

Two Curious Gothic letters and Louis Hamon, Silversmith.

Preface.

How readily a guess or assumption, when printed in an authoritative book or article, becomes an unquestioned truth. There is a maker's mark, composed of two letters in a 'Gothic' script, illustrated in the 'Unregistered Marks' section of Grimwade's 'London Goldsmiths, 1697-1837', which he read as 'LH'. Grimwade saw the mark struck on a set of tea caddies of 1752 and surmised it might have been a mark used by Louis [Lewis] Hamon. Subsequently, the same mark, (Grimwade 3720), has been noted on a skewer of 1755 and a small group of wine labels, of escutcheon or crescent form, of the period 1739 to 1755.

What was, for Grimwade, a possibility has become an accepted fact and Hamon is now regarded as having been a wine label maker: albeit working outside the small area in and around Gutter lane where most London label makers had their workshops. However, there is no good reason to think that the mark was that of Hamon or, indeed, to accept that the two gothic letters are necessarily 'L' and 'H' without further detailed comparison with contemporary examples of gothic lettering. Quite which letters compose the mark is very hard to determine with certainty and the drawing of the mark by Grimwade in his book is very different from the mark as actually struck on silver articles.

In the absence of any concrete information about the maker whose mark was 'Grimwade 3720', the following is an examination of the [more readily] available evidence of Louis Hamon's life. Clearly a Huguenot, or of Huguenot descent, his output as a silversmith was described by Grimwade as 'rarely met with' but displaying 'considerable power of rococo invention.'¹ The three marks entered by Hamon in the surviving registers at the Goldsmiths' Company are all, it should be remembered, in the 'largeworkers' registers.



Figure 1 above. The mark 'Grimwade 3720' as struck on an escutcheon wine label of circa 1750. Courtesy Dr. Alan Richards.

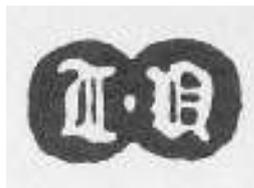


Figure 2 above. Mark 'Grimwade 3720' as illustrated in his book, 'London Goldsmiths'.



Figure 3 above. Mark Grimwade 3720 as struck on a crescent form wine label, circa 1755. Note that it has slipped when struck but the curled part of the second letter is shown quite clearly.



Figure 4 above. Mark Grimwade 3720 as struck on an escutcheon wine label: 'Mountain', circa 1750. This image courtesy Steppes Hill Farm Antiques. Note the detail difference between the left side of the first letter in this figure and figure 3 and the mark as struck in figure 1.

Louis Hamon [circa 1721-1767].

10/11/1725. 'Lewis Hamond' of St. James's, Westminster, was bound apprentice to John Lesage, of St. Martin in the Fields, goldsmith, 10 November 1725 for seven years on payment of £15. Although Lesage was himself a freeman of the Goldsmiths' Company, the apprenticeship was not recorded in their records.²

20/07/1735. Louis Hamon is godfather to Jeanne Madelaine Harrache at the Savoy Church.³

18/03/1736. First mark registered with the Goldsmiths' Company. Address: Great Newport Street, Long Acre. The mark is a dove of peace with an olive branch above Roman uppercase letters 'LH' [Grimwade mark 1925]. As will be seen below, the dove is a reference to the shop sign used by Hamon.

04/08/1738. A second mark registered, giving as the address Church Street, St. Ann's [Soho]. The mark has a different outline but is again a dove of peace above the Roman uppercase letter 'LH' [Grimwade mark 1926]

1738. Hamon is godfather to Louis Tavernier at Threadneedle Street.⁴

20/06/1739. A third mark, following the Plate Act of 1738, for the new registers at the Goldsmiths' Company beginning in the summer of 1739, is entered using the address in Church Street, St. Ann's. The mark has the same dove of peace above script uppercase letters 'LH' [Grimwade mark 1929]



Figure 3 above. Hamon's mark as struck on a pair of Salt Cellars of circa 1740. Image courtesy of J.H Bourdon-Smith Ltd.

1742. By this date Hamon had moved to Great Kirby Street, Hatton Garden. His name appears, as 'Lewis Hammond' in the rate books of the Liberty of Saffron Hill for part of that year and again in 1746 and 1750. Unfortunately, the rate books for the intervening years covering this Liberty are missing. A series of puffs in a newspaper, the 'Daily Advertiser', advertising the success of an oculist, Dr. Taylor, of Great Queen Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields refers to a 'Mr. Hammond', perhaps meaning Lewis Hamon. Unfortunately, the rate books do also record a 'John Hammond' next door to 'Lewis Hammond': so it is impossible to be certain that Hamon is the person referred to by Dr. Taylor. The first newspaper reference is:

20/11/1742. 'We are inform'd that Mr. Hammond of Kirby-Street, Hatton-Garden, Mrs. Clark in Vine-Street, with the several others this Week restor'd to Sight by Dr. Taylor, will on Monday Morning next attend the Doctor at his House in Great Queen-Street, when, as usual, on that Day many others will be undertaken.'⁵

03/12/1742. 'We are assur'd that Mr. Hammond, of Great Kirby-Street, Hatton-Garden, mention'd last Week to have recover'd his Sight by Dr. Taylor, is now so well restor'd to it, as to have Sight equal to any of his Age, and this without having suffer'd any Pain, either at, or since the Operation.'⁶

24/12/1742. 'We are assur'd that on the 10th of next Month Dr. John Taylor, Oculist to his Majesty, will certainly begin his Lectures on the Nature and Cure of the Diseases of the Eye, at his House in Great Queen-Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields.

