

Other I Marks

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As with other letters, there are several “I” logos that were used by glass manufacturers, jobbers, and/or occasional end users that do not fit into any of the larger glass houses that have their own sections. We present those exceptions here.

Containers and Marks

I (at least 1982-at least 1996)



Figure 2 – I base logo (eBay)



Figure 3 – Base marks (eBay)

A bold “I” logo appears on the bases of colorless Tropicana Orange Juice bottles (Figure 1). The few examples of the logo we have found were on bottles that were square in cross-section with rounded corners (Figure 2). All were milk-bottle shaped but had non-continuous-thread finishes. One example was embossed “M-3248-L / I 70 / 9.” The “70” is most likely a date code for 1970 – which questions the identification. Another round bottle was embossed “I / 63.” This was the mark used by the Industrial Glass Co., Bradenton, Florida, by at least 1982 until at least 1996. A mark of a bold, embossed “I” was listed for 1982, 1990, and 1996, although it was not included in 1971 or 2000 (Emhart 1982:74; 1996:48; 2000; Hanlon 1971:6-17; Powell 1990).

Bates & Bates (2011) confirmed the “I” as the basemark of Industrial Glass, especially on Tropicana bottles. Although Industrial Glass apparently made other bottle types, it is clear that most of its



Figure 1 – Tropicana bottle (eBay)

products were made to support Tropicana. The base of at least one commemorative bottle was embossed “TROPICANA PRODUCTS, INC.” and another was embossed “INDUSTRIAL GLASS CO.” (Figure 3).

User and Manufacturer

Tropicana Products, Inc., Bradenton, Florida (1957-1998)

Tropicana Products grew out of earlier firms, beginning when Anthony T. Rossi moved to Palmetto, Florida, in 1947 and began packaging fruit under the name of Manatee River Packing Co. At some point, probably 1949, Rossi moved to Bradenton, Florida, renaming the firm as Fruit Industries. The second firm at least was almost certainly a corporation, controlled by Rossi. This firm developed fruit concentrate and probably adopted the name Tropicana (Bates & Bates 2011; Wikipedia 2016a).

Rossi purchased the Grapefruit Canning Co. in Bradenton in 1952 and developed flash pasteurization two years later, capturing the fresh fruit taste in a concentrate. An orange juice called Tropicana Pure Premium became the firm’s primary product. Rossi adopted a cute logo – Tropic-Ana (Figure 4) – “a barefoot young girl carrying oranges on her head and wearing clothing that resembles a Hawaiian grass skirt and lei” – who appeared in advertising and in ACL format on bottles (Bates & Bates 2011; Wikipedia 2016a).



Figure 4 – Tropic-Ana (Broad Street Basement)

In 1957, Rossi reorganized the company as Tropicana Products, Inc., becoming a public corporation in 1969. Tropicana sold to Beatrice Foods in 1978 and finally transferred to PepsiCo. in 1998. Pepsi continues to control Tropicana Orange Juice in 2016 (Wikipedia 2016a).

Industrial Glass Co., Bradenton, Florida (1964-2003)

Rossi apparently tired of finding suppliers for Tropicana bottles. On August 1, 1964, he organized the Industrial Glass Co., a Florida corporation, at 1001 13th Ave., Bradenton, Florida

(Bizapedia 2016). An ad for a Quality Control Supervisor in the November 22, 1971, issue of the *Indianapolis Star* called the plant a “two furnace, ten machine operation.”

The plant used three 950-ton furnaces with 12 machines to make “narrow neck beverage containers and wide mouth juice containers” in 1982 (*Glass Industry* 1982:36). In 1985, the plant had decreased to two 650-ton furnaces supporting eight I.S. machines, although it made the same products (Perrine 1985:28). The plant closed in 2003 (Bates & Bates 2011).

IGWCo (ca. 1870s)



Figure 5 – IGWCo logo (eBay)

The IGWCo mark was found embossed in a small post mold on the base of an amber whisky or wine bottle offered on eBay (Figure 5). Although the Indianapolis Glass Works (see next entry) was generally known for making fruit jars, it could certainly have also made bottles for alcohol. At least as early as 1871, the firm was listed in the

Indianapolis City Directory as the Indianapolis Glass Works Co., the only company with those initials we have found.

