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Bulletin 23 starts with a note of sorrow at the death of one of our Vice-Presidents, Mr. Merton H. Wheelock, a notice of whose life appears on a later page. It continues in a similar mood, because of the accident which occurred early in the summer to the mother of our devoted Clerk and Secretary, Mrs. Eaton H. Perkins. We had intended to make this a Biographical Number, for many people responded generously to the letter which Mrs. Perkins sent out in April. But this was not to be, for Mrs. Perkins has had her heart, mind, and hands entirely occupied by filial duties.

Fortunately, Mr. Roland J. A. Shelley allowed us to use some notes of his on previously unknown English pewterers, and P. E. R. has, as usual, a variety of notes. We hope that Bulletin 24 will be the Biographical number.

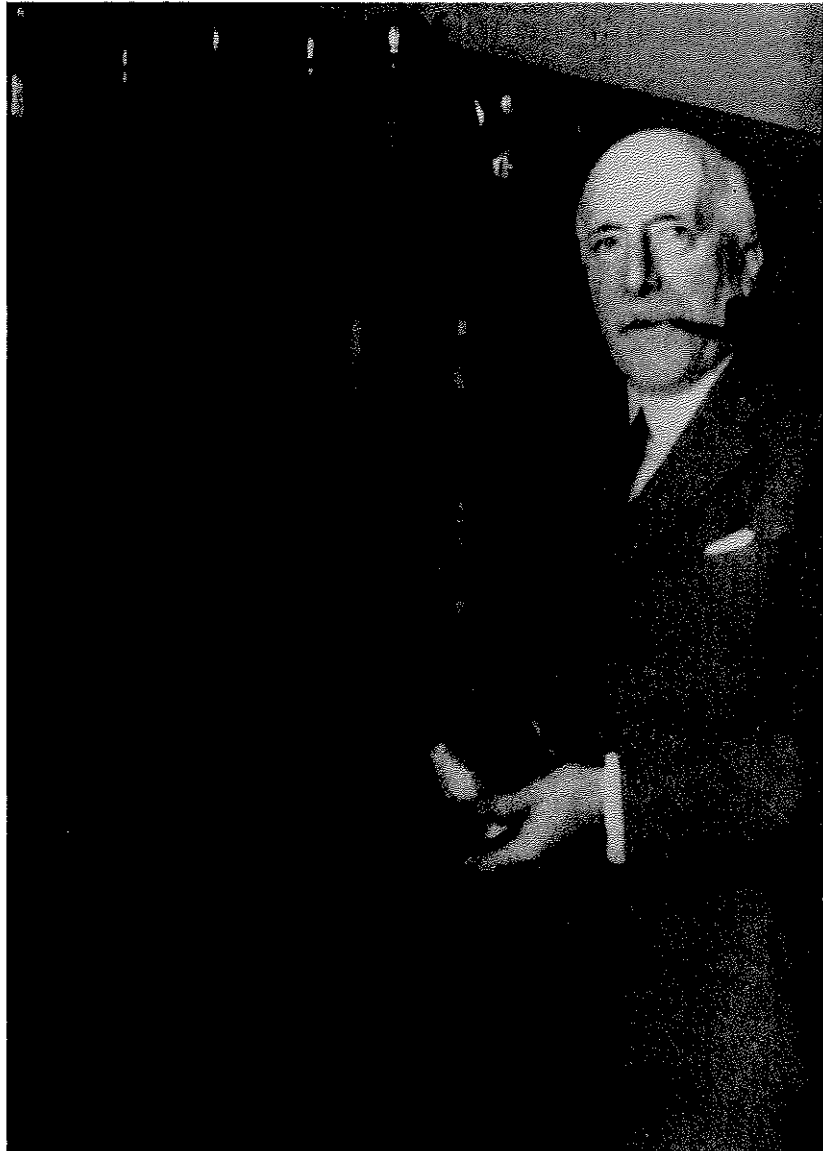
Attention might be called to the fact that such back numbers of the Bulletin as are now available are priced at fifty cents each. This is double that advertised in Bulletin 15, but experience proved to us that we could not sell things at less than cost, and still get rich. All money received for old Bulletins goes into new ones, yet our balance in the bank decreases as the costs of everything rise.

THE PUBLICATION COMMITTEE.

PEWTER IN LIFE

The issue of *Life* for March 29, 1948, contains colored reproductions of two paintings which may interest pewter-collectors. One is the portrait, by Hans Holbein of George Giesze, in his office in London. It was done in 1532. In the lower right-hand corner are pewter implements useful in correspondence: beakers, presumably full of shot, for holding pens, a mortar with pestle for grinding ink, a sander, and a covered dish containing wafers. Opposite it is Frans Hals' *Hille Bobbe*, the lady clutching a so-called Rembrandt flagon. The lid is up, and one judges, the contents are down. No ten-ounce glasses for 17th century ladies.

P. E. R.



With kindest regards
from
Roland J. A. Shelley

KENDAL PEWTERERS

By ROLAND J. A. SHELLEY, F. R. Hist. S.

A member of the Society of Pewter Collectors was some few months ago perusing the 1812 edition of that interesting old work, Cary's "Road Guide," when his eye was attracted by the following reference to Kendal:

"Kendal, situated on the river Ken, is a place of considerable trade, each having its Hall; viz. Mercers, Tanners, Glovers, Shearmen, Cordwainers, Tailors and Pewterers."

