

# New Pewter Antiques, Tomorrow

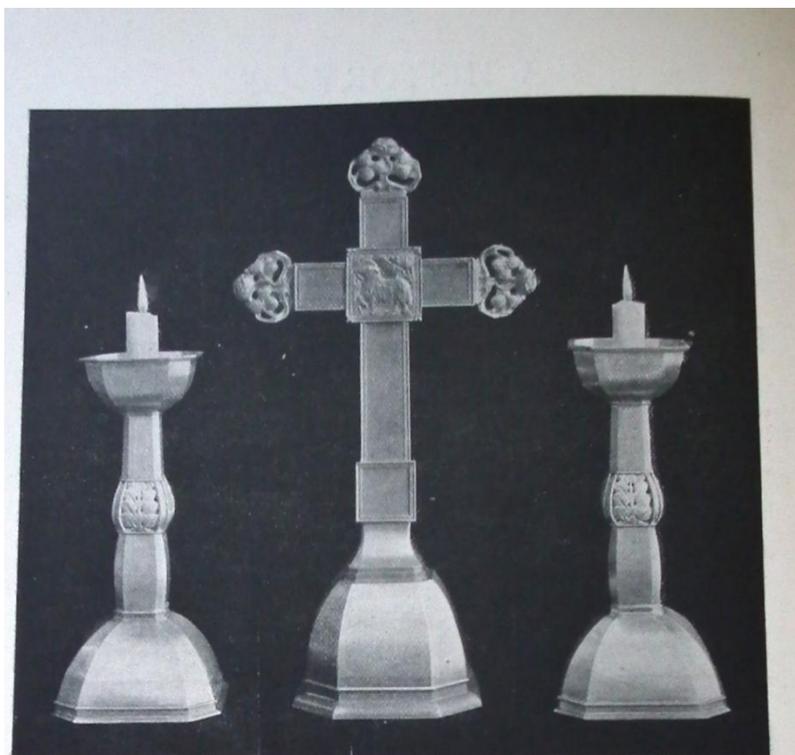
Chester Meeting, September 28 and 29, 2013.  
John Bank

**Cliffords Inn  
Exhibition of Old  
Pewter in 1904  
Back page of the  
Catalogue**

also written inside –

“The manufacture was demonstrated practically by Mr Englefield, several pieces being cast in the room from the moulds which, handed down from the firm of Townend & Compton, are still as occasion demands, used by Mr Engelfield.”

.....  
It seems that in 1908 the T&C moulds were no longer mentioned. Mr Englefield was an early member of the Society of Pewter Collectors.



(Designed by Mr. HAROLD STABLER).

**Messrs. BROWN & ENGLEFIELD,**  
**Pewterers,**  
**1, LITTLE JAMES STREET,**  
**GRAY'S INN ROAD.**

Successors to the old firm of Compton & Co., and possessors of the moulds and tools of Townend & Compton, from which dishes, plates, and castors are still made.

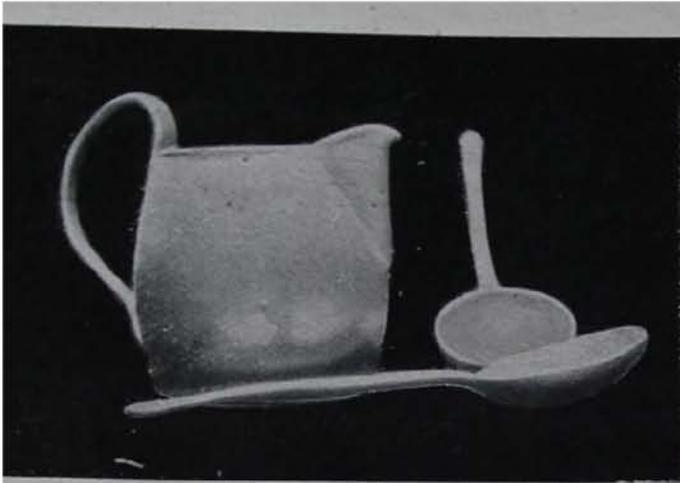
The rest of the space in the case is devoted to a selection of gun-metal moulds, formerly belonging to the firm of Townend & Compton, lent by Messrs. Brown & Englefield, 1, Little James Street, Gray's Inn Road.

By the side of the moulds are shown the rough castings, fresh from the moulds, and the finished objects, made by soldering the various parts together.

The manufacture was demonstrated practically by Mr. Englefield, several pieces being cast in the room from the moulds which, handed down from the firm of Messrs. Townend and Compton, are still, as occasion demands, used by Mr. Englefield.

Townsend & Compton 1784 – 1802 PS9443 OP4800  
So these were antique moulds in 1904.....

## A Warning from about 1900 in the "Art Journal"



*Jug, and two straight-handled Spoons.*

*copy:*

Of course, the evidence of a desire on the part of collectors to secure old pewter has had the inevitable result: not only are all manner of jugs, lamps, épergnes, and other articles

in foreign pewter alluringly placed in dealers' windows to tempt the inexperienced and unwary, but the original old English moulds have been sought and found, and are now being taken advantage of by unscrupulous manufacturers for the production of plates and other things which are subsequently faked so cleverly as to deceive all but the most expert.

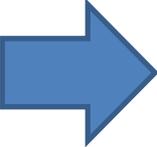


**26<sup>th</sup> December 1903 - MADAME - magazine**



A word as to those worthies who gain a lucrative but dishonest living by trading on the credulity of some collectors. These people are to be found chiefly on the Continent, and it is their reprehensible practice to use some of the old moulds for very inferior metal, and to pass the same off as old and valuable specimens upon the credulous English and Americans who are more wealthy than wise. It is as well to be warned in time against these vendors of old (?) pewter

**William Redman writing in 1903 about a Commemorative Charger in his collection -**



No. 14.—This is a very interesting block. The large centre dish belongs to the author. It is made of very good pewter. When it is cleaned it shines like silver. Engraved in the centre are the Royal Arms, encircled by the garter, with supporters, surmounted by a helmet, and having above it a lion. Beneath is the Royal motto. The rim is engraved with branches of oak, roses, and tulips. On the top of the rim is the “Golden Fleece,” so called, being a lamb suspended by a ribbon. Probably this dish was made in Leeds. S S between the lamb’s feet are the initials of the original owner. There is also marked on the bottom part of the rim P S Bd, and dated 1674. About this period we find there were a number of pewter salvers engraved after this style. The engraving on this dish is, to all appearance, of comparatively recent date, and is undoubtedly a copy of one of an earlier date. Engraved plates ought not to be cleaned.

This leaves us to ask where is it now? and how old does it appear? - though the Golden Fleece and the date might especially identify it

Second row centre piece is the Commemorative referred to – as recently engraved.



### ON THE WALL ABOVE THIS CASE

A LARGE DISH (*temp.* Charles II), with ornament merely sketched out, not completed. D 16 $\frac{3}{4}$ , rim 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ . An interesting dish, dating no doubt from the time of the Restoration. It bears ornament suggesting that of the two fine dishes in the V. and A. Museum at South Kensington, and that on a similar one in the British Museum. This dish was unfortunately never finished, and is badly corroded in parts. There is in one panel on the rim a coat of arms, not very clear, but showing at any rate in chief a boar's head and two gerbs; and below, two battle-axes crossed with three stags' attires.

M.M. A fleur-de-lys in a b.c.

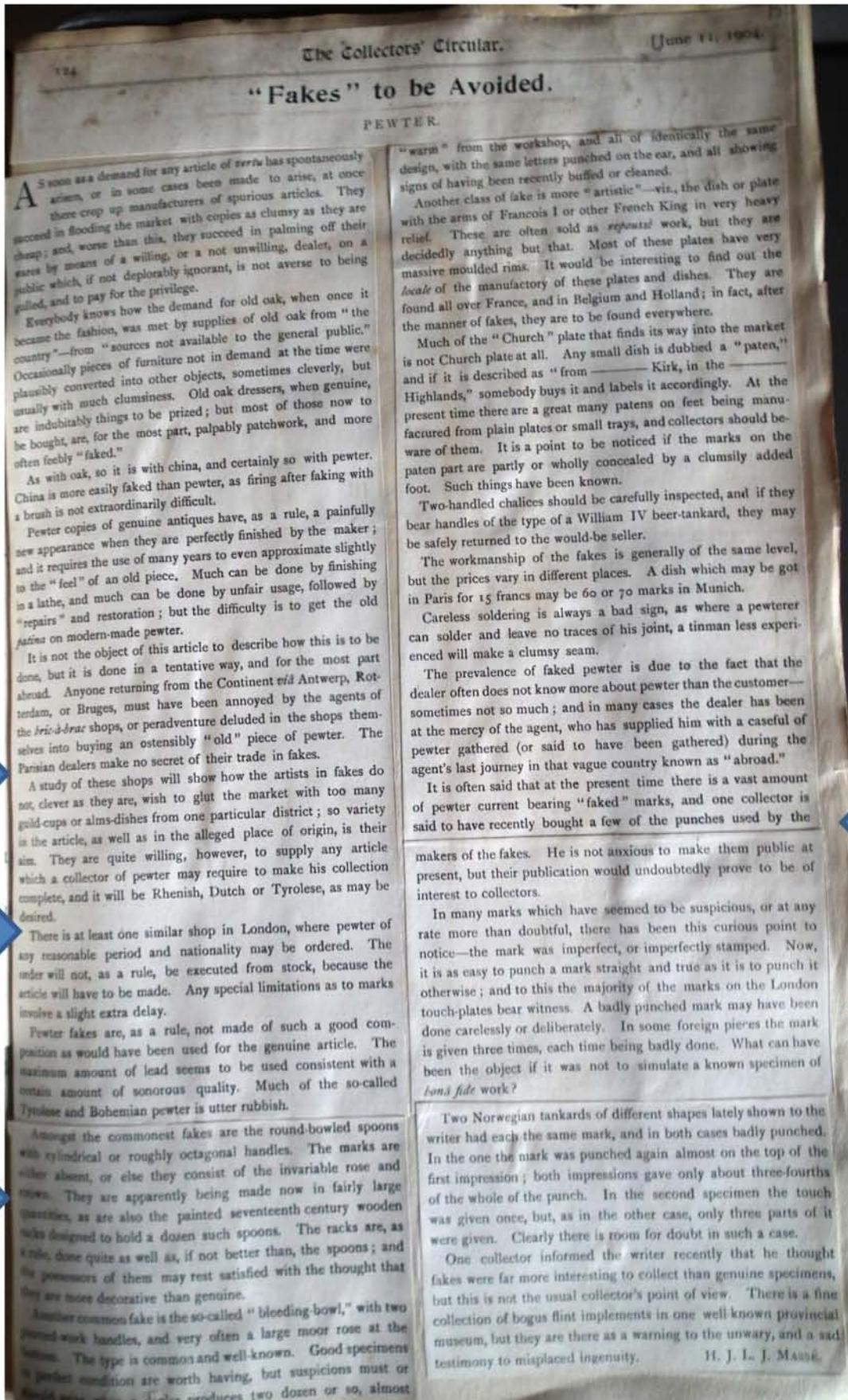
A. F. DE NAVARRO

The crest referred to is the Crest of the Butchers Company of London and Exeter. A copy piece or practice perhaps for -



This shows the crest in the well (not on the rim – so it is not the same plate). It was sold to the London Museum about 1979 by Richard Munday.

and the following detailed warning from H J L J Masse in 1904



Which shop?

## EXTRACTS FROM THE PREVIOUS MASSE ARTICLE -

desired.

There is at least one similar shop in London, where pewter of any reasonable period and nationality may be ordered. The order will not, as a rule, be executed from stock, because the article will have to be made. Any special limitations as to marks involve a slight extra delay.

done, but it is done in a tentative way, and for the most part abroad. Anyone returning from the Continent via Antwerp, Rotterdam, or Bruges, must have been annoyed by the agents of the *bric-à-brac* shops, or peradventure deluded in the shops themselves into buying an ostensibly "old" piece of pewter. The Farnian dealers make no secret of their trade in fakes.