The bottle is very reminiscent of the Saratoga mineral water bottles and the bottle used by William Carl & Co., Santa Fe, New Mexico (Figure 6). Although Wilson (1981:21) called the bottle a brandy bottle, Carl operated a brewery in Santa Fe from 1874-1875 (Van Wieren 1996:214). Like the Carl bottle, the eBay bottle was almost certainly made during the 1870s. Whitten (2016) and von Mechow (2016) agreed but added no new information.



Figure 6 – Wm Carl Bottle (von Mechow 2016)

Farnsworth & Walthall (2011:64) noted this mark on a bottle of Faloon’s Rosin Weed Balsam, Bloomington, Indiana. The bottle had a hinged base and was probably made ca. 1870-1871, during the early years of the Indianapolis Glass Works.

INDPLS GLASS WORKS or INDIANAPOLIS GLASS WORKS (ca. 1870-1876)



Figure 7 – Indianapolis GW base (eBay)

Roller (1983:338; 2011:311, 487) discussed two grooved-ring wax sealers, one marked STANDARD on the front and embossed INDIANAPOLIS GLASS WORKS, IND. on the base (Figures 7 & 8). The other was embossed “MANUFACTURED BY INDPLS. GLASS WORKS” (in a circle around the base) and



Figure 8 – Standard jar (eBay)

“INDIAN APOLIS, IND.” inside an inner plate mold. He dated both jars ca.

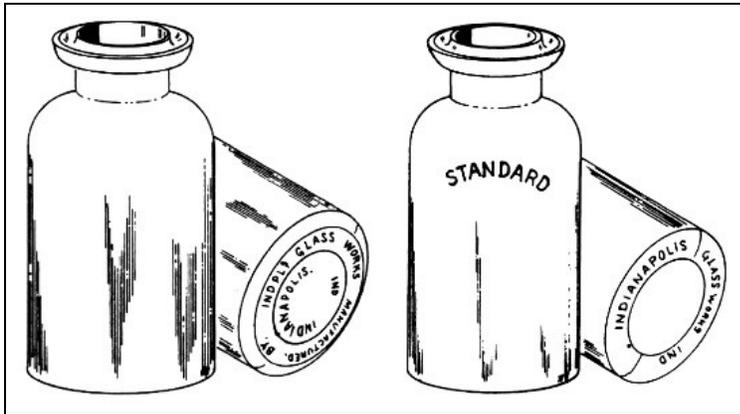


Figure 9 – Indianapolis GW jars (Creswick 1987a:90)

1870-1876. Creswick (1987:90) illustrated both jars and dated the jar ca. 1869-1876 (Figure 9).

McKearin & Wilson (1978:180, 674-675) illustrated and described two flasks made by the company. One was embossed on the front “INDIANAPOLISGLASSWORKS (arch)” with no spaces between words. The other was embossed “INDIANAPOLIS. GLASS WORKS (arch)” in smaller letters in the same area. Both were aqua in color, and the authors considered them rare (Figure 10).

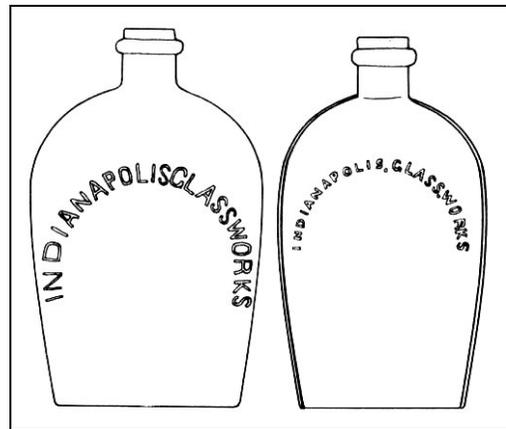


Figure 10 – Indianapolis GW flasks (McKearin & Wilson 1978:675)

Manufacturer

Indianapolis Glass Works, Indianapolis, Indiana (1870-ca. 1879)

The Indianapolis Glass Works was formed in 1869 by V. Butsch, James Dickson, Frederick Ritzenger, Joseph Deschler and two other German residents of Indianapolis with a capital of \$100,000. Although the 1870 city directory placed the factory at Kentucky Ave. & Sharpe, an 1870 history of the area located the plant at Kentucky Ave. & Merrill St., probably two different side streets at the same block. By February 1870, they were blowing bottles, vials and fruit jars. The factory was also noted as the Indianapolis Glass Works Co. by 1871 and was last listed in the Indianapolis City Directory in 1879. The firm was in receivership in 1880 and may have ceased production the previous year (McKearin & Wilson 1978:180; Roller 1983:338; 1994:47-48; 1997; von Mechow 2016).

