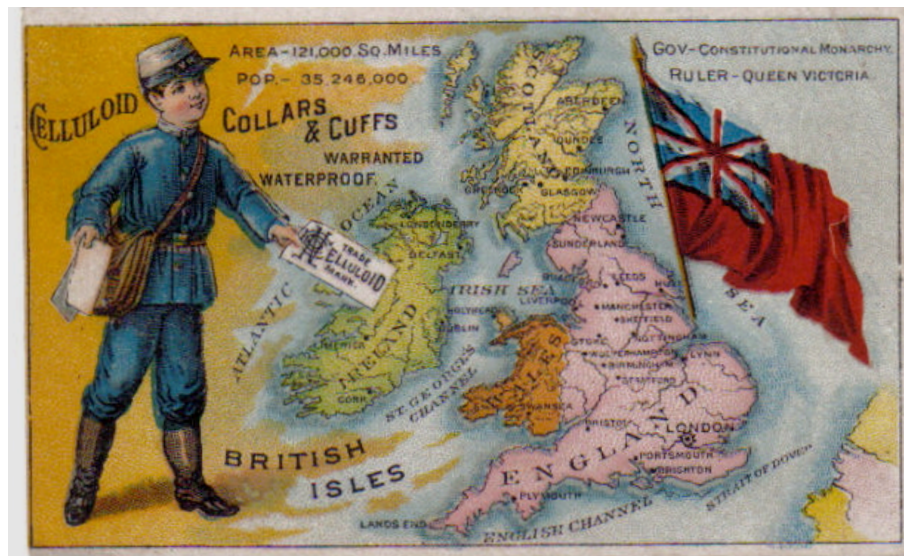


1886a

## Donaldson Brothers

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In about 1872 the four Donaldson Brothers, George, Frank, John and Robert, went into business together in New York as lithographic printers. Their company grew into a major firm with a very large and varied output, including lots of chromolithographic trade cards or chromos. Some of the best known ones were printed for John and Charles Arbuckle (see 1889 & 1890).



Some rare ones with maps of countries were issued by the Celluloid Novelty Company of New York. Measuring about 113 x 73 mm., these cards also feature the national flag and a uniformed mailman/postman. Brief facts are included on the area, population, government and ruler of the country. The text on the reverse extols the virtues of the firm's celluloid collars and cuffs and at the foot includes a copyright date of 1886 or 1888, and the imprint of the Donaldson Brothers who produced them. Only four of these have been noted but there may well be more:

*British Isles; France; German Empire; The United States.*

set of cards New York, Celluloid Novelty Co., (1886 or 1888).

Mailmen/postmen, but all apparently children, feature on another series of cards with maps, together with heraldry and a thumbnail view. This set was quite possibly printed by the Donaldson Brothers too and probably consists of twelve cards about 110 x 80 mm., both with and without advertising on their backs:

*Austria; (British Isles); China; France; Germany, Italy; Mexico; Russia; South America; Spain; Turkey, United States.*



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