Amongst those he last Week restor'd to Sight, or cured of several Defects of it, design'd for the Satisfaction of the Curious, are the following.

Of Diseases of the Chrystalline Humour, by his new Method of Couching

Mrs. Mullerough, Baker, in Slaughter-Street, Spitalfields.

Mr. Whitel, near the Bridge in Barnaby-Street.

Mrs. Clarke, in Vine-Street, Hatton-Garden.

Mr. Hammond, in Kirby-Street, Hatton-Garden.

Mr. Robinson, Gunner, opposite the Maypole, East-Smithfield.

Mr. Migher, at the Noah's Ark in Tyburn-Road.

Mrs. Ryan, at Isleworth.

Mr. Wilson, in Castle-Street, Bloomsbury.

Mr. Johnson, in Wych-Alley, Wych-Street.⁷

22/02/1743. 'Mr. Hammond, Kirby-Street, Hatton-Garden' is listed in a further advertisement by Dr. Taylor as one of those who will be attending his forthcoming lectures on the 'Nature and the Cure of the Diseases of the eye.'⁸

12/09/1745. A letter is written to Andrew Stone, under-secretary of State to the Duke of Newcastle, by Louis Hamon and Elizabeth Lovell of the 'Dove' in 'Great Kirby Street, Hatton Garden', informing him that they are prepared to give attestations under oath against a 'woman of fortune', whom they suspect is an emissary to the Pretender and thus an enemy to the government.⁹

'Sir

Sept. 12 1745

The Present Situation of Affairs made us imagine it our Duty to give Information of a Person whom we Suspect to be an Enemy to the present Government and an Emissary to the Pretender – She is a Woman of Fortune and declares she'll expend it in his Service, distribute Copies of Verses grossly reflecting on his Majesty, and drinking Health and Success to the Pretender is her common Practice in all Companies she comes into – We were inform'd that you Sir was a proper Person to apply to to defeat this villainous Practice, and if requir'd, we'll attest these and other Circumstances on Oath, and am, Sir, your humble Servants

Louis Hamon,
Eliz. Lovell at the Dove in
Great Kirby Street
Hatton Garden.

P.S. We waited on you this Day
but you was not at home, and we
thought it proper to leave this.

13/09/1745. The following day, Hamon placed an advertisement for a lost dog in the 'Daily Advertiser'.

'Lost last Friday, a black and white Puppy, about six Months old, of the Pointing Kind. Whoever brings it to Mr. Hammond, at the Sign of the Dove in Great Kirby-Street, Hatton-Garden, shall have Five Shillings Reward, and no Questions ask'd; he had on when lost a Collar, with the same Directions.

No greater Reward will be offer'd.'¹⁰

1748. In the summer of 1748, Hamon's name appears in 'The London Gazette' in connection with the 'Fleet marriages chaplain', James Lando, who evidently owes him money:

'Pursuant to an Act of Parliament made and passed in the Twenty first Year of the Reign of his present Majesty King George the Second, intituled, An Act for Relief of Insolvent Debtors, I hereby give Notice that I intend at the next General or Quarter Sessions of the Peace to be held in and for the City of London, to compel James Lando, late of Church-street, in the Parish of St. Ann, in the Liberty of Westminster, and County of Middlesex, Clerk, who was on the first Day of January 1747, and still is detained a Prisoner in his Majesty's Prison of the

Fleet at my Suit, to subscribe and deliver in a Schedule of his Estate and Effects, pursuant to the Directions of the said Act; of which all his other Creditors are hereby required to take Notice. Louis Hamon.’¹¹

October 1748. A further advertisement in the London Gazette reads:

‘The Creditors of James Lando, late of Church-street St. Ann Westminster, in the County of Middlesex, Clerk, who was lately a Prisoner in the Fleet Prison, and discharged pursuant to the late Act for Relief of Insolvent Debtors, are desired to meet me Louis Hamon, of Kirby-street, Hatton-Garden, one of the Creditors of the said James Lando, on the 15th Day of November next, at Four in the Afternoon, at Mr. Pickerings, the Globe Tavern, in Hatton-Garden, to chuse an Assignee of the Estate and Effects of the said James Lando, pursuant to the said Act. Louis Hamon.’

The evidence of a will and surviving parish rate assessment books suggests that Hamon moved from Great Kirby Street in the first quarter of 1751¹². The ratebook for the Liberty of Saffron Hill shows him assessed in that street, as has been noted, in 1750. The next surviving ratebook for the Liberty in 1759 has no mention of him but he is recorded in Chandos Street, in the parish of St. Paul Covent Garden in the rate assessment for that street covering the period Ladyday 1751 to Ladyday 1752. That ratebook gives his name as ‘Lewis Hamon’ and his property there, on the south side of the street, was valued for poor rate purposes at a rental of £25 – a medium sized property for the street. He is listed in subsequent ratebooks at that house [although his name is then recorded as ‘Lewis Hammon’] until the latter part of 1753. His name does not appear in the ratebook for the period Michaelmas 1753 to Ladyday 1754.

