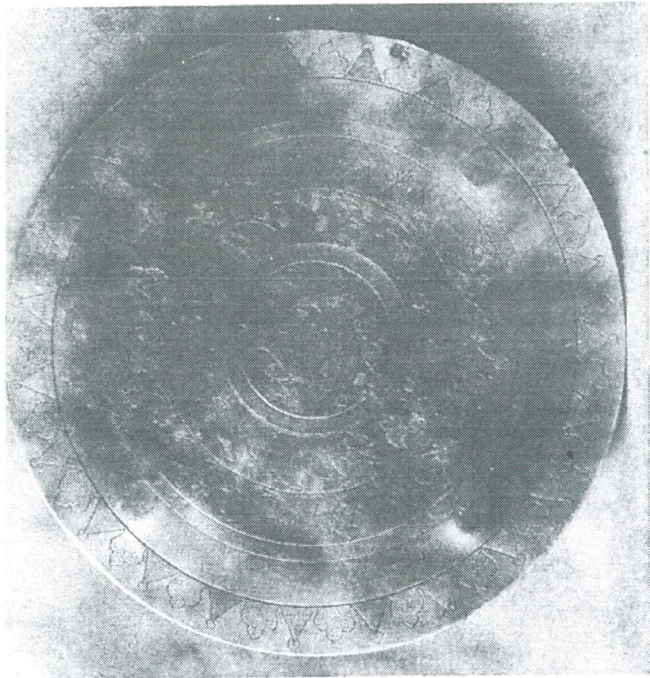


6812

European Pewter in

Comment by

ROBERT M. VETTER, of *Amsterdam, Holland*



Figs. 1 and 2 (left and left, below) — SWISS CAKE PLATE OR "KUCHEN-PLATTE" (c. 1700)

A type popular in central Switzerland from very early times and probably derived directly from the circular slabs of treen (wood) that preceded pewter. Used for pie-shaped cakes that could easily be cut on the flat, rimless surface. This surface naturally tempted the engraver to display his talents. The present example was made in Frauenfeld, canton of Thurgau, by an unknown pewterer with the initials A.W. The arrangement of the touch — town arms to the right, pewterer's arms to the left, and initials on top — is characteristically Swiss. The division of the disc with circular bands is pleasing, and the wriggled engraving a fair example of popular, or peasant, art done by an experienced hand. The four short feet protected the table from the heat of the fresh cake, though the majority of such plates were made without feet, and were pierced so that the piece could be hung up when not in use.

Diameter: 12 1/2 inches

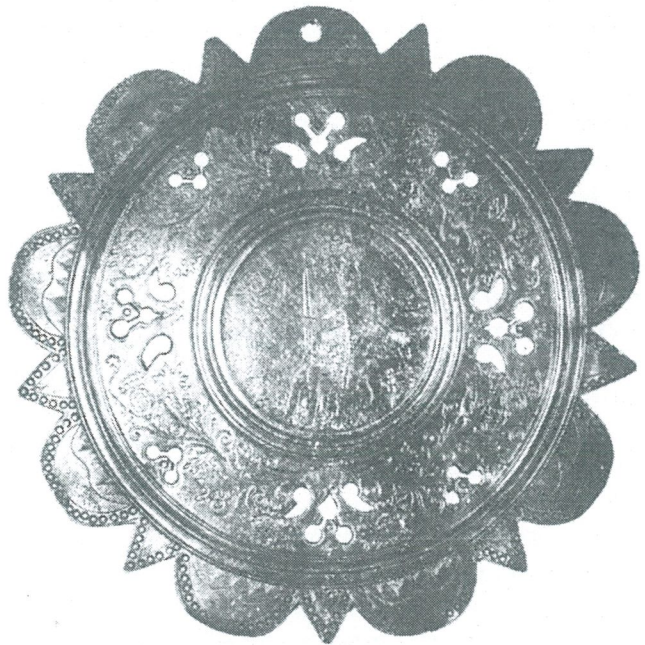
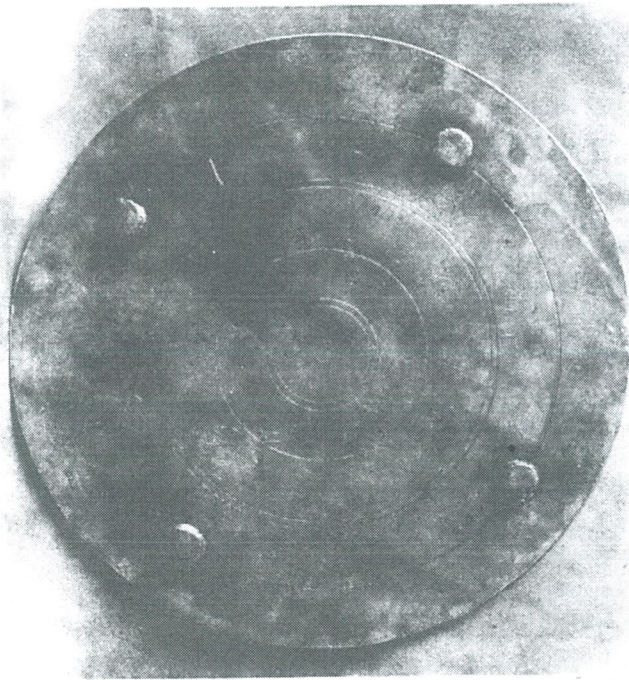


