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The Crest of the Family of Baring

The crest as engraved upon this Pair of Victorian English Sterling Silver Salts by Paul Storr hallmarked London *circa* 1840 is that of the family of Baring. It may be blazoned as follows:

Crest: **A mullet erminois between two wings argent**

Undoubtedly this pair of salts was in the possession of a gentleman who was a member of the Baring banking family. The family is noted for the number of peerages and baronetcies that were granted to members of the family between the years 1793 and 1960¹. The family's earliest known ancestor is Peter Baring (or Petrus Baring), who was a burgher of the city of Groningen, then a semi-independent city-state that was part of the Holy Roman Empire and the Hanseatic League, now part of the Netherlands, who was living around the year 1500.

¹ In order of creation: 1) the Baronetcy of Larkbeer, Co. Devon 29th May 1793; 2) the Barony of Ashburton, of Ashburton, Co. Devon 10th April 1835; 3) Baron Northbrook, of Stratton, Co. Southampton 4th January 1866 (the 1st Baron Northbrook being the 3rd Baronet of Larkbeer); 4th) Earl of Northbrook and Viscount Baring 10th June 1876 extinct 12th April 1929; 5) Baron Revelstoke, of Membland, Co. Devon 30th June 1885; 6) Earl of Cromer, Co. Norfolk (also Baron Cromer, of Cromer, Co. Norfolk [1892]; Viscount Cromer, of Cromer, Co. Norfolk [1899]; Viscount Errington, of Hexham, Co. Northumberland [1901]) 8th August 1901; 7) Baron Howick of Glendale 8th February 1960 and 8) the Baronetcy of Nubia House in the Parish of Northwood in the Isle of Wight 4th February 1911 (a descendant of the first baronet of Larkbeer).

The English Barings descend from Franz Baring (born 1657 died 1697), a professor of theology in Bremen. He was the father of Johann Baring (born 1697 died 1748), who moved from his hometown Bremen to Exeter in the County of Devon in England's West Country to take up an apprenticeship at a wool-exporting company in 1717. Johann (later John) Baring, built up a considerable fortune as a wool merchant. It was his sons Francis and John Baring moved to the City of London, where they founded the John and Francis Baring Company, commonly known as Barings Bank in 1762. In the fullness of time, Barings Bank became one of the leading merchant banks in the City of London. It was Francis who was created the 1st Baronet of Larkbeer in 1793.



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