

## Some Uncommon Pieces of Pewter

### Part V. By Charles G. J. Port, F.S.A., Worthing

CONTRIBUTIONS under the above heading have appeared in THE CONNOISSEUR for April and December 1917, October 1918 and September 1921, since which time the writer has acquired a few more pieces which he thinks may be of some interest to collectors and others.

As previously mentioned in this series he uses the term "uncommon" as he considers it may be applied generally to pieces that have not been illustrated or described in any of the half-dozen books on Pewter or that have some special features of interest.

In reference to the brass inlaid guild cup illustrated in THE CONNOISSEUR of June 1923, Professor Dr. Mayen, of Freienwalde, states that *schardl* is old German for a frying or iron pan, what would be called in England hollow ware, which seems to exactly fit the case. The Philip Strichler of Malmö, Sweden, whose name is worked on the banner, and his father were both pewterers. The cup was made in Lubeck.

Makers' marks are given in all cases where they exist.

Although many of our most important collectors do not touch Continental pewter, there is no getting away from the fact that the Continent produced far larger pieces than any made in this country and certainly of the finest possible quality. The large pieces referred to are, of course, the guild cups and flagons, many of them dating back to the beginning of the seventeenth century and a few recently acquired by the writer are here illustrated.

No. 1.—Austrian Guild Cup. Weight 18 lbs. The figure on the top represents a man in armour, holding in the right hand a piggin and in the left a banner with an inscription which translated reads "God be gracious to us." The date 1607 appears just above the shield on which are twelve names, three at the top have the prefix M (Meister or Master) before them. Suspended from the lions' heads are four Austrian silver thalers dating

from 1632 to 1719 in mint condition, presumably put on at some time to decorate the piece. A Guild Cup belonging to the Art Workers' Guild, decorated in a similar way, is illustrated in Massé's Pewter Plate, page 63. Maker's mark, half-length winged figure over two ovals, left query; right, lion rampant, initials indistinct.

No. 2.—Esthonian Guild Flagon. This is a heavy piece, weight 16 lbs. The tap, which is lined with brass, is in the form of a mermaid and it has a brass upright, possibly to hold a dripper. The inscription in German translated reads "Guild Cup of the honourable Trade Guilds of the Carpenters, Locksmiths, Furriers, Coopers and Others with the Masters who belonged to this Association in Tschorna, Andreas Musch Z.M. Scriptzgi Gorg Z.M. 1796."

One word in the inscription, *Lath*, puzzles the translator. Z.M. means Zanft Meister or Guild Master. Tschorna or Chorna is on the west of Lake Peipus in Esthonia, Russia. Maker's mark. Jos. Lederer above two ovals, left, bars (? Soleure, Swit.), right, patriarchal cross over crown, below a. b. 1773.

No. 3.—German Guild Flagon. This piece stands on three griffins. The shield on the top, supported by a finely modelled lion, has engraved on it a double-handled three-legged pot and a pointed tool (?) with half a dozen initials and the date 1681, the lower shield has an ornamental double-handled vase with bunch of flowers and the same date. The bottom, inside, is entirely covered with a finely engraved spray of tiger lily and again the same date 1681, together with an inscription which translated reads "Drink me empty and lay me down. Get up fresh and fill me again." On the top of the lid is an inscription which may be translated "The product of the Guild of Potters." There is no maker's mark which is very unusual in pieces of this kind.

No. 4.—Jewish Hanuca lamp used at the Feast of Lights, otherwise the Feast of Dedication of

