

The Call

SATURDAY, JUNE 25, 1898

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AMUSEMENTS

Columbia—"Arctocracy"
Feldwin—"The Passion Play"
Alcazar—"A Celebrated Case"
Morosoff—"The Dark"
Tivoli—"All Babes"
Orpheum—Vaudeville.
Mechanics' Pavilion—Red Cross Benefit, Tuesday evening, June 28.
The Chutes—Zoo, Vaudeville and Cannon, the 513-pound Man.
Olympia—Corner Mason and Eddy streets, Specialties.
Sutro's Baths—Swimming.
El Campo—Music, dancing, boating, fishing, every Sunday.
Recreation Park—Baseball this afternoon.
Coursing—At Union Coursing Park.
Coursing—Ingleside Coursing Park.
Mirabel Park—Excursion.
Oakland Racecourse—Races.

AUCTION SALES

By Geo. F. Lamson—Monday, June 27, Immeuble Library, at corner Market and Seventh streets, at 2 and 7:30 P. M.

THE INSULT TO HOBSON.

WHEN the Examiner published a fake letter alleged to have been written by Lieutenant Hobson it was guilty of a crime blacker than ordinarily characterizes its columns of bogus news. People have grown accustomed to being swindled by that paper. They regard its impositions as something in the nature of a joke and take up the sheet with daily wonder as to what form of confidence game it will be found practicing. So thoroughly discredited has the Examiner become that it has in a great measure lost its power to do harm. But when its heralded information is not only false but vicious there is a tendency to resent it.

The Hobson letter was an affront against decency, and particularly against that gallant gentleman himself. It made him pose as a braggart and a crack-brained, self-glorifying ninny. While for a moment it might have misled a thoughtless reader, it could not even temporarily have deceived a newspaper man, and any newspaper man giving it unqualified publicity must have been guilty of deliberate effort to defraud. Not only did the subject matter of the letter betray its real quality, but other circumstances stamped it as a stupid pretense.

There was no possibility that such a letter could have been received, no possibility that having been received it would have been turned over to the press. It was so clearly the product of a liar that no excuse can be offered by the Examiner for having presented it as legitimate. The correspondent dishonors the profession. He deserves to be barred. Yet such correspondents could not flourish to the damage of the craft were there not unclean, conscienceless, yellow journals ready to give currency to anything savoring of sensation. Such a journal is the Examiner.

INTERNATIONAL AMERICAN BANK.

ONE of the larger measures affecting our peaceful interests which Congress has found time to discuss among the excitements of war is the bill providing for the establishment of an international American bank. The object of the measure is to provide a means for facilitating commerce among the countries of this hemisphere, and it is therefore a step toward accomplishing that great scheme of Pan-Americanism which survives as an evidence of the creative statesmanship of Blaine.

The bill has met the usual Democratic and Populist antagonism. It is a financial measure not of their making, and therefore they shy at it. It does not undertake the free coinage of silver, nor an unlimited issue of greenbacks, and therefore they oppose it. It is not a fiat money scheme in any particular, but a plan for promoting commerce by furnishing a safe means for transacting legitimate monetary affairs and the settlement of balances among merchants of the different American countries, and therefore it appears to the wild imaginations of the fanatics as another conspiracy on the part of the gold monster to press a crown of thorns upon the brow of labor and crucify mankind upon a cross of gold.

Our Consuls in the various Central and South American countries have repeatedly pointed out that one of the serious disadvantages under which our manufacturers and merchants operate in those markets is due to the lack of American banking facilities there. Bankers of Great Britain and of Germany have extensive agencies in all the principal cities, and their influence is exerted to encourage the imports of the goods of their own country. To meet this adverse influence we must provide American banks, and this can be done better by the co-operation of capitalists in forming one great financial institution than by separate efforts on the part of many.

While it is gratifying that Congress has been able in a time of war to give attention to this measure of peaceful commercial enterprise, it would be more satisfactory if the subject of Pan-American commerce had been taken up as a whole and not by piecemeal. The need of an international bank to facilitate trade is great, but the need of ships to carry it on is even greater. The British and the Germans in seeking a market for their products in this hemisphere have not contented themselves with providing banking conveniences for their merchants and their customers. They have provided ships to carry the goods and have granted liberal subsidies to maintain the shipping. We must do likewise if we hope to succeed in winning the markets from them.