IO Monograms

These monograms could be “IO” or “OI” or could be unrelated to the apparent letters. They were part of a series of three monograms that were all on jars embossed “MASON’S / {monogram} / PATENT NOV 30TH 1858” on the front. The initial monogram consisted of the letters “LGCo”– with serifs on the “G” and the “L” (See the LGCo Monograms section for a discussion about this series).

I-P

Although visually, this looks like an HP, it is the mark of Junius Perry. See the section on the Keene-Marlboro-Street Glassworks for more information.

IPC (1893-ca. 1899)

Several colorless or amethyst jars were embossed “BEECH-NUT” and “TRADE MARK” around an embossed beech nut and leaves that were sometimes marked on the bases with “I.P.C.” along with a patent date of July 11, 1893 (Figures 11). Toulouse (1971:89-91) identified the initials as belonging to the Imperial Packing Co., a meat-packing company that was formed

in 1891 and was renamed Beech-Nut Packing Co. in 1899. According to Toulouse (1971:90), Imperial Packaging Co. changed the product name to Beech-Nut in 1891, although the board did not use that name for the firm, itself, until 1899. Creswick (1987:16) attributed the mark to the Illinois Pacific Glass Co., but she was in error.

Franz Guilleaume & Ewald Goltstein 1893 Patent

Creswick (1987:16) illustrated and discussed three types of Beech Nut jars that were almost certainly made in a

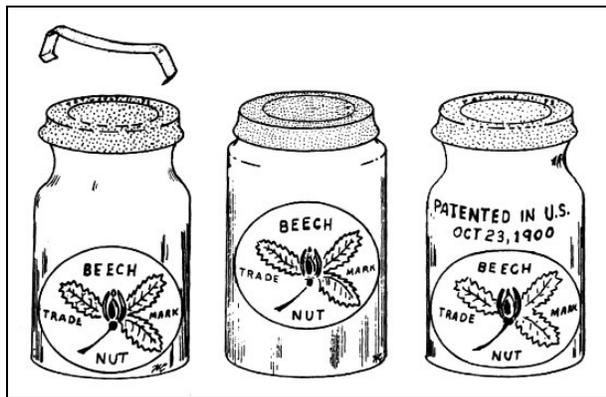


Figure 12 – Beech-Nut jars (Creswick 1987a:16)

temporal series. Probably the earliest of these was embossed with a beech nut and leaf design with “BEECH” above, “NUT” below, “TRADE” to the left, and “MARK” to the right – all in a round plate. The jar, itself, had a noticeable neck leading to the finish, topped by a metal lid held in place by a metal clamp (although the clamp illustrated in the Creswick drawing is *not* the clamp illustrated and described in the patent document (see below). The base was embossed “PATENTED JULY 11TH (arch) / I.P.C. (horizontal) / 1893 (inverted arch)” (Figure 12). Some of these jars also had a round unembossed plate on the reverse. These were almost certainly made after July 11 in 1893 and were used until the next patent was received in 1899.

Franz Guilleaume and Ewald Goltstein applied for a patent for a “Jar-Lid Fastener” on May 21, 1892, and received Patent No. 501,418 on July 11, 1893 (Figure 13). The patent

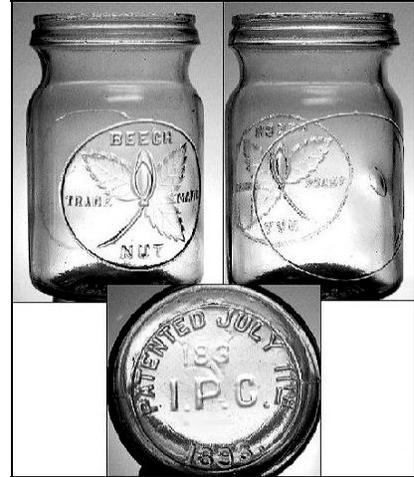


Figure 11 – Beech-Nut jar (eBay)

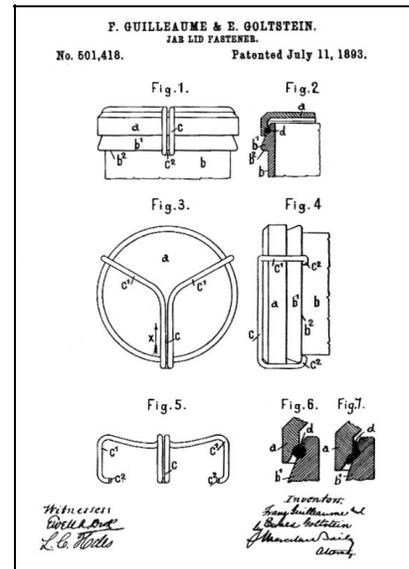


Figure 13 – Guilleaume & Ewald Goltstein 1893 patent

was for a three-pronged clamp to fasten a metal lid to a jar finish. The pair had also patented the clamp in Germany, Belgium, France, and Austria-Hungary. This was almost certainly the invention that catapulted the Imperial Packing Co. into the lead in processed meats packed in glass.

