

MARK BIRD WAS PAID "IN FULL"

Mark Bird, like all suppliers to the Continental Government, had to wait for payment for cannon, shot and shell. While partial payments are in the Journals of the Continental Congress, ^{records of} full and final payments evidentially did NOT survive. ^{Archives sent us "everything"} Bird wrote to the Congress as late as Sept 15, 1783 requesting the "great chain across the Hudson (NOT made by him but in NYork) in payment for his unsettled account. Hence, final settlement had not been accomplished by that date. Sept 15, 1783, two years after the Treaty of Peace. Bird headed his letter "Falls of Delaware" and was THEN engaged in building the biggest ironworks in America at this site. Sheriffed there in 1786; Sales here were UNSUCCESSFUL until Hopewell ~~and~~ Bdsbo and Spring Forge were sheriff sold in 1788. Bird wrote ^{at least} two letters back to Pennsylvania; to Dr Benj Rush surviving at HS of Penna and to ~~Dr Benj Rush~~ Matthew Brooke, ^{our Document 807 of 01} to whom he had sold Bdsbo as James Wilson's agent in 1796. In neither does he mention UNPAID/BILLS. He does blame the "vile" war ^{an attempt} The soldier received "depreciation certificates #/to remedy the horrible inflation of ~~the~~ 1778-9 But whether suppliers did is unknown. These certificates, if held to after Hamilton and Jefferson agreed to have the nation assume state debts, went to PAR. But hte average man had to sell his as soon as he received them. ^{The market was flooded with these promises to pay in the future} The speculators, buying at high discounts, ~~made~~ made fortune Frey at Middletown was one. If Mark Bird received such certificates, he had to sacrifice them after this 1783 date since he was building the \$200 000 plant at the Falls of Delaware