Finch & Co

SAILOR'S SCRIMSHAW DITTY BASKET, ENGLISH OR AMERICAN

A SAILOR'S SCRIMSHAW DITTY BASKET, ENGLISH OR AMERICAN
WHALEBONE, PINEWOOD, METAL
CIRCA 1850
SIZE: 7.5CM HIGH, 21CM WIDE, 17CM DEEP – 3 INS HIGH, 8¼ INS WIDE, 6¾ INS DEEP

LITERATURE

THESE OPENWORK BASKETS WERE CREATED FOR SEWING ACCESSORIES OR FOR TOILETRIES. THEY WERE CERTAINLY MADE FOR THE HOME WHILST ON BOARD WHALING SHIPS, SO THAT THE BORED SCRIMSHANDER MIGHT SOOTH HIS HOMESICKNESS WHILST AWAY ON A LONG VOYAGE. THE WHALE MEN UPON THEIR RETURN TO THEIR SWEETHEARTS WOULD GIVE SUCH ITEMS AS GIFTS.