William A. Lorenz 1899 Patent

The second type was a different style of jar, with virtually no neck and a metal lid with no clamp. This jar had the same front plate design, but the base was embossed either “BEACH NUT PACKING COMPANY No. 1 SEALED UNDER U.S. PATENT No. 639,680 DEC 9 1899 CANAJOHARIE, N.Y.” or “PATENTED IN U.S. OCT 23, 1900” (see Figure 12). The jar with the 1899 patent was first made in that year, and the baseplates were likely used until they wore out or were replaced with the 1900 baseplates. They were probably only used until the molds wore out and were replaced by generic jars with paper labels and possibly “B.N.P.Co.” baseplates.

August 5, 1899, William A. Lorenz of Hartford, Connecticut, applied for a patent for a “Jar Sealing Apparatus.” He received Patent No. 639680 on December 19, 1899 (Figure 14). The patent was for a device to hermetically seal a jar without any clamp needed to retain the lid. This connection may have been the impetus (or at least a contributing factor) for the formation of Hartford-Fairmont 13 years later (see below). The timing of the patent is also interesting, since 1899 was the year that the firm shifted from being the Imperial Packing Co. to the Beech-Nut Packing Co.

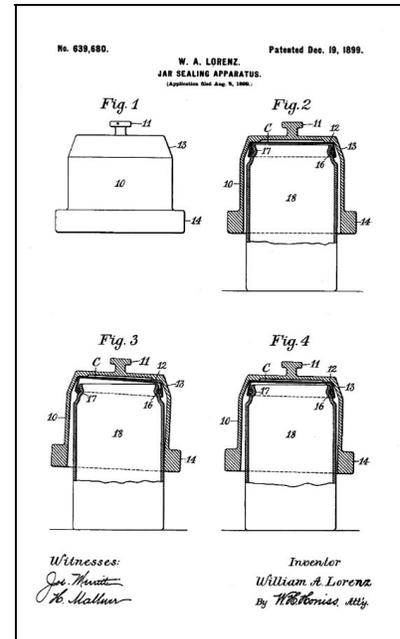


Figure 14 – Lorenz 1889 patent

William A. Lorenz 1900 Patent

Although Creswick showed this final embossed variation on the same style as the first jar (see Figure 12), an eBay example showed the second type (Figure 15). This jar was embossed “PATENTED IN U.S. / OCT. 23 1900” above the plate on the shoulder and had either the same

baseplate as on the first jar or “No. 1” on the base. This was apparently an alteration of the second (or possibly first) jars with the new lettering added above the plate with a new baseplate. The molds were probably altered in 1900 and used until they wore out.

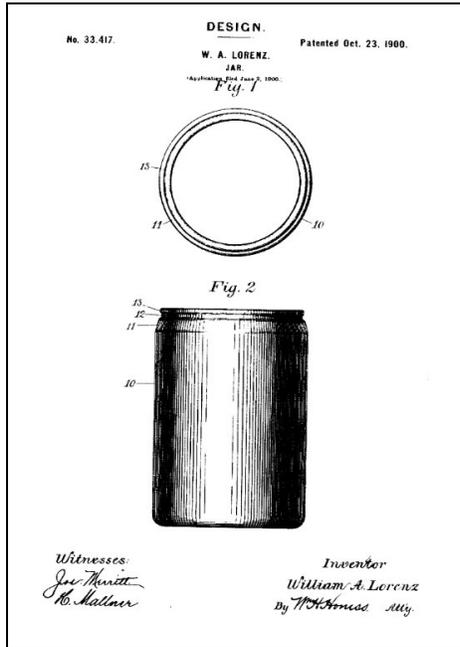


Figure 16 – Lorenz 1900 patent

Lorenz applied for a patent for a “Design for a Jar” on June 2, 1900, and received Design Patent No. 33,417 on October 23, 1900 (Figure 16). This was the design of the second type of jar with the almost neckless finish. Combined with the finish and closure used for the seal in Lorenz’ 1899 patent, the new jars provided a different “face” for Beech-Nut products.



