

Finch & C^o



FINE SPECIMEN OF A SEYCHELLES 'COCO DE MER' OF FEMALE FORM

A LARGE FINE SPECIMEN OF A SEYCHELLES 'COCO DE MER' OF FEMALE FORM

19TH CENTURY

SEE: FINCH & CO CATALOGUE NO.3, ITEM NO.35, CATALOGUE NO.15, ITEM NO.31, CATALOGUE NO.17, ITEM NO.50, FOR OTHER EXAMPLES

LITERATURE

THE DOUBLE FORMED COCONUT OF A TALL PALM TREE INDIGENOUS TO ONLY TWO OF THE 115 SEYCHELLES ISLANDS, 'COCO DE MER' TAKE EIGHT TO TEN YEARS TO RIPEN ON MATURE TREES THAT ARE WELL OVER 100 YEARS OLD. THE SOURCE OF MANY LEGENDS AND MYSTERIES 'COCO DE MER' WERE OFTEN FOUND BY SAILORS FLOATING IN THE WARM CURRENTS OF THE SOUTH SEAS. THERE IS AN EXAMPLE IN ROSENBERG CASTLE IN THE ROYAL DANISH KUNSTKAMMER OF 1737 DESCRIBED AS 'COMPLETE, RARE AND BEAUTIFUL'.