

Identifying 'ID - With a Crown Above'

Peter Cameron



Fig. 1 *left*. Miniature snuffer and tray, around 1725, silver, marked under the tray with 'ID crown above' and the 'lion passant', L: 8.5 cm (tray); 6.8 cm (snuffers), Philadelphia Museum of Art, Museum no. 1934-8-33a, b

Fig. 2 *below*. 'ID crown above' mark on the snuffer tray in Figure 1



In 1944, the New York silversmiths and jewellers, James Robinson, held an exhibition, accompanied by an illustrated catalogue, of 17th- and 18th-century English miniature silver.¹ The catalogue provided the first considered appreciation of these little replicas of contemporary full-size objects, and the anonymous cataloguer argued convincingly that such pieces were children's playthings and not, as had been hitherto supposed, 'tradesman's samples'. Some of the makers of the toys were named by the cataloguer, although many of the attributions we now know to be incorrect.

One small group, then and now in the Philadelphia Museum of Art, specifically identified as of a larger size and more robust gauge, bears the maker's mark 'ID' in Roman capital letters, with a crown above (*Figs 1-3*). However, the cataloguer did not try to attribute a name to this mark: he merely drew attention to the entry in Sir Charles Jackson's standard work on goldsmiths relating to this mark as struck on a toy teapot.²

Some years later, Bernard Hughes, in his book, *Small Antique Silver*, provided more evidence of surviving toys with the 'ID - crown above' mark.³ He had



Fig. 3 Miniature saucepan, around 1730, silver, marked on the base with 'ID crown above' and the 'lion passant', L: 8.3 cm, Philadelphia Museum of Art, Museum no. 1934-8-32a, b



Fig. 4 *left*. Pair of spoons and forks, around 1730, 'French plate' (silvered brass), marked on the back with 'ID - crown above', a pseudo 'lion passant with pellet above and below', a 'crowned female head with pellet either side', and a Roman capital 'D', L: 19.4 cm (spoon); 18.6 cm (fork), Author's Collection. Each piece is engraved with a coat-of-arms in a lozenge: Shiers impaling Dickenson or Dickinson. The arms are those of Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of Edmund Dickenson, physician to Charles II, who married Sir George Shiers Bart. on 3 June 1685. Sir George died 45 days later without issue. Lady Shiers married John, Baron Blomberg in 1687, but continued to use the name Lady Shiers until her death in 1744. She was buried at Hollingbourne in Kent. Baron Blomberg died in 1745.

Fig. 5 *below*. 'ID crown above' mark on the spoon on the far left in Figure 4



seen a privately-owned 'Baby house', known as the 'Westbrooke house', which retained many of its original contents: 'A superlative collection of more than fifty silver toys accompanied the Westbrooke baby house which for nearly two and a half centuries has been handed down from mother to daughter as a family heirloom ... A grate with a fireback in repoussé work included in this collection is struck with the maker's mark I.D., also found on a mug, six plates, and four chargers.⁴ Other authors have suggested since, without any supporting evidence, apart from the coincidence of initials, that the maker 'ID' was the well-known and highly successful London toyman, John Deards.⁵ More recently, the dealer and silver scholar, Brian Beet, at the time simultaneously engaged in research into London toymakers and 18th-century makers of 'silver-form' brass, and Peter Kaellgren, then curator at the Royal Ontario Museum, realised that an identical 'ID' mark is to be found on pieces of (full-size) 'French plated' brass (Figs. 4-7).

Subsequently, Kaellgren wrote a short but perceptive article on the maker in *The Finial*: 'Three examples of the toys [in the Gouinlock collection in the Royal Ontario Museum] with better than average execution and weight have proven difficult to attribute. They are struck with an oblong mark, 'ID' with a pellet between and a coronet with five pearls above. This is combined with the 'lion passant' sterling mark. The pieces follow forms that were current during the 1720s. About six examples of full-size pieces including, several milk jugs and a tiny teapot, have appeared at auctions over the years and bear London hallmarks from the 1720s, further confirming the production period. A

spherical soap container and a small jug in brass which both bear traces of silver plating (ie. 'French silver') have also been found bearing this 'ID' mark. These again are types from the 1720s.⁶

Kaellgren does not identify this maker but does dismiss the possibility of John Deards being 'ID': 'At one time the late Brian Beet and I believed this 'I.D.' mark to be that of John Deard or Deards (died 1731), the owner of one of London's best-known toy shops on Fleet Street opposite St. Dunstan's-in-the-West. However, there does not seem to be any evidence to associate the mark with Deard(s), and by 1726, his son William had entered a mark at Goldsmiths' Hall, which presumably could have been struck on any small items of silver that the family sold.'

In his article Kaellgren went on to make two further suggestions: firstly, that silver-form brass objects were perhaps made as 'shop models to show customers rather than substitutes for solid silver pieces', and, secondly, that the 'ID' maker may have been working prior to the re-introduction of the sterling standard in 1720.

Kaellgren's supposition as to the purpose of the silver-form brass is entirely incorrect - reminiscent, in fact, of the earlier notion, dismissed by the cataloguer of the James Robinson exhibition, that silver toys were tradesmen's samples. Silvered brass objects, described by contemporaries as 'French plate', were made quite simply as a cheaper substitute for solid silver (Figs. 8-9). The articles were completed in brass and then silvered by specialist craftsmen using silver leaf built up layer upon layer. A complete range of articles could be supplied from spoons to wine cisterns; the retailers might be silversmiths, brasiers or hardwaremen, and



Fig. 6 *left*: Half-pint mug, around 1725, 'French plate' (silvered brass), marked on the base with maker's mark 'ID - crown above', a pseudo 'lion passant with pellet above and below', a 'crowned female head with pellet either side', and a Roman capital 'D', H: 11.45 cm, Private Collection. No silvering remains.

