

S.J. PHILLIPS



Charles II silver gilt ewer, maker's mark HW with an escallop below, c.1667,

the round body with slightly everted point forming the pourer, reeded wire to the middle, with cut-card trefoils around the bottom of the body, waisted stem, on a stepped spreading circular foot, harp shaped handle, the body engraved with the arms of Mercer impaling Stewart for Sir James Mercer of Aldie between crossed plumes

Provenance:

Sir James Mercer of Aldie (d.1671) and thence by descent

History.

Sir James Mercer was appointed Gentleman Usher to Charles II in January 1661. His only son Charles was christened in June 1667 in the presence of his Godfather, the King, whose gift of 80 ounces of gilt plate to mark the event was recorded in the Jewel Office accounts (National Archives, LC5/107, p.119).

Writing to his father in law about the event, Sir James recalled 'that his Majesty on the occasion was very jovial, without any sort of drinking,' except to the child's health (Sir William Fraser, *The Red Book of Gradtully*, Edinburgh 1868, p.cxxc).

Height 23cms / 9"

Weight: 914g / 29.35oz