

# 18th Century Material Culture

## The Tinsmith





Tinsmiths





Dutch Tinsmiths  
by Jan Joris van Viet 1635  
(Harvard Art Museum)





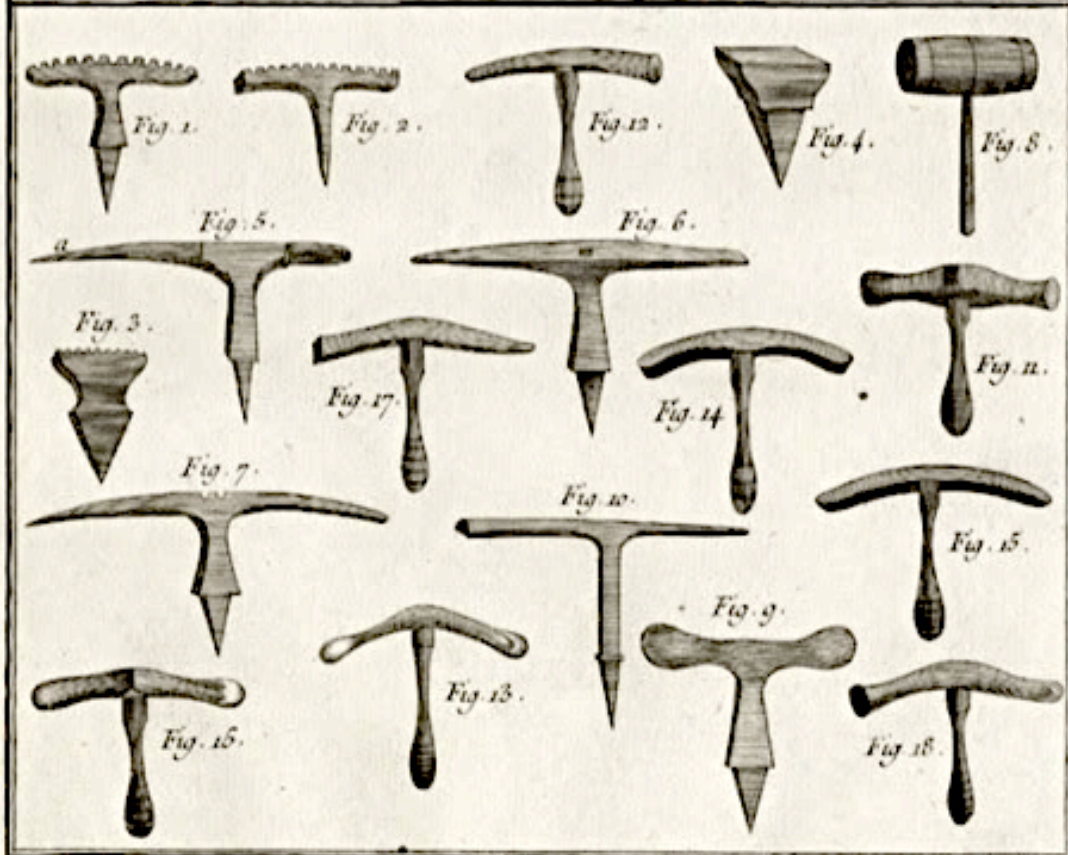
*Habit de Ferblanquier*

“Habit de Ferblanquier”  
by Nicolas de Larmessin (1640-1725)



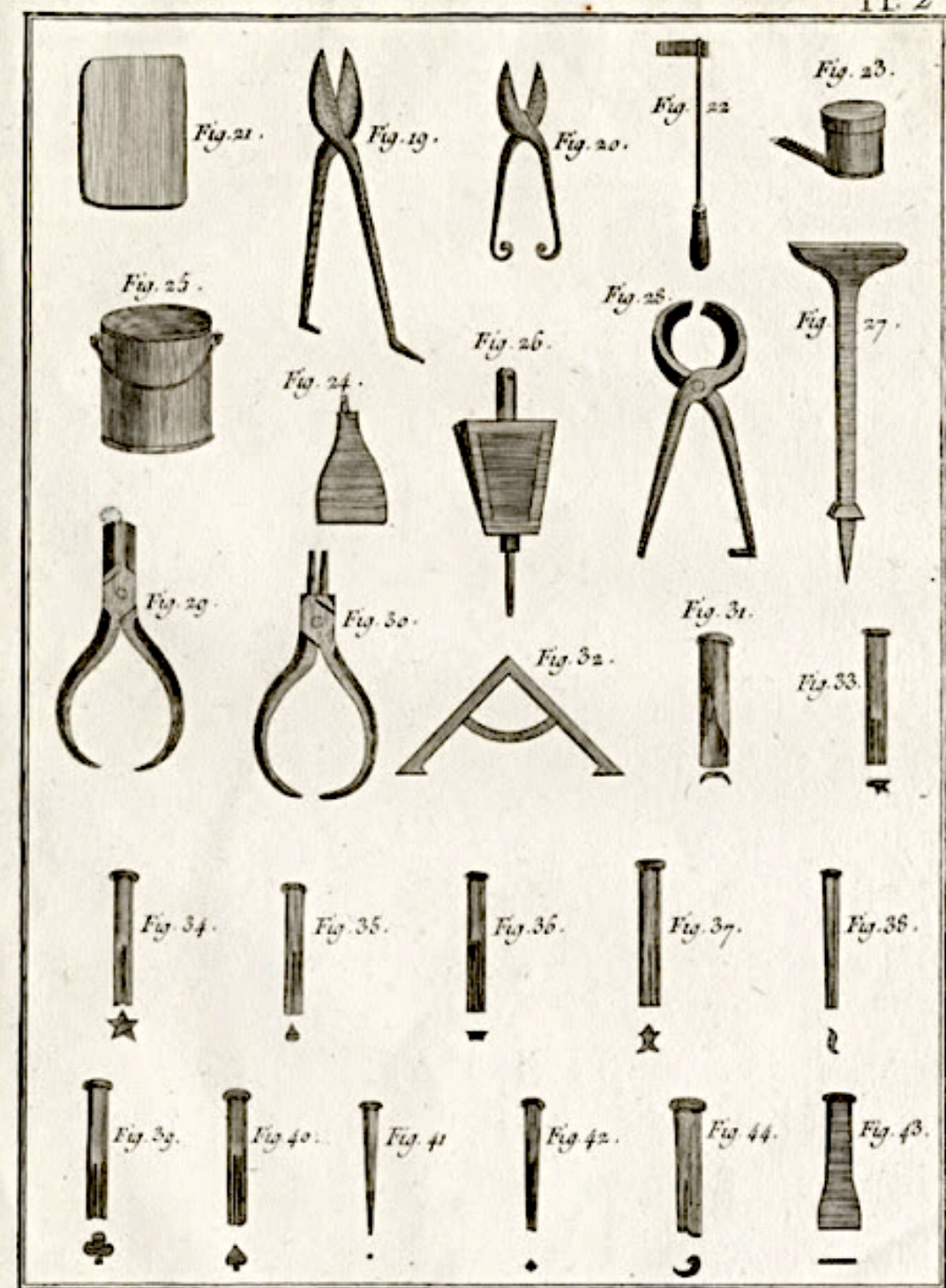
Denis Diderot





Ferblantier.

Benard Duxat.



Ferblantier.

Benard Duxat.

