Other S Marks

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As with the previous volumes, there are always some logos that do not fit in with major manufacturers or typical use – as well as some we cannot place with users or makers. We have addressed these below.

Containers and Marks

S (with and without serifs)

We have found a variety of bottles and jars marked with a lone letter “S” on the base or body. Some of these also had other logos that identified the manufacturer, but others were only embossed with the letter. We have described and discussed these in the Mysterious Letter S section.

S in a square, SB in a diamond, SO in a diamond, SS in a diamond

Toulouse (1971:455) illustrated all of these marks, “found on various bottles,” but he had no idea of the makers or users (Figure 1). The diamond around the SP and SO were the “turned square” variations (i.e., a square rotated 45 degrees), and the one around SS was an elongated diamond. We have not seen any of these marks, so we have no context for them. Although the Square-S may have been a manufacturer’s mark, we suspect that the others were the logos of product companies rather than glass houses. A number of food manufacturers had initials that would fit these logos. Zumwalt (1980:366), for example, illustrated a bottle with an SB monogram (Schillings Best) and several others that could fit, but she did not identify any of the specific marks. See the discussion on SB Monogram in a Circle below.
S in a triangle

This mark was part of the GOLDEN-STATE jar logos (Creswick 1987b:58-59; Toulouse 1969:135-136; 1971:226) used by the Schloss Mfg. Co. (Figure 2). Peterson (1968:44) noted that the Triangle-S was “an integrated part” of the logo. See the Other G section for information about the firm and the GOLDEN-STATE logo.

S in a Shield (poss. ca. 1897-1899, maybe as late as 1903)

The Shield-S logo has appeared on at least three notably different bottle types (Edison battery oil, export beer, and pumpkinseed flask), and von Mechow (2019) noted that “It is believed that this mark is for the Streeter Glass Company” – although he did not explain who believed that or why (Figure 3). Streeter probably used the logo from ca. 1879-1899, when he operated at Greenfield, Indiana, under his own name, but he may have continued to use the mark in the Terre Haute Glass Mfg. Co. from 1900 to 1903. Unfortunately, we have not found a comprehensive list of Streeter’s products to match up with the known Shield-S logos. The three bottles listed by von Mechow were filled in Chicago and Dallas City, Illinois, and Terre Haute, Indiana. The one that we located on eBay was filled in Cincinnati, Ohio. All of these are convergent with a manufacture at either of Streeter’s factories.

Possible Manufacturer

Streeter Jar & Bottle Works, Greenfield, Indiana (ca. 1897-1899)

The Streeter Glass Co. may have opened in 1897. The plant, listed as the Streeter Jar & Bottle Works in a 1901 Indiana report, instituted a lockout against its workers December 19,
1898, the same day that the Redkey and Swayzee glass firms took similar action. The labor dispute was not resolved until March 31 of the following year. Streeter was a member of a fruit jar combine that never took off in 1900. The firm was also listed as H.W. Streeter, but the plant had moved to Terre Haute by January of 1900 (von Mechow 2019).

**Terre Haute Glass Mfg. Co., Terre Haute, Indiana (1900-ca. 1903)**

Streeter moved the glass business to Terre Haute January of 1900 and incorporated the Terre Haute Glass Mfg. Co. on January 20, 1900, with himself, W.C. Doak, Frank McKeen, T.G. New, and H.H. McLane as incorporators. The *Terre Haute Express* discussed the firm in October 1900, noting that Harry W. Streeter was the president with H.H. McLane as secretary. The firm was casually called the Streeter Glass Co. The plant made fruit jars and green bottles at a single furnace. By May of 1903, however, the firm was in the hands of a receiver. Streeter died suddenly on May 19, 1904, and the Root Glass Co. purchased the business in October of 1905, selling it to the Ball Brothers on November 9, 1909. For more information on the Root operation of the plant, see the section on the Root Glass Co.

**S in a Hexagon**

The Hexagon-S logo appeared on a machine-made, colorless base embossed “FISHMAN” above the symbol – another unsolved mystery (Figure 4). See the Mysterious Letter S section for a discussion.

**SAFETY (1891-1896)**

Toulouse (1969:268) suggested that jars only marked “SAFETY” on the sides were made both by hand and machine by the Salem Glass Works (see section on Salem for more information on the firm). Roller (1983:313; 2011:458) illustrated the Safety jar but identified the manufacturer as the Nelson Glass Co., Muncie, Indiana, with dates from 1891 to 1896 (Figure 5).
He noted that Nelson Glass had registered the trademark for SAFETY on April 5, 1892, claiming a first use on December 1, 1891. Roller illustrated an 1892 ad for the jar from Nelson (Figure 6).

Creswick (1987a:187) also illustrated the same amber jar and added that Irenaeus P. Nelson applied for a patent on December 30, 1891, and received Patent No. 474,756 on May 10, 1892, for a “Jar Sealing Device” (Figure 7). The patent dealt with the inclined grooves in the jar neck for the ends of the wire bail (see Figure 5). Nelson filed for another patent – also for a “Jar Sealing Device” – on September 30, 1891, and received Patent No. 478,126 on July 5, 1892, assigning one-half to George McCulloch. This patent added a metal band around the neck rather than the debossed slots for the wire bail. It is interesting that Nelson applied for the second patent two months before he received the first one.

Caniff (2007:6-7) noted that the Nelson Glass Co. made the Safety Fruit Jar from the inception of the company in 1891 until ca. 1893. Roller (1994:76), however, cited a company letterhead advertising jars in late 1895. North American Glass photos showed that some lids were embossed “PATENT APPLIED FOR” (Figure 8).
Manufacturer

Nelson Glass Co., Muncie, Indiana (1891-1896)

Roller (1983:313; 2011:458) noted that the firm was listed in the Muncie city directories at Pierce and Sullivan Streets from 1893 to 1896 – with C.N. Wilcoxon as president, G.F. McCulloch as vice president, and A.E. Smith as secretary. However, the firm was in business at least as early as April 5, 1892, when it received the word “Safety” as a trademark. The company claimed a use from December 1, 1891, suggesting a business date by that time. The company also posted an ad by at least May 4, 1892. Irenaeus P. Nelson put in his first patent application on September 30, 1891, suggesting that the firm incorporated specifically to produce or market his invention.

The factory caught fire on January 22, 1895, as the plant was “being changed from a green to a flint factory.” Fortunately, everyone escaped unharmed, and the fire department extinguished the blaze with damage of only a “few thousand dollars, covered by insurance.” The following year, on November 9, the Muncie Flint Glass Company purchased the operation for $20,000 (Indianapolis Journal 1/23/1895; 11/10/1896). The plant almost certainly lost its Nelson identity with the purchase.

SAFETY (slight arch) (ca. 1883-ca. 1890s)

An earlier Safety fruit jar was embossed “CUMBERLAND GLASS WORKS BRIDGETON, N.J.” on the base – leaving no question about its maker (Figures 9 & 10). Roller (1983:314; 2011:458) dated the jar ca. 1880s-1890s. Creswick (1987a:188) also discussed the Cumberland SAFETY jar but illustrated a different style from the one shown in Roller (Figure 11). The markings and patent date, however, were identical. She only dated the jar ca. 1883 and
added that the glass lid was embossed “PAT NOV 27 83” in an arch on the underside. Albert S. Lambert of Bridgeton received Patent No. 289,276 for the closure on November 27, 1883. See the section on Cumberland Glass Mfg. Co. for information about the company.

**SAMCO (1931-1951)**

Toulouse (1969:271-272; 1971:460) illustrated the Samco mark (in cursive) embossed in a small, circular plate above “Genuine (upwardly slanted) / MASON” (Figure 12). The colorless jars were machine made in a rounded square design. Toulouse included a second variation, also colorless but round in cross-section, embossed “Samco (upwardly slanted cursive) / SUPER / MASON (both horizontal)” on the front (Figure 13). He dated both jars ca. 1920-1940 in his earlier book but rethought the dates to 1946-1951 in his latter work. He suggested the Illinois Glass Co. and Illinois-Pacific Glass Co. as possible manufacturers, based on the use of “Genuine” by Illinois-Pacific (see the Illinois-Pacific section for a discussion). In his latter book, he stated the Glenshaw Glass Co. made the jars, citing information from the Glenshaw company.

