

SA593238

Quality 19th Century Military Campaign Camphor Wood Roll Top Writing Slope

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA593238

Date of manufacture: 19th Century

Dimensions

Height = 28.5 cm (11.2")

Width = 53.5 cm (21.1")

Depth = 42.5 cm (16.7")

Description

This extremely good quality Chinese export camphor wood metamorphic writing slope / lap desk dating to circa 1850 was made for sea captains and military field officers for use on a campaign. Constructed of solid camphor wood being brass bound to all edges with brass military carrying handles the lower drawer opens which activates the tambour roll top to slide back revealing a lift up fitted interior with tambour sliding doors. These doors open to a pigeon hole interior with locking door which opens to a small drawer inside. To the top there are lidded compartments and an original recessed pull out mirror. The ebony strung writing slope, which has a central brass cartouche, opens to reveal a later black leather tooled writing surface which lifts forwards at the rear to reveal a storage area with a very special secret hiding place which when using a fine nail releases a brass spring to access three drawers behind the removable panel. Both the drawer and the locking door to the pop up section have working keys and the whole piece is in excellent condition having been restored using traditional methods. The fall is not warped and all joints are sound which is rare for an it...

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