

19th century brass padlock with a steel shackle, circa 1870s - 1910s, no key.

Dimensions: the body measures approx. 3 1/2" across and is 1/2" thick, the steel rod of the shackle is about 1/2" in diameter. Weight: approx. 1 lb.

This is an unusual piece of imperial Russia. The patent name and protection certificate number are stamped into the face of the lock. The shackle is of high-grade steel, there is barely any rust on it. The brass body consists of two halves soldered together along the seam. The "garage shop" quality of the soldered seam suggests that the lock was indeed made in a small mechanic shop or factory which relied heavily on manual operations in their production.

The padlock is in very good condition. The front is a little dented, perhaps evidencing an attempt to break it. The reverse is smooth. Both sides display very attractive patina. The soldered seam running between the halves of the body is somewhat crudely filed to smoothness without much emphasis to the aesthetics of the lock. A few tiny drops of a green substance can be found on the body.

Despite its medium size, this padlock is rather hefty, weighing a tad over 1 lb. It is very pleasant to the touch and intriguing with its patina and all the imperfections it shows. You can't help feeling that it is trying to tell its story. Ah... If only we could speak padlock!

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