Roller (1983:317) noted that the Knox Glass Bottle Co. could have been the maker of the jars in the 1940s and listed three different lids for the Samco Genuine Mason (with a fourth from Roller 2011):

1. Samco embossed on the top of a milkglass lid
2. Samco SUPER-SEAL TRADE MARK REG. U.S. PAT. OFF. MASON Fits All Standard Jars
Roller (1983:317) also added a “Samco / SUPER JAR” as well as the “Samco / SUPER MASON.” He noted that Mallinger registered the Samco trade mark (No. 298,704) for fruit jars on November 1, 1932, and claimed that it had been used since August 1, 1931. He stated that Mallinger was listed as “a manufacturer of fruit jar caps, a distributor of bottles and jars, and a wholesaler of new and used bottles.” Roller speculated that Knox Glass Bottle Co. may have made the jars during the 1940s and added a variation with “JAR” embossed in an oval plate and another with “MASON” embossed in an oval plate.

Creswick (1987b:116-117) illustrated all of these variations and noted the trade mark dates (Figure 14). Based on the first use date and the Toulouse end date, a range of 1931 to 1951 is probably reasonable. Roller (2011:462) added a variation with “National” ghosted below “Samco” on the front. The “National SUPER MASON” jars were superficially similar to the “Samco SUPER MASON” – but the National jars were square, where the Samco ones were round. Although we have not discovered the producer of either jar, it is possible that the same glass house made them, and one of the mold makers accidentally engraved “National” on a round jar – then corrected his mistake. See Other M for information on the “MALLINGER” logo and information on Sam Mallinger’s enterprises.

According to Kath (1998:40-41), one of the Pennsylvania plants of the Knox Glass Bottle Co. was the likely manufacturer of the Samco jars. Knox made a jar that was identical to the Genuine Mason except that it had a cursive “Knox” in the small plate mold instead of “Samco.”
SB or S8

A colorless, machine-made bottle from the Tucson Urban Renewal collection was embossed “SB” or “S8” (Figure 15). We have not discovered any information about this logo. This could possibly be the “SB” logo noted by Griffenhagen and Bogard (1999:127-128) and discussed in the Swindell Brothers section, although Griffenhagen and Bogard suggested punctuation behind the initials, and there are none on this bottle.

SB Monogram (1895-ca. 1920)

This monogram was embossed on an oval, colorless, machine-made base above “26.” The monogram consists of a letter “S” with a smaller “B” superimposed over the upper half—all in a circle (Figure 16). This was very likely a variation of the Schilling SB monogram. A Schillings & Co. received Trademark No. 9,283 and 9,292 for the term “Schilling’s / Best” on coffee and other products on June 27, 1905. A note says the mark was “used ten years”—presumably meaning had been used for ten years prior to receiving the trademark. The firm made coffee, tea, spices, and other products. The SB monogram was embossed on the sides various types of glass bottles, so the basemark was possibly also from Schilling (Figure 17). Also see the discussion of the SB Monogram in the Swindell Brothers section for a possible alternate explanation.
A. Schilling & Co., San Francisco, California (1881-1947)

Soon after August Schilling moved from Germany to San Francisco in 1870, he became an employee of J.A. Folger & Co., working his way into a partnership with Folger as Folger, Schilling & Co. When the partnership dissolved in 1881, Schilling, joined by George F. Volkmann (also a former Folger employee) to form A. Schilling & Co. on September 8, 1881. Schilling controlled two-thirds of the partnership. Located at 122 Davis St., the partners produced coffee, tea, baking powder, spices, extracts, and other items (Volkmann 1959).

The firm soon moved to 108-112 Market St., and began using the brand name “Schilling’s Best,” moving again, building an office and factory at the corner of Second and Folsom Streets, dedicated on December 1, 1903. The partners incorporated under the same name exactly three years later on December 1, 1905. On April 18, 1906, the Great San Francisco Earthquake destroyed the Schilling plant. Away in the East at the time, Schilling began construction of a new plant in New York City, making arrangements to have other firms make Schilling products until the company was back on its feet. Meanwhile, Volkmann began reestablishing the San Francisco business and had it operational a year later (Volkmann 1959).

At some point, probably about 1920, the firm eliminated all other brands, so “Schilling’s Best” seemed inappropriate. Instead, the packages were labeled “A Schilling Product.” August Schilling died on August 1, 1934, and the Volkmann family acquired the remaining stock in the firm and dissolved the corporation on December 31, 1940, operating the company as a partnership. When George Volkmann died on December 9, 1945, the family dissolved the partnership on December 31 and again incorporated on January 1, 1946. On December 1, 1946, Daniel Volkmann, Chairman of the Board, and the other directors sold the firm to McCormick & Co., ending an era (Volkmann 1959).

S&B or S&P (poss. 1849-1852)

Carol Serr discovered a base fragment embossed “S&B or S&P” below a mamelon or dot in the center of a light aqua base (Figure 18). The bottle appears to have been mouth blown.
Toulouse (1971:460) identified the manufacturer as Sweeney and Bell, Wheeling, West Virginia, 1849-1852. The firm was composed of Thomas Sweeney, his son, A.J. Sweeney, and Joseph Bell, producing cut glass. Serr’s base appeared to be from a bottle but may have been the base of a vase or tableware container. A later glass house, Sweeney, Bell & Co., also made cut glass from 1863 to 1868, but this, too, seems an unlikely bottle producer. Toulouse (1971:460-461) noted a mark of “SB&Co” from this later firm. The partners in the later one “Michael Sweeney, James Phillip, James McCluney, and Joseph Bell leased the North Wheeling factory from T. Sweeney (Michael’s brother) & Son.” When the group closed the North Wheeling plant, they continued to run one at Martin’s Ferry, Ohio, that they had opened in 1861.

**S-B / F in a Diamond**

At the Tucson Urban Renewal collection, we found a colorless, mouth-blown oval bottle embossed on the base with “S-B / F” in a Diamond (Figure 19). Although “SB” could equal the Swindell Brothers, there is no intuitive connection for the “F.” It seems more likely that “SB-F” indicated the initials of the packer who filled the bottle.

**S.B.M.** (ca. 1890-1920)

Ross Way sent us an example of a colorless, machine-made base (solarized amethyst), from a round container, embossed “S.B.M.” with several dots of various sizes (Figure 20). The base was composed of thick glass, probably a milk bottle – so these may be the initials of the dairy owner. One base was found at Fallon, Nevada, the other on Edwards Air Force Base in California’s Mojave Desert.
Whitten (2019a) reported the mark as “unknown/unidentified. Reported on the base of both a flask and a cylindrical “fifth” liquor bottle with “brandy” style lip, both in very light amethyst. Appears to date from the 1890-1920 period. This mark might stand for either a distiller or a glass maker.” We add that the initials could also indicate a distributor, probably in Los Angeles or San Francisco.

**SC (1898-1899)**

According to Teal (2005:102, 149), the Spring City Glass Works. Spring City, Pennsylvania, “produced thirteen carloads of quart, round, flint palmetto tree bottles for the [South Carolina] Dispensary” in 1898 or early 1899. By that time, the Dispensary require glass houses to include their initials or logos – in this case “SC.” Typically, Spring City did not use a manufacturer’s mark. Toulouse (1971:464) identified the Scottish Central Glass Works, Killiebank, Alloa, Scotland, as the user of “SC” initials, dates unknown. He found two entries for the frim in 1925 and 1928. He had no other information.

**Manufacturer**

**Spring City Glass Works, Ltd., Spring City, Pennsylvania (ca. 1895-1921)**

The Spring City Glass Works elected George Anderson as president, Josiah Wescott as vice president, George Diemer as secretary, and Joseph Carney as treasurer on August 7, 1895. By 1908, Wescott had moved into the presidential position, with W.G. Klein as secretary, J.L. Keyser as treasurer, and O.G. Finkbiner as manager; the plant made glass at a single continuous tank with 12 rings. In July 1921, *Glass Industry* reported that Spring City had dissolved the partnership between Anthony Van Hook, Andrew Keyser, George W. Clevenger, Josiah Wescott, Charles W. Currenden, and William G. Kline.

**Spring City Bottle Co., Inc., Spring City, Pennsylvania (1921-ca. 1922)**

The *Glass Industry* issue for September 1921 noted that the former Spring City Glass Works had incorporated as the Spring City Bottle Co. with John Keyser as president, Arthur Wescott as vice president, William G. Klein as secretary, Clarence O. Grander as treasurer, and
O.G. Finkbinder continuing as manager (Roller 1997). The Industrial Directory for 1922 still listed the Spring City Bottle Co. as making glass bottles, but we have not discovered any later reference to the firm (Gotchall & Woodward 1922:775).

