

REQUEST FOR HELP WITH IMPORTERS STUDY

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I am in the process of revising the recently published ebook, *Queensware Direct from the Potteries: U. S. Importers of Staffordshire Ceramics in Antebellum America, 1820 – 1860*.

I have a few more importer's marks to add to the Directory, some updates, etc. I would greatly appreciate any help that TCC members can provide in my effort to make this research tool as complete and useful as possible. These are three levels of information I need, going from the specific to the general:

1) One sherd (shard if you're British) out of thousands we analyzed from early St. Louis is a first class mystery. On the reverse of a plate fragment is the pattern name *Sirius* and a stamped maker's mark for Thomas Edwards, dating this artifact to the early 1840s. Printed on the base is: "***Imported to Order By...***" and then a terribly placed break. We never found another mark like this. I have no other importer's mark associated with T. Edwards and no other mark using the "Made to Order" statement. Has anyone seen this mark?

2) Kowalski lists seven Queensware merchants known to have under glaze importer's mark for which we don't have images:

John W. Bull, Hartford, CT
Gregory & Co. Albany, NY
Hollingsworth & Hughes, Evansville, IN
J. J. Brown, New Albany, IN
A. Reeves & Co., Louisville
Henry Higby, Pittsburgh
S. E. Moore, New Orleans

Leads, photographs, scans, Xeroxes, etc. will be appreciated and proper credit will of course be given.

3) Any pre-Civil War importers not listed in the first edition of the book will be most welcome and will help us all with future research into the Staffordshire export trade to America.

Thank you all –

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Below: Eagle mark for a St. Louis importer like that found on a platter recovered from the 1856 wreck of the steamboat Arabia.

