

GEBELEIN

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*Silversmiths*  
INCORPORATED

79 Chestnut Street, Boston 8, Mass.

July 13, 1960

Mr. Cornelius C. Moore  
179 Thames Street  
Newport, R. I.

Dear Mr. Moore,

Mr. Andrew has at your request or suggestion brought in the tankard he has mentioned to you, which appears to be quite an interesting piece. I had not seen any pieces by this maker before, but it appears quite creditable and although in general a carry-over from a little earlier, this maker's dates running from 1743 (birth in Stonington, Conn., recorded in Poughkeepsie 1773) were yet in line with the later persistence of this flat-covered form in New York--- than was the case around Boston.

The handle is engraved with conjoined HB (for Hasbrouck according to his information) over A and C. On the cover is a script monogram (or "cypher") apparently representing A HB shown in reverse balance. The thickness of the wall is heavy where the perforations (about 47 of them) were made for the added pouring lip, which might be removed if such restoration were preferred. Maker's marks are A•B in rectangle and dove in oval, on bottom, and small A•BILLING in rectangle and dove in oval on upper side left of handle. I find in the Index of Names in Vol LXXII of the N.Y. Gen. & Biog. Record listed are Abraham and Catharine among the Hasbroucks, but the page references are to an issue preceding the indexed one I happen to have on hand.

A piece by this maker such as this must be quite a rarity, and it is a nice example by any maker working in the tradition of its type.

Very truly yours,  
*J. Herbert Gebelein*  
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