

Finch & C^o



THE CURIOUS PRESSED AND PRESERVED WING OF A TROPICAL TWO WING FLYING FISH

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(EXOCOETUS VOLITANS)

INSCRIBED ON THE PAGE IN INK 'UPPER PART OF THE WING OF A FLYING FISH THAT FLEW ON BOARD HM SLOOP ZEBRA

JULY 2ND 1829 LATITUDE 1° 27' N LONGITUDE 18° 6' W

CIRCA 1829

SIZE : 23 CM HIGH, 18.5 CM WIDE – 9 INS HIGH, 7¼ INS WIDE

LITERATURE

UNUSUALLY PRESERVED ACCORDING TO A BOTANICAL LINNAEAN METHOD THE WING IS DRIED, PRESSED AND MOUNTED ON PAPER AS THOUGH IT WERE A PLANT.

THIS SPECIES OF FLYING FISH GLIDES ABOVE THE WATER ON TWO PECTORAL FINS. THEY USE THIS TECHNIQUE TO ESCAPE PREDATORS SUCH AS DOLPHINS, BILLFISH AND TUNA AND CAN ACHIEVE SPEEDS OF UP TO 40 MPH IN THE AIR.