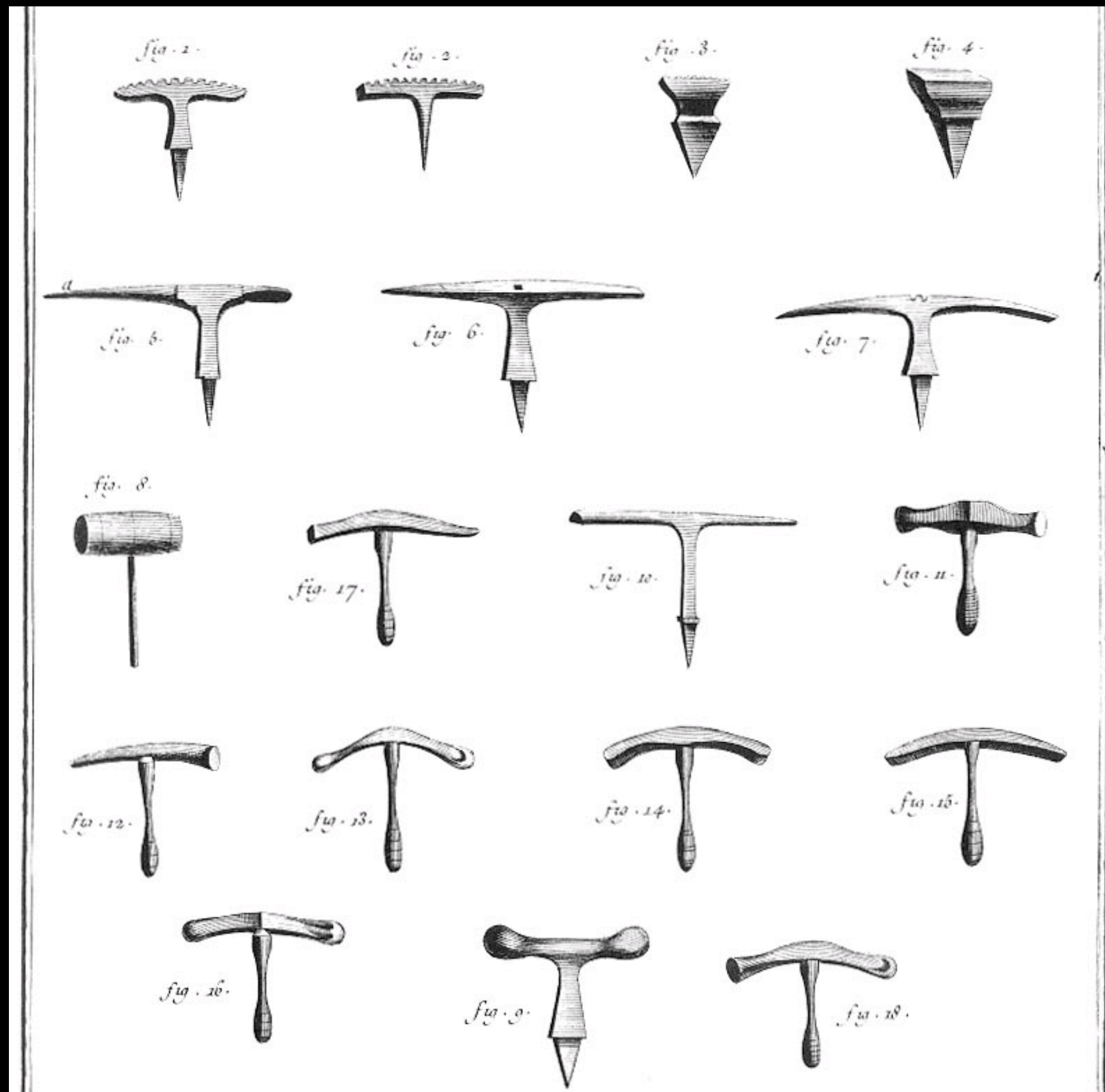
“Ferblantier” (Tinplate Maker)  
 The Encyclopedia of Diderot & d'Alembert 1765  
 (Hot Dip Tin)





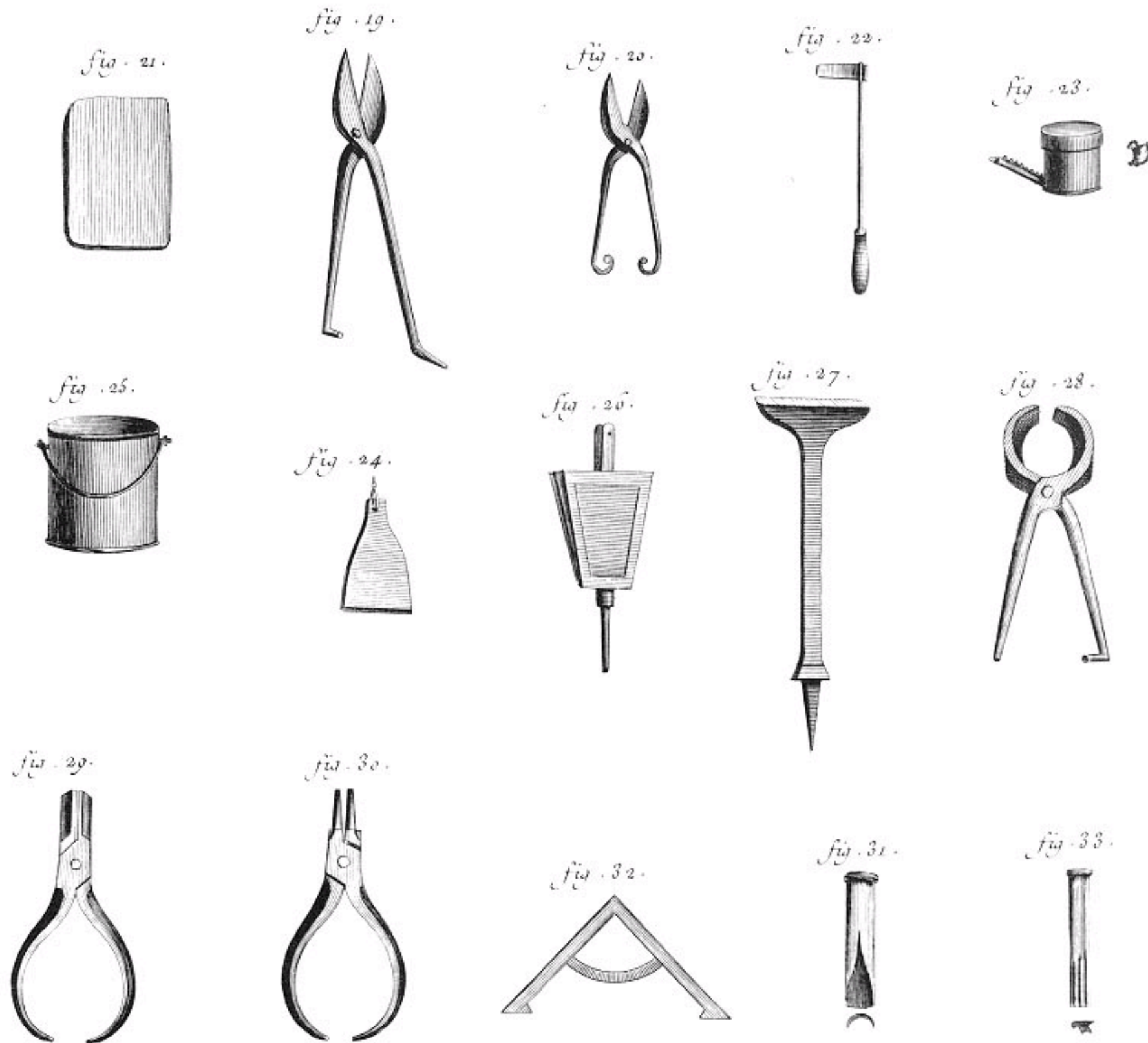
"Ferblantier" (Tinsmith)  
The Encyclopedia of Diderot & d'Alembert 1765  
(University of Michigan)





“Ferblantier” (Tinplate Maker)  
 The Encyclopedia of Diderot & d'Alembert 1765  
 (University of Michigan)





“Ferblantier” (Tinplate Maker)  
The Encyclopedia of Diderot & d'Alembert 1765  
(University of Michigan)