**S&C (1825-1828)**

The S&C mark only appeared on the front heel of a single Lafayette flask. The reverse depicted a bust of De Witt Clinton with “C-T” below it. The “C-T” is identical to the “COVENTRY” and “C-T” markings on other Lafayette flasks. The initials indicate Stebbins & Chamberlin, the owners of the Coventry Glass Works from 1825 to 1828 (McKearin & Wilson 1978:111, 544-545; Toulouse 1971:464-465). For photos, drawings, and a history of the glass house, see the section on the Coventry Glass Works. Also, the “S&S” logo discussed below was used by the same plant.

**SC&Co**

We have seen the “SC&Co” logo on a mouth-blown, honey-amber flask base offered on eBay (Figure 21). A discussion on Antique Bottles.net described an aqua medicinal or household bottle with the same basal initials. These may be the initials of a currently unknown glass house, a jobber, or the firm that filled the bottles.

**SCGW (1908-at least 1951)**

Ellen Gerth reported the “SCGW” logo on a champagne beer bottle from the wreck of the *Raj*, a British merchant ship that was torpedoed in 1941 (Figure 22). The logo was likely from a British factory. See Kingsley (2018) for more information about the *Raj*. This may have been the mark of the Scottish Central Glass Works, Ltd., Alloa, Scotland (Toulouse 1971:586).
Manufacturer

Scottish Central Glass Works, Ltd., Kelliebank, Alloa, Scotland (1908-1951)

George Younger and Son, Ltd., an old established British brewing firm, grew tired of the continuing struggle to find high-quality bottles for its beer and determined to construct its own glass works at Kellibank, Alloa, Scotland, in 1908. The firm reworked a cooperage into a factory, operating semiautomatic machines, and began production that October. The plant added a second furnace in 1911 and a third in 1914 (Grace’s Guide 2019).

A major change occurred in 1919, when George Younger and Son joined with three other large Scottish breweries to form the Scottish Central Glass Works, Ltd. The new firm used fully automatic machine, continuous tanks, a new gas-producer plant, and a new production shop. The plant again modernized in 1948 with new furnaces, continuous tanks, and machinery (Grace’s Guide 2019).

The 1951 Directory for the British Glass Industry provided a cameo look at the organization. The plant had two furnaces, fired with producer gas created from coal, making beer, wine, and mineral water bottles. Captain J.P. Younger was the chairman and managing director, with J.D. Henderson as secretary. Additional directors included Viscount Younger of Leckie, G. Eadie, H.G. Younger, R. Bruce, J.A. Yeaman, W. McEwan Younger, and W.B. Duthrie (Grace’s Guide 2019). Although this was the most recent source we have found, the firm probably remained in business for some time.

S.C.I.&W.I. (1901-1902)

According to Teal (2005:112), some miniature souvenir bottles were made for the South Carolina Interstate and West Indian Exposition held at Charleston. The bottles were embossed “SOUVENIR (arch) / S.C.&W.I. EXPOSITION / CHARLESTON, S.C. / 1901-1902 / XXX / RYE / {palmetto tree & crossed logs} / S.C. DISPENSARY (all horizontal) / PATENTED (inverted arch).” Teal had been unable to discover the manufacturer.
S.&D. (ca. 1900-ca. 1930)

For the “S.&D.” mark, Toulouse (1971:466) suggested Sharp & Dohme, “a chemical and medicinal manufacturer, but assumed only because the initials were in the bottom area of a pint, machine-made, oval, medicinal-type bottle.” He dated the mark “circa 1900 or much later.” Richardson & Richardson (1992:162) also identified the “S.&D.” logo as being from Sharp & Dhome – as did examples from eBay, all amber in color. Although the shapes varied (rectangular, square, round) each was embossed on the base with “S.&D.” above a number (Figure 23). All examples we found had punctuation and were mouth blown. Judging by the comparative sizes of the bottles, the numbers were not showing the capacity in ounces (e.g., a small bottle was marked “39”). However, one (see Figure 23) was embossed “7½.”

Griffenhagen & Bogard (1999:127) placed the dates of use at 1860-1920. Whitten (2019a) agreed with the Sharp & Dohme identification, possibly 1900-1930. However, he cautioned that “Steve Hale reports a handmade blob-top beverage bottle, evidently made for soda or beer, marked S & D / 112” on the base. That bottle may have no connection whatsoever with Sharp & Dohme.” However, some druggists bottled flavored waters and may have used soda type bottles for other liquids – so a Sharp & Dohme production remains a possibility.

User

Sharp & Dohme, Baltimore, Maryland (1845-1953)

Beginning in 1845, Alpheus P. Sharp operated a drug store at the corner of Howard and Pratt Streets in Baltimore. His apprentice, Carl F.L. Dohme, began working for Sharp at some point and eventually worked his way into a partnership, when the pair founded Sharp & Dohme in 1860 – the location of Sharp’s drug store. Dohm was only 23 years old at the time. Sharp retired from the business in 1885, and Dohme continued to run the operation, incorporating in 1892 and renovating the plant (O’Dell 2007; Wikipedia 2019).
Sharp & Dohme merged with Merck & Co. in 1953, retaining the Merck name and brand in the U.S. and Canada, while using the name Merck Sharp & Dohme outside North America. The firm continued to grow until the present (Wikipedia 2019).

**SDS** (1862-1865, possibly later)

A horizontal “SDS” mark (or slight inverted arch) was occasionally embossed on the bases of some “U.S. HOSP. DEPT.” quart bottles, generally of aqua color, with applied finishes (Figures 24 & 25). None of the bottles we have seen had manufacturer’s or supplier’s marks. Out of a sample of more than 140 of these bottles at Fort Larned, Kansas (excavated by the Kansas State University between 1984 and 1988 from the hospital privy at Fort Riley, Kansas), we only found four with the SDS mark. We have never discovered the meaning of the “SDS” initials, and Sternad (2010:48) stated that “the exact meaning of these letters remains a mystery” (Lockhart et al. 2012:).

Dalessandro (2011) studied Hospital Department bottles with several variations in the side embossing and reached the conclusion that most of the bottles were made in Pittsburgh with some manufactured at Baltimore. He listed a narrow window for production – 1862-1865 – although some of the bottles continued to be used after the war. Unfortunately, he had no explanation for the “SDS” initials. The Bottle Research Group study of the Fort Riley privy suggested that the bottles with the logos were deposited there during the 1870-1878 period (Lockhart et al. 2012:).
Sebring GLASS WORKS (1973-1974)

The American Bottle Auction offered an apparently mouth-blown bottle embossed “1971 / Sebring (cursive with an underline extending back from the “g” up into the other lettering) / GLASSWORKS” on the base along with numerous dots (Figure 26). The date is our best guess due to the quality of the photograph. The date is also partially obscured by the word “Sebring” and appears to be two years too early.

Manufacturer


Dwight Pettit, Sr., his brother, Jim, sons, Anthony, Dwight, Jr., and Dana, built a small glass factory – Big Pine Key Glass Works – in the mid-1960s on Big Pine Key, Florida (one of the larger of the Florida Keys). The family made moth-blown glass bottles and novelties until the owner of the plant, Lester Cunningham, closed the operation in 1969 (Pettit n.d.).

The family then moved to Plano, Illinois, returning to Florida – Sebring, this time – in September 1972. There, they built another “Old World-style glassworks,” bringing the plant into operation on January 1973. The Dwight pair (Sr., and Jr.) blew paper weights, vases, ashtrays, and other novelties until they closed the little factory in December 1974 (Pettit n.d.). Also see the writeup on Big Pine Key Glass Works in the Other B section.

SGC Monogram

Jay Hawkins sent us a photo of an SCG monogram embossed on an aqua or green base. The monogram consists of a tiny “G” in the upper curl of the “S” with an equally tiny “C” in the lower curl (Figure 27). The manufacturer or user is completely unknown to us. Currently, this mark is totally unexplained.
SGCo

At least four glass houses used the SGCo logo: Southern Glass Co. (Works), Louisville, Kentucky; Severn Glass Co., Annapolis, Maryland; Seattle Glass Co., Renton, Washington; and Southern Glass Co., Vernon (Los Angeles), California. In addition, the Swayzee Glass Co., Swayzee, Indiana, made fruit jars marked on the front with the SGCo monogram. See each of these sections for a full discussion of the firms and their logos and/or the Mysterious Letter S section a condensed look at the mark in all its variations by all the firms.

SHEETS & DUFFY (1860s?)