Figure 15 – Second style jar (eBay)

Although Toulouse was unclear, Imperial (and later Beech-Nut) almost certainly did not make glass jars. However, Beech-Nut combined with the Monongah Glass Co., Fairmont, West Virginia, in 1912 to form the

Hartford-Fairmont Co. to develop better closures and glass methods to seal meat jars. The firm branched into the glass machine business and became Hartford-Empire in 1922, one of the largest glass machine makers in the world, eventually phasing into Emhart – still in business in 2016 (Toulouse 1971:91-92). It is possible that Monongah, a glass house that typically made tableware, produced some of the Beech-Nut jars at some point. See Table 1 for a chronology of the variations.

Table 1 – Beech Nut Packing Co. Jar Variations

Front Embossing*	Base Embossing	Finish	Dates
{Beech Nut} plate	PATENTED JULY 11 TH / I.P.C. / 1893	Longer neck	1893-ca. 1899
{Beech Nut} plate	BEACH NUT PACKING COMPANY No. 1 SEALED UNDER U.S. PATENT No. 639,680 DEC 9 1899 CANAJOHARIE, N.Y.	Short neck	1899-ca. 1900
{Beech Nut} plate	PATENTED IN U.S. OCT 23, 1900	Short neck	1900-?
PATENTED IN U.S. / OCT. 23 1900 above {Beech Nut} plate	Unembossed	Short neck	1900-?

* Each plate was embossed BEECH NUT TRADE MARK with a drawing of a beech nut and leaves in the center.

User

Imperial Packing Co., Canajoharie, New York (ca. 1891-1899)

Walter H. Lipe initially smoked ham and bacon at his home in Canajoharie, New York, but he joined with several friends to form a corporation with capital of \$10,000 on February 10, 1891. The board elected Bartlett Arkell, the majority stockholder, as the firm’s first president. The firm became the Imperial Packing Co., named after a favorite restaurant in New York City, but the name changed to the Beech-Nut Packing Co. in 1899. Imperial was the first company to use jars with no mechanical closing devices for meat, and bacon was one of the first items to be packaged in a glass container (Toulouse 1971:90; Zumwalt 1980:44).

Beech-Nut Packing Co., Canajohari, New York (1899-present)

In 1899, Imperial Packing Co. became the Beech-Nut Packing Co. The firm packed jams and preserves in glass in 1901, with peanut butter joining the glass parade in 1904, catsup and chili sauce in 1908, ginger ale in 1917, and baby food in 1931. Beech-Nut included coffee in the glass-packaged products during World War II (Toulouse 1917:90-91; Zumwalt 1980:44).

Beginning in 1956 and accelerating dramatically during the 1970s, Beech-Nut became the scene of at least 16 splits and mergers that continued to the present. A major flood damaged the plant – and much of the town – in 2006, prompting the Hero Group, a Swiss firm that acquired Beech-Nut a year earlier, to move the plant. In 2009, the Beach-Nut Nutrition Corp., by then the second-largest manufacturer of baby food in the U.S., relocated its factory out of Canajoharie to Florida, New York (Barth 2009; Wikipedia 2016b).

B.N.P.Co.



Figure 18 – Ginger Ale (eBay)

Toulouse (1971:89) listed “BNPCo” as being used by the Beech-Nut Packing Co. from ca. 1920 to ca. 1940. Several eBay auctions included photos of ginger ale bottles embossed “BEECH NUT CANAJOHARIE, N.Y.” around the shoulder, “REG. U.S. PAT. OFF.” on the heel, and “B.N.P.CO. (arch) / A / 16 (both horizontal)” on the base (Figures 17 & 18). Of course, other numbers could replace the “16.” Toulouse described the bottle



Figure 17 – B.N.P.Co. (eBay)

and said that the logo was also on “various jars for peanut butter and for baby food.”

I-R&CO (ca. 1890-1910)

An eBay auction featured an aqua export beer bottle with a one-part finish that was embossed “F. BERNHARD (arch) / CANAL DOVER (horizontal) / OHIO (inverted arch)” in a round plate on the front and “I-R&CO” horizontally across the base (Figure 19). Von Mechow (2016) listed the same bottle and dated it ca. 1890-1910, but he did not know the maker. Even a search through the comprehensive Roller files has failed to discover any glass house with these initials. The initials probably refer to a short-lived jobber or supply business.

