Finch & Co



COLLECTION OF ELEVEN WHITE WARE CERAMIC SULPHIDE PORTRAITS OF ROMAN EMPERORS

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MODELLED BY LEONARD JAMES ABINGTON (1785 - 1867) AFTER JOSIAH WEDGWOOD AND PRODUCED BY RIDGEWAY AND ABINGTON HANLEY, STAFFORDSHIRE

CIRCA 1834 - 60

SIZE: 20.5CM HIGH, 18CM WIDE, 3.5CM DEEP - 8 INS HIGH, 7 INS WIDE, 1¼ INS DEEP

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LITERATURE

THESE CERAMIC PLAQUES WERE MADE TO BE INCORPORATED INTO GLASS SULPHIDE PAPERWEIGHTS AND WERE MODELLED BY LEONARD JAMES ABINGTON WHO BECAME A PARTNER IN THE POTTERY FIRM OF WILLIAM RIDGEWAY IN 1834. HE WAS THE WORKS CHEMIST AND ALSO IMPROVED GREATLY ON THE RELIEF MODELLING USED ON THEIR POPULAR JUGS. PRIOR TO HIS MOVE TO STAFFORDSHIRE HE WAS EMPLOYED BY THE ARCHITECT BENJAMIN WYATT IN THE DECORATION OF THE DRURY LANE THEATRE, AND ON THE INTERIORS OF THE BANK OF ENGLAND. IN 1819 HE MOVED TO HANLEY BECOMING A BAPTIST PREACHER WITH HIS FATHER-IN-LAW IN 1820, AND EDITOR OF THE 'POTTERY MERCURY'. BETWEEN 1831 AND 1838 HE FOUND NEW MARKETS FOR THE FACTORY AND HIS RELIEF MODELLING AND MANY OF THESE HISTORIC PORTRAIT PLAQUES OF ROMAN EMPERORS AND BRITISH QUEENS WERE PURCHASED BY APSLEY PELLATT AND OTHER GLASS PAPERWEIGHT MANUFACTURERS.

PROVENANCE

EX COLLECTION LEONARD JAMES ABINGTON

THENCE BY DESCENT