McKearin and Wilson (1978:131, 662-663, 675) illustrated a flask embossed on one side with a sheaf of grain and the other with “SHEETS & DUFFY” above a star-like design. A strap-sided flask was only embossed “SHEETS & DUFFY (arch) / KENSINGTON (horizontal)” on one side (Figure 28). They noted that Van Rensselaer attributed the flasks to Sheets & Duffy, Upper Yard, Dyottsville, Kensington, Philadelphia. Although the plant was in operation almost 30 years (1845-ca. 1874), these two flasks were the only marked examples discovered by McKearin and Wilson. They suggested that the sheaf-of-grain flask was made during the 1860s.

The spreadsheet reporting the 1984 excavation of the hospital privy at Fort Riley, Kansas, listed a partial bottle base embossed “SHEETS & DUFFY'S GLASS W[ORKS] / [P]HIL.” The enumerator noted that this was a “squatty style liquor bottle, possible sand pontil” but gave no further information.
Manufacturer

Sheets and Duffy, Kensington, Philadelphia (1845-ca. 1874)

Daniel Sheets and Hugh Duffy, experienced glass men, formerly employed by Dr. Dyott, opened the Kensington Vial and Bottle Works in 1845 at what may have been the location of one of Dyott’s former plants. The factory made all kinds of bottles, vials, demijohns, and carboys (McKearin & Wilson 1978:131). According to the Philadelphi Inquirer (6/22/1849), the Kensington Glass Works, owned by Benners & Campbell, was destroyed by fire on June 19, 1849 – although no one was hurt. The Daily Pennsylvania for April 17, 1856, noted that “the bill to incorporate the Kensington Glass Company was passed” – although the blurb included no further explanation.

The 1849 fire – noting Benners & Campbell – may have been at a different factory. An ad by Ziegler & Smith, wholesale druggists, offered a variety of window glass made by Sheets & Duffy, “superior to any in the marked as to brilliancy and regular thickness, equal to French.” In fact, the firm owned the glass house until its sale. Hugh Duffy advertised in the Public Ledger that the glass factory was for sale or rent and included all necessary tools for making “window glass and hollow ware. Trade well established.” We have not discovered the final disposition of the property, although McKearin & Wilson (1978:131) contended that the company was one of many that failed to survive the 1873 depression.

J. Shepard (ca. 1823-1838)

This mark was used by J. Shepard & Co. from ca. 1823 to 1838. For more information, see the Other J section.

S. Huffsey (ca. 1851-ca. 1856)

Two flasks have been identified from this glass maker. One is almost identical with another Jenny Lind calabash flask marked “MILLFORA G. WORK’S” (see Other M section for a description and discussion). The Huffsey flask, however, was embossed “GLASS WORK’S” in an arch at the top of the reverse body with a drawing of a glass factory below (Figure 29).
Below the drawing is “S. HUFFSEY,” the mark of Samuel Huffsey, onetime owner of the Millford Glass Works (McKearin & Wilson 1978:548-549; Pepper 1971:125-127). The flask was probably made in 1851 or 1852.

The second flask was only embossed with “S. HUFFSEY.” This could have been made between ca. 1851 and 1856 (see Other M section for a history of the glass house). McKearin and Willson (1978:548) were not as certain about this identification as Pepper (1971:125-127). Pepper was convinced that Huffsey operated the plant; McKearin and Wilson noted that the flask was “made for Samuel Huffsey . . . probably at the Isabella Glass Works, New Brooklyn, N.J.” The dating, however, should be approximately the same, regardless of the actual maker.

Barber (1900:28) arrived at an interesting insight concerning:

an old-fashioned globular whiskey or molasses bottle, which bears on one side a raised, half-length feature of Louis Kossuth, the Hungarian exile, surrounded by flags and drapery, and on the reverse a representation of a steam ship, the side wheel of which contains the name “S. Huffsey.” There appeared to be nothing on this which would indicate where it was produced until some indistinct relief lettering was observed on the base which, on careful observation, proved to be “Ph. Doflein, N. 5th St. 84.” This was a clue which suggested a reference to the Philadelphia City Directory, where the name, Philip Doflein, mould maker, was found, but with a different address. Mr. Doflein was hunted up, however, and was found in the rear of the address indicated. The metallic mould for this flask proved to have been made by him forty-five years before, on the occasion of Kossuth’s visit to America, for S. Huffsey, who was then a glass manufacturer in Philadelphia. It will be remembered that Kossuth embarked from Asia for this country in 1851 in the “Mississippi.”
Toulouse (1969:285; 1971:284-285) listed two jars embossed with “SILICON.” One only had “SILICON” on the front and had a Lightning closure (Figure 30). The other was embossed “SILICON (arch) / GLASS COMPANY / PITTSBURGH (both horizontal) / PENNA. (Inverted arch)” on the side (Figure 31). Toulouse noted that the more complex jar had Brockway’s Circle-B manufacturer’s mark on the base and suggested a use between ca. 1925 and 1930 based on his understanding of the mark. See the section on Brockway for more information.

Roller (1983:327) listed both jars and noted that the embossing on each of them was inside a circular plate. Roller stated that the company was listed in the 1906-1916 Pittsburgh city directories but was not listed in glass factory directories during the same period. He concluded that Silicon was a jobber.

Creswick (1987b:122) illustrated and discussed both jars, showing that each had the embossing in a round plate on the front (Figure 32). She added a Circle-F mark on the Silicon Glass Co. variation and dated both jars ca. 1907-1914. She suggested the Hazel-Atlas Glass Co. or Brockway as makers but thought Hazel-Atlas was the better choice. She agreed that the Silicon Glass Co. was a jobber and noted the years in business as ca. 1907-1914.

Hawkins (2011:436) noted that there are jars with other letters on the base (e.g., I) indicating that the base marks are likely mold marks and not that of the manufacturer. . . . Leybourne (2001)
likewise notes various mold letters within the circular valve mark. The city directory listings also indicate that the Silicon Glass Co. did manufacture their own glass during their brief existence. Otherwise they would have been listed under Glass Dealers, . . . a separate category in the city directories at the time.

Based on Hawkins’ research, it seems likely that the company was a manufacturer. However, we could not find any marks for Silicon Glass in any tableware sources (e.g., Pullin 1986), and we doubt that the Silicon Glass Co. made its own products – despite the listing noted by Hawkins. The Museum of American Glass (n.d.) speculated that “Silicon was a wholesaler or distributor selling product from U.S. Glass.”

**Manufacturer**

**Silicon Glass Co., Pittsburgh** (ca. 1906-ca. 1922)

The Silicon Glass Co. was first listed in 1906 as making tableware, window glass, and at least one type of fruit jar (Hawkins 2009:436). The firm continued to be listed in the city directories until 1916. Tom Caniff added from the October 13, 1917, National Glass Budget: “The Silicon Glass Company, formerly of Pittsburg [sic], has moved to Galion, O., where operations are being conducted under the name ‘Silicon Company’” (Roller 2011:474). Von Mechow (2019) listed the Silicon Glass Co. in Pittsburgh directories from 1907 to 1922, mostly in the Tableware section.

**S.K.&F.** (1891-1968)

Antique Bottles.net depicted a mouth-blown, colorless, patent-medicine style bottle with a one-part “packer” finish embossed “TRY BAKERS 5 MINUTE / COUGH BALSAM 10 CTS” on the front sunken panel and “S.K.&F.” on the base (Figure 33). The basal initials probably indicated the firm making Bakers rather than a manufacturer. According to Richardson & Richardson (1992:162), “S.K.&F.” was the mark and initials of Smith, Kline & French.
User

Smith, Kline & French (1891-1968)

John K. Smith and his brother, George, created John K Smith & Co. from John’s earlier drug store in 1841. At some point, the firm became Smith & Shoemaker, then Mahlon Kline joined the company in 1865. In 1875, Kline moved into partnership, and the firm became Smith, Kline and Co. When the firm acquired French, Richards & Co. in 1891, the resulting company now became Smith, Kline & French, renamed Smith, Kline and French Laboratories in 1929 (Wikipedia 2018). The firm often advertised, especially their aspirin, as in a 1918 issue of Retail Druggist.

With the addition of Recherche et Industrie Thérapeutiques (Belgium) in 1968, the new name became SmithKline-RIT. In 1982, the firm engulfed Allergan and merged with Beckman Instruments, Inc. to created SmithKline Beckman. A final merger with the Beecham Group plc in 1989 formed SmithKline Beecham plc. (Wikipedia 2018).

S&L.C (ca. 1850s-ca. 1880)

Pete Schulz (2006) provided an illustration of a blackglass bottle embossed “S&L.C” in a circle around a mamelon or dot in the center of the base (Figure 34). All bottles on the page were “junk” bottles made in three-piece molds, almost certainly beer or wine bottles, possibly made between the 1850s and ca. 1880. Unfortunately, the drawing apparently never became published. The letters could also be C S&L., but we have not discovered the maker.