Now, this member, Mr. Ernest Hunter, of Chorley Wood, Herts., was unaware that there had been a Pewterers' Company in the little Westmorland town: so were his fellow members; and even the greatest authority on the history of Pewter and its makers, the late Howard H. Cotterell, whose researches in the subject were most thorough, was evidently equally unaware, as his numerous books contain no mention of a Kendal pewterer in the long list of provincial members compiled so patiently by him over a period of many years. But, curiously enough, this list does contain the names of a few youths from Hawkshead, Lancs., and Langdale, Westmorland—each of them a Benson—who served their apprenticeships to Bristol pewterers: e. g. "Arthur Benson, Hawkshead, Lancs.: son of Brian Benson. Apprenticed to John Benson, Bristol, 2 Aug. 1605, for seven years." Again: "Arthur Benson, Langdale, Westmorland: son of Solomon Benson. Apprenticed to Bernard Benson, Bristol, for nine years from 4 Feb. 1626." In the above cases relationship would seem to be the reason of these apprentices going so far afield; but I have come across two other instances in Cotterell's list in which family ties are not apparent, and so it seems rather strange that, with Kendal near at hand, these particular lads were not sent there to learn their trade. But I must crave your indulgence for this digression, as it is anticipatory.

Our President, Mr. Francis Weston, F. S. A.—himself a Past Master of the Worshipful Company of Barber Surgeons and an antiquary of repute, with special knowledge of the records of the London Guilds—and our energetic Hon. Secy. Captain A. V. Sutherland-Graeme, F. S. A., hereupon requested me to go to Kendal on behalf of the Society and ascertain all the information available in the matter; and in particular to examine the ancient "Boke of Records" containing the names of the Pewterers, which the Town Clerk had courteously written would be placed at my disposal for inspection. But before doing so, I thought it well to refer to one or two older books to see if they threw any light on the facts stated in Cary's "Road Guide." I found that Cary had evidently copied his information from Richard Blome's "Britannia," published about 1670. If, however, he had taken as his authority "The History and Antiquities of Westmorland and Cumberland" by Nicolson and Burn—a solid work—published in 1777, he would have been on safer ground. For not only are we told there that "they (the Companies) have a very elegant town hall, lately repaired by the Corporation at a considerable expense, where they hold their courts" (thus proving that the Town Hall was the home for all), but we learn also that the list of the seven Companies as given differs in two items from that of Blome. Nicolson and Burn omit the Glovers and Pewterers and substitute the Skinners and Barbers for them. From this it would seem that by

1777 the Pewterers' Company had ceased to function. However, we can forgive Cary; as, if he had not made his inaccurate statement that there was a Pewterers' Company in Kendal in 1812, the date when the "Road Guide" was issued, we should probably have never known that there was such a Company earlier. And it is to that earlier Company that I shall now devote my attention.

But, first of all, it is imperative to say a few words about the "Boke of Records of the Burgh of Kirkby Kendal, A.D. 1575." It consists of about 350 leaves of thick hand-laid paper, each 11¾ inches high by 8 inches broad. The binding is calf, once stiffened with mill-board, but now reduced to a very limp and dilapidated condition. It should be explained that "by the 18 Eliz. the government of the town was committed to twelve burgesses, one of whom was annually chosen as chief magistrate under the title of alderman; there was also a recorder and twenty-four assistants . . . This charter was materially altered by one of the 2 Charles I under which a Mayor, twelve Aldermen and twenty capital burgesses were constituted the governing body. This charter, under pressure from the Lord Chief Justice, Sir George Jefferies, was surrendered in 1683, and a new one granted." Seeing, however, that the last enrolment of a Pewterer in the "Boke of Records" was in 1675, the subsequent history of the charters of Kendal need not detain us.

The "Boke" contains the street directory and list of subscribers to the Kendal Incorporation Fund in 1557 and lists of municipal dignitaries and officers kept by successive town clerks and annotated with memoranda as to deaths, removals, promotions and the like, until some of the pages are an indescribable mess of writing. Following are lists of freemen arranged under their respective trades; and the "Boke" concludes with a list of enrolments of apprentices. There were "Twelve Several Companies," each sub-divided into two or more sections. Thus, No. 3 consisted of "Shearmen, Fullers, Dyers, Websters"; and No. 11 included "Smiths, Iron and Hardwaremen, Armerers, Cutlers, Bowyers, Fletchers, Spuryers, Potters, Panners, Plumbers, Tinkers, Pewterers and Metal-lers": (who) "may choose two wardens whereof one to be a blacksmith yearly."

The names of the "Pewterers and all metallers in all," to follow the quaint wording of the "Boke," read thus:

	Anthonve Hodgson
	Randell Prestonn
8 Aug. 1594	Gawan Shiperd <i>jur.</i>
27 Apl. 1599	Edwardus Hodgson <i>jur.</i>
<i>eodem die</i>	Johes Collinson <i>jur.</i>
Octr. 1607	Miles Hodgson <i>jur.</i>
10 Nov. 1607	Robrte Hodgson <i>jur.</i>
	Thomas Jackson <i>jur. decimo</i> Sept. 1612
	Willmus Rakestrawe 13 Jul. 1626
	Willmus Sadler <i>eodem die</i>
	Willmus Nelson <i>eodem die</i>
	Hugo Langfellowe <i>mort eodem die</i>
	Christopherus Collinson <i>jur.</i> 17 Maij 1627
	Hugo Forth <i>jur.</i> 22 Januarii 1629
	Allan Moore, <i>jur.</i> ij <i>die</i> Abrilies 1635
	Willmus Milner <i>jur.</i> xi Februarii 1635

