

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



**A FINE RUSSIAN BRONZE OF A COSSACK SMOKING HIS PIPE , HOLDING A RIFLE , LEANING ON A GROUND OF ROCK CRYSTAL**

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CIRCA 1860 – 1870

SIZE : 10 CM HIGH , 10 CM DEEP , 14 CM WIDE – 4 INS HIGH , 4 INS DEEP , 5½ INS WIDE

## **LITERATURE**

THE COSSACKS WERE HORSE RAISING GROUPS OF SOUTH - WEST RUSSIA , THE UKRAINE AND POLAND .

PREDOMINANTLY OF RUSSIAN AND UKRAINIAN ORIGIN WHO TOOK IN ESCAPED SERFS AND LIVED IN INDEPENDENT COMMUNAL SETTLEMENTS , FORMING A MILITARY BROTHERHOOD , FROM THE 15 TH TO THE 19 TH CENTURY . LATER ON THEY HELD LAND IN RETURN FOR MILITARY SERVICE IN THE CAVALRY UNDER RUSSIAN AND POLISH RULERS . AFTER THE RUSSIAN REVOLUTION THE VARIOUS COSSACK COMMUNITIES WERE INCORPORATED INTO THE SOVIET COLLECTIVE SYSTEM . THEIR PROWESS AT HORSE RIDING , FEATS OF MILITARY DARING , AND THEIR DANCING ARE LEGENDARY .