 vols. of the *Boys of England* and the last 26. This leaves, of course a gap of 20 which I neither expect nor desire to fill. Hundreds of others besides are piled on my shelves and I still get a lot of fun out of them. Incidentally I also manage to amuse my unseen audience with excerpts from these old tomes whenever I am "on the air."

Another point in favour of the survival of these old warriors is their crudeness and inaccuracy. Like that Cyclopædia of Old London, Comrade Steele, I read my "bloods" and am able to speak with some degree of authority. And when I note in the "Black Monk" that bayonets and Jesuits were quite common during the Crusades my soul surges with thankfulness. Whenever I feel that Fate has handed me out a particularly painful uppercut I take out "The Lady in Black" and peruse the following lines:—

"The man on the housetop bites his nether lip till the blood falls drop by drop on the heads of those below!"

No! so long as there are students inclined to puzzle over the mentality of the ancient readers who thrilled at such statements the lure of the old "Penny Dreadful" will survive!

J. P. QUAINÉ



Correspondents are requested to verify all dates, names, places etc. The Editor cannot be responsible for any inaccuracies which may occur.

OLD BOYS' BOOKS AND COMRADESHIP

DEAR SIR,

May I say I have been a collector, in a small way, of old boys' journals for about 30 years. At that time, and for some years later, one could purchase quite a number of the old favourites for little more than published price. At that period the collection of these old periodicals was really a hobby, the acquiring of something one desired to have for itself, and not for its monetary value. Nowadays values in £s.d. appears to be the dominant factor. In the old days the number of persons interested in the hobby was very small. I was in touch with a small band of fellow-enthusiasts, and we bought and sold, or exchanged, without financial gain, or if at any time there was any margin it was infinitesimal. Such was my early experiences. Personal friendships were made which exist to this day. We were, and are, interested in the old journals for their interest to us, not for what we can make out of the game financially.

Unfortunately for us, a little later, a few gentlemen evidently saw the possibilities as a trading venture, hence the fancy prices which have existed for many years.

My collection is only a very modest one, as collections go, consisting of a few volumes each of *Ching-Ching's Own*, *Boys' World*, *Boys of the Empire*, *Young Men of Gt. Britain*, and other journals and oddments, including all the *Ching-Ching* series of tales, but I venture to state that I get as much real enjoyment from them as does any of the "big noises" in

the collecting field. It is certain that we have not all got the money to plunge with that some gentlemen in the "game" evidently have, and nowadays have to be satisfied with the journals we already possess, or such crumbs that fall from the "rich man's table."

I feel sure that in writing this, I am voicing the opinion of my several old fellow enthusiasts.

We old collectors, who were out to help each other to obtain what each other wanted, formed in several instances real fellowship and friendship. This more than compensates for the fact that we not having a surplus of wealth, cannot compete with those who boast of the huge prices they have had to pay for their collections.

When all is said, one cannot expect to make real friendships when the governing motive is to get the best of the deal with the individuals we come in contact with, when following a so-called hobby.

Wishing your little paper continued success.

ALKRINGTON.

F. W. PULESTON

FROM AN OLD SUBSCRIBER

DEAR SIR,

I sincerely hope Mr. Frank Jay is not going to sever his connection altogether with old boys journals, for his articles were always interesting. I read them as far back as 1918-19, in your magazine *Vanity Fair*, and also in Mr. Ben Winkill's *Rosemary*. I still have several in my possession, including the one with the verses on "Old Bloods" written jointly by Frank Jay and Fred Harrison (Barry Ono) which finished up with:—

"If clean, complete, and bound up nice,

Just drop a line and ask the price,

That either these cranks will give,

Below their names and where they live."

With best wishes for the success of the *Collector's Miscellany*.

DOWLAYS.

ARGET HARRIS

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED

We acknowledge the receipt of the following collector's publications received since our last number was issued:

Happy Hours Magazine; The Collector; Hobbies; International Post; Monthly Air Mail; Cigarette Card News; Dime Novel Round-up; Collector's Journal; Philatelic Relish; Corona Post; Courier.



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Here is revealed the struggle of some small outposts of civilization, founding their first postal service.

Mauritius Island, for example, yearning for a printed stamp and having no facility for getting one, entrusted the island watch-maker to print stamps off a hand-die. He would lay aside his watches and punch out stamps one at a time, in a leisurely way. Even then he had plenty of time to give to his watches.

Then came a time when Mauritius was developing rapidly. Speed was essential. Mass production came in—and the old watchmaker punched out his stamps with a larger die in batches of twelve.

King George has one of the earliest single stamps.