28 Apl. 1640 Anthonius Preston *jur.*
 Willus Gerrard *jur.* 3 Dec. 1646
 Johes Allan, brasier, *jur.* 20 April 1648
 Thomas Troughton } *jur.* 1654
 Thomas Sadler }
 Anthony Winder 1664
 Hugh Jackson 1664
 Lanclott Forth 1666
 John Benson 1666
 Willus Whitwell 1668
 Thomas Garnett 1668
 Robt Jackson 1673

Now in the hundred years covered by this list, only 28 names are recorded, and certainly less than half of these appertain to actual pewterers as will be shown shortly. Compare such a figure with 457 Shearmen, 178 Mercers and 164 Cordwainers, as included in the "Boke," and it will be seen that the Pewterers' was one of the least of the Companies. In 1661 the Pewterers broke away from the coterie of Companies in which they were until then incorporated, and obtained a separate constitution from the "Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses of the borough of Kirkby Kendal . . . for the well ordering and good government of the trade, mystery and occupation of the Pewterers within the said Corporation." The terms of the constitution, too lengthy to be read in toto, were the development of the codes of orders issued within the preceding hundred years to other Companies. But it may be briefly stated that Sunday trading was not permitted; that lack of punctuality in arriving at the due hour of meetings of the freemen was forbidden; that apprentices might not be taken for any lesser time than seven years; that no freemen of the said mystery within the borough might join partner or take to be joint partner with him either foreigner or townsman not being free of the said mystery; and that Pewterers should mark their wares with several marks of their own; but there is no mention of any touchplate on which the marks might be recorded. An infraction of any of these orders was punishable by fine.

I will now return to the "28 Pewterers and all Metallers in all," and give you such information of them as has been obtained from a close search of the whole "Boke." Incidentally I may mention that this was entirely transcribed some considerable time ago, and was published in 1892 by the Cumberland and Westmorland Antiquarian and Archaeological Society, with an introduction by Chancellor Ferguson, which latter publication has been of material value to me.

Let us take the first name on the list, that of Anthony Hodgson, who must have been enrolled in 1575 when he gave 20/— to the fund for the incorporation of the borough in that year; but some 13 citizens each then contributed as much as 40/—. He was one of the Twenty Four Assistants under the Elizabeth charter, and died in September, 1590.

Next comes Randall Preston. Of him all that I can ascertain is that he paid 2/— in 1588 to a fund entitled "Aldermen and Burgesses their several gifts and contributions." Evidently he was a poor man.

No further particulars are to be gleaned of Gawan Shipherd, Edward

Hodgson, John Collinson, Miles Hodgson, and Thomas Jackson; but William Rakestrawe, I find from the Enrolment of Apprentices, was apprenticed in 1615 to Richard Bowman, *brazier*; and as there are several similar instances later on I am apt to believe that the number of actual Pewterers working at the same time in Kendal was always very small.

William Sadler remains obscure. William Nelson, however, it is suggested by the Rev. H. Poole in his interesting and informative brochure on the Trade Companies of Kendal, may be the William Neelson who became a freeman of the Wrights' Company "by composition" on October 16, 1618. Mr. Poole points out that this admission "by composition," which appears against 17 out of 25 names between 1617 and 1626 in the Wrights' list, is without parallel among the other Companies' lists.

Now we come to Hugh Langfellowe. He was apprenticed to William Birkhead, *brazier*, in 1617; and from the further fact that Thomas Troughton was apprenticed to Hugh Langfellowe, *brazier*, in 1641, it is quite clear that he was not a pewterer solely. Nor was Christopher Collinson; for, he, too, is described as a *brazier* when he took John, son of Nicholas Collinson, as apprentice in 1630.

But Hugo Forth was undoubtedly a pewterer. I again have recourse to the Enrolment of Apprentices where I find that in 1630, William, son of William Shippard, was apprenticed to Hugh Forth, pewterer. Of Allan Moore, Anthony Preston, and William Gerrard I can say nothing. John Allan, you will notice, was a "brazier"; and Thomas Troughton presumably was the same, having been apprenticed to Hugh Langfellowe, *brazier*, in 1641, as mentioned above. There are no further particulars of Thomas Sadler, Anthony Winder, and Hugh Jackson, but in Lancelot Forth we again reach not only a pewterer but a man of considerable importance in the town. He was Mayor in 1684, the year after that in which Charles I charter had been surrendered; and in the new charter granted by Charles II the King declared "our wellbeloved Lancelot Forth Esq. about to be and to be the first and modern Mayor of the Burgh aforesaid." He was Mayor for the second time in 1708. As to the last four names on the list, those of John Benson, William Whitwell, Thomas Garnett, and Robert Jackson, there is no further record than that of their admission to the freedom; but we may perhaps infer that Benson was connected with the family of the same name who sent two representatives earlier in the century to Bristol to be apprenticed to pewterers there, as already mentioned.

It would seem evident, however, that the "Boke of Records" was kept in a rather haphazard fashion, with not a few omissions by an occasional unbusiness-like Town Clerk; for a close investigation of the volume shows there were one or more pewterers whose names we do not find in the list of 28. Thus Richard Forth, pewterer, was made free of the Wrights' Company "by composition" on August 12, 1619, and in 1623 was appointed one of the Twenty Four Assistants. In 1633, a few years before the Elizabeth charter was superseded by that of Charles I, he became Alderman. Probably he was grandfather or great uncle of the Lancelot Forth who became Mayor in 1684 and 1708. Again, in 1641, Thomas, son of George Dodgson, was apprenticed to James Forth, pewterer.

