

The Postman's Knock.



"EXCELSIOR."

SAINT JOHN, NEW BRUNSWICK, Dec. 1, 1866.

To our Patrons.

For eight months, at a heavy loss to ourselves, we have sent forth this little paper gratuitously and without fee or reward. In that time about 8000 copies have been circulated. Numerous friends in writing to us have recommended us to ask a subscription price; but we have invariably declined saying "that as we started so we would go on," and we still intend doing so. Christmas is now coming on and we write you a request to be remembered. If every one who receives the paper would send us a small present, in order to help us along, they have no idea what an aggregate amount could be raised. Will our friends pardon our speaking so plainly? We cannot help it. We have no one to speak for us, and unless we tell them no one will ever have the most remote idea but that we can print the Postman's Knock and mail it to every collector in America gratis and still make a nice thing of it. Will every reader try and send us a gratuity no matter how small. Those who reside in the same locality might club together and send it in one letter. Remember in the words of the immortal Cuttle "Half a loaf is better than no bread and the same holds good as to crumbs."

NEW STAMPS.

PRUSSIA.—During the late German war every soldier in the Prussian army was allowed to send home news free by placing his letter in an envelope, hand-stamped with an oval design, Prussian eagle in the centre and an unpronounceable inscription round it.

OLDENBURG had a "field post" envelope during the war.

NORTH GERMANY.—The $\frac{1}{2}$ silb. gr. Envelope is now reddish yellow.

VENETIA.—Here we have to note the appearance of the 2, 3, and 15 soldi type of 1861.

ST. DOMINGO.—European timbrophilists have just learned the fact that this republic had stamps in 1862.

BAVARIA.—The town of Bamberg has issued a return letter stamp.

FRANCE is going to issue 30 centimes and 5 franc stamps on Jan. 1st, 1867.

EAST INDIES.—From this distant clime we have tidings of the issue of a new 4 annas green, something in the style of the present Mauritius 1d stamp.

SPAIN.—Some indefatigable timbrophilist has rooted out a stamp used by the Spanish Cortes to frank their letters in 1859.

URUGUAY.—The 1864 series have been altered. The 6c to 20c, the 12c to 5c, the 8c to 10c, and the 10c to 15c.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.—The 4d square of this Colony is now said to be defunct.

LONDON.—The Circular and Pamphlet Co. of this City have issued two