

SA826515

Napoleonic Period Cased Marine Telescope by Gilbert & Sons London

Price

Sold**Item Reference: SA826515****Date of manufacture: 1800**

Dimensions

Height = 108 cm (42.5")

Width = 9 cm (3.5")

Depth = 9 cm (3.5")

Description

For sale, a Napoleonic period mahogany cased single draw marine telescope by Gilbert & Sons London. Enclosed in its original fitted campaign mahogany case, this superb George III telescope is comprised of a mahogany barrel with brass fittings measuring 98cms when closed, 124cms when fully drawn and holds a two inch objective lens. The single draw is manufactured without a backstop in similarity with marine night glass designs of the period and has an early example of a graduated eyepiece. The draw is engraved with the maker's name of Gilbert & Sons London with "improved" below. The case also comes complete with its original secondary eyepiece for higher powered magnification. This design of telescope had been produced by Gilbert from circa 1793 and was conceived during his partnership with James Gilkerson which began in that year. Examples by Gilbert & Gilkerson are noted as being engraved as "Improved Sea Telescope" so the reduction to "Improved" on this example suggests a later attempt to market the telescope to a wider audience. The removal of the maritime focus may have tempted those without their sea legs! As is related below, the partnership with Gilkerson seemed t...

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