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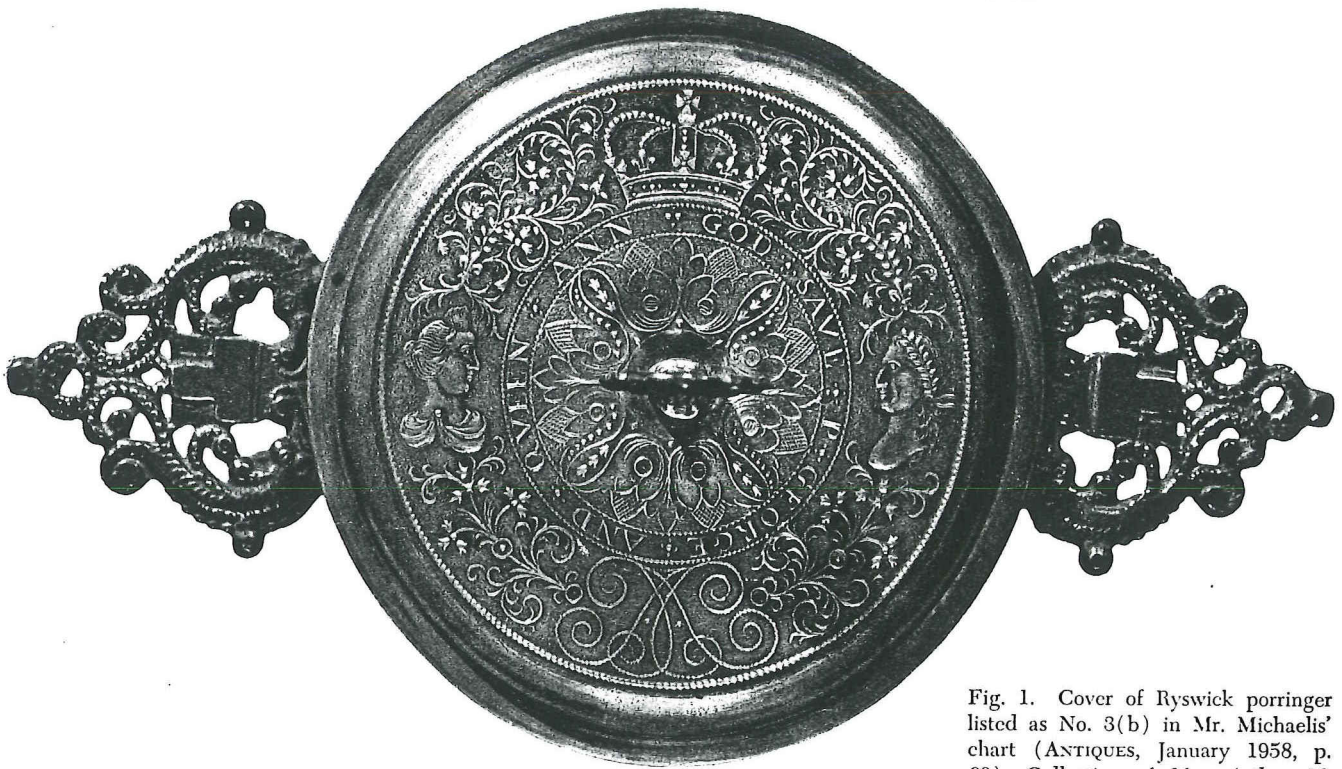


Fig. 1. Cover of Ryswick porringer listed as No. 3(b) in Mr. Michaelis' chart (*ANTIQUES*, January 1958, p. 60). Collection of Mrs. Arthur M. Greenwood; on loan to, and published by courtesy of, the Smithsonian Institution.

BY RONALD F. MICHAELIS

## More English commemorative pewter porringers

IN *ANTIQUES* FOR JANUARY 1958 I attempted to bring up to date the story of commemorative pewter porringers, about which several collectors had written authoritatively since 1927. The article included a chart of all the specimens of this type of porringer known at the time, but the chart was incomplete as to the details of measurement and the whereabouts of some of the pieces concerned. I am glad now to be able to add particulars of at least two of these.

The porringer listed as No. 4(a) in the chart and reported then as in possession of A. J. Pennypacker is now, I am informed, owned by Charles M. Talley, of Telford, Pennsylvania. Mr. Talley gives the measurements of his porringer as follows: bowl diameter 6 inches, over-all diameter 11 1/16 inches, depth of bowl 2 5/16 inches.

The present ownership of another of these porringers was revealed in the February 1957 issue of *ANTIQUES*, which had not come to my notice when my article was written. In an article on the treasures on view at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C., on page 144, was an illustration of porringer No. 3(b) in my chart. Once owned by Mrs. A. W. Thayer and now in the collection of Mrs. Arthur M. Greenwood, of Marlboro, Massachusetts, the porringer (Fig. 1) was on loan to the Smithsonian. Details of measurement are as

follows: bowl diameter 5 9/16 inches, over-all diameter 11 7/16 inches, depth of bowl 2 3/8 inches.

Mrs. Greenwood's porringer is of the Treaty of Ryswick type: the medallion in the bowl depicts the Duke of Marlborough displaying a banner with the wording *To Europe peace I give, Let nations happy live*, and a seven-tailed flail, the tangled thongs of which spell out the word *Ryswick*. I illustrated one such porringer in my last article.