From the foregoing it would be fair to conclude that there were very few makers of pewter *only* in Kendal; but it is evident that pewterers were allowed

to work in either pewter or *brass*, as the following extract from the Constitution of 1661 will show:

"13. Also it is further ordained and established that no person or persons using the said trade of a pewterer within the said borough and being free thereof shall from henceforth cast or work any pewter vessel or *brass* within the said borough, but that it be as good fine metal as is the pewter and *brass* cast and wrought after the perfect goodness of the same . . ." This will probably account for the name of one brazier appearing in the list of "Pewterers and all metallers in all," whilst from the evidence I have given it is apparent that others were represented there.

The "Enrolment of Apprentices" as shown in the "Boke of Records" demands some notice. It consists of 423 entries, the earliest being of date 1571, and the latest, 1645. I have only been able to trace two apprenticeships to pewterers in it, and four to braziers, whilst 145 youths were apprenticed to Shearmen in the same period. Although, as will be remembered, the Pewterers' Constitutions ruled that no one should be accepted as an apprentice for any lesser time than seven years, some of the other Trading Companies were for a lengthier term, the average for all being 8-7; and the longest recorded was for 19 years.

It is conjectured that the Pewterers' Company must have gone out of existence before 1744, because in a programme of a procession of the various Trade Guilds in that year there is no reference to Pewterers, nor in the programme of the last procession held in 1759, wherein Woolcombers, Tailors, Shearmen, Dyers, Weavers, Shoemakers, Ironmongers and Mettlemen, Tan-ners, Builders, Glovers, and Skinners, and Mercers are mentioned.

The last of the Kendal Trading Companies to survive was that of the Cordwainers, which came to an end in 1799 owing to its inability to win a case imposing a fine of ten pounds on a person not free of the Company who attempted to do business in the town. Mr. J. Wilson Brown, the able and courteous Librarian of Kendal, showed me at the time of my visit the Minute of some such Book of this Company, which has been placed in his care by the donor, a local resident. It is faintly possible that a similar book appertaining to the Pewterers may still be lying in oblivion in a Kendal home; for with the foregoing example before us it is feasible to hazard that on the dissolution of these Trading Companies their records were retained by individual members.

Editor's note. This article by Roland J. A. Shelley, an Honorary Member of the Club, was read before the Society of Pewter Collectors in London, on January 14th, 1935. It has been distributed in typescript, but has not previously been printed. Mr. Shelley has kindly allowed us to use it.

Kendal, famed in history and romance, is the chief city in the Lake District of Westmorland. Many of us have stayed there while tramping about the soggy hills of the Wordsworth country. Everyone has known the region since school days, at least in imagination. It is nice to have another connection, through our interest in Pewter.

"SIX-INCH" PLATE MAKERS

By MELVILLE T. NICHOLS and PERCY E. RAYMOND

Boston, Mass.

Samuel Green, 1779-1828. Touch L 303. (a) Dia. $4\frac{7}{8}$ in., brim $9/16$ in. Illustrated by Laughlin, pl. IX, fig. 35. "The smallest marked American plate." (b) Mr. Laughlin also mentions a 6-in. plate.

Providence, R. I.

Josiah Keene, 1801-1817, and William Calder, 1817-1856. In 1817, William Calder bought a "Butter plate" mold from Josiah Keene. No example made by either has been identified. (*Rhode Island Pewterers*, by Charles A. Calder, p. 21.)

Middletown, Conn.

Joseph Danforth, 1760-1788. A 6-in. plate is listed by J. B. Kerfoot in an advertisement in *Antiques*, Dec. 1926. Really $6\frac{1}{8}$ in. in diameter. Now in the Garvan collection at Yale. Touch L 375.

Jacob Whitmore, 1758-1790. Nichols' collection. Dia. $6\frac{1}{8}$ in., brim $\frac{3}{4}$ in., reed $5/16$ in., depth $9/16$ in. Same mold as a Thomas Danforth III plate in the Nichols' collection.

Hartford District

Thomas Danforth III, 1777-1818. Dia. $6\frac{1}{8}$ in. Dimensions as in Whitmore plate above. Touches, Kerfoot 127, 129, 132. Since the first is the small circular lion touch, it should be pre-1792. Illustrated, Kerfoot, figs. 126, 128.

Samuel Danforth, 1795-1816. Flat plate, $6\frac{1}{8}$ in. in diameter. Also deep dishes, $6\frac{1}{4}$ in. and $6\frac{3}{8}$ in. *Teste* Laughlin, vol. 1, p. 119.

Thomas Danforth Boardman, 1805-1850. Listed by Kerfoot in advertisement, price \$125.00. Touch K 184.

T. D. and S. Boardman, 1810-1850. Nichols' collection. Dia. $6\frac{1}{8}$ in., brim $\frac{3}{4}$ in., reed $\frac{1}{4}$ in., depth $\frac{3}{4}$ in.

Meriden, Conn.

William and Samuel Yale, 1813-1820. Nichols' collection. Dia. $6\frac{1}{8}$ in., brim $\frac{3}{4}$ in., reed $\frac{1}{4}$ in., depth $9/16$ in.

Connecticut ?

Samuel Campmell, c. 1820. Laughlin states that Mr. France has a $5\frac{1}{4}$ -in. butter plate with a poor touch, L 453a, vol. 1, p. 137. Now in the Metropolitan Museum.

Springfield, Vt.

Richard Lee, 1788-1820. Listed by Kerfoot in advertisement, price \$175.00. Mr. Charles F. Montgomery stated at a meeting of the Pewter Collectors' Club that Lee made his 6-in. plates in a large mold and turned them down. (*Bull.* 20, p. 7)

Albany, N. Y.