SM Monogram

Jim Pinson sent us a photo of an amber, machine-made non-returnable San Miguel beer bottle with a base embossed “1305 / 13 {SM monogram} 5” (Figure 35). The monogram is composed of an elongated “S” superimposed on an “M.” The letters obviously indicated San
Miguel, and double-ring “crown” finish suggests a manufacture between the 1950s and 1960s – although the logo could have been used before and/or after that period. The San Miguel Brewery opened in 1890 in the Philippine Islands, and the brand is still sold in 2019. We do not know how long the firm used the monogram.

**S.M.CO.** (ca. 1880-1920s)

Whitten (2019a) identified the “S.M.CO” logo as belonging to the Sanford Mfg. Co., eventually replaced by the Sanford Ink Co. and suggested the 1880-1920 period for its use. Auctions on eBay also showed SMCo monograms on the sides of some bottles (Figure 36). Note that the initials and monograms were on different bottles. The bases of monogrammed bottles were embossed with the Sanford name. Our only example of the initialed base was mouth blown, while those with monogrammed sides were made by both hand and machine methods. It is therefore likely that the basal initials were used earlier than the monograms.

**S.M.C.CO.** (ca. 1893-1910)

According to Dairy Antiques (2016), the Star Milk Cooler Co. used the S.M.C.CO. initials on milk bottles. The mark was probably not used until the firm incorporated in 1893 and continued in use until the liquidation of 1910.

**User**

**Star Milk Cooler Co., Haddonfield, New Jersey** (1891-1910)

Samuel M. Heulings was concerned about sanitary conditions in local dairies, so he devised a milk cooling system with what looked surprisingly like a car radiator – obtaining a
patent on August 11, 1891. Elwood Evans became interested in the cooler, and the two manufactured the first coolers in Elwood’s barn at 120 Kings Highway, West. With other investors, the two incorporated the Star Milk Cooler Co. with a capital of $25,000 on January 28, 1893 – now located at the intersection of Atlantic and Washington Avenues at Haddonfield (Corporations of New Jersey n.d.; Lyons 2002:6).

In 1904, the company built a power plant (boiler and steam engine) at the rear of the factory. The firm also produced bottle filling machinery, bottle washing equipment, and, of course, sold milk bottles. The firm expanded, opening new showrooms but needed to enlarge its manufacturing capacity. However, the shareholders – James L. Pennypacker, Ephraim T. Gill, Martin G. Brumbaugh, Charles H. Hillman, and Samuel Wood – refused to sanction any further inventions or expansion and voted instead for liquidation of the firm in 1910 (Lyons 2002:6).

SMITH ADDIS & CO (1900-1902)

Von Mechow (2019) illustrated a base embossed “SMITH ADDIS & CO (arch) / BRIDGEPORT CONN (inverted arch).” He noted that the firm was a jobber in beer and soda bottles from 1900 to 1902 and listed four bottles with the mark – two Hutchinsons and two champagne beer bottles. Hutchbook (Fowler 2019) listed and illustrated a single Hutchinson bottle embossed with the same basemark shown by von Mechow (Figure 37).

User

Smith, Addis & Co., Bridgeport, Connecticut (1900-19027)

By at least 1899, Smith & Addis was in business at 439 Water St., Bridgeport, Connecticut, wholesaling a huge variety of cleaning items and other goods (e.g., brooms, window screens, scales, lanterns, toilet paper, fruit jars, etc.). The partners were David E. Smith, Richard A. Smith, and Walter I. Addis. The firm reorganized as Smith, Addis & Co., moving to 603 Water St. (von Mechow 2019). According to von Mechow (2019), the Standard Bottle & Glass Co. of Rochester, New York, probably made the bottles for Smith, Addis & Co.
The firm reorganized under the same name in February 1902 with a capital of $30,000. David E. Smith was president with Mortimer S. Comstock as secretary and Richard A. Smith as treasurer. However, the reformation was the last listing that von Mechow (2019) could find. The firm was apparently overextended.

**Possible Manufacturer**

**Standard Bottle & Glass Co., Rochester, New York (1897-1901)**

Incorporated in September 1897 with a capital of $15,000 “to manufacture bottles vials flasks and glassware.” Frederick E. Collins, John Hilding, and John H. Sahner were directors. In 1901, the company moved to Allentown, Pennsylvania (*House Furnishing Review* 1897:365; von Mechow 2019).

**SMITH & Co. (1871-ca. 1888)**

J.P. Smith & Co. used “SMITH & Co., PITTSBURGH, PA. embossed on the bases of some bottles during the ca. 1868-1871 period. Smith also used J.P. SMITH & CO. and J.P. SMITH, SON & CO. (see Other J section for information on the logos and history).

**SP**

Von Mechow (2019) noted that the “SP” initials appeared “on the base of a porter bottle and has all of the characteristics of a New England manufacturer. The markings appear on the base of the bottle and may be obscured by the pontil.” We have not seen an example and have no explanation.

**S.P.A. CO. (ca. 1880s-1890s)**

Whitten (2019a) reported “S.P.A. CO.” on the base of an amber ale bottle, ca. 1880s-1890s. We have not yet discovered an example, but the initials probably indicate the bottler or a distributor.
**SS in a Circle** (1971-present)

Toulouse (1971:455) noted an SS in an elongated diamond that was one of the marks “found on various bottles, but so far have not been identified as to the user or the glassmaker.” We have not seen the mark, but a similar mark, SS in a circle, was embossed on the bases of amber and cobalt blue chemical bottles (Figure 38). All that we have examined had paper labels that identified the contents as coming from the Spectrum Chemical Mfg. Corp., an organization founded in 1971. At this point, we do not know whether the two marks were related. A relative newcomer, Spectrum opened in 1971 and is a division of Spectrum Laboratory Products, Inc., in 2019, at New Brunswick, New Jersey.

Whitten (2019a), however, claimed that “SS in a circle” was used by the Silver Spur Corp. of Cerritos, California (1978-to the present), although the bottles are actually manufactured in Taiwan and China.

**S&S** (ca. 1825)

McKearin and Wilson (1978:110, 545) illustrated three Lafayett flasks, each embossed “S&S” at the reverse heel. The front heels were all embossed “COVENTRY (arch) / C-T” (except for an error marking of “COVETRY”). McKearin and Wilson attributed the flasks to Stebbins & Stebbins, Coventry Glass Works, Coventry, Connecticut.

The identification of Stebbins & Stebbins, however, is not without problems. Although Thomas Stebbins probably operated the works by 1820 and partnered with Rufus B. Chamberlin in 1825, McKearin and Wilson found no evidence for a different partner whose name began with “S.” It is possible that a relative of Stebbins joined with him briefly but was not recorded in any extant source. It is also possible that the “S” was an engraver’s error for “C” (Stebbins & Chamberlin). Letters from glass houses to mold makers in the 19th century were written by hand. Surviving letters disclose handwriting from overly ornate to practically illegible that could easily have led (and did lead) to numerous mistakes. McKearin and Wilson dated the mark ca. 1825.
Also see the S&C mark above; the T.S. mark in the Other T section; and the C-T mark and company history in the Other C section.

**SSP / B**

Toulouse (1971:483) identified the “SSP / B” initials as likely belonging to S.S. Pierce, a Boston food supplier, based on a flask dug at Wakefield, Massachusetts. Ralph Meigs, the owner of one example, described it as

a strap-flask, in green, with a lied-on-ring [*sic*] tooled by tongs into a finish for corks. It was made by hand, in a mold having a separate bottom plate, with the initials in a small push-up in the center bottom. The finish style could be described as a short-height brandy, above a squared collar.

We found several of these strap-sided flasks on eBay along with colorless olive oil bottles with “SSP” embossed on the lower front side (Figures 39 & 40). Samuel S. Pierce and his partner, Eldad Worcester, opened a grocery business as S.S. Pierce & Co. at Boston in 1831. The firm carried a large variety of items – including bottles – until it sold to the Seneca Foods Corp. in 1972 (Wikipedia 2017). With the company’s long term in business, the manufacturing characteristics are the best form of dating – ca. 1890-1930s. Whitten (2019a) added a relevant postscript:

Although I was at first skeptical about [the S.S. Pierce] attribution, I have since seen one of these flasks carrying a partial label, which was lettered “bottled by S.S. Pierce, Boston.” However, since Pierce was evidently a jobber, the actual manufacturer of the flasks is unknown, presumably a glasshouse in the Boston area.
We recorded “AMERICAN FEEDING (arch) / ST.
L.G.W. (horizontal) / BOTTLE (inverted arch)” in a plate
on the face of a colorless nursing bottle. The initials were
embossed in a highly stylized block font (Figure 41).
Collectors call this type of bottle a “standing turtle.” It was
common during the last quarter of the 19th century (and into
the early 20th) to place manufacturer’s marks on the front of
“turtle” and “standing turtle” nursing bottles (e.g., see Whitall
Tatum section). This mark almost certainly belonged to the
St. Louis Glass Works, although the base of the bottle was
embossed with a serif “C” in the center of a circular concave
depression.

