of his estate. Half's shop was located (1760-1783) in Queen Street, between the properties of Lewis Heck and James Shaef-

fer. That put him right next door to his chief competitor for

custom, Heck, during his business life.

The fourth, fifth, and sixth silversmiths of Lancaster still pose a problem of research. Little is known of John Edwards who, listed by Brix as working in 1773, has not yet been located on the tax rolls of the town. John Price, a silversmith who is supposed to have worked about the same time as Edwards, also remains a man of mystery, as does Philip Becker. Another little-known smith was Henry Crone, who worked in silver at Lancaster about 1780. But perhaps the legend that he was a deserter from the Revolutionary Army has something to do with the lack of readily available data on the man.

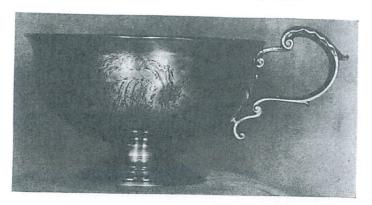
Of Peter Getz who worked in the last decade of the eighteenth century we have more information, and some silver. A piece of Getz silver was in the loan exhibition of the Pennsylvania Museum, May 1921: a scroll-handled can, with molded base, marked twice, P.GETZ in a rectangle. This was given a date around 1790. That, too, is the date ascribed by Stephen Ensko to the creamer marked P.G. four times (Fig. 2). Peter Getz was a self-taught silversmith, watchmaker, goldsmith, and diecutter. It is a matter of record that he was selected to cut the dies for the 1792 copper cent and the dies for the silver half dollar of the same date for the United States mint. Getz also worked in the early 1800's and, judging from

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a in the last times decades of the eighteenth century. Little is known about this man except that he is sometimes confused with the nineteenth-century silversmith John Ewan of Charleston, South Carolina. Only one piece of Ewing silver was found in my research, a baptismal bowl or font (Fig. 3).

It is hoped, of course (doesn't one expect it to happen when the plea is put forth in Antiques?) that owners of silver marked D.Syng, or D.S., L.Heck, or L.H., C.Hall, or C. H., or P.G., H.Crone or H. C., will communicate to the author detailed information about their treasures.

Fig. 3—Silver Baptismal Bowl or Font. By John Ewing (c. 1789). Engraved JCG; originally in the Grubb family. Privately owned.



BOARDMAN & HART: THE 1842 TARIFF

T HE SENATE COMMITTEE ON MANUFACTURES in 1842 appealed to all manufacturers in the country to help it revise the tariff to protect American industry against competition. I am fortunate in owning the answers of several manufacturers and merchants to the questionnaire, among them that of Boardman & Hart, with an appended letter by Coley & Smith. Many of the statements corroborate facts already noted by Kerfoot, but one of the letters from Lucius Hart is addressed from 6 Burling Slip, between Pearl and Water Streets, New York City - a location which disagrees with that formerly thought by the authorities to be his in 1842. Just how important these facts may prove, the future will tell. It will take but one interested reader to follow up that new manufactory in St. Louis about 1840, just where Lucius Hart was located in 1842, and whether there were any millionaires in the business at that time.

A letter to the Committee, dated New York, April 9, 1842, signed by both Boardman and Hart, says:

The average value of old Pewter in 1840 and 1841 was 121/2¢ per lb. We do not see how it is possible to get at the value of utensils manufactured of Pewter either by weight or measurement for the same time, nor can we give the value of Britannia that are made for ornaments by weight . . . We would respectfully suggest a duty of about 30% on all manufactured articles of Britannia or Pewter ware . . . We think that Britannia and Pewter ware should be included as one kind of goods . .

The answers to the Committee's questionnaire are dated April 16, 1842 and headed 6 Burling Slip:

Britannia ware is an important interest. Pewter ware is of little or no importance . . . The domestic manufacture of Pewter comnenced some 40 years since . . . commencing with the course

pewter & gradually improving until the introduction of Britannia ware, when the pewter fell by degrees into disuse. There has been a regular improvement in style and finish . . . The establishments are generally on a small scale . . . and are struggling with competition from the manufacturers of England and Germany. There are manufacturies in all the New England states, except perhaps New Hampshire and Vermont . . . There are some six or eight in New York, two in New Jersey, one each in Philadelphia, Penn. and Cincinnati, Ohio and one has very recently commenced in St. Louis, Missouri . . . Our Britannia compares not at all unfavorably with foreign articles . . . The raw material TIN (or Block Tin) . . . should be admitted free of DUTY - ANTIMONY or relugus should also be free. The manufacturers are generally an industrious enterprising class of men have struggled hard and are entitled to a reasonable protection. More than 30 per ct. might check the importations and lead to frauds. Less than 25% would not well protect us. From forty years experience of one of our firm we give the above statements in all candor . . .

To these answers Coley & Smith added the following state-

. . . The Manufacturers of Britannia Ware are truly men of small means and limited credit and we do not know of an individual who has made himself independent out of the business. Their establishments are all small but numerous . . . As to the importance of the manufacture, it is certainly extensive. In the large cities there are a few establishments devoted to the sale of Britannia Ware exclusively, but there goods are scattered through all the fancy and staple hardware shops and all the Tinshops in the Country. With an ad valorem duty of 25-30 per cent and the raw materials admitted free, this class of our manufacturers may get along as heretofore, and with steady application may realize a small profit but nothing more . . . - LAWRENCE B. ROMAINE

AUGUST 1944