

*Ans'd
Nov. 4/92*
R. W. MARTIN & BROTHERS,
ART POTTERS.

B 436

THE SOUTHALL POTTERY,
SOUTHALL,
MIDDLESEX.

Show Rooms and Business Address:—16, BROWNLOW STREET, HOLBORN, W.C. (Side of the First Avenue Hotel).

Genl Pitt Rivers.

Nov. 2nd 1892

Dear Sir:

In reference to the two Ings which we have in hand for you we think your Monogram under the two Crests on the one side would look better & balance better with the Arms on the other than the two crests alone. Should this suggestion meet with your approval will you kindly let us know what the monogram shall be.

Yours Obedtly
R. W. Martin & Bros.

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Show Rooms and Business Address:—16, BROWNLOW STREET, HOLBORN, W.C. (Side of the First Avenue Hotel).

General Pitt Rivers

Oct. 18th 1894

Dear Sir,

We have to-day sent off the two Jugs
you kindly requested us to make for you, and we
are sorry to have had them so long in hand; but really
this has been no fault of ours, it is entirely due to the
uncertainties inseparable from the firing of our ware.
You will understand this when we mention the fact

that last Autumn we made and fired a pair of Snags
for this order, but owing to the colour not being good
we refired them at the beginning of this year, which
was the next firing to the Autumn one, and instead of
improving them they unfortunately split up & of course
were thus ruined. The pair we have sent you to-day are,
as you will see, very fine indeed, in fact as beautiful as
anything we have ever turned out. We have charged
you 6 guineas for them - The price would have been
7 guineas had we not agreed to charge you less as we wished
you to let us make a pair, instead of one to try & match the
other with.

We are, Dear Sir,

Yours faithfully R. W. Martin & Brothers.

P.S.

We have returned your
other Snag in the same box.

Ans'd
May 4/95.
R. W. MARTIN & BROTHERS,
ART POTTERS.

B436

THE SOUTHALL POTTERY,
SOUTHALL,
MIDDLESEX.

Show Rooms and Business Address:—16, BROWNLOW STREET, HOLBORN, W.C. (Side of the First Avenue Hotel).

General Pitt Rivers,

April 24th 1895.

Dear Sir,

We have your letter of the 21st inst. and beg to thank you for the order to make you 6 mugs according to the instructions therein given. We will, of course, do our best to produce the

same or similar color to the jugs,
but this we cannot guarantee as the
firing of this ware is very uncertain.

We are glad to hear that you like
the pair of jugs; we consider them very
fine specimens of our ware.

We are, Dear Sir,

Yours faithfully

R. W. Martin & Brothers.

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Ans'd
May 4/95.

R. W. MARTIN & BROTHERS,
ART POTTERS.

THE SOUTHALL POTTERY,
SOUTHALL,
MIDDLESEX.

Show Rooms and Business Address:—16, BROWNLOW STREET, HOLBORN, W.C. (Side of the First Avenue Hotel).

General Pitt Rivers.

May 2nd 1895.

Dear Sir,

We beg to say we have put in hand
the six mugs you kindly ordered; and we
suppose they are to be made for mounting,
the same as the two jugs you have.

With regard to the Crests we shall be

obliged if you will please let us know
if we can put one of the crests on three of
the mugs & the other on the other three; as
if both are to be put on each mug they would
have to be drawn so small that they would
not balance well with the arms on the other
side. We think they would look best as on
the jugs.

Yours faithfully

R. W. Martin & Brothers

Ans.
May 1895.

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R. W. MARTIN & BROTHERS,
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THE SOUTHALL POTTERY,
SOUTHALL,
MIDDLESEX.

Show Rooms and Business Address:—16, BROWNLOW STREET, HOLBORN, W.C. (Side of the First Avenue Hotel).

General Pitt Rivers,

May 9th 1895.

Dear Sir,

As you requested in your letter of the 6th inst. I send you sketches enclosed for the six mugs we have in hand for your order. I have noted & communicated to my brothers what you say as to decoration & color

though of the latter, as I mentioned in a
previous letter, we cannot be certain of.
We will try for a black ground + black
handles + leave the ornament to come a
brown, unless you can suggest anything
else.

