

# *Finch & C<sup>o</sup>*



## **A RARE ANTIQUE SPECIMEN OF MEDITERRANEAN BLACK BRANCH CORAL**

A RARE ANTIQUE SPECIMEN OF MEDITERRANEAN BLACK BRANCH CORAL

17TH - 18TH CENTURIES

SIZE: 32CM LONG – 12½ INS LONG (APPROX)

## **LITERATURE**

FERDINAND II OF TYROL'S CELEBRATED 16TH CENTURY CABINET OF CURIOSITIES AT SCHLOSS AMBRAS CONTAINS A SELECTION OF CORAL BRANCHES ARRANGED ON WALL BRACKETS OF WHICH ONLY THREE ARE COMPOSED OF BLACK CORAL. THE CORALS ASSEMBLED BY THE ARCHDUKE FERDINAND REMAIN THE LARGEST COLLECTION IN EXISTENCE. MUCH OF THE CORAL DISPLAYED IN THE CASTLE IS SAID TO HAVE BEEN IMPORTED FROM GENOA, AND WAS MOUNTED, WORKED AND SOMETIMES CARVED BY LOCAL CRAFTSMEN IN SERVICE TO THE AMBRAS COURT.