

# “THE MECHANICK’S ADVISER”

## for November 18 - 24

### Armoury:

**Blacksmith** – “Ken has been assembling a grid iron and forging hub bands; Mark forged hinges for the Joiners, and shutter dogs; Aislinn is making locks for leather document cases, and hand-rail; and the Apprentices are forging away, and away, and away. Repetition is the rule.”

**Tin Shop** – “Our Tinsmiths are creating coffee pots, dark lanterns, and reflecting ovens.”

**Brickyard** – The annual ‘Firing the Brick Kiln’ will conclude on November 18. The site will return to its normal operating hours of 9am-5pm.

**Colonial Garden** – “This week, the Gardeners continued to prepare for frost. There was a light frost on the November 11<sup>th</sup>, and all of our tarps and glasses were put to use. This first frost is the prelude to a killing frost, which we expect soon. We did have our first fire in our fireplace this week to keep us and our guests warm. The beech trees were limbed up and ivy pulled off the trunks. We conducted general fall cleanup of the last weeds that we will see for a long time. The endive eaten down by the rabbit is growing back out. Mulching with pine straw around tender plants continues, covering our newly-planted bulbs, the flower bed, and some of the vegetables.”

**Joinery** – “The Joinery will be putting the last touches on three hanging cupboards before putting these projects to the side for December and January. Peter will be fixing up some drawers and preparing them for his cupboard, while Scott will be assembling his raised-panel door. Amanda will be cutting and fitting the mitered half-laps on her sash-door. All of these are skills that they will encounter again and again over the course of their apprenticeships.”

**Military Programs** – “Military Programs is continuing planning for Grand Illumination, and the Illuminations following. Additionally, we are progressing in our plans for programming next year, to include the 80th Light Infantry Project, Guard House Talks, afternoon drills, and more development for ‘The Necessity of Order in Battle’.”

**Printing Office** – “New in the Press: Richard Bland’s ‘An Inquiry into the Rights of the British Colonies’. Published in 1766 at the Printing Office, this 32-page pamphlet will be finished sometime in the new year and available for purchase at Prentis Store.”

**Public Leather Works** – “The Public Leather Works is wrapping up the last of our ‘Less Talking, More Doing’ belt-making workshops. These are Tuesdays and Thursdays until November 20.”

**Silversmith** – “This week has been a week of accomplishment in the Silversmith Shop. Over the previous weekend, Chris completed the engraving on her small silver box, the last of her tasks as an Apprentice. After delivering the trays on Wednesday, Bobbie and Lynn have been working on making and engraving a brass plaque to be attached to a gavel block made by the Cabinet Shop. Preston has several small bowls in various stages of production. Parker is continuing to work on his copper kettle. William has finished his first piece of hollowware and is now working on chain for a hook and chatelaine.”



William's completed Gurney bowl



Chris's engraving work

**Wigmaker** – “In a break from our normal work at the Wig Shop, Christmas prep has begun! Most notably, Debbie has taken on the task of doing our wreath this year. While the rest of the work won't be done for a bit yet, she's styled a doll-sized wig that's going to be the centerpiece of the wreath. She's still working on the decorations on the wig itself, but here's a sneak peak of what's to come this December!”

