Finch & Co

**A PORTRAIT OF JAMES HOLMES , MANAGER OF THE MAKEANT COTTON MILL TO SIR ROBERT PEEL**

A PORTRAIT OF JAMES HOLMES , MANAGER OF THE MAKEANT COTTON MILL TO SIR ROBERT PEEL . OIL ON CANVAS AFTER SIR THOMAS LAWRENCE . IN GILT WOOD AND GESSO FRAME

CIRCA 1825

SIZE : 80 CM HIGH , 68.5 CM WIDE – 31½ INS HIGH , 27 INS WIDE

61 CM HIGH , 51 CM WIDE – 24 INS HIGH HIGH , 20 INS WIDE ( CANVAS )

**LITERATURE**

A GILT PLAQUE ON THE REVERSE OF THE PAINTING STATES : 'JAMES HOLMES : CONFIDENTIAL MANAGER TO THE 'GREAT' SIR ROBERT PEEL , PRIME MINISTER OF ENGLAND , AT THE 'MAKEANT MILL ,' HEYWOOD . THE MILL , WHICH WAS BUILT FOR THE PEEL FAMILY IN 1780 IS SHOWN IN THE PICTURE . IT HAS SINCE BEEN REBUILT AND IS NOW KNOWN AS ROACH MILLS . THE PORTRAIT WAS PAINTED BY SIR THOMAS LAWRENCE P.R.A ABOUT 1825 FOR SIR ROBERT PEEL , WHO GAVE IT TO JAMES HOLMES , AND FROM THE LATTERS GRANDSON JAMES JONATHAN HOLMES IT CAME TO RICHARD HEAPE IN 1902 .' THIS INTERESTING EARLY 19 TH CENTURY OIL DEPICTS A LANCASHIRE INDUSTRIAL MILL MANAGER WITH A SKIEN OF BEST COTTON BETWEEN HIS HANDS , THE PRODUCT OF THE FACTORY SHOWN IN THE DISTANT LANDSCAPE . THE PAINTING CLEARLY APPROVING OF THE TRUSTED EMPLOYEE OF THE GREAT INDUSTRIAL MAGNATE AND BRILLIANT POLITICIAN OF THE TORY PARTY SIR ROBERT PEEL .