

Finch & C^o



SOUTH AFRICAN NORTH NGUNI WIRE DECORATED CALABASH SNUFF CONTAINERS

TWO SOUTH AFRICAN NORTH NGUNI WIRE DECORATED CALABASH SNUFF CONTAINERS

AND A ZULU CARVED BLACK HORN SNUFF CONTAINER

COPPER AND BRASS WIRE, CALABASH, HORN AND WOOD

LATE 19TH CENTURY

SIZES: 8.5CM & 7.5CM DIA – 3¼ INS & 3 INS DIA

7.5CM HIGH – 3 INS HIGH

LITERATURE

'ZULU'S SELDOM MEET WITHOUT TAKING SNUFF' E J KRIGE; THE SOCIAL SYSTEM OF THE ZULU'S 1936. SNUFF TAKING WAS A COMMUNAL ACTIVITY AMONGST THE PEOPLES OF SOUTH AFRICA AND MEMBERS OF A FAMILY GROUP, OR FRIENDS MEETING, WOULD IMMEDIATELY TAKE A PINCH OF SNUFF BEFORE ANY DISCUSSION OR ACTIVITY COULD BEGIN. SNUFF FLASKS WERE NOT JUST REGARDED AS MERE CONTAINERS; THEY WERE SEEN AS OBJECTS OF PERSONAL ADORNMENT AND OFTEN WORN AS DECORATIVE ACCESSORIES TO ENHANCE THE COSTUME OF THE OWNER. THEY WERE THEREFORE CAREFULLY AND BEAUTIFULLY MADE.