



# ROYAL BAKING POWDER

## Absolutely Pure.

This Powder never varies. A marvel of purity, strength and wholesomeness. More economical than the ordinary kinds, and cannot be sold in competition with the multitude of low test, short weight, alum or phosphate powders. SOLID IN CASE. ROYAL BAKING POWDER CO., 106 Wall Street, New York.

### PROFESSIONAL CARDS.

**POWER AND SON,**  
ARCHITECTS and Building Surveyors. Office Wellington Street, Kingston.

**L. CLEMENTS,**  
DENTIST, directly opposite the Post Office, Wellington Street. Established in Kingston, 1860.

**DR. W. G. ANGLIN, M.R.C.S., ENG.,**  
OFFICE—52 Earl Street, near King Telephone communication.

**JOHN STRANGE, LL.B.,**  
SOLICITOR, &c. Office—Clarence Street, opposite the Post Office. MONEY TO LOAN at lowest current rates.

**WALKEM & WALKEM,**  
ATTORNEYS, Solicitors, &c., Kingston, opposite the Post Office.

**RICHARD WALKEM,** JOSEPH B. WALKEM.

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Diseases of Women and Children a specialty. OFFICE—Princess Street, three doors above Windsor Hotel. Sept. 20.

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PHYSICIAN, SURGEON, &c. Office—Late Dr. McCammon's, No. 25 Montreal Street.

**DR. ANNIE E. DICKSON,**  
81 Wellington Street, in the house occupied by Drs. Dickson and Betts. Telephone communication. Sept. 20.

**H. M. MOWAT,**  
BARRISTER, SOLICITOR, CONVEYANCER, &c. ord's Block, Brock Street, Kingston. Oct. 5.  
Money to Loan.

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(Successor to Late Dr. McCammon).  
PHYSICIAN, SURGEON, &c. Office—Montreal Street, between Princess and Brock Streets.

**WM. NEWLANDS, JR.,**  
ARCHITECT, corner of Brock and King Street over Wade's Drug Store. Entrance on King Street, next to the Whig Office.

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SOLICITORS, Etc., 192 Ontario Street, Kingston, Ont.

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**ROBERT SHAW,**  
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DENTIST, Graduate of New York College of Dentistry. Office—Wellington Street, between Princess and Brock Streets. Particular attention paid to the preservation of the natural teeth.

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C. L. CURTIS, M.D., successor to Dr. Jarvis. Physician, Surgeon, &c. Office and Residence nearly opposite the Post Office, Wellington Street. Calls in the city or country promptly attended to.

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FINANCIAL AGENTS, King Street, Kingston. Money to loan on real estate and other securities.

**MCCAMMON BROS.,**  
KINGSTON HORSE EXCHANGE. Livery and Boarding Stables, corner of Brock and Bagot Streets. A new and stylish outfit of vehicles and a stock of excellent horses. Charges moderate.

**NEW LIVERY.**  
THE undersigned wish to inform the public that they have fitted and opened a LIVERY IN CONNECTION WITH ST. LAWRENCE HOTEL, on King Street.  
First class rigs will always be on hand on the shortest notice. ELDER BROS., Proprietor

**TO BUILDERS.**

**EDWARD CHATTERTON,**  
Builder and Contractor.  
Having removed my shop to KING STREET, near Princess St., I am now fully prepared to enter upon engagements in any line of building which may be desired on short notice and in first-class style.  
Custom Planning, Hand-sawing, Scroll Sawing, Shaping, promptly attended to.  
I am also prepared to furnish Sash, Frames, Moulding, and all descriptions of house furnishings. Jobbing promptly attended to.  
Sept. 5. EDW. CHATTERTON.

**FINE CITY HOME.**  
THE Undersigned offers for sale that DESIRABLE HOUSE AND LOT now occupied by him on Earl Street. The whole is offered in one block, having about one hundred and twenty feet frontage on Earl Street, and the Upper Lot runs through to West Street. The BUILDINGS on the property are almost new, and the garden is planted with the choicest fruits. For terms apply to  
Aug. 5. THOS. MOORE.