*fig. 34.*



*fig. 35.*



*fig. 36.*



*fig. 37.*



*fig. 38.*



*fig. 39.*



*fig. 40.*



*fig. 41.*



*fig. 42.*



*fig. 44.*



*fig. 43.*



*Prevost del.*

*Desheret sculp.*

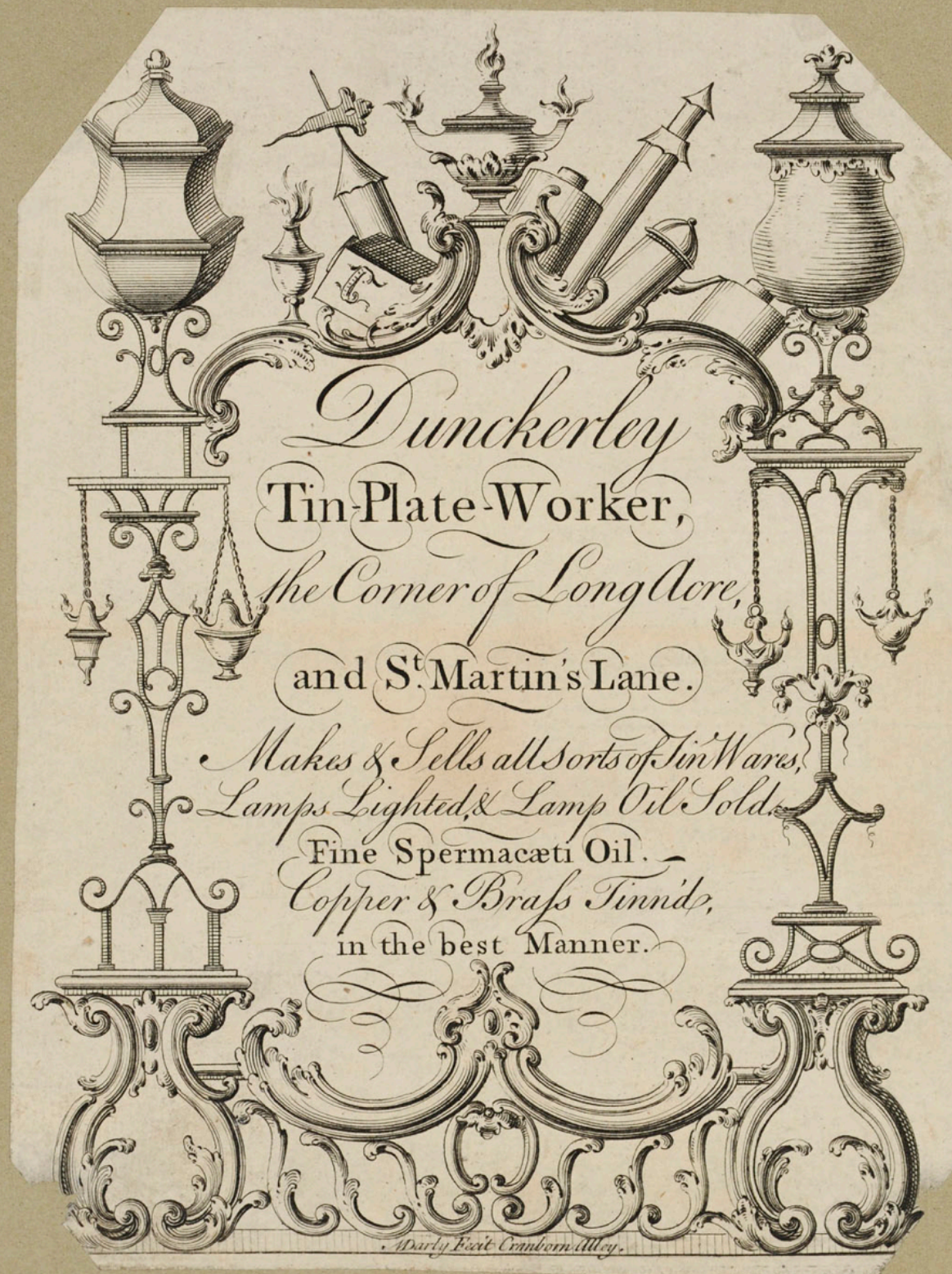
# *Ferblantier*

“Ferblantier” (Tinplate Maker)  
The Encyclopedia of Diderot & d'Alembert 1765  
(University of Michigan)



# Trade Cards





English Trade Card for Dunckerley, Tin - Plate Worker  
c. 1733 - 1769  
(Lewis Walpole Library)



*James Ross*  
**TIN - MAN**  
*Successor to his Brother, the late Daniel Ross*  
 At y<sup>e</sup> Corner of Cross Court, facing Carnaby Market -  
**S<sup>T</sup> JAMES'S.**  
*Makes & Sells all Sorts of Glass Lanthorns & Lamps,*  
*after y<sup>e</sup> Newest Fashion, with all Sorts of Tin Ware, at the*  
*Lowest Prices, Wholesale & Retail. ALSO Funnel made to*  
*Cure Smoaking Chimneys. He also Lights, or Furnishes Lamps*  
*by the Week, or Quarter very Reasonably, Likewise Copper*  
*& Brass, Tind & Mended.*  
 Fine Spermaceti - Oil, for Chamber Lamps.

BRITISH MUSEUM  
 COLLECTED  
 D 2 3851

English Trade Card for James Ross, Tin - Man

1761

(The British Museum)



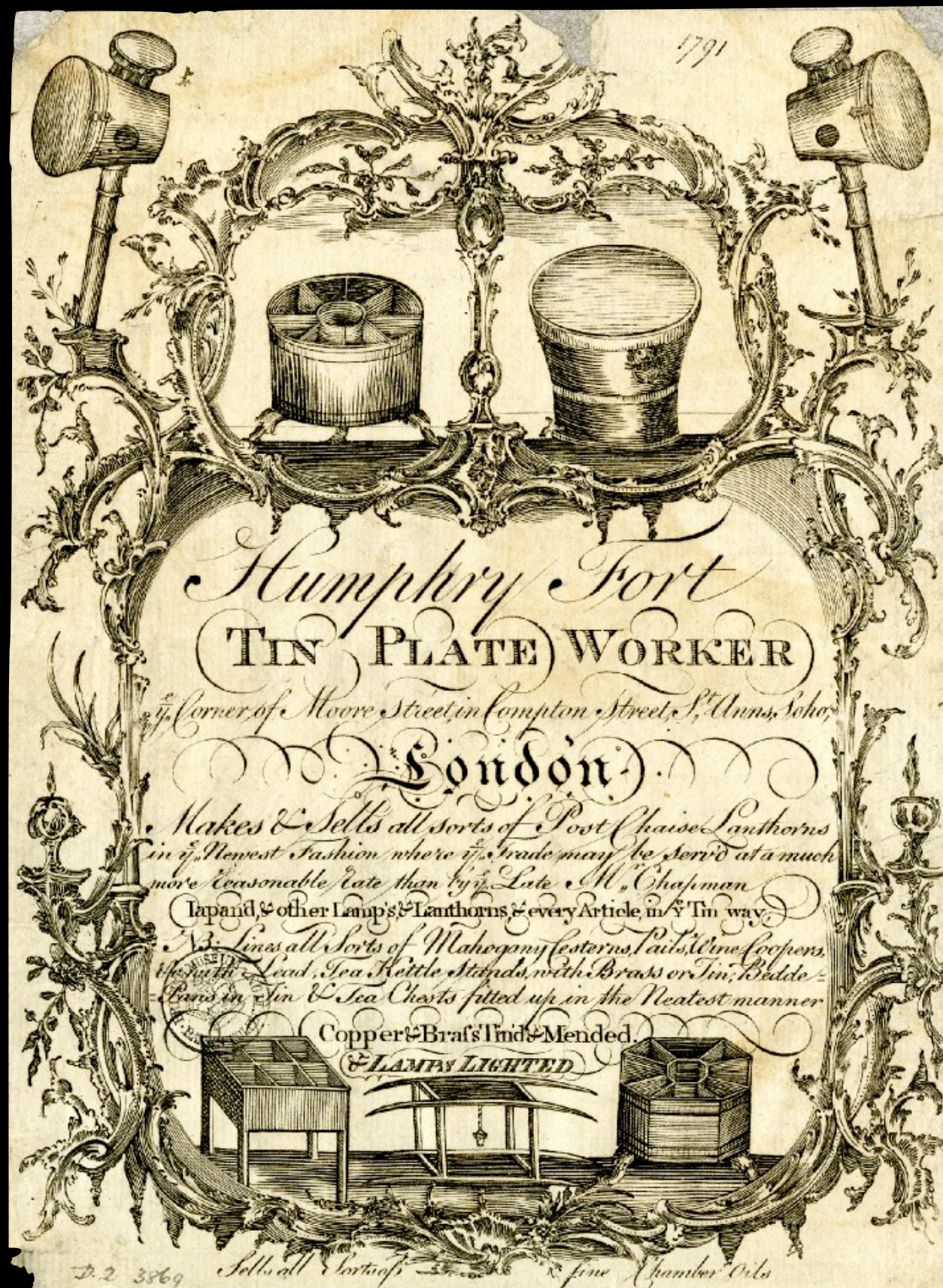
ms<sup>o</sup> Bangs Bought of J<sup>d</sup> Ross  
For two small glass lanterns:  
For a small penicillium -  
~~Returned one shilling for~~  
~~the Jar of lanterns~~  
61  
23 Recd the Contents in full of all  
Demand, by me J<sup>d</sup> Ross  
1761.

