

The Campbell Tankard. A rare George III Tankard, of unusual size, most probably for a Lady or young man. Made in London in 1774 by William Holmes & Nicholas Dumee.

£3,950



Description

The Tankard is of an unusual smaller size, with a slightly tapering circular form. The design simulates the form of a barrel with wide horizontal reeded bands intended to be the iron hoops holding the wooden staves together. The front of the main body is very finely engraved with a contemporary shield shaped Armorial, with crossed branches below and Neo Classical bluebell garlands above, interspersed with oval paterae.

The unusually shaped cover has a feather edge outer border and is engraved with a contemporary Scottish Crest with crossed branches below and the motto "Forget Not" engraved on a banner above, surrounded by trailing foliate sprays. The tankard is very well marked on the side of the main body and with the maker's mark and sterling mark on the cover. This example is modelled in a very unusual design and smaller size and was most probably made for a Lady or young man. The plain scroll handle displays a leaf capped thumb piece on top, with feather edge engraved surround. The Arms, Crest and Motto are those of Campbell of Auchinbreck, Scotland, (Baronets created 1627/8), impaling those of Campbell. They are specifically those of John Campbell of Kildalloig, who married Mary, daughter of the Reverend David Campbell, Minister of Southend. John Campbell died in 1796. The direct line of the Baronetcy came to an end as the senior house had become Jacobites, as well as Catholics, and were domiciled in France. The grandson of our John Campbell successfully claimed the Baronetcy in 1847 by virtue of being the nearest relative to the first Baronet. He thus became, Sir John Eyton Campbell. The partnership of William Holmes and Nicolas Dumee was short lived, September 1773-April 1776, therefore relatively little survives from their workshops which were located at 12, Clerkenwell Green. Nicholas Dumee was, of course, of Huguenot descent which would account for the fine quality of this particular piece. Height: 4.6 inches, 11.5 cm. Base Diameter: 4 inches, 10 cm. Weight: 18oz.