

The
PEWTER COLLECTORS' CLUB
of AMERICA

OFFICERS, 1944

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MEETINGS SINCE THE LAST REPORT

Circumstances beyond our control have greatly restricted our activities during the past two years. We have, however, had several interesting meetings. Our membership has fallen off less than would have been expected, and since our expenses have been smaller than usual because of our inability to obtain guest speakers, we are able to publish two Bulletins instead of one this year. This issue is largely a family affair, devoted to accounts of meetings, and the printing of the Constitution and By-Laws. Reports of the meetings have been published from time to time on the Antiques page of the New York Sun (Fridays) and it is hoped that members have seen them.

THE PUBLICATION COMMITTEE

1943

The annual meeting was held at the Harvard Club in Boston on Feb. 6, 1943. Due to the illness of the President, Mr. Edward Ingraham, the Clerk was asked to the chair. The following officers were elected to serve for the ensuing year. President, Mr. Edward Ingraham; Vice Presidents, Mrs. Philip Huntington, Mrs. Elmer F. Thayer, Mr. Melville T. Nichols; Clerk and Corresponding Secretary, Percy E. Raymond; Treasurer, Dr. Madelaine R. Brown; Members of the Governing Board, Mrs. Edward Ingraham, Mr. Charles E. Ayers, Mrs. William V. Wallburg.

The subject for the meeting was "References to Pewter in Literature." Several members read excerpts, which ranged all the way from Shakespeare and Samuel Johnson to anonymous jingles in newspapers, and from medical subjects to Mother Goose.

Mr. Melville T. Nichols showed some of his more recent acquisitions and told us many things that are new to the story of American Pewter.

ANNUAL DINNER

The annual dinner of the Club was held at the Women's Republican Club on June 7, 1943. President Edward Ingraham presided. Thirty members and guests were present. We were greatly complimented by the presence of Vice-President Mrs. Philip Huntington, who flew from New York solely to attend the meeting.

Mr. William Germain Dooley, an honorary member, and former Antiques Editor of the Transcript, was the speaker of the evening. We have designated him as our Founder, for it was he who first brought our group together. He told some of the incidents which led up to the organization of the Club and the selection of the first governing committee. Part of his remarks are contained in his letter published in Bull. 13.

Called upon by the President, Mrs. Huntington made a short but exceedingly witty speech.

Master-members' medals were awarded to 32 members, many of them *in absentia*. The large number was partly due to the fact that none were given out the previous year.

OCTOBER MEETING

A meeting of the Club was held on Oct. 9th, 1943 at the Harvard University Faculty Club, as the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Percy E. Raymond. Mr. Melville T. Nichols brought in a splendid collection of tankards, mostly American, some unique. He also showed the only known Dunham covered pitcher and a remarkable Calder mug. His lidded tankard by Richard Austin is unique, and he has one by John Green which seemed to have been made in the same mold.

Mr. Raymond spoke on "Wishful Thinking," pointing out that if one confined himself to such thoughts before, rather than after purchases, one's hopes were fairly well rewarded.

NOVEMBER MEETING

The Club met at the Boston Museum of Fine Arts on Wednesday, Nov. 30th, 1943. The occasion was to see the current exhibition at the Museum, "Boston, its Life and Its People, from the Founding to the Great Fire and the New Metropolis, 1630 to 1872." Those present were shown the collections by our honorary member, William Germain Dooley, who, as Director of Education at the Museum, had been largely responsible for their assembly. The objects shown included early Boston engravings, paintings, furniture, silver, and some pewter, the last selected largely through the advice of another fellow member, Mrs. Stephen FitzGerald.

1944

The annual meeting and dinner of the Club was held at the Hotel Vendome in Boston on Jan. 7th, 1944. The retiring President, Mr. Edward Ingraham, made a few remarks in his usual modest manner. He counted as the greatest contribution of his two years in office the gathering together in one place of the various records and possessions of the Club. Under his gracious leadership all had gone smoothly, and I think the members will agree with the Clerk that he made greater contributions to our welfare than those he claimed.

The Treasurer, Dr. Madelaine R. Brown, reported a balance in our active account of \$194.95 and a reserve fund of \$200.00. The officers whose names appear in the heading of this Bulletin were then elected.

A fellow member, Mr. John W. Webber, a descendant of Israel Trask, was the first speaker. He recounted his experiences in connection with the first exhibition of American Pewter, held at the Twentieth Century Club in Boston in January, 1925. At the conclusion of his address he presented the Club with one of the posters used to advertise the exhibition. It was drawn by Mr. David Barnes, and shows various articles of pewter, attractively arranged. Mrs. Eaton H. Perkins presented each member with a photographic copy of it.

The well known artist, Mr. Lester G. Hornby of Rockport, told various most interesting anecdotes about his personal friend Mr. John B. Kerfoot, at the time when the latter was literary critic on the staff of the old magazine *Life*. In his writings he was trenchant, ruthless, witty. In outward show he affected the same bold quality, which appeared in his writings, wearing a peculiar hat, striking tweeds, golf hose, and a long cape which flew behind him as he raced, rather than walked along the streets. But as a public speaker he was exceedingly timid, afflicted by the knocking together of the knees. At a round-table discussion he was at his best.

The newly elected President, Mrs. Wallburg, then took the chair, and introduced Mrs. Eaton H. Perkins. Her remarks on the reproductions of old pewter which followed the 1925 exhibition were published in Bulletin 13.

TENTH ANNIVERSARY DINNER

A dinner in celebration of the tenth anniversary of the Club (Mar. 21, 1934—March 21, 1944) was held at the Hotel Vendome, Boston, Thursday evening, April 27, 1944. Thirty five members and guests were present. The President, Mrs. William V. Wallburg, presided, awarded the master-members' badges to the ten candidates, welcomed the company, and introduced the speak-

ers. She greeted especially the five members present who were at the organization meeting, and spoke feelingly of our departed friend, Mrs. John R. Mason.

Letters of congratulations from Mr. Roland J. A. Shelley, President, and Capt. A. V. Sutherland-Graeme, Honorary Secretary, of the English Society of Pewterers were read. Excerpts from these were published in Bull. 13. Congratulations from Professor E. B. Rollins, president of the Rushlight Club, were read by Mr. Bertram K. Little, a member of that Club, and his wife, Nina Fletcher Little, expressed the good wishes of the China Students' Club. Mr. Lewis N. Wiggins of Northampton, Mass., and Mr. Laurits E. Eichner of Bloomfield, New Jersey, spoke for members outside the Boston area.

