SCIENTIFIC NOTES.

ISINGLASS.—J. L. Souberaine, who has recently examined the different varieties of this article, points out these distinctions: Russian isinglass dissolves very rapidly in hot water, seldom leaving over 2 per cent of insoluble residue; it is pleasant to the taste, and yields a firm and transparent gelatine. Bengal or Indian isinglass dissolves readily, but leaves a much larger proportion of residue—from 7 to 13 per cent; it often has a fishy taste, and its gelatine is not clear. The gelatine obtained from Brazilian isinglass is opaque and acrid. The isinglass prepared in China is seldom exported.

THE HOT BLAST FOR BLOWPIPE PURPOSES.—Mr. W. Skey has given in *The London Chemical News* the results of his experiments in testing the effects of substituting a hot blast for a cold one, as heretofore used, for the production of the well-known blow-pipe flame, which seems to show that a flame so produced has its thermal and illuminating power very greatly augmented. In his experiments the temperature of the blast was, approximately, 500° F.; the diameter of the jet was one-thirtieth of an inch, and the combustible for receiving the blast was stearin. This flame manifested a very decided superiority over the common blow-pipe flame: substances difficult to fuse in the latter—magnetite, potash-feldspar, mica—readily yielded under these circumstances; while thick glass tubes, half an inch in diameter, and hard German glass tubes, were tractable to an eminent degree. Substances for the fusion of which the hydro-oxygen flame or some equivalent of it in heating power, is said to be indispensable, also yielded before the blow-pipe flame thus urged; for instance, platinum, pipe-clay, fire-clay, agate, opal, flint. Alumina only appeared to vitrify, while crystallized quartz could not be fused to a globule; their splinters, however, curled round upon themselves like scolezite, showing that the melting point was almost reached. It appears from this that a very small amount of some foreign substances exercise a marked effect upon the fusibility of silica, agate, opal, &c., being only a little less pure than rock crystal, though so readily fusible in this flame. The minimum temperature of the flame is estimated at 4596° F., and as the actual temperature of Hare's hydro-oxygen and lime light is estimated to be only 2,000° F., the author suggests that air thus heated might be substituted for oxygen gas. As this heating of the air would involve the use of a furnace, the improvement could not be conveniently applied to the portable lime-light apparatus now in extensive use.

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PROPRIETARY.—One cent, two cents, three cents, four cents, and five cents.

CLASS II.

BEER STAMPS.—Hogsheads, barrels, half barrels, third barrels, quarter barrels, sixth barrels, and eighth barrels.

CLASS III.

Stamps for Distilled Spirits, Pint, half pint, ten gallons, 20 gallons, 30 gallons, 40 gallons, 50 gallons, 60 gallons, 70 gallons, 80 gallons, 90 gallons, 100 gallons, 110 gallons, 120 gallons, and 130 gallons.

CLASS IV.

Stamps for Distilled Spirits, "other than tax paid," Distillery Warehouse, Rectified Spirits, and Wholesale Liquor Dealers.

CLASS V.

Tobacco Stamps, half pound, 1 pound, 2 pounds, 3 pounds, 5 pounds, 10 pounds, 15 pounds, 20 pounds, 21 pounds, 22 pounds, 40 pounds, and 60 pounds.

Class 1.—To be gummed, dried, and perforated, and prepared for issue in sheets.

Class 2.—Without gumming and perforation, prepared for issue in sheets, 20 stamps on a sheet.

Class 3.—Without gumming, to be engraved with nine coupons, and one stub attached to each stamp, each stamp and stub to be numbered in serial numbers and bound in book form. Each book to contain 150 stamps, 3 on a page, and book to be appropriately lettered and numbered. Bidders will also make proposals for this class of stamp as above, 300 stamps to the book.

Class 4.—Without gumming and perforation. Each stamp to have an engraved stub attached, stamps and stubs to be numbered in serial numbers, and bound in book form. Each book to contain 600 stamps, 4 on a page, and bound, lettered, and numbered.

Class 5.—½ pound to 5 pounds, inclusive, without gumming and perforation, to be issued in sheets, 12 stamps on a sheet.

All the other denominations mentioned, excepting the 15 pounds, to be engraved with stub attached, stamps and stubs to be numbered in serial numbers, and bound in book form. Each book to contain 600 stamps, 5 stamps on a page, and bound, lettered, and numbered. The 15 pound stamps to be as above, with the addition of nine coupons attached to each stamp.

Bids are also asked for the ½ to 5 pound stamps, inclusive, to be prepared and bound in book form as above described with stubs, but without the coupons.

Specimens of the above mentioned stamps may be seen at the office of the Commissioner of Internal Revenue, and sizes and descriptions taken therefrom.

Bidders will state the price per thousand stamps, separately, inclusive and exclusive of paper, deliverable at their place of business, and also at the Office of the Commissioner of Internal Revenue in Washington; the cost of delivery should be given both inclusive and exclusive of the cost of packing and boxing.

Bids will be made separately for printing in one and two colors. Stamps of class 1, the principal color to be permanent and the other fugitive. All the other classes mentioned to be printed in permanent colors. The additional cost of printing a tint upon the stamps printed in one color should also be stated.

Bidders will state in their bids the mode of printing proposed by them, whether plate printing or surface printing.

Each bid to be accompanied with a specimen of the style of engraving, and the quality of paper proposed to be furnished, and the accepted bidder, before the final consummation of a contract, will be required to furnish proof impressions of the engravings of the several kinds and denominations of stamps.

