

*The*  
**PEWTER COLLECTORS' CLUB**  
*of AMERICA*

VOLUME 2. NUMBER 2.

OFFICERS, 1947

*President*, DR. PERCY E. RAYMOND 23 Revere Street, Lexington, Mass.

*Vice-Presidents*, DR. KURT M. SEMON

ex-officio, for the New York Regional Group

MRS. PHILIP HUNTINGTON

MR. CHARLES F. MONTGOMERY

MR. MERTON H. WHEELOCK

*Governing Board*, MRS. JOHN ALLES

MRS. HENRY W. BORNTRAEGER

MR. CHARLES E. AYERS

*Clerk and Corresponding Secretary*, MRS. EATON H. PERKINS

86 Ardsmoor Road, Melrose, Mass.

*Treasurer*, DR. MADELAINE R. BROWN 264 Beacon Street, Boston, Mass.

*Program Committee*, MRS. JOHN ALLES

MRS. EATON H. PERKINS

MRS. WILLIAM V. WALLBURG

MR. EDWARD INGRAHAM, Chairman

7 Lowell Street, Cambridge, Mass.

*Publication Committee*, MR. AND MRS. EDWARD INGRAHAM

DR. PERCY E. RAYMOND, Chairman

NEW YORK REGIONAL GROUP

OFFICERS, 1947

*Chairman*, DR. KURT M. SEMON

Mamaroneck, N. Y.

*Vice-Chairmen*, MRS. JAMES R. KROM

MR. LEDLIE I. LAUGHLIN

MR. ARTHUR W. CLEMENT

MR. JOHN PAUL REMENSNYDER

*Clerk and Corresponding Secretary*, MRS. KATHRYN KERN ELLENBERGER

36-37 212th Street, Bayside, Long Island, N. Y.

*Treasurer*, MRS. JOHN HOLME BALLANTINE

610 Park Avenue, New York City, N. Y.

*Governing Board*, MRS. PAUL J. FRANKLIN

MRS. PHILIP HUNTINGTON

MRS. T. FERDINAND WILCOX

MR. DOUGLAS CURRY

*Program Committee*, MR. J. RITCHIE KIMBALL

MR. JOHN M. GRAHAM, 2d

MRS. PAUL J. FRANKLIN

MR. ERIC DE JONGE

MR. ROBERT H. ELLENBERGER, Chairman

## FOREWORD

This number is largely devoted to an unpleasant subject. We regret that we have to deal with it, but we feel that it is our duty to warn our members so that they may be on guard. Some who find they have bought doubtful pieces may be a bit discouraged, but we hope that they will not give up collecting. There really is very little false American pewter on the market, and it is easily recognizable. All that one has to do is to be careful. But when one enters the field of fairly high-priced English or Continental pieces, even collectors with long experience get caught now and then. Perhaps you have read about the Dutch painter who recently copied old masters so successfully that they fooled even the x-ray. Some of the people now making "antique" pewter in London are almost as good. It is no disgrace to have purchased one of these works of art, but it does wound one's *amour propre*. There is probably no really persistent collector who has not been "had" at one time or another.

The article on "Wrong-uns" has been read by several prominent collectors and dealers. They deplore the necessity, but agree that the Club must come out into the open on this situation.

THE PUBLICATION COMMITTEE.

## REMARKABLE TRULY IS ART

I recently came across the following advertisement:

"Open Pewter Humidor, appr. 3" tall. Small Pewter Cigars (20) banded together form a circle supporting a brass liner. Closed mesh bottom. Two full size Pewter pipes rest across front. One pipe bowl dented, otherwise perfect. Outer pipe stem marked 'F B' within circle. Apparently work of Frederick Basset. Make offer."

Did I hear someone say fifty cents? It would not be surprising if this piece felt much at home in Bridgeport, Connecticut.

P. E. R.

## WRONG-UNS

By PERCY E. RAYMOND

Pride goeth before a fall, and confession is good for the soul. Filled with sinful pride, I published an article entitled "A Pewter Collector's Luck" in the December, 1946, number of the *American Collector*. In it I described and showed photographs of some of my most-treasured pieces. The title was correct, but it has turned out that I was showing samples of my bad as well as my good luck. One of my most-prized bits has turned out to be a "wrong-un." While in the present pessimistic mood, it may be well to throw some light on the darker side of collecting experience.

Mr. Ledlie I. Laughlin boldly added to his book a chapter on "Fakes." It took courage, but it has seemingly done considerable good. Faked American pieces were fairly common around Boston 20 years ago, but I have seen few lately. But the American faker was careless and clumsy, compared with his professional brethren in England and on the Continent. Most of his work is readily detected. However, just as I write these words, there comes a letter telling of three bowls, bearing the faked mark of Parks Boyd, purchased by good friends in Southern California. The mark was shown by Mr. Laughlin in figure 678, plate LXXVIII. This large crude eagle is an excellent example of the clumsy work of fakers of American pieces. Avoid any crude touch. You'll find them on both "English" and "American" pieces. The old die-sinkers were good workmen. Unfortunately some of the modern cutters of imitations also are. Just now collectors in Southern California should be particularly careful, for the sudden increase in interest in antiques in that region has not passed unnoticed in the east. Some "wrong-uns" are going west with the good.

Perhaps, for the benefit of those who have not studied Mr. Laughlin's book as well as they might, his list should be repeated here. There is much more legitimate than spurious pewter by these makers on the market. The best insurance a collector can buy is Mr. Laughlin's book. Every beginner should buy it and H. H. Cotterell's "Old Pewter, Its Makers and Their Marks," before he buys his second bit of pewter.

The following names are on Mr. Laughlin's list: (The figures are all on plate LXXVIII.)

Thomas Badger, fig. 684 (well done, but eagle faces right instead of left).

Frederick Bassett, figs. 679, 680 (crude, coarse).

B. Barnes (not figured) (good plates, used as bottoms on hollow ware).

Parks Boyd, fig. 678 (crude).

George Lightner, fig. 681, 681a (name obscure).

Thomas Danforth III (not figured) (eagle in oval, not in circle).

William Will, fig. 683 (crude, coarse lettering).

A die which once belonged to Roswell Gleason survived in Boston until recently and caused considerable trouble. It appeared on porringers, a shape Gleason is not known to have made, and on various English and Continental pieces. Mr. Laughlin has mentioned the small circular eagle touch of W.I.C. So long as it was in the original owner's hands it was used legitimately, but, as it has turned out, unfortunately, for many have supposed it was an early mark. By bad luck a copy eventually reached unscrupulous hands. I well remember

looking at a plate one day and finding it unmarked. A week later I happened to pick it up again, and found that it bore the W.I.C. eagle. The dealer took it from me and remarked, "I didn't mean that you should see that." The die is now in safe custody, but it has done a lot of mischief. Its legitimate use was on small porringers (3 inch), ash trays, whale-oil lamps, and mugs, which do not, and were not intended, to look old. Some of them have been "antiqued" by people whose trade it is to bring on premature old age, but even the slightest rubbing will make them brand new. It should be remembered that Mr. Cowlishaw adopted this mark before 1900, long before the eagle meant anything to collectors.