Fig. 3 (above, right) — NORTH GERMAN CAKE PLATE (1715)

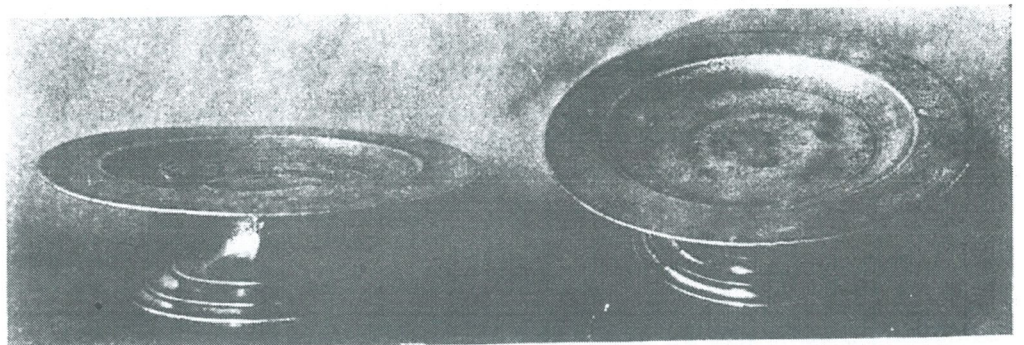
For purposes of comparison with the Swiss plate, a richly engraved and pierced North German cake plate without feet, from the Vetter collection, is shown. Here the touch, with the date 1715, appears on the back.

Diameter: 13 1/2 inches

g. 4 — PAIR OF ENGLISH PATENS (dated 1668, marked w l)

Patens were used both for domestic purposes and as plates for holding the Communion bread. Even in single examples the type is rare; so fine a pair as this must be valued as exceptionally choice. The fact that they are dated and marked further increases their desirability. The texture of the surface is pleasing. The profile of the foot is characteristically English. The style is in keeping with the indicated date.

Diameter: 7 inches



The United States

From the Collection of

ROBERT H. TANNAHILL, of *Detroit, Michigan*

Fig. 5 (right) — ENGLISH DISH (second half, seventeenth century)

Of a desirable type with broad rim. The touch is undecipherable except for the initials D I, but consists of a series of hall marks imitating those used on silver, a custom forbidden to pewterers but nevertheless frequently followed. Concerning the dates of different types of rims, see Cotterell's *National Types of Old Pewter*, pp. 23-26.
Diameter: 18 inches; width of rim: $3\frac{1}{4}$ inches

