

SA597265

George III Period Night Glass or Night Telescope by Thomas Jones of Charing Cross, London

Price

Sold**Item Reference: SA597265****Date of manufacture: 1800**

Dimensions

Height = 49 cm (19.3")

Width = 10 cm (3.9")

Depth = 10 cm (3.9")

Description

For sale a huge George III period marine night telescope or night glass by Thomas Jones of Charing Cross, London. This rare type of maritime or navigational telescope was designed specifically for night observations or for poor light conditions and its size and lens structure was produced accordingly. The large four inch objective lens would have been conceived to allow for as much natural light to enter the barrel of the telescope and the eyepiece contains a further two lenses in a short draw tube with no backstop as is typical of the form. The combination of lenses presents an intentionally inverted image as an additional erector lens (making it a refracting telescope) would also reduce the overall power of the instrument and thus defeating the purpose. The leather covered barrel measures 49cms when closed and 69cms when drawn to its full extent. The draw is engraved to the famous "Thomas Jones, Charing Cross, London" and also retains its original dust slide to the eyepiece and objective lens cap. A contemporary publication of 1828, "The Panorama of Science & Art" by James Smith describes the night glass in the following way: "The telescope called a night glass is no..."

Seller Details

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