Emmett & White
ANTIQUES & INTERIORS

G. H. Gledhill & Son Counter Till, Circa 1890

£95

Emmett & White Ltd
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REF: 7417

Height: 24 cm (9.4")

Width: 50 cm (19.7")

Depth: 49 cm (19.3")

Description

A handsome late 19th-century countertop till by G. H. Gledhill & Son of Halifax, dating to circa 1890. Combining practical shopkeeping function with the robust craftsmanship of Victorian commercial design, this substantial survivor offers a wonderful connection to the everyday life of the period.

Made to sit prominently on a shop counter, the till incorporates a cash drawer beneath and a glazed receipt window above. This arrangement enabled the shopkeeper to keep money securely to hand while displaying or retaining the written record of a transaction. Its thoughtful, purpose-built design reflects a time before electronic point-of-sale systems, when the counter itself formed the centre of the customer's interaction with the shop.

The maker's name, G. H. Gledhill & Son, Halifax, gives the piece a particularly appealing provincial-industrial provenance. Halifax was an important centre of Victorian commerce and manufacture, and this till has the solid, functional presence associated with the best British retail fittings of the era.

With its warm patina, useful form, and distinctive period character, it would make a superb decorative and functional statement in a shop interior, bar, restaurant, kitchen, study, or collection of antique advertising and retail memorabilia. It is equally appealing as an evocative display piece, recalling the atmosphere of the Victorian grocer, draper, apothecary, or general store.

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