Fig. 7 *above*: 'ID crown above' mark on the mug in Figure 6

Figs. 8 *facing page, left*: 'Lighthouse' caster, around 1720, 'French plate' (silvered brass), engraved on the body of the caster with a worn coat-of-arms and a ducal coronet above, H: 16.05 cm, Private Collection

Fig. 9 *facing page, right*: 'Lighthouse' caster in Figure 8 disassembled. Some silvering remains under the base plate of the caster and around the inner sleeve of the base.

the purchasers came from the aristocracy as well as the middling classes.⁷

But Kaellgren was surely correct in airing the possibility that the maker 'ID - crown above', a maker of toys and 'French plate', might have worked also during the period of the Britannia standard.⁸ Kaellgren was certainly right in asserting that the maker was working in London, although the silver toys with the 'ID' mark are not fully marked. The style of the 'lion passant' used would *appear* to be that of a London 'lion passant' of around 1720-1739 and the 'French plate' trade in England at this period was concentrated in London. Kaellgren's idea that the maker could have worked in the Britannia period provided the inception for this article, which seeks to use the evidence of surviving silver toys as well as 'French plate'. Between 1697 and 1720 the Britannia standard (95.8% purity of silver) replaced the sterling standard (92.5%) as the only legal standard in England. Its introduction required that all goldsmiths should register new maker's marks.

If the maker, 'ID - crown above' was, as a silversmith, a specialist toy maker, then an immediate candidate, working in the Britannia period, is available for consideration. A small group of toys bearing the Britannia maker's mark of Josiah Daniel II has been identified. Very few of the pieces are fully marked - most are without a date letter. It is noteworthy that the toys are of a larger size and are more substantial than those produced by, for example, the better known Clayton family of goldsmiths working in London in the early 18th century. The only *fully* marked miniature pieces with Daniel's mark noted in the course of researching this article date from the end of the Britannia period:

- A coffee pot of 1719⁹
- A snuffer stand of 1719 with a pair of unmarked snuffers, H: 9.5 cm, Wt: 2ozs¹⁰
- A single candlestick of 1719. H: 7.5 cm, Diam. Base: 4.3 cm¹¹
- A chocolate pot of 1720. H: 8.25 cm¹²
- A tea caddy of 1720, H: 5.1 cm¹³

Josiah Daniel II had entered his mark some years earlier at the Goldsmiths' Company on 22nd February 1714, giving an address in Wood Street. He had been apprenticed to Samuel Day, of Gutter Lane, in December 1703: '17th December Memorand That Josiah Daniell son of Josiah Daniell late of Radcliffe in the County of Surrey Marriner deceased doe putt my self apprentice to Samuel Day Citizen & Goldsmith of London for the terme of seven years from this day. Josiah Daniel.'¹⁴ Josiah Daniel II, was christened at St. Mary Magdalen Bermondsey on 29th October 1688, one of three children of Josiah I and Mary Daniel. Josiah Daniel I, then a bachelor of Rotherhithe, had married Mary Sadler, spinster of Rotherhithe at St. Botolph Aldgate on the 23rd of September 1686. The Sadlers appear to have been a prosperous family and, through the marriage of Mary Sadler's sister, Judith, a connection was made with Ephraim Crow, a London Jeweller.¹⁵

Josiah Daniel I was, at the time of writing his will, shortly before his death in 1701, Commander of the Ship, *Prince of Orange*, 'in the service of the Royall Affrican Company' and was carrying a cargo of slaves to the West Indies. He states in the will that he had recently heard of the death of his wife, Mary, and he makes his three brothers-in-law, Thomas Sadler Esq., Captain Ralph Sadler, Commander of the Ship



Encouragement, and Ephraim Crow, trustees of his estate. Through these trustees, therefore, Josiah Daniel II was apprenticed two and a half years later to Samuel Day, becoming Day's fourteenth and last apprentice.

It would appear that Samuel Day was a smallworker in gold. He died only two years after Josiah Daniel II had begun his apprenticeship and the surviving inventory of his estate lists no silver in the contents of the workshop but does record 'Gold in the Stock valued at £251'. This formed a very substantial part of the overall value of Day's 'goods and chattells' which amounted to £308.11s., together with £38 of ready money. Day had a small amount of plate amongst his private possessions valued at £18. The list of those indebted to Day at the time of his death is intriguing but does not include any first names to allow his clients to be identified with any certainty.

It might be expected that Daniel, upon the death of his master, would have been turned over to another master but there is no record of this in the apprenticeship-bindings at the Goldsmiths' Company. It would seem reasonable to assume, therefore, that Samuel Day's wife, Margaret, continued her husband's business after his death and, indeed, she is still to be found living at the same address in Gutter Lane at the time of Daniel's completion of his apprenticeship in 1712.¹⁶ The lack of information about Joseph Daniel II's apprenticeship after the death of his master is only one of a number of puzzling lacunae in the evidence of his career. The Company does not record any of his changes of address in the registers, even during the period when surviving pieces demonstrate that he was sending miniatures for assay.

