



20, ALFRED PLACE WEST, (near Museum),

SOUTH KENSINGTON, LONDON, S.W.

Old Wedgwood,
Porcelain, Pottery,
Bric-a-Brac, &c.

F. RATHBONE.

14th September 1891

General Pitt-Rivers,
Sir.

I venture to address you who is well known
as an art collector.

I don't know if you like Old Wedgwood
but need not say. I shall be glad at
any time to show my collection without
expecting a purchase. at the same time
always glad of any business.

For twenty years I have studied this
subject thoroughly and have the reputation
of knowing it well. My collection, with
recent purchases is larger than can be
seen in all the Museums in London.

I guarantee everything I sell.

I look upon Old Wedgwood as the one English
art in which we excel the foreigners, produced
at the best time of Louis XVI. period. The Series

and other factories paying Wedgwood
the compensation of copying his work.

My principal business is done by sending
or taking wanted specimens to my customers
because in the connection I do not keep many
good pieces any long time.

Some time this or early next I am taking
a few pieces to Somersetshire and should
be very pleased to be allowed to submit
some to you if convenient am waiting
for some expected pieces.

I have some good Salt-glaze but not much
Slip. Sold a very fine Ralph Simpsondish
early this year.

I was compelled to oppose you at Sothebys
over the Toft. dish. could have gone further
without offending my customers. I told him
it was not possible to buy it.

You may be sure I shall not send or bring
what is difficult to sell if allowed.

I am Sir

Yours very obediently
Jas. Rattbone

Amos
Dec.
1/92



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28th November 1892

General Pitt-Rivers.

Sir

You will possibly remember when you kindly called here the other day a frame of "Tassie" antique Gems. One hanging in the window beside the 2 pieces of glass you purchased.

Tassie was a great man in glasswork his copies of the antique gems are found in many collections as originals. I think he is worth collecting a few examples of. His catalogue - alternate pages in French and English is a marvel of patience Wedgwood used his work until Flaxman appeared

I have a very pretty Chippendale miniature cabinet of 3 drawers. ~~and~~ containing 63 superb examples all ^{cut} ~~cut~~

and polished. No finer specimens
exist. ~~found~~ I speak from knowledge having
made the catalogue of the family collection sold
at Christie's 1880. Each drawer has little
ivory rolls to hold each gem price of all
£45. Enclosed around outside of the
cabinet (but mitte 4 drawers) this I made
for Mr Baddely to hold some seals he had also
a sketch of Jaspis life & Dec 8. I
am sending this to Marlborough House (if unsold)
for HRH. Prince's. If you would like to see
it before then it shall be sent for your kind
inspection. I shall never again see anything
like it

If you have no desire for this I would
oblige me if you would kindly return the
life & sketch in enclosed envelope for I
have no other at present

Believe me Sir

Yours very obediently
Jas. Rathbone

It is very easily packed