I suppose the Arms, being
the more important, should go on the
right hand side of all the mugs?

Yours faithfully
Cha: D. Martin.

Ans.
May 1895.

B436

R. W. MARTIN & BROTHERS,
ART POTTERS.

THE SOUTHALL POTTERY,
SOUTHALL,
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Show Rooms and Business Address:—16, BROWNLOW STREET, HOLBORN, W.C. (Side of the First Avenue Hotel).

General Pitt Rivers.

May 16 1895.

Dear Sir,

We shall be obliged if you will kindly return us the sketches for mugs with any further suggestions you may have to make.

Yours faithfully
R. W. Martin Bros

Copy

(B436)

Rushmore

May 18/95.

Sir,

I return the drawings of the
Mugs. I think the sides wd.
be better with a slightly con-
vex curve as shown by the
pencil line. I shall be glad
if you will send me an estimate
of the cost. Of course they
will be proportionally less
than the Jugs being smaller.
The black ground + grey figures
will be best as I pointed out
to you.

R. W. MARTIN & BROTHERS,
ART POTTERS.

Ans'd
May 24/95

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Show Rooms and Business Address:—16, BROWNLOW STREET, HOLBORN, W.C. (Side of the First Avenue Hotel).

General Pitt Rivers.

May 22nd 1895

Dear Sir,

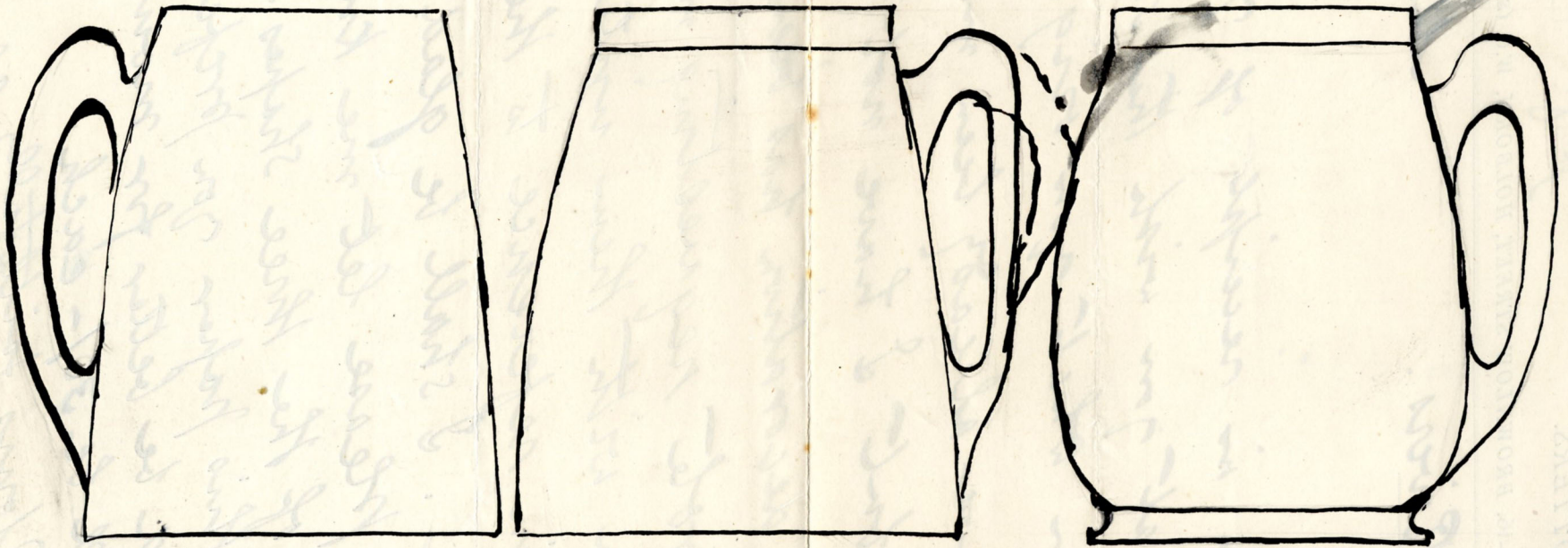
We are in receipt of yours of 18th inst. and note that you wish the shape of Mugs altered from what you originally ordered. The mugs have already been made the shape first given, but I have not heard yet whether any decoration has been put on them or not. I wrote requesting my Brothers not to go on with them until I had written you in reference to the shape you now require. I shall be glad therefore if you will please let me know by return post which of the three shapes ~~to~~ sketched on other side of this paper you prefer. I think No 2 + 3 would be better for mounting than No 1. The price will be 30/- each.

