Patrick Leach’s excellent review of wooden plane nomenclature

"Bolt and Start" - not entirely sure what "bolt" refers to, but it may have something to do with the totes that have a diamond-shaped piece of steel along their tops I've never popped one of these pieces off a plane, but it might be present to conceal a bolt, drilled through the tote, to add strength to the grain - totes had the nasty habit of shearing I've noted this piece of steel on several bench planes that date from the mid-1800's and originate from coastal and central MA, RI, and CT

"Start" refers to the button, either metal or wood (often lignum) inlaid along the top of the plane, mid-way between the throat escapement and the toe This button is whacked with a mallet to free the wedge

"Ship Planes" - A mystery to me It appears that they are not razee style since those are mentioned in a separate item Goodman doesn't list any ship planes that are sized by length They certainly had to be something to distinguish them from a common bench plane Perhaps they had convex soles

"Toy Smooth" & "Toy Jack" - these are scaled-down version of smoothers and jacks,
designed for junior These planes were supplied in the toy tool sets of the day

"Clock Plane" - never heard of it before, and haven't the foggiest idea of its function

"Rowter" - corruption of "router" These planes were used to groove the underside of handrails, to accept the ballusters They typically have small soles so that they can follow the contour of curved portions of the handrail They are not common planes, as one might guess from their cost

"Metre" - typographical error of "mitre" Mitre planes are characterized by a low pitched iron Some of the Boston area makers attached steel soles, with countersunk screws, to keep these planes fine and true

"Gutter Plane" - these planes are sized like a jack, and have a semi- circular sole They were used to make the rain gutters of the era

Some more explanations that might help you as you read the next installment of Taber Blood and Gore

"Cooper's Jointer" - These are massive planes which coopers used to plane the edges of the staves (the vertical members of a barrel, joined at an angle to form a circle) and heads (the top or bottom of a barrel) These planes are not pushed, but are, instead, stationary, and are upside down (from conventional plane use) with one end propped on a stand The cooper pushes the stock over the iron Although the catalog listing doesn't mention it, some cooper's jointers are equipped with a pair or irons, which sit side-by-side to each other Some of the rarer jointers have four throats, two at each end of the plane, of which only two have irons set

"Leveling Plane" - Commonly called a "sun" plane These are curved planes (along their side) which the cooper uses to level off the top of the staves

"Carriage-makers rowter" - These resemble a spokeshave, except that they have a narrow iron secured with a wedge These tools come in a variety of shapes, and are used to groove the curved pieces that make up the frame of a carriage They often have an adjust- able fence The double version of this tool has two irons, and can come in two basic shapes - one resembles the single configuration, and the other has a pronounced n-shape, with two handles that flank each side of the n giving it a _n_ shape

"Base and Band Mouldings" - These are the planes used to make the profiles at the top of baseboards, or on plinths, architraves, mantels, columns, friezes, etc There were many common profiles used for this application, but there were also many custom designs It's these custom designs, made according to a drawing, to which I believe this catalog listing refers

"Washboard Plane" - These planes have a sole shaped so that they can plane the rippled surface of a washboard

"Astragal" - One of the fundamental moldings, this profile is nothing but a semicircle, flanked by two fillets (two flat surfaces, each roughly 1/4 the radius of the semicircle

Bead - a semicircular profile, located at the arris (edge of the board) Some common applications of beads are on the edges of door jambs the apron of a table, window architraves, etc

Boxed - a piece of wood, usually boxwood, let into the sole of the plane to act as a wear strip A piece of boxing corresponds to a high point of the plane's sole, which, in turn, matches a low point of the cut molding The plane's sole can have many strips of boxing let into it, usually at the profile's quirks (a quirk is an abrupt change in the profile) The term 'boxing' is also

frequently used to describe this construction Boxing is used on all sorts of molding planes

Single Boxed - a single strip of boxing, located along the inner edge of the cut bead (away from the plane's fence)

Double Boxed - an additional strip of boxing is let in along the fence - the plane has two strips of boxing, with the other like the single boxed beads

Full Boxed - the entire profile of the bead is a strip of boxing; the plane's sole, over the entire width of the bead, is boxed

