Emmett & White
ANTIQUES & INTERIORS

Early 19th-Century Green-Stained Bone-Handled Table Knives, Circa 1820

£65

Emmett & White Ltd
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REF: 7469

Description

A handsome matched set of early 19th-century steel-bladed table knives, dating to circa 1820 and retaining their original green-stained bone handles with silver mounts. The blades bear marks for respected provincial and Sheffield makers including Isaac Ellington of Sheffield, Rodgers, and Alexander of Exeter, illustrating the period practice of assembling or maintaining a service with blades from more than one source.

The handles are especially attractive, their rich green stain providing a distinctive contrast to the mellow silver fittings and the softly patinated steel. Each knife has a pleasingly balanced profile, with the restrained elegance and practical workmanship characteristic of Regency-era tableware. The silver mounts add refinement to the robust materials, while the variation in maker's marks gives the group considerable historical interest.

The carbon-steel blades are free from active rust. They display an even, honest patina commensurate with their age and material, enhancing rather than detracting from their character. As with all early carbon-steel cutlery, they should be kept dry and cared for appropriately to preserve their condition.

A charming and usable early 19th-century service, equally suited to a period dining table, a country-house interior, or a collection of antique British cutlery. Their unusual green-stained bone handles, silver-mounted construction, and named makers make this an appealing and increasingly scarce set.

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