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ENGLISH FAUX BAMBOO JAPANNED CABINET WITH LEATHER SHELVES, 19TH CENTURY



$5,995

This English faux bamboo cabinet dates to the 19th century and reflects the late Victorian taste for bamboo-inspired furniture and exotic surface treatments. Constructed of wood and finished in a painted faux bamboo scheme, the cabinet features jointed and ringed elements carefully worked to imitate natural bamboo while retaining the strength of traditional cabinet construction.

The upper section is fitted with a low wooden gallery composed of faux bamboo spindles and scrolled decorative elements, all executed in wood and finished en suite. The top retains its original japanned decoration, while the interior shelving is lined with tooled leather, embossed with foliate and scrolling motifs. The leather has developed a deep brown patina over time, with softened tooling and surface wear consistent with age and use.

Below, double doors open to reveal the leather-lined interior, suitable for books, ceramics, or decorative objects. The side and interior panels retain their original dark, textured finishes, providing visual contrast to the warmer faux bamboo exterior. The cabinet stands on slender legs with gently splayed feet, giving it a light vertical presence despite its functional storage capacity.

Surface wear, paint losses, and tonal variation throughout are consistent with age and confirm the cabinet's authenticity. Faux bamboo cabinets of this type were popular in English interiors during the second half of the 19th century, particularly in bedrooms, sitting rooms, and smoking rooms. This example stands out for its intact structure, strong decorative character, and rare survival of original tooled leather shelving.

Height: 48 in (121.92 cm)

Width: 31 in (78.74 cm)

Depth: 12.75 in (32.39 cm)

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SKU: A 6577