The will of Louis Hamon, or Hammon, a ‘shopkeeper and chapman’ of ‘Saint Johns Lane in the parish of Saint Pulchers’ [St. Sepulchres], Middlesex is particularly interesting.¹³ ‘Louis Hamon/Hammon’, shopkeeper and chapman, was clearly the father of Louis Hamon, the silversmith. In the will, written on the 17th August 1752, Hamon senior left his ‘Son Louis Hammon of Chandos-Street in the parish of St. Paul Covent Garden in the said county of Middlesex Water Gilder One Shilling and no more I having heretofore Sufficiently provided for him.’ By this date then, Hamon the silversmith had taken up the trade of a ‘water gilder’ – that is to say gilding using ‘quick silver’, or mercury amalgam. Hamon senior’s reference to his son as a gilder does not *necessarily* mean that Hamon junior was no longer working as a silversmith but it would seem likely. Moreover, the inventories [transcribed below] of Hamon junior’s possessions, unadministered in 1768, record the various tools and materials of a gilder but none of the tools of a silversmith.

Having left Chandos street, Louis Hamon is recorded in the ratebooks of Bedfordbury ward in the parish of St. Martin in the Fields, at a property in Hemmings Row – a short distance from Chandos street – from the second part of 1754. His name is here correctly noted as Louis Hamon. Next to him, occupying two houses, was George Methuen.

18/02/1757. Hamon married Ann Remy in the church of St. Martin in the Fields by licence: ‘*Which day appeared personally Louis Hamon and made Oath that he is of the parish of St. Martin in the Fields, in the county of Middlesex, widower.*’ His bride was a spinster and a minor, living in the same parish, and her father, Nicholas Remy, of St. Paul Covent Garden, signed the licence.¹⁴

The couple had several children, their Baptisms in the parish register of St. Martin in the Fields:

09/10/1757. *Esther. [Born September 15th].*¹⁵

09/11/1758. *Ann. [Born October 27th].*

18/08/1760. *Lewis*. [Born July 25th].

21/02/1763. *Louis*. [Born January 24th].

13/05/1764. *Mary*. [Born April 16th].

24/11/1767. *George*. [Born November 18th].

27/08/1762. At least part of Hamon's property in Hemmings Row, St. Martin in the Fields was sub-let as evidenced by the testament of Jane Cooper amongst the parish 'Pauper Examinations':

'Jane Cooper aged 75 years lodging at Mrs. Miller's in Mr Hamon's in Hemmings Row in the Parish of St Martin in the Fields upon her oath saith that she is the widow of John Cooper (who died about eight years ago) to whom she was married at Stepney Church 20 years ago, that her said husband lived in and rented an house in Thackhams Court in the Parish aforesaid for the space of two years at the yearly rent of 10 pounds besides taxes, quitted the same several years ago, that he never kept house rented a tenement of 10 pounds by the year nor paid any parish taxes after he quitted the said house in Thackhams Court, nor hath she this Examinant since the death of her said husband. Sworn the 27th Day of August 1762 before Benjamin Cox'.¹⁶

22/10/1767. Louis Hamon's will, written on 30th June 1765, and witnessed by his former neighbours in Kirby Street, John and Benjamin Pingo, was proved and administration granted to his widow, Ann. But she died not long afterwards in February 1768.¹⁷ Administration of the estate and remaining effects of Louis Hamon, together with the care of the children, then passed to Charles Ward, engraver, and William Portal, silversmith. Inventories of the effects, compiled for the administration, survive and are transcribed below, together with the affidavit of Elizabeth Remy, the children's aunt.

Of the children born to Louis and Ann Hamon, the apprenticeship of Louis, his surviving son, is recorded to Robert Jackson, Cabinet Maker, of Rupert Street, St. James, Westminster. 27th October 1777.¹⁸

The Will of Louis Hamon.

'In the Name of God Amen. I will and bequeath my whole personal Estate and Effects whatsoever and wheresoever to be appraised and valued after my decease and the Interest of it to my wife Ann Hamon who shall receive it to support herself and her Children, but in case she should Marry again, then she shall have one hundred pound of lawful money out of my Estate and the Remainder shall be equally divided between all my Children and in case one or more of them should die it shall be equally divided between the Survivors. It is my Will that the Money and Effects that I shall leave shall not be divided between my Children 'till the younger Child is twenty one years of age so that the Interest may support them till that time. Louis Hamon

Witness John Pingo

Benjamin Pingo

June 30. 1765.

Signed sealed published and declared by the said Louis Hamon.

On the twenty seventh day of October in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and sixty seven Administration with the Will annexed of the Goods Chattels and Credits of Louis Hamon late of the parish of Saint Martin in the Fields in the County of Middlesex deceased was granted to Ann Hamon Widow the Relict of

the deceased and one of the Universal Legatees named in the said Will for that no Executor is named therein having been first sworn duly to administer.

On twenty second day of February in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and sixty eight Administration (with the Will annexed) of the Goods Chattels and Credits of Louis Hamon late of the parish of Saint Martin in the Fields in the County of Middlesex deceased left unadministered by Ann Hamon Widow the Relict of the said deceased an one of the Universal Legatees named in the said Will now also deceased was granted to Charles Ward and William Portal the Curators or Guardians lawfully assigned to Esther Hamon Spinster and Ann Hamon Spinster Minors and Lewis Hamon and Mary Hamon Infants the natural and lawful and only Children of the said deceased and universal Legatees substituted in the said Will for the use and benefit of the said Minors and Infants and until they or one of them shall attain the Age of twenty one years for that no Executor is named in the said will having been first sworn duly to administer.’¹⁹

The Inventories.

Louis Hamon.