Yours faithfully
Chas. D. Martin.

No 1.

No 2.

No 3.



Please state the No. of the above
which you prefer + kindly return
the decorated sketches enclosed.

R. W. MARTIN & BROTHERS,
ART POTTERS.

Ans'd.
Mar. 4/96.

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THE SOUTHALL POTTERY,
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Show Rooms and Business Address:—16, BROWNLOW STREET, HOLBORN, W.C. (Side of the First Avenue Hotel).

General Pitt Rivers,

Dec. 11th 1895.

Sir,

We are very sorry that your six Mugs, although made, have not yet been fired — the alterations at our Pottery, mentioned in our previous letter, having taken much longer time than we expected. We shall most

probably fire our kiln next month,
& your Mugs will be in that firing.
This is the first time in twenty three years
that our firing has been so delayed, & we
are very sorry indeed to have thus disappointed
you.

We are Sir,

Yours faithfully

R. W. Martin & Brothers

R. W. MARTIN & BROTHERS,
ART POTTERS.

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THE SOUTHALL POTTERY,
SOUTHALL,
MIDDLESEX.

Show Rooms and Business Address:—16, BROWNLOW STREET, HOLBORN, W.C. (Side of the First Avenue Hotel).

General Pitt Rivers.

March 6th 1896.

Sir, I am in receipt of yours of the 4th inst. & am sorry to say that owing to an accident to one of my brothers, who, through a fall, has severely injured his elbow, we have not been able to fire our kiln as we had anticipated.

It is a very unfortunate thing just now
as we had already delayed our firing
considerably beyond the usual time
through having had to make considerable
alterations + experiments at our pottery for the
productions of another ware, as well as the ware
we have been making now for nearly a quarter
of a century.

I am going down to Southall tomorrow
to see my brother + will write you again soon.
I am very sorry to have disappointed you so much. Yours faithfully
Chas. D. Martin

R. W. MARTIN & BROTHERS,
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Show Rooms and Business Address:—16, BROWNLOW STREET, HOLBORN, W.C. (Side of the First Avenue Hotel).

General Pitt Rivers,

April 14th 1896.

Sir,

We are in receipt of yours of the 11th inst. and are very sorry you do not like the Mugs, especially as we did our best to carry out your instructions; and, although the firing of this ware is always very uncertain, as we explained to you on a previous occasion, we certainly thought we had succeeded in getting the effect you desired, & which not a few of our customers admire, hence our saying we considered the mugs had turned out satisfactorily. But as you say you are dissatisfied with them we do not desire you to keep them, for, although they bear your Arms &c. we shall have no difficulty in disposing of them, ^{though of course at a reduced price.} however, we should like to be allowed to state that we understood you to say that you liked the way the first jugs had

fired better than the second ones because the work on the former was less distinct from the ground; and although we cannot control the firing of this ware so as to be certain of producing any desired effect, we nevertheless did all we could to make them like the first pair of jugs, before mentioned.

Knowing that some effects in this ware of ours improve on acquaintance, we venture to take the liberty of asking you to keep these mugs for a little while to see if the result would be so in this instance. But should you not wish to do so, we shall be obliged if you will kindly have them carefully packed & returned to us at our Holborn address.

We are, Sir,

Yours faithfully

R. W. Martin & Brothers.

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ART POTTERS.

