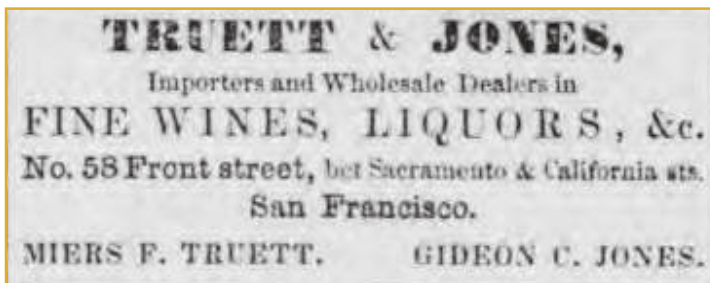


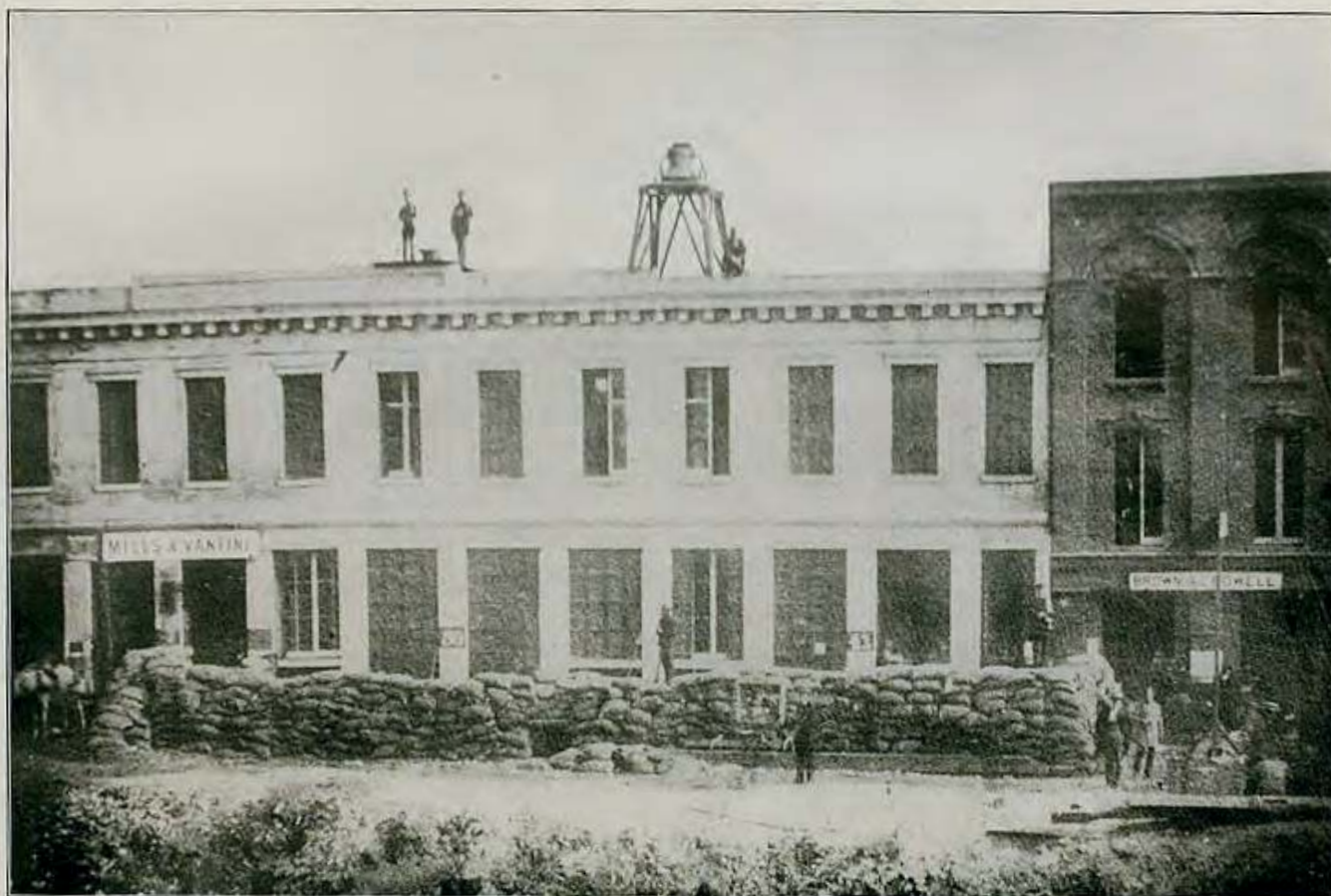
"EICHELBERGER

RO

By Mike McKillop

One of California's rarest and most historic bottles has been discovered. It's like finding that one golden "Dew Drop" falling in the misty morning air during sunrise. Next to the William T. Coleman flask, the Eichelberger Dew Drop would be considered equal in historical significance. William T. Coleman along with "Truett, Jones & Arrington" were all part of the 1856 San Francisco Vigilance Committee. The headquarters for the Vigilance Committee was at the wholesale liquor house of "Truett & Jones", known as "Fort Gunnybags." This very important part of California's history is second only to the Gold Rush. They are not only California legends but are considered American legends. (More history on the 1856 S.F. Vigilance Committee and Fort Gunnybags is online)