The contract will require all designs, dies and plates to be prepared, and dies and plates to be kept bright and sharp, and that new and additional designs, dies and plates shall be made either for the present kinds and denominations of stamps or others, without charge, at the pleasure of the Secretary of the Treasury, and the Commissioner of Internal Revenue, and all such designs, dies and plates to be the property of, and delivered to the United States Treasury Department, at the termination of the contract, or whenever demanded by the said Department. That the stamps shall be prepared and delivered of such kinds and denominations, and in such quantities and at such times as the Commissioner of Internal Revenue for the time being may direct.

[A statement of the numbers of stamps issued during the fiscal year ended 30th June, 1870, may be seen at the office of the Commissioner.]

And that all measures and precautions which the Commissioner of Internal Revenue shall deem necessary to take in order to protect the Government against frauds or negligence on the part of the Contractor or his employes, shall be taken at the proper charge and expense of the Contractor.

No bids will be considered except from parties who have been, or are actually engaged in the business of steel engraving and printing, and provided with all the necessary facilities to execute the work promptly and give the requisite protection to the stamps, dies, and plates in their possession. Parties not known to the Department will furnish proof as to these points.

Bidders will state the time from the date of the contract, if awarded, when they will be ready to commence delivering the stamps, and their daily capacity for delivery thereafter. Bids may be made for any one class of stamps mentioned in this notice, or for all.

Each bid must be accompanied by a guarantee of at least two responsible persons, that in case the bid is accepted and a contract entered into, they will become sureties in such reasonable sum as may be required by the Government, for the faithful performance of the contract.

The contract to be made for not less than one year, nor more than three years, as may be agreed upon.

In awarding the contract the Commissioner reserves the right to reject any or all proposals in case it shall appear to be for the interest of the Government to do so. Proposals should be carefully sealed and marked "Proposals for Revenue Stamps" and addressed to the Commissioner of Internal Revenue. C. DELANO, Commissioner of Internal Revenue.
Oct. 10, 1870.
Approved:
GEO. S. BOUTWELL, Secretary.

OFFICE OF ACTING COMMISSARY OF SUBSISTENCE, FORT WADSWORTH, N. Y. HARBOR, Oct. 7, 1870.

PROPOSALS in duplicate, with copy of this advertisement attached, will be received by the undersigned until 12 o'clock m., December 1, 1870, for supplying FRESH BEEF to troops at this post.

The said beef must be fresh, of a good marketable quality, in equal proportion of fore and hind-quarters (neck, shank and kidney tallow to be excluded), and to be delivered at this post free of cost, in such quantity as may be from time to time required, by and on such days as the commanding officer shall designate—not exceeding four times per week.

The necks of the cattle slaughtered for beef to be delivered under this agreement shall be cut off at the fourth vertebral joint, and the breast trimmed down. The shanks of fore-quarters shall be cut off from three to four inches above the knee-joint, and of hind-quarters from six to eight inches above the gambrel or hock-joint.

Separate proposals in duplicate will also be received by the undersigned up to the same hour and date above-mentioned, for supplying commissioned officers and their families stationed at this post, or supplied therefrom, with such choice fresh beef as they may from time to time require, such as sirloin and porterhouse steak, standing ribs, or rib roasts.

These contracts to be in force six months, or such less time as the Commissary-General shall direct, commencing on the 1st January, 1871, subject to the approval of the Commanding-General of the Department of the East.

In case of failure or deficiency in the quality or quantity of the fresh beef stipulated to be delivered, then the Commissary at Fort Wadsworth, New-York Harbor, shall have power to supply the deficiency by purchase, and the contractor will be charged with the difference of cost.

The contractor will be required to enter into bonds for the sum of two thousand dollars, signed also by two responsible sureties, whose names must be mentioned in the bids.

A deposit of twenty dollars will be required with each bid, which will be returned to unsuccessful bidders on the contract being awarded, and to the contractor upon the first delivery under the contract.

The proposals will be opened at 12 o'clock m., on the 1st December, 1870, at Fort Wadsworth, New-York Harbor, at which time and place bidders are requested to be present.

Proposals will be marked "Proposals for Fresh Beef," and addressed,
L. S. CHAMBERLIN, First Lieut. 1st Artillery, A. C. S.

THE MONEY MARKET.

SALES AT THE STOCK EXCHANGE.—FIRST CALL, 10½ o'CLOCK A. M.

Sales of Government Bonds.

5,000 U. S. 5s '81 Reg.....114
1,000 U. S. 6s, '81 Coup.....114
3,500.....114
11,600 U. S. 5-20 Reg '62.....108½
500.....108½
5,000.....108½
1,000 U. S. 5-20 Con '62.....c.111¼
4,000 U. S. 5-20 Con '65.....c.111¼

Sales of State Bonds—Railroad Bonds—Bank and Railroad—Express Stocks, &c.

10,000 Tenn 6s, ex-c 62½
1,000 No Ca 6s, T. 23½
5,000 Sou Car 6s, ne Jan. and Jul.....67½
500 Georgia 6s.....81
3,000 Cent Pac R'd Gold Bds.....90½
3,000 Albany & Susquehanna 2d.....92½
2,000 Chic & N W I 94
2,000 C R I & P 7s. 97½
2,000 Mer & Exc 2. 95½
1,500 Cleve & Pit 4 77½
2,000 Pt F W & C 1,104
8,000 Tol & Wab 1 90½
1,000 St Louis & Iro Mount'n 1st m 85½
3,000.....96
1,000 Lake Shore D Bonds.....91½
5,000 Col Cin & Ind Central 1 m.....79½
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