English Trade Card for James Ross, Tin - Man

1761

(The British Museum)





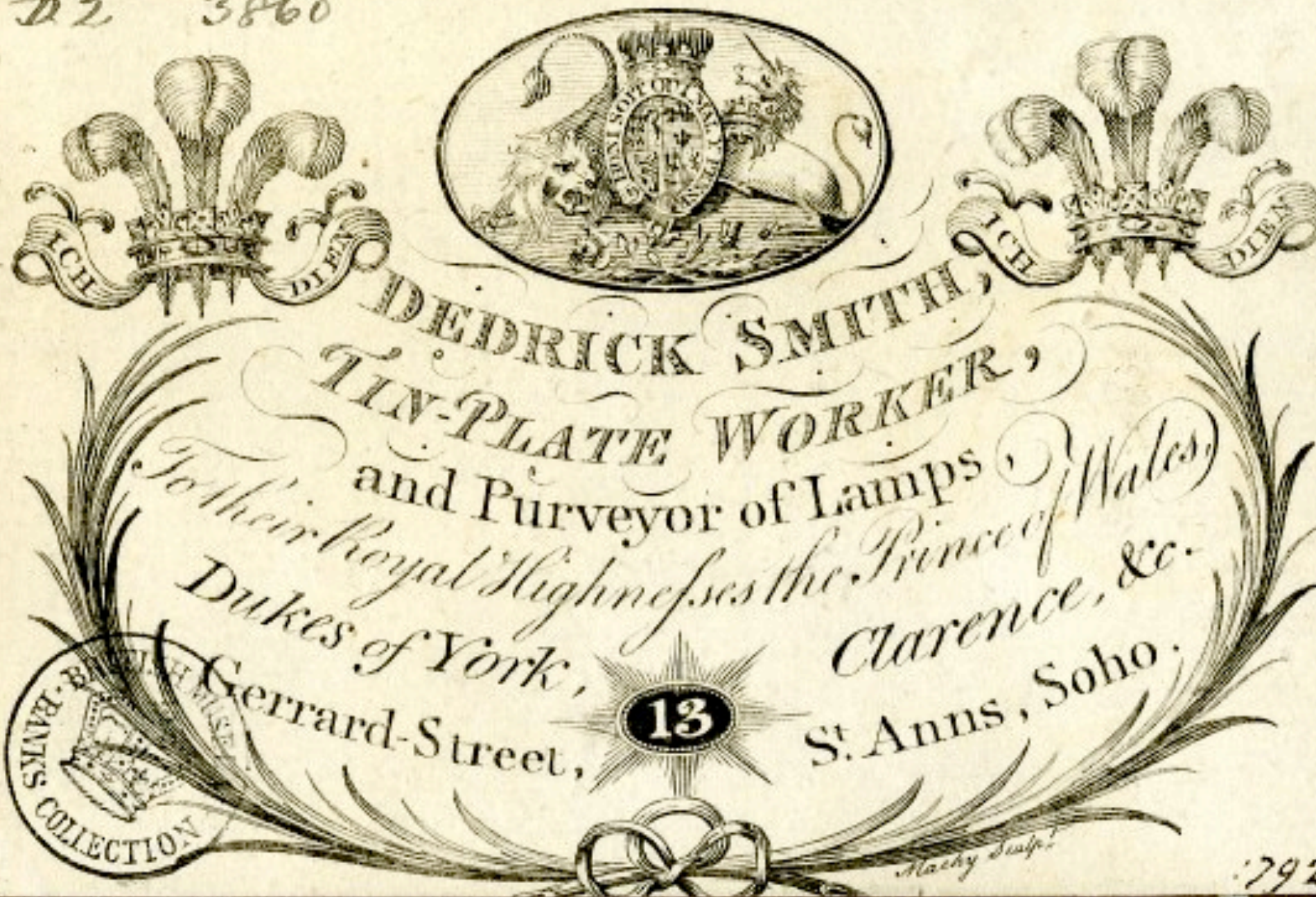
English Trade Card for Humphrey Fort, Tin Plate Worker

c. 1791

(The British Museum)



D2 3860



292

English Trade Card for Dedrick Smith, Tin Plate Worker

c. 1792

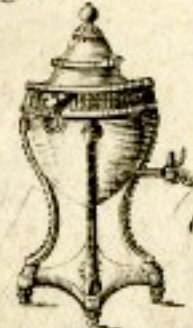
(The British Museum)



1792



*Patrick and Son,*  
 (TIN PLATE WORKER To His MAJESTY,  
*N<sup>o</sup> 94 Newgate Street, London.*  
*Manufacturers of strong double block tin Kitchen Furniture,*  
*the best Town made Tea & Coffee Urns, Biggins &c. in the*  
*Greatest Variety elegantly finish'd. Britannia, Queens Metal &*  
*Japan'd Wares of Superior Workmanship.*  
 Vertical Jacks, Meat Screens & Salisbury Kitchens.  
 Copper & Brass Utensils Tin'd with pure grain Metal.  
*Variety of new invented patent lamps for Halls, Stair Cases &c.*  
 Lamps Lighted. Genuine Spermaceti & other Lamp Oils.