An example of English cleverness is the dish which I showed as figure 3 in the article alluded to above. It is ten inches in diameter, broad brimmed, and double reeded. I call it a dish rather than a plate because of the unusual depth of the well. The brim and the bottom of the well are decorated in wriggle-work with conventionalized leaves, falcons, and a man with falcon and dog. It has the hall marks of William Burton, the owner's initials R.S., and date, 1682.

As I remarked in my article, it is risky to buy decorated pewter, particularly if English. It was one of a pair, which should have made me suspicious. It had appropriate "pewter-disease" and imperfections, and, what seemed to me most convincing, the pewter-disease in the bowl showed parallel striations, as happens when an old piece is cleaned on a wheel, without a preliminary soaking in acid or alkali. "Deuced clever, these chaps." There were no marks of knives or forks, but I took that to mean that the pieces had been kept for show, not for use. The price was reasonable, another fact which should have made me suspicious. But I reasoned that English dealers were sending this material abroad rather than to risk loss by bombing, for the dishes were in a large collection which came over in 1941.

I had my doubts about the piece, but these were put completely to rest when I accidentally discovered that a man named Robert Squire was chief falconer to the Duke of Bedford for 35 years, a period which included 1682. I was exultant and confident. Obviously they had been presented to R.S. by the Duke, and had been treasured in the family till hard times brought them on the market. This happy frame of mind continued until the spring of 1947, when I was informed that another pair had turned up in England. Their owner took them to the summer meeting of the Society of Pewter Collectors, where they were examined, weighed, and found wanting, chiefly because too heavy to be English. I kicked against the pricks for a time, but one evening I applied *Bon Ami* to the pewter-disease on the back. To my disgust, it came off. What was worse, I found that after I had wet it, the disease came off on my thumb. Then I found water would do it, without the *Bon Ami*. At the suggestion of a friend, the black was washed away from the hall marks. The rough surface in the depressions showed that these devices had not been stamped on with dies, but were in the mold when the dish was cast. This, of course, proved conclusively that the piece was not genuine.

What can one do in examining a piece of this sort before purchasing it? Dealers do not intend to handle "wrong-uns," but a dealer cannot be an expert on all the various sorts of articles which he has for sale. Few of them in this country know much, if anything, about 17th century English pewter.

In this case, if I had spat on my thumb and rubbed the back of the dish, I would have gotten a dirty thumb and saved money. But leady pewter blackens the fingers. Keep on learning by experience seems to be about the only thing to do. We have to pay for our education.

This incident has focussed my attention on the fact that there are a good many bad English pieces circulating at the present moment. Some of them are modern, and were not meant to be sold as antiques. The most common of these are small circular ash trays, of the butter-plate or cup-plate type. Most of them are 4½ or 5 inches in diameter, a few about 6 inches, and others only 3. All are heavy, new-looking, but take a good polish. The only mark on most of them is the word LONDON in a rectangle, with or without a crowned X. A less common sort has *Hampton Court*, in modern script, stamped on the upper brim, and three lion rampant hall marks. I. BANKS, with the N and S reversed, appears on the lower side. I have just seen a 3-inch piece with a lone eagle on the back. A man who knows pewter tells me that it is a miniature, of Continental origin. The original touch has been obliterated, and the eagle added, spoiling what might have been an interesting specimen.

A few years ago a friend in England sent a list of the forged marks to be found on pewter on sale there at the time. The Club had this mimeographed and sent to all who were then members. It is now printed, for there seems no reason for not putting everyone on guard. That these marks have been reproduced does not mean that all pieces bearing them are spurious.

All are touches of reputable pewterers, and genuine examples of their work are known. The writer has been fortunate enough to obtain pieces showing three of these questionable marks, and photographs of them are shown here.

The numbers in the left-hand column are those assigned to these pewterers in Cotterell's book, in which drawings from the London touch plates are shown.

- 113 Thomas Arnott, c. 1702, a flower.
  - 1479 John Dyer, c. 1680-1734, I D above 86, in a small circle.
  - 2720 John Kenton, c. 1684-1717, small circle with I K.
  - 3092 Robert Marten, c. 1644-1674, small circle with R M above bird and 63.
  - 4819 John Trout, c. 1689, crown above a trout.
  - 4902 Thomas Waight, 1679-1683 +, a circle with T W, and a bell, above 1679.
  - 5554 B. D S, c. 1500 ?, a circle with S D above a man on horseback.
  - 5562 A. D W, c. 1668, a circle with W D between 16 above and 68 beneath.
  - 5769 16th century, a circle with a bull's head, and an oval with a king and sceptre.
  - 5800 T M, in a rectangle, with 1716 below.
  - 5801 T M, in a diamond, with 1716 below T and above M.
  - 5802 M W, a circle with two diamonds, W at one side, M at the other, 16 above and 66 below.
  - 6030 W W, in a circle, with sword between.
- To these must now be added:
- 732 William Burton, 1668-1685+, (hall marks only), 1, Lion passant, 2, Leopard's face, 3, Buckle, 4, W B in a diamond.
  - 5415 B.B in circle, with star above and 1664 below.

This last is unusually embarrassing. I bought, and advised friends to buy,

spoons with this touch in the bowl (Fig. 2). But our purchases did not notably diminish the supply, a fact which naturally causes one to think. These are stout spoons of Dutch type, a thick handle almost circular in section, enlarged at upper end. The bowl is obovate, but verging on the circular—a nice utilitarian spoon. I am sorry to cast suspicion on it. It is not one of the standard English styles, but it is of a type so popular in the 17th century that English spoon makers probably would have used such a mold.