No occasion for alarm is constituted by the report that the Cadiz fleet is bound for the Philippines. Even if it could get there Dewey could defeat it without calculating on the help of the Charleston and the Monterey.

There can be no objection to Blanco's hurling defiance, as dispatches say he is doing. He doubtless feels in duty bound to hurl something.

ANNEXATION INSTRUCTIONS.

BECAUSE Senator White has, from the inception of the issue, stood against the reception of Hawaii as a gift from Dole, incumbered only by his \$5,000,000 debt and 30,000 cooies, it has pleased the annexation organs to fling at him the resolutions passed by the Legislature which elected him.

Whenever The Call has explained this matter it has also pleased the same organs to say that this paper is Senator White's organ. Of course their instant defense of Democratic members of Congress who vote for annexation is not "organic" at all. The facts are that the Legislature which elected Senator White did pass a resolution favoring the annexation of Hawaii by "honorable means." As such means have not yet been used, he would be absolved from obedience any way. It is not honorable to attempt to annex the country against the protest of a large majority of its people. When such plan fails by treaty it is not honorable to violate the constitution by annexing a separate sovereignty by a joint resolution. It is not honorable to pretend that the latter method follows the Texas precedent. Texas was never annexed. It was admitted directly into the Union as a State, after the issue had been submitted to and indorsed by the people of that sovereignty. But what of the legislative mind and will on this subject?

Senator Perkins was elected by the Legislature of 1895, two years after Senator White's election. An annexation resolution was introduced in the Senate of that Legislature and was beaten by a vote of nine to twenty-two! Every Democrat and a majority of the Republicans voted against it. If there is binding force in legislative instruction to Senators of the United States, this last expression of the legislative will would bind both of our Senators. While it suits the organs of the Hawaiian sugar planters and coolie labor to attack Senator White for not obeying the legislative will of 1893, it suits the same organs to cordially support Senator Perkins for not obeying the legislative will of 1895.

In this same connection the Oakland Enquirer has had something to say about newspaper sentiment toward Senator White, to the effect that a Republican paper in Los Angeles is indorsing him for the purpose of his return to the Senate and at the same time desires to elect Mr. Henry T. Gage of Los Angeles, a Republican, for Governor. It is added that the Los Angeles paper is thereby showing servile zeal for its attorney and its leading stockholder.

The Call wants a Republican Senator and a Republican Governor, but when servile zeal is mentioned we cannot withhold the reflection that the Enquirer is zealous for a candidate for Governor who is also largely interested in its ownership. While he daily records his good opinion of himself in his own paper he should not point the finger of scorn—or, in fact, any finger at all—at others who may try to reach their ambitions by owning "organs."

A LESSON OF THE WAR.

AN important lesson is to be learned by the Government and the people of the United States from the difficulty and delay that have been experienced in providing sustenance and equipments for the troops enlisted for the war. In the camps on both the Atlantic and the Pacific coasts the supplies have been insufficient and the resultant evil serious.

Much of the complaint and criticism have doubtless been exaggerated by sensational journals, but when due allowance is made for that distortion there remains enough to justify earnest consideration of the subject. All the critics have not been irresponsible persons. General Miles himself has officially condemned the manner in which the troops at Tampa and other Floridian camps have been left without sufficient supplies, and in all probability the officers in command on this coast have been tempted at times to send similar communications to the Government. It is well known that many of the most needed supplies for the camps in this city have been provided by the voluntary efforts of the women of the Red Cross, and while their action is highly creditable to them, it is to be regretted the necessity for it should have arisen.

The blame for the situation does not rest upon the administration nor upon any of our official authorities. The evil has been the result of the system, or lack of system, provided by Congress for the management of our armies. We have been so sanguine of the permanent continuance of peace that we have made no provisions for war on a large scale. The superb administrative machinery built up during the Civil War, which enabled the Government to maintain and supply an army of a million of men, has long since been broken down and abolished. We entered this war, therefore, rich in every sort of supplies, but without the means of making prompt use of them.

The condition of our war legislation may be estimated from the fact that the United States statutes to-day provide that: "Every citizen shall * * * be constantly provided with a good musket or firelock of a bore sufficient for balls of an eighteenth part of a pound * * * two spare flints * * * with a good rifle shot pouch and powder horn * * * and a quarter of a pound of powder. * * * Each commissioned officer shall be armed with a sword or hanger and a sponoon."

