Baroness Angela Burdett-Coutts. An important Gold mounted swivel triple seal, and Watch Key, made most probably in London circa 1880.

£9,750



REF: 375837

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Description

This very unusual gold mounted triple swivel heraldic seal, and watch key, are all inset with semi-precious stones. As you will see from the images, the tubular watch key has a chalcedony intaglio above surrounded by a very finely chased frame/mount decorated with scrolls and sea shells. The stone is seal cut on one side with the Coat of Arms of Burdett-Coutts, within in a lozenge for a Lady, flanked by supporters and with the Coronet of a Baroness above, all for Baroness Angela Burdett-Coutts. The reverse is engraved with her ciper ABC in reverse, below the coronet of a Baroness. The other side displays a swivel seal with three faces, all inset with a different semi-precious stone, seal cut with different heraldic devices and all within a reeded mount and hanging from a beautifully chased suspensory frame. The first face is also inset with a chalcedony stone seal cut with the Armorial of Baroness Angela Burdett-Coutts, within a lozenge, with supporters each side and the Coronet of a Baroness above. The second face is inset with a bloodstone seal cut with the Armorial of William Bartlett, her husband. The third face is inset with an amethyst and is seal cut with the Crest and cipher of William Bartlett, WB in reverse. The seal and watch key are joined with a central chased ring to keep them safely together. All pieces are in outstanding condition.The seals are all mounted in gold which has been XRF tested and found to be 13.82 carat gold. Three faced swivel seals are very rare and this is the first time we have offered one. The stone engraving has been executed to an outstanding standard, as to be expected. As you will appreciate, this would have been a personal item in constant use to seal letters and documents, as well as wind the watch of the Baroness. Length: 5 inches, 12.5 cm.

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