In the absence of the donors, the Clerk presented the reproduction of the banner of the Society of Pewterers of New York. It was hung at the end of the room and excited the interest and admiration of all present. A preliminary note on it was published in Bull. 13, and a reproduction, with further notes, will appear in a later number. A rising vote of thanks was given to Mr. and Mrs. Paul J. Franklin for this highly valuable addition to our collection. It is the product of their own thought and craftsmanship. Thanks were also given to the New York Historical Society for permission to make the copy.

The speaker of the evening was Mrs. Rupert W. Jaques, who talked on dolls and toys in whose making pewter was employed.

During the 1870's and 1880's, Springfield, Vermont, seems to have been the center for the production of wooden dolls with pewter hands and feet. Five varieties were patented by Springfield men, the differences being chiefly in the articulations at the joints and the construction of the heads. Mrs. Jaques showed examples of all five types. The patentees were Joel Ellis, May 20, 1873, Frank D. Martin, Apr. 29, 1879, George W. Sanders, Dec. 7, 1880, Mason and Taylor, May 31, 1881, and C. C. Johnson, Nov. 7, 1882.

Mrs. Jaques brought those present to their feet when she showed and set in motion mechanical toys, some parts of which were pewter. One was a boy on a velocipede, patented 1870, another a walking doll made under the Goodwin patent of the 1860's and the prize, a black mammy of pewter or lead, with tin hands and a pewter banjo.

She spoke also of toy soldiers, which appear to have been the playthings of children from time immemorial. Von Boehm, in his "Dolls and Puppets," speaks of a primitive horseman made in lead and pewter before the time of Christ, and states that the Romans were acquainted with flat soldiers of similar materials. To quote from him: "Originally the flat figure was made of lead, but as that substance was too soft and had too little power of resistance, it was replaced first by tin, and then by alloy of tin and antimony."

In connection with Mrs. Jaques' talk, she arranged an excellent collection of pewter toys and miniatures. Several members contributed to this. The specimens aroused a great deal of interest, and brought out some new information.

Mr. Raymond commented briefly on the difficulty in finding children's tea-sets and toys. This is not surprising in view of the destructive tendencies of many children, and the many accidents which happen to small objects left on the floor. He said that the term pewter had to be used in its broadest sense in this connection, for most of the material used seems to have contained more zinc than tin. Somewhat less common are toys made of an unusually thin

Britannia, and occasionally one finds a well executed piece in good Britannia. If we except the miniature porringers, we can find almost nothing in real pewter.

We know, however, that toys were made of that metal in the 18th century, and even earlier. Some must have survived. Robert Peirce, White Cross Street, London, stated on his trade-card as early as 1722 that he "Makes and Sells all Sorts of Pewter Toys, Wholesale and Retail, At the Lowest Prices." Cotterell has shown a reproduction of this card, but the objects in it are difficult to identify. A sugar, a creamer, a cup, and a porringer seem to be identifiable. For better illustrations, see the doll's houses in *Antiques*, Dec., 1930, pp. 494—496.

ESSEX INSTITUTE MEETING

A meeting was held in the Directors' room at the Essex Institute, Salem, Mass., on Saturday afternoon, June 24, 1944. The President, Mrs. William V. Wallburg presided. Mr. and Mrs. Henry D. Reardon came from Farmington, Conn., to be with us.

Faute de mieux, Mr. Raymond was deputed to comment on the pewter at the Institute. The collection, although not large, has some outstanding features. The Herrick porringer, discussed further on another page, is unique, and unquestionably one of the most important English pieces of pewter in the United States. Second to this at the Institute are the pewter examples in the Emelio collection of Military Buttons. A slip-end spoon mold of *circa* 1650, and a mold for pewter teaspoons are other items not likely to be seen elsewhere. The spoon collector will also be interested in several early 17th or late 16th latten spoons, some of which were recovered from Indian graves.

It is to be hoped that the authorities may sometime be able to place their collection in a position where it can receive the recognition which it deserves.

P. E. R.

PEWTER AND ARCHITECTURE

by PAUL J. FRANKLIN

There is a delightful analogy to be drawn by consideration of the Connecticut Valley doorway and the gateway touch of the Danforths. Of all our colonial architecture the Connecticut Valley doorway is most typically American, most distinguished in innovation, outstanding in its correlation of detail. Its mouldings and panel detail, not following established precedent and tradition, are a recombination of architectural members. The Danforths (Copeland excepted), represent the earliest and latest generation of pewterers, their influence extending west, south and north. While the doorways were the product of auger and gouge, the pewter was fashioned with the almost primitive tools that passed from father to son, from uncle to nephew. We can, if we care to, think of the Danforths as living in a house with such a doorway, and of their friends and associates passing in and out of these portals fashioned by carpenter friends. The Danforths looked upon the reeded pilasters and found them good, just what they wanted for a touch. Above the lion they placed the simple arch, easier to incise than the more elaborate broken arch of the Valley doorway. Gershom Jones found the same reeded pilaster in the beautiful doorways of Providence and Newport, Bristol and Warren, and the Austins had plenty of them in and around Boston.

Architecturally there is a certain lack of refinement of design and execution in this and other of our distinctly American doorways, but this is largely overcome by the conscious dignity of achievement and by the accomplishment of a structure, sound and durable. Our pioneers have left us a noble heritage in architecture and pewter. We are all familiar with the two splendid Connecticut Valley doorways installed in the Boston Museum of Fine Arts, one of them illustrated in "Handbook of the Department of Decorative Arts of Europe and America" by Edwin J. Hipkiss, Curator. An equally good original serves as doorway to the American Wing of the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

ANOTHER PEWTERER DISCOVERED ON THE GENEALOGICAL PAGE

by PERCY E. RAYMOND

Some years ago my wife and Dr. Madelaine R. Brown's friend, Dr. Pittman, simultaneously discovered Lawrence Langworthy on the genealogical page of the Transcript. Mrs. Raymond has now found another on the genealogical page of the Hartford Times for Apr. 22, 1944. He is Ivory Lucas, who was in New London, Conn., in 1732, married there in 1733, and in 1747 leased a house at "Ogles Town in the county of New-Castle-on-the-Delaware." In one record he called himself a Pewterer and Founder, in another, a Pewterer and Brass Founder. In 1748 shortly before he died, he sold his tools and a cow to James Broom of Ogles Town. Was Broom a pewterer or a tinker?