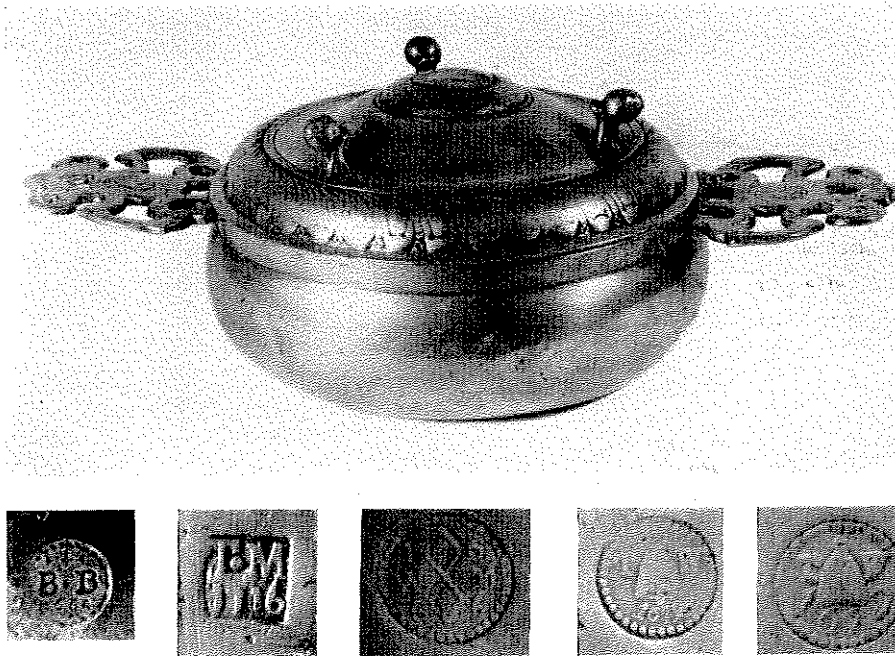


FIG. 1. A pleasing porringer with an Austrian lid and English bowl, with presumably faked touches of Thomas Waight.  
 FIGS. 2-6. (Read from your left to right.) Fig. 2, the B B touch on spoons; Fig. 3, the T.M. touch on spoons; Fig 4, the faked or authentic WM touch; Fig. 5, the presumably authentic T W touch; Fig 6, the presumably faked T W touch on the porringer shown in Fig. 1. All in collection of the writer.

T M, 1716 (Cotterell, 5800) (Fig. 3) has not been identified, but he was a respectable English pewterer. I have a half pint measure with his touch, with a proper "bud" thumb-piece. The error the faker made in reproducing the mark was to put a dot between the T and the M.

If the W M touch (Fig. 4) is an example of a fake, it was made by a skilled die-cutter. It is exactly like touch number 58 on the first London touch plate. (See first folded plate at the end of Cotterell's book.) My impression is on the under side of the brim of a 14-inch "cardinal's hat," in none too good condition. The brim is 3 inches wide, plain on the upper surface, and with a narrow reed on the lower. It was hammered in the boogie, but, as the English architects say of their cathedrals, it has been "pulled about a bit," partially obscuring the original workmanship. If it is not genuine, it is a good example of an accurate reproduction of a touch.

My third example from the list of false marks given above is the T W with bell and 1679. Fig. 5 shows the touch on which I consider to be a genuine double-eared, covered porringer. It was illustrated as Fig. 1 in the article

in the American Collector referred to above. The touch corresponds with the drawing shown by Mr. Cotterell in his number 4902. It will be noted that the figures in the date are small, almost entirely beneath the bell. The other example is on another double-eared porringer which I bought because it was such a good example of what one ought not to buy (Fig. 1). The lid is rather good, with three ball feet and a subdued rococo decoration. It is old, good pewter, probably Austrian. The feet are cast on, with plain marks of the fabric of the tinker's dam inside. I like it, and as a hat, any porringer looks well in it. Unfortunately it does not seem to fit any of our American sizes.

The bowl on which it came is good pewter, and "right" in every respect for its purported date. But it bears on each ear and in the middle of the boss a touch with T W and a bell, with the date in large figures (Fig. 6), so large that only the 67 is beneath the bell, the 1 and 9 crowded up at the sides. This is not like Cotterell's drawing.

But now, look at No. 325 on Cotterell's photograph of the first London touch plate. Neither of the touches on my porringers is exactly like that, nor does Mr. Cotterell's drawing correspond with it. The 6, 7, and part of the 9 are under the bell. The 1 is definitely out at the left (of the observer). The touch on my "fake" is more like the real touch than is the "good" one. Are both fakes? If so, then Mr. Cotterell's drawing was made from a fake.

As a matter of fact, I think there is altogether too much "witch hunting" in this critical analysis. No one wants to own a piece which will be sneered at by his fellow collectors. But if I get a certain amount of pleasure in looking at a reputed English piece with an Austrian cover, why deprive me of it? I do not want to sell it. I have seen well-dressed men with American hats, English coats and Czechoslovakian shoes, and have thought well of them. Why fuss over incongruities, if the parts go well together?

One thing which critics seem to neglect is the fact that the dies with which touches were struck were hard and brittle. They must have been broken from time to time. The new ones may not have corresponded in every detail with the old. There are many things which have to be taken into consideration in judging a piece. If there were any one obvious criterion, we should all be safe. I have amply proven that I am not a competent judge. My plea is for more careful study, and a wider exchange of information.

Reverting to generalities: if you have a chance to buy six or a dozen matched pieces, inquire as to how the set was made up. It is easy enough to get a set of six Samuel Ellis plates, but no one particularly wants them. When twelve Maxwell plates appear at once, it does not look so good, for Americans like them. This warning applies especially to spoons. There are hundreds of old spoon-molds in circulation. I have about 400 spoons. I should say, roughly speaking, that 100 of them were cast within the last 25 years, 250 of them were made in old molds by non-pewterers within the last 150 years, and 50 were made by real spoon makers. As H. J. L. J. Massé said long ago, "Spoons are best left alone by the novice." So far as I know, few ever pass their novitiate. Some years ago a dealer who knew I liked spoons asked me to look at a set of 12. There were six pairs of identical twins. I offered 50 cents apiece for them. Since the asking price was \$100.00, we didn't get far. They had been appraised by an expert at \$10.00 apiece.

The spoons with eagle claws, in place of the drop, pop up everywhere.

Some of them look old. I know nothing about them, but you will not find them in any of the standard books about spoons. Their obovate bowls went out of style in the first half of the 17th century. If they are of that period, it is curious that English collectors have not noticed them. Mr. Laughlin's book on American pewter does not mention them.

I am not altogether sure that it does much good to warn collectors about fakes. A friendly and frank dealer warned me repeatedly in my early days, telling remarkable and amusing stories about the credulity of people I knew. But did I profit by the advice? No. However, I laughed off my mistakes. I was lucky, for I was able to take a joke. But not everyone can.

One of the maxims I disregarded was that expressed by Massé long ago. It is, in effect: Do not go around inquiring for some particular thing, if it is really uncommon. Supply catches up with demand with remarkable celerity in such cases.

