Finch & Co



A BLOND TURTLE SHELL CARAPACE

TWO BLOND TURTLE SHELL CARAPACE SPECIMENS (PODOCNEMIS EXPANSA)
OLD SMOOTH MELLOW PATINA
19TH CENTURY
SIZES: A: 67.5CM HIGH, 52CM WIDE – 26½ INS HIGH, 20½ INS WIDE (LEFT SHELL)
B: 64CM HIGH, 48CM WIDE – 25¼ INS HIGH, 19 INS WIDE (RIGHT SHELL)
SHELL B, HAS ALSO RETAINED ITS LOWER CARAPACE
CITES PERMITS FOR EXPORT AVAILABLE

LITERATURE

SINCE THE 17TH CENTURY THESE BLONDE TURTLE CARAPACE HAVE BEEN REGARDED AS ESSENTIAL TO THE FORMATION OF A COLLECTION OF NATURAL CURIOSITIES. IN AN ENGRAVING OF 1655 A SINGLE LARGE TURTLE SHELL HANGS ON THE WALL OF OLE WORM'S MUSEUM. IN 1972 EXCITEMENT BROKE OUT AT THE AMERICAN HARVARD MUSEUM OF COMPARATIVE ZOOLOGY WHEN THE SHELL OF THE LARGEST SPECIES OF TURTLE EVER DISCOVERED WAS FOUND DURING A FOSSIL HUNTING EXPEDITION IN THE VENEZUELAN DESERT. IT LIVED ABOUT SIX MILLION YEARS AGO IN THE RIVER SYSTEM OF THE AMAZON BASIN, WAS A BLONDE COLOUR, AND MEASURED SEVEN FEET TWO INCHES LONG. IT WAS GIVEN THE NAME OF 'STUPENDEMYS GEOGRAPHICUS' – 'THE ASTONISHING TURTLE'.