Thimblefuls

I have done a thorough search of all my thimble books and the internet, and I was surprised to find how little information there is on thimblefuls. There are two photos in one of McConnel's thimbles books, which confirm my findings that the Thimble Society of London has rarely had any of these for sale. There are no examples in the book on Settmacher in Austria, but there is record of a German advertising thimbleful, made by Gabler. Where there are brief mentions in the literature, I have included the photos. Johnson lists them under Novelties and Oddities. The exception to scant information is Holmes who has an entire chapter entitled Just a Thimbleful, which lends credence to collecting them. Gaussen maintains that thimblefuls are collected with sewing accessories because of their thimble shape.

As early as 1617 the thimbleful was accepted as an indication of measure. From then on there is a clear association of thimble shapes and drinking measures. The internet is peppered with references to Just a Thimbleful but rather as a figure of speech, indicating a small amount.

Spirit or tot measures have been made in the shape of thimbles since Victorian times as popular novelties. They are known by a variety of names: shot glasses, jiggers, stirrup cups and thimble cups. They replicate thimbles, down to the indentations and when placed with the open side up, the height measures, on average, 50mm. The base should be flat or able to stand on its own without wobbling. Some have indented bases, others are smooth. The traditional measure for a spirit measure is one ounce (1oz). Some have this measurement lettered on the base of the thimbleful. Thimblefuls can have a metal or enamelled badge applied for various events, tourist attractions or towns. Some of the Scottish thimblefuls are thistle-shaped; others are stemmed like a traditional goblet-shape (many of these are not marked as thimblefuls).

AMERICAN JIGGERS

Thimblefuls are made of glass, brass, aluminium, china or porcelain, copper, chromium or chromed metal, nickel silver, silver-plate, silver, pewter, plastic, wood and gold. In fact, they "come in any material you can pour drinks out of".

The lettering varies considerably; from **Thimble Full** (usually over two lines) - **Thimbleful** - **Just a Thimbleful** - **Just a Thimble Full** (most common form) - **Only a Thimbleful** or **Only a Thimble Full** (this appears to be American terminology) - **A Stitch in Time Saves Nine** - the four Scottish forms **A Wee Drappie** - **For Auld Lang Syne** - **A Wee Deoch and Doris** - **A Wee Deoch and Dorius** - and a newly discovered terms of **Just a Swallow** - all lettered across the top of the thimble when the thimbles are placed on the apex, with the open end upwards. The German lettering is **Nur Ein Fingerhut Voll**. In my opinion, the lettering is what makes a thimbleful. Without it, does it just become a spirit measure or jigger? and therefore outside the scope of this thimble topic. I have tried not to include any thimblefuls in shape when there is no lettering to indicate them as such.

Some would have been handmade. The rims are not commonly rolled, but examples exist with rolled rims. Most have the indentations going under across the base, a few are smooth.

In 1970, Cartier initiated a Gold Thimble award for outstanding fashion designers. It is about 76mm tall and made of silver gilt.

Johnson has a good selection of thimblefuls, showing the variety available, in both material, height and style.

I have not included large-sized china thimbles that usually stand on their open side, with no lettering of Thimblefuls. The exception is the crested china thimbles that Edwin Holmes included in his chapter on Thimblefuls.

It is interesting to find that some thimblefuls have their own thimble cases. They would be particularly useful for the fragile glass thimblefuls. It was rare to find one with a case but they are becoming available now thru ebay. The cases are made of cardboard or leather. The shapes vary from cylindrical boxes or those that are fitted to the thimble shape and that open sideways. I have included photos of the thimbleful containers where possible.

L-R: PEWTER WITH A THICK ROLLED-BACK RIM; SILVER-PLATED; NICKEL WITH ENAMELLED SOUVENIR PLAQUE; GREEN GLASS; PEWTER; ANOTHER SOUVENIR; SILVER-PLATED; BLACKBERRY AND CREAM SLAG GLASS

Metal thimblefuls

The largest group of thimblefuls is those made of metal. It is difficult to accurately describe the metals, and they are included in this section if they are **not** made of silver or pewter.

Charles Iles, and later **Iles & Gomms** of Birmingham, would have made the most commonly found thimblefuls - those made of cupro-nickel, chromed metal or silver-plated brass. Over time the some of the silver-plate has worn off, leaving the brass showing.
Iles, who had been producing thimbles since the 1860s, were the world's biggest producers of functional thimbles in the twentieth century until they ceased production in 1990.

COPPER, 1984

CHROMIUM-PLATED

SILVER-PLATED BRASS

A WEE DEOCH-AN-DORIS

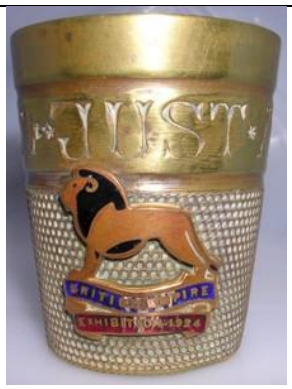
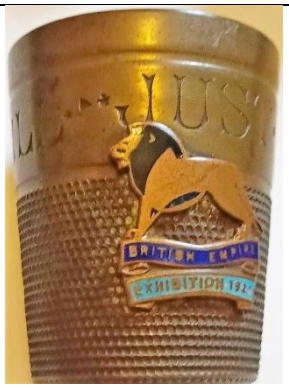
---------- CHARLES ILES ----------
44mm
---------- JUST A THIMBLE FULL ----------
---------- A WEE DEOCH-AN-DORIS ----------
This Scottish farewell means A last drink before parting

Charles Iles registered his design for silver-plated brass thimblefuls with the R^D707065 and the lettering is Just a Thimble Full. He registered the design on 17 July 1924. The registered design included a crest attached to the side. The copyright was extended for four five-year periods and expired in July 1939, which attests to a popular design. Their production ceased in 1970.

SHOWING THE R^D 707065

CHARLES ILES
WITH A GLASS INSIDE

If you have a metal thimbleful where the words thimble and full are separate, with no rolled rim, the band that contains these words being half of the total height of 44mm, and the indentations going from there right under the thimble, you have an Iles-made thimbleful. It is a bonus when the RD No is included on the thimble.

NORTHERN RHODESIA ILES & GOMMS	  BRITISH EMPIRE EXHIBITION **1924** CHARLES ILES	MELBOURNE ILES & GOMMS see also below
---------- JUST A THIMBLE FULL ----------		

As can be seen, the enamelled crests that are applied to Iles thimblefuls are varied in shape and design. The list has **90** different places

Note that they seem to be made for countries of the British Commonwealth

The following list are of Iles thimblefuls with an enamelled crest made for the tourist market or as a commemorative

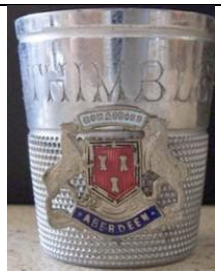
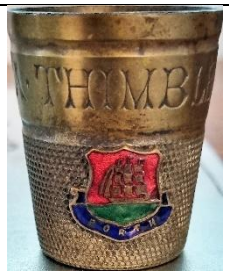
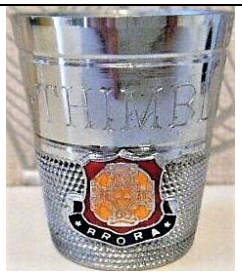
I have listed the lettering from the top as it appears on the badge and whether the Registration number appears on the thimbleful

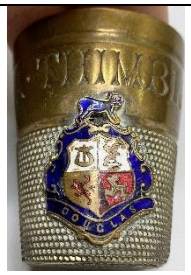
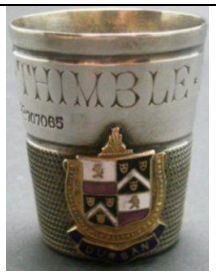
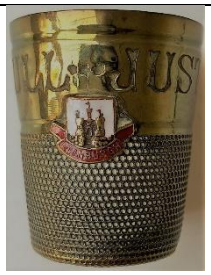
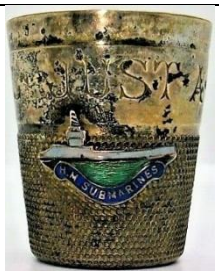
It's wonderful to find a date as part of the crest – commissioned from Charles Iles or Iles & Gomms

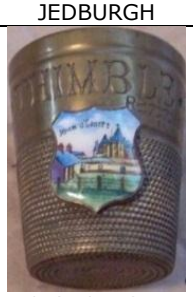
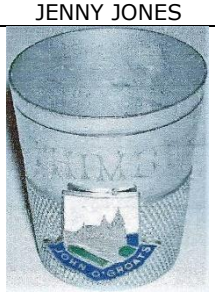
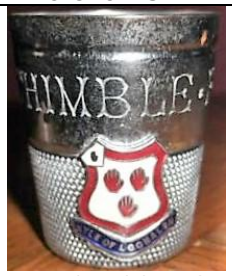
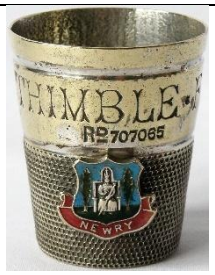
Those with dates include

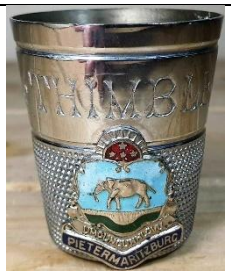
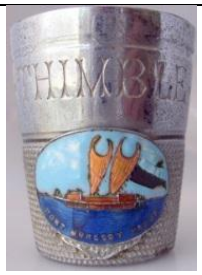
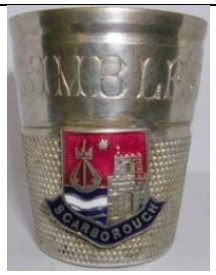
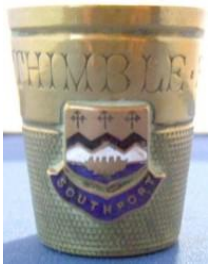
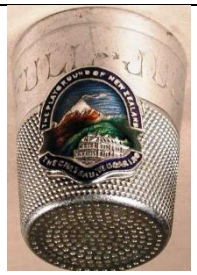
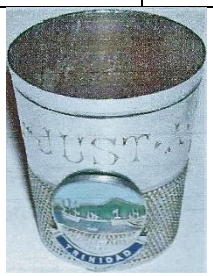
1925 – 1929 – 1937 – 1938 – 1940

Others of this type:

ABERDEEN	ABERYSTWYTH +RD No	ANTIQUA LEEWARD ISLANDS	AYR +RD No	BALLATER +RD No
BALMORAL CASTLE	BANFF +RD No	BARRY ISLAND	BEANNCHOR	BETTYHILLS +RD No
BERMUDA +RD No	 BON ACCORD ABERDEEN (Canada)	 BORTH +RD No	BRIGHTON +RD No	BRITISH EMPIRE EXHIBITION **1925**
 BRORA	CANADA +RD No - i	CANADA +RD No - ii	CARDIFF	CENTRAL AFRICAN RHODES CENTENA4Y EXHIBITION **1953**

CHATHAM NAVY WEEK +RD No	CHESTER +RD No	CORNISH PISKEY+RD No	CORONATION **1937** +RD No (RED CROWNED KING GEORGE VI AND QUEEN ELIZABETH)	CORONET PEAK QUEENSTOWN NZ
COWES +RD No	CRIEFF	 DOUGLAS	DUNDEE +RD No	 DURBAN +RD No
EAST LONDON	EDINBURGH (A WEE DEOCH-AN-DORIS)	 EDINBURGH +RD No	ELY CATHEDRAL +RD No	EMPIRE EXHIBITION GLASGOW **1938**
EMPIRE EXHIBITION SCOTLAND **1938**	EMPIRE EXHIBITION SCOTLAND **1938** +RD No	FELIXSTOWE +RD No	FIAT OAMURA N.Z	FIDE ET FORTITUDINE +RD No
FRAE BONNIE SCOTLAND (+ colourway)	GREENWICH	 H.M SUBMARINES	H.M.S FURIOUS – i +RD No	H.M.S FURIOUS - ii
H.M.S. MALAYA +RD No	H.M.S. RODNEY +RD No	H.M.S. ROYAL SOVEREIGN +RD No	HOBART TASMANIA	ISLE OF MAN