**GEORGE CLIFF,**  
The General Real Estate Agent.  
HOUSES TO RENT. TENANTS FOUND  
Building Lots, Farms, &c., bought and sold on commission.  
Office, with Strange & Strange, Clarence St. opp. Post Office.

### DEAD LETTER OFFICE.

#### WHAT IS DONE WITH MISDIRECTED MAIL MATTER.

The Museum and the Main Office Described—Some Examples of the Ingenuity of Clerks and the Careless Way Letter Writers Address Their Missives.

[Special Correspondence.]

WASHINGTON, Feb. 8.—Of the 50,000,000 people in the United States, one-tenth every year are made aware of the presence in Washington of the dead letter office by receiving letters bearing its ominous, triangular stamp. Perhaps, of these 50,000,000 not over one-tenth ever visited Washington. But of those who came, few went away without visiting the dead letter office, for it is one of the most interesting of all the sights in this great capital.



The dead letter office is poked off in the second and third stories of the northeast corner of the department building. Mr. Baird, the superintendent, and his assistant, Mr. Perry, with their amanuenses occupy a large, pleasant office on the second floor corridor, easily accessible to the public, and at the head of the stairway from the F street entrance is the little museum of the dead letter office, always open and visited daily by hundreds. But the office itself, where scores of busy clerks are all day opening, examining and readdressing stray letters, is shut under lock and key. Curious outsiders who wish to view the penitentials of the office, must go to Mr. Baird and get a permit. Then with an attendant all there is behind the locked door can be seen.

It would be a good thing for those who visit the dead letter office to realize something of its importance by comparative study of the postal systems of the world. Few Americans really know how great a thing the postoffice establishment of the United States is. For instance, the United States has more postoffices than all the countries of Europe, nearly four times as many as Great Britain or Germany, nine times as many as Austria or France. British India, with 253,000,000 of people, has but 6,721 postoffices. The United States, with 50,152,000 people, has 53,614 postoffices of all kinds. Germany, with her 45,000,000 people, has but 15,428. Great Britain, for 35,800,000 people, has 16,434. Hayti, probably, has fewer postoffices than any other country in the world, there being but three for 530,000 people. In the United States there is a postoffice for every 1,002 people. But aside from these statistics in regard to population our postal system in the United States covers more ground than any other in the world. For instance, we have 117,000 miles of railway service, more than all the rest of the world together. How many letters does the gentle reader suppose all the people on this planet send in a single year? The actual statistics are not known, the total being reached approximately by postal statisticians. There were carried in the mails of the world in 1886 the enormous number of 11,640,000,000 pieces of mail matter, of which the mails of the United States carried one-third and the mails of all Europe nearly two-thirds. So you see it is reasonable to suppose that this dead letter office is quite an affair.



CORNER IN MUSEUM.

The first, perhaps the most interesting, thing you see about the dead letter office is the museum. Such a collection of curiosities was perhaps never anywhere else gotten together. Nothing so much resembles it as the exhibition of the handiwork of the inmates of a lunatic asylum. Here are put in glass cases a thousand and one things that cannot be returned to their owners. There are a dozen bottles of snakes preserved in alcohol, the reptiles having been sent through the mail alive. Lizards, horned toads, butterflies, mice, and on one occasion even a live canary, have found their way to the dead letter office. Here are collections of all sorts. There is a large case of eggs, in which nearly every rare coin, both ancient and modern, known to numismatics is to be seen. The cowboy of the west could easily equip himself out of this museum. There are revolvers of every pattern conceivable, bull dogs, self cockers, six shooters, Colt's, derringers, vest pockets, to say nothing of pocket rifles and rifle canes. Of hunting knives and daggers there are enough to stock a frontier outfitting store. There are tools, chisels, hatchets, hammers, buck saws, planes. Even a grocer could make a pretty handsome start with what is to be found in this museum. He would have big boxes of raisins, figs, jars of honey, cans of baking powder and other things too numerous to mention. The quantity of fancy work in the way of things that women crochet, knit, paint, embroider, patch, quilt, and in a hundred other ingenious ways devise, would make a fortune for a church fair. Here are swords, flags, skulls, boxes of cigars, packages of tobacco, gold rings, pins, bracelets, steel traps, jack knives, bibles, portraits, some of them hand painted and a century old. In short, all sorts and kinds of things.