Daniel Curtiss, 1822-1840. On Kerfoot's list. Mr. Laughlin mentions two $6\frac{1}{2}$ -in. butter plates, vol. 2, p. 34. Touch L 523.

Location unknown

I. Curtis[s]. On Kerfoot's list, price \$150.00. Mr. Laughlin, vol. 1, p. 136, mentions that he made 6-in. plates.

New York City

Frederick Bassett, 1754-1799. Mr. Laughlin in vol. 2, p. 7, mentions a 6½-in. plate.

Philadelphia, Pa.

William Will, 1764-1798. Mr. Laughlin illustrates in fig. 51, pl. X, a smooth brimmed plate. Dia. 5⅞ in., brim 15/16 in. He also mentions two 6⅛ in. single reeded plates by this maker.

Parks Boyd, 1795-1819. On Kerfoot's list, price \$150.00. Illustrated by Kerfoot in Figs. 15 and 115, and by Laughlin, pl. IX, fig. 31. Dia. 6¼ in.

John Andrew Brunstrom, 1783-1793. Illustrated by Raymond, American Collector, Sept. 1946, p. 18. Dia. 6 1/16 in. Collection of Joseph France.

Harbeson, c. 1800. On Kerfoot's list, at \$150.00. Mentioned by Laughlin, vol. 2, p. 63, as maker of 5⅞-in. plates.

Blakeslee Barns, 1812-1817. On Kerfoot's list, price \$125.00. Mentioned by Laughlin, vol. 2, p. 66, as maker of 6⅛-in. plates. Illustrated by Myers, pl. opposite p. 35.

Philadelphia ?

Love-bird touch. Nichols' collection. Dia. 6 in., brim ¾ in., reed 5/16 in., depth ½ in. Mr. Laughlin has one which he mentioned in Bull. 18, Pewter Collectors' Club, p. 7.

Lancaster, Pa.

Johann Christopher Heyne, 1754-1780. Mr. John J. Evans, Jr., illustrated the butter plates used by Heyne as the bottoms of his famous flagons in *Antiques*, Sept. 1931, p. 151, fig. 3.

Baltimore, Md.

George Lightner, 1806-1815. Mr. Laughlin credits him with making 6-in. plates in vol. 2, p. 79.

SOME SLIPS OF THE PEN

By PERCY E. RAYMOND

Every author makes little slips from time to time. It is easy, when thinking of the 17 hundreds, to write 17th century, and to confuse Henry Will of New York with William Will of Philadelphia. In most cases such mistakes do no great harm, but in other instances a beginning collector may be somewhat seriously misled, if he believes all he reads. Therefore, it may be well to point out some of the more notable errors in books frequently consulted.

I shall start with Markham's "The New Pewter Marks and Old Pewter Ware." It is an imposing and authoritative looking book, is found in most libraries, and is frequently recommended to students. It contains a mass of valuable information, and is a worthwhile book. The notes which follow should be regarded in the nature of "Errata," not as adverse criticism.

Curiously enough, misfortune starts on the title-page, where the touch plates of the Pewterer's Company are referred to as being of copper. Of course it is well known that they are sheets of pewter.

The "octagonal" dish shown on plate IV is ascribed in the legend to the

17th century, but the same photograph is repeated in Fig. 11, and there the ascription is to the 18th century. The latter is probably correct. A similar repetition of figures is that of the circular plate shown in plate IV, and Fig. 10. The legends are the same, but both probably incorrect, for it is of a late 18th, not early 17th century type.

The "wine tasters" shown in Fig. 36 may be 17th century, but they are of a sort commonly copied now-a-days, and one should be cautious in purchasing examples.

The salts, peppers, and mustard pots shown in figures 66 and 67 can hardly be so old as the 17th century; it is more likely that they are late 18th or early 19th. Not much is known about these items, peppers and mustard pots being generally avoided by collectors.

The spoon in Fig. 70 is described as a good example of a slip-top spoon of the early 17th century. Of course it is not a slip-top, and is probably a modern replica of a round-bowled Dutch. The rat-tailed, wavy end spoon in Fig. 71 is 18th, not 17th century. I bought a spoon like one of those in the lower row of Fig. 73 when I was younger. Please do not follow my example. If the ladle in Fig. 77 is really 17th century, it is probably unique.

The reference on page 123 to a communion set by Jonas R. Sonnant is rather amusing. Perhaps Major Markham had forgotten that Mr. Sonnant's given name was Etain (See Cotterell, No. 1475). It reminds us of the American collector who could not understand how Mr. Eadem got such a curious Christian name as Semper.

Mrs. Moore ("Old Pewter, Brass, Copper, and Sheffield Plate") made fewer slips than one would expect of a writer who covered so wide a field. One is a little surprised to see a Scotch tappit hen in Fig. 17, which purports to show Austrian pewter. Our general experience has been to have all sorts of measures offered to us as tappit hens. The tureen in Fig. 20 would have astonished an English pewterer, just as, as a collectible, it astonishes us.

Fig. 21 has photographs of three double-eared porringers, mentioned in the legend as English bowls. The one at the left (of the observer) is a solid handled specimen from the Yeates collection. It was figured by Cotterell in *Antiques*, February 1928, Fig. 118, and is mentioned on page 132 as having been made at Tours. It is one of those anomalous French pieces which seem to be pre-dated, for it bears the date of 1702, whereas the maker's touch is of 1750. Ordinarily we should look askance at the earlier date, but the French had a curious system, in which the quality marks diverge greatly in date from the time at which the piece was actually made.

The specimen at the right is typically Swiss. The writer has one with the same pattern of handles, a good touch, and the date 1747.

