

DONALDSON'S GLASS BLOCK STORE.

Store Open Every Night Until Christmas.

Do Your Christmas Shopping During the Morning or Evening Hours.

To stimulate evening trading and thus in some degree relieve the increasing strain upon us to properly accommodate the afternoon rush, we place on sale in each Dept.

Monday Evening from 6 o'clock till time of Closing

ONE OF THE FOLLOWING SPECIAL BARGAINS:

Thus making it a personal gain as well as a great personal convenience to those who will do their trading evenings. Remember, one special in each Department.

Wonderful Displays of Fanciful Merchandise Suitable for Christmas Presents.

Golf Gloves. Ladies' and Children's Soft Lisle Golf Gloves, usual price 25c per pair. For this Special Evening Sale only, we say, per pair..... 13c	Women's Hose. Main Floor. Special Bargain Monday Evening. Women's 35c fast black, heavy fleeced Cotton Hose, with extra wide double heels and toes; our special price for..... 19c 3 pairs for..... 50c	Millinery. Cut Prices for Xmas. Choice of 75 Trimmed Hats for exactly \$1.00 each. Some of these actually worth \$5.00.	Knit Booties. Second Floor. Infants' fine Knit Booties, edged with dainty blue or pink borders. Regular price 25c. For this sale..... 9c	Silks. Main Floor. The genuine Bonnet, hand made, Black Taffeta, 21 inches wide; the dollar grade at 75c unnealed price of..	Optical Dept. Annex. \$8.00 Camera, for 12 pictures, guaranteed, Monday evening, \$2.98	Art Department. Annex. 100 Extra fine Hand Made Roman Embroidery Center Pieces, can be used for Blow Sham also, as they are 30-in square; these goods were imported to sell for \$2.25 each; Monday night at 98c	Shoe Dept. Annex. Ladies' \$1 Felt fur trimmed Julietts, for this special sale we cut the price to, per pair 69c
Jewelry Dept. Main Floor. Nickel-plated Alarm Clocks—Special for this Christmas Sale.... 45c	Night Robes. Second Floor. Women's Fine Flannel Night Robes, made in square or round yoke effect; yoke of tucks and trimmed with ruffle; very fine workmanship; made extra wide and long; extra ordinary value 69c	Wool Underwear. Main Floor. Two kinds, good heavy winter underwear, natural wool and camel's hair, ea., 63c	Muffs. On Table in Notion Aisle. Ladies' Black French Coney Muffs, all satin lined. Never sold for less than 98c each. Special for Monday night only, each 59c	Boys' Clothing Dept. Second Floor. Boys' Pull-Down Caps in all-wool kersey and covert cloth, golf, yacht, Brighton or turban style, plain blue, black and tan; also Camel's Hair Toggles and Tams in various combinations, size and the quality. Special.. 35c	Dolls. Basement. 15-in. kid body doll, moving eyes, curly wig, shoes and stockings, beautiful faces. Special... 29c	Women's Underwear. Main Floor. Women's 75c and \$1.00 heavy wool Underwear in camel's hair or natural wool—broken line of sizes. Special to close—each.... 59c	Box Coats. Ladies' 27-inch, Half-Fitting, Box Coat, made of fine quality Kersey Cloth, in a beautiful shade of castor; high storm collar; lined throughout; prettily tailor-stitched yoke back. \$6.98
Silverware. Extraordinary Bargains. 50c and 25c fancy triple-plated regular stock child's Cups, Card Trays, Sugars, Creamers, Bon Bon Dishes, fancy Glass Vases, silver mounted Glass Bon Bous, Napkin Rings, Puff Boxes, Mustard Pots, etc.; Nickel Plated Nut Picks with Cracker, Choice, each..... 12½c	Drug Department. All Our Regular 25c Quadruple Strength Perfumes, any odor; also Our New 25c Bottle Perfumes, at..... 12½c Mennen's Talcum Powder... 10c	Books. Kipling—Famous White Elephant Series, 3 volumes, published to sell at \$2.50, contains: The Man Who Would Be King, The Courtier of Dinah Shadd, The Incarnation of Krishna Murtany, The Drums of the Fore and Aft, Without Benefit of Clergy. For sale on Monday night at, for set.... 65c	Blanket Dept. 250 pairs Fancy Striped Wrapper Blankets; also plain pink and light blue; regular price 85c and \$1. Special for this sale only, pair, 65c	Black Dress Goods. 56-inch heavy plain black skirting, needs no lining; special cut for this sale—Only—per yard.... 50c Limit of one skirt length to each customer.	Tray Cloths. Linen Department in Annex. Full size hand embroidered Tray Cloths or Center Pieces, with fine scalloped edges, the latest novelty in fancy Linens, actual value 89c each. Special price for this evening's sale, each..... 49c	China Department. Basement. 24 dozen Blue and White China Salt Boxes, made to hang up; worth 50c at each..... 18c Main Floor. One Table Bisque Figures and ornaments; with from 50c to 75c, choice, at, each.. 25c	Down Pillows. Third Floor. Goose Down Pillows, 24 in. square. For this Special evening sale, each... 95c

