

SA816513

Early Victorian Two Draw Telescope by Smith & Beck London

Price

Sold**Item Reference: SA816513****Date of manufacture: 1850**

Dimensions

Height = 62 cm (24.4")

Width = 5 cm (2.0")

Depth = 5 cm (2.0")

Description

For sale, a two draw hand held telescope by Smith & Beck of 6 Coleman Street, London. A neat and very manageable early Victorian telescope measuring 62cms extended and 26cms closed, it has a one and a half inch objective lens with original brass lens cap. The tapered brass barrel also retains its original tan leather covering and the eyepiece has its sliding dust cover. Somewhat uncommon to find early examples of telescopes by this famous instrument making company and given the short existence as "Smith & Beck" a very simple one to date within a reasonably small parameter. The earliest history of the company can be traced back to around 1839 when James Smith set up as a microscope manufacturer. His entering into business was as a result of his close association with Joseph Jackson Lister and Charles Tulley, the former being responsible for the development of achromatic lenses for use in microscopy. Smith had previously manufactured brass work for Lister's early experiments and was encouraged by him. The Beck brothers were nephews of Lister and Smith initially took on Richard Beck as an apprentice, finally culminating in the formation of a partnership between the two men...

Seller Details

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