V 2 3856 1792

25.113

English Trade Card for Patrick & Son, Tin Plate Worker To His Majesty

c. 1792

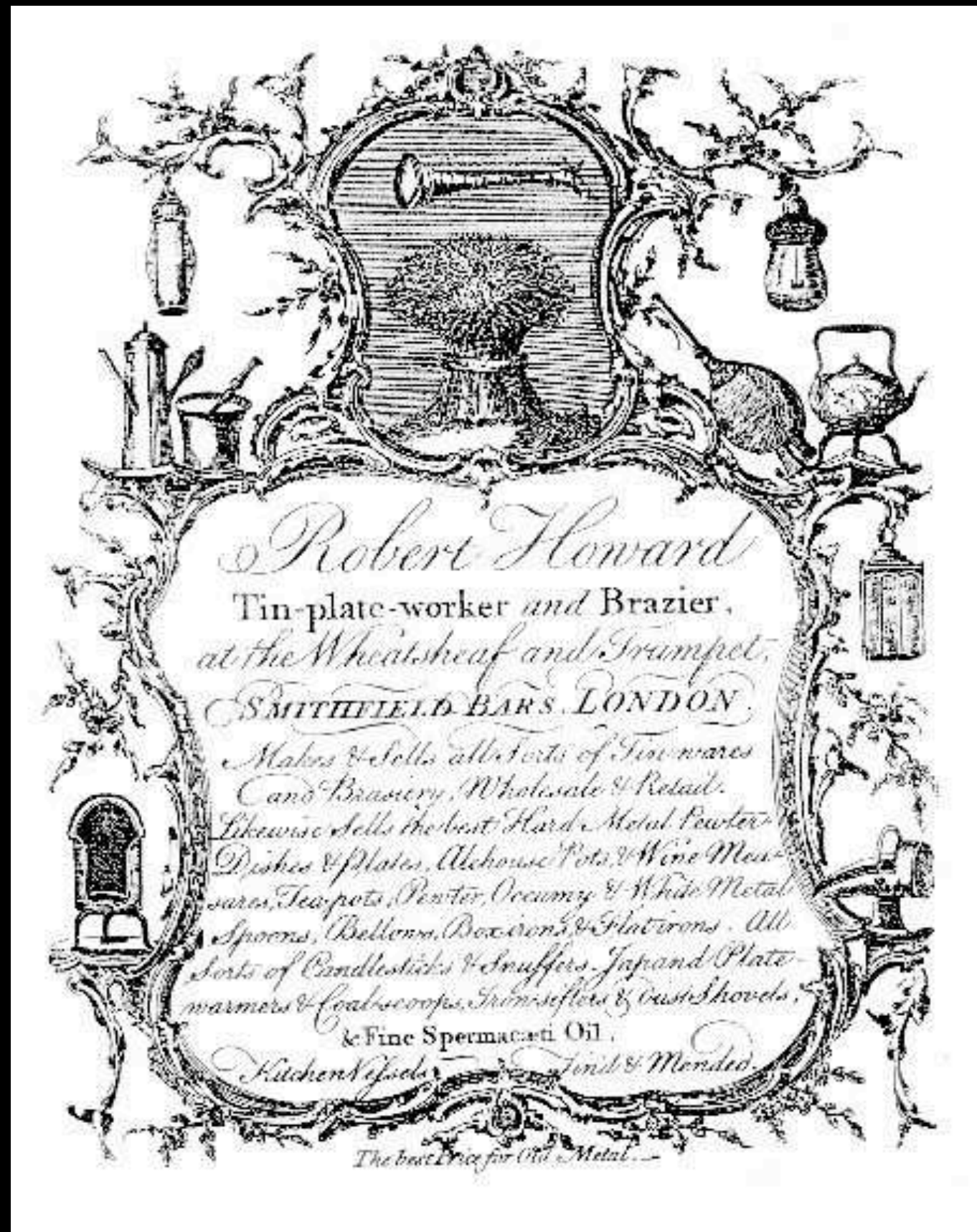
(The British Museum)





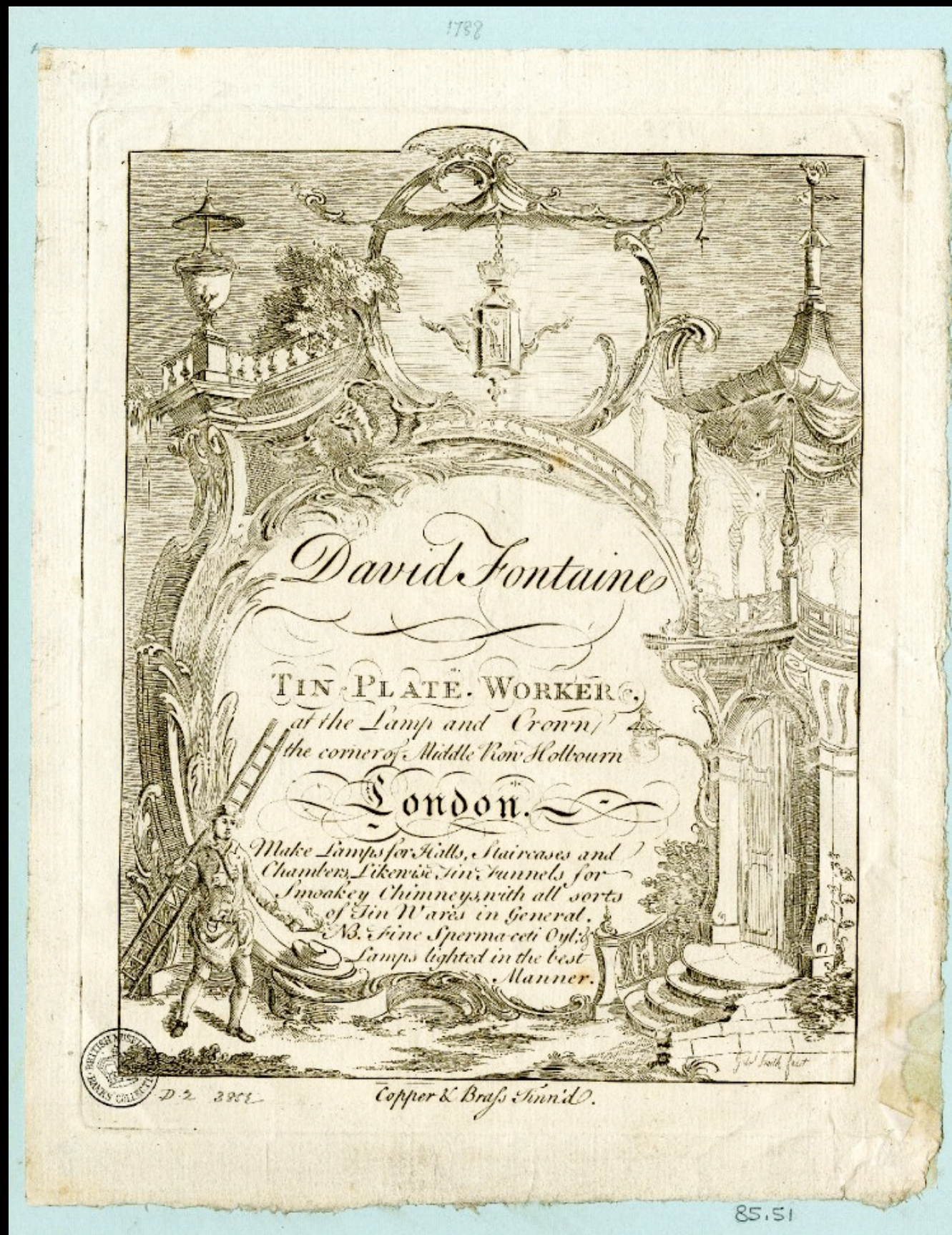
English Trade Card for James Powell, Brazier and Tin Plate Worker in Ross  
Late 18th Century  
(The British Museum)





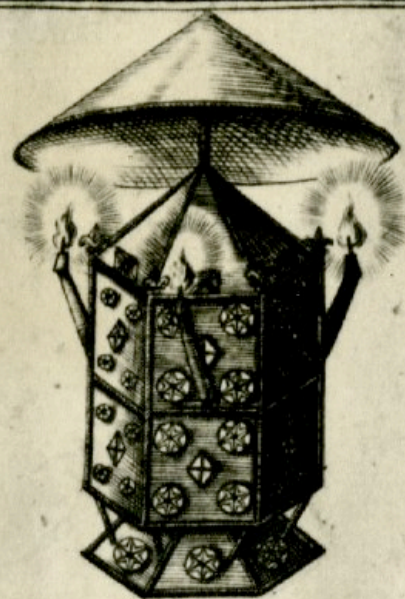
English Trade Card for Robert Howard, Tin Plate Worker  
Late 18th Century





English Trade Card for David Fontaine, Tin Plate Worker  
Late 18th Century  
(The British Museum)



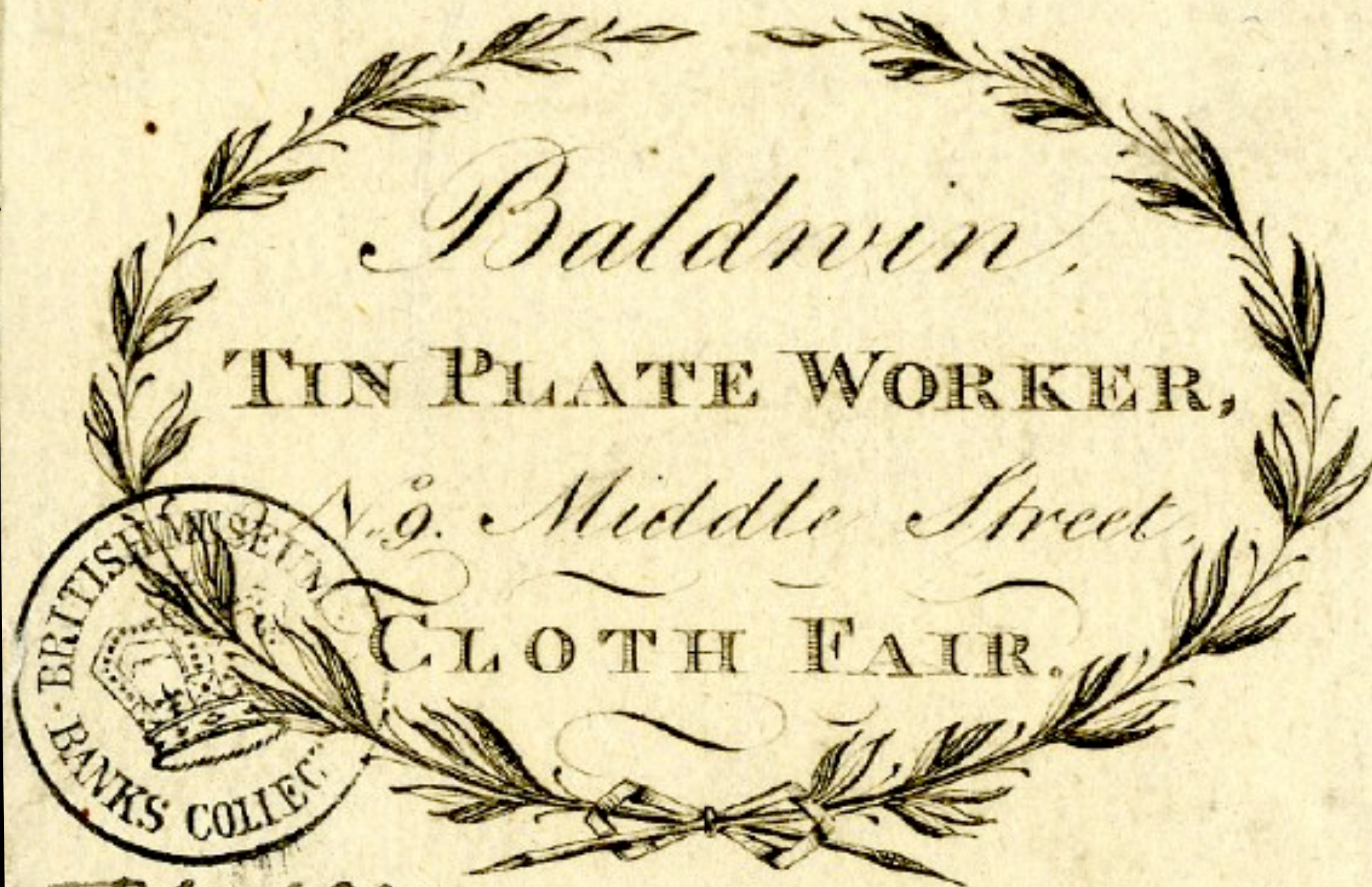


*John Smith*  
**TIN-PLATE WORKER**  
at the Lamp the Corner of  
Sheepy Yard in the Minories  
*LONDON*  
*Sells all sorts of Tin Wares*  
*Wholesale and Retail*  
*at Reasonable Rates*

85, 149

English Trade Card for John Smith, Tin Plate Worker  
Late 18th Century  
(The British Museum)





English Trade Card for Baldwin, Tin Plate Worker  
Late 18th Century  
(The British Museum)



D2 3842

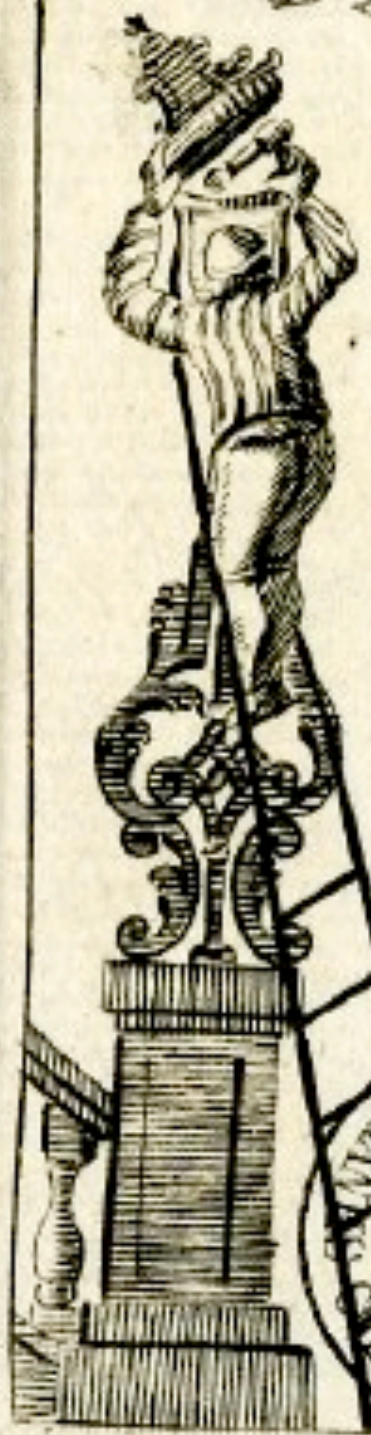
*Will<sup>m</sup> Couldery,*  
*(TIN PLATE WORKER,*  
*Brazier, & Lamp Lighter,*

123

*opposite Cripplegate Church,*  
*(LONDON.)*

*Makes & Sells all Sorts of Tin & Japan'd Wares,*  
*Brass, Copper & Pewter. Likewise great Variety*  
*of Lanthorns & Lamps, Wholesale & Retail.*  
*Kitchen Furniture, with pure Tin Lights*  
*Sold in the best manner & Sells Spermaceti*  
*& all other Sorts of Lamp Oils.*

*All Sorts of Old Metal Bought or Exchang'd*



English Trade Card for William Couldery, Tin Plate Worker  
Late 18th Century  
(The British Museum)



