

19TH CENTURY FRENCH CARDINAL OIL ON CANVAS PAINTING IN GILTWOOD FRAME SIGNED

$4,600

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This richly detailed genre scene was painted circa 1880 and depicts three Catholic cardinals in a lavish interior, engaged in animated conversation. The central figure gestures toward a seated companion, while the third cardinal looks on with amusement, evoking a moment of lively ecclesiastical banter. Rendered with fine academic technique, the figures are dressed in sumptuous scarlet robes that stand out against the darker tones of the wood-paneled background and marble hearth. The painting is signed in the lower left corner, with the name appearing to read L. Wimpf or possibly Wimpff, though the signature remains difficult to decipher with certainty. While the exact identity of the artist is unknown, the composition and subject matter reflect the 19th-century European tradition of humorous ecclesiastical genre painting, a style popularized by artists such as Jehan Georges Vibert and Georges Croegaert. Set in an ornate, deeply molded giltwood frame adorned with scrolling foliage and classical motifs, this painting offers a compelling blend of historical costume, painterly skill, and narrative charm. A striking decorative piece with both artistic and thematic appeal.
Dimensions: 40.5” W x 4” D x 35.25” H (framed)

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