DARK PUZZLES OF THE MAILS

The New York Postoffice Has a "Blind Reader" Who Solves Thousands of Them Every Month.

(Copyright 1901 by Ewan McPherson.)

Of the millions of letters which go through the New York postoffice every month seventy odd thousand are thrown aside by the clerks as "blind addresses." This means that they are too ill-written, badly spelled or queerly directed for the employees of the department, all of whom are very keen at deciphering these unintentional cryptograms, and must go to the "blind reader," O. G. Menger. Mr. Menger is probably the most extraordinary puzzle solver in this country, if not in the world, for his range of subjects covers a wider field than all the "puzzle departments" put together, and to many of the problems to which he must direct his faculties there is no answer. In one month of this year he examined 73,889 blind addresses, nearly 64,000 of which he sent to their proper destinations.

Blind readers are born, not made. They must have a natural instinct for unraveling mysteries, a certain power of intuition, an exhaustive range of geographical information, a knowledge of many languages and alphabets, a prodigious memory for minute facts and a special taste for the curiosities of language. All this was developed in the case of the present specialist by fourteen years of practice and discipline under his predecessor, W. W. Stone, the first professional "blind reader" in the world, who died in August, 1900. Mr. Menger has a collection of these addresses, nine out of ten of which would drive the average man to despair.

Poor cryptography is in itself the least of the expert's troubles. He has nothing to think about until two essential elements of an address out of three are omitted, and the rest spelled in a manner beyond the dreams of the wildest "fonetik." Taking Mr. Menger's collection as representative of the most interesting work that falls to

expert's lot, the trouble—or the fun, as he might call it—arises out of one or other of these four general causes:

First—Foreign ignorance of American geography and the English language.

Second—False or defective information about the particular address intended, with more or less carelessness.

Third—Whims and oddities of cranks and semicranks.

Fourth—Various attempts to make a public display of wit and humor.

Of all the queer addresses in the collection, those which belong in the first of these classes are the most interesting and amusing; those of the last—the would-be funny—are the least so. Several inventors of ciphers have experimented on the postoffice by using their own inventions to address envelopes to themselves, with the mortifying result that the envelopes so addressed infallibly reached their destinations in course of time. To understand why the postoffice officials should trouble themselves to decipher these perillities, one must remember that the postal service has its esprit de corps, and a wholesome rivalry between the New York postoffice and the dead letter office at Washington forces the activity of both far beyond the point where strict obligation might fairly be supposed to end.

Then there is the smart youth—one could almost draw a picture of him leaning against the drug store newell post with a cigarette tilted in his mouth after reading this lofty effort at cabalistic humor on an envelope: "Miss J. H. D. Stone, Sacchrine Elevation, N. H.," which promptly went to Sugar Hill, N. H.

