

LIMBURG ANTIQUAIRS



A Charles X Bonheur du Jour.

This type of writing table, known as bonheur du jour (the happiness of the day) was introduced in Paris from the 1760s by the marchands-merciers, who performed a dual function as suppliers and interior designers of fashionable, decorative items. The name of this piece of furniture refers to the happiness of letter writing. The drawers and large drawer could hold all kinds of papers, documents and trifles. The writing tray could be pulled out for more writing space. These bonheurs de jour soon became fashionable among the well-to-do in the 19th century. This writing desk is entirely in Charles X style, 1818-1834 is made of oak, veneered with rusted maple and pallisander. The fine inlays and gilt bronze griffins and fittings make it an exquisite piece.