FORT GUNNYBAGS, HEADQUARTERS OF THE VIGILANCE COMMITTEE OF 1856

Fort Gunnybags, headquarters of the Vigilance Committee of 1856

The Bottle reads: "Bottled for Truet, Jones & Arrington – Eichelberger Dew Drop" with dewdrops coming down from the words "Dew Drop." Eichelberger Whiskey comes from the Baltimore area around the same time. The bottle would have been made for one year only in 1859, possibly Baltimore Glass Works. Truett's name was misspelled on the bottle, only having one "T" in Truett.

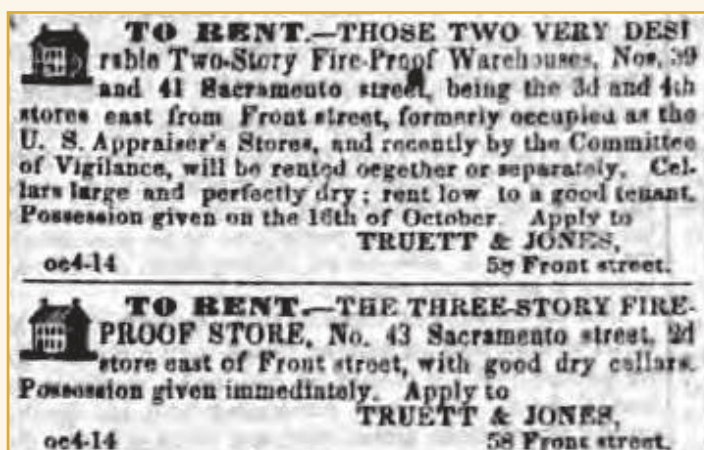
ONE OF CALIFORNIA'S RAREST AND MOST HISTORIC BOTTLES HAS BEEN DISCOVERED. IT'S LIKE FINDING THAT ONE GOLDEN "DEW DROP" FALLING IN THE MISTY MORNING AIR DURING SUNRISE.