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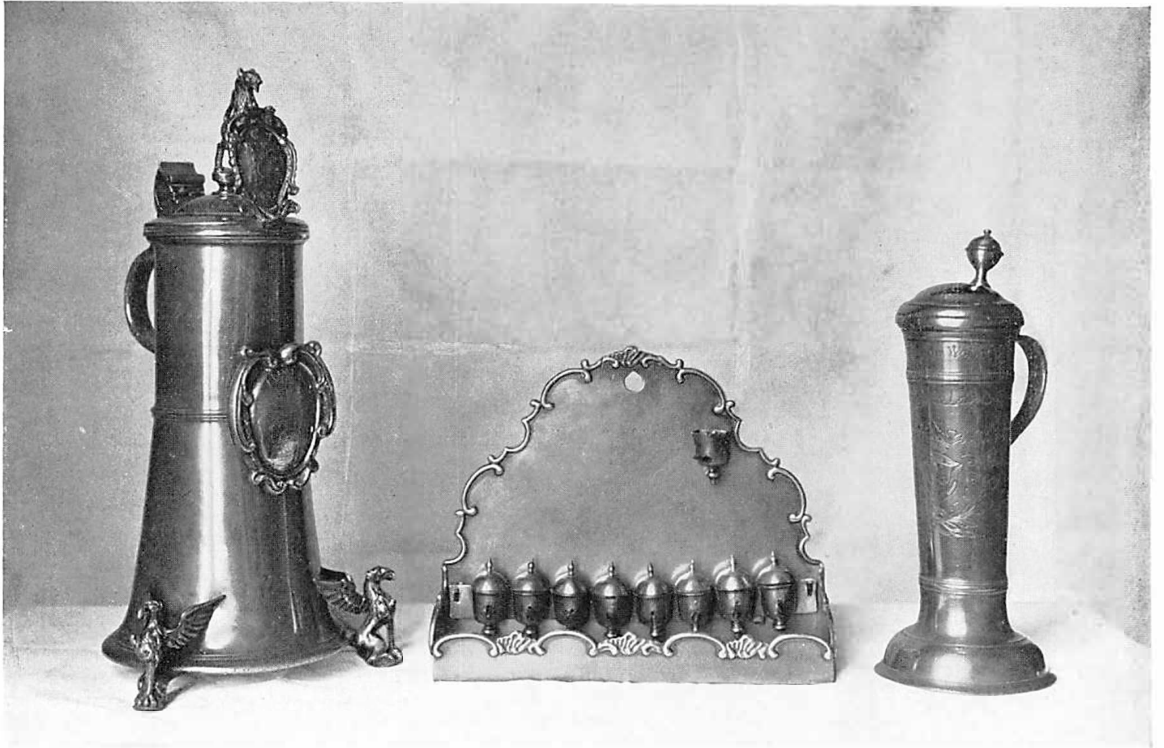


NO. 1.—AUSTRIAN GUILD CUP, BEARING DATE 1607 (HEIGHT, 37 IN.)  
 NO. 2.—ESTHONIAN GUILD FLAGON, BEARING DATE 1795 (HEIGHT, 34 IN.)

the Temple. Mr. A. E. Brooke in Peake's *Commentary on the Bible* states that the Feast was instituted to commemorate the Restoration of the Temple services in 165 B.C. by the Maccabees, after its desecration for three years by Antiochus Epiphanes. It lasted for eight days from December 25 and, according to Josephus, was called "Lights" because "this liberty beyond our hopes appeared to us." The lamps are lidded and numbered and have brass spouts, the one high on the right was called the Shammash or Beadle. In the Jewish Loan Exhibition, held at the Royal Albert Hall in 1887, there were some forty of these lamps in silver, bronze, brass and wood but none made in pewter. Hall marks

(1) JDK (2) Winged angel to left (3) Lion rampant to left (4) Indistinct, below "N. Engels." Continental eighteenth century.

No. 5.—German Guild Flagon. This form of flagon, though fairly common in the small size, is not often found as large as this viz. 14½ inches. It is also peculiar in having a plain brass 2¼ in. disc inserted in the top of the lid as if intended for an inscription. The inscription round the rim translated reads "This is the Cup of the Court of Yarn Weavers 1765," and below "John Peter Ladendorff." The piece is well marked B.H.G. 1747 with dove and olive branch in beaded oval (twice) and ¶ the mark of the town of Rostock, Mecklenburg.



No. 3.—GERMAN GUILD FLAGON, BEARING DATE 1681 (20 IN.)