Going backward through the four classes here assumed, the next in order—the crank class—is much smaller than might have been expected. "To the Monkeys of Mexico in America," with a Liverpool postmark, suggests a violent case of insanity. Another from England, addressed to "Mrs. Stanford, California,"

very likely exhibits a madness with method in it.

It is perhaps significant that the address, "Mr. Pluto, the Fourth Circle, Hades, on the Styx," should have come from Sing Sing, even more so that Sioux Falls, S. D., should be the point of departure of a letter addressed to "Any Manufacturer or Dealer in Marriage Certificates, New York City, N. Y."

The largest number of blind addresses are the result of the close similarity between names of postoffices in the same state. New Jersey, for instance, has not only a Morristown, but a Mauricetown and a Moorestown. And here is an astonishing list of what may be called pairs of twin names in Pennsylvania: Bala and Bela, Coldcreek and Coles Creek, Dilliner and Dillinger, Drifton and Drifting, Drumore and Dummore, Hamilton and Ham-linton, Roland and Rowland. Mistakes in addressing are inevitable when such names as these are given by word of mouth, as friends in parting beg each other to "be sure to let me hear from you." This class now and then furnishes some amusement, as, for instance, where the name of Helmetta, N. J., appears as "Hell Meadow," Dutchess Junction, N. Y., masquerades under the name of "Dutch Johnson," and "Colts Neck" figures as "Cold Snake." Quite recently the New York sorters have been puzzled by these three: "Liquid," "Lobster Bay" and "North Dutchtown," respectively intended for "Lakewood," "Oyster Bay" and "Germentown."

The apparatus for dealing with this class of difficulties consists chiefly of a remarkably large outfit of books of reference—directories of cities, gazetteers, directories of every trade and occupation, the army list, the navy list, the register of lighthouses, registers of persons specially interested in various artistic and scientific pursuits, (such as the Naturalists' directory) and, not least, the Social Register. It needs a trained judgment, almost equal to an instinct, in its effect, to guess in which of these books a name is most likely to be found. It may have been easy, for instance, to decide on general appearances, that "Miss Mary Murphy, America," to whom this unstamp-ed envelope is addressed, need not be looked for in the Social Register, but many cases require a much closer consideration of all the details.

(10)(0)(9.81#12)

(120)(#I=0)(#I=0)

(-0.0.x00)

(10)(12.0x)

(ABOVE ADDRESS)
MR. E. DOWNING,
1208 PARK PL.,
BROOKLYN, N. Y.

(LOWER)
POSTMASTER,
GREEN CO. N. Y.

The cream of the collection, regarding which is a museum of epistolary curiosities, is in the foreign written addresses. Most of these have been condemned as "hard" and laid aside by the sorting clerks who handle the incoming foreign mails, and the necessity for a specialist to do this work of deciphering in the New York postoffice is doubtless due to that city's being the most frequented port of arrival for mail carrying ocean steamers. But the term "foreign" in this connection German script, meaning "West Ho-

boken," "Ancram Lead, Kalamiti Colty," for "Ancram Lead Mines, Columbi County, N. Y.," "Al Signor Luigi Scarpina, Anovifolsi, N. Y.," meaning "Hannawa Falls, N. Y.," and that triumph of blind reading which a trackless jungle of big and little letters has been so reduced to order as to spell "192 North St. Re Etl bostock Massa." Here is a Russian specimen with 10 cents due: "192 North St. Boston, Mass." The letter addressed to "Fedvetness" ("Fayetteville, Tenn.") has no stamp at all, but it was mailed in New York. On the other hand, that addressed to "Knoghyto P. O., Conn., U. S. A.," for "Nagatuck, Conn.," bears the postmark of Tiptonbury, and "Over Street Sailing Mass." for "2 Andover St., Salem, Mass.," comes from Ballymore in the Green Isle. From the same quarter of the globe come the more recent oddities of "Cranston Royal R.I." (for "Cranston, R. I.,") and the spelling out of "Washington, D. C.," as Washington, Dublin County."

