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Philip Mould Ltd

Historical Portraits Picture Archive

Portrait enamel of Comte Victor Louis Alfred de Vaudreuil (1798-1834), after George Hayter (1792-1871)

Henry Bone RA (1755-1834)



Image Zoom

Enamel

Oval, 60 mm. high

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Comte Victor Louis Alfred de Vaudreuil was the son of Joseph Hyacinthe François de Paule de Rigaud (1740-1817), one of the most notorious members of the court of Louis XVI and favourite of Marie Antoinette.

Following the French Revolution, Victor's father moved to England and in 1795 married his cousin with whom he had two sons; Charles (1796-1880) and Victor. Little is known of Victor's life apart from the fact he held the position of First Secretary to the French Legation in Portugal by 1828 and undertook numerous other diplomatic duties for France. He held an ambassadorial role albeit with less influence. What is known however is that he was a fashionable member of society and features prominently amongst the news of the day, which frequently listed his presence at the numerous dinners and balls.

Bestowed royal patronage throughout the reigns of three monarchs; George III, George IV and William IV, Henry Bone was the most successful enamellist working in London. Bone commanded high prices throughout his career including a large miniature of a mythological scene which he sold for 2,200 Guineas - about £75,000 in today's money.