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The Marital Arms of Brymer and Wilkinson

The armorial bearings as engraved upon this George III Silver Tray by Timothy Renou hallmarked London 1801 are those of the family of Brymer impaling those of the family of Wilkinson. These armorial bearings denote the marshalling of a marital coat showing on the dexter (the heraldic right on the left as you view the piece) the arms of the husband and on the sinister (the heraldic left on the right as you view it) the arms of the wife. They may be blazoned as follows:

Arms:

(on the dexter) **Per bend erminois and gules in chief a demi Catherine wheel in bend of the last** (for Brymer)

(on the sinister) **Gules a fess vair in chief a unicorn passant between two mullets or a border of the last pellety and a canton azure** (for Wilkinson)

Crest: **A plume of six ostrich feathers alternately gules and argent charged with an escutcheon of the last thereon a Catherine wheel of the last** (for Brymer)

Motto: **Virtute** [By virtue]

These arms undoubtedly commemorate the marriage of The Reverend William Thomas Parr Brymer and Jane Ann Wilkinson. Although the date of their marriage is not presently known, their marriage settlement was dated the 21st June 1821. As may be seen from the date of their marriage settlement and the date of the hallmarking of the tray there is difference of twenty years. Upon the balance of probability and without any evidence to the contrary it may be conjectured that either the tray was in possession of the Brymers or the Wilkinsons at the time of William and Jane's marriage or it was acquired by the couple at the time of their marriage or shortly thereafter and engraved with their marital arms. Conversely, it may well have been a wedding present from a member of the family or close acquaintance.

William Thomas Parr Brymer was born at Halifax, Nova Scotia around the year 1797, the son of Alexander Brymer. He was educated at Trinity College, Cambridge (B.A. 1820, M.A. 1823). He was ordained a priest in the Church of England and served as Rector of Charlton Mackrell in the County of Somerset from 1821 until his death in 1852. He also held various other church appointments. He was appointed Canon of Wells in 1834; Archdeacon of Bath 1839 – 52 and Residentiary Canon 1840 – 52. During the incapacity of Bishop Law, he superintended the affairs of the entire diocese (Bath and Wells). He died on the 19th August 1852 at Charlton Mackrell. His wife, Jane Ann Wilkinson was born around the year 1803 at Burchester in the County of Durham. She died shortly before her husband. The General Register Office Death Index states that she died during the April quarter of 1852 within the Registration District of Marylebone (Middlesex).

Members of the Brymer family were later resident at Ilsington House, near Dorchester in the County of Dorset.