

Finch & C^o



A STEEL ARCHER'S BOW INLAID WITH GOLD DAMASCENE WORK

A STEEL ARCHER'S BOW INLAID WITH GOLD DAMASCENE WORK

PROBABLY DECCANI, SOUTHERN INDIA

17TH / 18TH CENTURY

SIZE : 110.5 CM LONG – 43½ INS LONG

LITERATURE

ITALIAN WRITERS TRAVELLING IN THE FIVE SULTANATES OF THE DECCAN IN THE 15TH CENTURY WROTE OF THE FABULOUS SPLENDOR OF THE COURTS. THE RULER OF BIDAR WAS SEEN WEARING 'A SUIT OF GOLD ARMOUR INLAID WITH SAPPHIRES, (AND CARRIES) 3 SWORDS MOUNTED IN GOLD. WHEN HE GOES OUT HUNTING HE HAS A TRAIN OF 10'000 MEN ON HORSEBACK &€'.. AND 200 ELEPHANTS IN GILDED ARMOUR'.