Antique 19th Century French Military/masonic Silver Seal



230 EUR

Period : 19th century

Condition : Très bon état

Length : 10,2

Width : 2,4

Description

This seal consists of a hardwood handle, in a style dating back to the early 17th century. The metal part of the seal is likely silver, although it is not hallmarked. The initials appear to be VD, with the V shaped like a heart and the D placed very close to the right. The most remarkable aspect, of course, is the presence of two medals below the initials. Do these indicate military use by a high-ranking or decorated officer who used this seal privately? Or do they refer to a distinguished French ambassador, or perhaps to Freemasonry? Several interpretations are possible: Military origin If the medals represent military decorations, they could indicate a high-ranking officer or a distinguished soldier. In the 17th and 18th centuries, it was common for military figures to use personalized seals incorporating

Dealer

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their awards. The design could also be linked to a specific military order, such as the Order of Saint Louis, awarded to Catholic officers in France. French Ambassador If this seal belonged to an ambassador, the medals could symbolize diplomatic achievements or official recognition by the French government. Some ambassadors in the 17th and 18th centuries had military careers or were ennobled, which could explain the presence of the medals. Freemasonry Although Masonic symbols are usually compasses, squares, and columns, medals were sometimes incorporated into Masonic seals, particularly for members who received special distinctions. If the owner was a high-ranking Freemason, the medals could symbolize accomplishments within the fraternity. I personally date this seal to the early 19th century, although it could be earlier. It is in immaculate condition. Dimensions: Height: 10.2 cm Seal width: 2.4 cm Thank you for visiting my shop. With love and regards, Ben