

PATRICK JEFFERSON



GILT-BRASS-MOUNTED WHITE OPALINE GLASS LAMP OF HEROIC SCALE

English or European *circa* 1870-90; the reservoir probably by Hinks.

The reservoir signed by the retailer *W. Whiteley Westbourne Grove London.*

Height 28" (71cm)

Base 9½" (24cm)

White opaline glass, gilt-lacquered brass; cut glass; in excellent original condition throughout with few tiny chips and discolouration marks commensurate with age and use; previously for burning oil; suitable to be wired as a table lamp.

The statuesque faceted opaline glass column is raised on a stepped, gilt-lacquered brass-bound base, surmounted by the original gilt-brass-lacquered capital and detachable cut-glass oil reservoir, which is stamped by the retailer *W Whiteley Westbourne Grove London.*

This lamp was originally designed for burning oil or paraffin and is identical to those supplied by Joseph Hinks throughout the second half of the 19th century. Hinks took over his brother's business in Birmingham, James Hinks & Son, in 1839 and built it up to being the foremost lamp manufacturer and retailer in Britain, as well as the leading supplier of all the ancillary parts including burners, shades, wicks and fittings.

It is in remarkably original condition and has not been converted however the lamp can easily be wired for electricity; the cut glass reservoir unscrews easily and can also be removed altogether to provide a plainer lamp base.

£3,900

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fig. 1

fig. 2

fig. 3