Josiah Daniel married Margaret Barratt of St. Giles in the Fields on the 4th February 1714/15.¹⁷ He appears in the Land Tax records as living in Wood Street in 1716-17 and two children were born whilst the couple lived there, both baptised in October 1716. Meanwhile, Daniel took two apprentices, the first, Edward Serle, who was apprenticed on 28th July 1715 but turned over less than two years later to Philip Rollos; and a second, John Ludgate, apprenticed on 14th September 1715.¹⁸

By September 1717, Daniel had moved to Theobalds Row in St. Andrews Holborn, where a third child was baptised.¹⁹ He did not stay there long, however, and moved again in the course of 1719 to Fetter Lane in the parish of St. Dunstan in the West; not far, in fact, from the premises of William Deards. This remained the Daniels' address for four or five years and two more daughters were christened in the parish. Intriguingly, the tax assessments for the premises occupied by Josiah Daniel bracket him together with a 'John Milton' and a 'John Towne'.²⁰

At some stage in 1725 Josiah Daniel moved yet again: on this occasion to the parish of St. Sepulchre, Holborn, where four more children, Josiah, Ephraim, Margaret and Ann, were born. There are no surviving tax assessments for the part of the parish into which they moved but the parish registers do note the address as 'Snow Hill' at the time of the baptism of Margaret in 1732 and 'Holbourn Bridge' when Ann was baptised in 1736. Finally, on the 13th December 1741, the parish registers record the burial of Josiah Daniel 'from Kings Inn', which was adjacent to Holborn Bridge and Snow Hill.



Fig. 10 *left*: Cream jug, around 1725, 'French plate' (silvered brass), marked below the rim to the right of the handle with maker's mark 'ID - crown above', a pseudo 'lion passant with pellet above and below', a 'crowned female head with pellet either side', and a Roman capital 'D', H: 9.0 cm, Jonathan Trace Antiques

Fig. 11 *above*: Set of four marks below the rim of the cream jug in Figure 10

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Fig. 12 *main*: Beer jug, around 1740, 'French plate' (silvered brass), marked below the rim with 'ID - crown above', a fleur de lys, a stylised leopard's head in a heart shape shield, H: 29.9 cm, Private Collection. The interior is largely silvered and some traces of silvering remain on the outside of the body, with further (later) silvering on the underside of the foot covering solder repairs.

Fig. 13 *inset*: Set of three marks below the rim of the beer jug in Figure 12

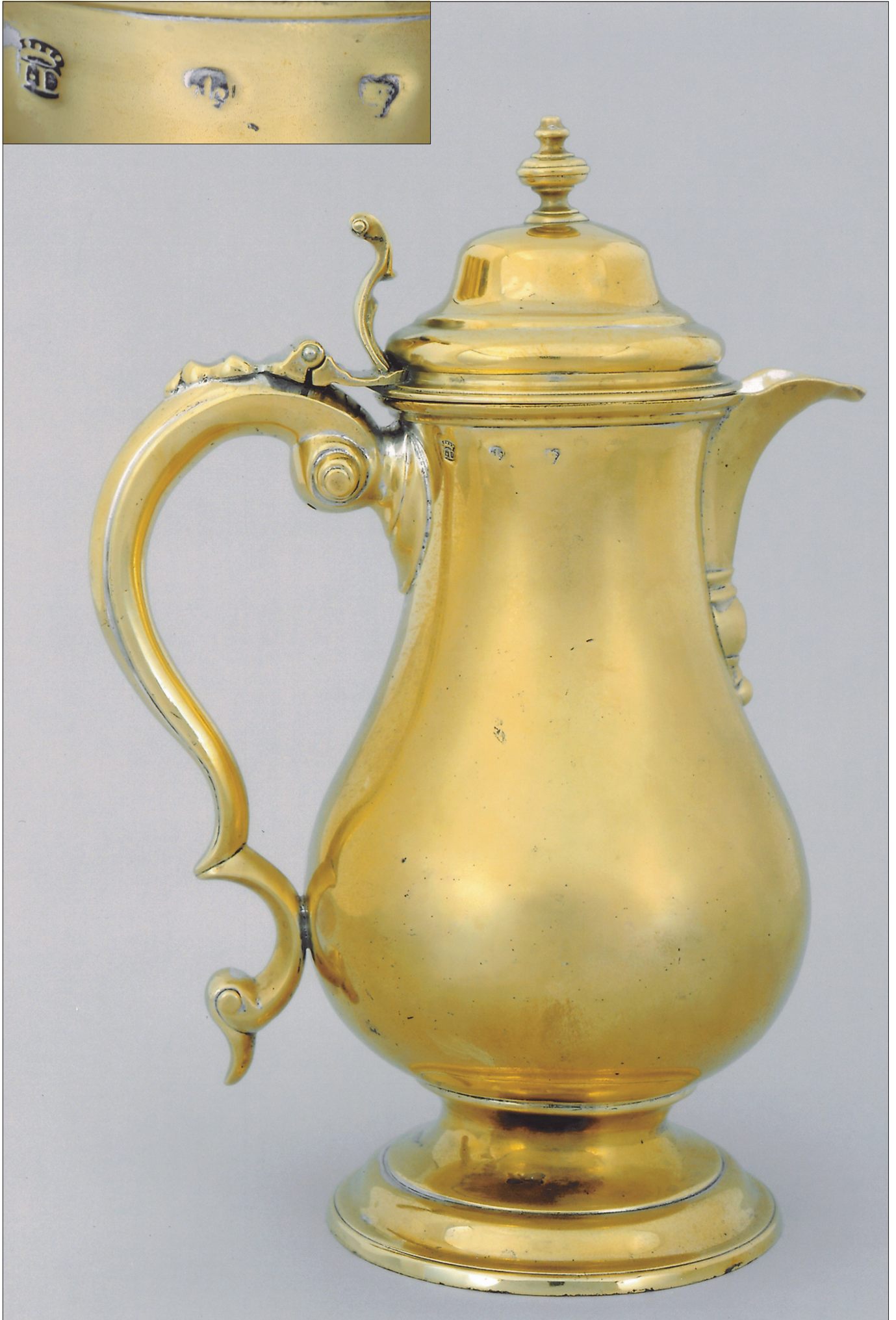
In the course of his career, then, Josiah Daniel moved away from the City of London to various addresses outside its western boundary and thus away from some of the regulations imposed by the city. He registered no post-Britannia mark with the Goldsmiths' Company. However, there is sufficient similarity in quality between the Britannia standard toys known to be marked by Josiah Daniel and the toys made in the period 1720 to around 1735 with the unregistered 'ID - crown above' mark to suggest, *prima facie*, that the maker was one and the same. This likelihood is reinforced by the evidence of a small collection of miniature silver sold at auction in 1974, which included a set of six dishes by Josiah Daniel with a diameter of 4.13 cm, with a maker's mark and 'leopard's head erased' only, and an apparently identical set of dishes of the same diameter by 'ID - crown above'. The coffee pot of 1719 by Daniel referred to above, which is later-chased, is nevertheless very close in shape and size to a coffee pot by 'ID' in the collection of the Royal Ontario Museum, illustrated by Kaellgren in his article in *The Finial*. In addition, a miniature tea caddy, again by Daniel, with a maker's mark and 'leopard's head erased' only, sold at auction in 2007, is strikingly akin to one in the 'Westbrooke House' collection by 'ID'.²¹ Finally and conclusively, a pair of fully marked miniature candlesticks of 1721 by ID, sold at auction by Christie's New York, is identical in style and size to miniature candlesticks by Josiah Daniel.²²

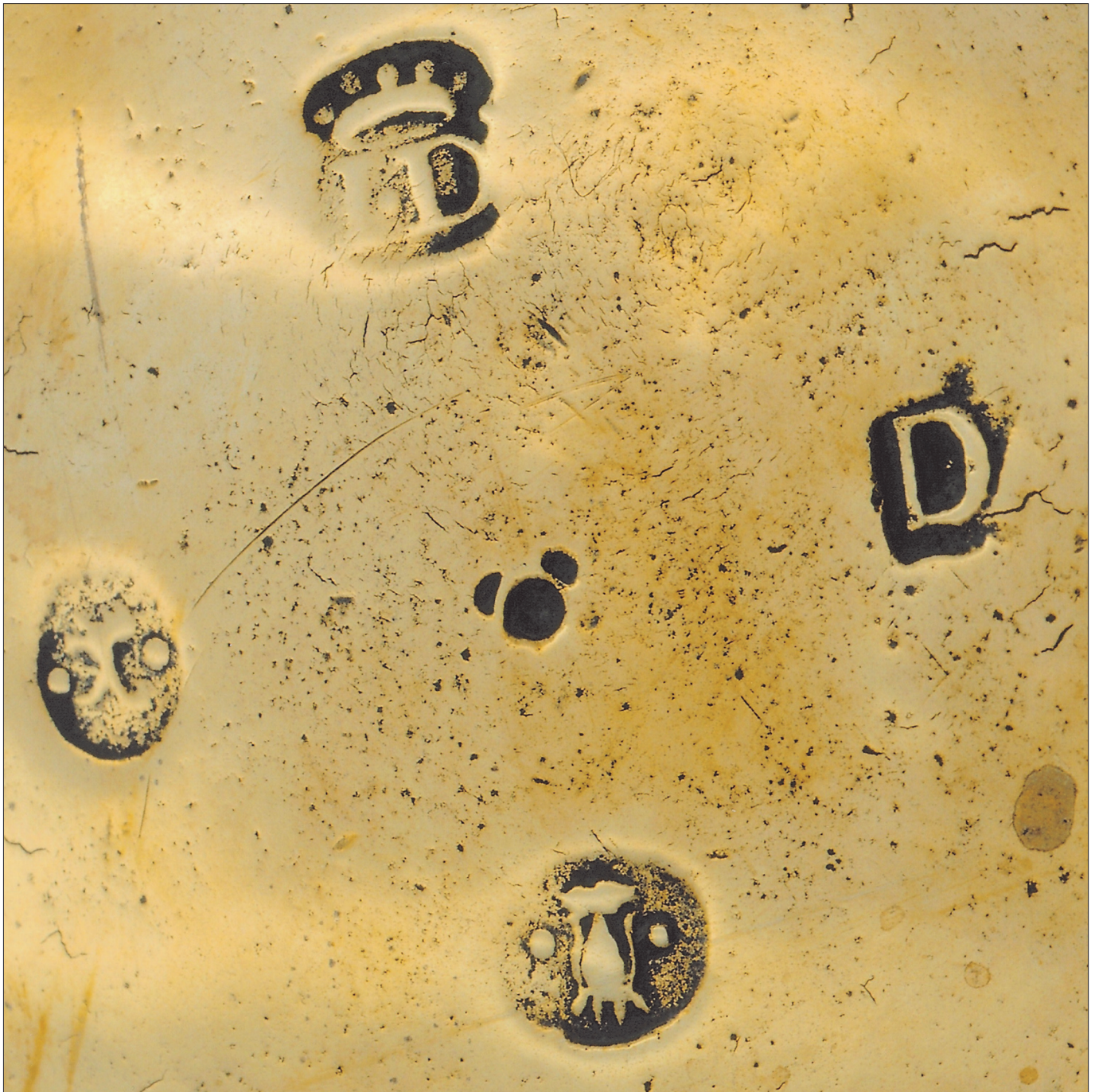
Whilst the miniature silver by 'ID' is almost always marked with either a maker's mark only (struck once or twice), or a maker's mark and 'lion passant' (sterling mark), the 'French plate' pieces are struck with either three or four distinct marks. Those pieces which can be

dated stylistically to the period of around 1715 to around 1730 are usually struck with four marks, the maker's mark, a pseudo 'lion passant with pellet above and below', a 'crowned female head with pellet either side', and a Roman capital 'D' (Figs. 10-11). Those which are of the period roughly from 1730 to around 1740 are struck with three marks only: the maker's mark, a 'fleur de lys' and a pseudo 'leopard's head' (Figs. 12-13).

Within the earlier group of pieces which are struck with four marks as described, it is the 'D', suggestive of a date letter, which, on close inspection, is of particular interest. When examined, it is clear that the 'D' is part of a larger mark which has been struck at an angle to emphasise the 'D'. The base of the punch is shaped and the arched upper part has part of a device above the 'D'. The letter 'D' itself has some characteristic shaping with the upper and lower left corners of the letter angled away from the outer curve of the 'D'. Unfortunately, the marks invariably suffer from erosion to the surface of the brass.²³

The brass mug illustrated in Figure 6 has a particularly clear example of this (Figs. 14-15). To the right of the 'D' on this mug there is an ill-defined but apparent Roman capital 'A', smaller in size than the 'D'. When combined with the evidence of other examples of the mark, it is clear that this mark is, in fact, the Britannia mark registered by Josiah Daniel (Figs. 16-20). If so, it would not be the only instance of a silversmith using his registered mark on a piece of 'French plate' but it is an extraordinary instance of the re-cycling of a Britannia standard mark. It may even be the case, if some of the 'French plate' articles were made prior to 1720, that the 'DA' mark was used in this







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Fig. 14 *top*. Full set of four marks on the base of the mug in Figure 6

Fig. 15 *bottom left*. The Roman capital 'D' on the base of the mug in Figure 6, with the remains of the 'A' from Daniel's 'DA' Britannia silver mark clearly visible

Fig. 16 *bottom right*. Josiah Daniel II's Britannia mark struck on paper in the register of the Goldsmiths' Company at Goldsmiths' Hall, London. The mark is slightly distorted by the curvature of the page.

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Fig. 17 *above*. Pair of Candlesticks, around 1719, Britannia silver, mark of Josiah Daniel II, Britannia mark, 'lion's head erased', H: 7.0 cm, Author's collection

Fig. 18 *right*. Josiah Daniel II's Britannia silver mark on the candlesticks in Figure 17





Fig. 19 *left*: Tankard, around 1730, 'French plate' (silvered brass), the body engraved with a cypher (now erased), marked below the rim of the body with maker's mark 'ID - crown above', a pseudo 'lion passant with pellet above and below', a 'crowned female head with pellet either side', and a Roman capital 'D', H: 18.3 cm, Private Collection. Extensive silvering remains inside the body and lid and on the under surface of the foot.

Fig. 20 *above*: The Roman capital 'D' on the rim of the tankard in Figure 19

fashion before it became redundant for articles made of silver.

After 1721, the activities of Daniel, if they were not actually contrary to the hall-marking acts, were certainly circumventing them. The Goldsmiths' Company was either oblivious to his work or chose to ignore it. When his miniature pieces are seen as a group, those articles with a lion passant all seem to be mis-struck. There can be no doubt that, actually, the lion passant is a careful mis-representation of the lion passant used by the Goldsmiths' Company for, of the group of toys examined in the course of researching this article, not one example has a clear lion (*Figs. 21-22*). The comparison with the work of David Clayton is stark: all his post 1720 miniatures, if not marked with a maker's mark only, are struck with a 'lion passant' that is obviously correct (*Fig. 23*). That Daniel was allowed to

practice this deceit without intervention by the Goldsmiths' Company would suggest that the Company was less than rigorous in its enforcement of the hall-marking laws during this period.

Not only is there no mention in Goldsmiths' Company records of Josiah Daniel's circumvention of hall-marking law but the Company actually chose him to represent their interests to a committee of the House of Lords concerned with the prevention of frauds and abuses in silver and gold wares. After setting up a 'Special Committee for the Parliament Business' in December 1737, with Paul de Lamerie,²⁴ Humphrey Payne and Richard Bailey as trade members, the Company petitioned and presented its case to a committee of the House of Commons in February 1738/9. Evidence was given by Joseph Ward, as Assay Master of the Goldsmiths, and Thomas Banks, as Clerk



to the Company, who detailed the loss of assay revenue the Company was suffering and its inability to conduct searches of silver and goldsmiths' premises during the last '12 or 16 years'. Obadiah Welsted and Richard Vincent then described the practice of selling unmarked, often sub-standard, silver and 'duty-dodgers', with inserted hallmarks, that they had found prevalent in shops they visited in London. After considering this evidence, the Commons then passed a bill with the aim of preventing such frauds to the House of Lords. In April 1739 nineteen gold and silver workers gave further statements to a committee of the Lords. Daniel was one of this group, comprising in full: Gabriel Sleath, Thomas Mason, John Newton, James Gold (Gould), John Alcock, Kandler, Joseph Ward, Thomas Long, Edmund Cooper, John Cooper, Richard Vincent, Obadiah Welstead/Welsted, James Wethered, Josiah Daniel, William Bulstrode, Giles Gardner, Charles Fletcher, Thomas Banks and Robert Dingley.²⁵

