

William
KEEPER-FOUNDER/ROADS (p 23, 118) entered the Journal with the purchase of an
axe and ^Asocket wedge, normally the sign of a woodcutter. Unexplained pay from
Founder Steese, not Mark Bird, is the reason for assigning him to a Keeper
position. This was verified by his advancement to co-founder when Founder Steese
died. Seemingly, Roads did NOT cut cordwood during the three weeks at the end
of "blast" in April, 1784. However, in December, he was credited with woodcutting
pay of 5.19.3 for cutting 53 cords at 2/3, about .29 a cord. This payment might be
a "lost" bookkeeping entry from the April closedown, normally three weeks for
the removal and replacement of the inwalls and hearth. In eighteen woodcutting
days, this production averaged about three cords daily, earning him about .87 a day.
Recall, that incentive pay made a man work his hardest and that no one could
afford a ~~three~~ week "vacation" without pay.

as does Road's heavy meat and flour purchases suggested both family and nearby residence,
Payment for garden plowing. But NO Rents are entered in this Journal.
Selling veal to Hopewell suggested both the butchering of a calf, ^{and} (perhaps) the
ownership of a cow. He smoked or chewed moderately and owned a horse, perhaps
riding to work. Two pints of ^{RUM} ~~rum~~ within three days did not make him a drunk, nor did
the purchase of a half-gallon of whiskey at five Shillings, abt. 65 a galon.
Potatoe and horse-feed purchases after April both suggest the complete consump~~t~~
tion of the home-raised supply. Family size ~~ix~~ was hinted by the purchase of
women's and children's shoes; one son may have been named Denis. His wife definite
ly help earn a better living by washing twenty days at the Big House for House~~kee~~
keeper Mary Paine. Pay for a day's washing varied from a Shilling to 1/3, from
.13 to .16 a day. Regularly drawing cash whenever he~~d~~ needed or wanted it, his
wife collected/ ^{this necessity} on occasion. Clothing, other than shoes and stockings, were not ~~bo~~
bought at Hopewell, nor did he have an account with tailor McCormick. And seven
yards of linen/ ^{at .31 a yard,} for a family of four is very minimal. He reflected his better
paying job by the use of home-dipped TALLOW candles. Costing, ^{8 Pence,} more per pound than
beef, tallow candles lighted a home better than the dirty-stinking common
fat lamp.

Upon Steese's death, he and Peter Rice operated the furnace and cast ALL the stoves with the flat-bed method. While this cost less than flaskcasting, stoves were very heavy and higher priced. Both founders received half of the earnings from the total furnace output. The purchase of a GREATCOAT, a pair of flatirons, and two Hopewell teakettles at \$1.62 each, may have been in celebration of the new job.

ROAD'S EARNINGS

Road's keeper pay by April 8- the earliest/suggested blast ending found in this Journal= ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ provided January-March operation for a pay of 13.0.0, about \$34, or .37 a day. (The keepers probably split/minimal Sunday work.) Precise time is unknown. His September keeping credit reflected a definite pay for a more definite ~~time~~ period (without deduction for out-of-blast time), about 153 days for 18.7.5, or \$47.88 about .31 a day.

Pay as cofounder from September through December duplicated that of cofounder Rice. For producing 331 tons, he ~~earned~~ earned about \$74, ~~or~~ or .64 a day, perhaps double that for keeping.

Road's total earnings were 100.3.8, about \$266. Moderate living enabled him to "save" (without clothing costs) 30.5.7, about \$80. However, only his flour purchases reflected better living as a cofounder:

XXXXXXXXXX	Days	Flour	Beef Pork	Beef	Fish	Daily average Flour	Meat	
Jan-Mar.	91	9 Qr	121#	23½	12 qt	2.46	loaves	1.58 #
April-Aug.	153	19 Qr	210	49	20	3.47	"	1.69* + 25 mackerel, one a week.
Sept.-Dec.	122	17½ Qr	-	183½	18	4.	"	1.51 + 16 mackerel and 4"fish"

* Sold veal to Hopewell.