MARY COOKE ANTIQUES LTD Fine Antique Silver

Sold

An important Gold mounted Standing Agate Vinaigrette made in Scotland Circa 1840.



Description

This very rare piece was made in Scotland circa 1840 for the English market, when all things Scottish were becoming of interest to English Society after the State visit of George IV to Edinburgh and the purchase of Balmoral by Queen Victoria and the Prince Consort. As you will see from the images, the Vinaigrette has tapering sides made up of no less than ten different Scottish agate panels, all of unique colouring. The panels cover a gold interior canister, with plain gold base, with scalloped chased side mounts. The top of the main body displays a gold collar which is chased with stylised foliate designs. The high domed moss agate inclusion top is set into a chased gold mount, displaying Gothic revival designs. The hinged cover opens to reveal a gold interior and grille, pierced and engraved with pluming scroll work. This piece is in quite excellent condition, in its original state, showing almost no wear. This piece is a beautiful "Tour De Force" of the box makers craft. It is without doubt a work of art in its own right. These pieces are especially rare and this is only the second we have seen over the years, such are their rarity. Due to its importance, a similar example is shown in "Investing in Silver" by Eric Delieb on page 116.

Height: 2.5 inches, 6.25cm. Length, at its widest point: 1.5 inches, 3.75 cm.