I can go further and add to that. Do not get your mind definitely fixed on a particular object or type of object. Take it easy. Wait a while. If you rush off determined to get some particular thing, you will probably get it, but you may pay an exorbitant price. In my early days I suddenly realized that I had no cup-salts. I told a dealer friend of my predicament. In a few days he had three for me, and I was so grateful I paid him five times the normal asking price. On cleaning, one became a veritable salt-shaker, for the cup was so full of holes that it nearly came apart. Pewter-disease alone held it together. My enthusiasm for salts rapidly cooled, but on regaining normal temperature, I picked up some good ones from time to time. Three-fourths of the fun of collecting is the finding of something for which you have been seeking for years.

Another thing against which Massé warned collectors was the pernicious practice of soldering a piece of pewter bearing an old touch into a new or an old unmarked piece. I have heard a lot about this but have seen only one or two examples, either successful or unsuccessful. Nevertheless, it is something one should bear in mind. The best jobs I have heard of were cases where a part of a plate was used as the bottom of a mug or tankard. This is now being done with B. Barns plates. But respectable pewterers made up hollow-ware in this way, so you need to know your literature.

Reading again Massé's chapter on fakes (*Chats on Old Pewter*, 3d edition, 1923, T. Fisher Unwin, Ltd., London, pp. 59-81) reminds me of the small two-handled porringers, bowl 4 inches in diameter, against which he warns us. They are decorative, with a large (diameter c. 2 inches) Tudor rose in the bowl. For its educative value I bought one and took it to a meeting of the Club. The label I put on the back "FAKE, DON'T BUY, RAYMOND" turned out to be more of a joke on me than on the spurious piece. Unlike the jackass, the ears of these porringers are rather poor and pinched, but the bowl is good. At any rate, as Raymond says, do not buy them. They are perhaps decorative, but lack artistic proportions, and are mongrels in design.

It is utterly hopeless to go into the province of faked Continental pewter. Recent wars have created such a demand for tin that it seems probable that most of the old objects have been sacrificed. Tourists who bought in mid-Europe after 1925 certainly brought back an extraordinary assemblage of imitations. Who am I to cast the first stone? In Oslo, in 1935, I bought a broad-brimmed platter. The dealer, who spoke some English, as most Scan-



dinavians do, remarked that "it was a very good copy." I, knowing my synonyms, supposed that by "copy" she meant "example." But, having lived with it some years, I think that by "copy" she meant copy. Museums in Stockholm and Oslo have wonderful pewter, but in dealers' shops, not so good. Some of you may remember the sack of the Scandinavian countries by pickers of antiques about 1925-26. Many a New England primitive came over in the May-flowers of those days.

"And finally, brethren," to quote the clever Kerfoot, be suspicious of bargains. As an extremely wise and experienced collector writes in a letter to me, "English collectors are well known to dealers as having the money to buy all the really important pieces which come on the market. Why should they send abroad specimens which would command higher prices at home?" Of course this is true only for such English pewter as has arrived in this country recently. If you can find proof that it was here before 1800, that is another matter. And the same general dictum is true about American pewter. There is a ready market for it, but thank goodness, not at 1925 prices.

This article has been read by several experienced collectors and dealers before publication. One of them reported a curious instance of a French coffee urn with an American touch. Apparently it had been put on with chasing tools. With sufficient care and skill, this can be done.

Another reader reported that initialed crown-handled porringers were now offered for sale with faked English touches. Somebody cutting his own throat?

## BLACK MARKETS ARE NOT NEW

By ELISABETH PERKINS

In 1902, Mr. Charles Welch published in London two handsome volumes containing the "History of the Worshipful Company of Pewterers." The Pewter Collectors' Club of America received a set as a gift from our English friends at the time of our 1935 Boston exhibition. (See Bulletin 6.) The books are kept in the Club file, now in the custody of the President. For our members in distant points we present a brief resumé of one of the aspects of the history of pewter-making.

As early as 1348 there appears a suspicion that all makers of pewter may not be beyond reproach. The most skillful—"moste trew & cunningg"—members of the Worshipful Company were ordered to assay all wares coming from the pewterer's shop. The Wardens of the Company, men elected to serve under the Master, approved all products sold in or out of the City, (London, of course), and penalties were imposed on any violator of the Company rules.

All early Crafts concerned themselves with the enforcement of fair trade practises and sought government authority for their insistence upon good products, well made and honestly sold. But ordinances and authority have yet to change human nature.

An appeal to the craftsman's integrity was not enough, apparently, for in 1438 there appears a table of regulations for standard weights of all sorts of pewter vessels. After a hundred years of regulation, the making of pewter should have been a secure livelihood for a competent craftsman. But the Company found it necessary to supervise the source of the raw material, tin. Since the pewterers were the largest consumers of tin in England at the time, ordi-

nances were passed requiring that one-fourth part of all the tin brought to London from the Cornish and Devonshire mines be assigned to the Craft. The Wardens were given the right to search and assay all tin melted down within the City. So we find, at the end of the first century of the records, the Company in control of the sources of supply, the methods of manufacture and struggling with the recalcitrant members of the industry.

By 1456 the classification of pewterers becomes clear. Apprentices, to serve seven or more years, paid a fee for enrolling in the Company. Liverymen were charged for their Clothing, i. e. their distinctive garb that showed their trade and their position in it. Freemen, or Yeomen, were licensed to set up a business or open a shop for themselves and special officers of the Company, with special duties, such as the Clerk and the Beadle added prestige to the whole organization.

The Beadle, "Bedell," was paid to attend the Master and Wardens in their "searches," and he sometimes went searching by himself. (Whoever heard of a government investigator trying to find out something quite independently?) The "Clark" seems to have been a sort of manager of Company property as well as the supervisor of tin purchases, mould rentals, marking of products, etc.

Under King Edward IV, in 1473, the Company of Pewterers became a legal corporation. The powers granted in the charter insured the protection of both maker and buyer of the good gray metal. From then on, progress should have followed a smooth path. However, horizons widened and the London pewterers found themselves challenged by outside competition. The new charter extended the authority of the Company over all England and the right of search was extended to great county fairs and tiny shops in distant villages. The bad metal found was to be forfeited, the careless or unscrupulous workman fined and the Company's authority was to be unquestioned.

If only the human element could be poured in a mould!

How convenient it would have been if all pewterers were honest and careful! But the record indicates that there were base men as well as base metal in circulation.

In 1504 the Company secured the passage of a Parliamentary statute, giving them the power to suppress hawkers and peddlers. They also received authority to compel the maker to affix his touch or mark upon his product. Obviously a means of positive identification should insure better quality in the product itself and protect the native manufacturer from foreign competition. The statute was rather drastic, for it required Englishmen to forfeit all pewter made outside the realm, whether it had been purchased or taken in exchange for other wares. All pewterers were to lose the protection of the King, i. e. their citizenship rights, if they practised their trade in "any strange Regions or Countries."