No. 4.—JEWISH HANUCA LAMP, USED AT THE "FEAST OF LIGHTS"

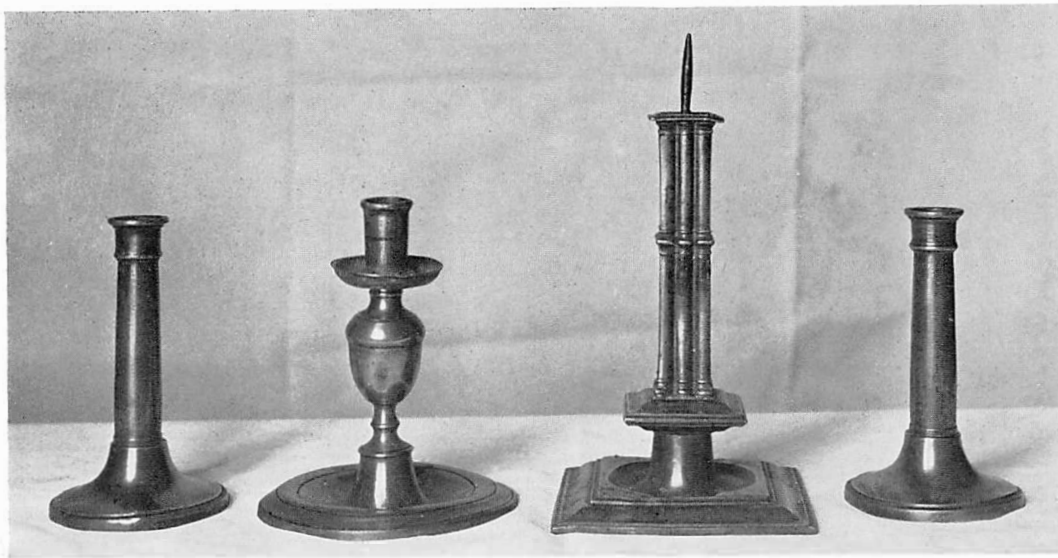
CONTINENTAL, EIGHTEENTH CENTURY (11 IN. BY 12½ IN.)

No. 5.—GERMAN GUILD FLAGON, 1747 (15 IN.)



No. 6.—PORRINGER AND COVER, CONTINENTAL, 1674 (10 IN. WIDE)

No. 7.—DANISH WINE FLASK, 1653 (8½ IN.)



NOS. 8 AND 11.—PAIR OF CANDLESTICKS, CONTINENTAL (6 $\frac{3}{4}$  IN.) BETWEEN THEM ARE SHOWN NO. 9, BALUSTER CANDLESTICK, C. 1700 (7 IN.), AND NO. 10, PRICKET CANDLESTICK, FRENCH, 1671 (9 IN.)



No. 12

NO. 12.—CHINESE WINE POT AND CUPS, MING DYNASTY (THE POT, 5 $\frac{1}{2}$  IN.)

NO. 13.—CHINESE TEAPOT, WITH JADE HANDLE, SPOUT, AND KNOB EARLY EIGHTEENTH CENTURY (6 $\frac{1}{4}$  IN.)



No. 13



No. 14.—CHALICE, PROBABLY FRENCH, EARLY EIGHTEENTH CENTURY (4 IN.)

