

edinburgh 1706. An extremely rare Queen Anne Dognose Spoon
made in Edinburgh in 1706 by Alexander Forbes, Assay Master James
Penman.

Sold



Description

The Spoon is modelled in the Dognose style with a rat tail on the reverse of the bowl. The top of the stem is engraved with a contemporary Scottish Crest, with the Motto "In Season" engraved on a banner above.

The Spoon is in excellent condition, very well marked and of a good colour. The stem is of a good thick gauge, as seen in the images, and the bowl in in very good order. We have traced the Crest and Motto and it has a very important provenance attached to it, as the Crest and Motto are those as used by the Walkinshaw family of Barrowfield and Camlachie, the most famous member of the family being Clemintina Walkinshaw (1720-1802), an ardent Jacobite, best known because of her romantic relationship with Prince Chales Edward Stuart, Bonnie Prince Charlie (1720-1788). Their daughter, Charlotte (1753-1789), was the only acknowledged child of the "Young Pretender". During the 17th century Clementina's family acquired considerable wealth in Glasgow as transatlantic traders. At the height of their success the Walkinshaw's possessed the lands of Barrowfield and Camlachie and in 1705 Clementina's father, John Walkinshaw (1671-1731), founded the textile village of Calton. Walkinshaw's religion and politics differed radically from those of Glasgow's Presbyterian and Whig mercantile elite. An Episcopalian and Jacobite, he took an active part in the failed military uprising of 1715. He was taken prisoner at the Battle of Sheriffmuir, but escaped from Sterling Castle and fled to Europe. The British government pardoned him in 1717 and he returned to Glasgow. Clementina was the youngest daughter and spent much of her youth in France.

Clementina's first meeting with Charles is not known, however in 1752, the couple began to live together in the Flemish city of Ghent. There were rumours of a secret marriage and in 1784 Charles declared his daughter legitimate, giving her the title of Duchess of Albany. Clementina, known latterly as the Countess of Albestroff died in Switzerland in 1802. A portrait of her, by Allan Ramsay, is attached. Spoons of this early date from Scotland are exceptionally rare as they just did not exist in any quantity. It is certainly one of the earliest, if not the oldest, we have offered over the years and is especially desirable with its provenance. The last Scottish Dognose Spoon we could find was one of the same date which came up at the auctioneers, Lyon & Turnbull, in Edinburgh and made £ 2,625. Length: 8 inches, 20 cm.