That was the war regulation of the period of the Revolution. It was a part of the scheme adopted by Washington and his colleagues in the making of the nation to keep the country prepared for the possibility of war. We have kept the letter on the statute book but have lost the spirit that made the letter valuable. It is time now to revive the intent and meaning of that old law of the fathers. We must adopt regulations which will at all times maintain the nation in readiness for conflict and clothe the Government with power at any moment to make full use of the vast resources of the people for the equipment and supply of its troops as fast as volunteers muster to the colors.

Mrs. John White is in jail for the offense of throwing her boy out into the cold, and with due deference to her sex, it is proper to hope that she may stay there until the boy shall be big enough to defend himself.

Probably Spaniards will claim victory as long as they have breath in their bodies, and the death of those who are killed will be ascribed to the joy of triumph.

It is difficult to keep track of the Kaiser the way the correspondents toss him around from a position of friendly neutrality to an attitude distinctly hostile.

Two of McKinley's nephews have enlisted without waiting for commissions. Some years ago a distinguished uncle of theirs did the same thing.

After a while the Spanish will be in a corner and be obliged to fight under the disadvantage of being winded by a long sprint.

THE HAUL OF JUSTICE.

THE report of the Grand Jury upon the "causeless delays" and "wanton waste" which have characterized the execution of the contract for the construction of the Hall of Justice at Kearny and Washington streets can be regarded, though a grave document, in no other than a serio-comic light. The present Grand Jury is not the first that has registered a protest against the delays, nor are the present Supervisors the only ones who have been bamboozled by the contractors. Again and again, for upward of three years, grand juries and Supervisors have tried to straighten this matter out, with no more success than will probably follow the latest effort.

The truth probably is that Bateman Brothers—whose political pull is evidently one of the great institutions of the town—took the contract too low and are unable to execute it. Surely under prevailing circumstances it cannot be a source of profit to them. Men have been known to make money by keeping close to boards and Supervisors, but never while hanging around them asking for time extensions on bad contracts. If Bateman Brothers are getting rich constructing the Hall of Justice it is not apparent where the money is coming from. The contract may be "salted" in some way, or retaining control of it may contribute to their political influence, but as a business proposition the whole thing must necessarily be a howling farce.

Why, it may then be asked, do not the contractors let go? No one has yet been able to answer this question. Two or three grand juries have "reported" upon the phenomenon, large numbers of property-owners have "investigated" it and on numberless occasions Supervisors' committees have traversed the subject; yet nobody has discovered why the contractors do not throw up their job and let somebody else construct the Hall of Justice. We think it would be well to give attention to this branch of the difficulty. If it cannot be determined why Bateman Brothers persist in preventing the completion of the building, would it not be a good idea to form some plan for kicking them out and putting in charge a builder who will at least make a bluff at it? This result would justify a lawsuit.

One great point, however, has been settled by the Grand Jury report under consideration. It is comprised in a single sentence: "We found," says the jury to Judge Belcher, "that the architect up to June 13 has been paid \$86,18 on progress estimates of \$105,600, and that during the whole period of inactivity a superintendent was employed at a salary of \$250 a month and an inspector of bricks at \$5 per day—receiving \$4,375 and \$1,700 each respectively up to this date."

We have assumed that no person was deriving benefit from the delay in completing the structure. This shows that we have been mistaken. An architect, superintendent and brick inspector are making money. The gratifying nature of this information can scarcely be overestimated. The protesting property-owners, indignant grand jurors and bamboozled Supervisors may now hide their diminished heads. The conspicuous purpose of all Government work is being subserved in the case of the Haul of Justice. Three tax eaters are getting fattened out of it. Let the delay continue. It is the duty of the city to fat its tax eaters. Even in this case the end justifies the means.

SPEAKER REED.

SPEAKER REED'S bold and statesmanlike stand against the unreasoning course of the Hawaiian annexationists has drawn upon himself the adverse criticism of a whole host of talkers and scribblers. The criticisms as a rule hardly amount to a direct attack. The critics content themselves with pecking at him, finding a little fault here, a little defect there, and questioning his motives and his manners.

