

SA429049

Victorian Military Campaign Ammunition Chemistry Set with Royal Laboratory stamps for 1882 - Royal Arsenal

Price

Sold**Item Reference: SA429049****Date of manufacture: 1880**

Dimensions

Height = 20 cm (7.9")

Width = 25 cm (9.8")

Depth = 18 cm (7.1")

Description

A rare and possibly unique Victorian military ammunition chemistry set marked to The Royal Laboratory. Contained in an extremely well made purpose built leather case with quality Hobbs of London brass lock and original key, the interior is fitted out in pine with circular cut outs for the placement of chemist bottles. The exterior is stamped RL with a broad arrow mark between the letters and with a date stamp to 1882. The bottles are all devoid of their contents but the labels are stated as: Ammonium Nitrate Liquid Potassium Hydroxide Ung. Resorcin Co. Acid Hydrobromic Dil. Tinct. Scillae Cadmium Sulphide Through consultation with some of the staff at the sadly now defunct Royal Artillery museum in Woolwich, it was confirmed that this case would have been used by staff from the Royal Laboratory in the field whilst carrying out experiments with ammunition and gunpowder mixes. The date on the case associates it to the period of the Anglo-Egyptian war, a response from the French and British to a military coup attempt against the Khedive. Strong interest in the Suez canal and its access to the colonies being the main catalyst for British involvement and a war in whi...

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