No. 15.—SPECTACLE CASE, ENGLISH, C. 1800

No. 16.—PORTER'S BADGE, CITY OF LONDON, DATED 1769

No. 17.—MONTROSE BEGGAR'S BADGE, C. 1775

No. 18.—POWDER FLASK, PROBABLY ENGLISH, C. 1800

No. 19.—SPOON, PROBABLY ENGLISH, SIXTEENTH CENTURY OR EARLIER

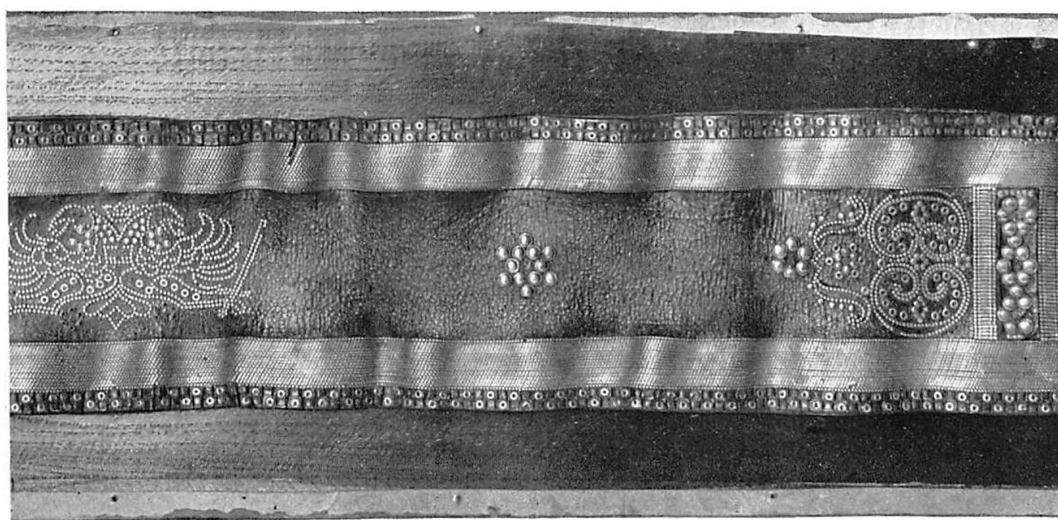
No. 6.—Lidded porringer unusually well decorated and engraved with stag, boar and hare hunting subjects. The cover had three feet (one missing). It is marked on both handles, an angel with bell in right hand and scales in left. "74" (1674) and lettering round indistinct. Continental.

No. 7.—Danish Wine Flask. This curious piece weighs over 2½ lbs. and is nearly 3 in. deep. It is entirely covered, front, back and sides, with engraving including grotesque heads. The inscription on one side has been translated "Drink me up and fill again" and the other "Remain thou full, remain fresh my friend." Figures of angel and nude boy each about 4½ in. high appear on the sides. It is dated 1653.

Nos. 8 and 11.—A pair of candlesticks of simple design. Maker's mark, Cupid or angel with torch (?) in right hand and "I.M." in upright oval. Continental.

No. 9.—Baluster candlestick of unusual type with hollow grease tray near the top. *Circa* 1700. Provenance unknown.

No. 10.—A Pricket candlestick. This is the same size and very like the well-known candlestick in the Charbonnier collection, so many years in Taunton Castle Museum and now in the collection of Mr. W. J. Fieldhouse, F.S.A. of Austy Manor, which has always been considered to be English. The one here illustrated bears the mark of a French Maker "N. Couvreur. Etin



No. 20.—DETAIL OF BLACK LEATHER BELT, ORNAMENTED WITH PEWTER AND YELLOW AND GREEN LEATHER AUSTRIAN (33 IN. BY 4¼ IN.)

Richard Pigg Coffermaker  
 craveth allowance as follow<sup>in</sup>  
 XVII

For his Ma<sup>ty</sup>'s  
 service } For eight pewter pannes at } 2 . 5 . 4  
 5<sup>s</sup> 8<sup>d</sup> by a parte

For the Pages  
 of his Ma<sup>ty</sup>'s  
 Bedchamber } Two trunks covered w<sup>th</sup> Russia  
 Leather w<sup>th</sup> drawers the lockes } 4 " 10 " ..  
 of the Best }  
 Two trunks covered w<sup>th</sup> Russia  
 Leather without drawers } 4 " .. " ..

For his Ma<sup>ty</sup>'s  
 laundresse } For a Stand covered w<sup>th</sup>  
 Russia Leather w<sup>th</sup> two Lockes  
 padlocked bound round w<sup>th</sup>  
 Iron } 6 " 10 " ..

17 . 5 . 4  
 3  
 Paid March 30<sup>th</sup> 1668

Pray upon eight shillings Pay unto  
 Mr Pigg Coffermaker this  
 Bill of Sequence of pound &  
 five shillings and four pence } 17 . 5 . 4  
 & take his Receipt in your  
 Books for the same

To Thomas Townsend Esq<sup>r</sup>  
 Deputy to the right Hon<sup>ble</sup>  
 the Earle of Sandwich  
 Ma<sup>ty</sup> of his Ma<sup>ty</sup>'s great  
 Wardrobe These

And New port  
 Fuller & Rimes

No. 21.—ORIGINAL ACCOUNT, 1668, FOR EIGHT PEWTER "PANNES" AND SEVERAL TRUNKS, SUPPLIED TO CHARLES II. BY RICHARD PIGG, COFFER-MAKER ABOUT TWO-THIRDS OF ACTUAL SIZE

## The Connoisseur

Fin.," with crown above heart and date 1671. On one corner of the base are a crest and coat of arms. It is late for a pricket candlestick but the socket is square and the wood block and iron spike appear old.