1788



*Dedrick Smith,*

**TIN-PLATE WORKER and PURVEYOR of LAMPS,**

*To their Royal Highnesses the Prince of Wales, Duke of York &c.*

*Gerrard Street, 13 St. Anns, Soho.*

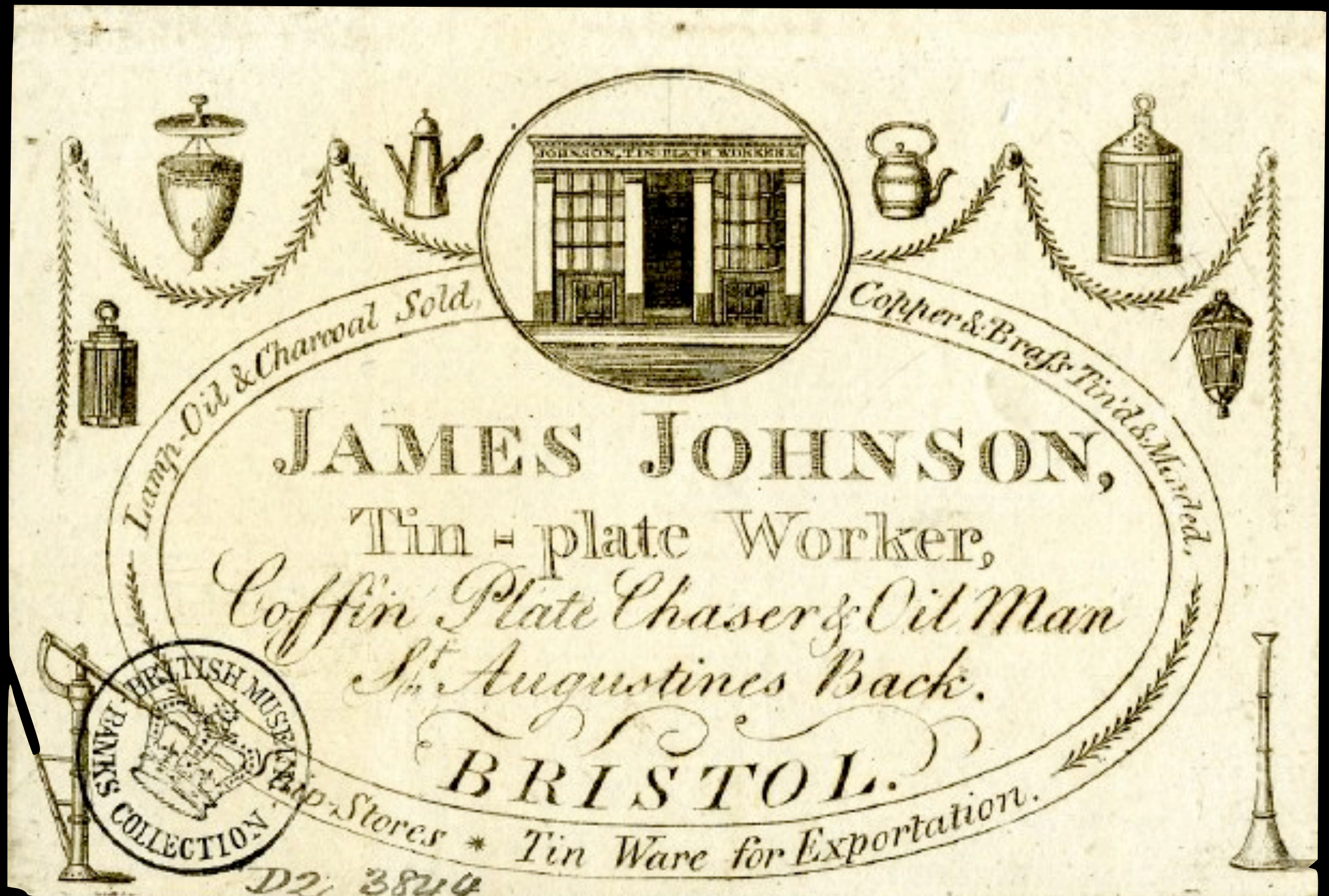
*Where every Article without exception is Manufactured in  
Double Block & Common Tin in the compleatest manner*

D-2 3866



English Trade Card for Dedrick Smith, Tin Plate Worker  
1788  
(The British Museum)





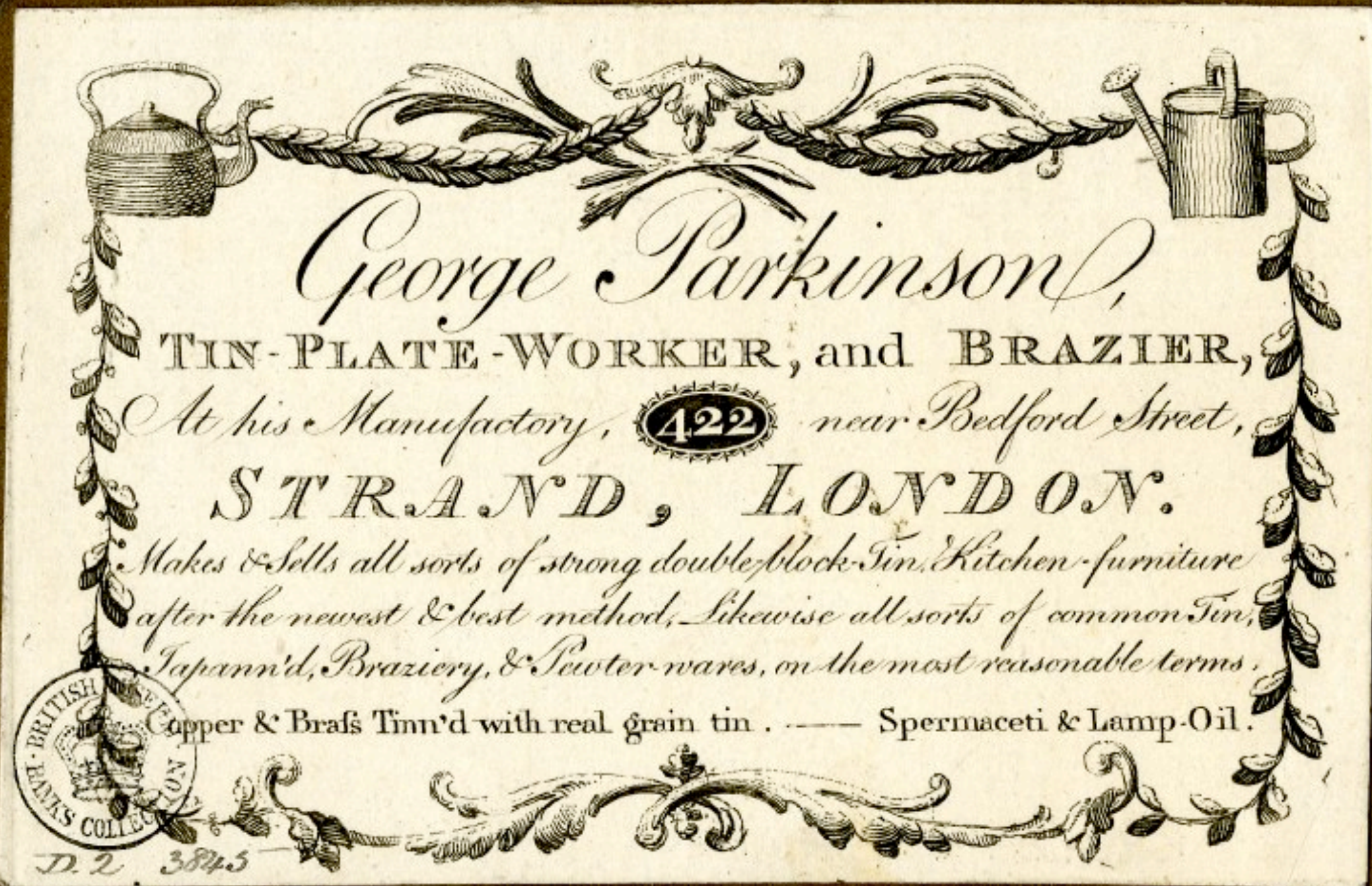
English Trade Card for James Johnson, Tin - Plate Worker  
Late 18th Century  
(The British Museum)





English Trade Card for Joshua Owen, Tin Plate Worker  
Late 18th Century  
(The British Museum)





English Trade Card for George Parkinson, Tin Plate Worker  
Late 18th Century  
(The British Museum)





English Trade Card for J. Johnson, Tin and Coffin Plate Manufacturer  
Late 18th Century  
(The British Museum)



The Collection  
of  
William & Judy McMillan







# Tin Shears





English or American Tinsmith Hand Shears  
c. 1750 - 1820  
(Colonial Williamsburg - William & Judy McMillan Collection)





Sheffield, England, Tinsmith Bench Shears  
by the Firm of Abraham & George Greaves c. 1790 - 1820  
(Colonial Williamsburg)





Sheffield, England, Tinsmith Bench Shears  
by the Firm of Abraham & George Greaves c. 1790 - 1820  
(Colonial Williamsburg)