Another colony used to run out of the most-used values, and before it had time to think of printing more of them the postal authorities hastily ran stamps of other prices through a printing machine and printed fresh prices on them in black. One harrassed official put in a sheet of stamps upside down, so making not only a curiosity, but an error. The King has one of these rare stamps.

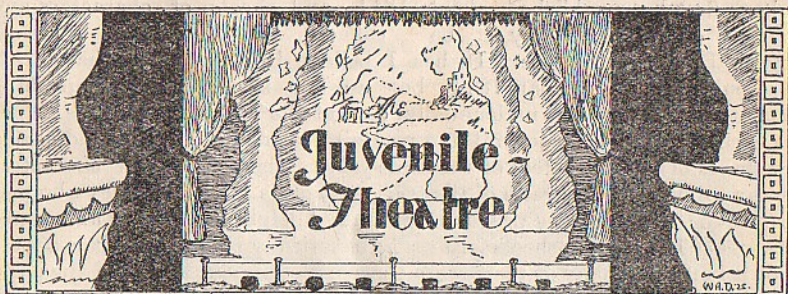
He buys all his stamps in the open market, as an ordinary collector, never accepting them as gifts from anyone but his intimate friends.

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WE are all collectors now-a-days, and judging from your columns, some queer articles are sought after and treasured. Match-box labels, razor blade packets and the like seem to have a fascination for some people. Well, everybody to his taste. I must frankly confess that cigar bands leave me cold, but to collect them is surely a harmless pursuit, and if anybody gets a "kick" out of doing so, I wish him good luck.

But, what is usually termed the Juvenile Drama, is another matter altogether. For me the Juvenile Drama also includes Theatrical Portraits, and I am sure anybody who does not know the absorbing interest in collecting these old prints, that they are missing something indeed.

Before we go any further it would be just as well to clearly understand what the Juvenile Drama really is. Now there are at the moment two well known authorities on the subject of the Juvenile Drama and Theatrical Portraits.

But unfortunately like a good many experts on other matters, these two gentlemen do not come to the same conclusion. Wild horses will not induce me to detail where they differ. Both of these gentlemen are valued friends of mine, and I have no intention of setting up as an authority on the subject in the face of so eminent a pair of experts.

While experts disagree however, it may be permissionable for a novice in all humility, to air his own views.

Firstly then, are these old prints to be considered as intended for children to play with, or are they—at all events some of them—something in the nature of the Play Pictorials of the past, in other words, souvenirs of a visit to the theatres of a bygone age. Personally I think both these views are correct. Again, who was the original inventor of the Juvenile Drama. Here also, difference of opinion exists.

Let us examine the facts as far as we can. Theatrical Portraits appear

to have first been published about 1811, and sheets of characters and scenes of what may be called the Juvenile Drama appeared at the same date. It has I believe been claimed that sheets were published earlier than 1811, but no one seems to know anything about them. West was undoubtedly one of the earliest publishers, if not the earliest, and I have several fine portraits of his dated 1811 and also a few sheets of the characters of the same year. These sheets of characters appear to me to be portraits of the various actors and actresses who performed the plays actually produced at the Adelphi, Olympic and other theatres. These early sheets are really beautifully drawn, and it is a well known fact that many of them were the work of famous artists of the past. It may therefore be claimed that these prints are not childrens' toys at all but mementoes of a memorable visit to the theatre to see some famous actor in a famous impersonation. West published more than 100 plays.

Burtenshaw was another famous publisher who produced some splendid prints. The earliest of his in my possession is 1812.

Green was another early publisher, but I do not consider his sheets reached the standard of West or Hodgson, another splendid producer of these prints, both Portraits and also the Juvenile Drama.

Spread over a period of about fifty years there were more than fifty publishers in existence, and although many of these took over the plates of former publishers, a very large number of plays must have been issued in addition to thousands of portraits.

Space will not permit further details of the individual publisher's plays, but I can assure you an article full of interest could easily be written about famous publishers such as West, Hodgson, Skelt and Parks.

Anyone who reads these lines may be tempted to start collecting and may well ask how and where these old prints are to be acquired. I cannot tell them. All I can say is that I have collected several thousands of Portraits and sheets of Juvenile Drama over a period of years.

Occasionally one is lucky enough to come across a few examples at some old printsellers in London and the larger provincial cities. Auction sales may bring a parcel of the old sheets to light. Energy and perseverance will certainly be wanted in the search, but to the true collector, difficulties only add zest to the quest.

I often look over my collection and recall how and when I acquired a particular sheet, and many happy hours can be spent in arranging and sorting the various plays. I can assure any reader of these lines that collecting Juvenile Drama is a most fascinating pastime.

M. W. STONE

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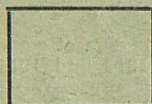
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