

SA811632

Napoleonic Royal Navy Night Telescope or Night Glass by Dollond London

Price

Sold**Item Reference: SA811632****Date of manufacture: 1800**

Dimensions

Height = 85 cm (33.5")

Width = 8.5 cm (3.3")

Depth = 8.5 cm (3.3")

Description

For sale a rare early Nineteenth Century Royal Navy night telescope or night glass by Dollond of London. This form 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. A 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 nothing more than the common astronomical telescope with tubes, and made of a short length, with a small magnifying power. Its length is usually about two feet, and it is generally made to magnify from six to ten times. It is much used by navigators at night, for the purposes of discovering objects that are not very distant, but which cannot otherwise be seen for want of sufficient light, such as vessels, coast, rocks etc. From the smallness of its magnifying power, and the obscurity of the objects upon which it is employed, it admits of large glasses being used, and consequently has an extensive and well enlightened field of view". This Dollond example has a two and three quarter inch objective lens conceived to allow as much nat...

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