Among these pecking critics is a bolder one—the Chicago Inter Ocean. It advances the theory that the opposition of the Speaker to the annexation scheme is the outcome of a personal spite against the President. It declares he has fallen in public estimation, that he has lost the confidence even of his own constituents, calls his present situation a "mournful one," and says, "It illustrates too clearly the fate bound to overtake the man who tries to subordinate the interests of the American people to the ends of personal spleen."

This exhibition of criticism gone daft is cited to show the extent of the delirium which has taken possession of those who have given themselves over to the mania for territorial aggrandizement, reckless of the consequences and careless of the method. In its sober senses the Inter Ocean knows that rarely in our history has any man ever held a higher place in politics or in public esteem than that now occupied by Tom Reed. He has in a measure reconstructed Congress, has changed it from a wrangling debating society, disorderly and ineffective, into the most efficient legislative body on the globe. His easy mastery over its mutinous factions has never been more strikingly demonstrated than during the present session, and the loyalty of his party to him as evinced by the representatives of the party in the house was never stronger.

When a cause can be supported only by alleging that such a man as Speaker Reed is actuated in a grave issue of national interest by petty spite and personal spleen, that cause is a bad one. Moreover, there will be a widespread belief that those who make such allegations are themselves given over to spite. The spectacle presented by the Inter Ocean is a mournful one. It illustrates too clearly the fate bound to overtake a newspaper that subordinates the interests of the American people to the ends of personal spleen.

According to the growing strictness of the interpretation of laws concerning registration a man will soon be required to swear that his father was never related to anybody who knew anybody who had speaking acquaintance with anybody born in a foreign land.

The penalty for shooting a Stockton attorney was fixed at \$100. It can hardly be thought that such a paltry sum represented anything like adequate punishment for the crime of attempted murder. Perhaps it was intended as a fine for the failure.

There are several reasons why the Chinese habit of murder should be checked. It gives the town a bad name, and some of the assassins are likely to shoot wild, to the detriment of the passerby.

Sausalito gamblers continue to fight each other, and a strange tendency to discourage them seems to have developed. A war of mutual extermination would be a blessing.

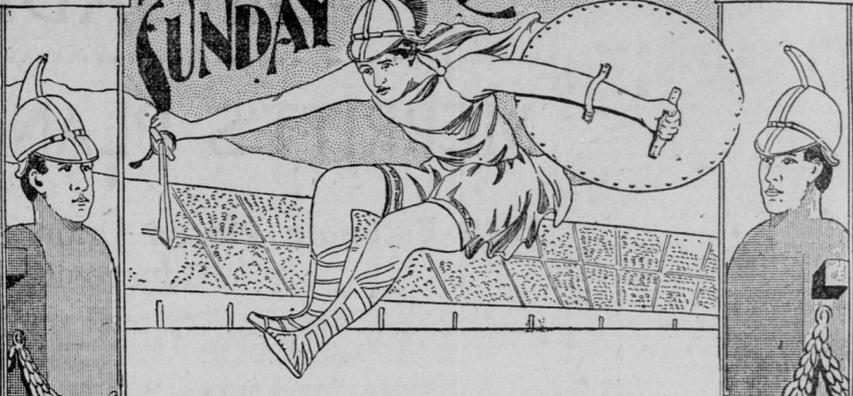
An evening paper hints at the danger of bombardment threatening San Francisco. Yet it might have found important things to think about.

It may be noticed that the attempt to discredit Miles does not receive any sympathy in the West, where the general is best known.

SPECIAL FEATURES

READ THE CALL.

PROMINENT WRITERS



WAR AS AN INVESTMENT.

By Russell Sage.

WHAT I SAW IN SAN JUAN DURING THE BOMBARDMENT.

By CAPTAIN SPRAY, Blockade Runner

THE MANNERS OF CAPTAIN MARCH
OF THE ASTOR BATTERY.
Described by ALICE RIX.

THE LATEST WONDER IN SCIENCE.

SAVING THE SACRAMENTO VALLEY FROM DROUGHT.

PAGES OF OTHER SPECIAL FEATURES.

CAPITAL PICTURES

LATEST NEWS

COLLECTED IN THE CORRIDORS

Mr. and Mrs. D. S. Nixie of London are at the Palace.
T. H. Buckingham, a rancher of Vacaville, is at the Grand.
Paul E. Lindsay, District Attorney of Santa Cruz, is registered at the Grand.
Alph Vereel and A. Jenkins, mining men of Glasgow, Scotland, are at the Grand.
C. J. Campbell of Honolulu arrived on the Peru and is stopping at the California.