Van Wieren (1995:265) listed F. Bernhardt & Bro. 1875-1877, followed by Fred. Bernhardt 1877-1896, when the firm became the Dover Brewing Co. The brewery probably remained in the family, however, since Christian Bernhardt (or Bernard) was listed for 1902-1904. If these listings were correct, then the “F. BERNHARD” bottle was made between 1877 and 1896, which suggests that the “I-R” jobber or glass house was also open during that period.

IRON CLAD (ca. 1887-1911)

The Dairy Antiques site (2016) listed “IRON CLAD” as the mark for the Iron Clad Mfg. Co. (actually, Ironclad Mfg. Co.) While this mark almost certainly appeared on milk cans, it is highly unlikely that the firm made or commissioned any bottles of any sort. The company was a manufacturer of metal products.

Manufacturer

Ironclad Mfg. Co., New York (at least 1887-1911)

Robert Seaman incorporated the Ironclad Mfg. Co. at some point prior to December 21, 1887 – the date of the first lawsuit against the firm that we have been able to find. The suit was over a soda fountain unit made by Ironclad. The dairy connection concerned a 1905 lawsuit by Ironclad against the Orange County Milk Assn. over the alleged infringement of Patent No 607,433 – for the construction and reinforcement of the neck of the milk can – issued to Henry B Haigh on July 19, 1898, and assigned to the Ironclad Mfg. Co. The court granted the injunction (West Publishing Co. 1905).

Seaman married Nellie Bly, noted New York reporter, who then became Elizabeth Seaman. Upon Seaman’s death on March 11, 1904, Elizabeth took control of the firm, along with the American Steel Barrel Co., a companion business also controlled by Seaman. Ironclad



Figure 19 – I-R&CO bottle (eBay)

eventually ran into problems and was dissolved under involuntary bankruptcy by the courts on November 27, 1911. A year later, the courts questioned the connection between Ironclad and Steel Barrel, ordering Elizabeth Seaman to turn over the

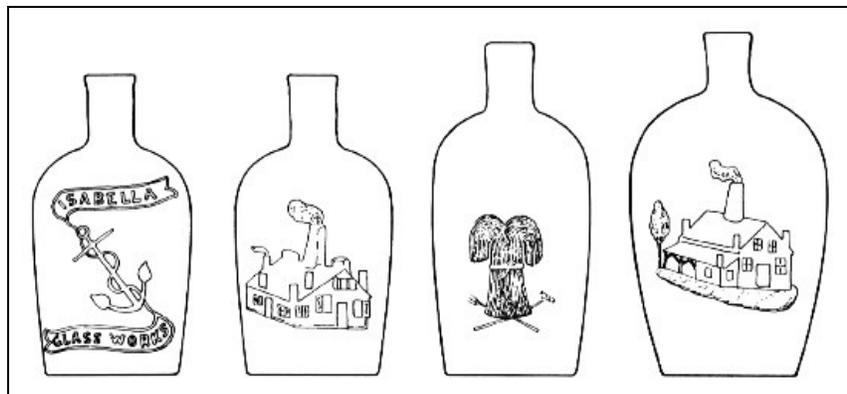


Figure 20 – Isabella flasks (McKearin and Wilson 1978:135, 665)

Steel Barrel books – an order she ignored. On June 14, 1912, a judge found the Barrel Company to be in contempt of court, assessing a \$2,500 fine – which she also ignored. The transcript noted that Seaman had been “repeatedly contumacious when under examination, flippant, defiant, impertinent, evasive, and self contradictory” (Justia 2016; Lewis 2016; West Publishing Co. 1913; 1912). We have not found the final disposition of the Steel Barrel Co., nor is it pertinent to this study.

ISABELLA GLASS WORKS (1850s-1870s)

Freeman (1964:107), Pepper (1971:58), and McKearin and Wilson (1978:135, 665) all listed flasks marked “ISABELLA / {anchor} / GLASS WORKS” with all of the words encased in pennants (Figures 20 & 21). Each flask had either a factory or a sheaf of grain embossed on the reverse. The anchor and pennants were very similar to the design found on flasks embossed with the Baltimore Glass Works and Spring Garden Glass Works names – although there seems to be no relationship between these two plants and Isabella (McKearin & Wilson 1978:665-666). McKearin and Wilson (1978:135) dated the flasks “1850 – possibly 1860 or 1870.”