All these attempts to protect the industry were insufficient. For there were "sundry evil-disposed Persons which commonly be called Hawkers, by Authority of the Kings Letters Patents or Placard, do not only go about from place to place, within this Realm, using Buying and Selling of Brass and Pewter: And by colour and pretence of the same Licenses and Placards, use unlawful and deceivable Weights and Peams, but also do use to sell both Pewter and Brass which is not good, nor truly, nor lawfully mixt nor wrought, to the great Deceit of the Kings true liege People, contrary to the Form and Effect of

the said good Act and Statute made in the said fourth Year of the Kings most Noble Reign." Selling or changing (melting, recasting, etc.) pewter was forbidden at any place or places except open Fairs, Markets or in the pewterer's house.

These powers, given to the Worshipful Company were vigorously used for the next two centuries and were included in the statutes of 1741. Many examples of rebellious men are to be found in the records. Members of the Company were "dismissed out" for nefarious methods of doing business. Sometimes their metal failed to meet the standard of the authorities, sometimes their selling practises were condemned. Even their social life within the Pewterers' Hall was subject to control and regulation. The recreation of the Journeymen came under the scrutiny of their superiors and gambling games were forbidden them. What of the man who decided to change his job? Six months' notice was required. And last, but not least, the Company set up price control, all prices of pewter sold at markets and fairs to be based on London standards.

It seems quite logical to find the Company, early in the reign of Elizabeth, adding more officials to the higher levels of the organization. A Court of Assistants, which ultimately gathered unto itself the authority of the Master and Wardens and the privileges of the Livery, came into being. As an example, "it was agreed by the master, wardens and assystaunce and the most part of all the Company that foure honest men" shall act as purchasing agents for "bargaynes of tynne."

In 1562 a Mr. Robert Somers was hailed before the Court and "disfranchised" for "going about lyke a hawker and prowling other mens bargaynes of the Company out of their hands." It is pleasant to report that in due time Mr. Somers repented of his ways. He paid a stiff fine and was reinstated upon giving his word that he would become a "new man" and obey the rules.

Confidence that more regulations and ordinances would save the day is apparent in the presentation of a second book of them in 1564. Makers marks are prescribed. Standards for metal and workman are set up. "Bosting" is forbidden. No maker shall say his ware is better than another's. The size of a pewterer's business is limited by his own rank. A Liveryman might have two apprentices, an humbler maker was allowed only one. In spite of all these rules the hawker or illicit vendor persisted.

The record for June 18, 1566, gives three men "lycence" for the "execucon and disabolishing all hawkers for any manner of metall" within Kent and Sussex and elsewhere. Three years later another license was granted to Humfrie Ffrauncis of Abington to "dele with hawkers" in four counties. In 1602 a journeyman was fined for carrying on his business from his house instead of a recognized shop and for failing to present his "tuch" for approval.

The Company was adversely affected by severe visitations of the plague. The strict requirements for high office were tempered and the financial obligations of some of the less prosperous members were lessened. But toward the black market operator there was no mercy. On March 2, 1620, the Company decided to sponsor a bill in Parliament for suppressing hawkers and the "buying of tynn and old Pewter by brokers and others not Pewterers, selling of old pewter and transporting and uttering it."

In 1636 the poor workmen of the Company protested "the frequent making of the severall sorts of ware by the Crooked lane men of forraigne plater

counterfeiting the wares formerly made by Pewterers of London of Pewter." The effort to suppress imports was constantly in progress.

Finally the country pewterer rebelled against the constant supervision and control from London. The searches were expensive and frequently led to legal disputes. The Company relaxed its vigilance and the product of the outlying areas rapidly deteriorated. Both buyers and the London trade suffered as a result of letting down the bars.

Came the Great Plague and the Great Fire. The Company property was destroyed and its ranks of members and officers depleted. The remnant gathered itself together, and rebuilt the Guild Hall, and added more ordinances to the Company regulations.

In 1687 the old problems pertaining to source of raw materials again troubled the Londoners. And the Dutch attempt to capture the market for pewter which the English had built up during the preceding centuries did not bring peace of mind to the London makers. Since the Dutch are reported, in a record of 1708, to permit the importation of English pewter, but deny its sale, it would seem as if the Company was unduly alarmed.

And so the record runs. In 1722 searches in the country were again necessary. (London and its suburbs were searched five times a year.) In December, 1723, a letter of complaint from Philadelphia, concerning bad metal from the Bristol area, was referred to a committee for examination and report.

Mr. Welch ends his story with the records of 1760. Beyond that point we may not, at present, pursue the shady character. Perhaps he vanished with the enlightened later years, or became a reformed man, meeting all the requirements of his Craft and practising only the most honest methods of manufacture. We would not want to suggest that a whisper comes from the shadows sometimes saying, "Human nature does not change."

#### THE SOCIETY OF PEWTER COLLECTORS

Many of our members will doubtless be interested in knowing that our English fellow-collectors have been able to resume their meetings. They have but two each year, the annual or winter meeting in January, usually held in London, and a summer gathering, which is a movable feast. No meetings were held from June 10, 1939, till July 6, 1946, but the war-time President, our Honorary Member, Roland J. A. Shelley, kept up interest by means of a lively correspondence.

At the latter meeting he resigned the Presidency, and another of our Honorary Members, Capt. A. V. Sutherland-Graeme retired as Honorary Secretary. The present officers are: Dr. Daniel Dougal, President; Capt. G. W. Carew-Hunt, Treasurer; and Cyril C. Minchin, Honorary Secretary.

The most recent summer meeting was at Chester on June 21, 1947. Because of the illness of the President, Mr. Shelley presided. Apropos of the subject of the present Bulletin, we may quote from the printed circular distributed to members after the meeting:

"Capt. A. V. Sutherland-Graeme sends a note of warning to all members. Beware the touch mark of J. Ewen or Yewen (Cortrell 1599), as it has just appeared on two most obvious fakes.

"Mr. James C. Fenton writes that having purchased a fake half-gallon bud baluster measure, he wishes to present it to the Society as an example of the

clever work of certain fakers and dealers.

"The baluster was shown at the last two meetings and Mr. Fenton would like to make it a condition that it should be available for inspection at one meeting each year and at any other time, the Honorary Secretary should be prepared to loan it to our members for closer examination."

Obviously the Society feels that it is a part of its duty to warn members of the activities of the pewtering underworld. It may be due to these warnings that so many "wrong-uns" are coming to this country. It is, we think, necessary for the Club to combat this evil in the same way that the Society has done.

On the constructive side, the Society has undertaken an ambitious and laudable project, i. e., the publication of

"(a) Amendments and Addenda to references and marks already in Old Pewter, Its Makers and Marks." H. H. Cotterell.

