

SA813373

George IV Telescope with Secret Pancratic Eye Tube by John King of Bristol

Price

Sold

Item Reference: SA813373

Date of manufacture: 1800

Dimensions

Height = 56 cm (22.0")

Width = 4 cm (1.6")

Depth = 4 cm (1.6")

Description

For sale, a rare George IV pancratic eye tube telescope by John King of Clare Street, Bristol. Comprised of a flame mahogany barrel with three draws measuring 56cms extended and 19cms closed. The one and a half inch objective lens retains its original dust cap and the ingenious dust slide of the eyepiece also doubles up as a sun filter when in the closed position. What may be considered as the smallest draw is engraved to, "J King, Bristol" but this telescope has a neat little secret. By unscrewing the eyepiece halfway off and pulling the end, an additional pancratic eyetube can be released and extended from the smallest draw. As per Kitchiner's design, the brass is engraved with a magnification scale reading from 20 - 45 and is further engraved with "Pancratic Eye Tube" along the side. Conceived by renowned optician, inventor and cook, William Kitchiner (a fascinating man who is also considered to be the inventor of the potato chip or crisp) to increase magnification of the standard telescope, the manufacture of his invention seems to have been entirely gifted to The Dollond family whose optical work Kitchiner is known to have admired. Why King was manufacturing this ...

Seller Details

Jason Clarke Antiques

Newbury Berkshire United Kingdom



Tel: 07815 046645

International Tel: +44 7815 046645