MARY COOKE ANTIQUES LTD Fine Antique Silver

Hester Bateman. A very unusual George III "Boat" shaped Basket made in London in 1784 by Hester Bateman.





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Description

The Basket stands on an oval pedestal foot which is decorated with a band of beading and rises to the base of the Boat shaped main body which also has a beaded rim. The arched handle is decorated with reeding and the interior displays original pale gilding. The Basket is in excellent condition, is of a very good gauge of silver, and is very well marked in the foot. Solid Baskets made by Hester Bateman are rare, especially of this pronounced boat shape. Most baskets from the workshops were pierced. The front of the main body is engraved with a detailed Armorial with the Motto Forget Not below. This is all surrounded by a very well executed cartouche of drapery mantling. The Arms and Motto are those of the great Scottish family of Campbell. In this case they are as used by the Campbells of Auchinbreck, created Baronets of Nova Scotia in 1628. Specifically they are those of Sir James Campbell of Auchinbreck, 6th Baronet, 1721-1814, a Captain of the 49th Regiment. He died unmarried and was succeeded by his nephew, eldest son of a younger half brother, who became Sir Jean Baptiste Edouard Charles Campbell, 7th Baronet. His father was an officer in the French Service and married a French wife. The Basket also possesses the rare Kings Head incuse Duty Mark which was only seen in 1784 and 1785, when the Kings Head is in a punch with cut corners.

Height, to the top of the handle: 6.75 inches, 16.9cm.

Length: 6 inches, 15cm.

Width: 4.5 inches, 11.25cm.

Weight: 9oz.