Tinsmith Bench Shears  
Mid 18th - Early 19th Century  
(Private Collection)



# Punches





English or American Tinsmith 1/2" Hollow Punch  
c. 1750 - 1820  
(Colonial Williamsburg - William & Judy McMillan Collection)





English or American Tinsmith 1 1/4" Hollow Punch  
c. 1750 - 1820  
(Colonial Williamsburg - William & Judy McMillan Collection)





English or American Tinsmith 1 1/2" Hollow Punch  
c. 1750 - 1820  
(Colonial Williamsburg - William & Judy McMillan Collection)





English or American Tinsmith 1 5/8" Hollow Punch  
c. 1750 - 1820  
(Colonial Williamsburg - William & Judy McMillan Collection)





English or American Tinsmith 2 1/4" Hollow Punch  
c. 1750 - 1820  
(Colonial Williamsburg - William & Judy McMillan Collection)



Stakes





English or American Tinsmith Needle Case Stake  
c. 1750 - 1820  
(Colonial Williamsburg - William & Judy McMillan Collection)





English or American Tinsmith Large Beak Horn Stake  
c. 1750 - 1820  
(Colonial Williamsburg - William & Judy McMillan Collection)





English or American Tinsmith Beak Horn Stake  
c. 1750 - 1820  
(Colonial Williamsburg - William & Judy McMillan Collection)





English or American Tinsmith Long Nosed Beak Horn Stake  
c. 1750 - 1820  
(Colonial Williamsburg - William & Judy McMillan Collection)





English or American Tinsmith Beak Horn Pointed Nose Stake  
c. 1750 - 1820  
(Colonial Williamsburg - William & Judy McMillan Collection)





English or American Tinsmith Double Seaming Stake  
c. 1750 - 1820  
(Colonial Williamsburg - William & Judy McMillan Collection)





English or American Tinsmith Creasing or Wiring Stake  
c. 1750 - 1820  
(Colonial Williamsburg - William & Judy McMillan Collection)





English or American Tinsmith Creasing or Wiring Stake  
c. 1750 - 1820  
(Colonial Williamsburg - William & Judy McMillan Collection)





English or American Tinsmith Candle Mold Stake  
c. 1750 - 1820  
(Colonial Williamsburg - William & Judy McMillan Collection)





English or American Tinsmith Square Stake  
c. 1750 - 1820  
(Colonial Williamsburg)





English or American Tinsmith Bent Square Stake  
c. 1750 - 1820  
(Colonial Williamsburg - William & Judy McMillan Collection)



# Hatchet Stakes





English or American Hatchet Stake for Seaming & Folding  
c. 1750 - 1820  
(Colonial Williamsburg - William & Judy McMillan Collection)





English or American Hatchet Stake for Seaming & Folding  
c. 1750 - 1820  
(Colonial Williamsburg - William & Judy McMillan Collection)



# Riveting Tools





English or American Rivet Set (Punch Used to Peen a Rivet in Place)

c. 1750 - 1820

(Colonial Williamsburg - William & Judy McMillan Collection)



# Swages





English or American Colander Swage  
c. 1750 - 1820  
(Colonial Williamsburg - William & Judy McMillan Collection)



# Hammers





Double Sided Raising Hammer to Dish a Flat Piece of Tin Stock  
c. 1750 - 1820  
(Colonial Williamsburg - William & Judy McMillan Collection)



# Braziers





Iron Brazier (H 16.8, W 17.5, L 18.3 cm )  
18th Century  
(Morristown National Historic Park)



Iron Brazier  
Late 18th Century - Early 19th Century  
(Skinner - The Howard Roth Collection)





Iron Brazier  
Late 18th Century - Early 19th Century  
(Skinner - The Howard Roth Collection - G.S.Theberge Collection)



Copper Brazier  
Late 18th Century - Early 19th Century  
(Skinner - The Howard Roth Collection)





Iron Brazier  
18th Century  
(Irv Tschanz Collection)



Tinned Iron Braziers  
18th - Early 19th Century  
(Tom Wnuck Estate)



# Soldering Tools



English or American Tinsmith Soldering - Bottoming Copper  
c. 1750 - 1820  
(Colonial Williamsburg - William & Judy McMillan Collection)





English or American Tinsmith Soldering Iron  
c. 1750 - 1820  
(Colonial Williamsburg - William & Judy McMillan Collection)

# Advertisements



**W**ANTED immediately, four or five  
hands acquainted with working up  
**TIN SHEET** into kettles and canteens,  
to whom generous wages will be given,  
by applying to the subscriber in *Williams-*  
*burg.* **WILLIAM AYLETT.**

Virginia Gazette Advertisement  
Posted by Commissary General William Aylett  
September 12, 1777  
(Colonial Williamsburg)

# Repair Work





Chinese Export Porcelain Charger Repaired with Staples  
c. 1730  
(Past Imperfect)



Chinese (Qianlong Period) Export Porcelain Tea Cup with Repaired Handle  
c. 1760  
(Past Imperfect)





Chinese Export Porcelain Tea Pot with Replaced Spout  
c. 1760  
(Past Imperfect)



Chinese Export Porcelain Punchbowl Repaired with Decorative Metal Braces  
c. 1770  
(Past Imperfect)



The Recreated  
Tinsmith Shop  
at the  
James Anderson Armory





The Recreated Tinsmith's Shop at the James Anderson Armory  
(Colonial Williamsburg)





The Recreated Tinsmith's Shop at the James Anderson Armory - Setting a Stake  
(Colonial Williamsburg)



The Recreated Tinsmith's Shop at the James Anderson Armory  
(Colonial Williamsburg)





The Recreated Tinsmith's Shop at the James Anderson Armory  
(Colonial Williamsburg)





The Recreated Tinsmith's Shop at the James Anderson Armory  
(Colonial Williamsburg)





The Recreated Tinsmith's Shop at the James Anderson Armory  
(Colonial Williamsburg)





The Recreated Tinsmith's Shop at the James Anderson Armory  
(Colonial Williamsburg)





The Recreated Tinsmith's Shop at the James Anderson Armory  
(Colonial Williamsburg)





The Recreated Tinsmith's Shop at the James Anderson Armory  
(Colonial Williamsburg)





The Recreated Tinsmith's Shop at the James Anderson Armory  
(Colonial Williamsburg)





The Recreated Tinsmith's Shop at the James Anderson Armory  
(Colonial Williamsburg - Fred Blystone Photography)



Fred Blystone-2013



The Recreated Tinsmith's Shop at the James Anderson Armory  
(Colonial Williamsburg - Fred Blystone Photography)





The Recreated Tinsmith's Shop at the James Anderson Armory  
(Colonial Williamsburg - Fred Blystone Photography)



# TAKE NOTICE !

This Slideshow is a review of the tools used by Tinsmiths to practice their trade in the 18th Century. It is not a specific review of 18th Century Tinware itself.

To see examples of the Tinsmith's Art, we refer you to the numerous slideshows which have been presented by the 18th Century Material Culture Resource Center on various topics such as Kitchens, Boxes or Lighting. Tinware can also be found in the article, "To Nourish the Troops, The Mess, Camp Equipage, Kitchens and Provisions of the Common British Soldier During the American War for Independence" by Gregory S. Theberge.

The 18th Century Material Culture Resource Center is indebted to William & Judy McMillen for their contributions to this work, as well as the wonderful team of individuals working at the Tinsmith Shop at the Anderson Armory in Colonial Williamsburg.

Thank you,

- The 18th Century Material Culture Resource Center

# Acknowledgements

The material contained within these slideshows is presented for educational purposes only. The 18th Century Material Culture Resource Center does not personally own any of the items depicted herein and is indebted to the countless museums, libraries, and private collectors who willingly share their collections with the public through the internet. Every attempt has been made to credit these organizations and individuals for their contributions as best as possible.

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Thank you!

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