

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



## **AN ENGLISH CARVED EBONY CEREMONIAL TIPSTAFF**

AN ENGLISH CARVED EBONY CEREMONIAL TIPSTAFF  
WITH A BRASS CROWN, AND A SILVER MOUNT INITIALLED 'AR', PROBABLY FOR QUEEN ANNE  
CIRCA 1700 – 1720  
SIZE : 14 CM LONG – 5½ INS LONG

## **LITERATURE**

HAVING THEIR ORIGINS IN THE 16TH CENTURY, TIPSTAFFS WERE USED AS A SIGN OF HIGH OFFICE OR AUTHORITY. COUNTY SHERIFFS AND THEIR OFFICERS STILL USED THEM IN THE 19TH CENTURY TO DENOTE THEIR OFFICIAL DUTIES, AND THE MODERN POLICE CONSTABLE'S TRUNCHEON IS A LATER DEVELOPMENT OF THE TIPSTAFF.