

Regency "The Star" Knife Cleaner, Circa 1820

£95



REF: 6767

Height: 60 cm (23.6")

Width: 15 cm (5.9")

Depth: 2 cm (0.8")

Description

A rare and highly decorative early 19th-century knife cleaner by The Star, dating to circa 1820. Once an essential feature of a well-appointed dining room, this ingenious domestic appliance was designed to polish table-knife blades quickly and efficiently, reflecting the refinement and ceremony of Regency entertaining.

Knife cleaners of this type were operated by burnishing the blade on the flat surface. This removed tarnish and stains while restoring a bright finish to the steel, allowing a household to prepare a full canteen of cutlery for service with considerably less effort than hand polishing.

Made by The Star, this example has the distinctive appeal of an object created for everyday use at the height of the Regency period. Its survival offers a fascinating glimpse into the workings of an affluent 19th-century household, when polished steel cutlery formed an important part of formal table presentation.

Today, it makes a compelling decorative and conversational piece for a kitchen, dining room, country house interior, or collection of antique domestic equipment. It will appeal equally to collectors of Regency metalware, culinary antiques, and unusual mechanical objects.