

Naval Interest. An important George III Serving Dish & Cover made in London in 1807 by Richard Cooke from the collection of Admiral Sir Philip Charles Henderson Calderwood Durham GCB.

Sold



## Description

The Dish is broad rectangular in form and the base rises to an everted gadrooned rim. The base is engraved, on both sides, with a contemporary Crest surrounded by the Motto of the Order of the Bath. The high domed, stepped, cover is decorated with lobing and rises to an oval platform surrounded by a very unusual border of bold beads. The cast, stylised heart shaped, handle rests on two raying shell mouldings with scrolls at both ends. Both sides of the cover are engraved with a contemporary Armorial surrounded by the motto of the Order of the Bath, with a second motto engraved on a banner below. The heraldic devices are all surrounded by a pluming scroll and laurel leaf cartouche, executed to the highest standard. The handle and platform are held in place with a series of interior bolts, such is the attention to detailed and all can be removed for cleaning. The quality of construction can be clearly seen by the interior hammer marks, where the base and cover have been raised by hand. The Dish is clearly marked on the base, cover and handle and also with a sterling mark on the beaded oval. This design is extremely unusual and we have only seen it once before also by Richard Cooke, which leads us to conclude that it was a design peculiar to his workshops. The Armorial, Crest and Motto's are those of Admiral Sir Philip Charles Henderson Calderwood Durham GCB and a portrait, Circa 1830 by Francis Grant, is also shown which is now in the National Galleries of Scotland. This piece is in quite excellent condition. Height: 7.3 inches, 18.25 cm Length: 11.5 inches, 28.75 cm. Width: 8 inches, 20 cm. Weight: An outstanding 70oz. ADMIRAL SIR PHILIP CHARLES HENDERSON CALDERWOOD DURHAM GCB Philip Charles Durham was born in Largo, Fife, in 1763. He came from a wealthy landed family and entered the navy in 1777, aged fourteen, aboard the ship of the line, HMS Trident. In 1778 Durham saw his first action on HMS Edgar during the Great Siege of Gibraltar, later gaining the attention of Admiral Richard Kempenfelt, with whom he served on HMS Victory and HMS Royal George. Durham then filled a lieutenant's vacancy on HMS Union in which he saw further service at the siege of Gibraltar. He then spent the next two years living in France become fluent in French. Afterwards he served on HMS Salisbury and HMS Barfleur. The emergency in 1790 brought him promotion to Commander on 2nd November 1790 and command of HMS Daphne. From there he moved in 1791 to HMS Cygnet. On 12th February, 1793, Durham took command of the small sloop HMS Spitfire and captured the French privateer Afrique. This was the first capture of the war of a vessel flying La tricolore. For this Lloyd's of London gave him a piece of plate worth 100 guineas, £ 300, their first such award of the war. Durham received promotion to post captain on 24th June, 1793 and command of the frigate HMS Narcissus. In October 1793 he moved to HMS Hind. In Hind he brought in a convoy of 157 merchant ships from the Mediterranean in the face of enemy opposition. This feat provoked accolades and rewards and he took over HMS Anson in 1796. Anson was the biggest frigate...