

SA794388

Early Victorian Portable Microscope Slide Case by Smith Beck & Beck London

Price

Sold**Item Reference: SA794388****Date of manufacture: 1860**

Dimensions

Height = 27 cm (10.6")

Width = 21 cm (8.3")

Depth = 6.5 cm (2.6")

Description

For sale, an early Victorian portable microscope slide case by Smith Beck & Beck London. The mahogany case is constructed somewhat like a book with a leather spine and tooled black and gilt leather covers back and front. The mahogany leaves are released by rotating two large brass catches to the side revealing 4 double leaf mahogany sections with inset blue velvet covering and eighteen elasticated pocket sections per leaf. The front of the case has the company name of "Smith Beck & Beck – London" tooled into the leather and finished with gilt lettering. Numerous catalogues were released by the company throughout its trading life but sadly there are no illustrations of this unusual piece, however their catalogues were focused very heavily on microscopy so it is reasonable to assume that this case was for the transportation of slides. Prior to 1857 whilst trading as Smith & Beck, the company initially advertised "microscopic objects", slides of various different specimens which were available for singular purchase for which trade seems to have grown quite rapidly. In their 1860 catalogue, the company now trading as Smith, Beck & Beck and having moved away from their Co...

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