

Ref 2302. Pair of iron Mitten Gauntlets probably English civil war era. 17th century.

£ 950

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Largest selection of genuine antique weapons for sale in UK. See our website andrewbottomley.com. Ref 2302. A rare Pair of articulated steel Mitten Gauntlets probably English Civil War era. Mmunition quality. Mid 17th century. From a cuirassiers armour, retaining most original rivets. Retains some original buff leather liner. Overall length 13 inches. Two small holes pierced through the cuffs where they have been suspended for many years from the staircase in a British stately home, otherwise in good untouched condition. Ref 2302. Gauntlets were worn by soldiers with their armour. An important piece of armour, since the hands and arms were particularly vulnerable in hand to hand combat. To "throw down the gauntlet" is to issue a challenge. A gauntlet wearing knight would challenge a fellow knight or enemy to a duel by throwing one of his usually leather gauntlets on the ground. The opponent would pick up the gauntlet to accept the challenge. The phrase is associated particularly with the action of the King's Champion, which officer's role was from medieval times to act as champion for the King at his coronation, in the unlikely event that someone challenged the new King's title to the throne. Pairs of metal elbow gauntlets were in use by the cavalry in Europe towards the end of the 16th Century, particularly the German States. By the second quarter of the 17th Century soldiers used a steel gauntlet for the left hand, hence the name bridle gauntlet, since the horses reins were held in the left hand, while the right held the sword or pistol. If you wish to purchase this item please visit our website andrewbottomley.com where you can pay by credit/debit card or bank transfer at no extra charge. Established 1968.

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