No. 12.—A Chinese Wine Pot and Cups. All decorated with a pattern that has the appearance of old somewhat worn silk brocade. The Cups are similar in shape to the sacrificial vessels used before and for two or three centuries after Christ. They belong to the Ming Dynasty viz. between 1368 and 1643.

No. 13.—A Chinese Teapot with jade handle, spout and knob. The inscription may be translated:—

To boil the sweet spring water  
Red autumn leaves we light  
Our couch stands where the pure wind blows  
And through the half raised curtain glows  
The moon, how clear and bright.

Early Eighteenth Century. A maker's mark is on the bottom inside.

No. 14.—A Cup or Chalice of unusual size, probably French. Early Eighteenth Century.

No. 15.—A Spectacle Case. English. *Circa* 1800.

No. 16.—Porter's Badge. Arms of the City of London. Punched on the back is "John Glascock a Freeman Custom House 1769." These badges seem to have been re-issued for on the front is punched "Apl 84."

No. 17.—Beggar's Badge. In the Montrose Museum is the original mould for making these badges and Mr. Robert Clyne, the Curator, informs the writer that it is labelled "Made by James Barclay, Blacksmith, for casting badges for the begging poor of Montrose in accordance with the act of the Town Council in the year 1775. At the same time, a Town Keeper was appointed at a weekly wage of three shillings for apprehending

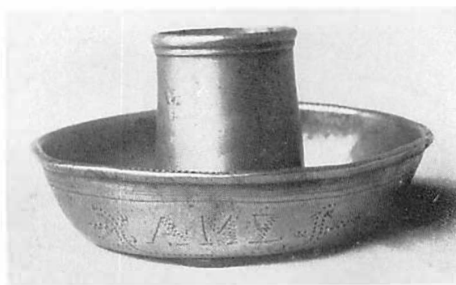
all those begging without badges." Although this badge is extremely hard and has the appearance of pewter, it probably contains more lead than exists in ordinary pewter.

No. 18.—Powder Flask. Probably English. *Circa* 1800.

No. 19.—Pewter spoon made to take a wooden handle riveted into the socket. The writer has never before come across anything of this kind in the ordinary spoon size, though it is occasionally met with in ladles. Probably English, may be 16th Century or earlier.

No. 20.—Black leather Belt. 33 inches by 4 $\frac{3}{4}$  inches, ornamented with pewter and yellow and green leather. It has the double-headed eagle of Austria on it and they were worn by the Tyrolese in their national dress. A somewhat similar belt is illustrated in one of the books on Pewter but it is not referred to either in the index or elsewhere. A curious fact is that, round about 1800 and probably earlier, similar belts were imported from Austria and used as championship belts for Cumberland and Westmorland sports, one dated 1804 can be seen in the Welcome Historical Medical Museum.

No. 21.—Photograph of an original account dated 1668 for "eight pewter pans" and several trunks supplied to Charles II by Richard Pigg, Coffermaker, is interesting as showing that pewter was, in some cases, dealt in by middlemen and not supplied direct by the pewterers. The name of Richard Pigg does not appear in the earliest London directory or list of merchants and bankers published in 1667, but he may have been in Westminster. Thomas Townsend and the Earl of Sandwich are, of course, familiar to the readers of Pepys. The two witnesses are Andrew Newport M.P. for Montgomery, Preston and Shrewsbury, Commissioner of Customs, youngest son of the first Lord Newport and Colonel Bullen Reymes, M.P. for Melcombe Regis.



NO. 22.—SPINNING WHEEL RING CUP CONTINENTAL EIGHTEENTH CENTURY (HALF-SIZE)