Henry J. Kauffman, of Lancaster, Pennsylvania, has in his possession yet another example of the Ryswick type, complete with a cover that differs in design from any previously recorded (Fig. 2). The cover is, in fact, this porringer's most interesting feature. Its bowl medallion is similar to that shown on page 59 of my previous article, and to that in Mrs. Greenwood's specimen, and it has ears of the same type as each of these. The ears of the bowl and the cover are punched with the ownership initials S•E, leaving no doubt that they belong together—a matter which is not so well established with some other specimens.

Mr. Kauffman's porringer bears the touchmark of a hammer held over a cask, or tun, and the initials I. L. The mark is, obviously, that of one of the John Langfords, father and son (Cotterell, Nos. 2823 and 2824); the elder Langford had been apprenticed to Henry Hammerton

(London, w. 1706-1741), from whom he borrowed the punning hammer-and-tun touch. Probably the maker of Mr. Kauffman's porringer was the earlier Langford, who commenced his trade in 1719. This would mean that the porringer was produced at a much later date than the event which it was designed to commemorate.

There are two possible explanations for this. The molds for the base and cover may have been still in existence in 1722, when Marlborough died, and the piece made by John Langford at that time to commemorate his (Marlborough's) death; or a porringer made in 1697 or thereabouts and handed down in a pewterer's stock may have been brought out, marked, and marketed by John Langford on that occasion. If one does not accept one or another of these theories the porringer must remain a mystery piece until some more logical explanation is forthcoming.

The allegorical figures on the cover are inscribed with names which appear to be *Valour*, *Concord*, *Peace*, and *Courage*; there is a large crown at the top, with the initials *W R* (for William Rex); and trophies of war, such as cannons and cannon balls, fill the intervening spaces. This cover design is much worn and the detail is consequently somewhat obscure. The three projections (or feet for the cover when it is reversed and used as a stand for the porringer) are in the form of cockerels—a feature which appears on at least six of the various types of commemorative porringers. Measurements are as follows: bowl diameter  $6\frac{1}{4}$  inches, over-all diameter  $11\frac{1}{2}$  inches, depth of bowl  $2\frac{3}{16}$  inches.

Yet another commemorative porringer has come into my own possession (Fig. 3). It is of the type tabulated in my chart under Group I, and the center medallion is almost—but not quite—identical with all others in that group. What is especially interesting, however, is that this particular porringer has ears of a double-dolphin type (here called ear type 5), differing from any previously found on commemorative porringers but of a type which has been found on both English and American *single-eared* porringers. In England this ear has been known for over two hundred and fifty years.

This porringer does not bear any visible maker's mark, nor does it still possess a cover, but it is, nevertheless, an important addition to our group, and it will henceforth take its place in the schedule as No. 1(e); that of Mr. Kauffman already described above will be entered as No. 3(c).

Measurements of my newly found specimen are: bowl diameter  $6\frac{1}{4}$  inches, over-all diameter 11 inches, depth of bowl  $2\frac{1}{4}$  inches.

Readers who have retained Mr. Michaelis' January 1958 article should amend the text at line 20 in the second column of page 59, to read ". . . ears of the type seen here in the *Ryswick porringer* below." This error, which originated in the course of rearrangement of the author's typescript, is regretted.



Fig. 2. Hitherto unrecorded Ryswick porringer and cover, here classified as No. 3(c). Inscribed *S·E* and marked with the hammer-and-tun touch of the John Langfords, father and son (London, w. 1719-1750). Collection of Henry J. Kauffman.

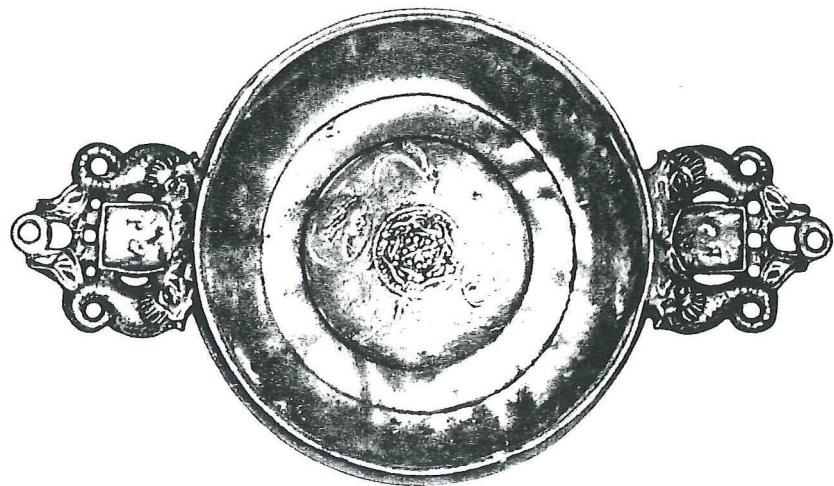


Fig. 3. Hitherto unrecorded porringer with medallion depicting William III and Mary, here classified as No. 1(e). Author's collection.

Fig. 4. Detail drawing of double-dolphin ear, here classified as Type 5, on porringer No. 1(e).

