

A rare George III Armorial Drum Bougie Box made in London in 1773
by William Lancaster.

Sold



Description

The Bougie Box is modelled in a larger size and has a plain "Drum" shaped body, with a corded band at the base and the rim. The front is beautifully engraved with a contemporary shield shaped Armorial, with crossed branches below and tied ribbons and floral sprays above. The Armorial quarters the Gregory family and impales the Sewell family. The pull-off cover, also has a corded rim and a crescent shaped extinguisher and the scroll handle is decorated with leaf capping. This piece is in quite excellent condition and is fully marked on the base and with the maker's mark and sterling mark on the underside of the cover.

William Lancaster was apprentice to Alexander Johnston and John Hyatt. He was free on the 4th February, 1767 and his first mark was entered on 18th August, 1770. He had workshops in Noble Street when this piece was made. As emphasised, this piece is of an unusually larger size and must have been used by an individual who regularly sent a large quantity of letters which needed sealing. Height, to the top of the handle: 3.1 inches, 7.75 cm. Base Diameter: 2.85 inches, 7.13 cm. Weight: 6oz.