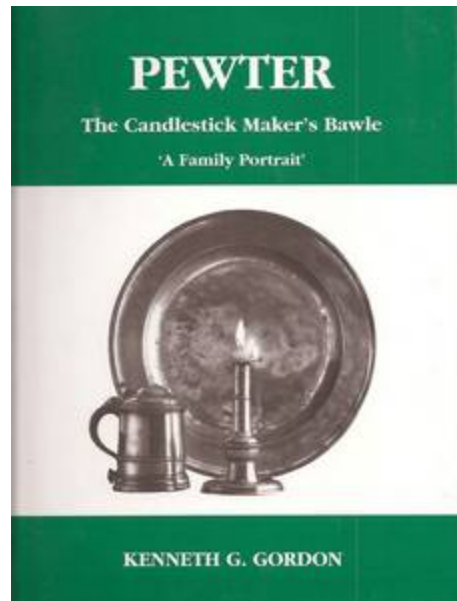


## The Candlestick Maker's Bawle 'A Family Portrait'



In this book, written and published by the Pewter collector Kenneth G Gordon in 1994, he has tracked down 40 of the 50 or so, known surviving ball-knopped candlesticks.

Excellent photographs by James Johnson enhance this well presented and bound publication of some 67 pages and fifty illustrations.

This is a study of what is said to be a very English pewter candlestick of the seventeenth and early eighteenth century. Whilst perhaps commonplace in their day very few survive and those in good condition are greatly valued by collectors. A simple pair should sell for thousands of pounds at auction today.

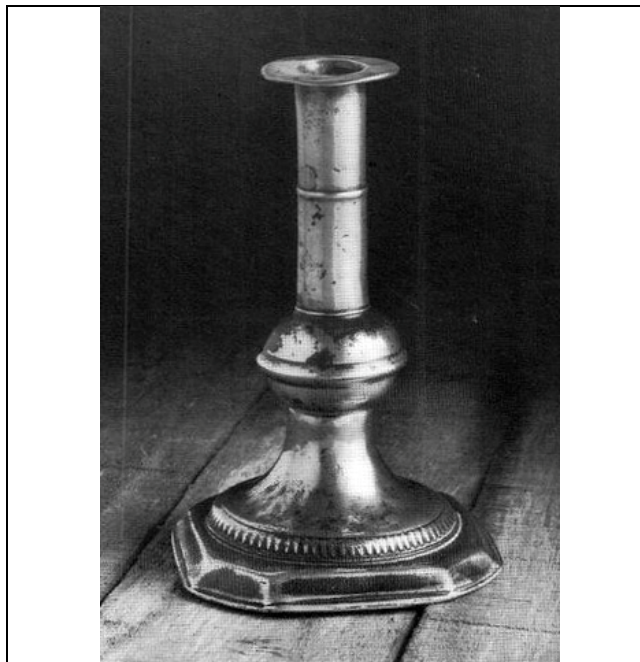
This type of candlestick is defined by Kenneth Gordon as – of *simple tubular stemmed construction with a round or flattened ball or similar protuberance on the lower half or the middle of the stem.*

This book continues with good description of the parts of construction.

The charm for the collector is said to be the no-nonsense smokestack characteristics. There was some decoration in the late 17<sup>th</sup> and early 18<sup>th</sup> centuries usually of gadrooning. Whilst all such candlesticks are prized by collectors the very plain ones are treasured.

There are notes on dating, construction and weight. These are followed by descriptions of the candlesticks relating to the photographs taking full page illustrations to the back half of the book.

For example –



**BALL KNOP No. 17**

Height	5 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches
Weight	9 ounces (avoirdupois)
Interior diameter of candlestick nozzle	$\frac{7}{10}$ inches
Overall diameter of flange	1 $\frac{1}{10}$ inches
Upper stem fillet	— single worn and not over-emphasised fillet
Knop	— evidence of worn gadrooning on upper and lower halves of the knop, which has fillet
Base	— octangular — width 3 $\frac{1}{10}$ inches
Base type	— rising in a plinth from an octangular pedestal as manufactured
Marks	— worn gadrooning above the octangular base There are traces of a possible touch mark on the flange, but to my eyes this is not distinguishable

This charmer is once again being hawked through public pages having previously appeared in 'The Connoisseur' some 35 years ago and in other publications. It has been described as having had 'A tiny touch upon the lip with the initials 'T B' in a diamond' and was I understand previously in the R. W. Cooper collection. Apologies for once again ignominiously frog-marching it through the present hit parade but a thing of beauty is a joy for ever. If the initials of the maker are on this piece and are or were 'T B', researches turned up about thirty odd possible pewterers who may have produced this candlestick — and even so it could have been someone else.

## **The Candlestick Maker's Bawle 'A Family Portrait'**

is available from the Pewter Society at a price of £5 plus £2 for first class post and packing within the UK (**total £7**) – it is good value for any new collector!

Book size (front) approx 10" x 7 ½"

Individual prices will be quoted for customers outside the UK. Simply it will be the actual postage plus 74 pence for the protective packing.

To buy this book contact - [publications@pewtersociety.org](mailto:publications@pewtersociety.org)

The originator of this website is the publications officer (in 2011) for the UK Pewter Society. There are no commissions or benefits to this website of recommending this booklet. It is simply here to encourage interest in the subject – and perhaps to assist your collecting.