

HIDES SOLD ^TMEAN/BEEF FOR BIRD WORKERS

Bookkeeping at Hopewell varied with the ~~periods~~ times . Seemingly, when a clerk was "new", details went into Journals profusely. As he became proficient and the owners knew he was honest, details decreased. The supply of beef available to workers who boarded and sold to those who did not board can OFTEN be calculated with a lack of accuracy from the weight of hides sold. Even ALL meat sales were not book entries. Neither ^{Neither} not the Furnace Clement Brooke/paid for ~~me~~ any meat during the entire year of 1832 and this ^{HAD TO} included the meat provided for those workmen who boarded "at the House".

Mark Bird's bookkeeping system, with only a single Journal surviving, is equally confusing regarding meat. Workers are charged for board, Negro and indentured workers receive their meals, but no meat is charged for this express purpose.

As a result, shoemaker Bartholmew Wamback during 1784-85 assumes more importance since his HIDE PURCHASES reflect meat killed and consumed at Hopewell Furnace as well as shoes worn by Hopewell workers. He also repaired their shoes.

1000 POUNDS OF HIDES

About 1021 pounds of hides- individual hides weighed from ^M27 to 62 pounds, a calf "skin" 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ and possibly 19 hides more suggest the killing of about FORTY cattle between Jan. 10, 1784 and Jan. 20, 1785. The average might be an animal a week. He sold Hopewell about a hundred pairs of shoes, plus three pair labelled "womens" and nine pair for children. Though he drew over 144 Pounds, (over \$380) in cash and had three BLANK credit entries for shoes sold to Hopewell, he "owed" Bird about 117 Pounds at the Journal's end in 1785. (about \$311.)

Wamback paid four pence a pound for hides and may have been a middleman in these purchases rather than a tanner since he did NOT sell any leather to Mark Bird. His shoes cost ^{WHOLESALE} for 8 to 10 Shillings a pair with the price being lower in late 1784. Childrens' shoes cost from ^(.96 - 1.20) 5/6 to 9 Shillings. ^(.70 - 1.09) OVER