

SA150385

FINE MAHOGANY 20 DRAWER COLLECTORS CABINET WITH SLIDE.

Price

Sold**Item Reference: SA150385****Date of manufacture: 1910**

Description

THIS EXCELLENT COLLECTORS CABINET COMES WITH A VERY INTERESTING PROVENANCE IN THAT IT WAS THE PROPERTY OF, AND MADE FOR, CAPTAIN VIVIAN HEWITT, AN EARLY AVIATOR AND ONE OF THE MOST FAMOUS COLLECTORS OF NATURAL HISTORY ITEMS AND OTHER CURIOS. CAPTAIN VIVIAN HEWITT FLEW SINGLE HANDED IN AN AIRCRAFT CONSTRUCTED BY HIMSELF, TO IRELAND, IN 1912. IT IS OFTEN STATED THAT HE MADE THE FIRST SUCH FLIGHT BUT THERE IS SOME DEBATE OVER THIS. HE CAME FROM A VERY WEALTHY BACKGROUND BUT WAS A TRUE ECCENTRIC AND FEARLESS CHARACTER. HE MOVED TO "CEMLYN" IN HOLYHEAD, WALES AND LIVED A FASCINATING LIFE IN HIS CASTLE AND THE SURROUNDING AREA. HE COLLECTED A FINE COLLECTION OF BRITISH LEPIDOPTERA AND WAS A KEEN OOLOGIST. THIS TWENTY DRAWER CABINET WAS ALMOST CERTAINLY MADE ESPECIALLY FOR HIM AND TO HIS DESIGN AND REQUIREMENTS. IT IS FITTED WITH GOOD QUALITY NICKEL OR SILVER PLATED FURNITURE AND THE LOCK IS A VERY FINE PRODUCT OF THE CHUBB COMPANY. THE LOCK STILL RETAINS BOTH OF IT'S ORIGINAL KEYS. THIS CABINET WAS DESIGNED TO HOUSE EITHER EGGS OR MEDALS. THE DRAWERS ARE QUITE SHALLOW (AN INCH OF USABLE DEPTH) AND LEND THEMSELVES VERY MUCH TO THE HOUSING OF A MEDAL COLLECTION OR A MULTITUDE...

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