

Thomas Mitchell Petherick (abt. 1794-1880)

In 1843 Petherick, a 48-year-old Welshman and his family settled in Pottsville PA. He had been a superintendent of one of the deepest, richest, and most important copper mines in Cornwall, where mining engineers William Petherick and William West had introduced the Extraordinary Steam Engine using anthracite coal in 1836.

Thomas was also an inventor and had patented and improved several mineral jig separators for tin, copper, and lead in the UK. Here in the US, he opened a colliery in what became named Thomaston PA and built an early coal breaker nearby in 1848.

He conducted extensive mineral deposit examinations and was one of Moses Taylor's associates in his extensive coal and mineral investments such as the Lackawanna Iron & Coal, the New Jersey Zinc & Iron, and the New York & Schuylkill Coal Co.

