



Dr C. Dresser for Kenrick & Sons – Pair of Aesthetic Movement Cast Iron Handles

Ref: PV003662

Price on Application

MAKER	Kenrick and Sons Iron Works
DESIGNER	Dr Christopher Dresser
PERIOD	Arts & Crafts Movement , 1870-1879
YEAR	1870
STYLE	Arts and Crafts
ORIGIN	United Kingdom
MATERIALS	Iron
DIMENSIONS	H: 13.5 in (34.29 cm) W: 1.5 in (3.81 cm) D: 2.5 in (6.35 cm)
CONDITION	Good

About this piece

This pair of cast iron door handles was designed by Dr. Christopher Dresser and produced by Kenrick & Sons around 1870. They exemplify Dresser's early integration of geometric form and Eastern influence, a defining quality of the *Aesthetic Movement* (1865 to 1890) and his pioneering approach to industrial design.

Each handle is cast with a series of linear and foliate motifs arranged in vertical panels, the ornament deriving from Dresser's studies of Japanese decorative grammar and his search for abstract order. The restrained symmetry and surface modulation transform a functional object into a statement of modern design logic, uniting utility with decoration.

Kenrick & Sons, one of Britain's foremost foundries, collaborated with Dresser to bring advanced art-industrial forms into domestic manufacture. Surviving examples of this model are rare, representing a pivotal moment in British metalwork when the designer's role became central to production.

Comparable examples illustrated in *Christopher Dresser: Design Pioneer of the Aesthetic Movement*, Cooper Hewitt Museum, New York.