One-bottle Victorian sterling silver inkstand

Gibson & Langman

£1,450



REF: 2806

Langfords
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Height: 80 mm (3.15")

Width: 240 mm (9.45")

Depth: 160 mm (6.3")

Weight: 414 g

Description

Antique sterling silver inkwell and stand, made in 1896, with a pretty cast border of scrolls, flowers, a delicate lattice detail and cherubs. The bottle is original and hand-cut glass with a simple silver lid, while there is a pen rest on either side or the bottle. All parts are fully hallmarked.

In 16th century Europe writing was considered to be a lowly task, and the aristocracy and upper classes would employ the services of a scribe or scrivener to write on their behalf using a quill pen and ink.

From the 17th century onwards, as the gentry began to undertake writing themselves, inkwells and inkstands became an essential accessory in every upper-class household. Silver, often combined with glass or crystal, was the most popular material used for inkstands and as well as having a practical use, some became more imposing and elaborate, often turning into decorative pieces in their own right.

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