On Wednesday evening about 6 o'clock Benny Benjamin, the well-known racing reporter, was the happiest man in this city. An hour later he was the saddest, and thereby hangs a tale.

When the season closed here Benjamin determined to go to Montana and keep an eye on the horses in that far-off country, but he could not satisfy himself that it was necessary for him to purchase a railroad ticket to get there. All the influence that his friends possessed was ineffective to secure the much desired pass for the trip. The twelve labors of Hercules were more insignificant undertakings compared with the efforts of "Benny's" friends to soften the stony heart of the S. P. At last a real friend came to his rescue. He gave Benjamin a note to W. H. Mills of the Southern Pacific, in which a pass was asked for, and in return a promise was made to publish an "ad" for the S. P. in the paper of which the friend is the editor. Mr. Mills received Benjamin with the utmost courtesy and showed his magnanimity by waiving the offer of the editor and told Benny that he would give the pass to Montague as a mere act of friendship. He also said that he would unhesitatingly fill out a pass to Portland, but the State law prevented him. Benny thought that this was all right, that the charges from Montague to Portland were a mere trifle, so he accepted the pass and after effusive thanksgivings he left the S. P. building with glistening eye and swelling chest, ready to start for Portland on the first train.

Walking up the street he met a railroad man. His joy was so great that he immediately told his good fortune, wondering why some people say the S. P. is not charitable. The railroad man smiled and proceeded to question the pass-holder on geography and rates. Then Benny discovered that the fare from Montague, which is on the State line, to Portland is \$15, and that the rate from this city to the metropolis of Oregon is only \$11 with berth. For a minute the life of Hon. W. H. Mills was in jeopardy, and there will be a warm time when Benjamin meets that gentleman. The racing authority is still in this city.

John Ena, Mrs. Ena, John Ena Jr. and Miss Anna Ena are registered at the California.
Captain George W. Coffin arrived yesterday from Yokohama and is staying at the Occidental.

Sanchez Aguirre and family are guests at the Palace. Senor Aguirre is a prominent merchant of Mexico.
T. W. H. Shanahan, the Code Commissioner, arrived last night from Anderson and is staying at the Grand.

CALIFORNIANS IN NEW YORK.

NEW YORK, June 24.—Knox Maddox of San Francisco is at the Holland. C. Ball of San Francisco has gone to Paris.

CALIFORNIANS IN WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON, June 24.—Henry Olds of Los Angeles and Theodore Sweigert of Oakland are at the National Hotel.

BASIS OF ENGLAND'S AMITY.

Considering that England's purchases from us are actually essential to her existence, we find in that one fact alone sufficient reason for Great Britain's keen interest in, and strong friendship for, us. For Great Britain to be summarily cut off from receiving our food stuffs, would be the worst blow that could be inflicted upon that nation. If we were involved in a war with Continental Europe, and they should effectively blockade our ports, it

would be Great Britain, and not the United States, that would be at the mercy of our enemies. Of somewhat secondary, but of very great incidental importance, would be the loss of employment that would fall upon British manufacturers and their employes, if they were deprived of the raw materials which they purchase from us in such prodigious quantities.

Fully two-thirds of our foreign carrying is done by British ships. Probably fully one-third of the entire British shipping in the foreign trade is employed in the carriage of our imports and exports. Were this shipping cut off, summarily and completely, the British interest in the United States would be a very serious one. It would inflict upon British shipowners and the great mass of the British people would be fearful. When we reflect upon these material—actually vital—considerations, which compel Great Britain to become and to remain our staunch friend and faithful ally, we find that, whether her heart is in the alliance or not, her interests are so bound up in our well being that a suspension of trade relations with this country for a protracted period might inflict injuries upon Great Britain which she might never be able to survive. Let us not beguile ourselves, therefore, nor be beguiled as a nation, into believing that Great Britain's interest in the United States is wholly sentimental.—Seaboard.

HOBSON'S CHOICE.

His to do and never ask,
His to brave the sullen foe,
His to strike the darning hood,
That was Hobson's choice.