The records of the Court of Assistants show their overriding concern that the interests of the Goldsmiths' Company should be protected by the recommendations of the Lords' committee. They were advised that the witnesses they put forward should not be Freemen. The minutes note:

'13th April 1739. Then were read Eight several Deeds Poll Dated the 12th day of this present Month of April being Surrenders and Releases under the respective hands and seals of Thomas Long, John Cooper, Giles Gardner, James Wethered, Josiah Daniel, Obediah Welsted, William Bulstrode and Richard Vincent whereby they respectively surrender and yield up to this Company their several Freedoms and all Right of being Freemen or Members of the Company and do likewise Release to the Company all their Right Title & interest in & to all Liberties Priviledges & advantages by Virtue of their Freedom and also all their Right Title & Interest of in & to the Lands Possessions and Estates of this Company'.... 'And it being Alledged that the Company had been advised to Disfranchise such Members of the Company as could be and were willing to be Witnesses on the part of the Company before the Right Honoble. The House of Lords touching the Companys Bill depending

before their Lordships Therefore the Queon. Was put That this Company do accept of the said several surrenders & Releases and it passed in the Affirmative. And this Court doth order that the said Thos. Long, John Cooper, Giles Gardner, James Wethered, Josiah Daniel, Odediah Welsted, Wm. Bulstrode, and Richard Vincent be Disfranchised & absolutely Discharged from the Freedom of this Company & all the Liberties Priviledges & Advantages thereof.'

After the witnesses had given their evidence, the Company restored their Freedoms on the 18th May.²⁶

The nineteen witnesses formed a mixed group. Gabriel Sleath and James Gould were substantial silversmiths. Kandler was obviously also one of the major plate-workers of the period but, perhaps, a surprising choice as a witness given his readiness to supply plate that was unmarked, or marked with a maker's mark only, or fitted with hallmarks that had been cut out from other pieces. The jeweller, Robert Dingley, was involved in a large-scale attempt to avoid payment of duty in 1726²⁷ and the assay warden, Joseph Ward, had included a duty-dodger kettle in a tea service he supplied for the Company's own collection of plate in 1719.²⁸ Another witness, John Newton, specialist caddy maker, was a duty-dodger on a large scale. He sent numbers of sliding caddy bases for part-marking to the assay office which he then fitted into unmarked bodies. Several of the other witnesses were elderly small-workers operating on the brink of insolvency. Richard Vincent, goldsmith and victualler, late of 'the Cock in the Old Baily' was a prisoner in the Fleet petitioning for relief as an insolvent debtor in 1737-8 and was again in prison in Ludgate in 1749. Obadiah Welstead, of Dove's Court, Leather Lane, was a prisoner in the Fleet in 1737. Some of the witnesses were in receipt of direct support from the Company as almsmen, although this did not preclude them from continuing in business. Josiah Daniel had been elected an almsman in June 1732, when other petitioners for the position included William Bulstrode and James Weatherhead, both of whom were witnesses on behalf of the Goldsmiths' Company to the Lords committee.²⁹

If the Goldsmiths' Company was struggling in this period to retain and assert its ancient authority, rights

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Fig. 21 *bottom left*. 'Lion passant' mark on miniature 'ID' saucepan, Private Collection

Fig. 22 *bottom right*. 'Lion passant' mark on miniature 'ID' mug, Private Collection

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Fig. 23 *right*. David Clayton lion passant on miniature caster, Author's Collection



and privileges, and above all to protect its income from assaying, those individuals who registered marks with the company, who comprised its freemen and who made up its administration, were at the same time engaged in their own pursuit of income which in many cases overrode the interests and regulations of the Company. They thus felt themselves at liberty to ignore, wherever possible, the restrictions and costs laid down by the Company and, more particularly, the Plate Duty imposed by the Government. Daniel was one of this number, albeit operating on a small scale, and ignored or tolerated by the Company.

The identification of the maker 'ID' in this article is based on the supposition that he may have worked prior to 1720, in the Britannia period, and, conversely, the probability that Josiah Daniel's business did not end with the re-introduction of the sterling standard in that year. The argument draws on the very apparent conformity of size, style and quality of the miniature pieces marked by Josiah Daniel and those marked by 'ID'.³⁰ That the maker 'ID' struck Josiah Daniel's Britannia mark on 'French plate' in the period up to around 1730 would seem to be conclusive evidence that the silversmith Josiah Daniel and the maker known hitherto as 'ID - crown above' were one and the same.

