



BUTCHOFF
LONDON

XVIII-XIX CENTURY
FURNITURE & DECORATIVE ARTS



**A FINE PAIR OF MAHOGANY WELLINGTON
CHESTS ATTRIBUTED TO GILLOWS**

Dimensions: H: 64 in / 162 cm | W: 28 in / 71.5 cm | D: 22.5 in / 57 cm

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A Fine Pair of Mahogany Wellington Chests
Attributed to Gillows

- Each with seven graduated lockable drawers finished with quadrant mouldings
- Classic Gillows construction hallmarks including superior timber and split-preventing drawer slits pioneered by the firm
- Gillows was a preeminent 18th-19th century furniture maker known for exquisite mahogany pieces

Constructed using a superb Cuban Mahogany, the pair of chests supported on rounded plinths, each cabinet housing a series of seven graduated and lockable drawers; the drawer fronts with simple brass keyholes, two turned handles, while the drawer linings are finished with quadrant mouldings, a sign of superior construction.

English, circa 1840



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Several features allow us to identify the maker as Gillows, with hallmarks including the slits in the drawer bottoms to prevent splits, the added detail of quadrant moulding to the drawers linings, and the use of R L & Co locks which were also used on documented and stamped items by the company.

Literature:

Gillow & Co

Gillows of London and Lancaster was perhaps the greatest English furniture-making firm, thriving from the 18th century until it merged in 1900. Founded by Robert Gillow in 1730, his business earned a stellar reputation for exquisite craftsmanship and cutting-edge designs, particularly in crafting mahogany furniture. They expanded their influence by setting up showrooms in both Lancaster and London, attracting a diverse clientele that included the State, landed gentry, and the emerging middle class. Robert's legacy was carried on by his sons, Richard and Robert. Over the course of the 19th century, Gillows became England's biggest furniture manufacturer, leaving an enduring legacy with a staggering 20,000 preserved designs and a global footprint in royal collections and museums.