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Show Rooms and Business Address:—16, BROWNLOW STREET, HOLBORN, W.C. (Side of the First Avenue Hotel).

General Pitt Rivers.

June 18th 1896.

Sir

We have received the 6 Mugs back and are sorry they have not improved on acquaintance — We really thought you would have liked them very much because you said you preferred the first pair of Jugs to the second pair as the decoration was not so distinct from the ground on the former & the effect was like leather, & this you wrote in one of your letters describing what you wished the mugs to be like.

The clay & the treatment for color were exactly the same as used in making the two pairs of jugs above referred to.

and the difference in the result is only due to the uncertain firing of this ware, which, as we explained before, cannot be covered up in the kiln, as it is all salt-glazed - that is when the ware is got to a white heat salt is put into the fire + into the kiln + the vapour of the salt attacks the ware + the surface is melted.

The colors are affected by many things quite out of our control, amongst them flames + vapours, which play about the ware + may produce either good or bad results, or peculiar effects.

Will you kindly let us know if the shape decoration &c. are as you wished + if we shall put 1896 on the Mugs when we endeavour to meet your wishes.

Yours faithfully

R. W. Martin & Brothers

B43C

Rushmore,

Salisbury.

July 22nd, 1896.

Messrs. R. W. Martin & Brothers,

Sirs,

I am directed by General Pitt-Rivers, in reply to your letter of June 18th, to say that you may proceed to make the six Mugs as you propose, with the same design as before, but the shape must correspond exactly with the enclosed drawing. The date will have to be altered to 1896, and General Rivers wishes the mugs to be done in the same manner as the first jugs you made.

Yours faithfully,

H. Gray.

For General Pitt-Rivers.

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Show Rooms and Business Address:—16, BROWNLOW STREET, HOLBORN, W.C. (Side of the First Avenue Hotel).

General Pitt Rivers,

Oct. 15 1896.

Sir,

We beg to say we are about to make the six mugs again & should be glad if you could kindly let us have the Jug you like, so that we could see if it really was treated in any way differently from the six mugs which you returned, or was, as we feel certain, simply different on account of the firing, as we mentioned in our letters.

We should also like to know if the mugs are intended to be mounted, as if so it would be better to have the top rim cut back a little to take the mount.

We are Sir,

Yours faithfully

R. W. Martin & Brothers

Ans'd.
June 4/97

B436

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Show Rooms and Business Address:—16, BROWNLOW STREET, HOLBORN, W.C. (Side of the First Avenue Hotel).

General Pitt Rivers,

June 2. 1897

Sir,

We beg to say we have today sent you, per Parcel Post, a Mug - one of a second half dozen made + shaped according to your sketch, and dated 1896. These were fired some months ago, but we did not send them to you because they fired so much like those you returned, and our only object in sending this one now is, that as we are making them again, and this is the year of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee we thought you might like to suggest some slight reference to it to be put on the mugs. Of course we should put 1897. We could put "V.R. ^{or V.R.I.} 1837 - 1897 on the front, or thus - ^{V.R.I.} 1837 1897. We will try another way this time to get more contrast between the ground and the decoration. We have sold all the mugs but two.

An early answer will oblige

Yours faithfully
R.W. Martin & Brothers

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General Pitt Rivers

June 9th 1897

Sir,

We beg to say we are in receipt of your letter of the 4th inst. and also the Mug — We should have acknowledged same sooner but have been away until this morning.

We will note your remarks in reference to the mugs we now making

Yours faithfully
R. W. Martin & Brothers

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Show Rooms and Business Address:—16, BROWNLOW STREET, HOLBORN, W.C. (Side of the First Avenue Hotel).

General Pitt Rivers.

Dec 18 1897.

Sir,

We have today sent you, per Parcel post, three Mugs - we are sorry to say the other three came out of the kiln cracked. The coloring this time we think is more like what you wanted. The cracked ones are just the same in color as those sent.

We shall be glad to know if you would like us to make the other three again, to complete the half dozen, and if so whether you would like to have the cracked ones in the mean time.

Yours faithfully

R. W. Martin & Brothers.