Cotterell lists nine Lucases who were pewterers, from Francis of York, 1684, to John of London who did not die till 1849. But he records no Ivory, and genealogists have not been able to trace his ancestry. I was interested to find that I had barely missed being the descendant of a pewterer myself. Peter Prudden, born 1535, died 1600, is supposed to have been the father of a Mildred who married Robert Lucas, who had leave to strike his touch in 1651. Her brother, the Rev. Peter Prudden, was the earliest minister at Milford, Conn., and an ancestor of mine. I think the genealogists have skipped a generation or two, for the dates do not jibe. Peter senior, reputed father of the Rev. Peter and Mildred, had a brother Edward, 1539-1617, who married a daughter of John Ivory, hence it seems that the pewterer Ivory Lucas was probably a descendant of this branch of the family. Look among your pieces for an I. L. touch. Some one may have an example of his work, which was probably done at New London.

ANOTHER NOTE ON IVORY LUCAS

by EDNA T. FRANKLIN

Perhaps Mr. Raymond should have said "rediscovered," for the Magazine Antiques for December, 1942, contained the following:

"Mrs. M. W. Benn, of Hartford, Connecticut, is seeking information about the life and works of Ivory Lucas, a versatile ancestor possessed of an unusual name. He is known to have been a pewterer, silversmith, and brass founder. Spoons made by him have been identified."

Mrs. Benn is the editor of the genealogical page in the Hartford Times, and wrote the article which attracted Mrs. Raymond's attention.

I am trying to find out more about Ivory in Delaware, and may be able to get some data on the Broom family which has been prominent in Wilmington.

THE HERRICK PORRINGER

by PERCY E. RAYMOND

The most important piece of pewter in the Essex Institute, and it would be important in any collection, is the Herrick porringer. Its photograph was published in *Antiques* in October, 1927 in an article on "Porringers with Busts of Sovereigns" by Adolphe Riff, a curator of the Museums in Strasburg, France. It was one of six such porringers then known, of which, curiously enough, four were in the United States. It is true that of the latter, one was only a lid and the other a bowl from which the handle had been broken. The two really good specimens are the one in the Essex Institute and another owned by Mrs. A. W. Thayer of Dedham.

Mr. Riff was in some doubt about the origin of these pieces, but believed they were not French. He was the great authority on French pewter porringers, and had never seen one with the medallion of a sovereign.

In the July number, 1928, of *Antiques*, Mr. Cotterell took up the subject, and showed pretty conclusively that all these porringers, to which he attached the descriptive adjective "Commemorative," are of English origin. This was in a sense an "about face" for Cotterell, for he had previously said that the English pewterers never made two-eared specimens. This statement was obviously incorrect, for I have three of them in my little collection.

Mr. Cotterell illustrated two more of the commemorative porringers from the collection of Mr. Alfred B. Yeates of London, making a total of eight. One of them is identical with the Institute specimen, except for having a spool instead of a cock for a handle on the cover. More important, however, is the fact that he was able to identify the I. W. mark on our Essex Institute specimen as the touch of John Waite of London, who was given liberty to strike in 1674. He also analyzed the cypher, which is a combination of W. M. R., William and Mary, Rex and Regina, a conclusion to which Mr. Riff had previously come. William and Mary ascended the throne in 1689 and Mary died in 1694. This specimen was probably made between these two dates, and was believed by Mr. Cotterell to be the oldest of decorated English porringers.

William III (William of Orange), succeeded the much disliked and distrusted last of the male Stuarts, James II. Continental influence had crept into English pewter-making when Charles II was restored in 1660. You may remember that Pepys visited the "French pewterer" when he needed articles in that metal. With the arrival of William III, Dutch influence came to England, and is perhaps expressed in these decorated porringers. In fact, there is good reason to think that the moulds in which they were cast were possibly Dutch, but more probably of French origin, for some of them are not only decorated, a great departure from the English custom, but have dolphins on the ears, a distinctly Continental, generally French, trait. It might be remarked in passing that this does not mean that John Danforth's dolphin handle was inspired by any connection of this sort.

Our Essex Institute specimen has good typical undecorated English ears. John Waite may have imported the moulds for the bowl and cover, but used his ordinary ones for casting the handles. The most remarkable feature is the unusually large size, the diameter being six inches. One finds this size among the Continental porringers, but I know of no other instance of so large an English or of any American vessel of this type. In the bowl, William and Mary

regard each other across a central rose on the boss, but on the lid they seem more interested in the cock which is the handle. In front of the cock is a crown, behind it the cypher to which allusion has already been made.

The writer is particularly interested in this porringer, for he has two covered specimens by Thomas Waite, who had leave to strike in 1679. Cotterell lists him as a spoon maker in 1683, an insult, for spoon making was the lowest stratum amongst the pewterers. He and John were, so far as I can learn, the first Englishmen who made covered double-eared porringers. Most of the commemoratives were made during or after the reign of Queen Anne (1702-1714). Although John Waite customarily spelled his name Waite, but occasionally Waight, and Thomas usually spelled his Waight, but once in a while Waite, it seems probable that they were relatives, perhaps brothers or cousins. The Wights appear to have been a pewtering family, for there was a Richard Waight in 1555, a Thomas in 1702, and a John in 1706, in addition to the John and Thomas already mentioned. One likes to think that the Thomas of 1679 and the John of 1680 got together and decided to strike a new note in English pewter by introducing the Continental style of the covered porringer. This was about the period when the French porringer, previously a general utility basin, was becoming restricted in use to the serving of soup, a practice which led to its appellation of "écuelle à bouillon." This ended in the middle of the next century, in the evolution of the porringer into the soup tureen.

