

Title: **Match Safe Vesta Figural Cartoon Character c.1890**

Condition: Excellent, age wear to nickel plating

Material: Nickel plated brass

Size: 2" x 1 1/2"

Age: c.1890

Notes: The striker is at the base of Ally Sloper's chin. Ally Sloper was created by C.H. Ross in 1867. This safe is from a registered design of 1888 by F. Tomkinson. Made in the UK.

This Ally Sloper safe, in the image of the Victorian comic strip hero, with his battered hat. Ally Sloper's Half Holiday was the name of a weekly comic strip which first appeared on 3 May 1884. From 1884 until the 1920s, the red-nosed social climber who poked fun at the English people and their customs was a household name and national favorite. This man became an institution and a national hero. People believed that he existed; they even wrote to him and joined his club. There were medals presented in his name. He represented the hopes and aspirations of a whole new class of people, brought about the industrial revolution.