

AN EXCEPTIONALLY FINE scottish 15carat gold vinaigrette made,
almost certainly, in edinburgh, circa 1850

Sold



Description

This beautiful Vinaigrette is broad rectangular in form with serpentine shaped sides. The cover, sides and base are finely engraved with pluming scrolls, flower heads and trellis work, in addition to bands of bluebell motifs. The cover also displays a cartouche engraved with the contemporary script initials "JS". The interior displays an unusual front opening gold grille pierced and engraved with feathery scrolls, and a central flower head, flanked by thistles. The inside of the cover is engraved with the contemporary inscription:

"PRESENTED
TO
Mrs Somerville
OF DALMORE
On the 50th Anniversary of her marriage
BY ALEXANDER ANNANDALE
of Polton
and his children
27th July, 1853."

Mrs Somerville was the wife of William Sommerville, who established a paper milling business at Auchindinny in 1835 on the river Esk. Alexander Annandale of Lasswade, Polton, was also a prosperous paper mill owner, in Midlothian.

The Vinaigrette is contained within its original silk and velvet lined leather case. The inside of the cover is printed with the Sovereign's Crown below:

MACKAY CUNNINGHAM & CO
Goldsmiths
To The Queen
47, North Bridge Street
Edinburgh.

The partnerships of James Mackay and David Cunningham had been established at "Sometime before 1824, at 40 South Bridge in Edinburgh". The firm was noteworthy for high quality jewelley pieces using Scottish agates and 15 carat gold.

The quality of design and production is exceptional, which is why this firm was by appointment to Queen Victoria. It is in most excellent, original, condition.

Length: 1.5 inches, 3.75cm.
Width: 1.1 inches: 2.75cm.
Height: 0.45 inches: 1.13cm.