Finch & Co



A FINE NAPOLEONIC FRENCH PRISONER OF WAR CARVED BONE MODEL OF THE REVOLUTIONARY GUILLOTINE

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CIRCA 1800 – 1815

LITERATURE

MADE WITH THE BONES OF ANIMALS USED FOR THEIR RATIONS THIS EXACT SCALE MODEL OF A FRENCH REVOLUTIONARY GUILLOTINE SHOWS THE GREAT SKILL OF THE PRISONERS OF WAR CARVING WITH LIMITED MATERIALS , AND GIVES THE IMPRESSION THAT TIME WAS NO OBJECT .

THE GUILLOTINE WAS THE INVENTION OF A FRENCH PHYSICIAN AND REVOLUTIONARY CALLED JOSEPH IGNACE GUILLOTIN (1738 - 1814) . HE PROPOSED THAT THE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY OF WHICH HE WAS A DEPUTY SHOULD USE A DECAPITATING INSTRUMENT AS A MEANS OF EXECUTION . THIS WAS ADOPTED IN 1791 AND NAMED AFTER HIM , ALTHOUGH A SIMILAR APPARATUS HAD BEEN USED EARLIER IN SCOTLAND , GERMANY AND ITALY .