

Martin Coryell (1815-1886)

Coryell was a practical engineer, an example of the on-the-job training that was required of many of the American pioneers in the vocation.

His first job was as a rodman on the Delaware & Raritan Canal. He worked, learned, and advanced on jobs with the D&R, the Morris Canal, the PA Canal Commission, and the Columbia Railroad.

Most of his early career, he engaged in general civil practice, being connected with canals, the LVRR and other railroad enterprises and some development of the Hazleton coal fields. In 1862 he became still more closely identified with mining interests, managing the Warrior Run Mining Co. His experience also extended to the coal fields of Northern Pennsylvania, Kentucky, Virginia, and Cape Breton.

Coryell was a founder of the American Society of Civil Engineers and the first Secretary of A.I.M.E.

Coryell's first connection with mining was through a survey which he made of workings of Pardee's Hazleton Coal Company. Then in 1846 he went to a copper mine in Michigan.