Perhaps it was the appearance of this porringer on the market which inspired a Jacobite song, called to my attention by my daughter Ruth Elspeth, my predecessor as corresponding secretary of the Club. I have not traced its origin, but it is in a volume on "Jacobite Minstrelsy," published in Glasgow in 1829. Much of this material was from James Hogg's "Jacobite Relics," issued some years earlier.

O WHAT'S THE RHYME TO PORRINGER?

O what's the rhyme to porringer?
Ken ye the rhyme to porringer?
King James the Seventh had ae dochter,
And he gave her to an Oranger.
Ken ye how he requited him?
Ken ye how he requited him?
The lad has into England come,
And ta'en the crown in spite of him.

The second stanza has no reference to porringers, so I shall not quote it. The allusion to James as the seventh king of that name is evidence of the Scottish origin of the song, for James II of England was also James VII of Scotland.

How and when the Herrick porringer came to this country is a mystery. Sidney Perley has a poor photograph of it in vol. 1, p. 325, of his "History of Salem," 1924. He says "It is said to have belonged to Henry Herrick, the immigrant, who came in 1629." But William the Oranger was not born till Nov. 4, 1650, and not even a soothsayer could have predicted that he would marry his first cousin Mary, eldest daughter of the Duke of York in 1677, and mount his father-in-law's vacated throne in 1689. The porringer must have been made between 1689 and 1694, when Mary died. But how did it reach this country?

No one knows. Tradition says it belonged to Sir William Herrick, the poet. But Sir William, although one of the richest goldsmiths in London, was not a poet, although he did help support a nephew, Robert, who was apprenticed to him in 1607. Robert was a versifier, best known as a clergyman-poet and remembered today chiefly because he taught his favorite pig to drink from a tankard. We like to think that it was a pewter one. Robert never married, and died at the age of 84, in 1674. All this was before the porringer in question was made. Even though Henry Herrick, the founder of the family in Salem, may have been a relative of Sir William the goldsmith, or of Robert, the poet, one cannot see how this unique pewter vessel got into the family.

Through the kindness of Miss Maida Beckett and Miss Florence Osborn of the Essex Institute, I have been able to see all the documents that institution has in relation to this porringer. Its actually known history appears to have begun as late as 1856, when it was in the possession of Elizabeth Sargent Bond, daughter of Daniel Herrick Bond, of Canterbury, Conn. He was, through his mother Ruth, the grandson of John Herrick of Canterbury, who in turn was the great-grand-son of Henry of Salem. John Herrick's father was named Robert, possibly in respect for a distant cousin, Robert the poet. Perhaps the porringer came along at this time, gift of a god-father in England. Porringers were in those days the proper things for gifts to infant name-sakes. Remember Pepys when he took the porringer to present to a new born babe, and brought it home when he found the parents had not honored the child with his name?

The tradition is, as told by Mrs. Wilbur E. Barnard, who donated the specimen to the Institute in 1922, that the porringer has been passed along from one Elizabeth to another of Herrick descent. The first Elizabeth, daughter of Henry, died too soon to receive it. Its real history is still a mystery, but we who are interested in pewter are thankful that one of the most remarkable of all English pieces is in the Boston area. It should be resting on velvet in a case of its own.

THE NOMENCLATURE OF SADWARE

by PERCY E. RAYMOND

Sadware is the old English name for what has lately become known as flatware. This latter term really belongs to knives, forks and such tools, so it would be better to apply the earlier name to plates, platters, chargers, basins, and the like.

Ledlie I. Laughlin has treated the subject most sensibly and clearly in volume I of his book, and has shown that the meanings of the words have undergone various changes in the course of time. But I am still curious about the names as they were applied in the 16th and 17th centuries. At present I shall discuss only the shallowest of these objects. It is convenient to subdivide sadware into two groups, flat sadware, such as saucers, plates, dishes, platters, and chargers, and hollow sadware, which would include basins, bowls, and porringers. Sadware has been defined as all those articles for culinary use which can be cast in one piece, whereas in making holloware it is necessary to assemble various parts. This definition is not, however, strictly accurate, for bowls were cast in two parts, and most porringers had the ears made separately. Trencher salts were cast in one piece, but the majority of salts were in two parts, soldered together. They were listed as holloware in the Statute of 4 Henry VIII, 1512. Trencher salts were made during the 17th century only.

H. H. Cotterell, in his "National Types of Old Pewter," states that a plate is an article less than 10 inches in diameter, and that food is consumed directly from it. The serving vessels, on which meals are brought to the table he groups together as dishes. He mentions the charger, but does not define the term.

The primary source of most of our information about pewter is Charles Welch's History of the Worshipful Company of Pewterers, although various published inventories are helpful. In what follows, the facts are gleaned from Welch unless otherwise noted.

The term sadware appears as early as 1478, and there are many later references to it. Massé tells us that it was still in use among the pewterers in England as late as 1904.

Pewter history in England begins with the ordinances of 1348. These were in Latin and Norman-French, but Welch published an early English translation of them. In this, saucers, "platters," and "chargeours" were mentioned, which leads one to believe that these were the names used for the flatter types of sadware in the 14th century.

In 1438 an ordinance fixed the weights in the various categories, but unfortunately did not state sizes. This list has been published repeatedly by Massé, but until now no one has tried to translate weight into diameter. In the original list, the articles are given in pounds per dozen. I have reduced it to indicate the weight of each piece.

Chargers		Saucers	
Largest	7 lb.	Largest	12 oz.
Next	5 lb.	Middle	9 $\frac{1}{3}$ oz.
Middle	3 lb. 4 oz.	Next	8 oz.
Small hollow	2 lb. 12 oz.	Small	5 $\frac{1}{3}$ oz.
Platters		Galey Dishes	
Largest	2 lb. 8 oz.	Large	1 lb.
Next	2 lb. 4 oz.	Small	13 $\frac{5}{7}$ oz.
Middle	2 lb.	Galey saucers	
Small middle	1 lb. 13 $\frac{1}{4}$ oz.	Large	1 lb.
Dishes		Small	13 $\frac{5}{7}$ oz.
Largest	1 lb. 8 oz.	Cardinal's hat	1 lb. 4 oz.
Middle	1 lb. 2 $\frac{2}{3}$ oz.	Florentine dishes	
King's	1 lb. 5 $\frac{1}{3}$ oz.	Largest	1 lb. 1 $\frac{1}{3}$ oz.
Small	1 lb.	Next	1 lb.
Hollow	14 $\frac{2}{3}$ oz.	Florentine saucers	
Small hollow	13 $\frac{1}{3}$ oz.	Largest	1 lb. 1 $\frac{1}{3}$ oz.
		Next	1 lb.

