A group of EARLY AMERICAN SILVER, representing the succession of three generations in the craft in Colonial Boston: Works by John Dixwell, John Burt, and Benjamin Burt



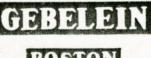
JOHN DIXWELL (1680-1725). maker of the rare piece, a spout cup, upper center in illustration, was the early master to whom the senior Burt was, according to good evidence, apprenticed.

JOHN BURT (1692-1745), was the maker of the tankard at the left, which has highly noteworthy associations, bearing on its front side the engraved arms of Flynt, and the Latin inscription denoting a gift from students in 1726 to the eminent Tutor and Fellow of Harvard College, Henry Flynt, Incidentally, John Burt, Jr., eldest son, chose to study at "the colleges in Cambridge," graduating in 1736, when at his commencement "Tutor Flynt" was in charge of the duties of Acting President, in the interim before the induction of Edward Holyoke to the presidency of Harvard.

BENJAMIN BURT. (1729-1805), having succeeded his older brother. Samuel. in 1754, made the tankard, right in illustration, which is also of unusual interest with preserved pedigree, evidently at the order of William Hyslop (1713-1796) for his son. David. and wife, who handed it down engraved with their initials. The Hyslops were patrons for communion silver, too: William the donor of a pair of standing cups by Benjamin Burt, and David the donor later of a baptismal basin which was unmarked, to the First Parish in Brookline, where on his retirement William took up his residence on a farm, previously in the possession of the Boylston family. Elizabeth, sister of David Hyslop, was the wife of a Massachusetts Justice and Governor. Increase Sumner. William Hyslop, an importer in Boston of Scottish goods from Glasgow, particularly Bibles, was son of James, who came about 1740 from Haddington. Scotland, where he was baptized in 1714, to rise from peddler to established merchant on Codman's Wharf, part of the site since sold to the city for the Quincy market-house. Data from "Old Silver of American Churches," by E. Alfred Jones, printed for The National Society of Colonial Dames of America, 1913; also from Harvard Quinquennial Catalogue, and Harvard Tercentenary Exhibition Catalogue.

Also by Benjamin Burt are the caster and spoons illustrated in foreground, with the exception of the rat-tailed examples by John Burt (at right), and two of the teaspoons which are unique specimens by namesake John Burt Lyng of New York, freeman in 1761.

We take pleasure in citing these pieces from our collection of early silver



BOSTON

Silversmiths and Antiquarians 79 CHESTNUT STREET ... FOOT OF BEACON HILL

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