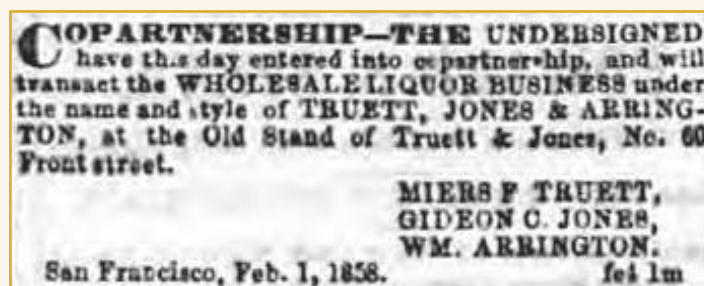
Rare William T. Coleman & Co., San Francisco flask



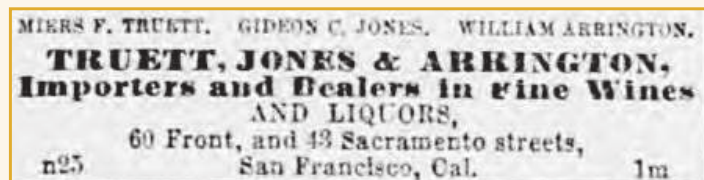
1860 billhead for Truett, Jones & Arrington



Daily Alta 1857



Daily Alta 1858



Daily Alta & Sacramento Daily Union 1858

This error could be why only a few were made. Notice that the bottle reads “Bottled For” not “Bottled By”. This was probably bottled exclusively for Truett, Jones & Arrington for their involvement with the San Francisco Vigilance Committee. There are only two of these bottles known to exist. This one shown was found in California and the other one on the East Coast.

Here is how Truett, Jones & Arrington got their start in California and how they all came together as one company.

“Miers Fisher Truett”

Born: Pennsylvania Oct. 6, 1816
Died: New Mexico Sept. 27, 1885
Wife: *Salina G. Dodge*
5 children

Miers F. Truett arrived in San Francisco with his brother Henry B. Truett, on the *Steamer Independence* on Sept. 18, 1851. In 1852 they build the first brick buildings at the corner of Front & Sacramento Streets. From 58, 60 Front St. to 39, 41, 43, 45 Sacramento St. They soon open up a grocery store at 60 Front St. Known as “Truett & Truett.” They started selling liquors in 1854. His brother H.B. Truett retires from the company early part of 1855. Truett then has Gideon C. Jones join him as a partner in Oct. 1855 at 58 Front St. & 41 Sacramento St. On Feb. 1, 1858, Truett & Jones add William Arrington to the partnership, known as “Truett, Jones & Arrington,” which only lasted until Sept. 26, 1860. Miers F. Truett was a prominent figure and businessman in California. He was one of the Board of Directors with the Sacramento Valley Railroad in 1855, California’s first railroad. He was a leader with the San Francisco Vigilance Committee of 1856, alongside William T. Coleman. The 1856 Vigilance Committee’s headquarters were at the wholesale liquor house of “Truett & Jones” 41 Sacramento St. also known as “Fort Gunnybags.” After the company of Truett, Jones & Arrington dissolved in 1860, Truett becomes a landlord and rents his buildings out to various companies until about 1865. Truett heads to New Mexico where he lives until he died in 1885.



Dew Drop with drips in the embossing



Embossing on the side of the bottle



Nice light swirls in the bottle



Logo of the Vigilance Committee in San Francisco



Beautiful example

Copartnerships.

DISSOLUTION—THE COPARTNER-
ship heretofore existing under the firm of TRUETT,
JONES & ARRINGTON, by mutual consent, is this day
dissolved. Miers F. Truett and Wm. Arrington are au-
thorized to sign in liquidation.

MIERS. F. TRUETT,
GIDEON C. JONES,
WM. ARRINGTON.

September 26th, 1860. ss27-1m

Daily Alta 1860

NOTICE.

I HAVE THIS DAY DISPOSED OF MY
entire interest in the WINE AND LIQUOR BUSINESS
recently conducted by me, at No. 307 Sacramento street, to
GIDEON C. JONES, Esq., who will settle all debts due to
and from said business.

JOHN S. DAVIES.

GIDEON C. JONES,
WHOLESALE DEALER
IN
Fine Wines and Liquors,
No. 307 Sacramento street.
SAN FRANCISCO.

