

ALUM BAKING POWDERS.

THEIR USE INJURIOUS TO HEALTH AND THEIR SALE CONTRARY TO LAW.

Two men were recently convicted in St. Lawrence County, New York, for violating the food adulteration laws of that State by selling alum baking powders in imitation of pure cream of tartar baking powders. The Law of New York is similar to that of this province in forbidding the sale of adulterated and injurious articles of food, but the courts had not before constructed it in so far as it related to the sale of alum baking powders.

The baking powder sold by the accused was proved to be made from alum, by Gillett, of Chicago, and expert testimony was taken to show the unwholesomeness of alum in baking powders, bread or other food.

The Court, in inflicting the extreme penalty of the law upon the accused, expressed regret at not being able to impose a punishment more nearly in accordance with the seriousness of the offense.

The sale of alum baking powders is prohibited by direct statute in England. It should be the same here; yet our laws, if not so specific, are probably sufficient to put a stop to the business were they rigidly enforced. It is said that many brands of alum powders are being introduced into the Domin-

ion, and we bespeak the attention of our public analysts to the matter.

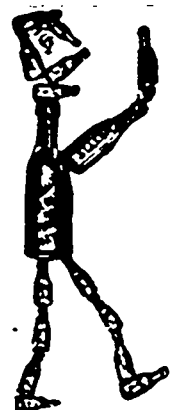
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