

AUSTRALIAN INTEREST - An exceptionally fine set of twelve early George III Dinner Plates made in London in 1765 by Thomas Heming.

Sold



Description

The Dinner Plates are of a shaped circular form and display a raised rim which is decorated with an applied gadrooned band. The border of each plate is finely engraved with a shield shaped Armorial with the Coronet of a Baron above, flanked on each side by supporters. The Motto "Droit Et Avant - Right and Forward" is engraved on a banner below. The Plates are all in excellent condition, with crisp marks and a fine patina.

The Arms, Coronet and Motto are those of Townshend, quartering Vere, with an inestcheon of pretence for Powys. They are specifically those of Thomas Townshend, 1st Viscount Sydney (24th February 1733-30th June 1800), British Politician, who sat in the House of Commons from 1754 to 1783, when he was raised to the Peerage as the 1st Baron Sydney of Chiselhurst, County Kent. In 1789 he was raised again in the Peerage to Viscount Sydney of St. Leonards's, County Gloucestershire. He held several important cabinet posts in the second half of the 18th century, including Home secretary 1783-1789. The cities of Sydney in Nova Scotia, Canada, and Sydney, in New South Wales, Australia, were named in his honour, in 1785 and 1788, respectively. A portrait painting of Thomas Townshend, 1st Viscount Sydney, by the American painter Gilbert Stuart, is attached. His seat Frogmal, in Kent, is also shown.

Diameter: 9.5 inches, 23.75cm.

Weight: 192oz, the set.