The Mystery of Pewterers bought, in 1451, a set of molds for sadware. This list covers some of the articles mentioned above, but is in other respects supplementary.

holow scharyder (charger?)	hollow dysche molde
plat molde	hollow sawsyr molde
dysche molde	Salydysche molde
Sawsyrmolde	Saly sawsyr molde
medeyll plat molde	Salu bolle molde
medyll dysch molde	quare (square) botte molde
medyll sawsyr molde	Trechor molde
Kings ys dysche molde	Great fllorentyn dysche (molde)

It will be noted that in these two lists we have a rather definite classification of the flat sadware into four groups, chargers, platters, dishes, and saucers, with some odds and ends appended. The word plate does not occur. I am convinced that plate and platter were synonymous in those days. The French used the term *plat*, a corruption of the Latin *plattus*, which merely means flat.

The list of molds seems to clarify the term Galey as applied to dishes and saucers. Massé amplifies it into Galley, the implication being galery, or kitchen. But from the usage of 1451, I surmise that the Galey is a misreading of Saly, that is, salad. What was meant by the Florentine dishes I have no idea.

Of course I have no 15th or 16th century flat sadware, and only 16 pieces from the 17th century. These last cannot be accepted as definite evidence, but on weighing them, I find that everything up to $9\frac{2}{3}$ inch plates would come within the old classification of saucers, and specimens 10 to $10\frac{5}{8}$ inches in diameter would be classed as dishes. Seemingly I have only one platter, $13\frac{7}{8}$ inches, and chargers begin at 15 inches. I hope that members who have pieces of the 17th century or older will weigh them and send me a list. Deductions made on the basis of a few specimens are highly unsatisfactory. Pieces of the same diameter show variable weights, depending on the composition, the thickness, and the amount of metal which has been removed during two or three centuries of cleaning. For example, my 22 inch double-reeded charger weighs 9 lb. 9 oz., whereas my 22 inch broad-brimmed charger weighs only 8 lb. 12 oz.

The nomenclature of 1438 seems to have been in use consistently from the year 1290 or before, till after 1600 A. D. In 1290, Edward I had a hundred platters and a hundred dishes. The ordinances of 1348 mention chargers, platters and saucers, and all the records down to 1613 mention platters, dishes and saucers in that order.

Harrison, whose famous work was written between 1577 and 1587, says that a garnish of pewter consisted of 12 platters, 12 dishes, and 12 saucers. I think we can accept this as authentic and ignore some of the later definitions of the word, including that of Welch. The worst definition I have seen is in the most recent edition of Webster's Dictionary, of which I was one of the special editors. It says "Garnish n. A set of dishes, etc., for the table." Nothing could be further from the truth. A garnish was a set of flat sadware, for show, not for use.

During the 17th century changes in nomenclature seem to have taken place, but the records accessible to me do not suffice to show how they came about. In 1674, a new table of weights and sizes was adopted. Welch unfortunately gives no details on the larger sizes, but by this time plates had reached their modern proportions. The list is:

Dishes, 15 sizes, 20 lb. to $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. a piece.

Plates, $1\frac{1}{4}$ lb., 1 lb., and $\frac{3}{4}$ lb. a piece.

Saucers, slight, $2\frac{1}{8}$ oz., small $1\frac{5}{8}$ oz.

new fashioned swaged, great $9\frac{1}{3}$ oz.,

middle, $6\frac{2}{3}$ oz., small $5\frac{1}{3}$ oz.

It is obvious that it was from this record that Cotterell derived his idea that there were only two categories, plates and dishes. If the weights of my specimens are of any value, it would seem that anything up to about 11 inches in diameter would be a plate. The largest saucer may have been about 6 inches across. My only double-reeded one, at $4\frac{7}{8}$ inches, weighs 4 oz.

The range of dishes, 20 lbs. to 8 oz., definitely overlaps that of plates, and even large saucers. It is much to be regretted that Welch does not give the whole list. It will be noted that the largest charger of 1438 weighed only 7 lbs. Here we have one of 20 lbs. What the diameter was we can only conjecture. If a double-reeded of 18 inches weighs 4 lb. 12 oz. and one of 22 inches weighs 9 lbs. and 9 oz., a gain of 16 oz. per inch, then a 20 pound charger may have been over 30 inches in diameter. The mathematics of this are poor. It could be figured more accurately since the area increases in the ratio of πr^2 . We have heard of 36 inch chargers, but who has seen one? A charger is, traditionally at least, of large size. The 5 pound type seems to have been popular in the early days. As nearly as I can estimate, it was probably about 15 inches in diameter, rather small for holding a roast of venison or a wild boar.

Of all the groups mentioned, the platters seem to have been the most nearly static. I doubt if we have any modern definition, but we are inclined to apply this name to any flat dish from 12 to 18 inches in diameter. Such practice overlaps dishes on one side, chargers on the other. But platter has never meant the same as plate, despite the common origin of the two words. My friend, Mr. R. C. Page, suggests that the old-time platters, were like the modern ones, oval or elliptical. It is in line with Cotterell's definition. Food is served on a platter. We take our individual portion onto a plate. Dish, as used by the pewterers, has entirely lost its original meaning. In modern parlance, a set of dishes means anything from which one can eat or drink. Teapot, coffeepot, cups, saucers, plates, soup plates, meat plates, baking dishes; all are dishes. Who bothers, when she or he has to do the dishes three times a day? The word has been so far perverted from its original pewteratorial meaning that it may as well be forgotten. The fact that porringers are referred to as "eared dishes" suggests that a dish was an article of some depth.