It would be impossible to judge the provenance of the porringer in the middle of the figure. In my notes, I have called this the ribbon-trefoil handle. It is probably Dutch. Cotterell and Vetter figure a similar one in *Antiques*, June 1931, page 458, Fig. 305. It has two ears, but there is a decoration in the bowl. It and its two neighbors are referred to as of late 17th or early 18th centuries, and a warning note is added: "Of these, many imitations exist, and too much caution cannot be urged upon collectors buying them." I may be one of those who did not heed these words, for I have one with only a single ear, purchased under the impression that it was English. It bears the touch

of Philip White (Cotterell, No. 5096), who was working as early as 1778, but who apparently did not strike on the London touch plate till about 1789. Unmarked specimens with the ribbon-trefoil handle are rather common and not particularly desirable.

Mrs. Moore's Fig. 21 is somewhat enlarged from the one published by H. J. L. J. Massé in his "Chats on Old Pewter." In his book it is on page 265, and the legend reads, "Three Ear Dishes." I find no definite reference to them in the text.

It was inevitable that Mr. Kerfoot, in his pioneer work, "American Pewter," should have made some mistakes. They have been corrected by Charles A. Calder in his "Rhode Island Pewterers and their Work," by Louis Gatineau Myers in "Some Notes on American Pewterers," and, much more completely, by Ledlie I. Laughlin in "Pewter in America." Every collector should, and by now, probably does own a copy of the last.

The actual "slips" in Kerfoot's book are few and far between. Perhaps the most conspicuous one is that in which he rechristened David Melville as Daniel. The chief trouble which collectors have arises from the impression, fostered by some advertisers, that the book contains a complete list of American pewterers and their marks. Much has been learned since Kerfoot finished his manuscript. As we all remember, Mr. Laughlin held off from publication year after year, because he was constantly discovering something new. Not much of importance has turned up since 1940, but enough to show that the list is still incomplete. Some of the information we now have is subject to revision. We are not yet in the position to say that we know all about either English or American pewter.

DYSSHE AND PLATERE

Possibly a little light is thrown on the early usage of these words by some recipes of about 1430 A. D. They are to be found in a little book by Margaret Webb, *Early English Recipes, Selected from the Harleian Ms. 279*, published at the University Press, Cambridge, England, 1937.

Mammenye Bastard was made from two quarts of honey, two gallons of wine or ale, a gallon of vinegar, and another gallon of wine for luck. This was combined with only six pounds of solids, mostly raisins and nuts. After boiling and seasoning with the usual pepper, ginger, salt, and saffron, this was cast on a "dysshe," all hot. It is obvious that this dreadful mess could not be served on a platter. Incidentally, "bastard" was a sweet Spanish wine.

From the recipe for making Potrous we gather again the impression that a dish was deep. To make this delicacy one had to put an iron shovel in the fire until it was burning hot. Fill with salt, and make a hollow in the salt, in the shape of a "treen dysshe." Just in case you want to try it, you next put the shovel back in the fire till the salt is burning hot, remove, and fill the round hole with whites and yolks of eggs. When half hard, serve in the salt container. Yum, yum!

In another recipe, a treen bolle is mentioned, suggesting that wooden dishes were not the same as wooden bowls.

The word platerre occurs in only one recipe, that for making Lenten eggs.

One of the ingredients is milk of almonds. This, after heating, is to be strained through canvas to let the water out, then to be gathered together with a "plater." Obviously a platter was flat, probably square, and useful for scraping.

These references seem to indicate that a dysse was a shallow bowl.

But now turn to the famous diarist.

Jan. 23, 1668-69.

Pepys gave a dinner, of which he was inordinately proud, to certain noblemen. He says: "and after greeting them, and some time spent in talk, dinner was brought up, one dish after another, but one dish at a time, and all so good; . . ." ". . . they were mightily pleased [he had various wines, in abundance], and myself full of content at it; and indeed it was, of a dinner of about six or eight dishes, as noble as any man need have, . . ."

In all probability, each dish was accompanied by various subordinate items. We should call them courses now-a-days.

Even in Shakespeare's time, the meaning of the word dish had been transferred from the container to the contents of the receptacle. "A dish for the Gods." One might have a dish of roasted birds on a platter, or one might have a dish of stew. Even in the humble New England families of my boyhood days, the housewife "dished up" the meal. Now-a-days we "do the dishes," flat, concave, or whatever.

Perhaps a more definite description of the 17th century dish will eventually be found.

P. E. R.

PEWTER TOYS

By RUPERT W. JAKES

During a recent search through the Directories of New York City, I ran across the following advertisements, which may interest some members of the Club.

1869-70

FRIEDERICH HAGEN

Manufacturer of

Pewter Toys & Britannia Ware

All sorts of Tea and Coffee Sets of

Different Sizes Soups, Ladles, etc.

278 East Houston Street Opposite Suffolk
New York

1870-71

O. TENSI

Manufacturer & Wholesale Dealer in

ALL KINDS OF PEWTER TOYS

and Tea & Coffee Sets in All Sizes

No. 10 Macdougall Street

Rear New York

N. B. All kinds of handles and ornaments for
Tin Smiths All Descriptions of Casting Done

TENSI & SALDINI
 Manufacturers & Wholesale Dealers in
 ALL KINDS OF PEWTER TOYS
 and Tea and Coffee Sets of all Sizes
 No. 121 White St., New York
 N. B. All kinds of Handles and Ornaments
 for Tinsmiths. All descriptions of casting done.

