

# *Finch & C<sup>o</sup>*



**TWO ANCIENT CHINESE POTTERY TOMB MODELS OF BACTRIAN CAMELS . REDDISH EARTHENWARE PAINTED WITH A WHITE SLIP AND WITH RED ACCENTS**

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TANG DYNASTY 618 – 907 AD

THE FASHION FOR FUNERAL OSTENTATION AND POMP , AND FOR HUMAN AND ANIMAL TOMB FIGURES , WAS AT ITS HEIGHT IN THE FIRST DECADE OF THE 8 TH CENTURY . AT THE END OF THE CENTURY ONE SU E , WROTE AN ACCOUNT OF THE FUNERAL OF THE 21 YEAR OLD DAUGHTER OF THE EMPEROR YIZONG , THE PRINCESS TONGCHANG : 'ISSUING FROM THE INNER PRECINCT OF THE PALACE THERE JOINED THE FUNERAL CORTÉGE A NUMBER OF CAMELS AND HORSES , PHOENIXES AND 'GILIU' , MADE ALL OF GOLD AND JADE AND SEVERAL FEET HIGH . GARMENTS AND PERSONAL POSSESSIONS WERE BORNE ON THE SHOULDERS OF 120 MODELS OF SERVANTS , ALL LOOKING LIKE LIVING BEINGS . THE ASSEMBLAGE INCLUDED WOODEN PAVILIONS AND A PALACE , WOODEN DRAGONS , FLOWERS AND OTHER ORNAMENTS BEYOND NUMBER . THE FINEST INCENSE WAS BURIED AND MUSIC WAS PLAYED . THE PROCESSION EXTENDED MORE THAN SIX MILES . THE INHABITANTS OF THE CAPITAL ABANDONED THEIR WORK AND RAN TO WATCH.'