Mr. Laughlin suggests that the word trencher be used only for wooden articles. That would be nice, if we could do it, but these *post facto* definitions are difficult to enforce. Like so many words that have to do with eating, we get this from the French, to whom it meant merely to cut. They cut a slice of bread, and put the meat and gravy on it. I wish that were the fashion now-a-days. I like to sop up my gravy with bread, and so do you, but we do not dare do it in public. This was, however, a bit messy, and so our more refined ancestors provided individual square or rectangular slabs of wood (treene). As early as 1451 the wealthy had metal, as indicated by the "Trechor molde" on the list of that date. It is probable that the earliest were square, as Cotterell has pointed out, and as is indicated by Harrison's remark, "I say flat, for dishes and platters in my time begin to be made deep like basins, and are indeed more convenient for sauce, broth, and keeping the meat warm." A modification of the flat square by cutting off the corners produced the octagonal, an exceedingly rare type in pewter. If you happen to have access to "The English Table in History and Literature," by Charles Cooper, turn to the plate opposite page 56, and see Charles I with an octagonal piece before him. He was entertaining the Spanish ambassador, which would date the scene at about 1630.

But trenchers were not necessarily square or octagonal. Everyone knows that circular wooden trenchers were in use contemporaneously with, and long after the ones already mentioned. These were reproduced in pewter, and I surmise that it is with their advent that the word plate, as a table article, reached its

present meaning. At first they were called trencher plates, then just plates. Incidentally, I have a rather amusing wooden specimen, which has what I take to be a crude imitation pewter touch on the under surface. The first mention of trencher plates in Welch seems to be that of 1668, and plates as such appear in 1674. But Welch copied only a small portion of the records. If they survive the present mess, I hope some member of the Society of Pewter Collectors will give us more detailed information.

We have never known definitely what saucers were. The one thing that is obvious from the records is that they were the smallest objects made in flat sadware. In 1438 some of them were as large as what we would now call plates. Later the name was restricted to smaller pieces. In fact, in 1674, they had become so "slight," that the smallest weighed only 1⁵/₁₆ ounces a piece. I've never seen one of them, but they must have been comparable to the junk young collectors bring back from England, proudly pointing to the "London" mark, which means that they were made since 1892.

One of the terms which intrigues all pewter collectors is the "Hatt", or Cardinal's hat. Welch was frank, and said he didn't know what it was.

I'm not quite so honest, for I have a hunch. If my hunch is right, I've never seen one, and I'm pretty sure none has been made since the early part of the 17th century. Dealers apply the name to two types of flat sadware, first, those with unusually broad brims, and shallow wells; secondly to pieces with moderately broad brims and deep wells. Perhaps the latter are nearer the real form.

When a bishop or archbishop is elevated to the cardinalate, he can wear for a few moments, a flattish sort of hat, with a low crown and broadish sort of brim. We don't see them around, for thereafter they are in storage till the cardinal dies. Cardinal O'Connell's is now hanging above his coffin in his vault in Newton, according to the newspapers.

My hunch is based on the picture of Charies and the Spanish ambassador, already referred to. In vulgar parlance, a hat is a lid. Five of the pages in this picture, three of them exceedingly girlish, bear covered dishes, each cover hat-shaped. In fact, so much so that I should not be surprised to see the moths fly out when they are lifted, if that could be done after 314 years.

This article is not intended to be definitive; I hope it is provocative. It's not all I have to say, but enough for the present.

COLLECTING POSSIBILITIES IN ENGLAND

by EDNA T. FRANKLIN

Various letters which I have received from Mr. Roland J. A. Shelley, President of the Society of Pewter Collectors indicate that interesting items still turn up, occasionally, despite war-time conditions. But prices are high, and desirable accessions come in rarely.

Mr. Shelley's find of a pair of Everett candlesticks is most interesting to us in America, for James Everett was made a freeman in Philadelphia in 1717. He struck his touch in London in 1714, and probably made pewter in this country, although his history is obscure. Photographs of the candlesticks were shown to our Club at the October meeting in 1943. Everett was in some way connected with Simon Edgell. When I sent to Mr. Shelley Edgell's inventory of 1742, as published by Ledlie I. Laughlin, he was particularly interested in prices. He wrote: "I see that 'old pewter' was valued at 10 d per pound. I can give

you some comparisons of English value, though at an earlier date. In 1653 at Wigan 'old fine pewter' fetched 13 d per lb., and in 1673 an inventory taken at Swarsbrich Hall (only three miles from Southport), the seat of the ancient Lancashire family of that name, appears the following: 'Item, fifteen pound of ould pewter at eight pence ye pound.' "

Other items acquired by Mr. Shelley are of interest.

"I recently bought a 5 inch diameter paten, Cotterell 5614 (a), E. G. over two tankards. Now not only is this old (c. 1635) and rare, but it is of special interest to me as it is by the same unknown maker as of a flagon in my collection. To have both an early flagon and paten by the same pewterer is exceptional. Two of our members each possess a flagon and chalice. E. G. made a large number of flagons which are mostly to be found in Norfolk churches, but mine is the only known paten by him."

"I send you herewith a photograph of my latest finds in pewter. The beaker is Scotch (one seldom meets them in this country), but quite late I think. You have quite a number of these pieces in silver in your old churches. They are illustrated in E. Alfred Jones' 'American Church Silver.' This tumbler shape was copied by Scotch pewterers from the Low Country designs, as in the late seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries there was considerable trade between Holland, Belgium, and Scotland. Beakers were used secularly and ecclesiastically in Scotland; but one can only pronounce them Church pieces when they are still so located, as not a few are."

"Now as to the very nice pair of cup salt cellars! It is not often that we come across these with the touch of a known maker; but mine bear the mark of William Hitchens, London. (See Cotterell No. 2339. I wish it had been 2337; but the touch shows a cuff to the hands and 2337 does not.) They are about 3-3/4 inches high and about the same across bowl and base."

"I have recently acquired two chalices—a large Scotch one, no marks, *circa* 1750, somewhat similar to Mr. Weston's illustrated in Cotterell, Plate XXX D; the other, English, made by Robert Stanton, London 1825. Though this is very late it bears Stanton's hall marks, a very rare feature for I have never yet seen or heard of an English chalice with an identifiable touch. I know of several 17th century ones with initials only, but it has not been possible to ascribe any one of these to a known pewterer."

