



Christopher Clarke Antiques

Dealers in Campaign Furniture
& Travel Items

Teak Miniature Cannon from Sebastopo

£165



REF: 83762

Height: 9.77 cm (3.8")

Width: 2.54 cm (1")

Depth: 1.65 cm (0.6")

Description

A teak Miniature Cannon Barrel by legend made of timber from the Russian ship 12 Apostles.

A paper collection note accompanies the Cannon and states 'A Fragment of the Line of Battle Ship 12 "Apostles" Taken at Sebastopol & brought to England by Lieut. Buckles R.N.' Signed Mr. John Daulton.

In April 1854, the 12 Apostles was listed to one side to give her guns the elevation to fire on the British positioned on the hills overlooking the harbour. Some guns were also used to form an onshore battery with the ship's remaining guns joining them in the December. When all the guns were removed the 12 Apostles was used as a hospital ship. She was scuttled in the February of the following year to form part of a blockade to the harbour. The National Maritime Museum has a Russian Naval flag in their collection believed to have been taken from the 12 Apostles by Henry Keppel, Commander of the Naval Brigade besieging Sebastopol.

The Buckles were a family with a long tradition in the Navy. This cannon was probably brought back by Lieutenant Charles Matthew Buckle who served on board HMS Vengeance in the Crimea. Claude Henry Mason Buckle was also involved in the Crimean War but at that point he was Commander of the paddle frigate Valorous.

The Cannon was either carved by Buckle or perhaps given to him by the ship's carpenter who had made it. The barrel is well turned showing good detail and carved with a broad arrow mark. Circa 1855.