Epidote. Sulzer, Prince of Wales Island, Alaska (×$rac{1}{2}$)
More than seven years have passed since we have had a
monthly magazine wholly devoted to the needs of the collec-
tor of minerals, and now that such a periodical is to appear it
seems fitting that in its first issue it should review the previous
publications and tell something of the story of the man who
made them possible.

Arthur Chamberlain, the subject of this paper, has been a
collector of minerals from his boyhood days. He is a printer
by trade; as were also several brothers who owned a printing
establishment. These facts, combined with ambition, love, and
eagerness for this work, easily explain the bringing out in 1885
of the first magazine to further his hobby. The publications he
fathered changed names several times, and grew in size and
character with each change, until he wrote his valedictory in
February, 1909. At that time he said, in part:

"This will be the last number of the magazine. As most of
my readers know, it has not been a paying proposition, but still
on account of pleasant acquaintance secured, and in some
instances staunch friends made thru its publication, I have
been loath to discontinue it. However, years grow apace and
I feel that I owe it to my health to ease up a little on my strenu-
ousness. Almost a quarter of a century ago I started my first
monthly, and I have been in harness ever since. As all the work
has been done on evenings and holidays, so as not to interfere
with my other work, and as I always set all the type myself, I
have hardly known a leisure hour in all these years."
Mr. Chamberlain's modesty must be respected, else a long
and close personal association would cause something like a
eulogy to appear here. It is, however, easy to appreciate the
character of the man from the quotation above.

The first number of The Exchangers' Monthly appeared in
November, 1885, the subscription price being twenty-five cents
per year. The name of the magazine was changed in November,
1890, to The Mineralogists' Monthly, and the price advanced to
fifty cents per year. It contained twelve pages of reading mat-
ter, and eight pages of advertisements. The last number of this
monthly appeared under date of March, 1893. It may safely
be said that the heyday of mineral collectors was about this
period; by this is meant that the number of active collectors was
large; and the great supplies of good specimens from all parts of
the world, but especially from our western states, offered by
several dealers, at moderate prices, kept the enthusiasm of the
collectors at high intensity. Death has decimated the ranks,
and several of the notable private collections have been sold
outright, or otherwise distributed.

Minerals was first published in January, 1892, by Mr. Gold-
thwaite. It was a much larger publication than the Mineral-
ogists' Monthly, and as there seemed room for but one magazine
of this character it was arranged to merge the two, with Mr.
Goldthwaite as publisher, and Mr. Chamberlain as editor.
There was too limited a field for so ambitious a magazine, how-
ever, so Minerals ended with a double number—November-
December, 1893. There was no magazine for the next two
months, but preparations for making one were under way with
Mr. Chamberlain and the writer as editors and publishers.
The Mineral Collector appeared in March, 1894; and by the most
strenuous labor Mr. Chamberlain alone, after the first year,
brought it out monthly, until March, 1909.

Knowing intimately the history of The Mineral Collector, thru
its fifteen years of life, the writer's desire is strong to philoso-
phize upon some features of that history. Suffice it to say that
the magazine was produced to be helpful to those who liked the
same things in the same way as the generous publisher himself;
and thereby collectors and distributors of minerals and crystals
owe much to Arthur Chamberlain.