Figure 21 – Isabella flasks (Norman Heckler)

Manufacturer

Isabella Glass Works, New Brooklyn, New Jersey (1848-at least 1873)

In 1848, Thomas Sanger built the Isabella Glass Works with one furnace and seven pots, naming the plant the Isabella Glass Works after one of his daughters. The property was eventually also called the New Brooklyn Glass Works, to distinguish it from an earlier nearby plant. Job Norcross and Isaac W. Barton rented the property in 1856. Clayton B. Tice and Joseph Ayers rented or bought the works in 1858 and operated the plant until 1868, closing the factory that year because of a strike. Sanger appears to have returned by 1870 and continued to produce glass until 1876, when the plant may again have failed – although some bottles may have been sold as late as 1884 (McKearin & McKearin 1941:605; McKearin & Wilson 1978:134; Van Rensselaer 1969:144).

Pepper (1971:57-58), however, cited the *Woodbury Constitution* that the *Old Brooklyn Glass Works* had burned in 1856, and C.B. Tice purchased the property, operating the plant until 1868. She suggested that Sanger continued to run the New Brooklyn factory “for some time; he did not die until 1892, aged 91.” *Historical American Glass* (2016) also claimed that the plant opened in 1841, a date nine years earlier than that espoused by any other source. Unfortunately, the author did not cite his sources, so we cannot determine the accuracy of this new date. The site also showed paper money issued by the New Brooklyn Glass Works (Figure 22).



Figure 22 – New Brooklyn money (Historical American Glass)

As frequently happens, much of the above information is contradictory, and it is clear that there will have to be some on-the-scene original research to reveal the real story. One thing

that no one has addressed is the name change. Since the factory money was printed with the New Brooklyn Glass Works name *and* the surrounding town was named New Brooklyn, that was probably not a casual or alternative moniker. These bills probably indicate a renaming of the plant at some point. If we can discover that point, we will know a great deal more about dating the Isabella Glass Works flasks. It would also be nice to have a better handle on the closing of the factory.

ISGCo (1901-1903)

Mobley (2004) listed a single mouth-blown beer bottle (tooled crown finish) with ISGCo embossed on the base, and Wood (1998:[83]) illustrated a single new Mexico Hutchinson bottle embossed ISGCo 59 on the reverse heel. The Bottle Research Group found another Hutchinson bottle with an ISGCo heelmark at the Tucson Urban Renewal collection. The mark also occasionally showed up on eBay.



Figure 23 – ISGCo (Kelly Bottle House)



Figure 24 – ISGCo (eBay)

Bill Lindsey discovered several bases with “ISGCo” basemarks in the walls of the Tom Kelly bottle house at Rhyolite, Nevada (Figure 23), and at least one hobble-skirt Coca-Cola bottle (from Kansas City, Missouri) had a logo of “ISGCO” (Figure 24). Note the inconsistency. The Coke bottle had a capital “O” in “CO.” – while the ones on the bases at the bottle house each had a lower case “o.” At least two of the bottle house bases were double stamps, a phenomenon generally in use between ca. 1895 and 1914 that we have discussed in the American Bottle Co. section. None of the examples we have seen had punctuation.

At least three firms were named Interstate Glass Co., although Tom Neff identified the Kansas City Interstate as the user of the ISGCo mark, noting that all soda bottles found on the Interstate Glass Co. factory site were either marked ISGCo or had unembossed bases. These bottles found at the Kansas City site provided an excellent empirical basis for the identification.

Manufacturer

Interstate Glass Co., Kansas City, Missouri (1901-1903)

On August 9, 1901, Joseph J. Heim, Louis E. Pitts, Harry Rankin, Jefferson D. Riddell, and William F. Modes incorporated the Interstate Glass Co., with Heim as president, Pitts, as treasurer, and Rankin as secretary. Located at the Southwest corner of Guinotte Ave. and Brooklyn Ave., the factory was just five blocks from the Ferd Heim Brewing Co., owned by three brothers, Joseph J., Michael and Ferdinand Heim Jr. (Willoughby 2015).

Since the brewery bought 40 railcar loads of beer bottles each year, the family almost certainly opened the glass house to produce its own bottles – as well as containers for the local trade. Modes, an experienced glass man, probably supervised the construction of the factory and managed the plant, which lit the fires on September 26, 1901 and began production the following month, making beer, whiskey, and druggists' bottles, with plans to add fruit jars. A fire ignited on October 30, and the newspaper speculated that it was an arson attempt by some boys who had been laid off. A more successful attempt destroyed the wooden buildings on July 10, 1902, although firemen saved the warehouse and its bottles (Willoughby 2015).

