

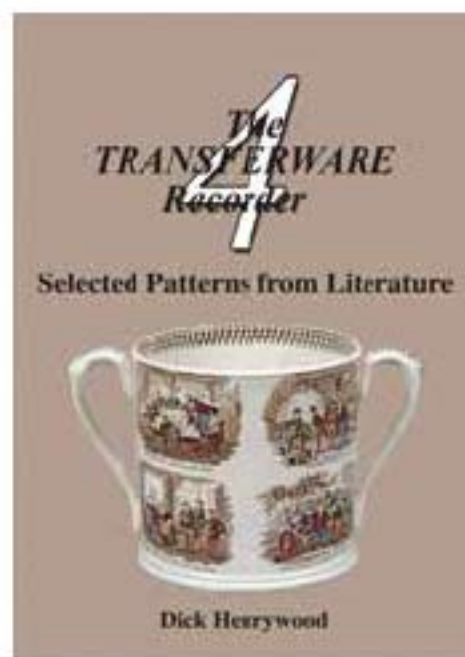
Transferware Recorder #4

By Len Kling

It may be that I am as familiar as anyone (except the author) with the *Transferware Recorder Series* of books by Dick Henrywood. The first three volumes covered his primary transferware crush, 44 series altogether. As editor of British themes in the *Transferware Collectors Club Database of Patterns and Sources*, it was my job to update those pattern records with the new information, admittedly a time-consuming task, but so worth doing because of the many discoveries the author had made. Mr. Henrywood has now published *Transferware Recorder #4*, "Selected Patterns from Literature". It follows the same format as the other volumes and is his biggest effort to date, over 200 pages. Seventeen series are covered; there are also chapters relating to William Cowper and William Shakespeare as well as a final chapter on patterns that don't belong to any series at all. All illustrated in full

color and with the source prints in most cases.

Now you'll probably want to know more about what the book includes. Many of the series and patterns you would expect: *Don Quixote*, often attributed to Clews though a piece with a maker's mark has never been found, and *The Drama* by John Rogers, later issued with a slightly altered border by Pountney & Goldney of Bristol. Joseph Clementson's *Classical Antiquities* is taken from engravings by John Flaxman illustrating scenes from the *Iliad* and the *Odyssey*. Davenport produced *Scott's Illustrations*, drawn from the novels and poems of Sir Walter Scott. *Byron Gallery* is the name of two series, one by Goodwins and another by an unknown maker, taking its inspirations from the poems of Lord Byron. Paul and Virginia, Robin Hood, and the novels of Charles Dickens all found their way onto transferware. I was much less familiar



with some of the patterns covered and did not know some at all: *Aesop's Fables* by Minton, a later aesthetic style production on tiles and plates, *The Ages of Man* by Swansea, and Tegg's *Shakespeare Series*. More surprising were patterns I have seen multiple times but never realized had literary connections, many from works by William Cowper - *The Garden*, *Retirement*, *The Winter Walk at Noon*, among others. That shock of recognition - "Oh, so THAT'S what it is!" - is always fun to experience.

It seems niggling to have any reservations about such a handsomely produced and comprehensive volume, but I have to admit to a bit of disappointment. Mr. Henrywood addresses this very issue in his introduction, pointing out that the title of the book is *SELECTED Patterns*. Some series I expected to see didn't make the cut, as they are already well documented elsewhere, and he decided not to include them. I had hoped to see the other *Don Quixote Series*, by Brameld, and, of course, *Doctor Syntax*, endearing knucklehead that he is. But what can one do other than keep a stiff upper lip and soldier on. *Transferware Recorder #4* is an excellent addition to the series and an important adjunct to the *Dictionaries of Blue and White Printed Pottery* published by Dick Henrywood and Bill Coysh 30 years ago. I cannot recommend this latest *Recorder* highly enough.