



EARLY AMERICAN SILVER
GRAVY BOAT

the second one of two made and engraved as a matching pair for the same original owners ("T E C" monogrammed in linked script over date Aug. 24th, 1762) Thomas and Elizabeth Cutts. Superb examples in form and craftsmanship exhibited. The pair having once become parted in descent are now brought together again, the one which bears subsequent engraving having come down through Brown-Thornton descent in Lexington, Mass. where it was acquired by George C. Gebelein, the second which later also became known to Mr. Gebelein in the possession of its last collateral descendant owner who lent it temporarily for exhibition and safekeeping in the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, having been recognized as the mate by J. Herbert Gebelein on opportunity to purchase from the same collateral owner, its existence then made known to Cornelius C. Moore who had in 1950 acquired the Cutts-Brown-Thornton example for his collection and by acquiring the second has reassembled the more notable rarity of an actual pair of such an unusual representation as even a single example in Colonial silver affords. While the form and quality seems to suggest earlier than post-Revolutionary dating, assuming the inscribed date to be the wedding date, the work was doubtless done before the silver anniversary year of 1787.

Maker's mark on bottom of each: S. Emery in shaped cartouche.

Maker: Stephen Emery, Boston c.1752?-1801, working 1775 or before by evidence of probable pre-Revolutionary examples, married 1777 to Anna Knox, mentioned with Joseph Loring in Selectmen's record in 1788 about which time he advertised "At his shop No. 5 Union Street, near the Golden Candlestick." Son Thomas Knox Emery 1781-1815 was also a silversmith.