

FORGE CUSTOMERS, 1784-5

Forges buying pig iron are not listed by forge name, ~~but~~ "Coventryville," "Valley Forge" but under the proprietor's and as purchasers of forge needs. Naturally, ^{MOST} ~~some~~ forges enter the Journal as buyers of 500 pound forge hammers, anvils and fire-box castings.

NO Berks county forges were purchasers in 1784-85 except Geo Ege's Charming Forge and then only for a single pig purchase of 25 tons. This suggests that John Patton's Berkshire Furnace in Ege's neighborhood right then was out of blast; that Hopewell's pig price was lower is hardly possible.

Thomas Pott's forge is most likely nearby Coventryville Forge, Pott's property until about 1800 when May bought that forge. Dewese purchases are NOT for Valley Forge, but for the Birdsboro Forges which he is operating 1782-85. He bought pig, forge hammers and firebox castings. But his "shot and shell" purchase is an illustration of "swords being beat into plowshares", into wagon tire and horseshoe bar iron. Passmore, forge owner on the Brandywine in Chester County is ~~fix~~ of interest for the same reason. He hammered three GREAT GUNS into bar iron. His purchase is also the sole Record proof at Hopewell that Mark Bird did cast cannon here. Joseph Potts of Glasgow Forge of 1772, then one-third owned by Bird, is NOT in this Journal, but Jesse Potts bought two forge hammers.

These pig buyers should be checked in the U.S. Census of 1790, to definitely ~~locate~~ locate their forges. All had to be nearby so that pig could be wagoned to them. (The same check applies to the working forge at Bdsbo and in Union Twp.)

Names to check in Census of 1790 for location of their/forges.

William	SM 4/MR	
Wm DeWees/Valley Forge?	p 84	NO! AT BDBB.
English, John	p 71	NOT IN <u>BINING</u> OP. SPG FORGE FOR BIRD?
Ege, George Charming?	p 91	early, at Wm's Forge B. 132 2nd page 58
Hockley, James	p 71, 143	
Hough), Matthias Slough)	p 89	LANC. CO. <u>BINING</u> p 134
Moore, James	p 97, 147	NOT IN <u>B</u>
Passmore, John	p 73, 131	NOT IN <u>B</u> Bds ch. ch. Co.
PIGMETTLE	p 9	
Potts, Jesse	p 145	NOT IN <u>B</u>
Potts, Thomas	p 45	Coventryville?
Twaddell, James	p 87	Bds ch <u>B</u> p 189 ch Co.
Walker, Thomas	p 93	EARLY V.F. NOT IN <u>B</u>
Young , Widow	p 60	on lower French Ck, buys sgle forge hmer. SEE <u>EARLY IRON INDUSTRY IN NORTHERN CHESTER CO.</u> (H. S. Ch. Co. 1936)
BIRD Forges	Bdsbo	p 103, 148 Not producing bar by 1785-FLOOD of 1786?
SPRING	p 71, 102	buys HAMMERS and pig 59 T before June 21, 1784
GLASGOW		Bird owned in 1772, seemingly sold before ^{p 71} any Mortgage. Pre 1786 sale would be in Phila Ct <u>Rclds.</u>
		NONE