



The Gladstone Dinner Service

A Magnificent Presentation Dinner Service

George IV

London, 1824

Maker's mark of Paul Storr

The arms are those of Gladstone

Total weight: 104,078 g, 3,349 oz 3 dwt

Comprising:

A pair of six-light candelabra

A pair of soup tureens and covers

Four oblong entrée dishes and covers on Sheffield Plate stands

Four oval entrée dishes and covers on Sheffield Plate stands

Four wine-coolers modelled on the Warwick Vase

Two sets of four salts and spoons

Four sauce tureens and covers

A pair of second course dishes

A graduated set of ten meat dishes

A pair of salvers

A seven-piece tea and coffee service

The arms are those of Gladstone impaling Robertson, for Sir John Gladstone (1764–1851) and his second wife Anne MacKenzie, the daughter of Andrew Robertson, whom he married in 1800.

Complete dinner services from any period in English silver are extremely rare, and with the exception of the one made for the Earl of Egremont of Petworth and another made for the Duke of Norfolk, this is the only service by Storr to survive more or less complete.

The son of an Edinburgh merchant, Sir John Gladstone began as a clerk in a Liverpool trading house. In time he became a partner and made a fortune as the Liverpool trade burgeoned during the Napoleonic Wars. He was a generous benefactor of the city of Liverpool and the Gladstone Docks are named after him. In old age he retired to Fasque, his estate in Scotland. His third son was the politician William Ewart Gladstone, who served as Prime Minister four times during Queen Victoria's reign.

Literature:

"Varieties", The Liverpool Mercury, October 22, 1824