Amongst the commonest fakes are the round-bowled spoons with cylindrical or roughly octagonal handles. The marks are either absent, or else they consist of the invariable rose and crown. They are apparently being made now in fairly large quantities, as are also the painted seventeenth century wooden racks designed to hold a dozen such spoons. The racks are, as a rule, done quite as well as, if not better than, the spoons; and the possessor of them may rest satisfied with the thought that they are more decorative than genuine.

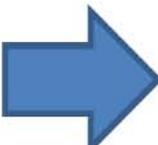
Another common fake is the so-called "bleeding-bowl," with two

It is often said that at the present time there is a vast amount of pewter current bearing "faked" marks, and one collector is said to have recently bought a few of the punches used by the

makers of the fakes. He is not anxious to make them public at present, but their publication would undoubtedly prove to be of interest to collectors.

One collector informed the writer recently that he thought fakes were far more interesting to collect than genuine specimens, but this is not the usual collector's point of view. There is a fine

## An explanation of one of the lots in the 1904 exhibition and



Plate, with moulded edge. Engraved with arms, said to be those of Lord Marcus Hill. The plate is said to have been part of his camp furniture, and used in the Peninsular Campaign. Motto—Malo mori quam fœdari.  
Maker's mark—an anchor crowned, and 1675.  
Hall marks—(1) I.K. (2) An anchor. (3) A cross. (4) Lion rampant.  
These are in small shields, each crowned. (Lady Harvey)  
The engraving is roughly and badly done, and seems to have been done long after the supposed date of the plate's use by Lord Marcus Hill.  
Curiously enough two plates lent by another exhibitor, and which came from the same dealer's shop, also with arms engraved upon them, were also said to have been used by Viscount Hill in the Peninsular War. Lord Hill did not become Viscount till 1842, and this fact helps to discount the genuineness of the plates.  
It seems probable, from the style of the engraving, that these armorial plates are being turned out by some second-rate engraver in one of our large northern counties at the present time. It is a pity that good pewter plates, so many years older than the arms upon them, cannot be left unadorned by the engraver. (H.J.L.J.M.)

On the second and third shelves were grouped a various collection of measures, viz. :

Seven old English flat-lidded Tavern Pots or Measures.  
XVII. and XVIII. century types. (W. Churcher)

A similar measure.

(J. Algernon Bastard)

So we might ask - which dealer's shop in 1904? – Tsk.....these northerners.....

# Scottish Warning of Faked Tappit Hens in 1905 (Connoisseur magazine Dec 1905 and May 1906)

**Pewter-ware Forgeries** are being sold about the country at somewhat big prices, and which all appear to be manufactured in Glasgow. Hitherto forged specimens of British pewter-ware have been comparatively rare, but some unscrupulous individual, evidently tempted by the large prices which have been brought by genuine specimens of this type of measure, has placed upon the market imitations of the Scots pint (three English pints), Chopin, Mutchkin, and other smaller measures all of the "tappit-hen" shape. These reproductions are, on the whole, fairly clever forgeries, being carefully eaten with

on his guard and without benefiting the collector, but it may be mentioned that one of the few differences consists in the weight of the metal, which is heavier than genuine pewter should be.—L. W.

THE cup here depicted is of cocoa-nut mounted in silver, and bearing the inscription, "1,000 pounds for the head of the King, Charles II. 1662." It contains three panels, Cup commemorating the King's escape after the battle of Worcester. The first represents Charles on horseback riding in front of Jane Lane on a pillion, the second shows him in servant's



PEWTER MEASURES

270

(Follow-up editorial comment in the May 1906 issue).

WITH reference to the note respecting the manufacture of spurious pewter in Glasgow contributed to our columns by the late Mr. Ingleby Wood. We regret that this has caused considerable annoyance to many reputable dealers in works of art in that city who hold large stocks of genuine Scottish pewter. We can only state that we are unable to confirm or contradict our correspondent's statement, but we regret that it should have had

**Old Scottish  
Pewter**

the effect of condemning indiscriminately a whole city. Collectors of old pewter in Glasgow need have no fear in making purchases, as all firms of standing are always ready to give a guarantee of the genuineness of what they sell.



# Collectors known of before the Society of Pewter Collectors was formed

The Earliest known/written of collector of Old Pewter Frank Jackson is said to have started collecting **in about 1885. (Kirby Mason likely before him?)**

By 1912 - there had been several Old Pewter Specialist Exhibitions - Cliffords Inn Hall 1904 and 1908

Taunton Castle Museum 1908 and 1912

Provands Lordship Glasgow 1909

The five exhibitions showed perhaps some 2000 different pieces.

.....  
There were listed some 136 individual exhibitors at these exhibitions - of whom 28 were named female collectors.

Other collectors written of, or mentioned elsewhere might be as many as 60. This does not include Pewter known of in the Churches - (Norfolk alone could show over 400 pieces in 1934 and Yorkshire 600).

Many collectors are shown to have 200+ pieces each (around 1912).

.....

.....  
There could have been some 20,000 pieces of Old Pewter in collections in around 1912.

PH rightly says a lot was Continental European - of the exhibitions checked close on 20% was.

That still leaves a very large number of Old British Pieces pieces in private collections known of in 1912.

This was some 6 years before the Society of Pewter Collectors was formed (with 12 members).

.....  
For interest -  
William Redman shows 200 of his pieces outside his front door and on the Chapel steps in 1903. A Country Life Article shows an un-named collection of some 200 pieces. Charles Rowed shows a collection of over 200 pieces in 1908. Charbonnier showed 600 pieces. Lewis Clapperton shows 200 pieces in an early photograph. Mrs Gerald Walker's collection of 650 pieces was sold in 1919 - An Andrew Smith of Glasgow collection of 200 pieces was sold in 1920. Navarro left short of 300 pieces to the FitzWilliam Cambridge.

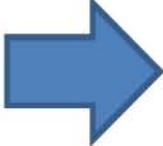
CONCERNS BEFORE 1918 (CLIFFORDS HALL EXHIBITION 1904)  
GUIDANCE FOR THOSE WHO MIGHT ASK.....

Many of the visitors to the Exhibition were inclined to lose themselves in admiration of the foreign pewter, merely because it was foreign, and very brightly polished, but the more thoughtful had the question to propound.—*Why was the English pewter left practically unornamented?* To this the answer may be given that the English workmen, working as they did under definite restrictions, and still more definite supervision, were obliged to draw the line at any downright imitation of goldsmiths' and silversmiths' work. There was ornamented English pewter of a kind, but it was very simple and unassuming. The ornament did not obtrude itself in the very least, and never interfered with the lines of the design of the object on which it was introduced. The Master salt-cellar, exhibited by Mr. C. F. C. Buckmaster, and the two candlesticks of Mr. A. F. de Navarro and Mr. T. Charbonnier, were good examples of this. Other examples slightly more elaborate were the three candlesticks lent by Mr. E. W. Gimson.

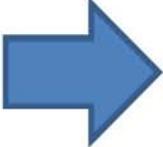


68 CHATS ON OLD PEWTER

flooding the market with too many masterpieces by one maker.

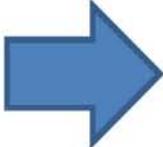


The prevalence of a large amount of faked pewter is due to the fact that in many cases the dealer knows very little about it—very often far less than the collector. In other cases the town dealer is quite dependent on the agent or traveller who scours our own counties, or who imports at regular intervals consignments from that vague and shadowy land known as “abroad.”

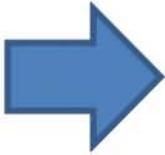


There are shops where pewter of certain periods and nationality may be ordered—if not commissioned. The orders cannot be executed from stock or at once, because to make pewter takes a little time. Longer time, too, would be required for anything out of the common, but the article would certainly be forthcoming.

Travellers in Holland and Belgium and elsewhere have no doubt experienced the glib tongues and the guile of the touts attached to the bric-à-brac shops and possibly have been persuaded into buying some new “old pewter!”

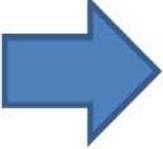


It is a curious thing that if a collector advertises for any unusual piece of pewter which he knows from description only, or from hearsay, the piece will be heard of in a remarkably short time.

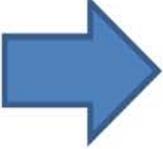


*Repoussé* as applied to pewter requires care, and if overdone is bound to mar an otherwise good design or shape. Some cast work is cast very hollow, e.g., some of the platters which are said to bear the device of François I., and is given the appearance of *repoussé*.

As a rule *repoussé* in the forms of bosses, &c., is a modern addition to older work—mainly to attract the eye of the buyer. Much Tyrolese pewter, otherwise good, or at any rate inoffensive, has been mangled by the *repoussé* worker to make it appeal to the average tourist.



It is possible, on the other hand, that the pewter made to-day in imitation of the old forms will menace future generations, especially that made from the old moulds with the makers' marks counterfeited; such utensils given time would very probably succeed in deceiving any but the trained eye, but it is not likely that the output will long be found remunerative, and in that case its manufacture will scarcely be continued, in any large scale, on the uncommercial basis of biding its time.



An examination of this modern ware, made with the intent to deceive, often reveals cunning workmanship in parts purposely broken and mended, in rents at edges, and battered forms and partially obliterated makers' marks, but the old spirit is lacking—handles and decorative parts are often thin, and, if not badly cast, are

**SO WHO WAS MAKING IT IN 1911 ??**

**ONE FIRM WAS THAT OF JOHN JEWSBURY & CO LTD**

**THIS BECAME A LIMITED COMPANY IN 1911**

**THE FOLLOWING PRICE LIST COULD BE OF ANY YEAR FROM  
1911 TO 1933**

**SOME JOHN JEWSBURY BRIEF DETAILS FOLLOW –**

### **John Jewsbury**

Started in business in 1884 in Birmingham.

Travelled to London selling before 1900.

Died in 1903 aged 59 because

**of an accident in a Turkish baths.....**

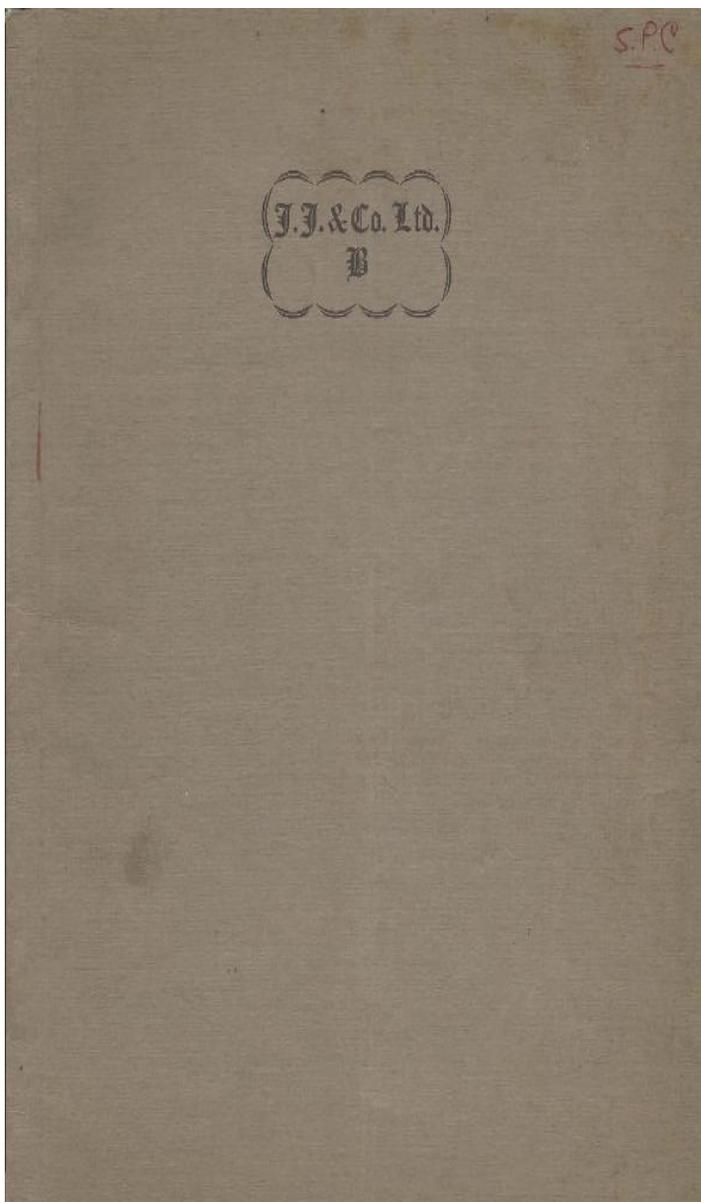
Younger son John was the driving force. By 1910 producing antique reproductions including Scottish Claymores and **targes.**  
(anyone know what they are - I did not)

The pewterware was made to look old by being dented when shaken in a barrel (a descendant humorously recalls that it was likely passed off as genuine - and (laugh, laugh) there were a number of complaints.)

By 1914 they could purchase a factory **site** in Birmingham for £6300. They were prosperous enough that when they outgrew it they built another and let that factory and site

Various success in Great War production and in the 2nd World War after taking over the remains of Pearson Page in 1933.

This plain front cover is shown simply so that the reader knows what the cover looked like, and what to look out for.



**John Jewsbury & Co.**

LIMITED

BRASSFOUNDERS,

SOHO WORKS,

Western Road, Spring Hill,

**BIRMINGHAM.**

:: DESIGNS IN ::

**Antique Brassfoundry**

(PEWTERWARE & GLASS)



Telephone:  
OLDFAG  
BIRMINGHAM

Telephone:  
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Also Manufacturers of  
BRASS AND IRON

**Furniture Fittings**

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FURNITURE.

MOTOR MAECOTS.

All kinds of Cast, Stamped, and  
Machine made Brassfoundry.



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# ENGLISH PEWTER

1/3 FULL SIZE



P8903



P8826



P8638



11119



P8325



11120



11118



P9110



10809



11055



P8336



11056



P8792



P8811



P8791



P8810



P8809



P10795



P8270

# ENGLISH PEWTER

1/6 FULL SIZE



P7583



P6624



P7397



P7408



P6494



11104



P10913



11109



P10751



P9452



10955



10956



P10834



P8380



P8162



10946



P8657



10958



11117



10959



11137



11097



11138

# ENGLISH PEWTER

1/8 FULL SIZE



11251



11497



11498



10648



11250



11344



11629



11330



11344



11458



11494



11452



11452



11493



11623



11624



11332



11593



11346



11346



11346



11346

ENGLISH PEWTER  
1/6 FULL SIZE



11555



11373



11495



11331



11625



11500



11626



11263



11289



11627



11290



11628



11163



11551

# ENGLISH PEWTER

1/8 FULL SIZE



11614



11615



11616



11617



11618



11509



11508



11512



11510



11511



11619



11120



11621



11496



11620



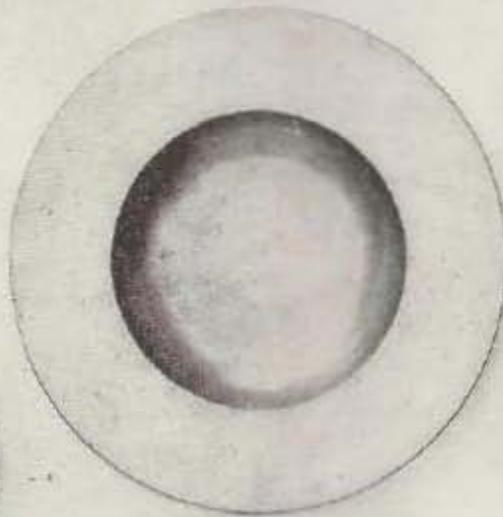
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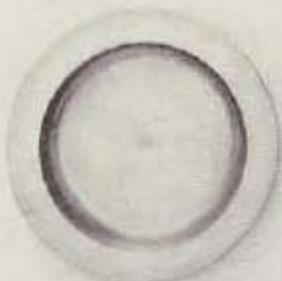
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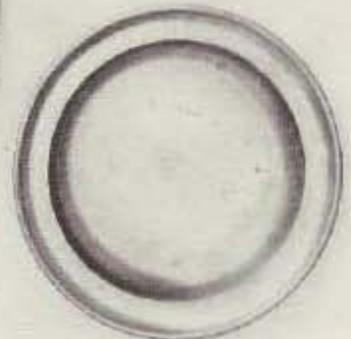
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11411



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# ENGLISH PEWTER

1/8 FULL SIZE



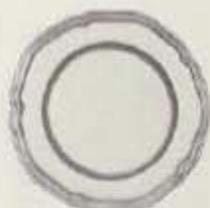
P9024



11129



P9027



10961.7"



P9927



10961.9"



P7776



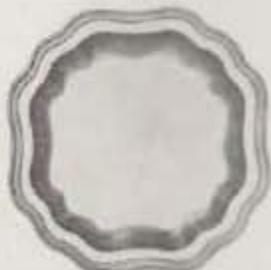
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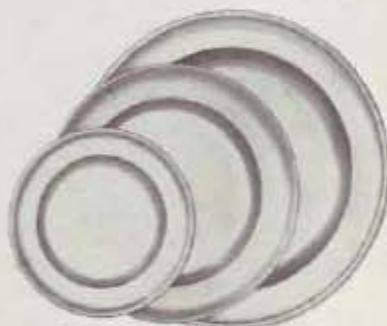
11057



11095  
9 1/4" 6 3/4"



10949.



11096.  
7" 9 1/4" 12"



7 3/8"



5"

11094



4 1/4"



3 1/4"



2 5/8"



10943



11093



10947.



11147.



11146.

# Reproduction English Pewter



11843  
STIRRUP CUP  
Height 8"



11345  
COMMUNION JUG.  
Height 11"



11676  
COMMUNION GOBLET.  
Height 10"



12010  
VASE.  
Height 9 1/4"



12007  
VASE.  
Height 8 3/4"



12005  
VASE.  
Height 9"



12008  
VASE.  
Height 9"



11499  
COMPORT.  
Height 5 1/2"



11930  
BOWL.  
2" x 5 1/2" Diam.



P 9629  
LARGE PRICKET CANDLESTICK.  
Height 18 1/2"



11952  
BOWL.  
2" x 5 1/2" Diam.



11690  
JUG.  
Height 7 1/4"



11552  
DUTCH POT.  
9" Diam.



11968  
BOWL.  
6" x 9 3/4" Diam.

# Reproduction English Pewter



11967  
INKSTAND.  
Height, 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ "



12091  
INKSTAND.  
Top Diam., 3" and 4"  
2 sizes.



11969  
INKSTAND.  
Height, 4"



11970  
INKSTAND.  
Height, 4"



11973  
INK BOX.  
6 $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 1"



11832  
INKSTAND.  
9 $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ "



11376  
INK BOX.  
8" x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ "



11944  
PEPPER AND SALT.  
Height, 5"



11945



11435  
SERVIETTE RING.  
1 $\frac{1}{2}$ " Diam.



11855  
CADDY SPOON.  
Length 4"



11830  
SNUFF BOX.  
Large .. 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ "  
Small .. 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ "



12013  
GOBLET.  
Height 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ "



11840  
MUSTARD SPOON.  
Length 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ "



11831  
SOUP SPOON.  
Length 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ "



11901  
BOWL.  
5 $\frac{1}{2}$ " Diam.



P 6522  
CANDLESTICK.  
Height 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ "



$\frac{1}{4}$  Qn.



1 Qn.



$\frac{1}{2}$  Pt.



1 Pt.

SET OF TUNNY MEASURES.  
11937



11890  
CANDLESTICK.  
Height 8"



11686  
TANKARD.  
1 Qn.  $\frac{1}{2}$  Pt. 1 Pt.

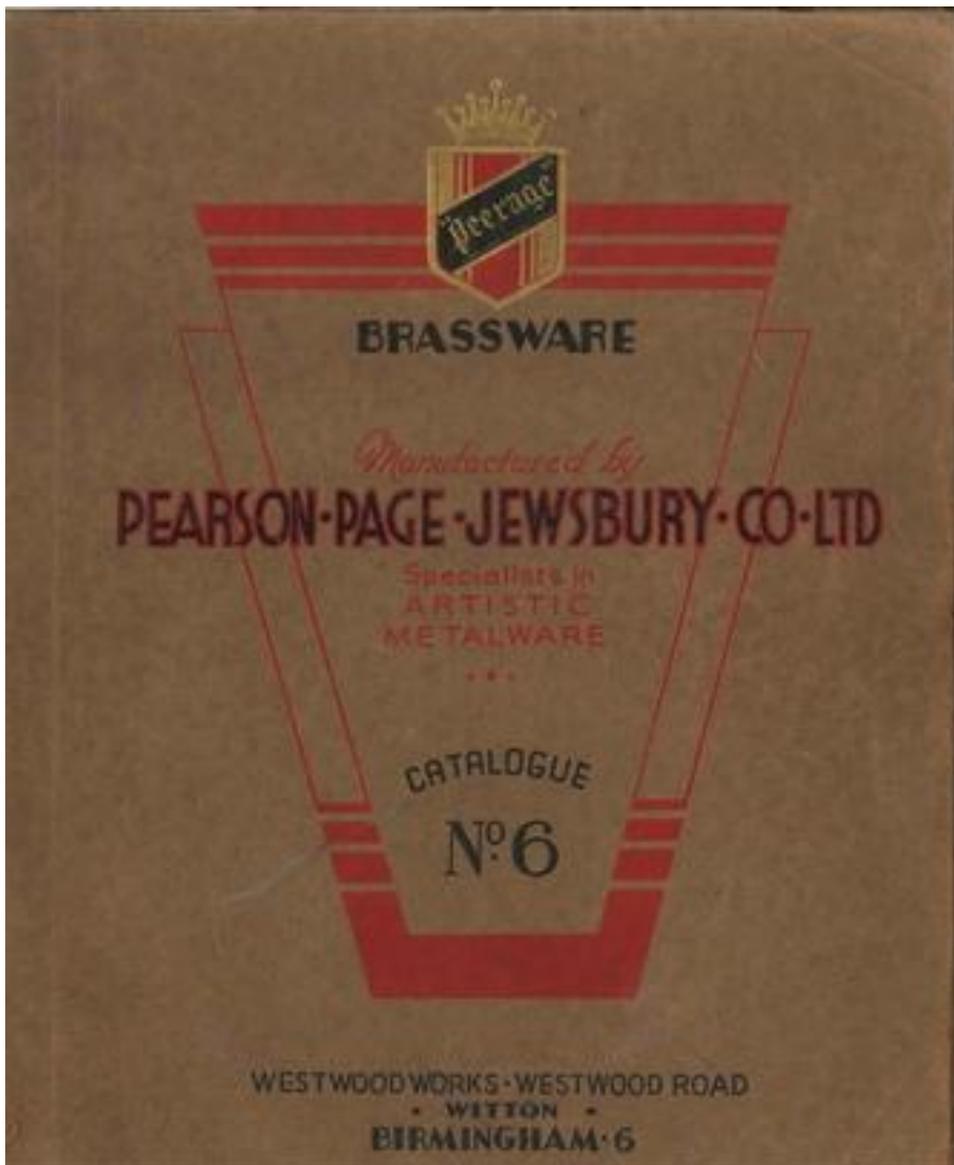


11811  
TANKARD.  
Height 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ "



12087  
JUG.  
Height 4"

In 1933 John Jewsbury took over the remains of Pearson Page and became Pearson Page & Jewsbury or “Peerage” or “Homemaker”. Then pewter became two pages out of a brassware catalogue of about 130 pages. (this shown is undated but about 1948). (The firm employed at peak about 500 people)



Please return to -

R. F. MICHAELIS,  
83 DENTON ROAD,  
DENTON, NEWHAVEN,  
SUSSEX.

1956

LEAF - FIVE ONE



"HOMEMAKER" PEWTER WARE



No. 17525 4 1/2 in. No. 17526 6 in.

Old English pewter has a fascination of its own. It always has had and it will continue. Many collectors are very proud of the pieces they have about the place. They look good; they make the place look good. How they gaze upon them; how their eyes to share the joy of possession with those privileged to behold their collections. It creates a kind of pardonable envy in the on-looker.



No. 17507 7 in. No. 17531 8 in.



No. 17524 6 1/2 in. No. 17534 7 1/2 in.

"Home-maker" Reproductions Pewter is of such excellence we have created a class all of its own. To see them apart you could not tell these reproductions from the originals; the old from the not so old. The reason is not far to seek.



No. 17527 9 1/2 in.



Wine Taster  
No. 17135  
4 1/2 in. 4 1/2 in. 5 1/2 in. 6 1/2 in. dia.

The old models from which "Home-maker" pewter is cast just breathe antiquity. These fine reproductions have in themselves the merit of "collector pieces"! Use them to make worthy additions or to start your own collection now! Ask your old friends what he thinks about them. Was, when next you see it, would you not an increase in his collection will you may be inspired in thinking "Home-maker"!



Wine Taster  
No. 17136 2 1/2 in. dia.



No. 17133 6 1/2 in.

See the range of "Home-maker" Reproductions Pewter and let envy be gone! See also the range "Home-maker" stamped on every piece.



Shallow Tray  
No. 17182  
2 1/2 in. 3 1/2 in. dia.



Shallow Tray  
No. 17183  
3 1/2 in. dia.



No. 17532  
2 sizes: 1 pint, 1 quart



Mug  
No. 17221  
3 1/2 in. High x 3 1/2 in. dia.



Pitcher  
No. 17527  
1 pint dia.  
1 1/2 in. High.

"Home-maker" Pewter - Give us solutions of fine old pieces!  
Antique or English fields to obtain. Show your preferences when ordering.

"HOMEMAKER"

Printed in England

Pre-parator the glory of an Ancient Craft.  
"Home-maker" - the trademark of Pearson, Rogers, Gossberg & Co. Ltd.  
"Pearse"!  
Wheatwood Road, Wilton, Birmingham 60



“HOMEMAKER” PEWTER WARE



Salt Cellar  
No. 18416  
3in. dia. x 2in. high



Bowl  
No. 17371  
6½in. dia. x 2in. high



Quaich  
No. 17370  
4½in. 4½in. 5½in. 6½in. dia.



Tobacco Jar  
with Humidor  
No. 19529 5½in. high



Stirrup Cup  
No. 19535  
Height 8in.



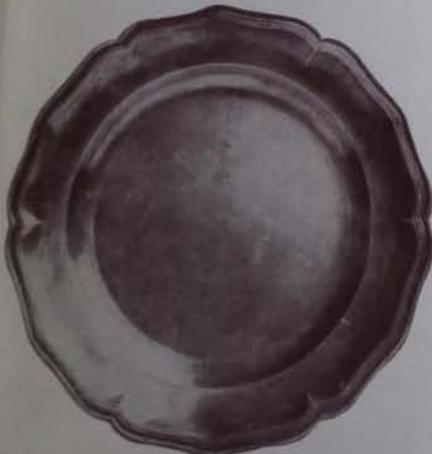
Tappit Hen  
No. 17368 8in. high  
No. 17224 10in. high



Jug  
No. 17222  
8½in. high



Plate  
No. 17210 A Plain Edge  
No. 17210 B Beaded Edge  
6 8 9 10 12in. dia.



Fancy Edge Plate  
No. 17800  
7½in. 9in. 10½in.



Dish, Oval  
No. 17211  
14in. x 9in. and 18in. x 13½in.



Measures  
No. 19539  
Noggin  
1 Gill ½ Pint  
1 Pint 1 Quart

Inspect the range. Call on your local “Homemaker” Distributor.

“HOMEMAKER”

The pre-eminent reminder of happy days.

The PREVIOUS pages relate to work Michaelis was doing in the mid 1950s to trace reproductions with old marks that were appearing on newly made pewter intentionally made to resemble antiques.

He reasonably had concerns that this was being made by Pearson Page & Jewsbury.

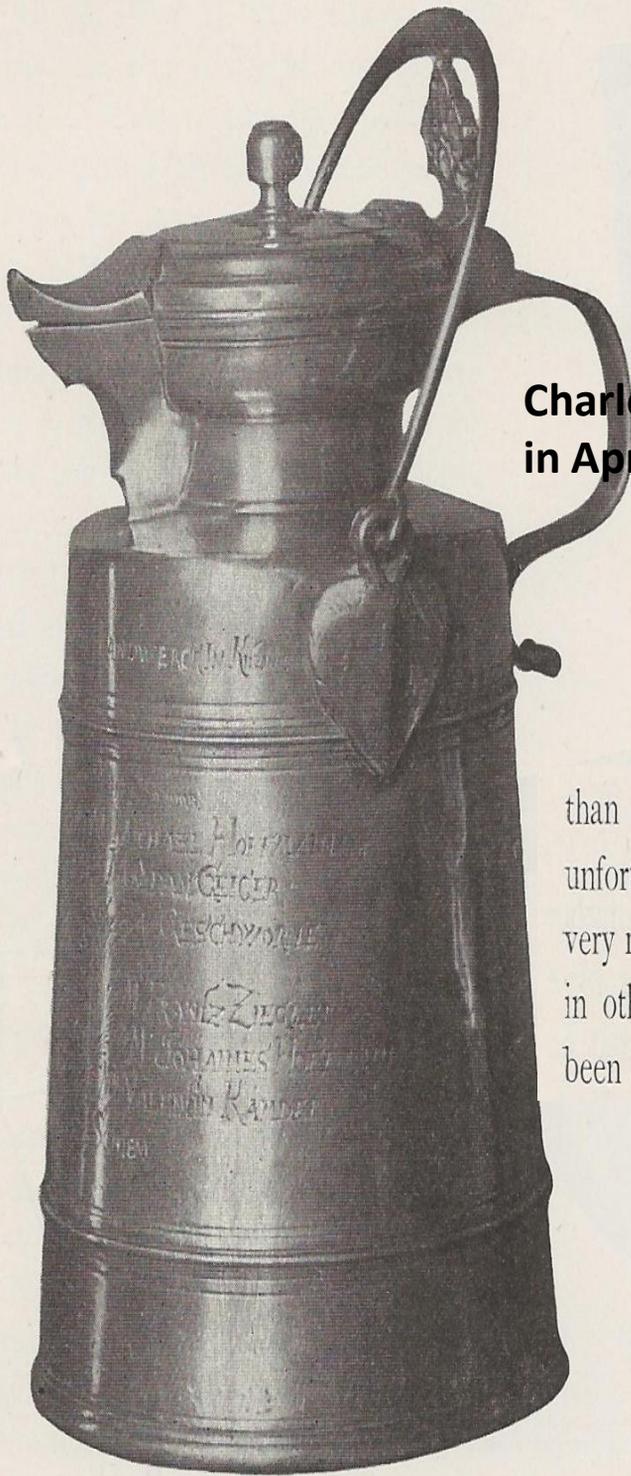
So in about 1955 he wrote to them asking for details of old marks they had used.

It was a long and unresolved correspondence politely carried out but ultimately inconclusive.

Given the attitude of the descendants as shown in the Birmingham newspaper interview of the mid 1950s it is not surprising that this did not produce the answers Michaelis was hoping to be able to use to warn his fellow collectors.

Trade guild flagons appear to have been very

popular with collectors.



**Charles G J Port - The Connoisseur  
in April 1917**

than anything of the kind made in England, but, unfortunately for the novice, these flagons have been very much "faked"—in most cases the whole piece, in others the inscriptions, coats of arms, etc., have been added to ordinary domestic pieces. With regard

No. XVII.—GUILD FLAGON 15½ IN.

largely used on the Continent, particularly in Germany, and one comes across, in this country, quite a number of extremely fine continental pieces, some being larger

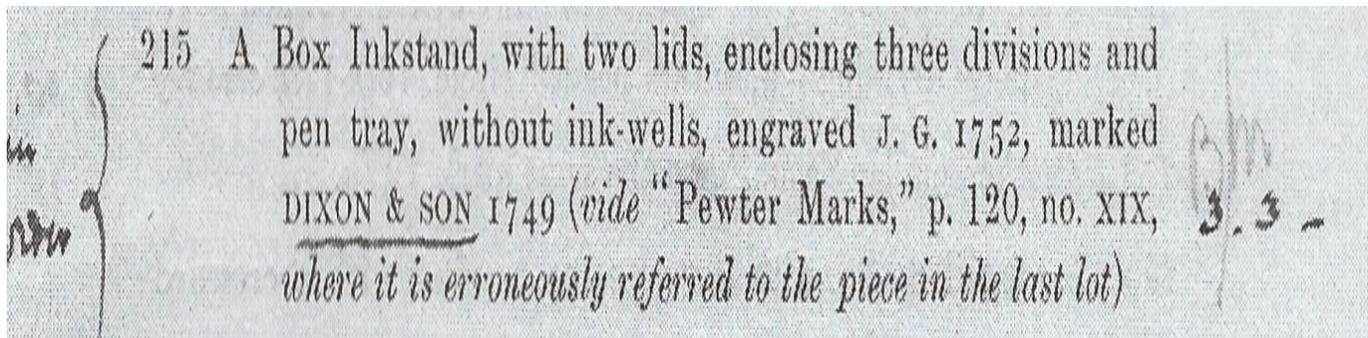
SOCIETY OF PEWTER COLLECTORS.



CHARLES G. J. PORT, F.S.A.  
PRESIDENT. 1924.

# Mrs Gerald Walker sale at Sothebys 30th October 1919

Did J G think that Dixon &  
Son made this in 1749?



Dixon and Smith worked 1806 to 1822 and Dixon & Son succeeded that firm ( so from 1823).

From 1885 August Weygang working in Wurtemberg Germany developed an extensive stock of old moulds and copies of antique pewterware by buying antique pewterware and by buying such old moulds and by copying what was seen in museums and private collections. Whilst mostly supplying continental Europe he also supplied the UK with a range of styles and antique finishes.

The following is an example from a catalogue of 1937



Weygang had a stock of old punch marks which were later removed. One which was not removed was the following with a distinctive shield outline and perhaps not likely to be confused with the ones we know so well - but Weygang's supplies to the UK should not be underestimated.

A later catalogue invited those who wanted a particular style (any style of piece) to get in touch.

