

Bateman Family. An exceptionally rare George III Oil Dispenser made in London in 1800 by Peter, Ann & William Bateman.

Sold



## Description

The dispenser is modelled as a miniature coffee pot and stands on a spreading circular foot decorated with reeding. The main body is of baluster form and displays an unusual very long pouring spout. The stepped domed, pull-off, cover is also decorated with reeding and this piece has a plain scroll handle. The front of the main body is engraved with W\*H\*Pepys Poultry. The dispenser is in excellent condition and is fully marked on the side of the neck and with the maker's mark and sterling mark on the underside of the cover. This vessel would have been used for dispensing precious and valuable oils, and examples are extremely rare, especially made by Peter, Ann & William Bateman. William Hasledine Pepys (1775-1856) was a man of science who inherited his father's business in Poultry, London, manufacturers of cutlery and surgical instruments. He descended from Sir Richard Pepys and in March 1796 helped to found the Askesian Society, which eventually led to the foundation of the British Mineralogical and Geological Societies and the London Institution. He seems to have extended his father's business to philosophical-instrument making. Height: 2.25 inches, 5.63 cm Length, handle to spout: 3.5 inches. Weight: 3 oz.