ISLE OF MAN SOUVENIR	JAMAICA	JEDBURGH	JENNY JONES	JERSEY +RD No - i
JERSEY +RD No - ii	JERSEY - iii	 JOHN O GROATS +RD No	 JOHN O GROATS	KILLARNEY
KIMBERLEY	KIRKWALL	 KYLE OF LOCHALSH	LAKE WANAKA PEMBROKE NZ +RD No	LANDS END LONDSHIPS LIGHTHOUSE NZ +RD No
LAUNCESTON	LAUTOKA FIJI. RERE VAKANA KALOUKA DOKA NATUI	LET GLASGOW FLOURISH +RD No (+ colourway)	LONDON	LONDON +RD No
LOVELY LILLESHALL +RD No	MACDUFF +RD No	MATLOCK BATH +RD No	MELBOURNE - i	MELBOURNE - ii
MILLFORD SCOTLAND	MONTREAL +RD No	 NEWRY +RD No	NORTH EAST COAST EXHIBITION **MAY OCT 1929** +RD No Prince of Wales feathers	OXFORD +RD No

PERTH	 PIETERSMARITZBURG UMGUNGUNHLOVU	PLYMOUTH NAVY WEEK	POLPERRO CORNWALL	 PORT MORESBY PAPUA +RD No
PORTHCAWL +RD No	SANDOWN +RD No	PORTREE +RD No	RIVERTON N.Z. +RD No	ROTORUA N.Z. ROTORUA NZ TIKI red also: Geyser
 SCARBOROUGH	SHEFFIELD	SOUTHAMPTON	 SOUTHPORT +RD No	SOUTHSEA
STRATFORD-ON-AVON	STRATHPEFFER +RD No	TABLE MOUNTAIN CABLEWAY S.A +RD No	THE ANGLER'S ELDORADO RUSSELL BAY OF ISLANDS NZ	THE NEW ZEALAND CENTENNIAL EXHIBITION **1840-1940**
 THE PLAYGROUND OF NEW ZEALAND THE CHATEAU TONGARIRO	TINTERN ABBEY +RD No	TOLL BAR GRETNA GREEN +RD No	TOMINTOUL	TORONTO+RD No
TOWN OF GOOLWA INCORPORATED AD MDCCCLXXII +RD No	 TRINIDAD	UMTALI	WESTON-SUPER MARE +RD No	

List of similar Iles thimblefuls that still need photos

ADELAIDE	NEW NORFOLK TASMANIA
BAKEWELL (Derbyshire)	PORT ELIZABETH
FORT WILLIAM	PRESTWICK
GUNDAGAI	SOUTHERN RHODESIA
H.M.S. HERMES	TAMWORTH
H.M.S. REVENGE +RD No	THE OLD CURIOSITY SHOP
INVERNESS	TREGARON WALES
LLANGOLLEN	UMTALI
OBAN	VICTORIA FALLS
PALMERSTON NORTH	WINDSOR

This is a Charles Iles thimbleful box, which he patented as early as 1898. The cardboard box is lettered diagonally with Just a Thimble Full, with the registration number Rd.315477 lettered alongside. The date has been confirmed as 8th March 1898, registered by Charles Edward Iles.

JUST A THIMBLE FULL Rd. 315477
THIMBLEFUL BOX
CHARLES EDWARD ILES, 1898

These thimblefuls with rolled rims, sometimes with a beaded band below the rolled rim and metal enamelled badges applied, are for a range of Australian cities and towns.
The indentations are dash-like and the bases are indented. Are they Australian made?
Some have an additional decorative surround to the badge.
They were available in shops in Australia in the 1950s. The word Thimble Full or A Thimble Full may be written, one word under the other, on some of these examples. The lettering also differs on some examples, from cursive to gothic. The shape of the badges are the same as those produced for teaspoons in Australia. The badges for those were made by **Stokes** of Ringwood, Victoria.

HOBART WITH THE CAT AND THE FIDDLE ARCADE LOGO	KEMPSEY NSW	WITH NO BADGE
---------- ROLLED RIM ---------- ---------- THIMBLE FULL (in various scripts) ---------- 47mm		

Others of this type:

those with cursive lettering have a rim of beading below the rim – made in different eras?

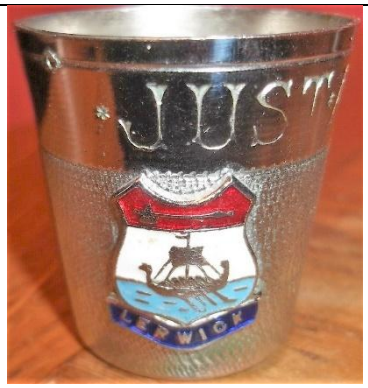
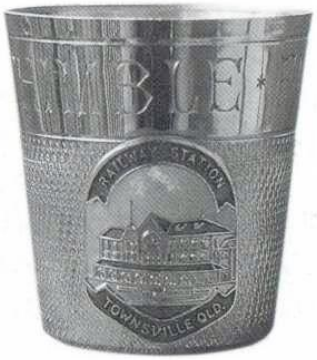
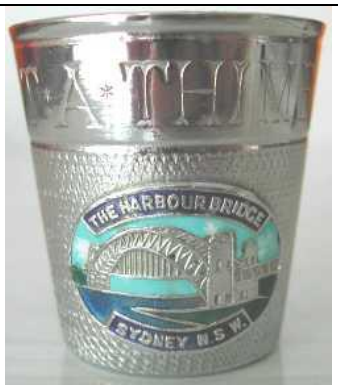
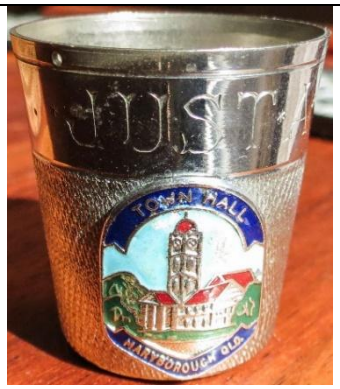
 ADELAIDE GOTHIC SCRIPT	 ALICE SPRINGS N.T. GOTHIC SCRIPT	 CANBERRA A.C.T CURSIVE LETTERING BEADING UNDER RIM	 CASINO CAPITALS LETTERING BEADING UNDER RIM
 GLENELG SA GOTHIC SCRIPT	 KOSCIUSKO CAPITALS LETTERING	 LAUNCESTON TAS	 LIGHTS STATUE ADELAIDE CURSIVE LETTERING BEADING UNDER RIM
 NORFOLK ISLAND CAPITALS LETTERING	 ORANGE NSW CURSIVE LETTERING BEADING UNDER RIM	 THE MAN FROM SNOWY RIVER CURSIVE LETTERING BEADING UNDER RIM	 ZEEHAN MUSEUM TASMANIA GOTHIC LETTERING

List of similar thimblefuls that still need photos

DARWIN N.T.

This group of thimblefuls are different enough not to be made by Charles Iles. The lettered band is much narrower, the dimpling is different, and the indentations go right under the base; only the lettering around the thimblefuls is identical to that used by Iles. They mainly have a **small hole** near the lip of the thimbleful - was this to prevent to thimble from overflowing if used as a spirit measure? The lettering is identical to the Iles thimblefuls. One or two of these examples also have a slightly flared rim, the plain band is nearly as wide as an Iles' thimbleful and they don't have a hole near the rim, whereas most of the other examples are quite straight sided right to the rim. They have a cross-hatched type of indentation.

Seven of the eight illustrated are for places in Australia!

 GREAT BARRIER REEF HERON ISLAND	 LERWICK	 PERTH
 RAILWAY STATION TOWNSVILLE QLD	 SHEFFIELD	 THE HARBOUR BRIDGE SYDNEY N. S W.
 THE OLD CURIOSITY SHOP	 TOWN HALL MARYBOROUGH QLD.	 WESTERN AUSTRALIA
---------- JUST A THIMBLE FULL ---------- 40-43mm		

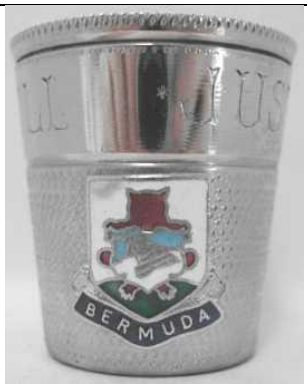
Is it just a coincidence that most of this group of thimblefuls depict New Zealand scenes?

ADVANCE TAURANGA NZ FLARED RIM	DUNEDIN N.Z.	FOX GLACIER HOTEL N.Z. THE MAJESTIC FOX	MAORI WARRIOR ROTORUA NZ	MOUNT RUAPEHU N Z SMOOTH BASE + HOLE
NYASALAND + HOLE	PEACEFUL LAKE WANAKA NEW ZEALAND FLARED RIM	POLPERRO + HOLE	ROTORUA N.Z.	RUSSELL BAY OF ISLANDS N.Z. SMOOTH BASE + HOLE
THE HERMITAGE MT COOK b&w photo			WELLINGTON N.Z. + HOLE	

List of similar thimblefuls that still need photos

THE FAMOUS KARAPITI BLOWHOLE WONDERFUL WAIRAKEI NZ
WORLD FAMOUS GLOW WORM GROTTO WIATOMO CAVES NZ

Another batch of thimblefuls are these that don't match any of the above and some have fluted patterning at the opening. There is no uniformity about the size and shape of the metal or enamelled fixtures. Type C and Type D have identical lettering to the earlier Iles thimblefuls - are they just later versions? Type A and B have Gothic lettering.

<table>
<tr>
<td>
TYPE A
PAUL REVERE HOUSE, BOSTON MASS (USA)
<u>ONLY A THIMBLEFUL</u>
FLUTED OPENING SMOOTH BASE
40-52mm</td>
<td>
TYPE B
DAYTONA BEACH
<u>ONLY A THIMBLE FULL</u>
ROLLED RIM SMOOTH BASE
40mm</td>
<td> 

TYPE C
BERMUDA
<u>JUST A THIMBLE FULL</u>
‘PINCHED’ RIM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td colspan="3">
Type D
<u>JUST A THIMBLEFUL</u>
1000 ISLANDS NY
INSET ENAMELLED BADGE</td>
</tr>
</table>

Other placenames like Type A

XII OLYMPIC WINTER GAMES LAKE PLACID 1980

ATLANTIC CITY NEW JERSEY

BE AUVOIR HOME OF JEFFERSON DAVIS MISSISSIPPI

BROADMOOR HOTEL COLORADO

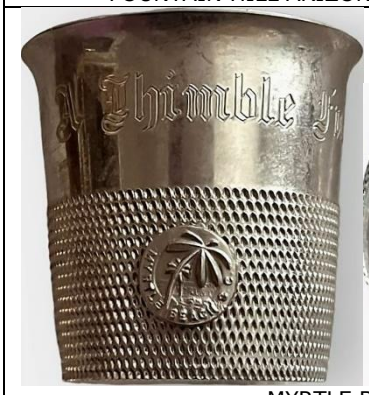
CHEYENNE WYOMING
(possibly brass or it is just a poor photo?)