"(b) New marks and reference NOT contained in the original volume."

Many of our members have probably found English pieces with marks not in Cotterell. It would be helpful if the owners would send in good photographs, liquid rubber molds, or really good rubbings. They may be sent directly to Mr. R. F. Michaelis, 35, Park Hall Road, West Dulwich, London, S. E. 21, or to the writer, who will be glad to forward them.

PERCY E. RAYMOND.

### THE SKERRY PATEN

By PERCY E. RAYMOND

One of the most rare, and to the pewter collector, most interesting pieces of that metal in this country is the paten owned by the Worcester Historical Society. Through the good offices of Mr. Charles E. Ayers I have had the privilege of having it before me for a few days. Previously I had published a photograph, furnished by Mr. Ayers, in the American Collector, August number, 1947. I have seen the piece several times, but each time my interest in it has increased. Most visitors to the Museum probably see only a dirty scabby old plate. Its looks could be improved by cleaning, but to me it seems that what it would gain in appearance it would lose in dignity. Do we like to see an octogenarian in checkered suit and orange tie? A bright shiny plate, even if proven to be three centuries old, does not impress me. It may be all right to shine up your American pewter. Our ancestors did it to impress themselves and their neighbors. Most of it is not very old anyway. Our great-grandmothers were brought up to "keep house," and their scouring did away with a lot of pewter, so anything which belonged to their great-grandmothers, if perchance it has survived, is entitled to look its age.

The Skerry paten is  $9\frac{5}{8}$  inches wide, with an extremely narrow reed on the back. The well is shallow, a bare quarter inch in depth, and is only a bit more than one-half the total diameter. It is the broad brim which gives dignity to the piece. And it is also the reason for calling such articles patens. They are really plates, for ordinary domestic use. It is not at all likely that Henry Skerry, presumably a dissenter, robbed a church before setting out on the long voyage to the New World.

The under side of the well was at some time cleaned, and the following inscription put on in delicate raised painted letters, beautifully done:

"S K E R R Y  
The only family retaining  
their first possessions in Salem Mass  
in the nineteenth century  
The tipe brought by the first settlers."

According to Sidney Perley's History of Salem, vol. 1, p. 433, Henry Skerry, born about 1613, came to Salem from Yarmouth, England, in April, 1637, accompanied by his wife Elizabeth and probably by three children. He is listed as a cordwainer, or, as we should now call it, a shoemaker, and was a constable in 1647. He lived to a good old age, and was a substantial citizen. So far as is known, the family is now extinct.

Captain A. V. Sutherland-Graeme has several of these early pieces, and illustrated one of them in *Antiques* for May, 1947. Except for the initials H.S., his photograph is almost a duplicate of that which I published in August. Both depict venerable objects, first cousins if not brothers. I was glad to see that he says that the date of his specimen cannot be later than 1640, for that is strong support for the authenticity of the Skerry example.

Sutherland-Graeme designates his specimen as a communion paten, and states that the corrosion indicates that it had been buried in damp soil for many years. On these two points we disagree, but I am ready to admit that the Captain is probably right, for he knows infinitely more about pewter than I do.

However, there is, in general, comparatively little English or American silver or pewter made for distinctly ecclesiastical use before 1800. At a Club meeting some years ago a friend asked me what was the difference between a tankard and a flagon. "A flagon is a tankard that has gone to church," was my wise-crack. I doubt if this definition should go into the dictionaries. But most of the church silver and pewter of the 17th and 18th centuries was made for domestic use, and came to the church, meeting house, or chapel from benefactors about to die or when "convicted of sin." As to corrosion, neglect and the English and New England climates will do all that is necessary. If you do not believe it, put some new pewter down cellar and show it to me after a hundred years or so.

#### VOYDES, VOYDERS, AND DISHES

Roland J. A. Shelley, Esq., for 7½ years war-time President of the Society of Pewter Collectors, has an interesting article in *Apollo* for October, 1947. It is entitled "Some Early Inventories of Pewter in Country Houses," and shows pictures of the halls and castles which formerly housed the pewter.

Speke Hall, Lancashire, seat of the Norris family, seems to have had an enormous amount of pewter, and it is interesting to note that the various sizes were chiefly in dozens, that is, a series of garnishes. Dishes are listed separately from plates, supporting the late H. H. Cotterell's deduction that dishes were for bringing food to the table, whereas plates were used by individuals. In this inventory there are 23 dozen plates, and one dozen of a lesser sort in the "Store Howse." It is notable that the servants had none. Wooden trenchers were good enough for them.

But it is the list of dishes that strikes the eye. There were dozen lots in six sizes—first, big deep dishes, then those of a lesser size, a dozen of a third sort, half of them smaller than the others, a fourth dozen, "one halfe lesser than

tother," and so on to the sixth kind. Obviously dishes came in many sizes, and one gets the impression that these are listed in a diminishing sequence. The expression "bigg deep dishes" at the head of the list seems to me to be of especial significance. They were not chargers or platters. This evidence seems to support the impression which I have gotten from Welch's History of the Pewter Company, that the classification as a dish was not a matter of size, but one of depth. Plates and platters were flat, dishes more like what we call soup plates.

Incidentally, the pewter in the storehouse weighed  $3\frac{1}{4}$  score pounds and a fraction, and was valued at £22,15/ and thripence, perhaps about 2,000 dollars, or even more, considering the present worthlessness of money.

At Speke Hall they had two great voydes and at Sir William Fairfax's house at Gilling, Yorkshire, they had two voyders in 1594. This is the first time I have happened to see these terms in connection with pewter. Most voids are supposed to have been shallow baskets or wooden boxes for transferring the debris from the table to the kitchen. Mr. Shelley defines a voyder as a "tray for carrying out the relics of a dinner," a nice way of putting it. In 1594 there was no garbage pail; the pigs finished what the dogs and servants left, which probably was not much. In French monasteries and probably in all great houses, special pewter basins were used to collect scraps, broken bread, to be set outside for the poor. The voider, however, is one who empties or makes vacant, hence clears the table of everything, food and dishes alike. The term has been transferred to the receptacle with which the voider voids. Perhaps the pewter slop basins into which our great-grandmothers voided their tea-cups might have been more euphoniously called voydes.

Returning to the dish question, Sir John Eliot of Cutenbeake, Cornwall, had, before his death in 1632 (inventory, 1633), 17 pewter dishes and 13 other small dishes and saucers. Unfortunately we do not as yet know what saucers were. Some were great and some were small. But apparently small "dishes" were not plates or platters.

PERCY E. RAYMOND.

## THE HUDSON-FULTON CELEBRATION

By ELISABETH PERKINS

So far as we know, the exhibition at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in connection with this event was the first in which pewter found a place at a special event.