Jy20-1m

Daily Alta 1854

Copartnership Notices.

DISSOLUTION.—The co-partnership heretofore exist-
ing under the firm of COGHILL & ARRINGTON is
this day dissolved by mutual consent. The business of the
concern will be settled by either of the partners.

J. HY. COGHILL,
WM. ARRINGTON.

July 19, 1851.

The subscriber will continue the business at the old stand,
under style and firm of J. H. COGHILL & CO. Merchants
buying for the up-river towns will find at his store a large
stock of goods suited to their trade.

J. HENRY COGHILL,
Front st, south of Pacific Wharf.

Jy23-7

Daily Alta 1851

100 CASES BRANDY AND FRESH
fruits, assorted;
50 doz fresh peaches, in 2-1/2 tins;
50 eighth pipes, pure French brandy;
200 sacks green Central America coffee;
150 packages Imperial and Gunpowder tea, in canisters;
500 packages Young Hyson, 6 lbs each;
500 kegs leaf lard; 10 cans do, in tins;
700 kits No. 1 mackarel;
Mess pork in hf bbls; Chile peaches;
Winchester's soap, olive oil, &c.

ARRINGTON & CO,
Corner Jackson and Front streets.

nov14

Daily Alta 1852

Business Cards.

D. MADDUX. J. M. B. WETHERWAX. J. T. MADDUX.
MADDUX, WETHERWAX & CO.,
Wholesale Dealers in
**Groceries, Provisions, Wines, Liquors,
Miners' Tools, &c.**
No. 58 Front street, between K and L, Sacramento.
REFER TO—Arrington & Co. and Wm. T. Coleman. San
Francisco; J. Price & Co., Sacramento. ap21 2m

Daily Alta 1854

"Gideon C. Jones"

Born: Kentucky

Died: San Francisco August 10, 1867

Wife: Sarah Russell

1 child, daughter

Gideon C. Jones started in San Francisco as a liquor merchant with a Mr. Horn in August 1853, known as, "Jones, Horn & Co." 91 Battery St. The company changed to "Jones & Lonax" on Jan. 1, 1854, then to "G.C. Jones & Co." on May 1, 1854. I guess Jones had a hard time finding a good partner. He finally joined Truett in Oct. 1855, known as "Truett & Jones" 58 Front St and 41 Sacramento St. Then they add Arrington to the partnership in 1858. Jones was quite the rebel. He was arrested for treason in 1863 for aiding and supplying a Confederate pirate ship off the coast of California. The pirate ship was called the *Chapman*.

He served most of his time and was given leniency by President Lincoln and was released in 1864. Jones lived in San Francisco until he died in 1867. Both he and his wife died the same day in an accident leaving their daughter age 13, as an orphan.

"William Arrington"

Born: North Carolina

Wife: Lydia

Died: Aug. 14, 1855 age 36

William Arrington started in San Francisco in 1850 as a merchant with a Mr. Coghill. The firm was known as "Coghill & Arrington" 65 Jackson St. Arrington left Coghill and started his own company on July 25, 1851, known as "Arrington & Co." 4 Orleans Row. Arrington joined the company of "Truett & Jones" on Feb. 1, 1858. The company of Truett, Jones & Arrington ended on Sept. 26, 1860. William Arrington is no longer listed in business after 1860. Records show him sailing back east to the Carolinas on the steamer called *America* on Jan. 11, 1865.

He was most likely heading to his hometown. It's the last time he is mentioned. William's brother Nicolas O. Arrington helped him with his business for a short time in the early 1850s. Nicolas Arrington was one of the Executive Committee members of the 1851 San Francisco Vigilance Committee. Both William and Nicolas were also Vigilantes during the 1856 Vigilante Committee under William T. Coleman. Known as the Arrington Brothers during that time. After the San Francisco Vigilante incidents, Nicolas goes on to be the V.P. of the California & New York Steamship Co. in 1857.