CRATER LAKE

FOUNTAIN HILL ARIZONA

GRAND CANYON NATIONAL PARK

LAKE TAHOE



MYRTLE BEACH
"DEAR GOOD FAIRY. I WILL ALWAYS LOVE YOU! LOVE THE WICKED WITCH"

QUEEN ELIZABETH 2

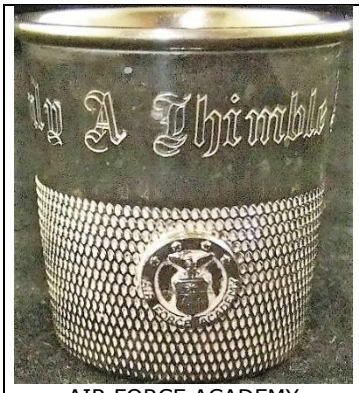
SS ORIANA

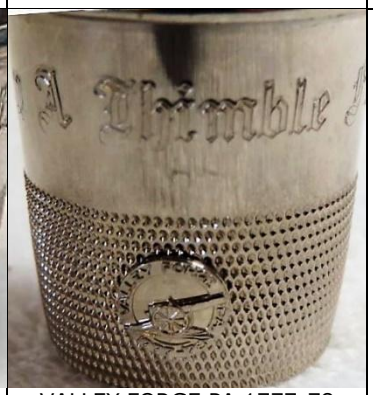
THE BEEHIVE STATE UTAH COPPER	UNIVERSAL STUDIOS

List of similar thimblefuls to Type A that still need photos

ISLAND PRINCESS
MACKINAC ISLAND

Other placenames like Type B

 AIR FORCE ACADEMY	ATLANTIC CITY AGRICULTURAL HALL	CAPE COD	CARLSBAD CAVERNS NATIONAL PARK NM
DAYTONA BEACH	GOVERNORS PALACE WILLIAMSBURG VA	GRAND CANYON NATL PARK	HANNIBAL mo BOYHOOD HOME OF MARK TWAIN
HAWAII 50TH STATE	HEMINGWAY HOME KEY WEST	HIGHEST BRIDGE IN THE WORLD ROYAL GORGE COLO	MARINE LANDS FLORIDA

MONTICELLO HOME OF THOMAS JEFFERSON	MT SHASTA LASSEN VOLCANIC NAT'L PARK	NATURAL BRIDGE VIRGINIA	NEW ORLEANS LOUISIANA
OREGON CAVES OREGON	PINE TREE STATE MAINE	SS ORIANA	SARASOTA JUNGLE GARDEN
STATUE OF LIBERTY NEW YORK CITY	STOWE VT	THE HERMITAGE NASHVILLE TENN	THE SEAQUARIUM MIAMA FL
TIMBERLANE LODGE MT HOOD OREGON	 VALLEY FORGE PA 1777-78	UNIV. NOSTRA DOMINA ALACV SIGGILLUM	VISTA HOUSE COLUMBIA RIVER HIGHWAY ONE

WASHINGTON DC

WEST POINT

WHITEFACE MOUNTAIN SUMMER HOUSE

WILL ROGERS SHRINE

'YOUR FRIEND AT THE FIRST' EAGLE

CLAM SHELL

HORSE'S HEAD

List of similar Type B thimblefuls that still need photos

BRYCE CANYON NATIONAL PARK
CADILLAC MT BAR HARBOR ME
CHESAPEAKE BAY BRIDGE TUNNEL SEA GULL FISHING PIER
CHINCOTEAGUE VA
EOAVILLE RR. SO.CARVER, MASS
GINGERBREAD CASTLE HAMBURG N.J
HENRY FORD MUSEUM
LAKE CHAMPLAIN
LAKE WINNIPESAUKEE SS MT WASHINGTON IL
NEW MEXICO
OLD FORGE NY
PADRE ISLAND NATIONAL SEASHORE TEXAS
PHILADELPHIA PA LIBERTY BELL
ROCKY MOUNTAIN NATIONAL PARK
SEA LION CAVES
SINGING TOWER FLORIDA
SS BOHEMME
ST AUGUSTINE FLA
STATE OF PENNSYLVANNIA
SUN VALLEY
TERRITORY OF HAWAII
UNITED STATES AIRFORCE
WASHINGTON'S HDQTS.1782-1783 NEWBURGH NY
THE WATER TOWER CHICAGO
WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS WEST VA

LONDON

BAGPIPER

CANADA

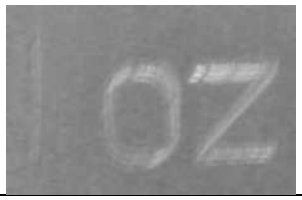
These silver-plated thimblefuls are made by P.H.V. or P.H.V & Co. This is the Birmingham maker P J VOGEL. They are made in England and are marked Just a Thimbleful. They measure 37mm (1oz) and 52mm (1.5oz) and there is even one for 2oz. The base is smooth.
Sterling silver examples by this maker have been identified.

P.H.VOGEL

P.H.VOGEL&CO

SILVER-PLATED

---------- JUST A THIMBLEFUL ----------



P.H.VOGEL
SILVER-PLATED with COPPER
JUST A THIMBLEFUL
1.5oz

Another maker's mark on silver-plated thimblefuls is I.F.S. with LTD vertical. Above this is a closed fist with a hammer-type instrument. They are marked Just a Thimbleful. They measure 52mm (1 1/2 oz, which is marked on the base) and the base is smooth; the rim is rolled. It is very similar in shape to those made by P.H.V.

SILVER-PLATED
I.F.S. LTD
JUST A THIMBLEFUL
1.5oz

I.F.S. LTD MARK
CLOSED FIST WITH A HAMMER-TYPE INSTRUMENT

The one thimbleful that I covet belonged to my sister in Melbourne. She found it as a gift for Mum about 35 years ago. It is huge and it was an appropriate gift for our mother, as she only wanted thimbleful of sherry. It is silver-plated and now fits in nicely with the rest of my collection. It's made by William Hutton & Sons and silver-plated. The indentations are continued under the base, leaving a smooth circle for the maker's mark. This very large thimbleful will hold a pint.

SILVER-PLATED
WMH&S
JUST A THIMBLE FULL
L: 125mm - 105 mm wide
R: USUAL-SIZED THIMBLEFUL BY HUTTON

WILLIAM HUTTON & SONS MARK
WITH CROSSED SWORDS

There are a few thimblefuls made of aluminium, but they are in the minority. The examples have smooth bases.

Type A
ALUMINIUM
JUST A THIMBLE FULL
BRIGHT-CUT THISTLE
45mm

Type C
ALUMINIUM
PENNSYLVANIA DUTCH
ONLY A THIMBLE FULL
PAPER LABEL AND CROSS-HATCHED INDENTATIONS

Type B
ALUMINIUM
A STITCH IN TIME SAVES NINE
100mm

Other placenames similar to Type C (slightly different indentations)

3 VALLEY GAP B.C.
CANADA
HONG KONG ON SMOOTH BASE AND PAPER LABEL

ALOHA FROM HAWAII
JAPAN ON BASE

GRAND OLE OPREY
OPREYLAND USA

KNOTT'S BERRY FARM
MADE IN HONG KONG

NIAGARA FALLS CANADA
MADE IN HONG KONG

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND LADY SLIPPER

TEXAS

WILLIAMSBURG VA

List of similar Type C thimblefuls that still need photos

CEDAR POINT OHIO

This aluminium thimbleful is unusual as it has a screw-top lid. Was the lid used to carry the illicit grog during the Prohibition days of the 1920s in the USA? There is lettering on the lid: A Thimble Full. It is also an advertising thimbleful for BUCKLEY'S 418 GAY ST. BALTO MD which is lettered around the band. This is a bar in Baltimore Maryland.

ALUMINIUM
BUCKLEY'S 418 GAY ST. BALTO MD
A THIMBLE FULL
50mm

This aluminium thimbleful has diagonal lines patterning. The thimble is lettered Just a Thimbleful.

ALUMINIUM
JUST A THIMBLEFUL
WITH DIAGONAL LINES
53mm

This is an unusual aluminium advertising US thimbleful, as it has a brass inscription – I am not sure where this is lettered – it is a commemorative thimbleful, tho not actually dated. "26th Anniversary Tonawandas (place in New York) Aerie 1411 .... with cursive lettering of Just a Thimble Full.

ALUMINIUM
Just a thimble full

BRASS INSCRIPTION

Is this aluminium advertising thimbleful made by the same US manufacturer, to the above one?

ALUMINIUM
"MO-KAN MORTICIANS' SUPPLY CO K.C. Mo 4308 E. 15 ST. BE 4805"
JUST A THIMBLE FULL
lettered in italics
44mm

Isn't this such a cutie? Not unlike a jelly-mould in design with its fluted body. The lettering is Just a Thimble Full which is lettered in a dotted-stippled way.

METAL
JUST A THIMBLE FULL
53mm

A rarer copper thimbleful of high quality and a thick rolled rim comes from the US. There is no metal badge applied, but the place name is included as Niagara Falls Canada Just a Thimble Full. This was created for E.S.T.C (Empire State Thimble Club) in September 1987.

COPPER
NIAGARA FALLS CANADA
JUST A THIMBLE FULL
47mm

Another copper thimbleful has the Scottish lettering A Wee Deoch-an-Doris as a thimble whisky measure. Long indents.

COPPER
A WEE DEOCH-AN-DORIS
40mm
This Scottish farewell means A last drink before parting

Another copper thimbleful Just a Thimble Full. Very sloping sides. No maker's marks.

COPPER
JUST A THIMBLE FULL

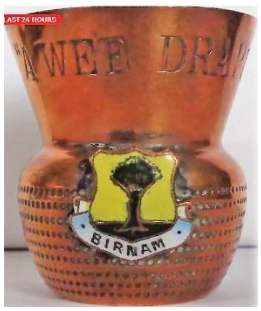
Another copper thimbleful Only a Thimble Full. The wide opening seems almost big as the depth. No maker's marks.

COPPER
ONLY A THIMBLE FULL

This brass thimbleful has beading below the rim and the indentations are different in that they are diamond-shaped.

BRASS
ONLY A THIMBLE FULL
49mm

This copper thimbleful is in the shape of a thistle. It is lettered A wee drappie. There is a metal badge attached for Birnam.



COPPER
A WEE DRAPPIE
IN THE SHAPE OF A THISTLE
BIRNAM BADGE

This brass collapsible thimbleful is in **two parts**. There are no markings as to origin or maker. It is in its own thimble box and only the box is lettered Just a Thimble Full on the lid.

BRASS
JUST A THIMBLE FULL
LETTERED ON ROUND CARDBOARD THIMBLE BOX
EARLY 20TH CENTURY – PROBABLY BRITISH

This brass collapsible thimbleful is in **three parts**. There are no markings as to origin or maker. It is in its own thimble box and only the box is lettered Just a Thimble Full on the lid.

BRASS
JUST A THIMBLE FULL
LETTERED ON THE ROUND CARDBOARD THIMBLE BOX
EARLY 20TH CENTURY – PROBABLY BRITISH
60mm

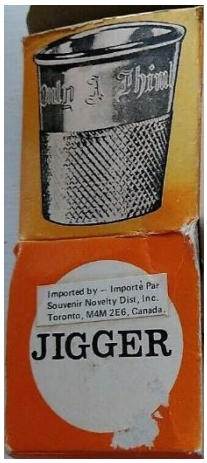
It is uncommon to find a silver-plated thimbleful with its own leather fitted case. It is velvet-lined. The thimbleful has no marks or lettering.

SILVER-PLATED
JUST A THIMBLE FULL
ONLY THE LEATHER CASE HAS LETTERING
THIMBLE: 50mm

This is a similar large thimble to that above - housed in a leatherette case with Just a Thimbleful lettered on the top of the case. There are no marks on the silver-plated thimble.

SILVER-PLATED
JUST A THIMBLEFUL
ONLY THE LEATHER CASE HAS LETTERING

This metal thimbleful was made in Hong Kong. It is fun to see the original packaging: marked Jigger. The thimble is lettered with Only a Thimble Full.

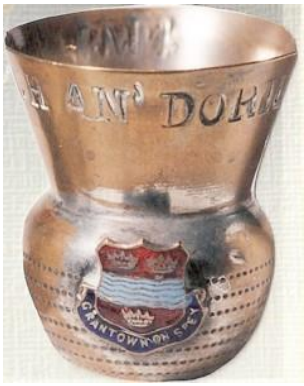


METAL
HONG KONG
ONLY A THIMBLE FULL

This silver metal thimbleful is almost as wide as it is tall. The lettering Just a Thimbleful is lettered to read correctly when the open end is down. The surface is very stippled. Good weight.

