Finch & Co



AN AFRICAN CAMEROONS ELONGATED OX HIDE AND WOOD SHIELD

AN AFRICAN CAMEROONS ELONGATED OX HIDE AND WOOD SHIELD
TWO OLD LABELS TO REVERSE, ONLY PARTLY LEGIBLE, ONE READING 'CAMEROON Â€¦'
LATE 19TH CENTURY
SIZE : 109 CM LONG, 20 CM WIDE – 43 INS LONG, 8 INS WIDE

LITERATURE

THIS OLD SHIELD HAS A COVERING OF PARTIALLY TANNED OX HIDE STRETCHED OVER A WOOD PANEL, THE EDGES SECURED WITH HIDE THONGS, WITH A CENTRAL POLE HANDLE.
IT PROBABLY BELONGED TO ONE OF THE MINOR TRIBES LIVING AROUND THE MANDARA MOUNTAINS ON THE BORDERS OF PRESENT DAY CHAD. THE ISLAMIC FULBE PERSECUTED THESE PEOPLES IN THE 19TH CENTURY AND REFERRED TO THEM AS 'KONGON HEATHENS'. AN EXACT CLASSIFICATION IS NOT POSSIBLE DUE TO THE ABSENCE OF ANY COMPARABLE EXAMPLES.