ECCLESIASTICAL PEWTER

Looking about for more information on this subject, I happened to think of George Francis Dow's *Arts & Crafts in New England, 1704-1775*. He mentions such items in several advertisements quoted from Boston newspapers. The most intriguing is the following from the Boston News-Letter, Apr. 29, 1748.

"Neat hard-metal two Quart Communion Flaggons, made after the newest manner."

There is unfortunately no indication of the name of the maker. Possibly he was a Bostonian. But I doubt it.

Gilbert and Lewis Deblois had London communion beakers and flaggons for sale in 1756. Ebenezer Coffin advertised London Communion Flaggons and Cups a year later, and Richard Billings sold London communion flaggons and christening basins in 1763. Some other dealers in pewter sold "flaggons," but did not specify that they were for sacramental use. Patens are not mentioned.

Mr. Ledlie I. Laughlin, in his second volume, gives several inventories. In that of Thomas Byles, presented at Philadelphia, Sept. 10, 1771, we find "6 Challices pew^r." Robert Boyle, in Dec. 1755, advertised "Cups and Flaggons for Churches." Byles and Boyle should therefore be added to the short list that I gave in Bulletin 22.

Eberlein and McClure, in *The Practical Book of American Antiques*, state that puritanical New Englanders avoided the chalice, as savoring of the Church of England, and used beakers, cans, and mugs for sacramental purposes. The same was true of parts of New York and New Jersey, where the Dutch influence was strong. But in South, West, and Eastern Jersey, Delaware, Pennsylvania, and the South generally, chalices were used.

P. E. R.

MY DAUGHTER'S COUSIN, THE PEWTERER

John Edwards, the elder, of Stepney Parish, London, m. before Apr. 8, 1651, Elizabeth, bapt. Apr. 10, 1626, at Wymondham, Norfolk, England, dau. of Dr. Richard and Anna Palgrave, who came to Charlestown in 1630.

They had a daughter Palgrave Edwards, who married at Green Bark, Stepney Parish, London, on Jan. 8, 1671/2, Benjamin Walker, citizen and pewterer, of St. Botolph's Aldgate, London, who later came to Boston, Mass. John Edwards, the younger, brother of Palgrave (Edwards) Walker, was a chirurgeon at Charlestown in 1676, and died Oct. 4, 1690, in the expedition against Quebec.

This information is from an article on the *Parentage and Ancestry of Dr. Richard Palgrave*, by G. Andrews Morarity, in the *New England Historical and Genealogical Register*, vol. CII, April, 1948, p. 87.

This is probably Cotterell's No. 4907A, "Walker, Benjamin, London, c. 1680 (Bennett Book).

Through her mother, my daughter is a descendant of Dr. Richard and Anna Palgrave. I'm continuing my hunt for a pewtering ancestor. My forebear, Robert Walker, who lived on Frog Lane, now Boylston St., Boston, was a contemporary, but not, so far as known, a relative of Benjamin. At least, I can say that my daughter had a cousin who was a pewterer.

P. E. R.

PEWTER-SPINNING

"More jugglery, this time on the wire, was provided by two performers, 'Johnson and Bremon,' who advertized in the *Gazeteer* of March 3, 1774. Among other things, 'they balance a small sword on the edge of a wine glass, with a pewter plate on the hilt of it, and make it spin round like a top.'"

Annals of the New York Stage, by George C. D. Odell, vol. 1, pp. 178, 179.

RUTH ELSPETH RAYMOND.

SIR WALTER GANGS A'GLEE

Most of us were brought up on Scott's novels, and some of us still enjoy them. But one should remember that they are novels, and, except for the notes at the back of each book, not source material. Hence one is rather surprised to read, in Webster's "Unabridged," the the quotation from Scott under the word *pasty*:

"A large pasty, baked in a pewter platter."

Of course it would be impossible to bake a meat pie in a pewter platter. Nevertheless, pewter coffins were common pie-dishes in the 16th and 17th centuries. Probably the already cooked pie was transferred to the coffin to be served cold. Not a particularly appealing connotation here.

Still less explicable is Sir Walter's statement that a tappit hen held three English quarts. The true tappit hen, when filled to the plouck, contains three English pints. However, the Scotch pewterers made measures in the shape of tappit hens in a variety of sizes, and it may be that an occasional extra large specimen was produced.

Ingleby-Wood, in his *Scottish Pewter-Ware and Pewterers*, comments on Scott's mistake, and gives the impression that he had never heard of a specimen of the noble three-quart size.

RUTH ELSPETH RAYMOND.

THE HANDY PORRINGER

Alice Arden of Faversham, Kent, succeeded, on a second effort, in getting rid of her husband. At her first, she got a painter to mix the poison. He told her to put it into the bottom of a porringer, and then pour milk on it. But the dumb cluck did just the opposite, and after a spoonful or two, her husband refused to finish it. "He fell into extreme purging, upwards and downwards, and so escaped that time." Eventually, a fourteen-pound pressing iron properly applied to his skull, quieted him.

From Holinshed's Chronicle, 1577. (Retold in the *Fatal Caress*, edited by Richard Barker, Duell, Sloan & Pearce, New York, copyright, 1947, p. 5.)

Thomas Kyd, who wrote the original Hamlet, which Shakespeare made over into a best seller, got out a little pamphlet in 1592 in which he told the story of one Anne Wells, a contemporary London gold digger. When she found she made the mistake of marrying for money rather than for love, she rectified the matter. She most kindly prepared a mess of sugar sops for hubby, heating it over the fire in a posnet, and, flavoring it with a deadly poison, served it in a porringer.

As I've said before, a porringer was a handy utensil in the old days.