METAL
JUST A THIMBLEFUL
36mm

This little treasure is a silver metal thimbleful with the lettering A Wee Deoch an Doris on a thistle-shaped thimbleful. The enamelled crest is for Grantown on Spey.



METAL
A WEE DEOCH AN DORIS
This Scottish farewell means A last drink before parting
GRANTOWN ON SPEY
IN THE SHAPE OF A THISTLE

The lettering on this thimbleful is a first lettered Just a Swallow. Some glass spirit measures also include a swallow decaled onto the surface, but they are not classed as thimblefuls.

METAL
JUST A SWALLOW

It would seem that thimblefuls have been prized rather than used as more of the original cases find their way onto the market, happily with the thimbleful inside. This example is gilded inside and has no other marks, other than the raised lettering Just a thimbleful - there is a blank cartouche for engraving a name.

SILVER-PLATED
JUST A THIMBLEFUL

Here the thimble holder almost takes precedence over the thimbleful. These bear holders were made in Germany.

SILVER-PLATED
JUST A THIMBLEFUL

This thimbleful is lettered upside down where the lettering can be read when the open end is down. It is lettered Just a Thimbleful with a Maltese cross mark.

SILVER-PLATED JUST A THIMBLEFUL 62mm	

An interesting new thimbleful (in 2014) is marked on the base Klepa Arts Japan with a 2oz sizing. The rim is rolled and the indentations are closer to the opening than other examples with enamelled badges.

 SILVER-PLATED KAPOK TREE ON ENAMELLED BADGE KLEPA ARTS JAPAN JUST A THIMBLE FULL 2oz	

This group is one of the sized thimbleful sets - and there are 4 sizes illustrated here: 5oz - 2oz - 1.5oz - 1oz, which are lettered on the relevant bases, together with the maker's name - Raimond. The lettering is Just a Thimbleful. No other marks.

SILVER-PLATED
JUST A THIMBLEFUL
RAIMOND

This thimbleful has a delightful play on the Scottish slogan of A Wee Deoch and Doris - this reads a playful A Wee Deoch an Dorius Doruis. Who was Dorius or Doruis? Maybe it is just a mis-spelling – or all variants of the name Doris? Like other thimblefuls with this Scottish saying, the shape is that of a thistle.

METAL
A WEE DEOCH AN DORIUS/DORUIS
IN THE SHAPE OF A THISTLE
45mm
This Scottish farewell means A last drink before parting

Nothing further is known about this thimbleful - note the central lines on the body.

The unusual feature about this thimbleful is the gilt colouring over the top part of the thimbleful. There are no maker's marks. There is a monogram of DS in the cartouche. The raised lettering is Just a Thimbleful over striated bands

JUST A THIMBLEFUL
GILDED UPPER BAND

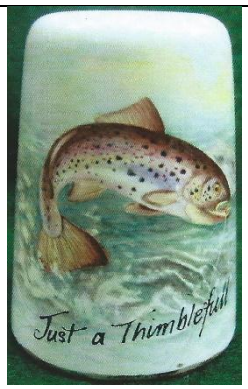
I am quite fascinated by the range of holders or cases for thimblefuls, with a few more appearing on the market. The thimbleful has no lettering or marks, with bands of concentric dots or indents, with Just a Thimble Full lettered on the top of the red thimble case, which opens like a book, down the centre.

JUST A THIMBLE FULL
ONLY THE LEATHER CASE HAS LETTERING

This is a boxed pair of silver-plated thimblefuls

MAHOGANY BOXED PAIR OF SILVER-PLATED THIMBLEFULS
BOX MARKED JUST A THIMBLE FULL IN WHITE AND RED LETTERING

What a unique find: enamelled thimblefuls. Made in England, these are handpainted by Graham Payne Studios Worcester, with a trout, and a pheasant. Lettered inside with Graham Payne Studios 83 Worcester. Strangely these thimblefuls are painted in the upside-down position, which negates the purpose of measuring a tot of spirits. Lettering is Just a Thimblefull [sic] in cursive.

 ENAMELLED BRASS PHEASANT JUST A THIMBLEFULL GRAHAM PAYNE STUDIOS WORCESTER	 ENAMELLED BRASS TROUT JUST A THIMBLEFULL GRAHAM PAYNE STUDIOS WORCESTER

This thimbleful has unusual attachments in the form of metal shields – one on each side. Just a Thimbleful is lettered on one side and A present for Fort William. No other marks.

METAL
JUST A THIMBLEFUL
A PRESENT FROM FORT WILLIAM

This is lettered heavy silver plate on the base. The thimbleful has the US marking Pat Pend. lettered on the base. No other details are known.

 HEAVY SILVER PLATE JUST A THIMBLEFUL 43mm	 'PAT PEND. HEAVY SILVER PLATE' MARK

This metal thimbleful has lettering Stitch in time saves nine. There are no other marks

STITCH IN TIME
2 ins

This metal thimbleful has two bands of stylised flowers resembling daisies. It is in its own thimble box and there are no markings as to origin or maker. Lettered Just a Thimble Full.

METAL
JUST A THIMBLE FULL
TWO BANDS OF FLOWERS
HOUSED IN THIMBLE CASE

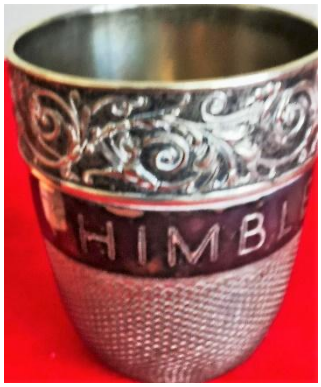
With very indistinctive photos to go on, this thistle-shaped thimbleful is lettered A Wee Drappie. There are a couple of unknown marks on the base, where the copper is beginning to show thru. One of the mark's may be a monarch's head. No other details are known. The stem is longer than most other thistle-shaped thimblefuls.

 SILVER-PLATED A WEE DRAPPIE IN THE SHAPE OF A THISTLE 50mm	 UNKNOWN MARKS – ONE COULD BE A MONARCH'S HEAD?

This silver metal thimble has a set of cross indentations. Just a Thimble Full is in small lettering on paler strip of silver metal. © CERA symbol is lettered with a tower symbol on rim.

METAL
JUST A THIMBLE FULL
© CERA

This silver metal thimbleful has ornate patterning. There is a similar design featured in the sterling silver section. It has the ornate patterning at the top, with the lettering below.



METAL
JUST A THIMBLEFUL
LETTERED BELOW THE ORNATE BAND
60MM

Here is another case for a thimbleful. The thimbleful has no lettering or marks. There is ornate patterning below the rim. Just a Thimbleful is lettered on the top of the thimble case.

JUST A THIMBLEFUL
ONLY LETTERED ON THE LEATHERETTE CASE

There is a floral symbol between the lettering Just a Thimbleful. The surfaces are stippled with rolled rims. There is no indication of their capacity. No other marks.

JUST A THIMBLEFUL

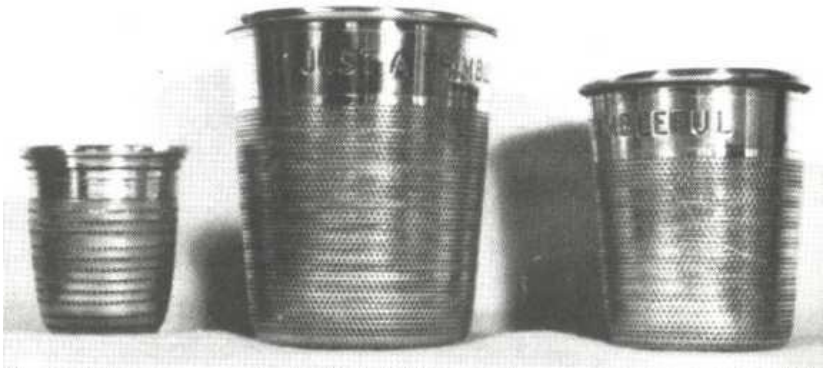
This silver-plated thimbleful is lettered Just a Thimble Full over three lines. The body of the thimbleful has four rows of larger ring indents at regular intervals. There are no other details.

SILVER-PLATED
JUST A THIMBLE FULL

Silver and gold thimblefuls

There is an enormous range of hallmark dates – from the-mid 1800s right up to the turn of the 21st century – a long period for these thimblefuls to be made and remain popular.
Because of their size and weight British thimblefuls would have to be assayed in the pre-884 era when all sterling silver thimbles required assaying. We can identify the makers of these Victorian silver thimblefuls. There are several examples with blue enamelled lettering. Were they produced by one maker who then registered other makers marks to be placed on the thimbles?
You may spot six of the thimblefuls featured have a **Maltese cross** as part of the lettering band – some blue enamelled. I don't know of the significance of this cross. Do you?

Listed in alphabetical order by silversmith



19TH CENTURY SILVER, AND A SILVER-PLATED ONE BY ASPREY'S OF LONDON

Sterling silver from Taxco in Mexico. They are marked 925. The indentations are handmade and situated quite low down. The thimblefuls have the maker's mark for Rakhu Alecre on the base. The lettering is Thimble Full.

TAXCO MEXICO STERLING SILVER
THIMBLE FULL

This is a 1902 London hallmarked made by Charles Boyton, lettered Just a Thimble Full. There is a small, stylised rosette above the assay marks. There is cross-hatching for the indentations.

CHARLES BOYTON (CB) LONDON 1902 - 1904
JUST A THIMBLE FULL

Sterling silver from the USA, made by BBL. The example at left has monogram AED on the verso. There is a band of beading near the rim.

AMERICAN STERLING SILVER ONLY A THIMBLEFUL BEADED RIM	AMERICAN STERLING SILVER BBL ONLY A THIMBLE FULL BEADED RIM	AMERICAN STERLING SILVER JUST A THIMBLE FULL BEADED RIM 'VALLEY FORGE KENNEL CLUB' LETTERED ON VERSO

These three thimblefuls were made in Japan. The lettering is Just a Thimbleful. There is an extra mark of Broadway. The three sizes are for 1oz, 1 1/2oz and 2oz. They are made of Electro-plated Britannia silver (E.P.B.).

E.P.B.
JUST A THIMBLEFUL
BROADWAY
JAPAN
1OZ, 1½OZ, 2OZ

This is an American sterling silver thimbleful made for Cartier for sale in their stores. It is marked on the open end with Sterling, the maker's mark and Cartier lettered below a beaded rim. The maker of this Cartier thimbleful is The Thomae Company and their maker's mark is the one appearing on this example.
The lettering is in cursive Only a Thimble Full. The base is stippled with the same pattern as the body of the thimbleful with a gold wash inner lining.
see also: PEWTER THIMBLES – TIFFANY & CO – CHARLES THOMAE & SONS

CARTIER
Only a Thimble Full
BEADED RIM
GOLD WASH LINING

MAKER'S MARK (THE THOMAE COMPANY) + CARTIER

This is a 1977 Birmingham hallmarked thimbleful lettered Just a Thimbleful and made by J B Chatterley & Sons Ltd.

J A CHATTERLEY (JBC&SLD) BIRMINGHAM 1976 - 1977
JUST A THIMBLEFUL

This is an 1895 Chester hallmarked thimbleful made by Colen Hewer Cheshire, lettered Just a Thimble Full. There are two bands of vertical striations and the indentations on the lower half are diamond shaped.
The third example has raised lettering – in the same position as the other thimblefuls.

COLEN HEWER CHESHIRE (CC) CHESTER 1895 - 1898 - 1904
JUST A THIMBLE FULL
FLAT RIM

This is a British sterling silver thimbleful made by William James Dingley. It is marked on the open end with the British hallmarks for Birmingham 1903. The lettering is read when the thimbleful is standing on its open end. Just a Thimbleful is lettered in blue enamelling with a Maltese cross. The indentations are diamond-shaped, and the narrower apex is more defined than most.

