



### A LATE 19TH CENTURY AMERICAN TELLURIAN

Laing's Planetarium.

|                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Cartographer</b> | <u>LAING PLANETARIUM CO.</u>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Date</b>         | 1896                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Stock #:</b>     | 24475                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Publication:</b> | Detroit, c.1896. Tellurian, original boxwood frame, painted 110mm sun, moon and Mercury, 75mm Earth with chromolithographed gores pasted on, metal spindles, strung with catgut (replaced as usual). Dimensions: height 320mm, width (at full extent) 590mm. |
| <b>Condition:</b>   | Calendar label on base slight rubbed.                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |

### **DESCRIPTION:**

A rare example of this tellurian (also spelt 'Tellurion' and 'tellurium'), a type of orrery designed to demonstrate the movement of the Earth around the Sun, how the seasons result from the tilt of the earth, and the movement of both the moon and Venus.

Alexander Laing patented his planetarium in 1896; in 1907 employee Frank Trippensee bought the firm, replacing the cords with metal chain.