

SA152289

Rare Antique English Letters Post Box by Halstaff & Hannaford - Crystal Topped c.1870

Price

Sold**Item Reference: SA152289****Date of manufacture: 1870**

Description

Modelled to emulate a Victorian letter or mail box made from solid English Oak with having taken on a dark patina over the last 140 years. This is a unique and rare example, signed in two places by the maker "Halstaff & Hannaford, Manufacturers, 228 Regent St, London", one signature is on the underside of the sprung brass "Letters" slot cover and the other on the brass match strike within the drawer. The top is crowned with a large domed or Cabochon crystal set in a polished brass mount magnifying the grand family monogram on a gold background crowned with a family crest of a Stag holding a twig in it's mouth, I have not been able as yet to identify the family this was made for. It was clearly customized for an important family member and would have been an expensive item in it's day. The front retains the original postal rate card (which is rare in itself), this is accessed from the little door on the reverse. These rates were introduced in 1871, helping us identify the age of this piece fairly accurately. Underneath this card is another original generic card, totally untouched, this box has clearly been with the same family for many years. The box comes with a worki...

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