Dove-tail Boxed - this is a misnomer, generally, since the piece of boxing isn't normally dovetailed Rather, it sorta resembles a tongue and groove joint There are typically two of these t&g's, which oppose each other The entire profile is a strip of boxing, just like it is with Full Boxed, but this boxing has mechanical strength whereas the other kinds of boxing rely solely on glue to hold the boxing in place

On the wider beads, which are dove-tailed boxed, you'll note that they're described as being 2 strips This is because the profile is too wide to make it practical for a fully boxed sole Instead, the two strips, one at the quirk and the other along the fence, are dovetailed into the stock

Beads, Double - these are two planes in one, where each side of the plane can cut the same size bead These planes, usually called double beads, are very useful for when the grain makes a change or when you want to bead a panel (or the like) - the plane can be turned 180 degrees, and planed from the opposite direction (you're planing left-handed)

Cabinet Ogee - the ogee is an S-shaped profile, and is used in all sorts of applications Here, the term Cabinet, refers to its use on large pieces of furniture and architectural applications Ogees of this size are usually toted

Coping Plane - these are the planes used on the end-grain of sash frames and bars, to allow them to fit over the corresponding member of of the sash Coping planes from this era are usually made of two pieces, screwed together at a right angle One piece carries the iron and wedge, and the other is used to push the plane

Cove Plane - this is a concave (the resulting cut into the wood) profile that's one-quarter the section of a circle or an ellipse A common application of this profile can be found directly below the treads of a stair

Cove Plane and Bead - this profile has a bead located along the outer edge of the profile This profile is often misnamed such, since the bead technically isn't a bead, but an astra- gal - the 'bead' isn't directly on the edge of the profile, but set back a bit, flanked by a straight, or flat, section, called a fillet Thus, the profile is technically a "Cove and Astragal", but "Cove and Bead" is often used Of course, there are true "Cove and Bead" planes, but they are far less common than the "Cove and Astragal" planes

Cock Bead - this is a bead that stands proud of its surroundings A common application is found on drawers, where the bead surrounds the edges of the drawer front (in this application, the bead is applied to the drawer front) It's interesting to note that the catalog doesn't list different sizes for this profile.

Cornice Planes - these planes, like the Cabinet Ogee, are used in applications that call for large profiles, like at the ceiling of a room, the cornice of a building, or the cornice of a large piece of case furniture (a secretary, highboy, etc). The most common profile of a cornice plane is the ogee reverse ogee pair separated by a square In this case, where the planes are offered as a pair, and for this particular molding, one plane would cut the ogee while the other would cut the reverse ogee The drawback with planes sold as pairs is that one of the planes will be cutting against the grain (they aren't referenced from the same edge of the stock) However, the benefit of the planes is that you're not busting butt to remove the full width of the profile, which, as can be noted below, can can be very wide

Bead, Handled - these bead planes were provided with a tote You'll note that they were only offered on the larger beads Beads of this configuration are longer, and more massive, than the narrower beads These planes are often the length of a jack plane Handled beads were commonly used in architectural applications

It's sorta interesting to note the prices for the beads, where within a given category (eg Single Boxed) the narrower ones are all the same price This is likely because beads, up to around 1/2", are all fashioned from the same thickness of stock Still, one would think that the increasing size of the irons would have added to the cost of the planes, as they increased in width from 1/8" to 1/2"

Also, you might notice that the range of sizes for Full Boxed and Dove--Tailed Boxed beads is not the same as the Single and Double Boxed beads This is because it was too difficult to cut the joint for Dove-Tailed Boxed beads on the narrower sizes For these sized beads, it was easier just to

groove the sole and let in the boxing, rather than groove the sole and then use another plane to cut the joint The reason Full Boxed beads stopped being offered at 5/16" is because the stock of the plane was apt to move with such a large chunk of it missing (grooved away) - the boxing would fall out as the wood moved during seasonal changes The Dove-tail Boxed planes were required for the larger sizes so that the mechanical joint would overcome the tendency for the boxing to fall out Oh the perils of tangential shrinkage