WILLIAM JAMES DINGLEY (WJD) BIRMINGHAM 1903
JUST A THIMBLEFUL
LETTERED IN BLUE ENAMELLING
LETTERING TO BE READ WHEN STANDING ON OPEN END
1.5oz – 63.5mm
see also: BHJ (1876) - HW (1875) – WD (1876)

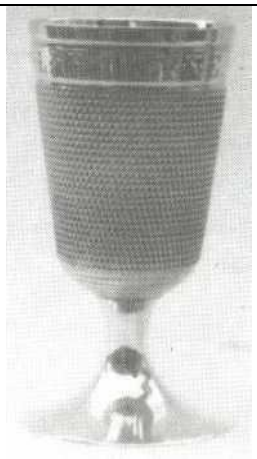
This is a British sterling silver thimbleful made by Stuart Clifford. The British hallmarks for London 1903. The lettering is Just a Thimble Full over three lines. The sides have no indentations and this one has an ornate monogram.

STUART CLIFFORD (SC) LONDON 1903 JUST A THIMBLE FULL LETTERED OVER THREE LINES NO INDENTAIONS	

Norma Spicer, in her booklet on James Fenton, mentions a tot measure, which could be given as a gift or souvenir. "As they only hold three teaspoonsful, any Scotsman given a wee dram in one of these would have every right to feel deprived". The one shown is stemmed, in a goblet-shape, of sterling silver and hallmarked for 1898 with lettering For Auld Lang Syne around the top.

The second example from James Fenton is also stemmed hallmarked for Birmingham - coincidentally? - also 1892 and the stippled lettering is Just a Thimble Full.

I have included an example – for completeness where there is no lettering - by William Hutton & Sons and Fenton

 JAMES FENTON (JF) 1898 FOR AULD LANG SYNE	 JAMES FENTON (JF) BIRMINGHAM 1892 - 1906 JUST A THIMBLE FULL STIPPLED LETTERING
 WILLIAM HUTTON & SONS (WMH&S), SHEFFIELD 1893 (a) NO THIMBLEFUL LETTERING	 JAMES FENTON (JF), BIRMINGHAM 1892 (s) NO THIMBLEFUL LETTERING

Sterling silver by Henry Charles Freeman of London. Lettered Just a Thimbleful upside down ie to be read when standing on the open end

 H C FREEMAN JUST A THIMBLEFUL LETTERING TO BE READ WHEN STANDING ON OPEN END	 HCF MARK

Sterling silver by Israel Freeman & Co, London. Lettered Just a Thimbleful. The body has cross-hatched indentations. Capacity is either 1oz or 1½oz.

ISRAEL FREEMAN & SON
JUST A THIMBLEFUL
L: 1oz – R: 1½OZ

IFS MARK

Sterling silver from Birmingham by Hilliard & Thomason. Raised lettering is Just a Thimble Full applied with a thistle in a shield.

HILLIARD & THOMASON (H&T) BIRMINGHAM
JUST A THIMBLE FULL
APPLIED THISTLE IN A SHIELD

Sterling silver from London by Richard Loewe Henry 1876. Raised lettering is Just a Thimble Full

RICHARD LOEWE HENRY (RLH) LONDON 1876
JUST A THIMBLE FULL
WITH APPLIED SHIELD WITH COAT-OF ARMS

The ultimate thimbleful to own would be that made by Charles Horner. In his sales catalogue this sterling silver thimble is named as a whiskey measure. It looks taller than other thimblefuls. Known hallmark dates are from the 1910 and 1950s. The lettering is Just a Thimbleful. Recently other examples have emerged, hallmarked Chester, 1947 and 1948. Contrary to the advertisement for Horner thimblefuls, most are lettered Just a Thimbleful - the ad shows that it ends with -full. The indents continue under the thimbleful.

CHARLES HORNER (CH) CHESTER 1947 - 1948 - 1952
JUST A THIMBLEFUL
GOLD WASH LINING
BEADING BELOW PLAIN BAND
51mm

HORNER CATALOGUE

CHARLES HORNER (CH) CHESTER 1930
JUST A THIMBLEFUL
GOLD WASH LINING
BEADING BELOW PLAIN BAND
54mm (TALLER)

CHARLES HORNER (CH) CHESTER 1906/1910
JUST A THIMBLEFUL
LETTERING TO BE READ WHEN STANDING ON OPEN END
GOLD WASH LINING
LETTERING SLIGHTLY BLURRED ON 1906 EXAMPLE
50mm

CHARLES HORNER (CH) CHESTER 1904
JUST A THIMBLEFUL
COPPERPLATE LETTERING
TO BE READ WHEN STANDING ON OPEN END

Sterling silver by FH for Francis Howard Ltd, of Trafalgar Street, Sheffield. There is no thimbleful lettering. There is a set of British hallmarks on the base for Sheffield 1977.

FRANCIS HOWARD LTD (FH) SHEFFIELD 1977

BRITISH ASSAY MARKS ON BASE WITH
SHEFFIELD 1977 JUBILEE MARKS OF QUEEN ELIZABETH II

Thimbleful by Industria Argentina marked Sterling Silver 925. There is an additional mark of 049 within a diamond-shape lozenge – all lettered on the base. 049 may be the maker's mark.

JUST A THIMBLE FULL
STERLING SILVER 925
INDUSTRIA ARGENTINA
049

This is a slightly different thimbleful by Industria Argentina. There is a rolled rim and some indentations continuing onto the base

JUST A THIMBLE FULL
STERLING SILVER 925
INDUSTRIA ARGENTINA

This British thimbleful is made by B H Joseph (BHJ) in Birmingham in 1876. Lettered in blue enamelling Just a Thimbleful with a Maltese cross in blue enamelling, finely indented in diamond shapes. The lettering is at the open end of the thimble. Additionally inscribed in Gothic script: Walter Fergus Esquire, Largs 19 Jan.y 1877. Housed in a leather fitted case.

B H JOSEPH (BHJ) BIRMINGHAM 1876
BLUE ENAMELLED LETTERING WITH MALTESE CROSS
JUST A THIMBLEFUL
LETTERING TO BE READ WHEN STANDING ON OPEN END
see also: HW (1875) - WD (1876) - WJD (1903)

The thimble on the right has markings for K & Co. There are additional marks with E.P for electro-plated silver, and a crossed keys maker's mark. The thimbleful is larger than usual. The lettering is Just a thimbleful with a Maltese cross mark.

On the right this thimbleful is more ornate than usual with additional decoration around the rim. The lettering is in a narrow band flanked by a row each of striations. This is a modern thimbleful made by KMS for K M SILVER, hallmarked for Birmingham, 1997. The lettering is Just a Thimbleful. Gold wash lining.

 (K&CO) JUST A THIMBLEFUL 60mm	 K M SILVER (KMS) BIRMINGHAM 1997 JUST A THIMBLEFUL FLAT PATTERNED RIM GOLD WASH LINING

Birmingham makers William and George Matthews (WGM) marked their thimblefuls in raised lettering over striations. The indentations are diamond shaped.

WILLIAM & GEORGE MATTHEWS BIRMINGHAM 1876
JUST A THIMBLE FULL

These sterling silver thimblefuls are made in Mexico (Hecto en Mexico lettered on the base). Marked with both 925 and Sterling. The maker's mark is 20 in an eagle-shape for the maker Plat-Mex S.A. one of the largest Mexico City manufacturers: Empresa Plat-Mex-SA. (see following thimbleful). This mark was used between 1948 and 1955 (Rogers). This thimbleful is lettered Thimble – Full, in a zigzag-type font. The indentations are replaced by a brushed surface - with very sloping sides. The base is smooth. The example at right has wide-spaced indentations with the mark at right below (no 20).

PLAT-MEX-S.A.
THIMBLE - FULL
44mm

PLAT-MEX S.A./PLAT.MEX.SA
HECHO EN MEXICO
20 IN AN EAGLE-SHAPED MARK
925 STERLING

EMP-PLAT-MEX S.A.
TIMBLE [sic] – FULL
ME-15 IN A RECTANGULAR LOZENGE
925 STERLING

UNKNOWN INITIALS AT CENTRE OF MARK: ADL
HECHO EN MEXICO
EAGLE-SHAPED MARK
HANDMADE INDENTATIONS
925 STERLING

This sterling thimble is lettered with The Mauser Mfg. Co on the base but there is no country of manufacture. A Google search reveals this to be a US-based company at the end of the 19th C. The lettering is in an unusual script (see Towle thimbleful for identical lettering) Just a Thimble Full. There is additional lettering on the rim Sterling 7760 with an unknown maker's mark between. There is a gilt wash inside.

The examples have been personalised - the right has the most marvellous monogram - or the owner's name lettered on the base

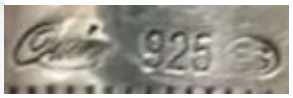
THE MAUSER MFG. CO.
JUST A THIMBLE FULL
GOLD WASH LINING
WITH MONOGRAM ON EXAMPLE AT R 44mm

THE MAUSER MFG. CO.
STERLING 7760
+ MAKER'S MARK

Henry Muhr's Sons were one of the smaller thimble makers in the United States during the late 1800s. It is another example of a thimble being made to stand on its open end. The indentations are stippled with the lettering Just a Thimble Full.

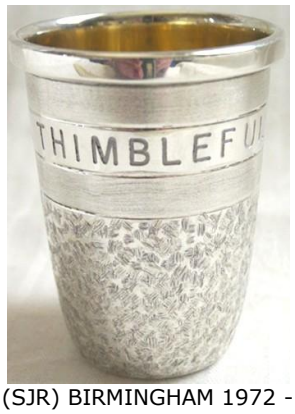
HENRY MUHR'S SONS
JUST A THIMBLE FULL
50mm
LETTERING TO BE READ WHEN STANDING ON OPEN END

The maker's mark on this thimbleful is for *Quin*. There is a symbol alongside the 925 mark. The lettering around is Nur Ein Fingerhut Voll.



Quin 925 WITH MAKER'S MARK
NUR EIN FINGERHUT VOLL

These sterling thimbles are made by a British silversmith who manufactured thimbles between the 1960s and 1990s – S J Rose - hallmarked for Birmingham, 1972 and 1992. The bases are smooth with a gold wash inside. They are different in that the lower surfaces are interestingly stippled.



S J ROSE (SJR) BIRMINGHAM 1972 - 1992 – R: LETTERING IS INVERTED
JUST A THIMBLEFUL
57mm

This German thimbleful with Nur Ein Fingerhut Voll has the maker's marks of FS for Franz Scheurle (later Quinn Scheurle) crown.

FRANZ SCHEURLE
NUR EIN FINGERHUT VOLL
.925 SILVER

FS mark

Simons of Philadelphia have made thimblefuls in both sterling silver and gold. The thimblefuls have the Simons sterling silver mark on the inside base of the thimble. The base is indented or knurled. They are shorter than usual. The lettering is ornate.
Simons also produced a **14-carat gold** jigger.

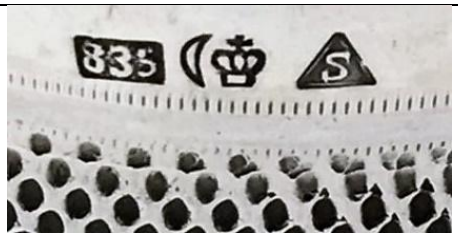
SIMONS
ONLY A THIMBLE FULL
40mm

German thimblefuls are not common, and this example has the maker's marks of Soergel und Stollmeyer, of Schwäbisch-Gmünd with .835 mark for German silver. The maker's mark is the S in a triangle, but this is not always present. They closed in the 1960s. The lettering is Nur Ein Fingerhut Voll.
The second example has no thimbleful lettering but is similar to the example that does. This thimble is inscribed for a christening.

