



Engraving, The Cricket Match, Between Sussex & Kent At Brighton

£950



REF: 31598

Height: 59 cm (23.2")

Width: 90 cm (35.4")

Framed Height: 86 cm (33.9")

Framed Width: 117 cm (46.1")

Framed Depth: 117 cm (46.1")

## Description

Large Cricket Engraving - The Cricket Match (Sussex vs Kent), 1849.

A fine and impressive large 19th-century cricket engraving by G. H. Philips, after the original painting by Charles J. Basebe and William Drummond. The engraving is presented in its original glazed oak frame with gold slip and titled "The Cricket Match, between Sussex & Kent, at Brighton". The scene depicts a fictitious match with Sussex in the field. At the wickets are F. Pilch and E. G. Wenman, while W. Lillywhite prepares to bowl, each figure elegantly portrayed in the distinctive cricket attire of the period, complete with top hats. The panoramic composition features approximately seventy portraits of well-known cricketers and patrons of the game, making it one of the most celebrated early cricket images.

The engraving is accompanied by a copy of the book *The Story of a Cricket Picture* by Alfred Taylor, which includes the portrait key identifying the individuals depicted in the scene.

Frame Size: Height: 86 cm, Width: 117 cm.

Publishing Details (as printed): "Published 1st May 1849 by E. Gambart & Co., 26 Berners St., Oxford St., London. W. H. Mason, Repository of Arts, King's Road, Brighton". The plate also bears the Royal Coat of Arms with the dedication: "This Plate is most respectfully dedicated by special permission to H.R.H. Prince Albert, by His Highness's most devoted and most humble Servant W. H. Mason". Painted by Wm. Drummond & Chas. Basebe. Engraved by G. H. Philips.

Charles J. Basebe was noted as a fine painter of cricketers, and in the 1840's some of his full length portraits were issued as coloured prints. In collaboration with another portrait painter, William Drummond, they produced 'A Cricket Match between the Counties of Sussex and Kent, at Brighton'. This was purely a fictitious match that was played near Brighton's St. Peter's Church. The panoramic view of the match features around seventy portraits of famous cricketers and well known "Patrons of the Noble Game of Cricket". All of the individual portraits were taken by both Basebe and Drummond over a period of years. In 1849 "The Cricket Match" was eventually published as an engraving, together with a key to the portraits, by William Henry Goodburn Mason of King's Road Brighton.