Assuming that this argument is correct and the maker 'ID - crown above' was indeed Josiah Daniel, further questions remain. There is still no evidence of his business connections and his clientele, nor is there any explanation as to how he came to work at the same time as a specialist miniature maker and a 'French plate' worker. The alteration in the pseudo-marks struck on 'French plate', which took place around 1730, is another puzzle. It might indicate that Daniel's business had been passed to another or it might simply have been Daniel's decision to change the marks. It is noteworthy that at least two other 'French plate' workers were using a pseudo 'leopard's head' and a 'fleur-de-lys' as part of their marking system in this period. Among the later pieces of 'French plate' struck with the 'ID' mark, a few appear in style to have been made after 1740. If that is so, then, either Daniel was still engaged in manufacture at the very end of his life (he was only fifty-three), or his 'French plate-working' trade was continued after his death, still using the 'ID - crown above' mark. One coffee pot, in particular, looks later in style, perhaps even made in the mid 1740s (*Fig. 24*). Daniel left no will and almost nothing is known of his children, so these questions remain, at present, unanswered.³¹

Fig. 24 Coffee Pot, around 1745, 'French plate' (silvered brass), engraved with an asymmetrical cartouche of shells and leaved scrolls one side (illegible), marked below the rim with 'ID - crown above', a stylised leopard's head in a heart shape shield and a fleur de lys, H: 25.1 cm, Private Collection. Some silvering remains on the under surface of the base.



Author:

Peter Cameron is a scholar and dealer in antique English silver. He has published articles in the *Silver Society Journal* on the subject and is currently working on a book on the French Plate trade in London.

Acknowledgements:

My thanks to Vanessa Brett for discussing her researches into London toymen of the 18th century with me and to David Beasley, Librarian at the Goldsmiths' Company for assistance in finding references to Josiah Daniel in the Company's archives.

I would also like to thank the present owner of the Westbrooke Baby house for allowing me to examine and photograph the silver objects in the house and Paul Dudley for showing me his miniature tazza. My thanks to the Goldsmiths' Company for allowing me to illustrate the Britannia mark of Josiah Daniel in figs. 6 and 16, to Donna Corbin and Rebecca Chewning of the Philadelphia Museum of Art for assistance in providing the images for figs. 1, 2 and 3 and to the Philadelphia Museum of Art for allowing me to use those images in this article.

My thanks to Jonathan Trace for his great help in tracking down 'French plate' in private collections in the United States and for his permission to illustrate the cream jug in figs. 10 and 11. Finally, I would like to thank all the other private collectors who have allowed me to examine their collections and to illustrate some of those pieces in this article.

Notes:

1. *A Loan Exhibition of Antique English Silver Miniatures Under the Auspices & for the Benefit of the British War Relief Society, Inc.*, 22 Apr - 22 May, 1941, in the Galleries of James Robinson Inc., 716 Fifth Avenue New York
2. Charles J. Jackson, *English Goldsmiths and their Marks*, second edition 1921, chapter entitled 'Wales and Unascribed English Provincial', p. 485
3. George Bernard Hughes, *'mall Antique Silver*, Batsford, 1957, chapter 12 'Toys', pp. 190-193
4. Actually Hughes was slightly incorrect - it contains a fender, plates, chargers, caddy and mug. The firegrate is not by 'ID'. There is also a pair of unmarked andirons to match the fender.
5. See for example Constance Eileen King, *The Collector's History of Doll's Houses, Doll's and Miniatures*, St. Martin's Press, New York, 1983, p. 208. The catalogue of the Robinson exhibition made the interesting point that toymen (such as Deards) do not appear to have supplied miniature silver toys - and this conclusion is reinforced by the current researches of Vanessa Brett.
6. *The Finial*, May/June 2010, p. 15. See also a response from Paul Dudley, *The Finial*, July/August 2010
7. I have discussed the subject of 'French plate' elsewhere, as part of an article on the 'French plate' maker Anthony Christian. This article was published in the United States in *Antiques and Fine Art Magazine* and was re-published with some new information, in the *Journal of the Antique Metalware Society*, Vol. 20, 2012, pp. 20-27.
8. Kaellgren notes that the mark appears twice on page 485 of Jackson, *Op.Cit.* In the first instance in combination with a lion passant on a toy teapot, which Jackson had dated to around 1695, and in the second, a toy teaset dated to around 1725-30, both of which are in the collection of Mr. Claud Malcolmson.
9. Formerly in the Folger collection of coffee pots but now donated by Procter and Gamble to the Cincinnati Art Museum
10. Sotheby's London, 9 Oct 1969, lot 72
11. The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, The Joseph M. and Aimee Loeb May Collection, 1963, Museum number 63.53.8a, b. To this list of pieces of 1719 can probably be added a miniature chocolate pot of 1719 catalogued as *probably* by Josiah Daniel, H: 10.2 cm, sold Sotheby Parke Bernet, South Africa, 3 Mar 1975, lot 81, illustrated in catalogue.
12. Sold Sotheby's London 23 May 1985, lot 32
13. Sold Sotheby's London 31 Jan 1985, lot 10
14. The Goldsmiths' Company, London, Bk.4 f.92
15. See *Postman and the Historical Account*, 6 Jan 1700, which gives Ephraim Crow's address as 'near Child's Coffee House in St. Paul's Church Yard'; and the *Daily Courant* of 25 May 1709 which lists his address as London-House Yard. Burney Collection of newspapers, British Library. Ephraim Crow was a member of a Whig club in the City of London which aimed to promote the selection of appropriate candidates for elections to the city administration.
16. See Land Tax Records for the Ward of Farringdon Within: after the death of Samuel Day the occupant of the address, only a few doors from Saddler's Hall, becomes Margaret Day. From the year 1718/19 the premises were occupied by a 'Jno. Cowper'.
17. 'Josias' Daniel of 'Alhallows Lombard Street' married 'Margaret Barratt of St Giles in ye fields', (marriage licence from Archbishop of Canterbury) at St. Martin's in the Fields, 4 Feb 1714/15. A Margaret Barrette was christened: 5 Jan 1696, Saint Martin in the Fields, Westminster.
18. A third apprentice, Thomas Forster or Foster, son of a citizen and barber-surgeon, deceased, was bound to Josiah Daniel on 3 Dec 1734 but turned over the same day to his mother, Mary Foster
19. St. Andrew's Holborn Parish registers, Elizabeth Daniel, bapt. 11 Sep 1717, daughter of Josiah and Margaret Daniel of 'Theopalds Row'
20. Sarah Daniel, bapt. 20 Jan 1722 St. Dunstan in the West, London; Elizabeth Daniels, born 1 Dec 1725, bapt. 15 Dec 1725, St. Dunstan in the West. The tax assessments do not record Josiah Daniel there in 1725, however, and his name is replaced by that of John Curtis at the premises he had shared with John Milton and John Towne. For these tax assessments see Farringdon Ward, St. Dunstan in the West, London Metropolitan Archives (LMA), microfilms 11,316/ reels 59-74
21. Miniature dishes sold Sotheby's Parke Bernet, New York, 4 Jun 1974, lots 34 and 37; toy tea caddy sold Christie's New York, 26 Oct 2007, lot 270
22. These candlesticks are the only fully marked pieces by ID noted. Sold Christie's New York, 17 Oct 1996, part of lot 366, illustrated. 'A pair of toy candlesticks, maker's mark ID crowned, 1721, on circular moulded base, rising to a baluster stem and tapering cylindrical socket, marked under bases.' Another single miniature candlestick of the same style by ID, maker's mark and lion passant only was sold by Christie's New York 18 Apr 1989, lot 487, illustrated. 'A George I Toy candlestick, London, circa 1720, maker's mark ID pellet between open coronet above, on circular base with domed centre and octagonal vase-shaped stem, the cylindrical socket with moulded border, lion passant and maker's mark only, 2 1/2" (6.5 cm) high. 1oz.'
23. Either because the original layer of silver leaf has been worn away or because it has been deliberately removed to provide a more consistent look: the stripped brass colour has been more prized by collectors than the, usually patchy, silver one.
24. See *Paul de Lamerie, An Exhibition of the Work of England's Master Silversmith (1688-1751)*, catalogue, pp.12-13 for the reference to this in the Archives of the Goldsmiths' Company and to a discussion of Lamerie's own transgressions of hall-marking laws.
25. See the Journals of the House of Commons and of the House of Lords for these references. Of those appearing as witnesses: John Alcock was a smallworker of St. Giles Cripplegate, married Elizabeth daughter of John Field, Citizen and Distiller, his will proved 30/10/1753, The National Archives (TNA), PROB 11; Thomas Long was engraver to the Goldsmiths' Company from 1739 until his death in 1754, will proved 29 Jan 1754, TNA, PROB 11/806/156, when his address was West Ham in Essex; Robert Dingley, jeweller, of St. Helens Gate, in Bishopsgate street, died in 1741 aged 63, his memorial in the church of St. Helen's Bishopsgate, his collection of 'limnings, miniatures, fine antique cameos, intaglios, coins, medals and other curiosities' was sold by Langford, auctioneer, 7 and 8 Mar 1753; Thomas Banks was Clerk of the Goldsmiths' Company from 1728.
26. For these references see the records of the Court of Assistants at the Goldsmiths' Company for this period, pp. 179-180 and p. 182.
27. See P.A.S. Phillips, *Paul de Lamerie, Citizen and Goldsmith of London*, London 1935, reprinted 1968, pp. 10-11; also Ellenor Alcorn, *Beyond the Maker's Mark, Paul de Lamerie Silver in the Cahn Collection*, John Adamson, Cambridge 2006, p. 23
28. Arthur Grimwade, *London Goldsmiths 1697-1837*, London 1990, p. 693, entry for Joseph Ward.
29. See *The London Gazette*, July 1737 for Welstead as an insolvent debtor, imprisoned in the Fleet; see *The London Gazette* of 3 Sep 1737, various dates in 1738 and of 4 Apr 1749, for references to Richard Vincent as a prisoner in the Fleet and Ludgate.
30. Josiah Daniel II's mark has been noted on candlesticks, a snuffer stand, tea caddies, a coffee pot, a 'hand' candlestick and a set of dishes or saucers, and a chocolate pot (probably - see note 11 above). The 'ID' mark on miniatures has been noted on a chamberstick, mugs, a candlestick, saucepans, chargers, plates, saucers and tea bowls, a fender, a colander, three teapots, a snuffer tray, tazze, a tankard, tea caddies, and cream jugs. Stylistically, none of these appear later than around 1735. A full-size coffee pot of 1715 in the Ashmolean Museum (see Timothy Schroder, *British and Continental Gold and Silver in the Ashmolean Museum*, Vol. 2, Ashmolean, 2009, pp. 728-9) has later-chasing and extensive repairs but, if correct, is the only full-size article by Daniel noted. The range of full-size 'French plate' articles marked by 'ID' is extensive, and includes spoons, casters, jugs, coffee pots, a tea pot, beer jugs, tankards and salvers.
31. *The London Gazette* of 24 Mar 1761 records a Josiah Daniel 'formerly of Great Bull Yard near Wood's Close, in the Parish of St. James Clerkenwell in the County of Middlesex, late of Buttler's Alley Little Moorfields, Shagreen Case-maker', now a prisoner for debt in Wood Street Compter, who might be Josiah Daniel III, the son of Josiah II and Margaret born in 1727.