The following pages are reprinted, with a few corrections, by permission of the Metropolitan Museum. They are of interest chiefly as indicative of how little was known about American pewter in the year of grace, 1909. The display itself must have been singularly uninspiring. No one, however, would object to owning a Parks Boyd tankard, and those by William Will are not too common.

### "PEWTER

"Before the introduction of Britannia metal and tin wares, pewter was made extensively in the North American Colonies. Early in the Eighteenth Century domestic utensils were cast in moulds by individuals for their own use,

and much of the imported ware was remelted and made over. As early as the middle of that century pewterers established themselves in business in the larger cities and began on an extensive scale the manufacture of the ware, on which they stamped their names and trademarks. In New York, William Bradford, James [Joseph] Leddell, Robert Boyle, and Francis Bassett were among the most prominent pewter-makers between 1750 and 1800; and in Philadelphia James Everet and Simon Edgell made pewter in 1717 and 1718, Cornelius Bradford was a pewterer previous to 1776, while William Will, George W. Will, Parkes Boyd, Thomas Rigden [now dethroned], Christian Heave [Hera], Thomas Danforth, B. Barns, and Robert Palethorp, Jr., were a few of those who carried on the same business in the first quarter of the Nineteenth Century. About 1825 Britannia ware began to take the place of pewter, and the introduction of japanned tinware and pottery gradually caused the manufacture of pewter to be abandoned.

EDWIN ATLEE BARBER."

"581 PLATE. Marked B. BARNs, PHILAD<sup>A</sup>, in rectangle, and B. BARNs in streamer above spread eagle, in circle. Diam. 11 $\frac{1}{8}$  inches.

Lent by Edwin Atlee Barber.

"582 PLATES (3). Marked B. BARNs, PHILAD<sup>A</sup>, two lines in rectangle, and B. B., in oval held with arrows and olive branch in claws of eagle with spread wings, whole surrounded by twenty-nine stars within serrated circle. Diam. 7 $\frac{7}{8}$  inches.

Lent by Edwin Atlee Barber.

"583 PLATE. Marked B. BARNs, PHILAD<sup>A</sup>, two lines in rectangle, and B. BARNs in streamer above eagle with drooping wings in circle. Diam. 8 $\frac{7}{8}$  inches.

Lent by Edwin Atlee Barber.

"584 PLATE. Marked BOARDMAN WARRANTED, in border around eagle, with spread wings, holding shield and with bunch of arrows in each claw. Diam. 11 $\frac{1}{2}$  inches.

Lent by Mrs. Alice Crary Sutcliffe.

"585 PLATE. Marked BOARDMAN & HALL, two lines in rectangle and PHILAD<sup>A</sup> in rectangle, eagle with drooping wings, arrows and olive branch in claws in oval. Diam. 8 $\frac{7}{8}$  inches.

Lent by Edwin Atlee Barber.

"586 PLATE. Marked P. Boyd, PHIL., under spread eagle, above which are fifteen stars, all within serrated circle. Diam. 7 $\frac{7}{8}$  inches.

Lent by Wilford R. Lawshe.

"587 TANKARD. Made by P. BOYD PHILA., in rectangle broken by serrated arch with sheaf of wheat. H. 5 $\frac{1}{2}$  inches.

Lent by Edwin Atlee Barber.

"588 PLATE. Marked T. DANFORTH, PHILAD<sup>A</sup>, two lines in rectangle, and T D in oval, held with arrows in claws of eagle with spread wings; whole surrounded by twenty-eight stars in circle. Diam. 8 $\frac{5}{8}$  inches.

Lent by Edwin Atlee Barber.

"589 PLATE. Marked T. DANFORTH, PHILAD<sup>A</sup>, two lines in rectangle, and T.D. above eagle holding shield and arrows (partially obliterated). Diam. 11 $\frac{1}{2}$  inches.

Lent by Edwin Atlee Barber.



"590 TANKARD WITH LID. Made by William Will of Philadelphia.  
Mark partly obliterated. H. 7 inches.

Lent by Edwin Atlee Barber."

### SOME RECENT FINDS

By ROLAND J. A. SHELLEY,

War-time President of the Society of Pewter Collectors

Perhaps some of your members may be interested in three recent accessions to my collection. We still manage to find something interesting in old British pewter.

Number one is a regular Goliath of an ale flagon. It is eleven inches high and has a capacity of one and one-half gallons. Its source was a Naval Ward Room and the date c. 1800-1820.

My friend, Professor Sir Geoffrey Callender, Director of the National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, (alas! he died last November) wrote me on 20 November, 1945: "I am extremely ignorant on the subject of pewter, beyond the fact that it was the invariable material for the Ward Room plate in the older days. It is shown in an engraving of Lord George Graham in his Cabin; and Admiral Trowbridge has shown me authentic specimens used by his grandfather on board ship. This would be later than Nelson's day."

I hope to have this flagon photographed with two smaller ones I possess (it will look like an ocean liner attended by tugs, so great is the disparity between the Goliath and the pigmies, though the latter are of the usual size found).

Number two is a lidded Scots pint [three English pints] "Pot-belly" measure, nine inches in height. The date is c. 1700. (See Cotterell, plate XLVIII c.) It has no mark.

Number three is similar, except that it is a lidless model, also nine inches high, and of about the year 1700. The maker's mark on the handle is a thistle over W I, and is Cotterell's number 5745. These measures are extremely rare.

### MONTGOMERY'S LISTS

If you haven't one of the October, 1947, lists, you had better try to get one. It is a dealer's price list. But it is more. It contains two excellent photographs of pewter pieces, and a lot of information. Not many years hence it will in itself be a collector's item. Some of us can pat ourselves on the back and thank our stars that we saved Kerfoot's price lists, published as advertisements in *Antiques*. The thoughtless pass over these ephemera, because they belong to the present. With our present rapid strides, twenty years almost equals one of the old-fashioned centuries. If you do not believe it, just try to get one of Kerfoot's price lists.

Montgomery has done all collectors a service by distributing his recent mimeographed lists. He knows more about pewter, from a practical standpoint, than any other living man. If you want to appraise your estate, consult his lists. But remember that his are retail prices, not the buyer's. Did you ever compare the prices published by dealers in coins? One set for what they are willing to buy. Another for which they will sell. Montgomery is not a

dealer in coins, so there is not a great spread between the buying and selling price. This is not an advertisement but just a hint from one who has been through the ups and downs since 1925. Know where you stand.

P. E. R.

### NECROLOGY

#### MRS. FLORENCE HORNE SMITH

Mrs. Smith, known to many as the proprietor of the nationally famous Hillcroft Inn at York Harbor, Maine, died April 25, 1947. She had been a member of the Club for many years, and her excellent collection of pewter was a notable part of the antiques with which the Inn was furnished.