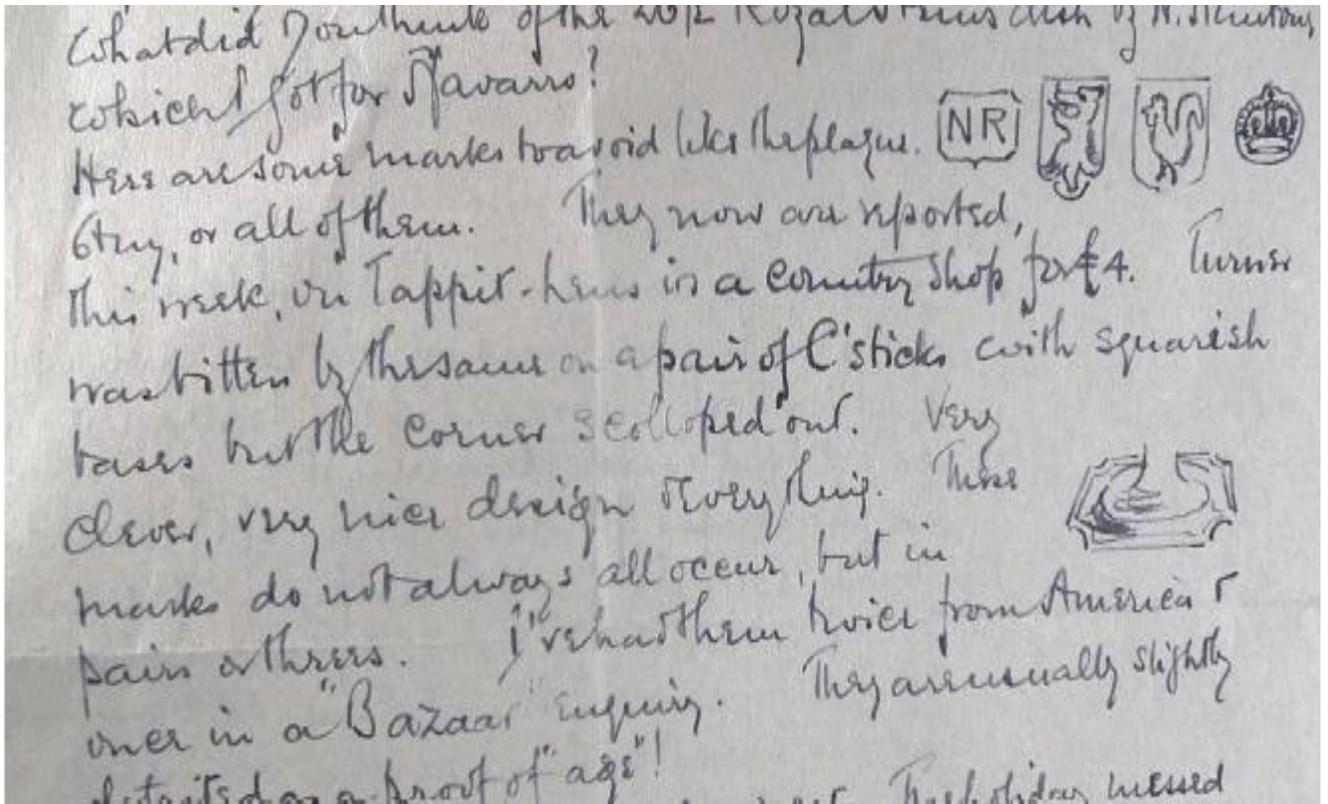


Not the N R we are most familiar with

Just this year I bought one piece with these marks  
Or at least with the NR mark and the Griffins head.  
In my case preceded by a Crowned X.  
(Also used was a Britannia hall mark.)



A letter from HH Cotterell to A V Sutherland Graeme  
on 30.06.1931



N R mark – see shape see above slide

Tappit hens we see an illustration from 1937 - this is written in  
1931

It interests me to read that HHC sold Navarro a  
Commemorative in mid 1931. Prime time!

SOCIETY OF PEWTER COLLECTORS



Capt. A. SUTHERLAND-GRAEME, F.S.A., A.R.I.B.A.  
PRESIDENT, 1957-1959.

You say the fakers are having a thin time. You may have information that has escaped me, but I'm frightfully anxious about everything. Can anyone explain to me where - all in a heap - so many wedge & hammer-head Balusters are coming from? Marks N<sup>o</sup> 5554B, & 5769 for instance are becoming common. How? It's non-plussing me. Lloyd Ward has just got hold of three with 5769 Walker has several & soon. Then 5554B, started on a Baluster, next it cropped up on your dish, then on an Elizabethan Cup of Yeates' Know on Navarro's Rose-water dish. It's strange we never saw it until a year or two ago, but now! We don't yet know the extent of the Curious part

"Can anyone explain to me where - all in a heap so many wedge & hammer-head balusters are coming from? Lloyd Ward has just got hold of three - Walker has several & soon - 5554B on a baluster now on your dish, then on an Elizabethan cup of Yeates - now on Navarro's Rose-water dish.....its strange we never saw it until a year or two ago - **but now!**"

(Name of Pewterer S D unknown date reference PS No. 3043)

The mark appears on "fake" pieces as a "housemark" and on lids of many hammerhead and Wedge Balusters and as a touchmark on Posset Cup and Beaker type Measure)





This is the stepped bossed dish in the Navarro Collection at the FitzWilliam Museum Cambridge referred to in HHC's letter. This not on Navarro's inventory of 1929 – implying that he acquired it after.



This is likely the Elizabethan Cup of A B Yeates referred to in the letter – Yeates does not show a mark. He does write that it was found on the Caledonian Market in 1932.

By coincidence Richard Munday had a stall on the Caledonian Market then selling Old Pewter.

It was invoiced to A B Yeates by Richard Neate for £110.



of the faker. Yes, ART! His work is wonderful if only he  
could sell his things as reproductions he would be lauded to the  
skies as a post-master. Instead he descends to trickery, for  
a greater financial reward. (hR) is as common as common now  
I'm fearful of many things the world is passing as genuine; I'm  
almost fearful of myself. Navarros too thick with the leather in ton.com  
It's good news that your wife is sufficiently nervous to be able  
to enjoy Broadway to stand the strain.  
Do you ever use your work with the h.c.c.?

(faker) – Yes ART! His work is wonderful if only he could sell his things as reproductions.....

**hR** is as common as common now

(who would like to speak about that?)



“I ‘m fearful of many things the world is passing as genuine,.....”

of the Royal Society of Antiquaries of London, U.K.  
"THE PEWTER OF THE EUROPEAN CONTINENT," in collaboration with  
Robert M. Vetter (Now appearing in "Antiques," Boston, U.S.A.).

CROXLEY GREEN,  
HERTS.,  
ENGLAND.

Safeguard yourself by having the "COTTERELL GUARANTEE-STAR" on all your Pewter.

18. vi. 1931.

My dear Graeme,

Many thanks for writing me I'm glad to hear you had such a good time at Broadway, but with such a sitting and such a host, one would be hard to please if one could not find much pleasure in it.

I have photographs of several positions of Navarre's large tankards with details of the knob-pieces, lip-serrations etc., also of several of his recent finds. He has sent me his albums from time to time, so I am more or less conversant with many of his ramifications. But I'm frightfully nervous about some of his finds.

You say the fakers are having a thin time. You may have information that has escaped me, but I'm frightfully anxious about everything.

Can anyone explain to me where - all in a heap - so many ridge hammer-head Balusters are coming from?

Marks N<sup>o</sup> 5554 B, 5769 for instance are becoming common. How? It's non-pleasing me.

Waldward has just got hold of three with 5769 Walker has several soon. Then 5554 B, started on a Baluster, next it cropped up on your dish, then on an Elizabethan Cup of Yeates' know on Navarre's Rose-trattor dish. It's strange we never saw it

until a year or two ago, but now! I don't yet know the extent of the curving part



H H Cotterell is the figure to back left. The Queen Mother is at the Telegraph Olympia Exhibition of 1928 of which Old pewter was but a small part. She is here looking at Two of Navarro's wine coolers and there are a few of Richardson's Pieces about.

of the fakes. Yes, ART! His work is wonderful if only he  
could sell his things as reproductions he would be lauded to the  
skies as a part-master. I instead he descends to trickery, for  
a great financial reward. (NR) is as common as common now!  
I'm fearful of many things the world is passing as genuine; I'm  
almost fearful of myself. Navarros too thick with the leather in on coat!  
It was good news that your wife is sufficiently recovered to be able  
to enjoy Broadway & to stand the strain.

Do I understand you have given up your work with the E.C.?  
Or, have you changed over once again to another branch?  
What did you think of the 2 1/2" Royal Arms dish by N. Newton,  
which I got for Navarros?

Here are some marks to avoid like the plague.      
6 try, or all of them. They now are reported,

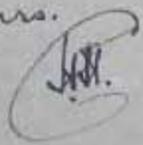
this mark, on Tappit-hens in a counter shop for £4. Turner  
was bitten by the same on a pair of C's ticks with squarish  
bases but the corners scalloped out. Very  
clever, very nice design & very shiny. There

marks do not always all occur, but in  
pairs or threes. I've had them twice from America &  
once in a Bazaar inquiry. They are usually slightly  
detrited as a proof of "age"!

Ostborn's show is it properly going yet. The holiday messed  
things up but they are settling down now somewhat.  
Touch 5756. The surname is LEWIS.

6072. This is the mark of Robert Belton of Bristol (3/4)  
I've cleared up quite a number lately.

Hoping you are fit.

Yours.  


# HOWARD H. COTTERELL, F.R.Hist.S., F.R.S.A.I., 64.

(Past President of the Society of Pewter Collectors).

Cable Address (via Western Union) —  
"PEWTERCOTT, LONDON."

AUTHOR OF:—

- "Old Pewter, its Makers and Marks, in England, Scotland and Ireland." } *In the Press.*
- "The Pewter of the European Continent."
- "National Types of Old Pewter."
- "Bristol and West Country Pewterers." (The Official Handbook of the Bristol Museum).
- "York Pewterers." } Out of Print.
- "Irish Pewterers." } (The latter in collaboration with M. S. D. Westropp, M.R.I.A.).

THE LITTLE HOUSE,  
CROXLEY GREEN,  
HERTS.,  
ENGLAND.

CONTRIBUTOR TO:—

"The Connoisseur," "Antiques" (Boston, U.S.A.), &c., &c.

Pewter Collections formed, catalogued or arranged.

Collectors advised.

21. vi. 31.

My dear Graeme,

Thanks for your letter of the 10th. As you say, it will do for Smokes. The business is all very involved & really disturbing, but I hold to "ma doots". The whole thing - i.e. the way these things are turning up - rings too good to be true. When I first saw that mug of Yeats's at Sotheby's, Churchill was standing with me weren't you he's too? & they'd be someone present. I said straight away "that's no good & I was taken up at once with the remark" have you seen the mark. Then I had to withdraw, but I was not satisfied. "Clavi" isn't the word for these fellows, they are frantically so. I was really expressing no order of precedence, only in so far as they had come under my notice & Walker's Balcutter was the first I saw. It will maybe be that yours is genuine - it certainly looks it - that the devil's got a rubbing of it from French's Sale - après ça le diable! Another weak point in the Hen VIII mark is that it is now coming along on Hammerheads! Walker had his piece before my book for - now is use - I illustrate the beastly thing at Plate XLV, c. & at d. I say it is one of the finest examples I have seen! It maybe, I maybe wrong, but it's frightfully worrying. Look at the nick in the lid, look at the worn hinge pin and loose floppy lid. The piece shrieks of genuineness, & yet -? Walker paid me a good fee for getting & valuing that, 10% on whatever I valued it at, but I forget, £50 or £75 I should say & each was its value then, but now, they are like manna in the desert. Keep it between ourselves for time, but it's very nice

no end because if I've made a mistake I ought to own up  
and pay. The latter I couldn't do to save my life, but the former  
I could must do when - if - I am convinced.  
(It isn't safe to be an expert!)

If you compare the mark on your Baluster you will find  
quite apart from its smaller size, that the original was a  
magnificent example of the die-sinker's art. (See my notes  
in "Connoisseur", Aug 1919, p. 199). Yours will no doubt  
look quite crude by its side, flat having the appearance  
of having been bashed with a hammer, with none of the  
detail of the original. I'm afraid for the whole series  
except the one I illustrate.

The tallest - as opposed to what you said in your last - is in the  
full flight of his glory, Currose him. The Bull's head  
mark I have not seen on any of these reproductions, always  
the other, 3, 4, or 5 times repeated.

Of course the handle is driven into the body at the junction,  
the lid may be cracked or have pieces broken out, it may  
have  $\text{H.P.}$  on the lip, but —?

I share your opinion of the two you name who have seen  
your baluster. As Mrs. Estlin them both, as Connoisseurs  
of pewter — NO.

Sometimes wonder if it wouldn't pay to put a private  
detective on that motor coat & follow him round for a  
month. There's a suggestion for the useful application  
of the Society's funds! I'm not taking the job on!

Ever yours  
C.H.H.

Of course the handle is driven into the body as the function,  
the lid may be cracked or have pieces broken out, it may  
have HP on the lip, but —?  
I share your opinion of the two you name who have seen  
your balustrade. As Mrs. I esteem them both, as Commissioners  
of powder — NO.  
Sometimes wonder if it wouldn't pay to put a private  
detective on that motor coat & follow him round for a  
month. There's a suggestion for the useful application  
of the Society's funds! I'm not taking the job on!  
Yours

I sometimes wonder if it wouldn't pay to put a private  
Detective on that motorcoat and follow him around for a  
month.

