Emmett & White
ANTIQUES & INTERIORS

19th-Century French Water-Filled Glass and Bronze Candlestick

£65

Emmett & White Ltd
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REF: 5652

Height: 44 cm (17.3")

Width: 12 cm (4.7")

Description

A captivating 19th-century French pressed-glass and bronze candlestick, designed with a hollow glass reservoir intended to be filled with coloured water. Combining practical function with decorative imagination, it is a charming example of the inventive table and lighting accessories produced in France during the 19th century.

The faceted pressed-glass body catches and refracts the light, while the coloured water within brings an additional richness and changing play of colour to the piece. Its bronze mounts provide an elegant contrast to the transparent glass, giving the candlestick both visual definition and a reassuring sense of substance. When lit, the candlelight would have animated the glass and water, creating a particularly atmospheric effect on a dining table, mantelpiece, or occasional table.

This type of object reflects the 19th-century fascination with light, colour, and novel materials. It would have been appreciated not merely as a useful candlestick, but as a small decorative spectacle-an object designed to delight guests and enrich an interior.

A distinctive and unusual survivor, this French candlestick would make a wonderful addition to a collection of antique lighting, decorative glass, or Grand Tour and nineteenth-century tableware. It is equally effective displayed alone as a conversation piece or grouped with other antique candlesticks and objets d'art.

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