‘A True full plane perfect and particular Inventory of all and singular the Goods Chattels and Credits of Louis Hamon late of the parish of Saint Martin in the Field in the County of Middlesex deceased left unadministred by Ann Hamon Widow the Relict and one of the Universal Legatees named in the Will of the said deced now also deceased which since her death have come to the Hands possession or knowledge of Charles Ward and William Portal the Curators or Guardians lawfully assigned to Esther Hamon and Ann Hamon Spinsters Minors and by virtue of the Office of the Judge to Lewis Hamon and Mary Hamon Spinster Infants the natural and lawful and only Children and Universal Legatees substituted in the Will of him the said deceased and Administrators with the said Will annexed of the Goods Unadministred of him the said deceased for the use and benefit of the said Minors and Infants and until they or either of them shall attain to the Age of Twenty one years.

First these Exhibitants declare that they have heard and believe there is now in the Hands of Dr. Swinton as a Deposit for a House in Coventry Court in the parish aforesaid the Sum of	60	---	--
Item a Leasehold House in Hemmings Row in the aforesaid parish Lett to Mr. Abraham Clow at the yearly Rent of Twenty five pounds Clear of all Taxes and Repairs except the Land Tax and Ground Rent for the Remainder of Term which will expire eight days before Midsummer one thousand seven Hundred and Eighty three			
Item one Note upon Mr. Boldero Banker for the Sum of	100	---	--
Item one other Note upon Mr. Charles Ward Engraver for the Sum of	100	---	--
Item one other Note upon Abraham Portal Silversmith for the Sum of	50	---	--
Item three other Notes upon Mr. Drummond Banker for ten pounds each making together the Sum of	30	---	--
Item there is due and owing from Mr. Hemming a Goldsmith the sum of	11	---	--
Item one other Note upon Mr. Benjamin Laver a Silversmith for the Sum of	5	5	--
Also due and owing from Mr. Lasage the Sum of			
Item one other Note upon Mr. John Butler for the Sum of	10	---	--
Item one other Note upon Mr. Henrickson Silversmith for the Sum of	6	4	--

Item one other Note upon Mr. Charles Miller Water Gilder for the Sum of	1	16	--
.....m ²⁰ Item one other Note upon Mr. Josephet Ruthebert for the Sum of	1	10	6
	375	17	6

Item one fourth part of a Lottery Tickett for the year one thousand seven Hundred and Sixty seven No. 43,109 and which was drawn a Blank Therefore of no Value

Also these Exhibitants declare that they believe there is now in the Hands of Mr William Lewis Cabinet maker Mr. Morgan and Mr. John Watkins of Abergaveny in Wales which were left in their Hands by the said deceased when he left that place as by a Memorandum thereof found amongst the deceaseds papers the following Effects Vizt.

In the Hands of the aforesaid Mr. Lewis One Mahogany Oval Dining Table with 2 Flaps I Square Dressing Table one Round Mahogany Claw Table one Round Mahogany and brass Claw Table one Close Stool and pewter pan one Bird Breeding Cage a Gun an Oil Stone some Allum two Trays a Work board a Gridiron a Sifter an Brass pan and some Brass and Eleven Shillings being a Ballance for some things bought of the said deceased

In the Hands of the aforesaid Mr Morgan and Mr Watkins

Two Iron Potts two Welch Dishes a Hair Broom an Iron Door for a Furnace a Hammer 2 Gallons of Anniseed 2 New Blanketts 3 old Blanketts a Cart Harness and Collar and some Shelves

Also found in a little Box at the deceaseds Dwelling House a small piece of Quicksilver supposed to have some Gold in but the Value thereof these Exhibitants cannot at present set forth.

Item These Exhibitants further declare that no other Goods Chattels ad Credits of or belonging to the Estate and Effects of him the said deceased (left unadministred as aforesaid) other than what are above by them set forth have come to their or other Hands possession or knowledge but that if hereafter any other shall come to their Hands possession or knowledge they will readily give an account thereof and Charge themselves herewith when there unto lawfully required.

19th February 1768

Charles Ward

Wm Portal

The said Charles Ward and William Portal were sworn to the truth of this Inventory Before Me Wm Compton Surrogate Robt Bogg N.P.²¹

Ann Hamon.

A True full plain perfect and particular Inventory of all and singular the Goods Chattels and Credits of Louis Hamon late of the parish of Saint Martin in the Fields in the County of Middlesex Widow deceased which since her death have come to the Hands possession or knowledge of Charles Ward and William Portal the Curators of Guardians lawfully Assigned to Esther Hamon and Ann Hamon Spinsters Minors and by Virtue of the Office of the Judge to Lewis Hamon and Mary Hamon Spinsters Infants the natural and lawful and only Children of her the said deceased and administrators of all and singular the Goods Chattles and Credits of her the said deceased for the use and benefit of

the said Minors and Infants and untill one of them shall attain the age of Twenty one years as they were taken valued and appraised fourth of December 1767 by Richard Smithson and Peter Drummond

Goods sold to Mr James Reney by appraisement

In the front Garret

A half Teaster Bedstead Green Furniture two Feather beds one bolster three quilts two Blanketts a low Chest of Drawers a wainscott chest of Drawers a Do. Table a Childs mattress a small Bedstead and ten Blanketts some matting and two Bird Cages a half Teaster Bed two Wire Blinds two Chairs a Stool and a pair of Bellows a Box Iron one Heater a Stove Grate a parcel of Tin Cannisters some prints Earthen Ware and Stone Ware and part of an old Stove

