

The Postman's Knock.

NEW ALBUM.

We have received from the New York publishers, for review, a copy of "Scott's American Postage Stamp Album," and after a careful examination of its pages, can candidly say that we are much pleased with it. It is arranged somewhat on "Lallier's" principle, on which it is a great improvement in many respects. It follows "Lallier" to the extent of having a particular square, on which each particular stamp belongs; but it differs from its parent in the circumstance that it has the full description of the postal on the space it is intended to fill, instead of placing it on the opposite page, and leaving the collector to find a stamp's proper location by reference to its color.

Speaking as a critic should do, in an impartial spirit, we do not think this "new idea" any improvement; it looks very pretty when the book is empty, but, unfortunately, most philatelists gum their treasures firmly to the page, and once the description is covered up, who is to know anything about a specimen except from its face? One fault more, and we have done: we think the publishers have adhered almost too closely to the "American school," in omitting to provide squares for varieties that are recognized by every one, no matter how closely they may draw their lines. Taking New Brunswick as an instance, we find totally left out in the cold the 1c. mauve, 5c. dark green, and the "Connell" stamp. The arrangement of the work is alphabetical throughout—a very necessary improvement on the old system; and we cannot too highly praise the style in which the printer has done his part. All new stamp-issuing countries are provided with pages, including even spaces for Angola and the doubtful issues of Antioquia; and there are blank pages left in sufficient quantity to satisfy the greatest variety or watermark collector who ever breathed. The great amount of labor bestowed on this work by its editor, and the quantity of enterprise and money it must have required to publish it, any of our readers can best learn by buying a copy; and we trust no American

collector will purchase any imported album when he can get a superior and cheaper article at home.

NEW STAMPS.

Our readers will be disappointed to find we have omitted our usual lengthy description of new stamps, but the reason we have done so, is that it would be likely to occupy the whole paper. We cut it down, therefore, to the following synopsis, omitting all varieties and minor changes. *Canada*,—3c. red reduced to size of $\frac{1}{2}$ cent. *Belgium*,—new issue of ten stamps; inscription, *Belgique*, 1, 2, 5, 6 and 8c. with numeral of value; 10, 20, 30, 40c. and 1 fr., head of King. *Dutch Indies*,—head of King to right—5, 10, 20 and 50 cents. *Spain*,—new set of thirteen—head of Spain,—values 1, 2, 4, 10, 25, 50, 100, 200 and 500 'mils de escudo: 1 escudo, 600 mills; 2 escudos, 12 and 19 cuartos. *Cuba*,—similar design to Spain; 5, 10, 20 and 40 centimos. *Italy*,—inscription, *SEGNATASSE*; design, numeral of value in central oval; values, 1, 2, 5, 30, 40, 50 and 60 centesimi, yellow; 1 and 2 lire, blue. *North German Official*,—shape, oblong; design numeral in value in octagonal; values $\frac{1}{2}$, $\frac{3}{4}$, 1 and 2 groschen, and 1, 2, 3 and 7 kr. *New Granada*,—design, impossible to describe; value, $\frac{1}{2}$ cents, shape, irregular triangle,—we think it a hoax.

THE postage from the U. S. to England is now six cents. From and after Jan. 1st, 1870, letters can be sent from the Dominion to Great Britain via Halifax for six cents, and via New York for eight cents.

"If from money you take two letters you leave one" On this a southern editor remarks that he has heard of a man who took money from letters and left none, and all we have to say, is that we know where that man lives, viz.: in Chillicothe, Ohio.

During a recent flood in Norway, Maine, P. M. lashed the P. O. to a big elm tree, next morning it was gone, but on search, it was discovered at Hannover, some miles distant.