#### MR. W. S. APPLETON

William Sumner Appleton, probably the best known antiquarian New England has produced in recent years, died at Lawrence, Mass., on November 24, 1947. He was the founder, and for long, the chief executive officer of the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities. He literally died in harness, for he was stricken while inspecting an old house in Lawrence.

Although he had been a member of the Club for only three years, he had done us many favors in our earlier days, allowing us to use the Harrison Grey Otis house for meetings, for storage of books, and for a temporary exhibition of teapots.

He occupied a niche in the antiquarian world that it will be difficult to fill. All who are interested in antiquities are indebted to him.

#### MR. ARTHUR HOSMER HUSE

Although Mr. Huse had been a member for only a short time before his death on July 2, 1946, he had been a constant and interested attendant at meetings. He was a native of Maine, but of Massachusetts descent, and had recently resided in Boston. He was a member of the Society of Colonial Wars in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

P. E. R.

### THE GOLDEN FLEECE

Cotterell and other English writers have referred to the design on the touch of Samuel Ellis (London, 1721-1773) and his successor, Thomas Swanson (1753-1783) as the "Golden Fleece." I have often wondered why Jason strove so hard to recover the hide of this poor lamb, suspended dejectedly by a strap about its belly. Ellis made the touch dreadfully familiar in the American colonies, and John Will of New York and Samuel Hamlin of Providence used a version of it.

I recently learned that England's Golden Fleece was not that of Thessaly. It carried on its back no prince or princess, but wool to clothe the 16th century Englishman. Hence it was no rampant ram, but just a sheep, fit for the shearing.

Henry VIII, before he got the bright idea of confiscating the property of the Church, was hard up, and set people hunting for gold beneath English soil. He got no results. But the plebian farmers found it on the surface, their gold

being the hair of the sheep "that bring forth their young in the open fields." Polydore Vergil, in a moment of inspiration, called this England's Golden Fleece.

P. E. R.

#### MODERN FABLES

"Pewter is one of the alloys of lead. The best quality contains eighty parts of tin, and twenty of lead."

These are the first two sentences in Chapter I of "Pewter Work," by F. R. Smith, F.R.S.A., published by Sir Isaac Pitman and Sons, in London, 1930. There can be no excuse whatever for this statement. Pewter is an alloy of tin, and good pewter contains no lead.

P. E. R.

#### BACK NUMBERS OF THE MAGAZINE ANTIQUES

Miss Jane Boicourt, of *Antiques*, has furnished the following list of back numbers which contain articles on pewter. These numbers are to be had, as of November 10, 1947, at one dollar a copy. In case you do not know it, the address is 40 East 49th Street, New York 17, N. Y.

We like to publish these "unsolicited and unpaid for" advertisements. We wish other magazines would furnish similar lists.

- June '28—Richard Lee, Pewterer, H. G. Rugg
- July '28—Further Notes on Commemorative Porringers, H. H. Cotterell
- Jan. '30—Evolution of the Trencher, H. H. Cotterell
- Mar. '30—Concerning the Pewtering Bassetts, H. V. Button
- Aug. '30—Cornelius Bradford, Pewterer, Ledlie I. Laughlin
- Nov. '30—American Pewter as a Collectible, P. G. Platt
- Aug. '31—Roswell Gleason, J. W. Webber
- Sept. '31—I. C. H., Lancaster Pewterer, J. J. Evans
- July '32—Three Maine Pewterers, C. L. Woodside and Lura Woodside Watkins
- Sept. '32—Some Early New England Church Pewter, Florence Thompson Howe
- Sept. '33—Pewter Flagons of the Former Austro-Hungarian Empire, H. H. Cotterell and R. M. Vetter
- Nov. '34, Aug. '35, April '36—The Fine Pewter of Austria Hungary, H. H. Cotterell and R. M. Vetter
- Jan. '35—The German Strain in Pennsylvania Pewter
- Apr. '38—Joseph Copeland, 17th Century Pewterer, Worth Bailey
- Sept. '38—American Pewter Tankards, Edward E. Minor
- Nov. '38—The Care of Pewter, J. W. Poole
- Mar. '39—William Ellsworth, His Rose and Crown, A. H. Good
- Sept. '39—Important Early American Pewter, Charles F. Montgomery
- Oct. '39—Philadelphia Pedigreed Porringers, H. E. Gillingham
- Oct. '40—George Richardson, Pewterer, Edward H. West
- Apr. '41—Random Notes on Pewter and Silver, Edward E. Minor
- May '41—Chinese Pewter, Gregor Norman-Wilcox
- May '42—The ABC's of American Pewter
- Apr. '43—Achievements in Pewter, Edward A. Rushford

June '45—Coffeepot? Teapot! Percy E. Raymond  
Oct. '45—Quality in Pewter, Alice Winchester  
June '46—Some British Pewter, A. V. Sutherland-Graeme

### CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The office of the *American Collector* has been moved to 19 West 44th Street, New York 18, N. Y. An article on flowered-handled porringers was published in the November number.

This is not a real change of address, for Mr. Charles F. Montgomery is still at the Sign of the Tankard, in Wallingford, Connecticut. But he bought a hiding place on Nantucket a year or two ago, thinking he might get an occasional vacation. Do not address him there, for he hardly knows where the place is himself.

### LIQUID RUBBER MOLDS

Comparatively few collectors of pewter seem to know the practical use of liquid rubber in making molds. It is easy to use, makes an absolutely faithful reproduction, reversed of course, and photographs well.

If you want to ask someone about a touch, send a rubber mold, instead of a messy rubbing, in your letter. If the recipient cannot read backward, he can at least hold it in front of a mirror. Paleontologists have been using it for years to make replicas of fossils. The writer has molds made from pewter ten years ago, still in good condition. All that one has to do is to spread on a thin layer of rubber in the evening and pull it off next morning. It does not harm the pewter, though it may take off a little of the dirt. If you want a thick mold, merely put on more rubber at about two-hour intervals.

The rubber comes in various colors, but the black photographs best. Liquid rubber can be obtained from General Latex and Chemical Corporation, Cambridge, Mass. Their grade Z-20-H, Black No. 1 is best for our purposes. Self-Vulcanizing Rubber Company, 605 W. Washington Blvd., Chicago, Illinois, also carry it.

### AS MOTHER GOOSE SAID

"Little Miss Muffet sat on a tuffet,  
Regarding her latest bought fake.  
She still is quite healthy,  
But she'd be more wealthy,  
If a little wise care she would take."

---

We thank the numerous members who have responded to our appeal in Bulletin 20 and have thus relieved P. E. R. of the labor of literary composition.