SOERGEL UND STOLLMEYER
NUR EIN FINGERHUT VOLL
.835 SILVER

SOERGEL UND STOLLMEYER
.835 SILVER

inscribed Bettina zur Taufe 26.6.1961
(FOR A CHRISTENING)



SICKLE AND CROWN MARK

SOERGEL UND STOLLMEYER
.835 SILVER
inscribed II Preis 29.6.1959

Made by James Swann & Son, the example on the left is marked with the Jubilee hallmarks of 1977. The lettering is Just a Thimbleful; they are taller than average and there are indentations on the base.

Another thimbleful by James Swann & Son is featured in lower photos. It seems to have been a special commission for a 25th anniversary, with the personalised engraving on the verso. The main lettering is To God and his Angel. Try this for size with Just a Thimble Full in the intervening space. It is hallmarked for Birmingham in 1976.

JAMES SWANN & SON (JS&S) BIRMINGHAM 1976, 1987 - SHEFFIELD 1977
JUST A THIMBLEFUL
54mm

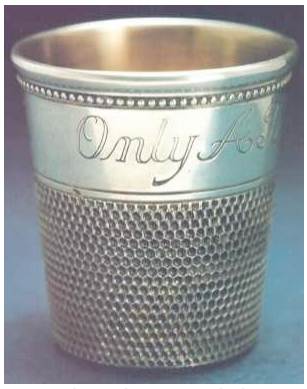
JAMES SWANN & SON (JS&S) BIRMINGHAM 1976
TO GOD AND HIS ANGEL
JUST A THIMBLEFUL
TRY THIS FOR SIZE
FLAT RIM

James Swann & Sons made these 9ct gold thimblefuls.

JAMES SWANN & SON (JS&S) BIRMINGHAM 1968 - 1989
JUST A THIMBLEFUL
top: ROLLED – bottom: RIM FLAT RIM

This thimbleful is American, made by Charles Thomae & Sons with cursive lettering for Only a Thimble Full.

see also: CARTIER – TIFFANY & CO



AMERICAN STERLING SILVER
CHARLES THOMAE & SONS
Only a Thimble Full
BEADED RIM
GOLD WASH LINING

This thimbleful is American, made by Tiffany & Co with cursive lettering for Only a Thimble Full.

see also: CARTIER - CHARLES THOMAE & SONS

AMERICAN STERLING SILVER
TIFFANY & CO
Only a Thimble Full
BEADED RIM
GOLD WASH LINING

This is another example of a Victorian sterling silver thimbleful. The assay marks are for Birmingham 1876 with the maker's mark of IT, and the raised or applied lettering of Just a Thimbleful, with a lovely raised blank cartouche. Note the beading at the rim which has been noted on other Victorian thimblefuls.

(IT) BIRMINGHAM, 1876
JUST A THIMBLEFUL
RAISED LETTERING

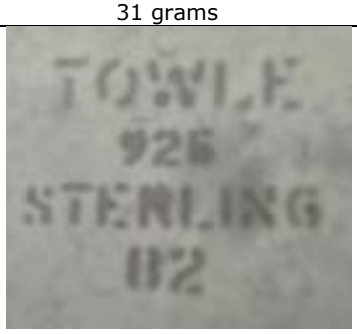
These sterling silver thimblefuls are made by Towle. They also made pewter thimblefuls. These are stamped TOWLE Sterling and lettered Just a Thimbleful or Just a Thimble Full in cursive – some in uppercase; unusual lettering (see Mauser for identical lettering). Some examples carry additional marks on the base 925 with a stock number of 82.

TOWLE STERLING SILVER
Just a thimbleful
50mm

TOWLE STERLING SILVER
JUST A THIMBLE FULL

THIS EXAMPLE IS ENGRAVED WITH 1909
IN CIRCULAR CASE
49-50mm

TOWLE STERLING SILVER
Just a thimble full
THIS EXAMPLE IS ENGRAVED WITH OWNER'S INITIALS G.D. IV WITH DATE AUGUST 16, 1959
31 grams



This is another example of a Victorian sterling silver thimbleful. The assay marks are for Birmingham 1883 with the maker's mark of V&S, for Vaughton & Sons of Birmingham. The raised or applied lettering of Just a Thimble Full, with a lovely raised blank cartouche.

(V&S) BIRMINGHAM, 1883
JUST A THIMBLE FULL
RAISED LETTERING
CARTOUCHE
MARKS STAMPED UPSIDE DOWN

P J VOGEL & Co's thimblefuls are only usually made in silver-plate. This one is hallmarked for Birmingham 1964, and like their metal thimbles, they are sized. This is a 1oz size. The lettering is Just a Thimbleful.

P H VOGEL & CO (PHV&CO) BIRMINGHAM 1964
JUST A THIMBLEFUL

P H VOGEL & CO (PHV&CO) BIRMINGHAM HALLMARKS

P H VOGEL & CO (PHV&CO) BIRMINGHAM 1972
JUST A THIMBLEFUL
ASSAY MARKS ON BASE
1.5oz

A rare sterling thimbleful is hallmarked for 1876 and made by George Unite. Just a Thimbleful lettering is well raised on a finely striated band. It is gilded inside and hallmarked in Birmingham. There is a blank shield cartouche. The base is indented and quite concave.

One Unite thimbleful example has the same shield as the one below left, with a bow and arrow, a quiver and two birds and Da Dio Cerco Aiuto roughly translated as From God seek help.

A similar to the George Unite on the left, this sterling silver thimble on the right is unmarked. Just a Thimbleful with applied lettering is well raised on a finely striated band. It is gilded inside. There is a blank shield.

The centre thimbleful has blue enamelled lettering and a blue Maltese cross, with hallmarks for George Unite Birmingham 1890.

GEORGE UNITE (GU) BIRMINGHAM 1876
JUST A THIMBLEFUL
RAISED LETTERING
R; WITH MONOGRAMS FROM
56mm

JUST A THIMBLEFUL RAISED LETTERING
NO MAKER'S MARKS
1879

GEORGE UNITE (GU) BIRMINGHAM 1890
JUST A THIMBLEFUL
WITH BLUE ENAMELLED LETTERING
FLAT RIM
56mm

GEORGE UNITE (GU) BIRMINGHAM 1893
JUST A THIMBLE FULL
STIPPLED LETTERING

Sterling silver from Taxco, Mexico. They are marked Sterling silver. The shape of the thimbleful is squarish with square handmade indentations. The thimblefuls have the maker's mark of Uxmal on the base. The lettering is Just a Thimbleful and there is a size mark of 1½.

UXMAL, TAXCO
JUST A THIMBLEFUL 1½

UXMAL MARK

Webster, thimble silversmiths from the USA, also made sterling thimblefuls. Theirs have the maker's mark on the base and are gilded on the inside. The ornate lettering is Only a Thimble Full. The indentations are markedly different from other sterling thimblefuls, having a beaten or stippled surface. Other examples show a different maker's mark and the thimbleful is strongly indented.

WEBSTER
ONLY A THIMBLE FULL
BEATEN SURFACE
42mm

WEBSTER
ONLY A THIMBLE FULL
BEADED RIM

Truly a little gem, this thimbleful is different in two aspects: it stands on its open end and has blue enamelled lettering.
Made by Henry Williamson, hallmarked in London in 1875, with the lettering Just a Thimbleful.

The thimble on the right is a later thimbleful from Henry Williamson & Co - hallmarked in Birmingham 1911. It is as desirable, because of its thistle-shape. Lettered with A Wee Drappie.

The final example by HW has blue enamelled lettering with a Maltese cross and lettered Just a Thimbleful, hallmarked in London in 1875. The inside is gilded.

HENRY WILLIAMSON (HW) LONDON 1875
BLUE ENAMELLED LETTERING
JUST A THIMBLEFUL
LETTERING TO BE READ WHEN STANDING ON OPEN END
see also: BHJ (1876) – WD (1876) - WJD (1903)

HENRY WILLIAMSON LTD (HW) BIRMINGHAM 1911
A WEE DRAPPIE
IN THE SHAPE OF A THISTLE

HENRY WILLIAMSON (HW) LONDON 1875
BLUE ENAMELLED LETTERING WITH MALTESE CROSS
JUST A THIMBLEFUL

Thimblefuls were sometimes sold in a designated case.
This of red leather, with the top half lifting off the case.

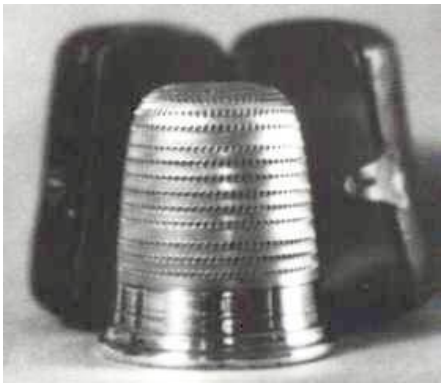
BRITISH
1930-1940
JUST A THIMBLE FULL

This Dublin assayed Irish thimbleful is dated to 1970. Gold wash inner lining but no apparent thimbleful lettering.

DUBLIN 1970
GOLD WASH LINING
FLAT RIM

NOVELTY COMPENDIUM
JUST A THIMBLEFUL
BLUE ENAMELLING LETTERING ON SILVER

According to Dreesman, "Sometimes the prude phrasing of the shot glass was not put on the drinking thimble itself but on its covering, as on the leather etui of this sterling Thimble Full".



STERLING
THIMBLE FULL

Tho I have no evidence of hallmarks, this silver thimbleful has finely milled indentations. The lettering Just a Thimble Full is followed by an interesting symbol.

SILVER
JUST A THIMBLE FULL
FLAT RIM

The distinctive T (longer downstrokes on the horizontal) on the word thimble, makes this silver thimbleful as different. There are indentations right across the base and the indents on the body are well-formed. Marked Sterling 651.

STERLING SILVER 651
JUST A THIMBLE FULL

This thimbleful has no distinctive marks, but it is English and made of sterling silver'. The indentations are set slightly differently to that above. Sloping sides

SILVER
JUST A THIMBLE FULL

This thimbleful has one of the widest plain borders I have seen on thimblefuls. There is a rim of beading under the rim. Made in the USA, as the lettering is Only a Thimbleful.

Only a thimbleful

This is an unusual thimble in many aspects. I would presume it was made as a one-off gift.
Firstly there is the actual Gothic lettering: Just a Thimble Full Old Man. This extra moniker makes one think of a gift – a gift from mates to a fellow drinking-friend.
Secondly there is ornate patterning below the lettering, which is a deeply engraved band with flowers and acanthus: not encountered before in this thimble topic.
Thirdly the indentations are handmade.
Finally, there is a gold wash inner lining. There are no other marks – probably British made?

Just a Thimble Full Old Man
LETTERED IN GOTHIC SCRIPT
GOLD WASH LINING
51x41mm -54 grams

This German sterling silver thimbleful has no maker's mark. It has the German lettering Nur Ein Vingerhut Voll at the rim. There is a blank cartouche on the rim. A second version has applied lettering. No marks on either thimbleful.

NUR EIN FINGERHUT VOLL
FLAT RIM
55mm

NUR EIN FINGERHUT VOLL
FLAT RIM
APPLIED LETTERING
55mm

With no British hallmarks this is a difficult thimbleful to know its country of origin. There is a mark under the heavily rolled rim.

JUST A THIMBLE FULL
HEAVILY ROLLED RIM
MARKED STERLING WITH POSSIBLE MAKER'S SYMBOL, 651

This sterling silver thimbleful is different in that the lettering is very close to the rim, and it is applied to the matt band. I have not been able to decipher the maker's mark one is 925. It was made by The Silver Room. Gilt lining.

JUST A THIMBLE FULL
LETTERING VERY CLOSE TO MATT RIM
925 IS THE ONLY BRITISH HALLMARK THAT IS LEGIBLE
GILT LINING

This is the fourth example of an identically shaped thimbleful with blue enamelling featuring a Maltese Cross. All of them are designed to stand on their open ends. The maker of this thimbleful is William Davies, with a London hallmark date of 1876.

