

Harrison's Columbian Inks at 1857 Prices

by Lucy Faulkner

The Harrison Columbian Ink Company of Philadelphia is familiar not only to ink collectors, but to just about any bottle collector. Perhaps it is because these bottles are some of the easiest to find of the embossed pontil era ink bottles. The small bottles allow the average collector to have a pontiled ink at a modest cost. The small aqua ones can sell for as little as fifty dollars while the master size in cobalt can bring many thousands. Apollos Harrison would be amazed. Did you know that in 1857 you could get a dozen of the smallest size for as little as thirty-two cents? And they contained ink and had a full label! Take a look at the billhead below and just imagine a full dozen of these.

Old ads, billheads, or advertising of any kind is hard to find for Harrison's Columbian Ink. From what we have been able to find, the perfumery part of the business was the most heavily promoted and advertised.



Philadelphia, *Apr 14 57*

Mr. H. I. Reed Esq.
Post Remington Co.

TERMS—cash, allowing the usual time for the arrival of the Goods.
Boxes and Postage on Ink and Perfumery, free of cost.
Freight by Packet Lines running direct from Philadelphia to prominent Ports on the Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico, I deduct from the Invoice, and I insure to all such Ports at my own cost. All subsequent freight and insurance by water or land, is at the cost of the purchaser. No package is permitted to leave the factory but in perfect order to transport safely to any part of the country. They become the property of the purchaser when delivered to the dryman at the manufactory; therefore, for all damage by leakage or otherwise, not covered by insurance, he must look to the transporter of the goods, who is totally responsible to the owner.

Bought of **APOLLOS W. HARRISON,**
MANUFACTURER OF
**HARRISON'S COLUMBIAN
INKS AND PERFUMERY;**
No. 10 South 7th Street, Philadelphia.

Dozen.	Size.	Kind.	Price.	Amount.
✓ 3 doz		Black Ink	32	96
✓ 2 " 2		" "	44	88
✓ 2 doz		" "	50	100
✓ 2 doz		" "	45	90
✓ 1 doz		Indelible		150
✓ 1 doz		Japan		110
				694
		Less for to Albany		50
				644
				800
✓ 1 doz		Alge		100
✓ 1/2 doz		Philoxene	200	100
✓ 1/2 doz		Blue Maroon	200	100
✓ 1/2		Patchwork ext	400	200
✓ 1/2		Barbours Spap	200	100
				11244

(Receipt)
The above have been shipped the day as per inclosed Receipt
Please honor my draft on you for amount at 30 days date, to order of Cash Battenkill BK & Co
Yours Truly
A. W. Harrison
p. Murray

Harrison's Columbian Ink.

We have been favored by the manufacturer with a bottle of Black, of Red, and of Blue Ink—and have made trial of them. The ink runs smoothly from the pen, and the colors are beautiful. We can cheerfully recommend them—They are manufactured by A. W. Harrison, Philadelphia, and are for sale at the Book & Stationery Store of Kellsa Kuarz, opposite the Bank.

1848 Gettysburg, PA newspaper ad