The main office is a huge room two stories high, with an iron gallery, reached by spiral stairs, running around its four sides. Here sit at long tables the clerks who open and classify the letters. Here the aim of every body is to clear up the day's work and keep even with the 10,000 dead letters that are received daily. Ten thousand letters every day

are opened and sent back to the senders. Last year in this room there was found in dead letters over \$1,500,000 in cash, drafts, checks and money orders, which but for the skill and honesty of these clerks would hardly have gone back to the owners through whose carelessness it was lost. Tons upon tons of parcels are opened here daily. Just before Christmas an immense amount of this kind of mail matter is received. It comes mainly from New York city, and consists of matter sent by foreigners living in this country to their friends in the old country. The senders are usually ignorant people, who do not know that the things they are sending back to the old home are dutiable in the country to which they are going, and so their packages quickly find their way to the dead letter office. These things are sorted out and packed away in the long, dark storage rooms in the basement, all properly classified and accounted for. At the end of the year they are sold at public auction, and an account kept of the proceeds of the sale, so that if at any time the owners can identify the package the government will pay him exactly the sum which the article brought at the auction. Down in these vaults there are stored away, like Egyptian mummies awaiting the last trump, over three tons of photographs and daguerreotypes. In the year \$1,675 worth of postage stamps was received in dead letters and destroyed. There were received 16,000 magazines, illustrated papers and Christmas cards, all of which were given to charitable institutions in Washington, as they could not be restored to the owners.

No letters are opened unless it is necessary to do so to find out where they came from. Between 75,000 and 80,000 letters are returned each year unopened, when to the ordinary observer they seem utterly unintelligible in their addresses. Some of these are very interesting. For instance, the following letter is received:

Mr. Mark Smith, Rising Sun, Boulder Co., Colorado.

As there is no such office in Colorado as Rising Sun, but is a place called Sunshine in Boulder county, the letter is sent there and finds Mr. Mark Smith promptly.



MAIN OFFICE.

A letter addressed: Miss Annie Glennon, 413 St. Mary's street, New York City.

Can find neither street nor person in the metropolis. There is no such street in New York state, nor indeed, in any city in the Union except San Antonio, Tex. There are plenty of streets named St. Mary, but none named St. Mary's. The letter is sent to San Antonio, and delivered to Miss Glennon, at 413 St. Mary's street.

A letter was addressed to Miss M. E. Adams, care Drexel, Morgan & Co., London, England.

Miss Adams having left London, this was forwarded by Drexel, Morgan & Co. to her supposed address in New York city, 711 North Eighth street. There being no 711 North Eighth street in New York city, it was sent to the dead letter office. As Eighth street, in Philadelphia runs north and south, the letter was sent there, and Miss Adams was found at 711.

Very often letters find their proper destination purely by accident. For instance, one came to the office a short time ago addressed: Miss Minnie W. Hanningham, Launch Hotel, N. Y. There happened to be a clerk in the office who remembered that there was a Launch hotel at Long Branch, N. J., and there the letter found Miss Hanningham.

Perhaps the funniest incident of the kind is connected with a letter addressed: Miss Maggie Smith, P. O. Box 129, Virginia.

The postmark on this letter is New York, and the handwriting is evidently that of a person of culture. An expert in the dead letter office had by chance two years previously received a letter from Miss Maggie Smith, of Alexandria, Va., making inquiries with regard to a French governess whom she wished to send to her sister in New York. At a venture the letter is sent to Miss Maggie Smith, of Alexandria, for whom the writer intended it.

It seems strange that the postmaster at Decatur, Ga., should not have known where to send a letter addressed:

Miss H. E. Alexander, E. V.  
\* But he did not, and it came to the dead letter office. The ready witted clerk into whose hands it fell knew, what the postmaster did not, that E. V. stood for en ville. The letter was returned to Decatur, and delivered to the addressee.