The term “turtle” refers to glass nursing bottles with a neck titled toward the front and a
flat, circular area on the back side to allow the bottle to lie next to the baby without spilling the
milk. These have rounded bases and cannot be stood up like normal bottles. The “standing
turtle” is the same but with a flat base so that the bottle may be placed upright or in the typical
supine position (Lindsey 2019).

Manufacturer

St. Louis Glass Works, St. Louis, Missouri (1860-1888)

At least one early glass plant at St. Louis opened by 1844, although the sources were
unclear about anything except that the early plant or plants failed. We cannot tell whether or not
this (or these) were related to the St. Louis Glass Works. The plant that became the St. Louis
Glass Works probably began in October 1849, operated by Farrell & Blow (John W. Farrell; first
name of Blow unknown). The pair built the factory, but the construction was faulty, and the
operation failed. Wayman Crow purchased Blow’s interest, and Farrell & Crow incorporated,
reconstructing the plant as a circular building and beginning production at a single furnace with
eight pots on March 11, 1850 (Western Journal 1850:66).
The pair apparently soon sold out or went out of business. On March 27, 1852, William and Robert Clark placed a mechanic’s lien against William Pope, A.G. Sell, David C. Evans, and Colvin Case, the owners of a glass factory at Broadway and Monroe Streets (the location of the St. Louis Glass Works). An 1856 photo showed that the plant remained circular by that time. We have found no other direct evidence of this firm, although an ad in the 1859 St. Louis Guide (city directory), bragged that the St. Louis Glass Co. made “cut and pressed flint glassware” as well as “black and green bottles, green vials, flasks, &c.”

On January 14, 1860, the General Assembly of the State of Missouri (1860:260-261) approved the incorporation of the St. Louis Glass Co. (not Works) with a capitalization of $50,000. The principals consisted of Washington King, Marinus W. Warne, George W. Scollay, Charles Holmes, and Horace Pierce. This firm, too, was short lived. Bagot & Cummings (Joseph Bagot and John K. Cummings) purchased the factory later that year (possibly 1861) at a sheriff’s sale and advertised themselves in the 1863 city directory as “Glass Manufacturers” at the corner of Broadway and Monroe Streets (T.K. Sage & Co. 1874:58; Year Book 1882:106). The following year, they added “St. Louis Glass Works” to the ad.

At some point, Bagot & Cummings rebuilt and enlarged the plant, shown in an 1869 billhead drawing as no longer being round and having two large smokestacks and five smaller ones. When Bagot died on May 26, 1868, Cummings continued as sole owner of the firm (Scharf 1883:1283). Neither the ads— including Cummings’ blurb in the 1871 directory – nor the letterhead mentioned the type of glass produced, although the billhead was for a variety of jars, showing that the factory made containers. However, Reavis (1879:49) noted that the plant made flint lamp chimneys, perfume bottles, prescription bottles, fruit jars, and “kindred articles.”

At some point, Cummings became the chairman of the National Flint Glass Manufacturer’s Assoc., a consortium of 19 firms, created to control the prices of flint (colorless) glass produced in the “west” (i.e. west of the Mississippi River). The St. Louis Druggist (1884:858) reported the disbanding of the group in 1884. It was not a good year for Cummings. On August 1, the St. Louis Post-Dispatch reported that his workers walked off the job, apparently on orders from a union referred to as the Pittsburgh Convention. When the workers informed Cummings that they would return to work on September 1, he told them that “they were not to depend on a resumption of work in his factory” – in effect firing his entire workforce. He noted that he had enough glassware on hand to fill his current orders.
Although we have found no report of a resolution, the St. Louis Glass Works obviously resumed production, although times remained tough for Cummings. He told the *Post-Dispatch* on March 13, 1890, that he had shut down the works 18 months earlier (i.e., ca. July 1888) due to “outrageous coal charges” because of “unjust ferry, bridge and rail rates.” Even though he was thinking of reopening, he had been attempting to sell the factory since September 1889 (*St. Louis Post-Dispatch* 9/11/1889). W.C. Campbell purchased the plant for $30,000 in March 1891 to build a four-story furniture factory on the site. Cummings died in late October 1908 (*Louis Post-Dispatch* 3/15/1891; 10/26/1908).

**STANDARD**

The term “Standard” was used by the jar manufacturing industry to indicate the type of jars also known as “groove-ring” wax-sealing fruit jars. With a very few late exceptions, these were manufactured by blowing the jar body into a two-part mold with a baseplate, then creating the “groove-ring” with a special pressing tool. A metal lid was formed in the shape of a shallow cup, and the sides of the “cup” fit into the groove in the top of the finish. Paraffin or a similar sealant was used to affect the seal.

Although several glass houses actually embossed the word “STANDARD” into the shoulders or bodies of their wax sealers, the name, alone, is not definitive. However, position, slanting or arching (or lack thereof) of lettering, font choice, underlining options, and/or accompanying manufacturer’s marks allows for a comprehensive identification of the variations of the “STANDARD” wax sealers. See Table 1 as well as the relevant sections for each company (Greenfield Fruit Jar & Bottle Co., Indianapolis Glass Co. in the Other I file, and Illinois-Pacific Glass Co.).

**STANDARD B.S. CO. (1909-1928)**

Von Mechow (2019) described and illustrated a mark of “STANDARD B.S. CO. (arch) / NEWARK, N.J. (inverted arch)” on the bases of beer bottles. He ascribed the mark to the Standard Bottle Supply Co., open from 1909 to 1922. Although von Mechow truncated the date range to end at 1922, the firm retained the same name, just adding “Inc.” – so it may have continued to use the basemark until the name change at 1928.
User

Standard Bottlers’ Supply Co., Newark, New Jersey (1909-1928)

The Standard Bottlers’ Supply Co. was first listed in the 1909 Newark city directory, selling bar supplies at 49 William St. Joseph T. Davey managed the operation, listed under bottler’s supplies the following year – offering bottles (including milk bottles by 1918) and prescription ware by 1922. By 1914, the business had moved to 203 Mulberry. The firm incorporated in 1923 and changed its name in 1928 to Standard Equipment Co., Inc. (von Mechow 2019).

Standard / MASON

Although Toulouse (1971:485) ascribed these jars to the Standard Glass Co., Standard Mason jars were made by the Illinois-Pacific Glass Co. For details, see the section on Illinois-Pacific. The Lynchburg Glass Co. also made a Lynchburg Standard Mason, but this jar was unrelated to the Standard Mason jars discussed here. For more information on Lynchburg, see the Other L section.

STANPAC (ca. 1949-present)

According to Dairy Antiques (2016), “STANPAC” was the logo of Stanpac Inc., Ontario, Canada. We have found surprisingly little about the company. According to the Stanpac (2019) website, the firm has been in business for 70 years, setting a beginning date of ca. 1949. In 2019, the firm specializes in decorating (almost certainly ACL) milk, wine, liquor, and beer bottles. The logos on milk bottles appeared in two formats on an eBay search. By far the most common was “STANPAC” with the “N” split in such a way that the bottom of the daigonal line underlines the other half of the “N” and “PAC” and the top of the “N” overlines the other half of the “N” and “STA.” Subvariations include a single example with “STANPAC” in an arch and several
with the name on the heel instead of the base. The other variation (one example) was “STANPAC” with two bent underlines (Figure 42).

**Star & Crescent Self Sealing Jar**

Toulouse (1969:294) illustrated and discussed a jar embossed “MRS. S.T. RORER’S (horizontal) / STAR & CRESCENT (slight arch) / {drawing of a star inside a crescent moon} / SELF SEALING JAR (horizontal).” The jar was machine made with a Mason shoulder seal. Although he had no idea who made it, he dated the jar ca. 1910. We have not seen an example of this variation.

