

# THE POSTMAN'S KNOCK.

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## EDITORIAL.

The month of February has slipped by with such a paucity of stamp news that we have not much to say to our readers on this first day of March. We are happy to note that the Stamp Trade has been pretty brisk with the New Brunswick dealers lately, in fact brisker than it has ever been at this season of the year. We notice that Packets seem to be in greater demand than ever. We are glad of it for the Collectors' sake, for there is no way in which he will get as full value for his money as he will in packets, and when parties ask us which is the cheapest method to buy postals we always reply "Try the Excelsior Packets." One singular thing about the American stamp trade is that there is scarcely any sale for Stamps in sets. We cannot fathom the reason of it, but it is so, nevertheless. There is always sale for the smaller values unused, but when you come to put in the whole set and say 'set of so and so, so much,' they don't care for them. A great many collectors appear to go on the idea that if they have one or two of an issue it is all sufficient. Well, we suppose they know best what pleases them; but we do not "see it in that light" at all. For ourselves we would sooner have one complete set than three or four broken ones.

The Monthly Miscellany is the name of a neat little paper published North Strafford, N. H., by G. G. Berry.

## NEW STAMPS.

SPAIN leads off with a complete new issue, slightly changed from the 1865 series. It consists of a 20c. brown, 4c blue, 12c orange, 19c light rose, 10c de-esc green, and 20c de-esc lilac.

QUEENSLAND chimes in with a new 5s stamp, old design printed in light rose color.

PORTUGAL has a new 25 reis, lake pink.

CUBA has a provisional stamp, viz., the former  $\frac{1}{4}$  real plata t, black on buff with the figures "66" printed on it.

NEVIS.—The 4d Stamp of this Colony is now vermilion.

BRITISH GUIANA.—The 8c is now lilac.

GRENADA has changed the color of its 6d stamp to orange red.

ESSAYS.—Various are the humbugs on this line that have arisen in the last month including some for Hanover, San Salvador, Bolivia and the British Empire.

## CHRISTMAS PACKETS.

According to appointment, we drew for the winner of the Christmas Packet Prize before going to press. The successful packet is that numbered "19." The holder of this, a person resident in Saint John, refuses to have his name printed, and consequently we cannot do so.

Would our friend at Amherst, N. S., be kind enough to pay up that little balance and save himself trouble and expense under his *real name*.