A very important point in solving the problem of the foreign addresser's intention is, evidently, a knowledge of the sound values which the characters he writes would be likely to bear for him individually. Here the expert's taste for linguistic niceties, with the corresponding keen ear for differences of sound, is invaluable. A man who has become accurately familiar with Italian sounds sees at a glance that "Neglosi," giving the Italian values to the letters, exactly represent an Hiltorite Italian's attempt at the sounds which Americans write "New Jersey." On an envelope with a Russian stamp, "Kreenpoyng" means "Greenpoint" for the Russian mouth is apt to substitute a lafal for a dental consonant, and a K for a guttural G. Again there is the wonderful postmark "Przeckaw" on a letter to "Mik Karolin, Janowska." One who has listened carefully to either Russian or Polish talk knows how a man of Przeckaw would read aloud the line which follows the name—"Tu wody tu is Chander Tu stry; it would sound something very like "Two forty two, East Hundred Tenth street, which is a fairly intelligible address.

Of course, many addresses defy the most exhaustive study, and many letters land in the Dead Letter office. In this class belongs the effort of a sturdy Briton, who wrote to his friend Mr. Thomas Clacy, at

"New Jersey, United States America," and then, with truly British misgivings as to the efficiency of American institutions, appended a little private note to the postoffice authorities assuring them that "this address is correct." Probably it was, as far as it went, but it hasn't gone far enough yet to get Thomas Clacy. Here is a Russian specimen with 10 cents due: "This handwriting is ow off your brother's daughter, his name is Simon Galtisky, America." All that was on the unstamped envelope found in a Schenectady, N. Y., mailbox was "Please put on this 5 cents stamp on the letters that go to Italy and has not the stamp on. Your P. De Marso."

But the blindest of the blind addresses in the collection are such as the following:

"address I wish you alla
Happy New Year
and Merry Christmas
America."

—which is from Stockholm, Sweden; and—
"Mister Samuel Landberg
You is alright old Grandmother
Yaki hada belly ache
123456789
in Newiork
Amerika."

—from Vienna, Austria; and—
"Miss
my darling
awtheart
I lov joy
Nortamerika."

—from a country postoffice in Sweden. Addresses like these are not only impossible of translation into anything like working forms, but they defy the non-expert to guess what could possibly have caused them to be written. The expert's theory is that in all these cases—and there are many more like them—the addresser has written in last letter a few words of English, just to show his familiarity with that language; his correspondent at home has mistaken the words for his American address, and, as a rule, the letter finds its way to the Dead Letter office. The conqueror of the Swedish Miss, whose copy outpouring of the heart in a language her lover knew not, resulted in her getting no answer to her letter, is only one among many pathetic romances suggested by the contents of this album of queer addresses.

If You Are Troubled With
Constipation, Liver and Kidney Diseases,
Catarrh of the Stomach, Dyspepsia,
Gout and Rheumatism,

USE THE GENUINE IMPORTED

Carlsbad Sprudel Salt.

IT IS NATURE'S OWN REMEDY.

The Carlsbad Sprudel Salt is obtained by evaporation from the waters of the Springs at Carlsbad and contains the same remarkable curative properties that have made the place famous for five centuries.

Be sure to obtain the Genuine article, which must have the signature of "EISNER & MENDELSON CO., Sole Agents, New York," on every bottle.

W.H. WILLS, ATTORNEY AT LAW AND SOLICITOR OF CLAIMS AND PATENTS, WILLS BLDG. 312 INDIANA AVE. N.E. WASHN. D.C.

Signature
Somerset Caramella,
Wings—signature—J. Gray—
No. 10 Hill street
Paul Flann in connection

CINCINNATI, OHIO.

NEW YORK, N.Y.

MONTEPELIER, VT.

Minneapolis, 315 to 325 Nicollet Ave. St. Paul, Seventh and Robert Sts.

Palace CLOTHING HOUSE CO.

Gordon Patent Comfort Caps

Bands lined with fur or otherwise. They fit the head like a glove; all new style cloths.

Price Here \$1.50.

Gordon people say we sell more Gordon Caps than any other account in United States.