Finch & Co



AN EAST AFRICAN NYERI, MOUNT KENYA BEADED SNUFF CONTAINER

AN EAST AFRICAN KIKUYU, NYERI, MOUNT KENYA BEADED GOURD SNUFF CONTAINER COMPLETE WITH BEADED STOPPER

19TH CENTURY

SIZE : 23.5 CM HIGH X 9 CM WIDE

9¼ INS HIGH X 3½ INS WIDE

LITERATURE

THIS BEADED SNUFF CONTAINER WAS COLLECTED IN JULY 1888 BY CHARL MARAIS, A LAND SURVEYOR ON AN EXPEDITION IN THE EASTERN TRANSVAAL FOR THE TRANSVAAL GOVERNMENT UNDER PAUL KRUGER. HE WAS ONE OF FOUR SURVEYORS WHO WORKED OUT THE ROUTE FOR THE KOMATI-SELATI RAILWAY WHICH EVENTUALLY FORMED THE RAIL LINK BETWEEN PRETORIA, JOHANNESBURG AND THE COAST AT LOWENCO MARQUES, NOW MAPUTO IN MOZAMBIQUE. HE WAS THE ONLY SURVEYOR TO SURVIVE DESPITE CONTRACTING MALARIA. OTHER ARTIFACTS FROM HIS COLLECTION ARE IN THE SOUTH AFRICAN MUSEUM IN CAPETOWN.