More than a year's work was required for satisfactory research on four items belonging to the President of the English society. "In my collection of old pewter are four alms plates" he wrote in *Apollo* for June 1943 (part, probably of a set of ten or twelve) "bearing the touch of Henry Hammerton, who became a Freeman of The Pewterers' Company in 1706 and attained office of Renter Warden in 1733. On the rim of each plate 'St. Luke's Church, 1714' is inscribed, and directions to the respective collectors reading as follows:

- (a) "Please to Collect in the East Gallery, begin at the Pulpit End."
- (b) "Please to Collect in the West Gallery, begin at the Pulpit End."
- (c) "Please to Collect in the South Gallery, begin at the East Door."
- (d) "Please to Collect in the East Aisle, begin at the Pulpit End."

"As an East Gallery is very unusual in an Anglican Church, there was now undertaken a project to find a St. Luke's church with one. Records having been stored for the duration this was rather a task, but finally a satisfactory conclusion was reached by architectural antiquarians in England. An appeal was made

to the American Institute of Architects and the Library of Congress in Washington without result, except the arousing of interest. The plates at present are ascribed to Chelsea Old Church, now so called. This edifice was founded as All Saints in the seventeenth century, becoming St. Luke's in honor of Beldam Hamey, London physician who died in 1676 and had been generous to the parish. In 1820 a larger church was constructed in Chelsea taking the name St. Luke's and then the old church reverted to its original name of All Saints; also known as Chelsea Old Church. The present Vicar is with the Fighting Forces and upon his return the Churchwardens' accounts for 1714 will be examined in the search for an expenditure of pewter plates."

EXHIBITION OF PEWTER AT THE NEW CANAAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

by PERCY E. RAYMOND

The Club likes to keep track of what its members are doing and especially of exhibits of pewter. An exhibition of more than local interest has been on view recently at the Library in New Canaan, Conn. The material, more than a hundred and fifty pieces, was assembled and labeled by Mrs. T. Ferdinand Wilcox, one of our enthusiastic members who has entertained the Club in Silver Mine and at her home in the Peter Smith house on Smith Ridge. She had the Cooperation of twenty four local exhibitors, an extraordinary showing for a small town. Mrs. Wilcox has set a precedent which might well be followed by other members in their home towns. It is surprising how wide the interest is in the gray metal, and how many are the people who have retained what they have inherited. The writer is a native of New Canaan, and was glad to be asked to give a talk at the inauguration of the exhibition on June 12th. He spoke on the "Pewter of Our Ancestors," and was pleased when a cousin brought in a platter and mug which belonged to our mutual great-great grandfather.

Specimens from Mrs. Wilcox's carefully selected collection naturally dominated the show, and were of great assistance to the speaker. One must envy her the pair of Peter Young chalices, pieces which I think represent the highest point ever reached by an American pewterer, but she is no specialist, and her Jacobean candlestick and Cromwellian slip-top spoon were among the many objects which stirred the writer's admiration. Similar local exhibitions elsewhere would be of great interest. My former schoolmate, Stephen B. Hoyt, President of the Historical Society, was the *deus ex machina*.

THE JUST DEVIL OF WOODSTOCK

OR

A true Narrative of the Several Apparitions, the Frights and Punishments, Inflicted upon the Rumpish Commissioners sent Thither to Survey the Mannors and Houses Belonging to His Majestie. London, printed in the year 1660.

(This survey took place in 1649)

"October 21. About midnight they (the commissioners) heard a great knocking at every door; after a while the doors flew open, and into the withdrawing-room entered something of a mighty proportion, the figure of it they

knew not how to describe. This walked about the room shaking the floor at every step. . . then took up eight pewter dishes, and bowled them about the room and over the servants in the truckle-beds; then sometimes were the dishes taken up and thrown cross the high beds and against the walls, and so much battered."

The previous night Cromwell's commissioners had been hit over the head with trenchers, three dozens of which were tossed about. This may help to give us some idea of what was meant by the term dish. There is no mention of bowling the trenchers. They were undoubtedly square and wooden. The dishes, however, must have been circular and of such size and depth to be easily flung about. Hence, though they were "bouled" they were not bowls, and since they were hurled by human hands, they could not have been of more than moderate size. A little experimentation showed me that a 13 inch platter was about my limit for effective use. A strong man might conveniently handle one three or four inches greater in diameter. Taking this as one line of evidence, I should infer that "dishes" were 18 inches or less across. How much less one cannot say. Anything larger may well have been called a charger.

The quotation is to be found in the appendix to the introduction of Scott's "Woodstock."

P. E. R.

TAPPIT HENS

Letter from the Pitfirrane mss., written by Duncan Forbes to his friend, Mr. John McFarlane. Duncan Forbes was then Lord Advocate, but later he became Lord President of the Session.

"Invernesse, 8, April, 1715.

"After I mist you at 12 o'clock Tuesday at your Lodgings and found that our Comrads had not appeared since the Tapped hens of the last night in Number ii, I lookt out our friend Phyz Aikman, with whom I took coach to Leith. We jogged along't cursing the tapped hens, complaining of headakes and yawning out our real sorrow at parting."

"Wednesday 30th. Awaked; query, a sore throat? Difficulty in swallowing spittle; curs'd all stoups from the tapped hen down to the half-gill; moaned of my bed."

It was probably in reply that McFarlane wrote to Duncan Forbes in the same month of the decay of all hilarity since his departure from Edinburgh, adding—"A *Tappit Hen*, a bird as peculiar to you as an Eagle to Jove, has not been seen among us since that event."

Major Fraser's Manuscript, Edit. A. Ferguson,
Edinburgh, 1889, p. 160, 164.

by RUTH ELSPETH RAYMOND

A FEW KIND WORDS

The Magazine Antiques. May 16, 1944

Dear Doctor Raymond:

I have read with the greatest interest the Tenth Anniversary Number of the Pewter Collectors' Bulletin. I want to congratulate you on this issue and also to send my felicitations to the Club on having thrived so well and achieved

so much in the past ten years. While I have not been intimately in touch with its activities, I have always felt that this was one of the most worthwhile of the Collectors' Clubs. All good wishes to you for the next ten years.

Sincerely,
Alice Winchester, Editor

The Quester's Column, New York Sun, May 26, 1944.

"The tenth anniversary number of the Pewter Collectors' Club of America bulletin contains words of congratulation from many of the Club's friends and the Club's own look-back over its ten years. . . . There is a list of members and the Quester is proud to be included among the five honorary members, for he considers the research work of this club a pattern for others to follow."

