

“THE MECHANICK’S ADVISER”

For April 21 - 27

Armoury:

Blacksmith – “In the Blacksmith Shop, forge work continues on hardware for the Wheelwrights, weathervane scrollwork, pattens, spoons, and hasps for the Garden. At the benches, files are flying at buttonhole chisels, pliers, and lock parts.”

Tin Shop – “Tinderboxes, lanterns, and coffee pots are being smithed into existence with such care and hammeric rhythm that passersby might think there is a conductor before an orchestra in that tiny Tin Shop.”

Cabinetmaker – “Hello from the Anthony Hay Shop! Bill has delivered his mahogany music stand to the Palace, where it will be used during music programs. Brian continues shaping the mahogany feet for the tripod tea table and building shelves for the Shop’s attic storage. John has all the drawer parts fitted for his tool chest and is now working on cutting the dovetails.

“Now that the weather is getting warmer, Ed and Melanie are addressing any issues that might have occurred with the harpsichord. Melanie continues working on re-sawing boards for the lid with Ed’s guidance.”

Colonial Garden – “The Garden is in high gear with spring in full swing! We’ve been potting-up many seedlings from our hot beds; and weeding, of course, is always being done. We’ve completed the first turning of our large bed that held the rye. Soon, we will turn it again in preparation for our planting of watermelons and cantaloupes. Our fire pit has been removed and filled in so we can prepare the area for sunflowers. Multiple baskets of lettuce, carrots, beets, endive, leeks, onions, fennel, chard, broccoli, cabbage, and borage have been sent down to our friends at Foodways. Our lilacs are in bloom, as are some roses, bachelor buttons, tulips, and china pinks. Much to our enjoyment, the carpenter bees are back, and we have three bird nests to watch: wrens, house finches, and a robin. The robin has laid four beautiful eggs.”



Joinery – “The Joinery is still focused on finishing several projects. Amanda will be constructing and painstakingly fitting the shelves of her dumbwaiter. Scott is no less challenged by fitting the tenons in his walnut panel-door. Finally, Peter will continue to cut dovetails and fit the drawers for his hanging cupboard. All three can be found grumbling about the humidity and what it does to wood over at the Shop.”

Milliner and Mantua-Maker – The shop is closed this week for annual preventative maintenance.

Silversmith – “Bobbie continues fitting and soldering pieces of her spice casters, the first of which is nearly completely assembled, and she will be piercing the shaker pattern soon. She has also started raising the lid for a tankard. Lynn has completed the weroan plate and begun running test prints. This week, she has been working diligently on a last-minute bell order. Chris has started her teapot components. George and Preston have begun other components for the tankard, while also refurbishing chasing tools and finishing small bowls, respectively. Parker has been focusing on two small Jefferson cups. William is fitting the base to his Gurney bowl.”



The first of several weroan test prints