Roller (1983:297) discussed a similar jar embossed “PUT ON RUBBER BEFORE FILLING / MRS-S-T-RORER’S (both horizontal) / STAR & CRESCENT (slight arch) / {drawing of a star inside a crescent moon} / SELF SEALING JAR (horizontal)” on the front and “PATENTED DEC’R 10TH 1896” on the base (Figure 43). He noted that December 10, 1896 was not a patent issue date, but suggested probably Katherine E. Gunkle’s December 20, 1897 patent. On a variation, “MRS-S-T-RORER’S” was ghosted.

Roller (1983:341; 2011:490) noted another variation – an earlier jar – embossed “MRS. S.T. RORER’S (horizontal) / STAR & CRESCENT (slight arch) / {drawing of a star inside a crescent moon}” but, instead of “SELF SEALING JAR,” this one was marked “PAT MAR 11TH 1890” (Figure 44). Katherine Ellmaker Gunkle patented the jar on March 11, 1890. Roller noted two closures:
1. Straddle-lip top seal, glass immerser lid and metal screw band (Figure 45)

2. Straddle-lip top seal, flat glass lid held down by a zinc screw band with wire-bail carrying handle hooked into holes in side of band (see Figure 45).

Creswick (1987a:202) illustrated and discussed three variations, beginning with the 1890-patent jar. Kathrine Gunkle received Patent No. 422,934 on March 11, 1890. The patent called for “‘a perforated immersing device as a means of keeping the fruit below the juice line, and also to collect mold.” Although Gunkle said she preferred a yoke clamp all known examples were sealed with a screw band. Gunkle was a director of the Star & Crescent Fruit Jar Co. of Philadelphia.

Creswick (1987:202) followed Roller in noting that the patent date on the “PUT ON RUBBER” variation was incorrect but was probably Gunkle’s April 20, 1897, patent, No. 581,112. “MRS-S-T-RORER’S” was ghosted on the shoulder. She also illustrated a variation with Mrs. Rorer’s name embossed but no patent date on the base (Figure 46). She noted that both of these were sealed with a zinc “push-down lid with porcelain liner.” The daughter of a chemist, Mrs. Rorer eventually became dean of the Philadelphia Cooking School, and continued in that post for 23 years, publishing several books and editing “Table Talk” – a monthly magazine for housekeepers.
**Star & Crescent Fruit Jar Co., Frasier, Pennsylvania? (1896-?)**

According to Roller (1983:297-298; 2011:436), Katherine E. Gunkle (owner of the patents) and Mrs. Sarah Tyson (Heston) Rorer (whose name appeared on one jar) were both directors of the Star & Crescent Fruit Jar Co. when it incorporated as a Pennsylvania corporation on July 9, 1896.” Three other directors were Paul J. Kugler, Silas Jones, and Margaret C. McNally.

Katherine Ellmaker Gunkle, of Frasier, Pennsylvania, applied for a patent for a “Jar” on January 20, 1890 and received Patent No. 442,934 on March 11, 1890. Gunkle applied for another patent for a “Fruit-Jar” on December 14, 1895, and received Patent No. 581,112 on April 20, 1897. These undoubtedly formed the basis for the firm. There is virtually no question that the Star & Crescent Fruit Jar Co. was a sales unit for Gunkle’s jars – rather than a glass house. We have not discovered which factory made the jars.

**Star Glass Co. (1869-early 1870s)**

Toulouse (1969:294) discussed a grooved-ring, wax-sealer jar embossed “STAR GLASS Co. (arch) / NEW ALBANY, IND. (horizontal)” on the front, noting that the finish was “very crudely handmade” (Figure 47). He noted that the jars were made ca. 1865-1870s by the Star Glass Co. Roller (1983:341; 2011:491) also discussed the jar and added that J.B. Ford & Sons of the Star Glass Works at New Albany advertised “Star Wax Sealing Jars” ca. 1865, noting that “one jar appears to have a ghosted star figure below STAR GLASS Co.”
Creswick (1987a:202) illustrated the jar but added no additional information. In all probability, the firm had stopped making anything but flat glass by the early 1870s, possibly as early as January 1870, when W.C. DePauw became involved. Whitten (2019) stated that a five-pointed star embossed on the base of a fruit jar was used by the Star Glass Works (or Co.).

Manufacturer

**Star Glass Works, New Albany, Indiana** (1869-1870s)

John B. Ford & Sons founded the Star Glass Works at New Albany, Indiana, in 1869 to make plate glass, window glass, and fruit jars. The works were under construction by July 8, and the plant began blowing glass on October 13. Ford sold a half interest to his cousin, Washington C. DePauw in January of 1870, changing the operating firm to John B. Ford & Co. In February, the pair incorporated as the Star Glass Works, with DePauw as president by 1872. Ford sold his stock in the firm, probably in 1879, when DePauw renamed the firm the W.C. DePauw Glass Co. (Whitten 2005:45; Whitten 2019b).

**Stark Jar** (1928-1929)

Roller (1983:243; 2011:491) discussed and illustrated the Stark Jar, embossed “Stark (slight upwardly arched cursive) / JAR (horizontal)” above a K-in-a-star logo with a small “PATENTED” at the front heel (Figure 48). The mark was very clever, creating the word *pk* (Stark). The jar was sealed by a glass lid held in place by a coil spring attached to a flat metal bar. Albert Stark of Patterson, New Jersey, received the patent for the device on June 19, 1923, and assigned it to Harry Stark. Roller stated that the T.C. Wheaton Co. made the jars on October 1928 for the Stark Preserving Co. of Hawthorn, New Jersey. Creswick (1987b:125) added the patent (No. 1,459,558) and illustrated the jar (Figure 49).
Stark Preserving Co., Hawthorn, New Jersey (1928-1929)

Roller (1983:343) told the story of the firm:

The Stark brothers had 1,000 quart jars made in October 1928, but very few were sold. Marketing problems and the 1929 Depression brought an end to their venture. Most of the 1,000 jars were put into storage in 1933. Family members used some of the stored jars over the years for canning. In 1978, the remainder of the stored jars (275) were offered to collectors.

Stark QUALITY MASON (poss. 1920s)

These bead-seal jars were embossed “Stark / QUALITY MASON” on the front. Roller (1983:343; 2011:492) said that the manufacturer was uncertain but suggested the Stark Glass Co. of Massillon, Ohio, ca. 1923. He noted that the Ohio Glass Products Co. (Massillon, Stark County) advertised a “Massillon Quality Mason” jar in 1924. Creswick (1987b:125) illustrated the jar but added no details (Figure 50). It may be important that the cursive “Stark” on the Mason jars used a completely different font from the cursive on the Stark Jar discussed above. Only the “k” is similar. See the Other O section for a history of the short-lived Stark Glass Co., followed by the Ohio Glass Products Co.

STODDARD MFG. CO. (1897-1904 poss. 1925)

The Dairy Antique site (2016) listed this mark as being used by the Stoddard Mfg. Co., Rutland, Vermont, as well as the MOSELEY & STODDARD MFG. CO. found on milk bottles from the Moseley & Stoddard Mfg. Co. The firm began as Moseley & Stoddard (also spelled Mosley) at Poultney, Vermont, at least as early as 1881. At some point, probably during the 1890s, the company moved to Rutland. Moseley died, quit, or retired in 1897, and the firm
became the Stoddard Mfg. Co. by the following year. The Creamery Package Mfg., Co. purchased Stoddard in 1904 and operated it until 1925. See the Other M section for essentially the same history. The firms mostly made farm equipment, handling milk bottles as a sideline. We have been unable to discover any examples of the bottles.

**S. TWITCHELL & BRO. MFRS.** (1885-ca. 1891)

Von Mechow (2019) illustrated two variations of this mark on his webpage. Both included “S. TWITCHELL & BRO. MFRS.” in a circle around a soda bottle base. One only had the circular mark; the other was embossed with “F.B.S. / 2” (Floating Ball Stopper) inside the circle. A third variation lacked the Twitchell embossing but had the “F.B.S. / 0” on the base (Figure 51).

Some bottles had a “5” or a “7” in place of the “2.” The bottles also had patent dates of February 20, 1883, June 23, 1885, and August 4, 1885. Selden Twitchell and his brother, Oscar, operated one of the largest bottlers’ supply houses in the U.S. The firm became the S. Twitchell Co. ca. 1891. We have also discovered bottles on eBay embossed “TWITCHELL / T / PHILADA” on the front. These were probably made by Selden Twitchell after his brother left the business (Figure 52).

