

Finch & C^o



A FINE VANUATU (NEW HEBRIDES) BALL HEADED CLUB WITH IT'S ORIGINAL FIBRE BINDING

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19 TH CENTURY

SIZE : 86.5 CMLONG – 34 INS LONG

LITERATURE

DURING THE 19 TH CENTURY THE ISLANDERS OF THE NEW HEBRIDES SUFFERED EXTREME ABUSE AT THE HANDS OF WHALERS AND OTHER TRADERS , AND THEY BECAME KNOWN FOR THEIR HOSTILITY . THEIR MOST FAMOUS VICTIM WAS THE REVEREND JOHN WILLIAMS , A WELSH METHODIST MISSIONARY , 'THE MARTYR OF ERROMANGA' WHO WAS KILLED IN 1839 , AND EVER AFTER COMMEMORATED IN A 'BAXTER' PRINT .

DESPITE THIS , ALTHOUGH INTER TRIBAL WARFARE WAS FREQUENT ON THE ISLANDS IT TOOK THE FORM OF AMBUSHES AND LOCAL SKIRMISHES AND THERE WERE FEW FATALITIES . A CARVED WOOD CLUB SUCH AS THIS WAS THE MOST FAVOURED WEAPON .