In the two pair of Stairs Room

A four post Bedstead a Close Stool Earthen pan two looking Glasses three China Muggs two Teapott a Nest of Corner Shelves a Range Cheeks and Fender poker and Bellows a Turnup Bedstead Half Teaster Green Furniture Feather Bed Bolster one pillow three Blanketts one quilt a Turnup Bedstead three wainscott Tables four Chairs a Square Tea Table a Looking Glass a Row of pins a Mississipy Table twelve Stone Balls two Trivetts three Maps

In the Club Room

A Stove Grate Brass Front Do. Fender Poker four Chairs three Square wainscott Tables six prints Framed and Glazed four pictures two plaister figures two Brass arms two Do. Guard Brasses eight Cloak pins a Deal Beaufet a Slate a Lock and Key to the Door a Sconce Glass in a Gilt frame a poor mans Jack a Bell and two pulls

In the back Room

A small Grate Fender Shovel part of a Rod a half Teaster Bedstead and Furniture a Feather Bed Bolster & Pillow two Blanketts and two Quilts a Chair two Rows of pins a walnutree Duoble Chest of Drawers

In the Tap Room

A Compass grate Iron Back Cheeks Back and Pott Barr a Fender and two grated Shovels two pokers two Trivetts a Hanging Barr a Brass eight day dial a large Gridiron five Iron Candlesticks two pair of snuffers a Toasting Fork a Brass Shade a trim Do. and Lamp two purl Do. a Draft Board and Men a large ele Shin Stirft ²² 4 Brass Cloak pins two wood Chairs the Bell as fixt with Cranks wires and three pulls four Drinking Tables four Curtains three Rods and two uprights two Scoring Slates

In the Barr

A square Deal Table a Cupboard with Shelves Lock and Key a nest of Drawers four Mahogany bottle Stands one Punch Ladle two Graters a Cork Drawer a meat Hook two Lead Inkstands four peices of tin ware two China Bowles three Delph Ditto one Bason sundry peices of Earth and Stone ware a Glass Globe five Case Bottles a Quart Decanter a Do. two pints one half pint three Cruits twenty four peices of Glass and one Tumbler a pull to the Bell a Glass Lamp and stand three Slates three pewter

pint wine measures four half pints one Gill a pewter Crane two Brass Cocks a Tin Candle Box a Box with eight Knives and eight Forks

In the Passage

A Copper fixt wood Cover and Iron work a Bench and Rinsing Tub Lines and weights to the Door a Stove Back and wire Seive a Knife Board two Brooms two wood Bowles a Kegg for waste Beer a padlock and Key to Cellar Door

In the Kitchen

A Range Cheeks Keeper and Iron Back a Fender and pair of Tongs a Large Trivet a small Gridiron part of a Halbert a Jack Fixt two Spits one Rack a Flesh Fork and Sciver a poor Mans Jack a Copper pottage pott and Cover a Do. Fish Kettle plate and Cover three wood Chairs all the Pewter Shelves and a pott Do. two wainscott Tables an Ironing Board a Corner Cupboard a Salt Box a Stove Grate Iron Back a Tin Coffee Pott two Covers a Cheese Toaster two tin Slices seven pewter Dishes nine plates a pair of Bellows a Harrateen window Curtain and Rod

Yard

A Form and a pail a Copper Stew pan and Iron Frying pan a Brass Cock and the free of the water Tub a parcel of Tin wood and Stone ware

In the Cellar

Four plains a Gimblett two pott moulds a half Teaster Rod a Cupboard and three Stone Bottles a Bead Roller two old Chairs some Iron Hoops a Bird Cage some wood & Earthen ware four wash Tubs an old Box a parcel of Fire wood part of a Table a peice of Cast Iron a Do. pestle and mortar a Copper Stew pan a wood funnell a tin watering pott an Iron Shovel part of a Grate the free of six tubs seven Brass Cocks a half hundred Iron weight a Large Poaching can an Iron frying pan

The aforesaid Goods were appraised and Sold to the aforesaid Mr. Reney for the Sum of Forty pounds By us

Richard Smithson

Pet Drummond

40 -- --

A Cask of Dorchester Beer

3 - 10 --

Stock of Beer Coals Brandy and other Liquors sold for

40 -- --

The following Goods were on the ninth day of January last sold by auction at the late dwelling House of her the said deceased vizt.

In the Garrett

Some old Drawers & a Corner Cupboard a wainscott Beaurae a Do. Chest of Drawers two nests of drawers and a sett of Holes all the Shelves the Stove and Sashes a Trough and Frame four Trays wood

patterns and Charcoal four Bells a Box with old Iron a Fire Shovel some Curtain Rods and Bars a Basket with Old Locks a parcel of Crucibles Lead Potts &c a parcel of Stone Jars and flint Glass two Stone Bottles of Quick silver a Brass fire pan and thirteen others an Iron Do. a Shovel and trowells a Glew pott pestle and mortar Sundry Brass Cocks patterns and other Brass a parcell of Iron Tools Burnishing Tools and wire Brushes a nail Box old pulleys and old Iron a large vice a Box a Drum Seive a Bowl a swing and some papers two pair of Scales a parcel of Brass weights and Lead Do. three Saws a large parcel of Hair Brushes