WILLIAM DAVIES (WD) LONDON 1876
BLUE ENAMELLED LETTERING WITH MALTESE CROSS
JUST A THIMBLEFUL
see also: BHJ (1876) – HW (1875) - WJD (1903)

Pewter thimblefuls

This traditional-sized thimbleful is of pewter. The rim is flatly rolled, with Just a Thimble Full, with indentations going under the base. The base is concave in the centre.

There are Perfection Pewter thimblefuls that have the Gothic lettering Thimble Full. The maker's mark is on the base and they are a large size.

Pewter by Poole - the lettering is Just a Thimbleful in cursive. The maker's marks are on the plain base with the symbol of a candlestick with a snuffer. Some examples have the place of manufacture viz - Taunton, Mass. So, these thimblefuls go against the norm with Just ... not Only ... for these American-made thimblefuls.

JUST A THIMBLE FULL
FLAT RIM

PERFECTION PEWTER
Thimble Full
OVER TWO LINES
88mm

JUST A THIMBLE FULL

PEWTER BY POOLE
Just a Thimbleful
WELL ROLLED RIM

R: DESIGN NO 3205
CANDLESTICK WITH SNUFFER

NewburyPort Pewter Towle, cursive lettering around the base. Thimbleful is lettered Just a Thimbleful. The maker's marks are on the plain base with the symbol of a ship's wheel. Tho these are made of pewter they are brass-coloured.
The second version has more sloping sides. In all other aspects they are the same.

From their website, I have the following information on Towle. Towle Silversmiths was founded by the Moulton family of Newburyport, Massachusetts, in 1690.

They were taken over in 1986 by Syratech Corporation.

 NEWBURYPORT PEWTER TOWLE JUST A THIMBLEFUL	

Feldman of Germany had four sizes of pewter thimbles for sale in the early 1990s. They are made in Sheffield. The lettering is Just a Thimble Full.

MODERN SHEFFIELD PEWTER THIMBLES IN FOUR SIZES
JUST A THIMBLE FULL

This English Pewter thimbleful had the maker's marks lettered on the base. Marked there is English Pewter and Made in England, with the maker's initials of T M L in italics. The thimble is squat in shape and lettered Just a Thimble Full over three lines.

T M L
JUST A THIMBLE FULL
ENGLISH PEWTER

The following two thimbles are similar. Both are Victorian, one being of pewter, the other of silver-plate. Neither have any thimbleful lettering. The one on the right is pictured inverted in Holmes. The monogram shows it is meant to be this way up. The bases are indented. Neither have any lettering, so technically can't be called thimblefuls? Do you agree?

OLD PEWTER
65mm

SILVER-PLATED
INVERTED
71mm

Made in England of polished pewter this 2oz thimbleful on the left has Just a Thimble Full engraved on the rim.

The thimbleful in the centre is made by British Nobleman Pewterware and has on the base Made by Craftsmen Sheffield England and lettered Just a Thimble Full. Some seem identical, just with different makers names. The lettering on all of this batch of thimblefuls is narrower than usual

Then there's the example of one of these thimblefuls being altered by the addition of a handle.

 BRITISH PEWTER JUST A THIMBLE FULL 2oz	 BRITISH NOBLEMAN PEWTERWARE JUST A THIMBLE FULL MADE BY CRAFTSMAN SHEFFIELD ENGLAND 42mm	

These thimblefuls are by William Adams - and also of Sheffield - most of the pewter thimbles seem to originate here - Made by a Craftsman - again lettering associated with this batch of British pewter thimblefuls. The lettering on all of this maker of thimblefuls is narrower than usual, as those above. There are two different maker's marks but the one on the right is double the size of that on the left.

 WILLIAM ADAMS JUST A THIMBLE FULL MADE BY A CRAFTSMAN IN SHEFFIELD ENGLAND 50mm	 WILLIAM ADAMS JUST A THIMBLE FULL MADE BY A CRAFTSMAN IN SHEFFIELD ENGLAND 120mm
	 WILLIAM ADAMS 2 MARKS:- MAKER'S NAME LETTERED IN CURSIVE + B OVER P & C ALL WITHIN A LARGE A INSIDE A CIRCLE FOR ASSOCIATION OF ENGLISH PEWTER CRAFTSMAN

FINE ENGLISH PEWTER
JUST A THIMBLE FULL
MADE BY CRAFTSMAN IN SHEFFIELD ENGLAND
HAS BEEN ALTERED BY ADDITION OF HANDLE

Other pewter thimblefuls made in England are (left) this thimbleful lettered Just a Thimble Full engraved around the band and with a heavy rolled rim. This thimbleful is made by Mastercraft Pewter, Sheffield. It is double the usual height of thimblefuls.
The lower one is smaller with Just a Thimble Full, also made in Sheffield.
The right-hand thimbleful is Fine English Pewter made for Smyth. It is also a large thimbleful.

JUST A THIMBLE FULL
MASTERCRAFT PEWTER SHEFFIELD
101mm

JUST A THIMBLE FULL
FINE ENGLISH PEWTER for SMYTH
113mm

JUST A THIMBLE FULL
ENGLISH PEWTER SHEFFIELD
FLAT RIM
PERSONALISED WITH INITIALS 'BC'
50mm

This pewter thimbleful is of an unusual shape with differently shaped indentations - in a wavy shape. No other details are available.

JUST A THIMBLE FULL

This lovely old pewter thimbleful is in the shape of a thistle and is lettered A Wee Drappie with stylised floral-type marks and dot-type indentations. The floral markings may be a maker's mark or have a decorative purpose, being placed between word? This example seems to have seen better days, but the lettering is still well defined!

A WEE DRAPPIE
IN THE SHAPE OF A THISTLE

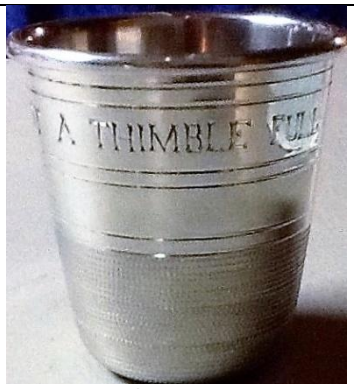
This pewter thimbleful is from Viners of Sheffield and marked Just a Thimble Full, with Pewter Made in England lettered on the base.
The second thimbleful is marked Raimond-Viners, with no mention of Shefield. It seems a different shape from the first example

 VINERS OF SHEFFIELD PEWTER MADE IN ENGLAND JUST A THIMBLE FULL 48mm	
 Raimond-VINERS PEWTER MADE IN ENGLAND JUST A THIMBLE FULL	

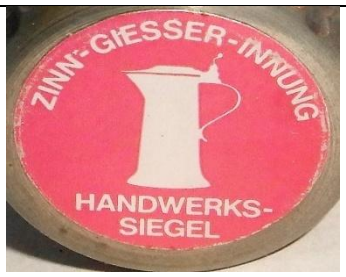
This pewter thimbleful has no maker's marks. Just a thimble full is lettered around on a plain band.

JUST A THIMBLE FULL LETTERED ON A PLAIN BAND

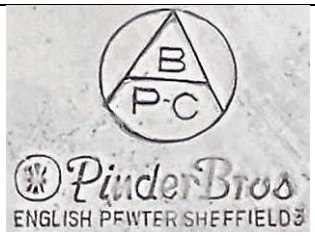
As well as having sterling silver thimblefuls, Cartier also had pewter thimblefuls. Marked on the base is the lettering Genuine English pewter, with a 4oz mark (that makes this a very large thimbleful. The rest of that size mark is illegible. Made is England is the last of the lettering. Around the band is Just a Thimble Full.

 CARTIER JUST A THIMBLE FULL LETTERED ON A WIDE PLAIN BAND	

This is a strongly indented German pewter thimbleful. It is lettered Nur Ein Fingerhut Voll. There is a paper sticker on the base which is lettered Zinn-Giesser-Innung Handelswerks-Siegel (translates as Pewter foundry craft seal)

 NUR EIN FINGERHUT VOLL	

This pewter thimbleful is made by Pinder Bros of Sheffield. The lettering is Just a Thimble Full. There is an extra mark of ABPC, which stands for Association of British Pewter Craftsmen.

 JUST A THIMBLE FULL PINDER BROS ENGLISH PEWTER SHEFFIELD 3 EXTRA MARK: ABPC 5 ins	

Pewter thimblefuls were made by James Dixon & Sons, in Sheffield, England. The maker's details are lettered on the base, with a bugle trademark. It holds 1 PT (pint) and is 70mm in height.

 CORNISH PEWTER JAMES DIXON & SONS - SHEFFIELD JUST A THIMBLE FULL 1 PT 70mm	

This pewter thimbleful has a mark of Hoffritz Made in England lettered on the base.

 HOFFRITX MADE IN ENGLAND JUST A THIMBLE FULL	

China thimblefuls

Holmes shows a comprehensive selection of crested china and porcelain thimblefuls. Most of these stand on their open end like sewing thimbles. Makers here include those made in the Goss tradition (miniature white porcelain bearing an armorial crest).

Arkinstall & Sons in Stoke-on-Trent (1904-1924) with the backstamp for Arcadian (terrestrial globe with A&S) though other marks exist.

Wiltshaw & Robinson (1890-1910, with a swallow and WR) and Locke & Co of Worcester (1900-1904).

Other china brands include Willow Art China (1903-1905), Porcelle, Sussex China, and Swan China made by Charles Ford in Stoke-on-Trent (1900-1904).

All of these crested thimblefuls are lettered with some wording for a thimbleful.

In May 2008, a **Goss** thimbleful was for sale on ebay. The coat-of-arms is for Braemar, Fife. The lettering, which is across the outer apex, is identical to that that appears as below, inside the unmarked Reading thimble.
The lettering is for Just a Thimble-Full. The Braemar thimbleful is also the same as the Reading thimble in that the crest is on a smooth raised shield.
There is a very clear Goss backstamp inside the thimbleful.

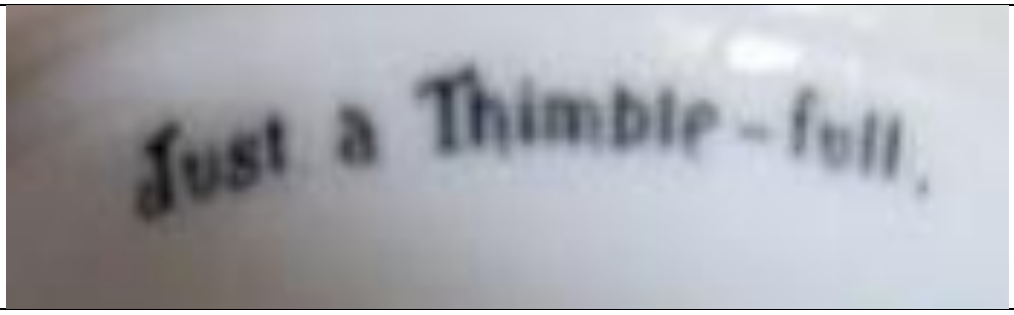
BRAEMAR FIFE

Other similar china thimblefuls are for Arms of Reading and Buxton. The lettering Just a Thimble-full is on the inside rim. The coat-of-arms is on a raised smooth shield. There are no other maker's marks.

ARMS OF READING

BUXTON

NEWCASTEL on TYNE



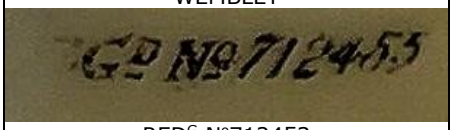
This is quite a recent addition – a new maker Swan China of England. The lettering on the verso is Tak a Thimble Full.

SOUTH QUEENSFERRY
COAT-OF-ARMS

The Arcadian China of Stoke-on-Trent thimblefuls in THIRD AND FOURTH rows have a different lettering: Tak a Thimble – Full.
It is not lettered around the top of the thimble as is the norm on non-china thimblefuls but printed on the verso.

