

CREEL AND GOW



PASTURE AND PEN: A CHARMING 19TH-CENTURY HAND-PAINTED LAP DESK

\$2,000.00

SKU: D658_LD

Categories: [Home Accents](#), [Decor](#)

PRODUCT DESCRIPTION

This 19th-century painted wood lap desk, likely of French origin, is of rectangular form with a hinged lid finely decorated with a naturalistic pastoral scene depicting a standing cow within a rural landscape. The front and side panels are similarly hand-painted in oil with lively animal vignettes, including goats and dogs set amid grasses, flowers, and rustic ground cover, forming a cohesive decorative program inspired by countryside life. The paintings are executed directly onto the wood and retain a rich, slightly darkened surface consistent with age and gentle wear; the informal yet confident handling of the brushwork suggests the decoration may have been added by the original owner rather than a professional workshop. The interior opens to reveal a painted writing surface and compartmentalized interior, with original divisions intended for writing implements and papers. The desk retains its original key escutcheon and a functioning lock, with key present. Both the construction and the personalized decorative treatment suggest production for the 19th-century middle-class domestic market, where such lap desks served as practical, portable furniture for writing and correspondence, often customized to reflect the tastes and interests of their owners.

Dimensions: 15.25" length x 10.5" width x 3.5" height.