40 -- ---

In the two pair of Stairs Room

A Feather Bed Bolster two pillows three Blanketts one quilt a Linnen quilt a pillar and Claw Table Three matted Chairs two Mahogany low Chairs two Mahogany Tea Chests a Box Iron two Heaters and three Flat Irons two Stands and a Fender a Stove Grate Brass Fender Shovel Tongs Poker and Bellows two Sifters a Footman & a Tea Kettle a Box with ten Knives and eleven forks four Brass Candlesticks and a sallad Basket a Copper pottage pott and Cover a Copper warming pan three Sauce pans and three Covers two Tea Kettles two Stew pans and Brass Ladle and Brass Knocker an Iron frying pan a footman and two pair of Bellows and two tin Cannisters eleven pewter dishes and Twenty one plates at pr pound one water Dish and two plates a pewter Cullender a pair of Chese Scales a half Teaster Bedstead Check Furniture a Feather Bed Bolster and two pillows a Check Mattress One Blankett and Quilt a Mahogany Stump Bedstead a small Feather Bed a Bolster and two pillows a four post Bedstead Compleat pair of Mahogany fluted Foot Pillars part of a Bedstead printed Cotton Furniture for a four post Bedstead two pair of Cotton Festoon window Curtains and three Laths a wainscot Cloaths press four Chairs and a Smoaking Do a Duoble Chest of Drawers an Easy Chair covered with Blue Damask a neat Spinnet on a frame a Japaned Cabinet a Sconce Glass in a Gilt frame and Brass arms a Do. in a Black and Gilt Do. a Mahogany low Chest of Drawers a Sconce Glass in a wallnutree frame a pillar and Claw Table eight mahogany Chairs Horse hair seats a Sconce Glass in a painted frame a Chimney Glass in a Gilt frame a Do. in Do one end of the plate broke a white Cotton Counterpain a Check Quilt a Check Quilt a pair of Check window Curtains a Crimson Bed Furniture two pair of Crimson window Curtains Sheeting at pr yard Flannel at ... pr yard a pair of Boots and three pair of Shoes four Brass Locks an alarm Clock a pair of Steps a Cloths Horse and five Boxes and a Cupboard two mahogany Tea boards and a tea Tray a pair of Glass Sconces a Copper Tea Kettle a Bag of Feathers and a Cushion two Check Covers for an Easy Chair a sett of money weights and Scales a pair of small Scales a Green Curtain

Wearing apparel

Three Silk Handkerchiefs a light brown silk Gown a Dark Brown Do. a pompadour Do a white Linnen Do. a white Bed Do.²³ a light Stuff Petticoat a Black Do two pair of Stays a Black Cardinal a Do. Sattin one trimmed a Black Silk apron two Bonnets a Remnant of Black Silk two Black Handkerchiefs a light Cloth Coat a Brown Cloth Coat a Blue Do. a Mixt Do a Silk Grogeram a new light Brown Do. a Black Coat a Scarlet Surtout a Bath Bays Do. a Blue Banyan a Stript Night Gown a Black Knit waiscot a Do. Cloth Do. a Scarlet Do. a white Sattin Do. two white Linnen Do. two Flannel Do. seven Shirts and Neckcloth two night Caps a Hatt and three wigs a hanger a Lace Handkerchief a Remnant of Muslin a pair of Leather Breeches two pair of knit Do. a pair of Black Leather Do. nineteen pair of worsted Stockings two pair of Boot Stockings two pair of black Gloves thirteen Childs Caps two forehead Cloths four Bibs twenty two Clouts three Shifts two waiscotts two Blankets two Robes and two Gowns

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China and Glass

Six Sollop'd Cups and six Saucers one Do. and Six Saucers six Enamelled Do. and Six Do. Six [caret and the following word inserted above] Do Cups two Broke Six Do. one broke four Do. Cups and four [caret and the following word inserted above] Do Saucers two teapotts a milk pot a half pint Bason and a Mugg five broken plates a Figured Bowl²⁴ 2 small Bowls and a Dish a Japaned waiter and a pair of Snuffers ten peices of Glass a Delph Bowl and two Flower potts

Books

Fifteen French Books twenty Do. nineteen Do in vellum twenty eight Do. twenty nine Labeld Bound Books a History of England and French Herbelist Histoire De Le Englise et L'conpire Elzovons Bible Stories Do. Calvins Institution ninety three numbers of the Bible by Buttey a Bible Husbandry and Gardening two vols. And two more

Wearing apparel reserved for the Children

Three necklaces a Flannel petticoat a Bitt of Black Callimanco three pair of thread Stockings two white Dimmitty petticoats one Silk Cloak a Do. apron and Handkerchief a Lawn Handkerchief and a peice of Muslin twopeices of Ordinary Lace a Remnant of Flannel seven old²⁵ Gowns two pair of Sheets two Bed Gowns a Remanant of Linnen Cloth to make Shifts four white aprons the History of the Bible with Cutts and one other pair of Sheets

Sold by auction for the sum of

One hundred and one pounds and appraised

By

Richard Smithson

Pet Drummond

101 - -

Plate

Two Silver pint Muggs wt. 26oz. 10dwts at 6d. p oz.

7 - 19 -

A Gilt Silver Coral

1 - - 8 -

A waiter 9oz. 7dwt. At 5s. 6d. p oz.

2 - 11 - 3

6 Table Spoons wt. 11oz. 4dwt. At 5s. 6d. p oz

3 - - 1 - 6

6 Tea Spoons a pair of tea Tongs and a Strainer wt. 3oz. 5dwt. At Six Shillings p oz.

1 - 2 - - 6

1 Marrow Spoon wt. 1 oz. 8dwt at 5s p oz.

--- 7 ---

a Milk Saucepan wt. 2oz. at 5s/6d. p oz.

