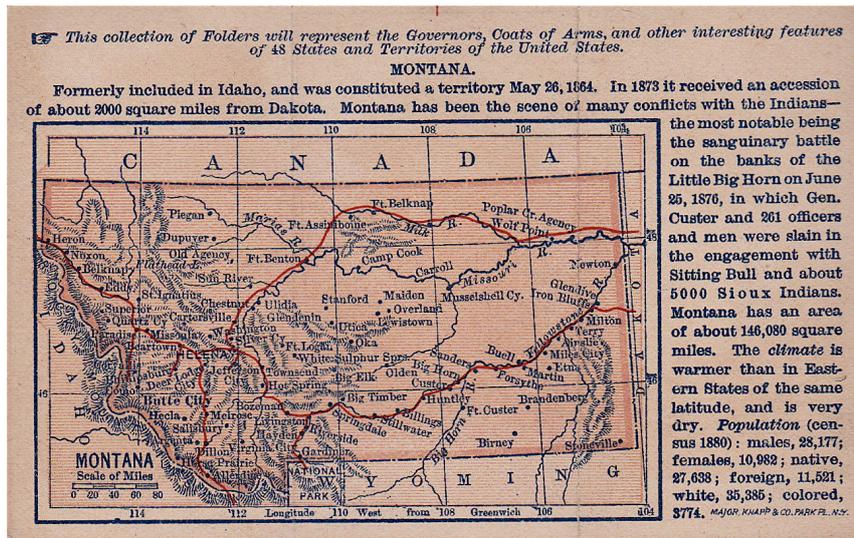
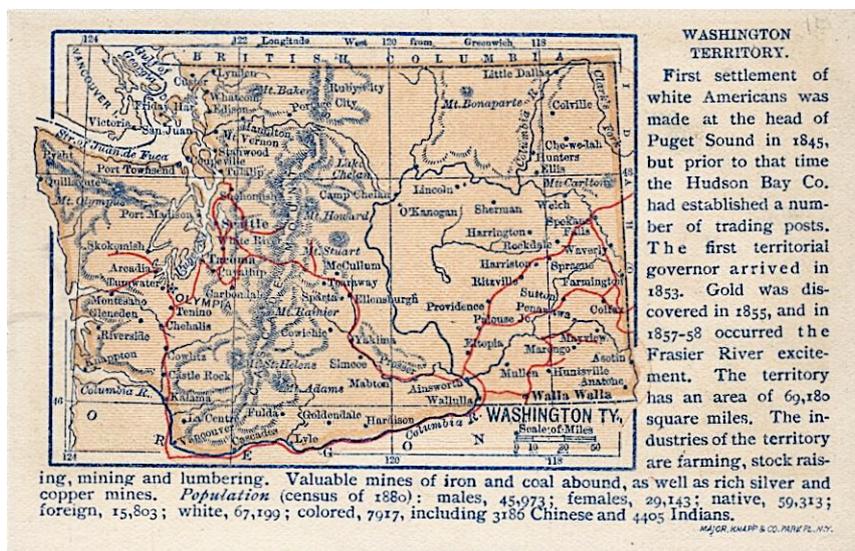


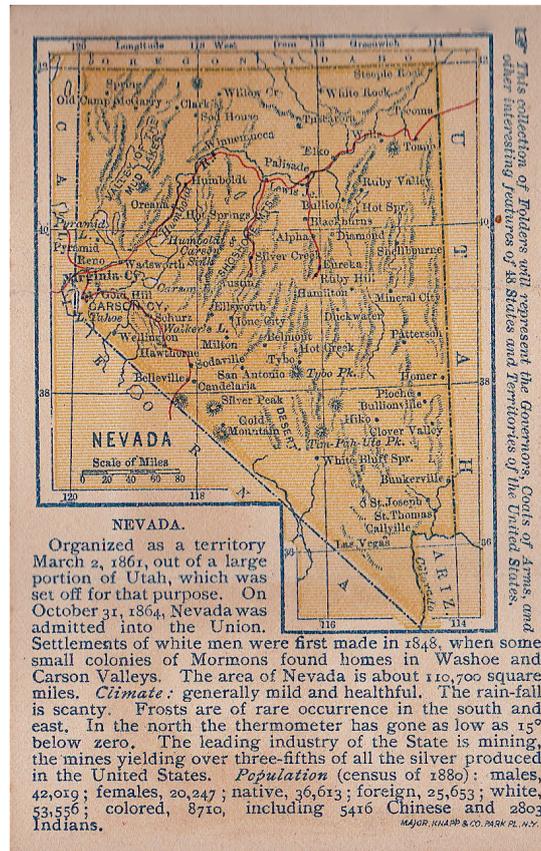
W. Duke, Sons & Co. was a tobacco manufacturer of Durham, North Carolina, founded in 1881 by George Washington Duke (1820-1905). The firm initially sold smoking and chewing tobacco, but started producing machine made cigarettes in 1885 and grew at an incredible rate to become the largest cigarette manufacturer in the world. A wide range of tobacco and cigarette trading cards were produced, including albums.



In 1888 a set of forty-eight cards was issued relating to the various states and territories of the United States. These cards, 113 x 65/73 mm., have three sections on the front, with a portrait of the governor in the centre with the name of the cigarette brand below, and coats of arms, flags and scenery on the left and right. On their reverse is a map of the state with historical notes and population figures from the 1880 census, with the imprint of the lithographer at the foot: Major, Knapp & Co. Park Pl. N.Y:



Alabama; Arizona; Arkansas; California; Colorado; Connecticut; Dakota; Delaware; District of Columbia; Florida; Georgia; Idaho; Illinois; Indian Territory; Indiana; Iowa; Kansas; Kentucky; Louisiana; Maine; Maryland; Massachusetts; Michigan; Minnesota; Mississippi; Missouri; Montana; Nebraska; Nevada; New Hampshire; New Jersey; New Mexico; New York; North Carolina; Ohio; Oregon; Pennsylvania; Rhode Island; South Carolina; Tennessee; Texas; Utah; Vermont; Virginia; Washington Ty.; West Virginia; Wisconsin; Wyoming.



There were various issues, with non-folded ones having the Honest Long Cut brand name on the front and folders having three others: Duke's Cigarettes, Duke's Cameo or Turkish Cross-cut. The firm also issued this set as a soft-cover album measuring 170 x 260 mm. and priced at \$1.50. These are sometimes cut out and sold to collectors as cards, but they are easy to tell from the originals because the information and map on the reverse (see Washington above) do not match the state on the front. There were similar series of the rulers, flags and coins of the nations of the world, but none featured maps on the back. However, another firm issued a set of trade cards featuring maps of the states on their fronts (see 1889) and of countries of the world too (see 1890).

set of cards of the governors, coats of arms, and other interesting features of 48 states and territories of the United States. Durham, N.C. & New York, W. Duke, Sons & Co., (1888).

Governors, coats of arms and interesting features of the states and territories of our country. Durham, N.C. & New York, W. Duke, Sons & Co., (1889).