

Analysis

GEBELEIN
Silversmiths
INCORPORATED

79 Chestnut Street, Boston 8, Mass.

September 11, 1964

Mr. Cornelius C. Moore
112 Bellevue Avenue
Newport, Rhode Island

Dear Mr. Moore,

Thank you very much for your recent check on account.

In response to your query as to anything else of interest, it occurs to me that you might very well be interested in a piece I have lately acquired both for the specimen as such and for the association, as it is initialled, in fine script, "C" for Boston original ownership in a Cunningham family, as were your set of six Paul Revere table spoons which were accounted for in his Day Book in 1792 going to Wm. Cunningham.

This piece is a bowl of about that time or middle 1790's, by Joseph Loring (1743-1815) of Boston (and Hull, Mass), whose mark occurs on pieces of similar design to Revere's of the time, and who is biographically summarized in Francis Hill Bigelow's "Historic Silver of the Colonies" p.200 as follows: "The maker was Joseph Loring (dates), who was born in Hull, but moved to Boston, where he married Mary Atkins; he lived in Court Street and had his shop in Union Street. He was 2d sergeant in the Artillery Company in 1791. When 1st lieutenant he was a prisoner on Long Island for nine months but returned to Boston in 1777. His son Henry Loring (1773-1818) of Boston was also a silversmith."

The above comment follows the illustration of a large two-handled covered cup belonging to the M. F. A. Boston. Its pedestalled form in the classic tradition, with applied reeded borders, has relationship in its style of the period to the Cunningham bowl. The cup inscribed "The Gift of Mr. William Johnson to Brattle Street Church Boston 1707", was made about 1790 from the original gift of silver. Bowl measures 5½" diameter top, 3 5/8" diameter of base, 4 1/8" height. It is priced \$770.00, yet it is rarer and adds something more to an exhibition than a porringer.

Very truly yours,

J. Herbert Gebelin