There's a suggestion for the useful application of the Society's  
funds. I'm not taking the job on!

*(It used to be thought that the black leather motor coat  
belonged to Charles "Bumpy head" Casimir.)*

## COLLECTING FOR FUN.

### A MYSTERY FOR EXPERTS TO SOLVE.

Whoever can identify the piece of pewter illustrated in the accompanying illustration will earn the gratitude of Mr. Charles Rowed.

The photograph is reproduced from that writer's "Collecting as a Pastime" (Cassell, 7s. 6d. net), a book which is distinguished by a genuine sense of humour and a delightfully intimate style of writing. Mr. Rowed tells how he acquired this particular piece of pewter, and how he has submitted the photograph to a number of experts. The result is that he has six names for the article, but is still in the dark as to its real purpose and date.



What is it?

It is nine inches high, and its weight (2½lb.) denotes it was made when thick metal was worked with, and that is a sure sign of old times. It will not go with any pewter I possess; it makes all appear comparatively modern, and so we have to allot it a position by itself on an old oak chest, and here I will leave "The Mystery Piece," with this poser—is it Early Georgian or Ogygian?

*A silly vulgar book, much criticized. The mystery piece is a water bottle still on Englefield's list -*

*Daily  
Graphic*

*7/5/20*

SOCIETY OF PEWTER COLLECTORS.



WALTER GRAHAM CHURCHER

PRESIDENT, 1921.

Best Quality Cast Pewter Ware

DULL ART FINISH



194

Bell Goblet

1 pt. 12/- 2 handles 17/6  
 1 pt. 21/- " 28/-  
 2 pts. 25/- " 32/-



197

One Handle Pin Tray

5/-



198

11" Waiter

25/6



196

Compton Flagon

Pt. 25/- 3 Gallon 85/-



201

Tea Caddy

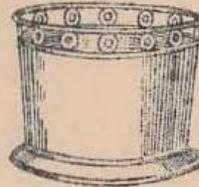
19/6



205

Octagon Biscuit Box

52/6



207

Ice Bucket

2 sizes.

4 1/2" 32/-

5 1/4" 35/-



203

Butter Dish

15/-



206

Octagon Tea Caddy

27/-



208

Finger Bowl

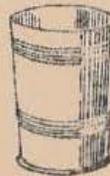
7/-



221

Salt Cellar

7/-



199

Pint Tumbler

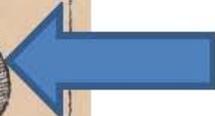
9/-



209

Flower Vase  
(On Broad Foot)

21/-



Or is it one of these – made by  
Mark Fothergill & Sons of Bristol  
1793 - 1835



Or was it this without the handle, spout and lid????? (Sir George Alderson 1800-1825)





Bed Pan which has been converted into the Faked "Alms-Dish."

PLATE XXVI.

Charles Rowed – Collecting as a Pastime and the following  
page

## FAKED PEWTER

I had not been many years a collector before I found spurious Communion cups and Communion sets were on the market and I obtained some very enlightening information, much of which I cannot publish. It was the practice to blacken the new pieces with acid to give them an appearance of age, and I heard of an instance relating to hundredweights of faked pewter, but I am coming

ture. That the superiority of British over Foreign Pewter is recognized abroad is evident from the number of so-called "antique" specimens offered for sale on the Continent. These are made in Belgium and Holland in large quantities, and are stamped, sometimes cleverly but more often clumsily, with copies of the English Pewterers' marks. The writer bought one of these pieces from a stall

Quickly, I shall show you the Lewis Clapperton photographs of part of Charles Rowed's Old pewter Collection.

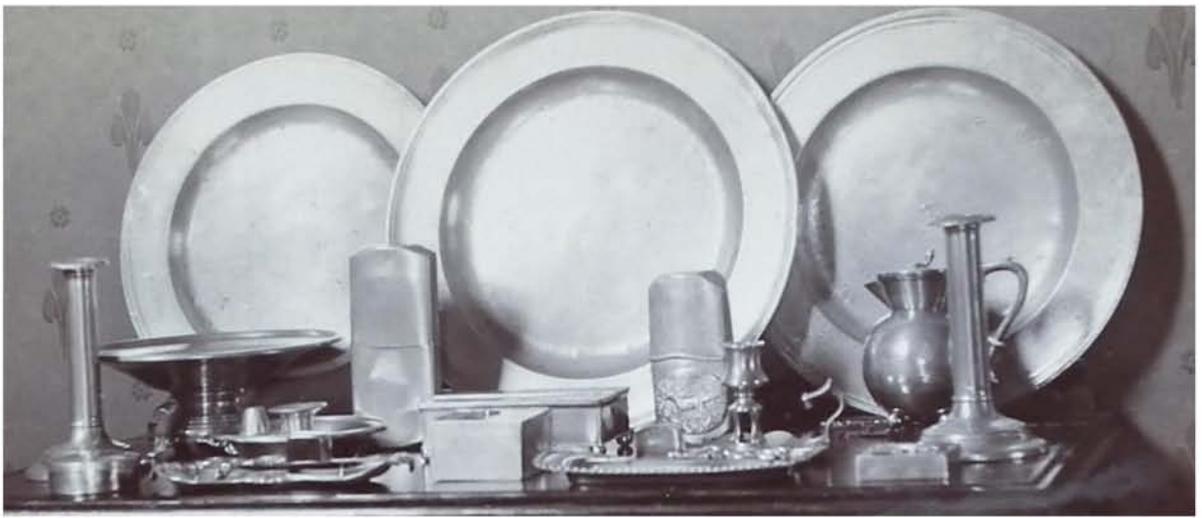
I do this because looking at these collections around 1910 surely gives us some idea of what the fakers went on to make later -

The photos appear to support Masse's view of the simple plainness and mostly undecorated style of old British Pewter.

If Rowed's and Redman's collections were exceptions or if there wasn't much other Old Pewter in collections then this might not follow -

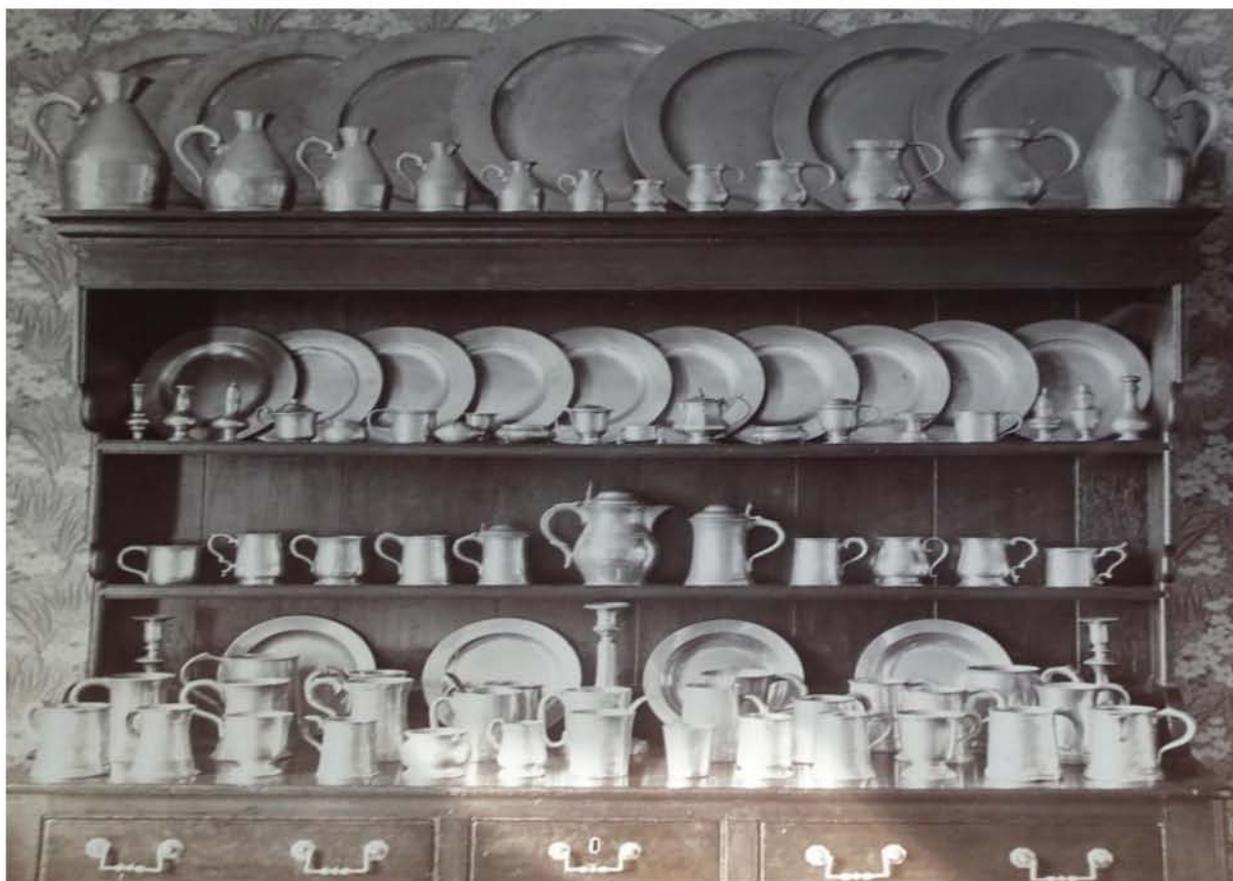
Anyway his collection now quickly does -





Six pairs

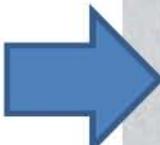




**Modern Pewter - by Edward J  
Gale (USA) in 1909**

PEWTER

poorly finished; quality of alloy and colour especially fail to equal the inherent characteristics of the old ware, as generally, although not of necessity, do also style and proportion. The surface, moreover, of such utensils, whether battered or not, fails to reveal the minute and multifarious evidences of years of life and use which proclaim the genuine article and add texture to the original surface of the alloy.



It is probable that more porringers were made between 1900 and 1905 than in the preceding one hundred and fifty years, and jugs, flagons, and, more latterly, plates, pepper-pots and spoons are all on the market, and these may be found not only for sale by dealers, but well distributed in households far distant from any railway. The Colonial sperm oil lamp is perhaps the best of all the American reproductions and therefore the most to be regretted.

# The word "FAKE" in SPC records 1918 onwards

## JANUARY 1921

It may interest Members to know of the following acquisitions by our colleagues since the last Meeting:—

A William and Mary covered porringer at auction in London;

A marked Stuart candlestick in a remote part of South Wales;

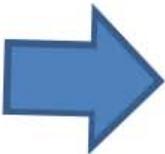
And five further flat-lid Stuart tankards in various places.

The joint Secretaries, neither of whom possesses a flat-lid tankard, in computing that four Members have now some 27 flat-lidders among them, suggest in their best "sour-grape" manner, that such tankards are getting much less scarce than gallon-size baluster measures and Stuart candlesticks.

A *special warning* against fakes seems again desirable. Many plausible forgeries are about, especially in the form of early candlesticks—in pairs, barbers' bowls and small balusters. Chalice also should be very carefully scrutinized. The fabricator principally concerned seems a master of simulation.

An 18th century gallon baluster measure has recently been acquired by the London Museum, Stafford House.

FAKES IN PEWTER.



SIR,—Following the articles in THE CONNOISSEUR on “Old Pewter,” by Mr. Cotterell, there has broken out, in London, an epidemic of baluster measures, from sixth-gill to gallon, and even flat-lid Stuart tankards are being produced in sets, viz., quart, pint, half-pint and quarter-pint, all complete. I have lately had the misfortune to see specimens of this person’s ingenuity as far afield as Edinburgh, and I think a warning word in season may save some eager novice his cash and peace of mind.

