Finch & Co



A PAIR OF CHINESE CARVED AND PAINTED LIMESTONE INCENSE BURNERS

A PAIR OF CHINESE CARVED AND PAINTED LIMESTONE INCENSE BURNERS
IN THE FORM OF TEMPLE LION DOGS, BOTH WITH OLD PAPER LABELS READING :
'TAKEN FROM A CHINESE PAGODA BY A MIDSHIPMAN OF HMS RODNEY WHEN ANCHORED OFF THE SADDLE ISLANDS NEAR ENTRANCE OF YANG-TZE KIAN RIVER. 1867 – 1869'
LATE 18TH – EARLY 19TH CENTURY
SIZE : 11.5 CM HIGH, 8 CM WIDE, 6.5 CM DEEP – 4½ INS HIGH, 3¼ INS WIDE, 2½ INS DEEP

LITERATURE

THE WESTERN SEARCH FOR LUXURY GOODS SUCH AS SPICES, TEA, SILKS, DRUGS AND PORCELAIN SENT SHIPS AND ARMIES AROUND THE WORLD, ESTABLISHED COLONIES AND CONCESSIONS ON ALL FIVE CONTINENTS AND CREATED SOME OF THE EMPIRES IN THE SHADOWS OF WHOSE OVERTHROW WE LIVE TODAY.
THE MODERN WORLD OWES MUCH OF ITS FORM AND MANY OF ITS TENSIONS TO THE CREATION OF AN INTEGRATED WORLD ECONOMIC SYSTEM WHICH BEGAN WITH THE 16TH CENTURY EUROPEAN MERCHANT'S DESIRE TO FIND AND ESTABLISH NEW LUCRATIVE MARKETS AND TRADE ROUTES.
IN THE 16TH CENTURY THE HIGHLY DEVELOPED CHINESE CRAFT MARKET WAS ABLE TO SATISFY ITS FOREIGN CUSTOMERS WITH DISTINCTIVE SHAPES AND DECORATION IN CERAMICS, METALWORK, TEXTILES AND LACQUER, AND MEET THE SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS OF SOCIETIES WHOM THE CRAFTSMEN HAD NEVER SEEN AND WHICH WERE VERY DIFFERENT FROM THEIR OWN. TODAY THE CHINESE INDUSTRIALIST, IN THE TRADITION OF HIS FOREBEARS, IS SIMILARLY ADAPTING TO NEW MARKETS, PRODUCING GOODS AND CREATING UNPRECEDENTED WEALTH.
HMS RODNEY, LAUNCHED AS SECOND RATE SAILING SHIP AT PEMBROKE DOCKYARD 18TH JUNE 1833, WOODEN HULLED, 92 GUN. CONVERTED TO UN-ARMOURED WOODEN SCREW VESSEL AT PORTMOUTH DOCKYARD 11TH JANUARY 1860. IN 1867 COMMISSIONED FLAGSHIP, CHINA STATION, VICE-ADM SIR HENRY KEPPEL, CAPT HENEAGE. 27TH APRIL 1870 PAID OFF; LAST UN-ARMOURED WOODEN BATTLESHIP IN FULL COMMISSION. BROKEN UP FEBRUARY 1884, PORTSMOUTH.