The work on this kind of mail is called "blind reading," and most of it is done by Mrs. Collins, probably the best expert who has ever held a desk in the office. None of the letters handled by the "blind readers" are opened unless it is absolutely necessary. The specimens given above are only a few of the 77,618 returned unopened during the past year to the senders who incorrectly addressed them. It must be remembered that there is a good deal of foreign dead mail matter handled in the work of the office. Last year 287,933 pieces of such matter was sent to the countries from which it came. The difficulty found in sending foreign dead letters to the proper addresses in this country can be appreciated from the fact that but 18,986 pieces of this kind of mail could be forwarded to correct addresses in this country. Other countries returned to the dead letter office during the year 504,000 letters and parcels originating in this country. Only 5 per cent. of all the mail matter handled in the office is actually destroyed because nobody can be found to claim it. No letter containing a valuable inclosure is ever destroyed.

J. A. TRUEDELL.

Make a Note of This.  
Pain banished as if by magic. Polson's Nerviline is a positive and almost instantaneous remedy for external, internal, or local pains. The most active remedy hitherto known falls far short of Nerviline for potent power in the relief of nerve pain. Good for external or internal use. Buy a 10 cent sample bottle. Large bottles 25 cents. All druggists.

# FINALE!

—AND—

## SWEEPING REDUCTIONS IN PRICES ALL ROUND.

## FOR FRIDAY AND SATURDAY.

## SPECIAL BARGAIN TABLES

Loaded with Choice, Seasonable and Desirable Goods, at

# HALF PRICE!

Now is the time to buy.

# F. X. Cousineau.

Feb. 10.

## BOWES & BISONETTE

Received To-day 300 Pieces of New Embroideries, New Dress Goods, New White and Colored Muslins, New Cretonnes, New Sheetings and Pillow Cottons, all offering at Very Low Prices.

New Spring Goods arriving daily.

204 Princess Street,

Opposite City Hotel.

Feb. 8.

## THIS WEEK AT THE GREAT STOCK-TAKING SALE.

NEW WHITE COTTONS.  
NEW WHITE COTTONS.  
NEW WHITE COTTONS.  
NEW WHITE COTTONS.  
NEW EMBROIDERIES.  
NEW CHECKED MUSLINS.  
NEW CHECKED MUSLINS.  
NEW CHECKED MUSLINS.  
NEW CHECKED MUSLINS.  
NEW FACTORY COTTONS.  
NEW FACTORY COTTONS.  
NEW FACTORY COTTONS.  
NEW INSERTIONS.  
NEW INSERTIONS.  
NEW INSERTIONS.

A Liberal Discount to Ladies' Aid Societies.

SPENCE & CUMLEY,

132 and 134 Princess Street.

Jan. 17

## JUST THE THING.

HALF OVERSHOES or ALASKAS are just what you want at this season. They are light, neat and warm. We have a number of pairs of Ladies', Gents' and Children's, which we are closing out at Cost. Call and see them.

Feb. 4.

## HAINES & LOCKETT.

## FREE TO ONE AND ALL

### Before Stock-Taking

To walk in and inspect the

## Large Stock of Suitings, Etc.,

# AT MOORE'S,

To be sold at Prices that will astonish you.

Ordered Work a Specialty and a Perfect Fit or no sale.

## 59 BROCK ST.

Jan. 19.

## Cheap Sheetings and Pillow Cottons at Waldron's.

Horrock's White Twill Sheetings, 2, 2 1/2, 2 3/4 yards.  
Horrock's Plain and White Sheetings, 2, 2 1/2, 2 3/4 yards.  
Finley's Royal Household Sheetings 1 1/2, 2, 2 1/2 yards.  
Grey Twill Sheetings, 2 yards wide, Extra Heavy, 25 cents.  
Finley's Pillow Cotton 36, 38, 40, 43, 54 inch.  
Best American Pillow Cotton, 38, 40, 44 inch.  
Extra Good Linen, Sheetings and Pillow Linens, all widths.  
All Winter Dresses and Tweeds at Reduced Prices.

## R. WALDRON.