P. E. R.

THE SOCIETY OF PEWTER COLLECTORS

Through the kindness of the Honorary Secretary, Mr. Cyril C. Minchin, we have received the printed report of the meeting at York, June 19th, 1948. Twelve members were present, and ten sent regrets.

The chief subject for discussion was that of fakes, apparently an even more trying one in England than in this country. It may be that we get only the poorly made ones, for which there is no market at home. The members resolved themselves into a committee of the whole. Specimens were passed around, and candid opinions expressed. I wonder if we should have the courage to hold this sort of a meeting.

They found a splendid collection of pewter at the Yorkshire Museum, notable especially for several of the excellent York flagons.

The next meeting will be in London, January 15, 1949.

The concluding paragraphs may be quoted:

"Capt. A. V. Sutherland-Graeme writes:

"We have had the pleasure of two visits from Mr. Charles F. Montgomery, a member of the Pewter Collectors Club of America, on May 23rd and June 9th.

"We had lengthy and most interesting discussions on both occasions, which accentuated the fact, which we already knew, that our American friends possess a degree of keen-ness for detail as regards our subject which is unbeatable.

"We were very gratified by the interest shown by Mr. Montgomery in our comparatively small collection and we shall be glad to see him when he next crosses the ocean.

"This is the second time that a member of the American Club

has visited us. The first occasion being in the spring of the fateful 1939, when we welcomed Mr. and Mrs. T. Ferdinand Wilcox of whose visit we have most pleasant memories.

"I am sure that we should all be delighted to meet any of the members of the American Club should they have occasion to be in this Country."

For a somewhat longer account of the meeting, see the report by Mrs. Paul J. Franklin in the New York Sun, September 10, 1948. Mrs. Franklin is an Honorary Member of the Society.

NECROLOGY

MR. MERTON HAYES WHEELLOCK

Seldom has the Club suffered so grievous a loss as the passing of Merton Wheelock, who died on May 8th, 1948, at his home in Wakefield. We have lost a good friend, a wise counselor, and a practical student of pewter. For two years he had been a Vice-President of the Club. That he had many warm personal friends was shown by the attendance at his funeral at Mount Auburn Cemetery on May 11th.

Merton was born in Brighton, August 23, 1904, the son of Merton and Mattie E. (Marshall) Wheelock. He attended the Brighton schools, Mechanic Arts High School, and graduated from the Boston University School of Business Administration in 1928.

He found his true vocation when he took over the business of the late W. I. Cowlshaw, Silversmith and Pewterer. He not only learned the business, but became an expert workman himself. He eventually purchased control of the firm and was President and Treasurer of the Corporation at the time of his death.

One phase of his experience shows the influence of pewter on those who come in contact with it. In his early days in the shop he not only had no interest in antique pewter, but went so far as to say that it was one thing he would never collect. But constant association with the metal overcame this feeling, and he gradually gathered a notable assemblage of porringers. These had to be sacrificed when he acquired control of the company, but he immediately began collecting pewter lighting devices. He became as enthusiastic as any of us, and many are the pieces in private collections which entered his shop as wrecks, and came out as choice bits. In many instances only loving care rescued the pieces. A notable instance was an old English platter of mine which he took home and worked on at odd moments for a year. In many cases his pay consisted largely in the gratitude of the owner and the knowledge that he had rescued a worthwhile piece from the melting pot.

Mr. Cowlshaw was well known for his reproductions of antique shapes in pewter. They were not sold as antiques, but advertised as reproductions, and bore his well-known small circular touch with W. I. C. and an eagle. Mr. Wheelock continued to cast and spin pewter during the 30's, while the interest in modern pewter continued, but they were not copies of antique forms. He did not use the old eagle touch, but a small shield with W. I. Cowlshaw, Bos-

ton, Pewter, in impressed letters. The cake and sandwich plates, each with two porringer handles, are most attractive, and will in time be collected.

During the recent war, it was impossible to obtain metals. Manufacture stopped, and Mr. Wheelock himself was employed by the Government as an expert on metals, in the purchasing department. He was, by dint of hard work, which probably shortened his life, able to keep his shop open. Just as he got going nicely again, he was seized by his last illness.

I have naturally written of him from the pewter standpoint. But in reality the greater part of his business was that of a silversmith. Many of the prizes and trophies you will see on mantle pieces and occasional tables came from his shop.

Soon after leaving college, Mr. Wheelock married Miss Earline E. Weigel of Cleveland, Ohio. She, their son, Robert, his mother and a sister survive him. His death, before he was 44, was a severe shock to many of us. Always cheerful, he gave us no intimation of his personal sufferings.

PERCY E. RAYMOND.

MRS. MARGARET (GUNN) CHUBBUCK

Mrs. Chubbuck, the widow of William H. Chubbuck, died on August 1st, 1948, at her residence in Milton. Mrs. Chubbuck was never a member of the Club, but those of us who used to call to see her husband's pewter recall with pleasure her gracious hospitality. Mr. Chubbuck, who was one of our original members, had many rare pieces in his collection.

DR. DANIEL DOUGAL

During the early part of the year, the Society of Pewter Collectors had the misfortune of losing their President, Professor Daniel Dougal, M.C., M.D., F.R.C.O.G. Mr. Shelley and others have written of his high qualities and personal charm. He was Professor of Obstetrics and Gynaecology at the University of Manchester, and well known throughout the world for his scholarly contributions to medical literature. The leading journals and newspapers, including the Times, paid him a glowing tribute after his death. His services in the Royal Army Medical Corps during the first world war brought him the recognition of the Military Cross and the Croix de Guerre with palm, and he later became known as the "happy warrior" and "beloved physician."

P. E. R.