

Phillip Rundell. A very fine, and unusual, George III Milk Jug made in London in 1819 by Philip Rundell.

Sold



Description

This very desirable Jug stands on a rectangular applied foot decorated with lobing. The shaped, slightly baluster, main body is decorated with a further two bands of lobing and rises to an everted rim decorated with gadrooning, anthemions and Rococo shells in each corner, flanked by acanthus foliage. The pronounced pouring spout is decorated, on the top, with a large anthemion and below with acanthus leaf capping. The scroll handle is also decorated with leaf capping, reeding and a section of ribbing. The side displays a full set of hallmarks and the interior is finely gilded. One side is engraved with a contemporary Crest and the other side with the corresponding Armorial. The pitcher is of the finest quality as would be expected of this important Royal silversmith, whose quality of design and production is equal to Paul Storr, whom he employed, for some time, in his business. The Armorial and Crest are those of Matthew Wilson, born 1772, and his wife, and cousin, Mary Clive Wilson, born 1764, who married in 1800. The couple lived at Eshton Hall in Yorkshire, which is shown. Their son, another Matthew (1802-1891), was created the first Baronet in 1874.

PHILIP RUNDELL Philip Rundell was apprentice to Joseph Rogers of Bath, arriving in London in 1767 as shop man to Theed and Pickett of Ludgate Hill. He was made a partner in 1772 and acquired sole ownership of the business in 1785-6. He took John Bridge into partnership in 1788 and his nephew Edmund Walter Rundell by 1803, the firm being styled Rundell, Bridge & Rundell from 1805. Rundell's was the largest silver retailer of the Regency period. They set the standard during the nineteenth century for both the organisation of the silver trade and its promotions of artistic designs. A print of the shop exterior of Rundell, Bridge & Rundell is shown, which was situated by St. Paul's Cathedral at the top of Ludgate Hill. They were appointed Goldsmith and Jeweller to the King in 1797 and took Paul Storr into working partnership in 1807, an arrangement which lasted until 1819, when Rundell entered his own mark from workshops in Dean Street, Soho. He died in 1827, leaving his fortune of £ 1.25 million to his nephew Joseph Nield, one of the largest estates ever proved. When Nield died he left his entire estate to Queen Victoria, which hugely increased the wealth of the British Monarchy. He was held in great admiration by King George IV and he asked him to make the crown jewels for his coronation in 1821. The state diadem, worn frequently by the late Queen, was also from Rundell's workshops. A marble portrait bust of Philip Rundell is also attached.

Height: 4.5 inches, 11.25 cm
Length, handle to spout: 8 inches, 20 cm
Width: 4.25 inches, 10.63 cm
Weight: 13oz.