mately mixed with rock fragments that it could not be obtained profitably. Some local newspapers printed glowing prospects of the venture.

Pottery

In the early settlement of eastern Pennsylvania there were many small pottery establishments in different sections using local clays. There is little existing information as to potteries in Lehigh County beyond incidental reference to several in the south corner. No place in Lehigh County where pottery clay was dug is known to the writer although it is highly probable that there may have been some small local pits that supplied the various establishments.

The clay used in most of the small Pennsylvania German potteries was the residual clay of the red Triassic shales. Some pits in a meadow near Pennsburg, Berks County, furnished the clay for the local potters of Lehigh, Berks, and Montgomery counties for many years. It was considered superior to any clay in Lehigh County. In recent years this clay is reported to be less desirable so that the Stahl pottery is supplied with clay from near Pottstown.

Probably the first pottery in Lehigh County was one established about 1820 by Henry Dubs about two miles northeast of Dillingersville in Lower Milford Township. He operated it until 1835 when he sold it to William Dillinger.

Charles Stahl established a pottery at Powder Valley along Indian Creek in 1840 (also given as 1847) to make tableware. He continued it until his death in 1890. His sons Thomas and Isaac, who had assisted their father, continued the business until 1896. In 1934 they returned to Powder Valley and re-established themselves. Their product, which is of the type made during the past century, is much in demand.

In 1877 Charles Guth embarked in the business of manufacturing pottery in the township (South Whitehall) along the road one-half a mile south of Guthsville and carried it on for five years. The glazing was reported to be imperfect and therefore the enterprise came to be abandoned. (History of Lehigh County, 1914, p. 888.)

It is not known whether local clay was used as a whole or in part. Potteries are reported to have been located in Allentown and Slattington at an early day.

Fire Brick

Fire-brick establishments are known to have been operated in at least three places in Lehigh County. One was in Catasauqua, another in East Allentown established in 1873, and another at the foot of Gordon St., Allentown along the Lehigh Valley R. R. So far as known all the clay used was brought from New Jersey, particularly from pits near Woodbridge.