

MARY COOKE ANTIQUES LTD  
Fine Antique Silver

AN IMPORTANT GEORGE IV WINE COOLER FROM THE  
COLLECTION OF GEORGE HAMILTON-GORDON, 4th Earl of  
Aberdeen, Prime Minister of Great Britain 1852-1855. Made in  
London in 1822 by Philip Rundell.

£22,500



REF: 375359

## Description

The Wine Cooler is of Classical Campana form and stands on a circular stepped foot decorated with reeding and which rises to an everted lobed band. The lower section of the main body displays a baluster lobed band and the plain section above displays the cast, and applied, Armorial, Motto and Coronet of George Hamilton-Gordon, 4th Earl of Aberdeen, Prime Minister of Great Britain 1852-1855. The Arms are flanked by a crossed branch cartouche, with the insignia of the Order of the Thistle below. This is all bolted into place with silver nuts on the interior. The cooler displays two upturned side handles and the sides rise to an everted rim, decorated with lobing. The removable plain collar is engraved with the Crest, Motto and Coronet of the 4th Earl, as well as the insignia of the Order of the Thistle. The interior displays a silver central bottle cylinder, kept in place by an interior fitting. The cylinder is also engraved in the same manner as the collar. The Cooler is in quite excellent condition and is fully marked on each piece. It is of a very good gauge and weight. As you will appreciate, to find cast and applied Armorial is most unusual and was the height of sophisticated design and production, as would be expected from this Royal firm. GEORGE HAMILTON-GORDON, 4TH EARL OF ABERDEEN, PRIME MINISTER OF GREAT BRITAIN 1852-55.

George Hamilton-Gordon, 4th Earl of Aberdeen was born in 1784 and was a distinguished statesman, filling various high public offices, diplomatic and ministerial. He was Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs 1828-30 and again 1841-46 and Prime Minister of Great Britain from 1852-1855, when he was made a Knight of the Garter. He was created a Knight of the Order of the Thistle in 1808. His seat was Haddo House, near Tarves in Aberdeenshire. The Gordon family, later Earls of Aberdeen, had lived on the site for over five hundred years. The current house was designed in the Classical Palladian style by William Adam. A picture of Haddo House is shown, together with a portrait of the Earl painted in 1830, by Thomas Lawrence.

We have also had the fortune to find a painting entitled "Dinner at Haddo" and painted in 1884 by Alfred Edward Emslie. This clearly shows the cooler on the dining table at Haddo. It may have been that the Earl also used this silver in Downing Street. He died in 1860. 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 ...