## PATRICK JEFFERSON



## PAIR OF REGENCY NEOCLASSICAL GILT BRASS & EBONY-INLAID MAHOGANY ÉTAGÈRES

Relating to furniture by the Royal cabinetmakers Marsh & Tatham, Mount Street, England, circa 1805.

Height 37" (94cm) Diameter 24½" (62cm)

Each having two graduated drop-sided mahogany trays with milled gilt-brass borders and a pierced gallery, supported on an ebony inlaid, turned, vase-form column, raised on three swept ebony detailed legs with brass box castors; small splits and marks, otherwise in excellent condition.

The sophisticated form and refined decoration of this pair of folding *étagères*, or galleried side tables, epitomises the Regency Graeco-Roman style promoted by Charles Heathcote Tatham and Thomas Hope, reflecting the Louis XVI taste adopted in the last years of the 18th century by the architect Henry Holland for George, Prince of Wales, later King George IV, at Carlton House.

The neoclassical character of these tables with their slender gilt-brass-mounted trays, veneered in richly figured mahogany and raised upon distinctive vase-shaped supports inlaid with ebony spears, relates to furniture supplied by the prince's cabinetmakers Marsh & Tatham (see H. Roberts, For the King's Pleasure; the Furnishing and Decoration of George IV's Apartments at Windsor Castle, 2001).

Several related, albeit far less sophisticated, examples are illustrated in contemporary pattern books, including a two-tier table described as a 'Dumb Waiter' in Thomas Sheraton's *The Cabinet Dictionary*, 1803, pl. 44 and another with matching trays published in the same year in Gillows' *Estimate Sketch Book*. A pair with triple tiers is illustrated Mallett, *Catalogue* 1998, p. 45.

£18,500

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fig. 1





 $\mathrm{fig.}\ 2$