

Finch & C^o



A VICTORIAN SPECIMEN OF A SOUTHERN AFRICAN TEMMINCK'S PANGOLIN
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19TH CENTURY

SIZE: 13CM HIGH, 64CMLONG – 5 INS HIGH, 25 INS LONG

LITERATURE

THE PANGOLIN'S CURIOUS COVERING OF BONY OVERLAPPING SCALES ACTS AS BOTH BODY ARMOUR AND AS CAMOUFLAGE. THE OVERLAPPING SCALES ARE MOVEABLE AND HARD EDGED AND ARE PROBABLY DEVELOPED FROM MODIFIED HAIRS LIKE THE HORN OF A RHINOCEROS. PANGOLINS LACK TEETH, BUT HAVE AN EXTREMELY LONG PROTRUSIBLE TONGUE IN AN ELONGATED HEAD, WHICH IS USED TO CATCH ITS INSECT PREY. ITS FOOD IS GROUND DOWN IN A MUSCULAR HORNY SURFACED STOMACH.