The plant was insured for \$50,000, so the firm rebuilt the factory, beginning production again on September 17, 1902. At some point, the Obear-Nester Glass Co. purchased the plant and closed it on March 19, 1903. Obear-Nester refurbished the factory for a planned reopening on September 1, but a huge flood damaged the plant – along with the entire Kansas City business district – on May 30, causing the opening to be delayed until later that year (Willoughby 2015). See the section on Obear-Nester for more information.

IXL (ca. 1921-ca. 1923)

Toulouse (1971:271) noted that the IXL Glass Bottle Co. used the “IXL” mark from 1921 to 1923. According to Toulouse, the mark appeared on mustard and horseradish jars made for the Morehouse Co. Eastin (1965:26) illustrated a machine-made Morehouse mustard jar embossed on the base with “IXL” (Figure 23). According to Eastin (1965:25), Miles and Maggie Morehouse began production at their farmhouse on the outskirts of Monee, Illinois during the

late 1800s. The family later moved to Chicago and opened a grocery store, where they continued to make jams, jellies, and other canned products. The family eventually moved to California and set up their first plant.

Horseradish.org, (2016), however, told a different story. Miles Morehouse and his son, Lou, formally started Morehouse Foods, Inc., at Chicago in 1898. The senior Morehouse moved to Los Angeles in 1913, followed by his son five years later, and the company became the first mustard producer on the West Coast. The Latter family became partners in the firm in 1919 and opened a second Morehouse plant opened at Emoryville, California. The Latter family gained control of the company in 1969, and the firm remains in business in 2016. Eastin also illustrated a Morehouse jar made by the Illinois-Pacific Glass Co., another California company.

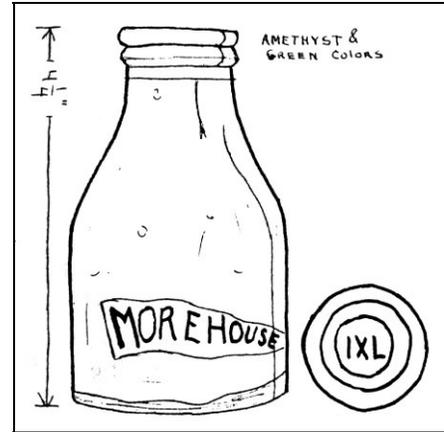


Figure 25 – IXL mustard (Eastin 1965:26)



Figure 26 – IXL Florida Water (eBay)

After extensive searching on eBay, we have found this mark used on numerous bottles – generally as part of the label on the

bodies of the containers, occasionally as a basemark (Figure 24). However, even a cursory search reveals dozens (probably hundreds) of historic firms using the IXL initials. The obvious interpretation of the initials is the phrase “I excel.”

The IXL Glass Bottle Mfg. Co. was in business at just the right time to have made the Morehead jar (1921-ca. 1923). However, we also found the basemark on other containers such as cobalt-blue poison bottles (Figure 25). It seems unlikely that the IXL firm would have



Figure 27 – IXL basemarks (eBay)

made cobalt blue bottles – although it is possible. The only conclusion we can reach is that IXL *basemarks* may indicate production by the IXL Glass Bottle Mfg. Co., but IXL initials on other parts of bottles were so placed at the request of the bottlers or packers.

Possible Manufacturer

IXL Glass Bottle Mfg. Co., Inglewood, California (1921-ca. 1923)

The IXL Glass Bottle Mfg. Co. filed its incorporation papers on September 16, 1920 , with M. Pelssa Kovich, Isidore Revnes, Mever Fink, Aaron J. Winetz, A. E. Muchlno, H Kroll, and E V Rosenkram as incorporators – although the firm probably did not produce bottles until 1921 (Articles of Association; *Los Angeles Times* 9/9/1920). The IXL Glass Bottle Mfg. Co. was listed as making glass bottles at 524 Mission Rd. (Los Angeles) in 1924.– the last mention we can find (California Development Assoc. 1924:249). The incorporation papers, however, were stamped “FORFEITED March 1, 1924, almost certainly confirming the cessation of business prior to that date.

Discussion and Conclusions

Although unusual, we have positive identifications and approximate dates for all of the “Other I” marks – with the single exception of the I-R&Co logo.

Acknowledgments

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