

**SA408277**

**Portrait of a Gentleman, 1756,  
by Henry Pickering.**

Price

**Sold**

**Item Reference: SA408277**

**Date of manufacture: 1750**

Dimensions

Height = 144 cm (56.7")

Width = 118 cm (46.5")

Depth = 7 cm (2.8")

## Description

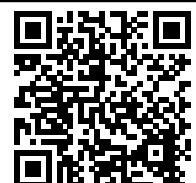
Oil on canvas in a gilded reproduction frame. Signed and dated "H. Pickering pinxt 1756" (H. Pickering painted this 1756). An excellent, sensitive portrait of a gentleman, almost certainly a doctor, as a frontispiece portrait engraving from a book is visible behind the sitter. "The book is 'Histoire de la Medecine' by Daniel Le Clerc, the seminal medical text, first published in Geneva in 1696, but this version looking like the Amsterdam version of 1723 (not that that is of any great relevance, other than intellectual snobbery -- a version had already been published in English, but that would be infra dig). I thought it possible that the painting's date and composition might be significant, in other words that it perhaps marks the sitter's admission as a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians. A biographical register of Fellows exists, but none of those admitted in 1755 or 1756 appear to have any Shropshire connection." (Richard Grigson) HENRY PICKERING c.1720-1771. At his best, as here, he is hardly to be distinguished from Thomas Hudson. Pickering's earliest known portrait is dateable to 1740. Vertue states that in 1745 Pickering returned from a trip to Italy an...

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## Seller Details

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