--- 11 -

1 Dram cup & 1 pepper caster wt. 3oz. 7dwt. At 5s. 6 p ounce

-----18 - 8

202 : 8 . 6

	Brot. forward	202 . 8 . 6
1 Punch Ladle		--- 5 ---
1 Silver nutmeg Grater		--- 3 ---
1 Pencil Case and a Tooth pick Case		--- 10 - 6
1 Silver watch		2 - 12 - 6
1 Silver Chain		--- 4 ---
13 Silver Buckles		1 - 1 ----
1 Brilliant Diamond Ring		4 - 14 - 6
1 Gold wedding Ring 1 Reading Glass one pair of Dress Earrings for a Child one pair of Stone Buttons and a Thimble		1 --- 8 ---
a parcell of metal Buckles		--- 3 ---
1 Case mounted with Silver		--- 4 ---
Cash found in the House		23 - 10 ---
A pap Spoon wt. 14dwt.		--- 3 - 9
	Total	<u>237 : 7 . 9</u>

Item These Exhibitants further declare that no other Goods Chattells and Credits of or belonging to the Estate and Effects of her the said deceased other than what are above by them set forth have come to their or either of their Hands possession or knowledge but that if hereafter any other shall come to their Hands possession or knowledge they will readily give an Account thereof and charge themselves therewith when thereunto lawfully required

19th Feby 1768

The said Charles Ward and William Portal were sworn to the truth of this Inventory [Signatures of Charles Ward and Wm. Portal] Before Me

Wm. Compton

Surrogate

prsence. Robt. Bogg NP.²⁶

Affidavit of Elizabeth Hamon.

Louis Hamon deced.

Affidt. of Elizabeth Remy entred the 19th & brot. in 22d. Feby 1768

19th Febr 1768

Appeared Personally Elizabeth Remy of the Parish of Saint Giles in the Fields in the County of Middlesex Spinster and being Sworn on the Holy Evangelists deposed That She is of the Age of Eighteen Years and Upwards but not yet Arrived to the Age of Twenty one Years And that She is the lawfull Aunt by her Mother's Side and one of the next of Kin of Ester Hamon Spinster and Ann Hamon Spinster Minors and also Lewis Hamon and Mary Hamon Infants the only natural and lawfull Children of Louis Hamon and Ann Hamon both deceased late of the Parish of Saint Martin in the Fields in the County of Middlesex and that She this Deponent had a Sister named Mary Remy --- and a --- Brother named James Remy – who are with her the only next of Kin of the said Minors and Infants And that her said Sister left England and went abroad about twelve years since and her said Brother also left – England [caret and next word inserted above] and went abroad about five years since and knows not whether they are living or dead She further deposes that the said Ester Hamon and Ann Hamon the Minros aforesaid and the said Lewis Hamon and Mary Hamon the Infants aforesaid have since their said father and Mother's Death been under the Care of their Grandmother Ann Remy who is lately dead and since her death the said Minors and Infants have been under the Care of Mr. Charles Ward of Rupert Street in the Parish of Saint James Westminster in the County of Middlesex Engraver and Mr. Wm. Portal of Orange Street in the Parish of Saint Martin in the Fields in the County of Middx. Silver Smith and as She this Deponent is incapable by reason of her Minority of taking upon her the Curation or Guardianship of her sd. Nieces the Minors afsd. and her said Nephew and Neice the Infants aforementioned She is very desirous that the sd. Charles Ward and Wm. Portal may be appointed and Assigned their Curators or Guardians for the Purpose of taking out Letters of Admon. with the Will Annexed of the Goods Chattels and Credits of the sd. Louis Hamon deced. left Unadstred by the said Ann Hamon his Widow and Relict also deced They being the principal Legatees Substituted in the Will of hi the sd. Louis Hamon decd. and likewise to take out Letters of Admon of all and Singular the Goods Chattels and Credits of the sd. Ann Hamon as dying Intestate for their Use and Benefit and untill they or either of them shall attain the Age of Twenty one Years. [signature of Elizabeth Remy]

Same Day

The sd. Elizth. Remy Spinster was Sworn to the truth of the above Affidavit

Before Me

Wm. Compton

Surrogate

prsence Robt. Bogg NP²⁷

An interim Conclusion.

Nothing in the evidence of Hamon's life so far adduced proves that he *could not* have been the maker who used the mark 'Grimwade 3720'. On the other hand, there is nothing to support the suggestion. The marks registered by Hamon all have a dove of peace above his initials. Hamon continued to use the sign of the dove for his business and, had he used other marks, might have been expected to continue to use the device in his mark. 'Grimwade 3720' has no device, being two initials within an outline of conjoined circles. Moreover, the evidence suggests that Hamon had stopped silversmithing

some years before his death. A detailed record of surviving silver articles struck with the ‘known marks’ registered by Hamon might provide further evidence of this.

The inventories and the affidavit of Elizabeth Remy provide a fascinating and intimate insight of the life of Hamon and his family. But the material is, like so much historical evidence, tantalisingly limited: why, for example, had Hamon been to Abergavenny? Did Ann Hamon, his widow, turn to tavern-keeping after his death or had that business been established for some time before? As material is uncovered to extend this essay, so it will be edited and up-dated.

¹ A pair of 1736 Salt Cellars marked by Hamon, the property of the National Trust, Ickworth, NT 852073, is, however, quite plain and ordinary.

² National Archives, IR.1/11 F.46. The information supplied by Robert Barker for the biographical supplement in the third edition of Grimwade.

