

SA398416

**William Biscombe Gardner, RA,
1847-1919
Professor Alexander William
Williamson FRS (1824-1904)**

Price

GBP 3,500

| USD \$4,736 | EUR 4,095

Item Reference: SA398416

Date of manufacture: 1890

Description

William Biscombe Gardner, RA, 1847-1919 Professor Alexander William Williamson FRS (1824-1904) signed and dated "1894" oil on canvas 24 x 20 in. (61 x 51 cm.) Provenance : By descent in the family Notes Williamson, Alexander William (1824-1904), chemist, was born on 1 May 1824 in Wandsworth, Surrey, the second of three children of Alexander Williamson, a clerk in the East India House, and Antonia McAndrew Williamson, daughter of a London merchant. His father, of Scottish parentage, was a man of high culture and intellect; the family's comfortable financial circumstances were apparently due to his wife's means. He was a friend of the economist and utilitarian philosopher James Mill, who worked in the same office and who lived close by in Wright's Lane, Kensington, after the Williamson family moved there in 1831. About 1840 Williamson resigned his position, and thereafter the family went to live in France and Germany. As a boy Williamson had weak health, exacerbated by inappropriate medical care; he suffered from blindness in the right eye and myopia in the left, and a stiff and largely useless left arm. Despite these infirmities, he later developed a sturdy constit...

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