

# PASH ANTIQUES

A. PASH & SONS OF MAYFAIR

## A LATE GEORGE III Sterling SILVER SIX-LIGHT CANDELABRUM CENTREPIECE

Benjamin Smith

REF: 12484

Height: 73.63 cm (29") Width: 60.94 cm (24") Weight: 20.4 kg

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Fully Marked For Benjamin Smith London 1812

The engraved arms and crest are for the Coote family, for Sir Charles Henry Coote, 9th Bt

Sir Charles Henry Coote, 9th Baronet (2 January 1794 - 8 October 1864) was an Irish Conservative and Tory politician.

Coote was the son of Chidley Coote of Ash Hill, County Limerick, and Elizabeth Anne née Carr. Educated at Eton College (leaving in 1805) and Trinity College, Cambridge (leaving in 1809), he married Caroline Whaley (daughter of John Whaley) in 1814.

They had five sons and two daughters, including: Charles Henry (1815-1895); John Chidley (1816-1879); Algernon (1817-1899); Caroline (1819-1848); Robert (1820-1898); and Chidley Downes (1829-1872).

A distant descendant of Sir Charles Coote, 1st Baronet, he succeeded to the Coote baronetcy in 1802 upon the death of Charles Coote, 7th Earl of Mountrath. Upon his own death in 1864, the title passed to his eldest son, Sir Charles Henry Coote, 10th Baronet.

While he initially stood unsuccessfully in 1818 and 1820, Coote was first elected Tory MP for Queen's County at a by-election in 1821-caused by the elevation of William Wellesley-Pole to Lord Maryborough-and, becoming a Conservative in 1834, held the seat until 1847, when he did not seek re-election. During this period, he was known as a lax attender, and he generally divided with the Tory leader Lord Liverpool, occasionally siding with the Whigs on matters such as the abolition of joint-postmasterships and inquiries into the borough franchise.

He returned at the next election in 1852 and held the seat until 1859 when he, again, did not seek re-election.

In 1825 he was appointed Colonel of the disembodied Queen's County Militia, acting as Honorary Colonel after the Militia was revived in 1852.

The style of this centrepiece is inspired by the designs of Jean-Jacques Boileau (1787-1851), a number of which are held by the Victoria & Albert Museum, in particular those for a wine cooler with sphinx supports (Acc. No. 8390:15 and 8390:16), also employed by the silversmiths Digby Scott and Benjamin Smith in 1805-1806. Boileau assisted the architect Henry Holland with the decoration of Carlton House for the Prince of Wales, later King George IV, and is thought to have worked for Rundell and Bridge at the beginning of the nineteenth century.

Candelabra held within the British Royal collection, hallmarked for Benjamin Smith London 1811 (Royal Collection Inventory) Number 50842 have the same tri-form foot as this centrepiece: