

Just as we are going to press the November issue of the *Niagara Falls Philatelist* makes its appearance and we notice it confirms its previous offer of 150 per cent discount in advertising rates. Next!

THE St. Pierre, Miq. postal authorities recognizes the Canada one cent post card for face value. For instance a Canada one cent post card with an additional 5 centimes will go through the mail from St. Pierre, Miq., to any part of Canada. We have frequently received them.

MEMBERS of the C. P. A. should confine their dealings as much as possible with members of the C. P. A. and A. P. A. Membership in either is a guarantee of good faith and the two societies will work hand in hand. Let every stamp collector in Canada join now.

As will be noticed in our Chronicle, advance sheets of the new Newfoundland stamps have come to hand. Although the $\frac{1}{2}$ cent is very pretty we think it a great pity this stamp was not printed in black. The design is well executed, but the choice of colour should have been left to some one more competent. This new stamp together with the 1 cent (green) will not be for sale until early in 1888.

BEFORE STAMPS.

THE FRANKING SYSTEM.—The abuses of this system soon became so great, that we find a witness employed by the Post Office, giving evidence before a parliamentary committee, that among other ridiculous articles that had been sent through the Post Office free, were: "Fifteen couples of hounds to the King of the Romans;" "Two maid servants

going out as laundresses to my Lord Ambassador Methuen;" "Dr. Crichton carrying on with him a cow and divers other necessaries;" "A box of medicine for my Lord Galway, in Portugal;" "A deal case with fitches of bacon for Mrs. Pennington, of Rotterdam," and "Two hales of stockings for the Ambassador to the Court of Portugal."

These, however, were all Government franks, but at that early period no limit was put to the size or weight of Parliamentary franks, and there is no reason for doubting that live deer, haunches of venison, pianos, etc, had been sent free through the post office by members of both Houses of Parliament.—*Antiquary.*

SPECIAL NOTICE.

The Halifax Philatelic Publishing Company desire to inform their friends that they intend to publish a very attractive edition of the *Halifax Philatelist* for December, and having secured some very interesting original matter, we feel as we are only reciprocating the kindness we have received during our existence. This will be a specially fine edition of no mean tenor, containing some 30 or 40 pages of first-class reading, we wish it especially understood that this edition will not be for sale. Being of extra expense to us we will, in order to defray part of same, make the following offer:

Anyone sending us their subscription will receive this beautiful Christmas number extra. We would respectfully call the attention of intending advertisers to this edition as it will have a very large circulation, and will be placed only in the hands of persons who are alive to the interests of philately.

All communications should be addressed to

THE HALIFAX PHILATELIC CO.,

Lock Box 219,

Halifax, Nova Scotia,
Canada.