Hoping this warning may be of use to some.—Y.

... (No. 284) : “LONDON

SOCIETY OF PEWTER COLLECTORS.



ALFRED B. YEATES, F.S.A., F.R.I.B.A.  
PRESIDENT 1922.

DECEMBER  
1921

The attention of members is called to a note on Pewter Fakes on page 171 of the Connoisseur for November.

MAY

Items of general interest to Members are conspicuous by their absence from this Circular, for beyond a few small and unimportant collections which have come up for auction at Sotheby's & Puttick's, and some faked "Stuart" tankards and "Master-Salts" which are being offered for sale, the stagnation of the present time seems temporarily to have eclipsed the pewter-world.

JUNE  
1922

Captain Harries informally suggested that in view of the great number of clever fakes which are at present being put on the market, some kind of register be kept by the Society of pieces in the possession of its Members, the genuineness of which was passed by the Society as unquestionable. Many suggestions were made as to the methods of registering such pieces, and eventually it was decided that Members think the matter over between now and the Annual Meeting, with the object of bringing forward some workable scheme in this desirable direction.

1932



Mr. Alfred B. Yeates then drew the attention of the members to a trade catalogue of reproductions of old-type pewter, such as flat-lidded tankards, candlesticks, salts, etc., of so convincing a nature as to suggest that after treatment at the hands of unscrupulous persons they might pass for original specimens of early pewter. He had therefore approached the Worshipful Company of Pewterers with a view to ascertain if its Court could intervene in the matter and assist in endeavours to check the sale of such reproductions. The Company, however, had been unable to agree to Mr. Yeates' suggestion.

It was considered that good might result if members who were offered doubtful specimens reported them to Capt. Sutherland-Græme with a view to warning other members that such pieces were in circulation.

February 1932.

There are other contemporary comments drawing attention to the very successful discovery of numerous Stuart flat lid tankards in the 1920s. There is no reason to think that those collected by the Society were not good ones, after all they should have some of the best knowledge available.

What seems clear from the above concern and other clear evidence of difficulties with Flagons is that fakes were not limited to items/vessels/holloware of lower value.

The following was found in the papers of a Scottish collector in a letter dated July 20th 1934 , it is the reverse of an Isher letter or invoice.



A. H. FISHER & SON

In strict confidence

It is one of the best which we have seen of this type. Price £15

\* You ask our opinion of a certain flat top tankard of which you send sketch. If this is the same tankard (or I have not much doubt) which I saw at Sotheby's in June the only thing I can say is that if I had wanted to purchase it I should have attended the Sale! I might add that we have several clients anxious to purchase large flat tops!

\* In other words leave it severely alone. Perhaps you have other pieces you would like to exchange

Yours faithfully  
A. H. Fisher & Son  
A. T. P.

This below - lot 10 - is the auction piece referred to  
- Unusual girth – first time entasis is written about?

4



## The Property of a Gentleman.

---

- 10 A FLAT-LIDDED ENGLISH TANKARD, temp. Charles II, of unusual girth, and with protecting lip ornament, *dated 1679 scratched on bottom, 5 in.*
- 11 A TRUMPET BASED CANDLESTICK, with broad flat drip tray, the upper stem divided by rings into seven stages, *11 in. to nozzle, circa 1660*
- 12 A CANDLESTICK, with bell foot, drip tray and baluster stem, *7 in. high; circa 1680; and a deep Plate with plain rim, inscribed "Clements Inn," 13 in.* 2
-

July 1933

A lengthy discussion ensued, during which Mr. Milligan outlined a scheme which would have the effect of making it possible for all collectors, whether members of the Society or not, to obtain from the Society a collective opinion on the genuine-ness or otherwise of any piece submitted to it.

This scheme received considerable support, but it was generally considered that, for the present, it would suffice for the Joint Hon. Secretary to refer, in his forthcoming article in the "Connoisseur," to the method which had been adopted by the Society as a means of protecting its own members, and which had been proved successful.

Another scheme fails to make progress.....

NOVEMBER  
1941

## USA

It must suffice to say here that the Author has done for American Pewter what our late Member Howard Cotterell did for British Pewter: he has, indeed, gone further by including an illustrated chapter on the, to us, delicate question of "lakes".

Such a gift would, in normal circumstances, have been the subject of a formal vote of thanks at a General Meeting, and such a vote would have been carried with acclamation. As such action is impossible, we have in the name of the Society, conveyed our warmest thanks to Mr. Laughlin for his great generosity, which will strengthen the ties which unite us to our sister Society across the ocean.

SUMMER  
1947

Capt. A. V. Sutherland-Graeme sends a note of warning to all members. Beware the touch mark of J. Ewen or Yewen (Cotterell 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.

This 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 Hon. Secretary should be prepared to loan it to our members for closer examination.



The Pewter Society do not regard John Yewen as a fake mark..... (Cott 1599) – though there is mention of the Sutherland Graeme warning – in July 1947 – each to their own view – perhaps.....

FEBRUARY 1948

The Vice-President, Mr. James C. Fenton spoke at some length on the very important subject of fakes, and he thought the time had come when for the sake of the young collectors who will follow us, that drastic steps should be taken to weed out from collections, those pieces that are suspect. The whole subject is an extremely delicate one and the matter was referred for future discussion and action.

JULY 1948

Mr. James C. Fenton spoke at length as to the proposed formation of a Committee to vet. pewter, and after all the members had voiced their opinions, it was finally decided that the vetting Committee should be composed of all the members present at a meeting, and that members should in future bring for inspection and vetting those pieces of pewter which they consider suspect, and on which they would value a candid opinion. There was a strong recommendation that any piece denounced as fake should be so labelled.

James C Fenton – A Scottish born, Yorkshireman!

## JANUARY 1955

A few pieces, other than flagons, were displayed, and the early part of the evening passed in general discussion on the merits of the individual pieces. Following this the Hon. Secretary, in his capacity of Vice-President, took the Chair and instituted (or perhaps, it would be better to say re-instituted) a popular feature of our meetings, to wit, the "Vetting" of quaint, unusual or faked items of pewterware, and some interesting and controversial opinions were expressed.

## MARCH 1955

Messrs Gaskel and Chambers have kindly offered to show members over their Pewter manufacturing and repairing works, but as these are shut on a Saturday this part of the meeting must be held on the Friday afternoon.

The usual type of informal meeting will be held on the Saturday afternoon and evening. Our President, Cyril Minchin, has kindly offered to give a talk in the evening on "Pewter Fakes". Suitable pieces will be shown, and this should prove of incalculable interest, especially to new members.

APRIL  
1955

### REPORT OF INFORMAL MEETING AT BIRMINGHAM:

An Informal Meeting of the Society was held in Birmingham on April 1st and 2nd, 1955.

Present were: C. C. Minchin, Esq., President; Dr. Blake Marsh, Vice-President; Messrs. Holt, Jaeger, Michaelis, Sneath, and Gusterson. These were joined on Saturday by Messrs. Boocock, Cooper, and Veasey. On Saturday evening a telephone message was received from Mr. Fenton.

On the Friday afternoon a visit had been arranged to the works of Messrs. Gaskell & Chambers. This firm is the successor to James Yates, and in fact still has some of the original Yeats dies. The members were most courteously received by Mr. Martin Chambers and were shown over that part of the works still making Pewter.

The various moulds in use were first studied. Many of these are very old, and of particular interest were two large plate moulds dated 1762. The great secret in casting is to have the metal and mould at the correct temperature. Nothing has yet been found to replace egg white with which to coat the moulds before casting, and also of interest was the fact that a freshly cast hinge is still lubricated by being dipped in milk.

The metal used to-day was said to be 96% tin with approximately 3% Antimony and 1% Copper. This mixture is made up by a senior man and is kept at a constant temperature in a thermostatically controlled furnace. We saw being cast the body of a tankard, a hollow handle, and a small lid hinge.

These castings were next trimmed and burnished on a low-speed lathe. The burnishing tools were of silver steel and each latheman made his own tools to his own particular design and hardness.

The most fascinating process and that requiring the greatest skill was the soldering together of the various components. Here again each workman liked to make up his own "oil" or flux and each used a mercurial type of solder of a different composition. A blow-lamp flame was used instead of a soldering iron. Mr. Sneath was seen to be taking careful notes of this process and promises to report these to the Society after he has tried them out. There is still a "mystery" attached to Pewter. No hammering is now being done.

APRIL  
1955

Saturday April 2nd.

Meet at Midland Hotel after lunch. Proceed to the CITY MUSEUM for a short visit, where special arrangements have been made for us.

Dinner in Private Room at the Midland Hotel, followed by talk by The President on

"Pewter Fakes"

This talk will be based on actual examples of faked pewter.

WILL MEMBERS PLEASE BRING PIECES OF DOUBTFUL AUTHENTICITY for discussion.

Mr. Amery joined the members for dinner in the evening – after which the President gave an informal talk on “Pewter Fakes”. He stressed that the points to look for were “raised oxide”, signs of wear in pin and hinge, and in flagons and tankards signs of denting of the front of the base. The dangers of overcleaning as making the assessment of real age very difficult was well illustrated by a quite good Stuart flat lid tankard shown by Mr. Veasey which was “vetted” as wrong by 50% of the members. whereas a fake 1610 type flagon was “vetted” by 100% as wrong. “Cleaners” please note.

Outstanding pieces shown during the evening were two 1630 flagons – 14in. high, which the President had brought from Binsfield Church, Berkshire. These were in need of some restoration and cleaning, which Mr. Cooper kindly agreed to undertake. Upon completion of the work the flagons would be replaced in the Church.

Also during the evening the recent article in the *Daily Mail* on the “Faked Tankard” in the Victoria and Albert Museum was discussed. The President read a letter which he had written to the *Daily Mail* accepting Captain Cunningham’s Challenge to make any piece of pewter which would deceive the experts. Mr. Michaelis produced evidence to show that the faked tankard which was now in the Society’s Museum of Fakes and which he brought to the meeting was the one referred to in the article, whereas he was certain that the one in the museum was genuine. The Victoria and Albert Museum is at present experimenting with tests which should solve many of the problems concerning faked metal. Members are reminded to place in the Society’s museum any pieces they come across which have been proved to be fakes.

So many other pieces of Pewter, both fakes and delightful pieces, were shown during the evening that the Meeting did not break up till 2.30 a.m., and the Secretary, as a result, regrets his inability to give a more accurate record of all that was shown.

2.30a.m  
!!

In the Society's Circular, dated May 1955, it was stated that the museum had instituted experiments intended to prove, or disprove, Cunningham's claim, and the result of these tests have now been notified to Mr. Michaelis in a letter from Mr. J. F. Hayward, the Assistant Curator, Metalwork Section.

The museum sent three flat-lidded tankards to the Government Chemist for X-ray tests. These were (i) a definitely authentic tankard ; (ii) a definitely faked tankard; and (iii) the tankard claimed by Owen Cunningham to have been made by him (called the disputed tankard).

Mr. Hayward writes: "X-ray diffraction patterns of both metal and corrosion were recorded. These patterns show that the crystalline form of the corrosion product on the disputed tankard closely resembles that from the genuine vessel, and differs from that on the known fake.

"Such corrosion as exists on the faked tankard is powdery and adheres lightly to the metal, whereas the black product on the other vessels is harder and more firmly attached.

"The metal patterns also differ in that the fake has lines due to lead and/or antimony not found in the other two, which show tin only.

"I hope to arrange for the full report to be published in the *Connoisseur*. I doubt if these investigations have provided any particular criterion by which pewter vessels as a whole can be judged".

Further to the above valuable information from Mr. Michaelis it is interesting to note that Mr. Lewis of the Tin Research Institute told some members that his Institute is studying Tin pest by X-ray diffraction methods. This whole subject should make a discussion at some future meeting.



