

HESTER BATEMAN. A very rare pair of George III Butter Shells made in London in 1783 by Hester Bateman

Sold



Description

The Shells are modelled in a very unusual design with deep scallop shell bowls, standing on two conical shaped feet, the design of which we have not seen before. Also the carrying handles have a wide arched form decorated with an applied beaded band and beautiful bright cut designs. The centre of each handle is engraved with a bright cut oval cartouche containing a contemporary Armorial with the Motto " Luceo Non Uro - I Shine but do not burn" engraved on a drapery banner below. Both are in excellent condition and are fully marked on the reverse of the handle. The Arms and Motto are those of Mackenzie, as used by the ancient Scottish family, the Earls' of Seaforth and "Chiefs of Kintail". The Arms are specifically those of Francis Humberston Mackenzie 1754-1815, who inherited the Seaforth and Humberston estates from his brother Colonel Thomas Frederick Mackenzie Humberston, a gallant and highly distinguished military officer who was killed in the East Indies in 1782, aged only 28. Shell Dishes from the workshops of Hester Bateman are especially scarce.Length: 5.9 inches.Width: 4.5 inches, at their widest point.Weight: 10oz, the pair.