ADVANCE AUSTRALIA
WAR A.D. 1914 EDITION

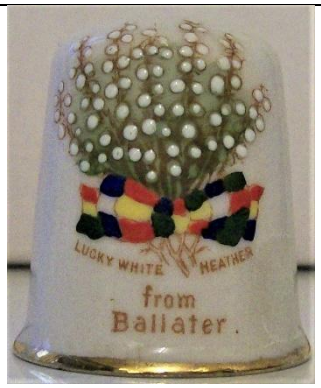
BRITISH EMPIRE EXHIBITION 1925
WEMBLEY



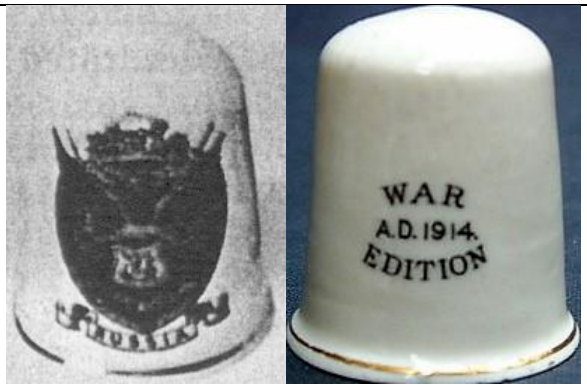
RED^{G} N°712453

CITY OF LIVERPOOL

HECKINGTON
ARKINSTALL



LUCKY WHITE HEATHER FROM
BALLATER



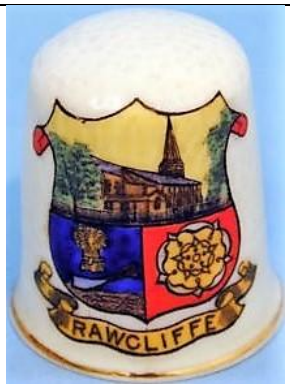
RUSSIA
WAR A.D. 1914 EDITION

CITY OF BRISTOL

BIRCHINGTON

LYMM

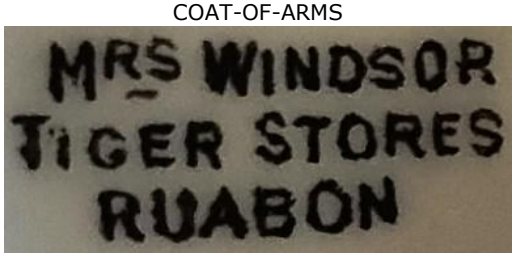
MARSKE-ON-SEA



RAWCLIFFE

RUNSWICK BAY

WYNNSTAY
RUABON
COAT-OF-ARMS



WITH ADDITIONAL LETTERING ON THE INSIDE

 VERSO LETTERING FOR ARCADIAN TAK A THIMBLE FULL SOME HAVE NO THIMBLEFUL LETTERING	

---------- ARCADIAN CHINA ----------

Other Arcadian (Arkinstall & Sons) place names are
NEWQUAY - SANDOWN I.W.

Edwin Holmes lists the following brands of crested china thimbles, made along the lines of Goss china as Arcadian China and made by the following thimble makers:

THE GREAT WORLD WAR 1914-1918 PEACE NOV 11TH 1918
ARMISTICE NOV 11TH 1918 ON VERSO

ARKISTALL & SONS

WILTSHAW & ROBINSON

L: WILTSHAW & ROBINSON - R: CARLTON CHINA
STOKE-ON-TRENT

CITY OF WORCESTER
LOCKE & Co

WILLOW ART CHINA
STOKE-ON-TRENT ENGLAND
A WEE "DEOCH AN DORIS"
RICHMOND SURREY
IN THE SHAPE OF A THISTLE
WITH TRANSLUCENT CHINA
'BUBBLED' AROUND THE FATTER PART
49mm

WILLOW ART CHINA
ONWARD FLEETWOOD
COAT-OF-ARMS ON A RAISED SHIELD

There is no uniformity of lettering for the following china thimblefuls: they just have that wording.

VICTORIAN WHITE CHINA
SMOOTH BASE
JUST A THIMBLE FULL
IN GOLD LETTERING
62mm

three CHINA WITH FLORAL DECALS
Just a Thimble Full
IN GOLD LETTERING
54mm

A porcelain thimbleful, decorated on two sides. Different as it has the lettering all on one side, instead of traditionally around the rim. It is made by Enesco.

ENESCO
JUST A THIMBLE FULL
BRITISH CHINA THIMBLEFUL

More recently (1989) Thimble Craft by Shirley in England, made grey porcelain thimblefuls - even some for the Dutch market with Een Vingerhoed Vol, which measure 37mm.

THIMBLE CRAFT BY SHIRLEY JUST A THIMBLEFUL 37mm	THIMBLE CRAFT BY SHIRLEY EEN VINGERHOED VOL 37mm	

Glass thimblefuls

Slag glass is the residue from completed items in glassworks where iron is incorporated in the glass. The usual colours are opaque and mottled from purple to deep blues. The rims are usually very thick.
Thimblefuls of slag glass are associated with Sowerby & Co of Gateshead, which used the peacock's head in relief as their makers' mark, made between 1860 and 1880.
Other makers were Greener & Co and George Davidson & Co. The bases are indented.

AMBER GLASS
JUST A THIMBLE FULL
AMBER
66mm

BLUE GLASS
JUST A THIMBLE FULL
BLUE
66mm

SLAG GLASS
JUST A THIMBLE FULL
1900-1930
GREYS

SLAG GLASS
JUST A THIMBLE FULL
BROWNS

SLAG GLASS
JUST A THIMBLE FULL

SLAG GLASS
JUST A THIMBLE FULL
BLUE

SLAG GLASS
JUST A THIMBLE FULL
clear
65mm

PRESSED GLASS
GEORGE DAVIDSON & CO
JUST A THIMBLE FULL
c.1890

These PRESSED glass thimblefuls have knobbed or BERRY indentations.

GLASS
JUST A THIMBLE FULL
43mm

BROWN
JUST A THIMBLE FULL

GEORGE DAVIDSON & CO
JUST A THIMBLE FULL
LIME GREEN

MORGAN – INDIANA USA
JUST A THIMBLE FULL
GILT GLAZE

TWO-COLOURS GLASS
JUST A THIMBLE FULL
MAUVE HANDPAINTED NAÏVE-STYLE FLOWERS

MOSER – OHIO USA
JUST A THIMBLE FULL
GREEN

These glass thimblefuls have different indentations.

FROSTED - BROWN - PURPLE
JUST A THIMBLE FULL
PEACOCK SYMBOL ON BASE FOR SOWERBY GLASS, ENGLAND
56mm

This clear glass thimbleful is totally unmarked.
It is the green faux leather case that is lettered with A Thimble Full in cursive.
Case marked Made in Germany on base.

CLEAR GLASS
A Thimble Full
LETTERED ON THE TOP OF CASE

This glass thimbleful has Bavaria lettered on the base.
The maroon faux letter case is lettered A Thimble Full.

CLEAR GLASS
A THIMBLE FULL
LETTERED ON TOP OF THE CASE
BAVARIA LETTERED ON BASE

In its original case, this clear ridged glass thimbleful has no lettering - the lettering Just a Thimbleful lettered in cursive on the top of the faux leather case.

CLEAR RIDGED GLASS
Just a Thimble Full
LETTERED ON TOP OF THE CASE

This is a very interesting thimbleful sold on ebay in 2013. There is a R^{D}. 230818 lettered, which is the registered design number issued to Saunders & Shepherd (UK) on 17 April 1894. Lettered Just a Thimbleful and there is a self-patterned daisy-pattern all over.

DAISY-PATTERNED GLASS
JUST A THIMBLEFUL
R^{D}. 230818 LETTERED ON BASE
LOWER: STERLING SILVER BAND **CS FS** FOR SAUNDERS & SHEPHERD CHESTER 1894

This pair of glass thimblefuls shows one shadowing the colour of the other. The clear example has measurements on the inner side for 1½oz. The indentations are decaled.

A PAIR OF GLASS DECALED THIMBLES
JUST A THIMBLE FULL

This glass medicine measuring cup is marked in blue for tablespoon and teaspoon measures. It is accompanied by a red case lettered with A Thimble full. No further details available.

GLASS MEDICINE MEASURE IN BLUE MARKS WITH TABLESPOON AND TEASPOON MEASURES. THE RED CASE HAS CURSIVE LETTERING

Just a Thimble Full

This opaque blue glass thimbleful is lettered Just a thimble full.

JUST A THIMBLE FULL

2ins

Plastic thimblefuls

One has to be careful when purchasing plastic thimblefuls. Unless they are indented to look like thimbles, they could be plastic beakers, dice cups etc.

Known as a barrel set, these four opaque plastic thimblefuls are housed in the brown-coloured plastic beaker. They are marked on the base Justa Thimble Full with an unknown maker's mark of a stylised crown. These are the first of the thimblefuls that I have encountered with the thimbleful lettering on the base.
Different packaging for the same clear plastic thimblefuls is a leatherette tubular zipped case.

CLEAR PLASTIC
JUSTA THIMBLE FULL
LETTERED ON BASE WITH STYLISED CROWN SYMBOL
FOUR THIMBLEFULS IN PLASTIC CONTAINER – BARREL SET

CROWN MARK IS ALSO ON BASE OF BEAKER

PLASTIC
JUSTA THIMBLE FULL
LETTERED ON BASE WITH STYLISED CROWN SYMBOL
TWO THIMBLEFULS IN LEATHERETTE ZIPPER TUBULAR CONTAINER

NAMED ON BASE OF THIMBLEFUL

This is an unusual thimbleful: it is marked with Only a GOLD Thimble Full. The use of the word Only indicates that it is US-made.

PLASTIC
ONLY A GOLD THIMBLE FULL

Wooden thimblefuls

Robert Herron of Tasmania's thimblefuls are of Huon pine with cursive Just a Thimbleful pyrographed onto the thimbles. Doug Birrell of Melbourne has also produced wooden thimblefuls in various timbers with Just a Thimble-Full pyrographed. Herron's base is flat, Birrell has skilfully rounded his but there is no movement.

ROBERT HERRON *Just a Thimbleful*	DOUG BIRRELL JUST A THIMBLE-FUL

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Contributors

Barbara Acchino | Barbara Allen | Dot Andrews | Christine Bailiff | Clarice Birch
Joanne Blackie-Sew Many Bits | Bleasdales Ltd | Jenny Bockel | Yolanta Bogdziewicz | Pat Brown | Sue Burt
Sue Caesar | Sue Christensen | Lynne Clark | Susan Cook | Nancye Crooks | Helen Cunningham
George Dean | Susan Dempster | Joy Carlsen Earles | Paul Edwards | Eric | Marion Fagan | Peggy Green
Andrea Griffiths Nan Hackney | Delma Hagen | Laurie Hansen | John Hean | Margaret Hendriksen
Margaret Hickling | William Isbister | Anne Jansen | Jeanette | Denise Jenkins-Welsh Thimblers | Alix Jetton
Melissa Johnson | Wayne Johnson | Gladys Junge | Mary Keyser | Nicola Kissane | Andrea Lange | Linda
Michael McMahon | Paul Melton | Ray Nimmo | Ro Olbricht | Lisa Olson | Moyra Peckston | Gordon Phillips
Elaine Pollard | Mabel Rogers | Marilyn S | Wolf-Dieter Scholz | Irene Schwall | Norma Shattock
Marilyn Shenker | Helen Shyers | Norma Spicer | Tom Suttie | Erin Titmus | Bas van de Group | Vanessa
Rosalie Webb | Sue Wilson | David Wiscombe | Sandy Woodyard | Thomas James Wylie

This listing of Thimblefuls does not purport to be complete or accurate in all aspects.
Rather it invites comments and contributions to add to our knowledge. My thanks to the contributors.

EMAIL thimbleselect@bigpond.com TO SHARE YOUR KNOWLEDGE

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