³ Registers published by the Huguenot Society.

⁴ Registers published by the Huguenot Society.

⁵ *Daily Advertiser* (London, England), Saturday, November 20, 1742; Issue 3694.

⁶ *Daily Advertiser* (London, England), Friday, December 3, 1742; Issue 3705.

⁷ *Daily Advertiser* (London, England), Friday, December 24, 1742; Issue 3723.

⁸ *Daily Advertiser* (London, England), Tuesday, February 22, 1743; Issue 3774.

⁹ National Archives, SP/36/67F. 256.

¹⁰ *Daily Advertiser* (London, England), Friday, September 13, 1745; Issue 4595.

¹¹ *London Gazette* (London, England), July 30, 1748 - August 2, 1748; Issue 8767.

¹² See: ratebooks for the Liberty of Saffron Hill, microfilm copies held at the Holborn Library, Local Studies Room; ratebooks for the parishes of St. Paul Covent Garden and St. Martin in the Fields, microfilm copies held at the Westminster Local History Library.

¹³ ‘Lewis Hamon’, from the parish of St. Sepulchre, was buried at St. George Bloomsbury on 04/01/1757. For the will see: National Archives, PROB11/828/81, proved 07/02/1757. In his will, Louis Hamon senior left his estate [apart from one shilling left to his son] to his widow, Margaret. The will was witnessed by Thomas Pratten, John Ruskin and Nicholas Farmen. A few years later, Margaret Hamon, widow, of the parish of St. Sepulchre Holborn, married Richard Templer, bachelor, of the same parish by licence [06/01/1761]. The licence was witnessed by John Ruskin and Mary Jones. However, Margaret’s death is recorded in the burial register of St. Sepulchre less than a year after her marriage – on the 30th December 1761, aged 44 – which noted her address as Benjamin Street. Richard Templer re-married on the 22/02/1762/3: his new wife, Mary Owen, a spinster of the parish of St. Sepulchre [see the parish registers, in which the marriage is witnessed by John Ruskin and Mary Ruskin]. The christenings of a number of children from this marriage appear in the parish register of St. Botolph Aldgate, giving Templer’s address as ‘Upper East Smithfield’, from 1765 to 1776.

Richard Templer, watchmaker in East-Smithfield (in the parish of St. Sepulchre), advertised the theft of a watch in ‘The Public Advertiser’ of 01/03/1766:

Public Office, Bow-street, Feb. 28, 1766.

Stolen within these eight Days, out of the Shop of Mr. RICHARD TEMPLER, Watchmaker, near the Maypole, East Smithfield, a Silver Watch with a Silver Dial Plate, on which is engraved Woodward, and James Woodward, and the Letter B. instead of the Number on the slide, had to it a blue Ribbon and Key; also a brown

Suit of Cloaths for a Boy of 12 Years of Age, with white Metal Buttons, the Coat lined with brown, and the Waistcoat and Breeches with White Flannel.

If offered to be pawned or sold, stop them and the Party, and give Notice to Sir John Fielding, and you shall receive one Guinea Reward for the Watch, or a Reward in Proportion to the Value of the Cloaths, from the above Mr. Templer. [For this advertisement, see the Burney Newspaper Collection, now digitised].

It also seems likely that Richard Templer, after moving to Wapping, was made a bankrupt. The following auctioneer's advertisement appeared in the *Gazetteer and New Daily Advertiser* of 15/11/1779:

By Mr. Skinner,

On Thursday next, at eleven o'clock, on the premises, at the Hermitage, Wapping, by order of the Assignees, THE FASHIONABLE STOCK in TRADE of Mr. RICHARD TEMPLER.

Silversmith, Jeweller, and Watchmaker, a Bankrupt, Consisting of a large assortment of well-finished buckles, of the newest patterns, variety of light and saleable articles of plate, some jewellery, a number of good watches, two excellent spring table-clocks, two eight-day clocks, one in a mahogany case, and other effects.

To be viewed on Wednesday, when catalogues may be had on the premises, at Garraway's Coffee-house, and of Mr. Skinner, Aldersgate-street. [Burney Newspaper Collection].

¹⁴ Vicar General Marriage Allegations and Bonds. On microfilm at Society of Genealogists, London.

¹⁵ A burial record in the registers of St. George Bloomsbury probably refers to Esther: 'Hester Hamin' from 'Christ Church Surry' on 12/11/1771. 'Christ Church Surry' may be the parish of Christ Church in Southwark.

¹⁶ St Martin in the Fields Pauper Examinations, 1725-179, F5052 Jane Cooper female 75 27/08/1762 B.W. Digitised on the 'London Lives' website.

¹⁷ National Archives C40/4.

¹⁸ National Archives, IR.

¹⁹ National Archives, Prob 11/932/49.

²⁰ Here the paper is torn. The letter 'm' has the word 'Item' is inserted above the line with a caret below. The surname after 'Mr. Joseph' is cut leaving only 'et' and the name 'Ruthebert' is added above with a caret below.

²¹ National Archives, PROB 31/533/73.

²² The last three words difficult to decipher.

²³ Here a caret is added with the following seven words inserted: 'a light Stuff Petticoat a Black Do'

²⁴ Here a caret is added and the following three words inserted above: '2 small Bowls'

²⁵ Here a caret is added and the following seven words inserted above: 'Gowns two pair of Sheets two Bed'

²⁶ National Archives, PROB 31/533/75.

²⁷ National Archives, PROB 31/533/78