Charles Messer Stow, Antiques Editor

An Addition to Dr. Rushford's List

I have a cigar lighter similar to No. 655, pl. 76 in Laughlin's "Pewter in America" marked on the bottom Roswell Gleason. The oil container is similar to that of a lamp marked R. Gleason.

Edwin Victor Spooner

The Pewter Muggers

"The Pewter Muggers was a New York faction of the Democratic party which was opposed to the Tammany candidates in 1828. Their meetings being held in a Frankfort Street resort over pewter mugs, the name was affixed by their opponents."

Newspaper clippings, source not recorded.

The Constitution and By-Laws, as adopted in 1938, incorporating later amendments.

CONSTITUTION OF THE PEWTER COLLECTORS CLUB OF AMERICA

ARTICLE I. *Name*

The name of this society is "The Pewter Collectors Club of America."

ARTICLE II. *Object*

The objects of the club are—to foster study and discussion of pewter; to encourage the collecting of pewter, native and foreign; to act as a clearing house of information concerning pewter and pewterers; to assist in establishing regional groups for members too remote to attend meetings of the parent club.

ARTICLE III. *Members*

Collectors and students of pewter are eligible for membership.

ARTICLE IV. *Officers and Elections*

The officers shall be a President, one or more Vice-Presidents, a Clerk, a Corresponding Secretary and a Treasurer, who together with three members-at-large and the chairman of each standing committee shall constitute a board known as the Governing Board.

The Governing Board shall supervise the affairs of the club and shall be elected annually at the January meeting.

ARTICLE V. *Meetings*

Meetings shall be held at such times and places as the By-Laws shall prescribe.

ARTICLE VI. *Amendments*

This constitution may be amended at any regular meeting of the club by a two-thirds vote of the members present and qualified to vote provided written notice of the proposed amendment has been sent to all members at least four (4) weeks before the meeting.

BY-LAWS OF THE PEWTER COLLECTORS CLUB OF AMERICA

ARTICLE I. *Membership*

Section 1. Application for membership shall be made to the Corresponding Secretary.

Collectors and students of pewter who have been sponsored by two members of the club and have been accepted by the Governing Board, may be elected to membership by a majority vote of members and voting at any regular meeting.

Section 2. Persons residing at distances that prevent attendance at meetings of the Pewter Collectors' Club of America may join the parent club or may organize regional groups to be affiliated with the Pewter Collectors' Club of America.

(A) Such regional groups shall elect necessary officers and carry on their business in conformity with the constitution and by-laws of the Pewter Collectors' Club of America.

(B) Regional groups may decide the amount of their group dues. Of such dues \$.50 per member shall be paid by the treasurer of each regional group

to the treasurer of the parent club each year. Such payment entitles the group member to membership in the parent club.

(C) The Corresponding Secretary shall mail to the Secretary of each regional group all notices, bulletins and printed matter pertaining to the club business.

(D) The President of each regional group shall be a Vice-President of the Pewter Collectors' Club of America, and, as such, a member of its Governing Board.

Section 3. Honorary membership may be conferred by unanimous vote of the Club.

Section 4. The annual dues of the Pewter Collectors Club of America shall be \$2.00 and shall be payable at the second meeting of the year.

The fiscal year shall be the calendar year.

A member whose dues remain unpaid for one year shall be suspended, thereby losing his voting privilege. If the dues are not paid for two years the member shall be dropped from membership.

ARTICLE II. *Duties of Officers*

Section 1. The President shall preside at all meetings of the club, and all meetings of the Governing Board; and shall, following his election, appoint a Program Committee, and—at the November meeting—an Auditing Committee.

Section 2. The Vice-Presidents, in order, shall in the absence of the President, perform the duties of that office and shall perform such other duties as the club may designate.

Section 3. The Clerk shall keep the minutes of all meetings of the club and Governing Board and shall file such club records as may be entrusted to him.

Section 4. The Corresponding Secretary shall attend to all correspondence of the club; issue notices of all meetings, notify all committee chairmen of their appointment, receive applications for membership, submit them to the Governing Board for action and notify new members of their election. He shall also be custodian of Club Property.

Section 5. The Treasurer shall have charge of all club funds, collect and receive all fees and dues, pay all bills, keep an accurate record of all receipts and disbursements and at each annual meeting render a written report.

Section 6. All officers and governors shall be elected annually and with the exception of the Treasurer, Clerk and Corresponding Secretary, shall not hold office for more than two successive years; nor shall they be eligible for the same office for a further period of two years.

Section 7. The Governing Board shall;

(A) meet at the call of the club President or upon request of three or more members of said Board;

(B) fill vacancies within itself by a majority vote of the remaining members;

(C) approve all plans and procedures requiring the expenditure of money;

(D) consider all membership applications;

(E) have general supervision of club activities.

ARTICLE III. *Quorum*

Ten members of the club at a regular meeting and five members of the Governing Board at a board meeting shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE IV. *Committees*

Section 1. Standing committees functioning throughout the club year, shall be a program committee and a publications committee. The chairman of each shall be a member of the governing board.

Section 2. The program committee shall arrange the program for all meetings of the club, provide for places for meetings, speakers, and topics for discussion. It shall notify the President and Corresponding Secretary of the arrangements made.

Section 3. The publications committee shall prepare or edit all material printed by the club and shall have charge of the sale of such material. The chairman shall act as press correspondent.

Section 4. A nominating committee of three members shall be elected by the club at the November meeting. Its report shall be sent to all club members with the notice of the annual meeting.

Section 5. The auditing committee shall be appointed by the president at the November meeting and shall report at the annual meeting in January.

Section 6. Such other committees shall be appointed or elected from time to time as may seem necessary to carry on the business of the club.

ARTICLE V. *Parliamentary Authority*

"Robert's Rules of Order—Revised" shall be the final authority on all questions of procedure and parliamentary law.

ARTICLE VI. *Amendment*

These By-Laws may be amended at any regular meeting of the club by a two-thirds vote of members present and qualified to vote, provided the amendment has been submitted at the previous regular business meeting or sent each member by mail with the call for the meeting.

A true copy, attest, PERCY E. RAYMOND, Clerk