

Finch & C^o



A RARE GEORGIAN SILVER AND IVORY HANDLED MINIATURE MASONIC LODGE SWORD

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WITH ITS LEATHER AND SILVER SCABBARD

THE BLADE WITH INITIALS GH AND MASONIC SYMBOLS, THE IVORY HANDLE SURMOUNTED BY A MINIATURE SILVER SKULL WITH PIERCED EYES, NOSE AND MOUTH. THE SCABBARD WITH A SILVER ROUNDEL ON EACH SIDE FRAMING A MALTESE CROSS WITH THE WORDS 'IN HOC SIGNOVNCES'

HALLMARKED LONDON 1809

SIZE : 16.5 CM LONG – 6½ INS LONG

LITERATURE

FREEMASONS TOOK THEIR INSPIRATION FROM THE RITES AND CUSTOMS OF THE GUILD OF MASONS, USING THEIR SYMBOLISM AND STRUCTURES TO CREATE AN ORGANISATION BASED ON THE LIBERAL EXCHANGE OF IDEAS. THE CURVE EDGED SWORD IS KNOWN AS THE 'FLAMING SWORD' AND IS MENTIONED IN THE BOOK OF GENESIS. IT IS HELD BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE LODGE OR 'WORSHIPFUL MASTER' DURING INITIATION CEREMONIES AND IS LAID ON HIS BOARD WHILE THE LODGE WORKS. TO MASONS IT REPRESENTS THE WORD, THOUGHT AND CREATION AND IS A SYMBOL OF THAT WHICH PIERCES A MYSTERY, A SECRET, OR WORDS AND ENIGMAS, SO THAT EVERY MAN MAY UNDERSTAND.

IT IS INTERESTING TO NOTE THAT NO LESS THAN 14 AMERICAN PRESIDENTS HAVE BEEN FREEMASONS INCLUDING BENJAMIN FRANKLIN, AS WELL AS KING EDWARD VII, GEORGE VI AND FREDERICK THE GREAT. VOLTAIRE, GOETHE, PUSHKIN, KIPLING, MARK TWAIN, SIR WALTER SCOTT, OSCAR WILDE, ROBERT BURNS, HADYN AND MOZART WERE ALL FREEMASONS TO NAME BUT A FEW.