

Finch & C^o



AN INTERESTING BERING SEA ESKIMO INUIT WALRUS IVORY SINKER , RESEMBLING A SMALL BAIT FISH

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19 TH CENTURY

SIZE : 7.5 CM LONG – 3 INS LONG

THE INUIT FISH USING A HOOK AND LINE AT ALL TIMES OF THE YEAR , BUT IT IS ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT IN LATE WINTER WHERE THOSE LIVING ON THE COAST IT MAY MAKE THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN SURVIVAL OR STARVATION . CONSIDERABLE CARE IS GIVEN TO THE MANUFACTURE OF ATTRACTIVE LURES MADE FROM ANTLER OR WALRUS IVORY , AND TO SINKERS ATTACHED TO THE LINE A FEW INCHES ABOVE THE HOOK WHICH ARE OFTEN MADE FROM FOSSIL WALRUS IVORY AND DECORATED WITH INCISED EYES AND THE OTHER FEATURES OF SMALL FISH . THESE SINKERS SERVE TO BOTH SINK THE HOOK AND LINE AND ACT AS LURES TO ATTRACT FISH . THIS SINKER WAS PROBABLY USED FOR CATCHING GRAYLING .