

SA824950

Early Railway Workshop Presentation Gift by Ransomes & May Ipswich 1849

Price

Sold**Item Reference: SA824950****Date of manufacture: 1850**

Dimensions

Height = 7 cm (2.8")

Width = 13.5 cm (5.3")

Depth = 7.5 cm (3.0")

Description

For sale, a rather unusual early railway relic from the workshops of Ransomes & May of Ipswich. Presumably gifted as a presentation to a visitor of the works in 1849, the mahogany box contains a continuous piece of rolled cast iron which has been tied with silk ribbon. The paper inscription on the underside of the lid reads as follows: "Shaving from the edge of a cast iron skeleton or centre of a railway wheel before fitting on the tyre. Ransomes & May, Ipswich 1849." To provide some context for such an unusual gift, the Ransome family began the business as ironmongers and brass founders in Norwich in 1779. The company moved to Ipswich in 1789 after it had become famed for the production of ploughs. In 1812, the family owned company took on the famed engineer William Cubbit as its Chief Engineer, a position that he held until 1817 and during this time, he invented the "human treadmill" for grinding corn which was later adopted by the British Prison service examples of which were to be seen on Brighton beach a short distance from the original chain pier (see image of Brighton chain pier on my website). His influence also encouraged Ransomes to involve themselves in larger...

Seller Details

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