

THE MECHANICK'S ADVISER

for the week of Sept 13-19

Apothecary – They have finished collecting info on 17th- and early 18th-century treatments for lice that a professor had requested. He wrote that due to the joint effort from Training and Trades, he has not been to C.W. but now wants to come and visit. They gave Peter their teacher's manual for internships for pharmacy students (a proposed venture with at least one professor and one local pharmacy school.)

Artificer's Shop – They will be finishing the last of Washington's camp equipment for the Museum of the American Revolution, and beginning a run of cartridge pouches and other small jobs as needed.

Basketmaker – They **HOPE** to be splitting wood for baskets. They also hope to be going out to the woods to cut trees.

Bindery – They are working on two quarto bindings in calf skin, a full binding, and a half binding, all for Prentis Store. They are also starting a fifth music book in folio to be sold, and continuing the rebinding of A Complete Housewife for Great Hopes.

Brickmaker – They are continuing brickmaking with clay in the pit for treading, prepping the kiln for construction to begin in October and the firing scheduled Nov 18-22, and working on a lime kiln at Great Hopes located next to the Windmill.

Cabinetmaker – They will be varnishing a harpsichord stand and completing the refurbishing of a 1994 Hay shop spinet, continue work on two walnut case pieces, and continue the construction of a Hay shop wing chair. Work on a replica 18th-century treadle lathe will also be under way.

Carpenters – They are building Market House sales booths and getting the Scale House ready for the final city inspection.

Coopers – They are continuing the manufacture of several large tubs to be used as covers for modern coolers at the Market House, repair of about twenty casks that will be used for programming by the Actor Interpreters, the making of a number of small tubs to be used as dog bowls around town, and the production of three beer

kilderkins (18 gallons capacity) as part of a larger order for the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation. Please see



the picture below:

Foodways – They are working on a new beer with Aleworks. They are also working on a series of pre-made punch mixes based on 18th-century recipes, getting ready for the first brewing program of the fall on September 27th, and practicing on some sugar work for next year’s confections program.

Great Hopes Plantation –

Historic Farming – Tobacco has been cut and is curing in the tobacco house. The cotton is growing well and has plenty of bolls on it. They recently cut the tops out of the corn for fodder and are pulling every blade off and tying them into hands of fodder. Plowing will begin soon when we get some rain. Please let it rain!

Domestic Arts – This new group shares the dynamic activities of the plantation mistress including cooking, gardening, and general housewifery. It has been tremendously well received by the guests as now they can see the everyday life of most women in the 18th century. The staff is currently planting greens- collards, lettuce, and cabbage in both the Kitchen garden and the Slave garden.

Gun Shop/Foundry – The Gunsmiths are making a gun lock for a new display rifle for the guests to handle, and a pair of flint locks for a cased pair of pistols for a custom order. The Foundry is making bronze pipe tamps and pewter tea spoons for Prentis Store.

Historic Garden – The summer garden is coming out and the winter garden is going in. The cabbage, cauliflower, and collards are planted, the turnips are seeded and just up. Hope to see the kale above ground next week. The last pumpkins have been harvested, and the patch is being tilled in preparation for sowing with rye grass as a winter cover crop.

Joiners – They are working on tables, stalls, and crates for the Market House.

Millinery – As part of a foundation wide effort, they have just finished making a gown and quilting a changeable red silk petticoat for Mrs. Virginia, Jatana Jackson. They are now catching up with other projects: the study of a 1780’s jacket and petticoat from the collection with the intention of copying it, a pair of stays and

a gown for a donor, and a new young lady's gown for our shop display. Please see the picture of Mrs. Virginia



below:

Printers – They are folding and gathering sections of “A Pretty Story...”, readying them for sale as a stitched book. They are also correcting the third of four forms for “The Articles of Confederation” (expecting to have this in production soon).

Shoemaker – They will be making shoes.

Silversmith – They are working on various sorts of spoons, Gurney Bowls, a large punch bowl and a “skittle ball” teapot, a pair of patty pans, Revere Beakers and raised beakers, a thistle cup, trade silver jewelry, a 12-inch Montieth, and a copper vessel (which is being raised by the intern).

Please note that at any given time, not all of these items will be being worked on, but all will be available to be seen and discussed with anyone who is interested.

Tailors – They are finishing a worsted coat, a pair of knit cotton breeches, and beginning mattresses and curtains for Washington's camp bed.

Weavers – They are finishing fabric for Foodways, table linens and a coverlet for Prentis. They are doing homeschool programs at Great Hopes on Tuesday and Thursday Sept 15 and 17. Next projects- linsey Woolsey blue and white stripes, and George Washington double weave medallion blankets.

Wheelwright – They are continuing with the production of carts for Products to use at the Market House and in fixing and repainting older Products carts.

Wigmaker – They are working on constructing a Bob Wig that was seen in Germany (comprised of human and horse hair), a wiglet for one of our AI's., a wig for Richard Schuman (aka Patrick Henry), and daily maintenance on wigs used by our staff to support various programming (Plays, Ghost Tours, Rev City and commercials).