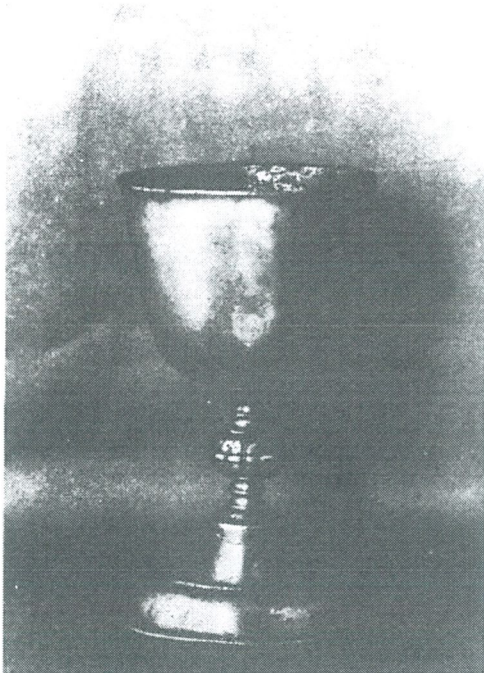
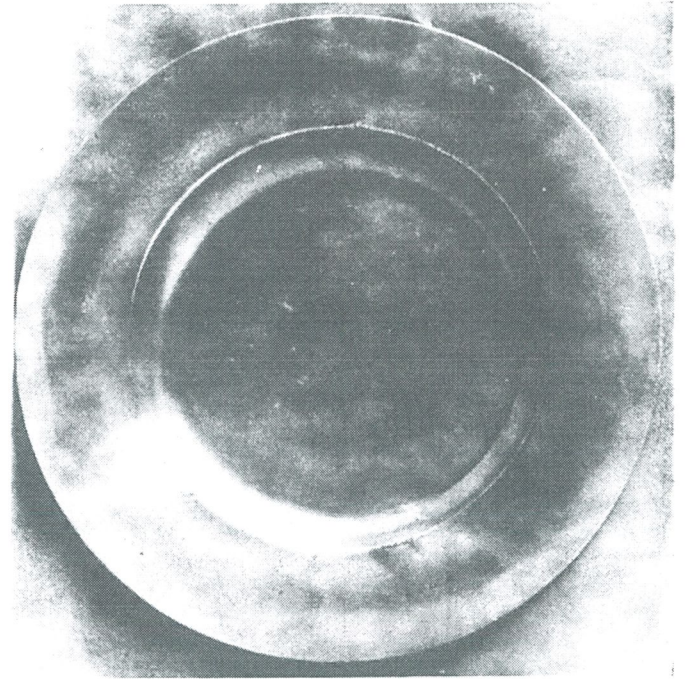


Fig. 6 — CONTINENTAL CHALICE (dated 1765)

Marked on base of stem with *angel with scales*, date, and initials I C D K. Although, in general, of early eighteenth-century proportions, the nodus, or knop, of the stem places the piece about 1750 or later. Its exact nationality is doubtful; but the stem is strongly suggestive of German design.
Height: $7\frac{3}{4}$ inches



Fig. 7 — SWISS FLAGON FROM WALLIS CANTON (eighteenth century)
Height: 11 inches

The flagon is of the ram's-head type, two heads forming the thumb-piece, and a third terminating the stiffening wedge of the heart-shaped lid. The date of this flagon may be anywhere from 1700 to about 1820, although the shape is akin to that of the oldest types. The inhabitants of the Wallis were, however, so conservative that this essentially mediæval shape persisted with them until the beginning of the nineteenth century. Only the foot shows renaissance influence. Wallis flagons appear with and without a band around the belly. Those showing the band are considered the older type. The initials I A M in a starred shield, which constitute the touch mark, are probably those of a member of the Maciago family, who worked in various Wallis towns

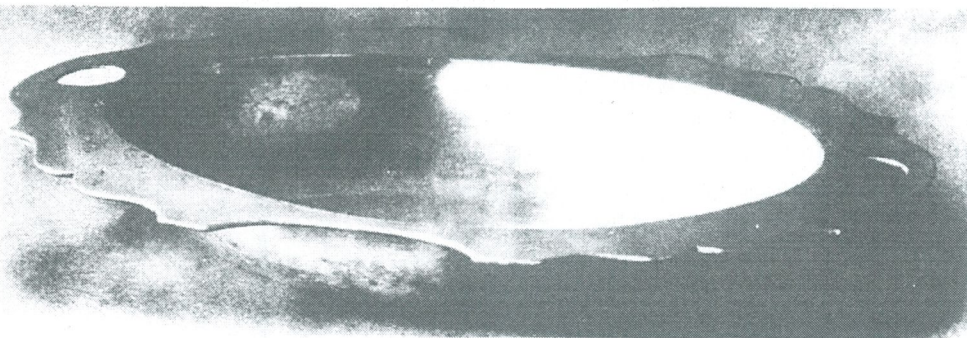


Fig. 8 — BARBER'S OR SURGEON'S BOWL (early eighteenth century)

Marks indeterminate but obviously English. The rim is finely scrolled. Holes in this rim distinguish the bowl from similar Continental pieces. The deep indentations at the side permitted the bowl to be placed close against the arm of the patient about to be subjected to bleeding.
Length: 18 inches

PUBLIC LIBRARY OF VICTORIA