No-one was interested or knew  
The hall marks of Thomas  
Carpenter. Not a recorded fake  
mark. He was free in 1713.  
So why then the date of 1698?  
The Monarch is William – long  
Gone, Queen Anne gone by  
1714 as the reign of George 1<sup>st</sup>  
begins. Not stating that this is a  
Fake simply writing that  
something is unusual and  
unexplained about this piece.  
See Anthony North – Pewter - at  
the V&A - piece number 66,  
pages 78-79.





## CONSIDERATIONS OF THE 1950's

The President thanked Mr. Michaelis for his talk and for the great trouble he had gone to in preparing the sketches of the touches. All these sketches were made by Mr. Michaelis himself. Discussion on the talk then started, the discussion centred mainly on the following points:—

Fakes could be divided into about five main classes, to wit

- (a) genuine pieces, perhaps continental, to which an old English touch has been added;
- (b) pieces which have been altered in shape, or to which a new section has been added, thereby making of them something quite different from the original maker's intention;
- (c) very poor quality reproductions, or poorly made pieces, not necessarily true to any known type, some of which have been "aged" by artificial means. These pieces are often found with marks in the semblance of old pewterers' touches, such as—part of a LONDON label; or a Harp, Crowned; or merely a part Rose and Crown; the marks normally put upon these pieces by the modern faker are seldom of the early touchplate period, and are not to be confused with the high quality reproductions mentioned under class (e). This type of piece is still being made to day;
- (d) good quality reproductions, true to type, not originally made to deceive, but which have been artificially "aged", and with, perhaps, an early touch added later. The maker's use the Bush & Perkins "hallmarks" and the Duncumb touches quite frequently. Made from about 1925 to the present day;
- (e) really good quality true copies of old and rare pieces, made and "aged" by fakers with every intention of deceiving the unwary collector, and sold at high prices as the genuine article. Nearly always bearing an early (sometimes dated) touchmark copied from the London touchplates. These pieces sometimes are engraved with ownership initials or a date, and frequently bear traces of what *seems to be* Hard Oxide. It is doubtful if these fine reproductions are being made to-day. The majority seem to have been made during the 1928-35 period. It is known that one of the makers responsible for them has died within the last few years.

It was suggested that the marks struck on faked pieces were usually badly struck, whereas those on genuine pieces were nearly always well struck. Mr. Michaelis said, in his opinion, that the reverse was true, and he illustrated this statement by producing the two pieces bearing the touch of "W.M. 1666" (Cotterell No. 5802), which were faked pieces in the class (e), with faked touches very well and truly struck. Both these pieces, incidentally, bore a set of "hallmarks" neither of which had ever been found with the genuine touch.

After the discussion of Mr. Michaelis' talk a vetting session was held. As usual a wide range of pewter was brought by members for vetting and this went on till after midnight.

**RICHARD NEATE DIED  
IN 1953**

JULY 1955

The Annual General Meeting is to be held at the Grosvenor House Hotel on Saturday, January 14th, 1956.

Mr. Sneath mentioned that he had noticed at the "Pewter of Today" Exhibition that some obviously reproduction pieces were marked with the Samuel Duncombe touch. After a general discussion it was felt that the Society should take no action in this, but that certain personal enquiries by individual members could be made.

That concluded the official business.



OCTOBER 8  
1955

After a pleasant dinner the meeting settled down to a serious "vetting" session. This was conducted in a masterly, in fact almost a masterful, fashion by the President but all agreed that by so doing the Session had much more value and the information so available could be shared by all. It was encouraging to note that some very good fakes were spotted as such by a unanimous opinion. Footed plates were made the subject of a special study and a wonderful array of these graced the centre of a long table at one time in the evening.

There is no doubt that these Informal Meetings provide a wonderful opportunity for the study of Pewter in all its aspects.

OCTOBER

A goodly number of pieces was displayed for vetting, the results of which were not entirely convincing at times and this was no doubt because the Meeting tried to pass judgement on more items than time really allowed.

The Honorary Librarian writes that Mr. Ernest Hunter has presented to the Society's "Museum of Fakes", two items of pewterware as follows:

- (a) A small octagonal based Salt, bearing the touchmark, under the top flange, of "W.P." with the date "63". This mark is shown in Cotterell's "Old Pewter" as No. 5865 (L.T.P. 73).
- (b) A 6in. Broad-rimmed Paten, bearing on reverse of rim, the touchmark of "W.M." with date 1668 as shown in Cotterell No. 5802 (L.T.P. 58).

The two pieces were produced for examination by members at the informal meeting held in Newmarket on the 12th October, 1957.

MARCH 18TH  
1959

Mr R. F. Michaelis has very kindly promised to talk on "Marks on faked Pewter" after which a vetting session will be held. Will members please bring pieces for vetting and any interesting acquisitions whether recently acquired or not.

And he spoke at length on an evening in  
April 1959

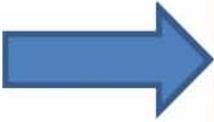
**This talk and a lot of more recent information can be found in MPM and A-MPM and on the data base.**

FEBRUARY 1959 – and before 1920 Mr Bunt!



Mr. Bunt goes on to say that “. . . it is known that ‘replicas’ of old examples (of pewterware) have been consistently fabricated abroad . . .”, and it would be interesting to know how, and by whom, this is known! One can say, definitely, that early English Types of pewterware, such as Stuart Tankards and Flagons, Salts, Patens, Porringers, and early Plates and Dishes have been reproduced in England by clever fakers, from about the mid 1920’s onwards; some of these pieces are extremely well made and are hard to detect, especially after 30 years or so of legitimate age to help the confusion. The members of this Society would be grateful to Mr. Bunting if he could give even one authenticated instance of a “replica of early English pewterware made abroad”.

October 17 1964



Two guests much interested in pewter were present, Miss Doreen Manson and Mr. R. Munday.

Arrangements had been made for members to see the de Navarro collection of pewter at the Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge. Most of the collection (not quite the whole of it) had been laid out in a private room so that members could handle the pieces and examine them closely. Though some of those present had seen the collection, perhaps two or three times in the past 20 years, the most interesting pieces still seemed to absorb their attention. The collection is not on view in the Galleries open to the public, due only to shortage of space.

After leaving the Museum, members went on to The Rutland Arms Hotel at Newmarket, where an informal discussion was held on base metal pieces (excluding pewter). This was attended by most members and occupied the time between tea and dinner.

After dinner a vetting session was held and this proved to be of unusual interest. Mr. C. C. Minchin brought a very rare type of porringer, 5½ in. diameter, with a round handle about 2½ in. in diameter bearing a five petal rose in the centre. Mr. R. W. Cooper suggested that the rose pointed to the porringer coming from the Leicester family. The President, who has written four well known articles on porringers (they appeared in "Apollo" in the July, August, September and October, 1949 issues) and knows more about porringers than anyone else in the U.K., considered it to date from about 1660 and to be English. He said it was the most interesting piece he had seen for ten years. Mr. Minchin found this piece in a most unexpected place—a rag and bone shop!

Another interesting item was a wide-rimmed dish which had a very high degree of polish on it. This was brought by Mr. C. A. Peal who asked members to say how the highly polished surface had been obtained. All agreed that the dish was a genuine XVIIth c. one and all agreed that it had been spoiled by over cleaning. Most members thought it had been polished by a very high-speed buffing mop. One or two suggested that it had been treated electrolytically and then buffed up, as the pores of the metal seemed to be completely closed up. A pint size baluster with a ball and wedge thumbpiece was the next piece to be passed round. All present considered the thumbpiece a fake but the body, handle and perhaps the lid some thought genuine and some felt doubtful. The lid had what appeared to be house marks on it and these were suspected of being faked by some members.

**No mention of the letters from Mr Munday in 1930 and 1931 - trying to sell to A F de Navarro which then were held at the Fitzwilliam!  
Likely never seen again until July 2013.**

## DECEMBER 1964

### PEWTER COLLECTION OF THE LATE F. LLOYD-WARD

at Aston Hall, near Birmingham

Arrangements had been made with the Museum authorities of the Corporation of the City of Birmingham for members to see the pewter collection of the late Mr. F. Lloyd-Ward which had been donated to the Corporation some years ago. This had been divided up and was not all on display at one museum, but the Director had very kindly assembled it all at Aston Hall in a private room, where it covered three very large trestle tables. There was insufficient time for members to go thoroughly through the many treasures which were included, but it was apparent that it contained many fine pieces, including two good pewter candlesticks, two excellent flat-lidded tankards, one of which had an unusual thumbpiece cast in relief and "wriggled work" on the lid and drum. There was a fine array of broad-rimmed plates and dishes, narrow-rimmed plates, and measures of many types, including the bulbous West Country Spirit measures in a range of sizes from the two gallon downwards. In all the collection must have totalled some 250 pieces, but it contained, also, a large quantity of well-made faked pieces, which were known to be included. This made the visit of particular interest, as it gave members an opportunity of exercising their judgment in weeding the good from the bad. All the pewter had been regularly waxed by the staff of the museum in the course of their ordinary duties and this made it more difficult to spot some of the fakes.

On the day following our visit, our President met the Museum authorities at Aston Hall, and gave them descriptions and dates for the good pieces, so that they can show them satisfactorily in one or another of their departments. The faked pieces will be set aside, for study purposes. It has been asked that, if these are to be disposed of, they might be donated to our own "Museum of Fakes."

The faked pieces included long sets of baluster measures, all with "housemarks," some with the "T.C." mark (Cotterell No. 1265), and others with the mark given in Cotterell, No. 5554 (b). There was a huge pair of square-based candlesticks, and many other supposedly rare types of flat-lidded tankards and broad-rimmed dishes, etc.





It might be of interest to members to note that this punch was one of those which are on a plate made for Alex Neish with punches found after Richard Munday died, around 1990, amongst his items. This is the TC mark referred to in the Lloyd-Ward Collection on “long sets of fake balusters” Such long sets of fake balusters were also referred to by Yeates in 1921 – 7 years before Richard Munday began dealing. Quite a mystery then?

1963 Quoted by Ron  
Homer

Dr. R. H. Homer sends the following extract. Even in the sixteenth century dealers drew the attention of cynics.

“A thousand giegaws and toye have they in their chambers, which they heap up together with infinite expense, and are made to believe of them that sell them that they are rare and precious things, when they have gathered them on some dunghill, or raked them out of a kennel by chance. Let a tinker take a piece of brass not worth a halfpenny, and set strange stamps on it, and I warrant you he may make it more worth to him of fanatical fool, than all the kettles he ever mended in his life”.

Thomas Nashe, writing of antiquarians, in *Pierce Peniless* (1592)

one year. Soon after, however, in the fourth year of the reign of Henry VIII. (1512-13), it was re-enacted, and made perpetual; and some additional provisions were added to it. One of the added clauses gave power to the London Company of Pewterers within London and the suburbs, and to the provincial companies within their respective limits, to see that no “vntrue or deceiuable mettall or workemanship of tynne or pewter be founde either in platters, chargers, dishes, saucers, potengers, trenchers, basons, flagons, bottelles, potters, saltsellers, goblets, cruets, or candlestickes, or any other such wares of tynne or pewter, whatsoever it bee, cast, made or wrought within this Realme or without, and brought to be solde within the same realme.” From this it would seem that, stringent as were the clauses of the original Act, they had not been found, in practice, to meet with sufficient vigour the frauds which were practised in the trade.

Later, in the twenty-fifth year of Henry VIII. (1533-34), a fresh Act was passed, which forbade any person to buy or to procure by exchange, pewter vessels made abroad, showing that the earlier Act had failed to check the importation into the country of inferior foreign pewter. The same Act of Parliament also declares void all the licences, which it seems had been granted to various persons, allowing them to hawk pewter wares about the country, in spite of the provisions of the earlier Act, which had limited the sale of pewter to the faires and markets, or the pewterers' own shops. And as if to make this doubly sure, it also re-enacts verbally the clause, which had been rendered partially inoperative, by the licenses which had been granted in contravention of its provisions. Several points are made clear by these different Acts, and among them we clearly see that not only was the pewter craft an important and very general trade, but that there was likewise a great deal of dishonesty connected with it, which these Acts were passed to prevent.