

A George III Table/Kitchen Nutmeg Grater made in London in 1804
by Thomas Phipps & Edward Robinson.

£2,200



Description

As opposed to the "pocket" nutmeg graters, a small number of "Table" Nutmeg Graters were made for the wealthiest of families which would not have left the house and would have been for the use of the family in the dining room, or by the butler. They might also have been used in the drawing room, or where ever punch was being served. Very few survive compared to the pocket examples, this one being made by Phipps & Robinson, arguably the finest box makers working in London at this date. This very rare box has a semi-circular form, with reeded borders and an arched handle for hanging up when not in use. The back is engraved with a contemporary Scottish olive branch Crest with the Motto "In Bello Quines - repose in War" above. The Crest is that of the Murray family of Lintrose, Perthshire. The curved steel grater is pierced with roundels of different sizes and the hinged bottom opens to reveal the space where the Nutmegs would have been kept. This piece is in quite outstanding condition and is fully marked on the inside and with the maker's mark and sterling mark on the inside of the hinged opening. Very few kitchen nutmeg graters are illustrated in books due to their rarity. Length: 4.45 inches, 11.13 cm. Width: 2.25 inches, 5.63 cm. Height: 1 inch, 2.5 cm.