

Blenheim Palace. An exceptional and very rare Tray made in London in 1892 by James Garrard.

Sold



## Description

The Tray is modelled in a deep, large, broad rectangular form with a flared shaped rim decorated with bold gadrooning. The side of the main body is finely engraved, to a very high standard, with a contemporary Armorial, with Crests above and Motto below, flanked by supporters. This piece is of the finest quality and has an exceptional weight, being made by James Garrard, Crown Jewellers and Royal silversmiths. This piece was made to use at Blenheim Palace. The Arms are those of Charles Spencer Churchill, 9th Duke of Marlborough 1871-1934. He was a British soldier and Conservative politician and close friend, and first cousin, of Winston Churchill. He ascended to the Dukedom in 1892, the same year as the tray was made, which was almost bankrupt. Prevented by strict social dictates of late 19th century society from earning money, he was left with one solution, to marry money. Shortly before the Coronation of King Edward VII and Queen Alexandra, The Duke was invested as a Knight Companion of the Order of the Garter (KG) at Buckingham Palace on 30th May, 1902. He subsequently served as Lord High Steward at the Coronation the following August. He married the American Railroad heiress Consuelo Vanderbilt in New York City on 6th November 1895 and she brought a dowry of \$2,500,000 with her, equivalent of about \$77,000,000 in 2021. Their marriage was not a happy one and she had been locked in her room until she agreed to the marriage. They had two sons, but were divorced in 1921. His seat was the fabulous Blenheim Palace in Oxfordshire and a family portrait of 1905, with Duchess Consuelo, by John Singer Sargent is shown. Length: 18 inches. Width: 8 inches. Height: 3 inches. Weight: 53oz.