All of the bottles illustrated by Von Mechow (2019) had the same distinctive finishes. The patents tell an interesting story. William L. Roorbach of Philadelphia applied for a patent for a “Bottle-Stopper” on December 22, 1882, and received Patent No. 272,775 on February 20, 1883. The defining characteristics of the finish and stopper were: 1) an hourglass-shaped groove in the neck; 2) a grommet that filled the groove, and 3) a ball with a cylindrical extension that fit against the grommet, affecting a seal. There is no indication that this stopper system was ever used.
On November 24, 1883, Roorbach applied for a patent on a “Bottle-Forming Tool” but did not receive Patent No. 316,832 until April 28, 1885. Roorbach assigned the rights to S. Twitchell and Brother. He designed the tool to create the grooved finish for his 1883 bottle stopper patent.

Roorbach improved his stopper/finish design, applied for the new patent on March 27, 1885, and received Patent No. 320,701 on June 23, 1885, for another “Bottle Stopper.” He had patented the same finish/stopper in England on December 30, 1884. The only significant difference from the 1883 patent was the removal of the extension – the stopper was now a round ball. Roorbach did not assign this patent to the Twitchells.

The adroit Roorbach applied for still another patent on February 18, 1884, and received Patent No. 323,737 on August 4, 1885. This time, the only significant change was that the grommet was shaped to fit the groove. Roorbach also assigned this patent to the Twitchells. Since the earlier patents were not shifted to the Twitchells, the marks were almost certainly only used by the S. Twitchell and Brother from 1885 to ca. 1891, when the name changed.

User

S. Twitchell & Co., New York (ca. 1880-ca. 1891)

Selden Twitchell and his brother, Oscar, operated S. Twitchell & Co. from ca. 1880 until the name changed to the S. Twitchell Co. in 1891 (von Mechow 2019). Even though the marks included the term “MFRS.,” the bottles were almost certainly made for the Twitchells by other glass houses. Many jobbers used the term “manufacturers” in their names or ads – even though they actually made no glass. The Twitchells were not listed in Pittsburgh directories under the glass manufacturing categories.

SUN (1890-ca. 1903)

Toulouse (1969:299-300) illustrated and discussed a series of four jars embossed “SUN” in a circle surrounded by “radiating rays” on the front (Figure 53). He described the finish as a “glass lid and cast-metal yoke over a bulbous finish. A cam lever below the center of the yoke
exerted pressure on the glass lid.” The yoke was embossed “MONIERS’ PATENT APR 1, 1890.” The second had a slight change in the closure with “MONIERS’ PATENT MAR 12, 1895” on the yoke. A third yoke had both patent dates. The final example was embossed “J.P. BARSTOW” at the front heel. Toulouse suggested the Barstow Fruit Jar Co. of New Jersey.

Frederick and Elizabeth Monier, New Brunswick, Connecticut, received Patent No. 424,720 for the closure on April 1, 1890, and Frederick alone was given Patent No. 535,549 for an improvement on March 12, 1895. Toulouse (1971:489) suggested a date range of ca. 1890-1900. Examples from North American Glass had yokes embossed “MONIER’S PAT” on one side and “APR 1 90 MAR 18 98” on the other (Figure 54).

Roller (1983:348) added that the base was embossed “J.P. BARSTOW” – and a variation had the radiating sun symbol encircled by “J.P. BARSTOW TRADE MARK” but no side embossing. He only included two clamps (not the one with the 1895 patent alone). Roller noted that Monier assigned the second (1895) patent to the Barstow Fruit Jar Co. and that the jars were made for the Barstow Fruit Jar Co. of Jersey City, New Jersey, and the Sun Fruit Jar Co. of New York City ca. 1894-1903. He illustrated a May 3, 1900, ad from the Sun Fruit Jar Co. and claimed that the Sun Fruit Jar Co. (74 Wall St., New York, in 1900) took over the Barstow Fruit Jar Co. ca. 1899.
Creswick (1987a:206) illustrated and discussed both jars, agreeing with Roller’s assessment that there were only two patent date variations (Figure 55). She added that Jacob P. Barstow registered Trademark No. 26,298 for “SUN” on March 26, 1895, claiming a first use in November of 1894. The J.P. Barstow basemarked jar was almost certainly the first, made from 1890 to ca. 1895, and the variation with “SUN” on the face was likely produced from ca. 1895 to ca. 1903.

User

**Barstow Fruit Jar Co., Jersey City, New Jersey** (1890-1899)

The Barstow Fruit Jar Co. opened in 1890 and became the Sun Fruit Jar Co. in 1899 – although we have found virtually nothing else about the firm.

**Sun Fruit Jar Co., New York and Jersey City** (1899-ca. 1903)

In 1899, the Barstow Fruit Jar Co. reorganized as the Sun Fruit Jar Co. William Ropes, Frederick K. Trask, Charles H. Trask, and Joseph V. Clark were the directors. Ropes was president with Charles A. Gilbert as secretary. The office was located at 74 Wall St. The firm remained listed in the New York directories from 1899 to 1903 (Roller 2011:497).

**S.V.D.Co.**

Whitten (2019a) rated the “S.V.D.Co. logo as unknown. He added that it was seen on the base of clear hand-blown prescription/druggist flask/bottle that appears to date from the 1890-1915 time period. The “D” possibly stands for “Drug” and I would guess the initials stand for an obscure pharmaceutical manufacturer or distributor.

We have no other information to add.
**SWGCo** (ca. 1915-1935)

An eBay auction featured a machine-made, light aqua bottle, rectangular in cross-section, with a three-part finish that was embossed “SWGC<sup>o</sup>” (possibly “SWCC<sup>o</sup>”) on the base (Figure 56). The obvious connection would be South West or South Western Glass Co. We only found two possibilities:


Neither of these is a likely candidate, the first because it made tableware, the second because it was too early and only made wide-mouth ware. The bottle offered on eBay was likely made during the ca. 1915-1935 period.

**S.Y.G.B.Co.** (ca. 1862-ca. 1911)

Toulouse (1971:490) suggested a range of ca. 1880-1900 for the use of “SYGBCo” (actually S.Y.G.B.C<sup>o</sup> in an arch above an S) by the South Yorkshire Glass Bottle Co., Yorkshire, England (Figure 57). He added, “This company is known only as a name, and by the few bottles inscribed with its initials. The town is not known although there were several important glassmaking towns located in South Yorkshire.” The only example we have found was on a green bottle, probably intended for liquor, with an applied internal-thread finish.

**Manufacturer**

**South Yorkshire Glass Bottle Co., Yorkshire, England** (ca. 1862-ca. 1911)

The earliest reference to the South Yorkshire Glass Bottle Co., Yorkshire, England, was the 1862 Rotherham directory, which listed John Turner as the managing partner. Our next
source jumps to 1880, when John Wilkinson and William Wilkinson operated the factory. John had been involved since at least 1875, but 1880 is our first reference to William. By at least 1881, the firm offered a ball-stoppered bottle that was similar to the one invented by Hiram Codd, also illustrated in an 1882 ad. The firm apparently continued until ca. 1911. Dale, Brown & Co. acquired the plant in 1913, “after [South Yorkshire] had been derelict and disused for two or three years” (*British Trade Journal* 1881:200; 1882:47; *Furniture Gazette* 1880:273; Mexbrough Heritage 1997; Week 42 2017)

**Discussion and Conclusions**

**Safety Jars**

The oldest of the jars, embossed with the Cumberland Glass Works name, was clearly made by that company. Creswick was obviously only looking at the patent date when she suggested ca. 1883, but we believe Roller’s ca. 1880s to 1890s is a more likely range. The actual company was called the Cumberland Glass Co., but the factory was probably known as “Works.” Separate names for the company and the factory were not unusual during the entire 19th and early 20th centuries. The name Cumberland Glass Works was used during the early 1880s but was uncommon later. The Illinois Glass Co. bought Cumberland in 1920 (see the section on the Cumberland Glass Co. and Cumberland Glass Works in the CGW section). Thus, a reasonable date range for this Safety jar is ca. 1909-1920.

Patent records clearly identify the next Safety jar as being made by the Nelson Glass Co., and the evidence suggests it was manufactured during the entire tenure of the company, 1891-1896. The final jar, clearly made by the Salem Glass Works, was dated differently by all three sources:

Roller: ca. 1909-1910  
Toulouse: ca. 1910-1925  
Creswick: ca. 1915-1938
**Star marks**

Fruit jars with embossed stars of various kinds are discussed briefly in the Symbols section, but most of those and at least some jars embossed with the word “STAR” are simply impossible to trace with current methods. As noted above, Whitten stated that a five-pointed star embossed on the base of a fruit jar was used by the Star Glass Works (or Co.).

The various other “S” marks are sufficiently discussed (or referred) above and need no further clarification.

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