Down into the jaws of Death,
In the battle's scorching breath,
Went he with his sturdy crew,
Nor the danger never knew.
This was Hobson's choice.

His to face the screaming shell,
Face it bravely, face it well,
Playing for a glorious stake,
Kissing all for country's sake,
This was Hobson's choice.

So, my lads, no longer scorn
This old saw so lowly born,
But when you have chance to hear
The old thing get up and cheer
For Hobson's choice.
—New York Evening Telegram.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

OILS—J. B., City. This department has announced time and again that it does not advertise any business or firm. If you wish to ascertain the names of dealers in a particular kind of oil look in the back part of the directory in that portion known as "classified business."

THE VESUVIUS—A Subscriber, City. The contract for building the dynamite cruiser Vesuvius was awarded to the Pneumatic Dynamite Gun Company of New York, but the vessel was actually built by William Cramp & Co. of Philadelphia. The work was begun February 11, 1887, and the vessel was placed in commission June 7, 1890. She carries three fifteen-inch dynamite guns and three rapid-firing guns. Gun cotton shells are used, these being considered the most powerful high explosive for safe carriage on shipboard.

RED CROSS SOCIETY—A. E. City, and A. S., San Leandro, Cal. The objects of the Red Cross Society were set forth in an answer to another correspondent in The Call of June 8. The international president is Gustave Moynier of Geneva, Switzerland. The society derives funds

from its membership and from donations in case of need. The Government has given sanction to the Red Cross Society to send nurses to the front.

POSTAL EXAMINATION—C. B., City. Any one desiring to undergo official service examination in the postoffice branch can obtain the proper blanks and all information concerning the examination on application to the secretary of the commission in the office of Postmaster in this city.

BRANCH MINTS—S. A. M., City. The parent mint is in Philadelphia. In 1855 branch mints were established at New Orleans, at Charlotte, N. C., and at Dahlonega, Ga.; in 1852 at San Francisco, in 1854 at Dallas, Or., and in 1870 at Carson City, Nev. Assay offices were established at New York in 1854, at Denver, Colo., in 1854, and at Boise City, Idaho, in 1872. These were considered branches of the Philadelphia Mint until 1872, when the coinage act of that year made them separate mints and assay offices. These mints are bureaus of the Treasury Department, and are all under the general supervision of the chief officer of that department. The mints at Charlotte and Dahlonega were suspended in 1861, that of Dallas in 1876, that of New Orleans from 1890 to 1879 and that of Carson City in 1888. The demands of commerce require the maintaining of the number of branch mints now in operation.

Townsend's peanut taffy; best in world.
Cream Mixed Candies; 25c lb. Townsend's
Townsend's famous broken candy; 2 lbs 25c

Treat your friends to Townsend's California Grape Fruits; 50c lb. In first-class boxes. 627 Market, Palace Hotel bldg.
Special information supplied daily to business houses and public men by the Press Clipping Bureau (Allen's), 510 Montgomery street. Telephone Main 1042.

"The Comet" Man—"The Streak" is nowhere. Yesterday we had news an hour earlier than you did.
"The Streak" Man—"Don't you fret. Today our extra was dated two hours later than yours.—Boston Transcript.

Excursion to the Yellowstone Park. A personally conducted excursion will leave this city July 12 for the Yellowstone Park, via the "Shasta Route" and Northern Pacific Railway. Tourists will be accommodated in first-class Pullman cars; tickets will be sold, including berth, meals and trip through the Park. Send for circular giving rate and itinerary to T. K. STAELEER, General Agent, Northern Pacific Railway, 638 Market st., S. F.

The Santa Fe Route will run second excursion to Grand Canyon of the Colorado, Arizona, on Thursday, June 30. Noted scientists will accompany the party. A pleasant and profitable trip. Get full particulars at No. 641 Market st.

In the Cuban swamps a bottle of Dr. Steiger's Angostura Bitters will do wonders to keep your digestive organs in order.
A neighbor was trying to console a farmer whose son had enlisted. "Don't be worried," he said; "it's my opinion that that boy'll be heard from."
"He's been heard from" was the disconsolate reply. "He's just drawn on me for \$50!"—Atlanta Constitution.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

ROYAL BAKING POWDER

Made from pure grape cream of tartar, and absolutely free from lime, alum and ammonia.

ROYAL BAKING POWDER CO., NEW YORK.