

SA922052

Victorian Salesmans Sample of a Patent Bucket Fire Extinguisher by Messer & Thorpe London

Price

Sold**Item Reference: SA922052****Date of manufacture: 1890**

Dimensions

Height = 11 cm (4.3")

Width = 6.5 cm (2.6")

Depth = 4.5 cm (1.8")

Description

For sale, a Late Victorian salesman's sample, or Patent model for the Messer & Thorpe bucket fire extinguisher. Patented in 1892, this simple yet effective design was produced by the engineering firm of Messer & Thorpe, effectively solving the issue of evaporation of stored water but also allowing for numerous buckets to be stored on top of one another to increase firefighting effectiveness. Contemporary adverts for the product provides further explanation: "Everyone knows the difficulty of keeping fire buckets full of water. When left in the buckets it gradually evaporates. The buckets should, of course, be examined and refilled periodically, but in practice men get careless, and not infrequently when required the buckets are found either empty or only half full. The plan of putting oil on the surface of the water to check evaporation is not to be recommended, whilst covering the buckets with paper is troublesome. With a view to overcoming these difficulties, Messer & Thorpe, of 8 Quality court, Chancery Lane, have designed and patented the arrangement which we illustrate on this page. As will be seen, the whole of the buckets rest in a tank which holds sufficient to ...

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