



## Vintage Fashion and Textiles (100)

11th Oct, 2016 GMT+1/BST

### Lot 387

**Estimate:** £150 - £250 + Fees

Three brass glove irons, circa 1900, two stamped 'James Ward, Worcester Ltd', the other 'WH. Hallett & Son, Halson Works Yeovil'; together with a print out of information relating to the Alwyn glove factory, 50cm long (4)

Glove irons are traditionally used during the last stages of manufacture to remove any creases in the leather after the glove has been stitched together. Provenance: The Alwyn glove factory, Worcester, was established in 1963 by Les Winfield, who's father had also been a glover. In 1986 the company was commissioned by Prince Andrew to make a pair of uniform gloves to wear on his wedding day. Alwyn gloves were also worn by Margaret Thatcher and other high-profile clients. As the historic Worcester glove industry declined, Mr. Winfield became the last glover in the region, working into his 90s with only one employee, and using antique equipment (such as these glove irons). He died in 2015. For similar examples of glove irons, see 'Gloves and Glove-making' by Mike Redwood, p.42.