

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



## **SET OF GERMAN STAG ANTLERS ENGRAVED WITH NUMEROUS SCENES OF WALLED AND FORTIFIED SAXON TOWNS**

AN UNUSUAL AND CURIOUS SET OF GERMAN STAG ANTLERS ENGRAVED WITH NUMEROUS SCENES OF WALLED AND FORTIFIED SAXON TOWNS

LATE 17TH – EARLY 18TH CENTURY

SIZE: APPROX 65CM WIDE – 25½ INS WIDE

### **LITERATURE**

THE PRINCE ELECTORS OF SAXONY WERE PASSIONATE PRACTITIONERS OF 'PARFORCE' HUNTING WITH DOGS; ELABORATE HIGHLY REHEARSED OCCASIONS CO-ORDINATED BY SIGNALS FROM HUNTING HORNS. SUCH HUNTS TOOK PLACE IN VAST PRESERVES SET ASIDE FOR THE SPECIFIC USE OF THE RULER OF THE LAND. AUGUSTUS 'THE STRONG' COMMISSIONED A SPECIALIST HUNTING BOOK FROM HIS CHIEF FOREST OFFICER HANS FRIEDRICH VON FLEMING ENTITLED 'THE COMPLETE GERMAN HUNTER' WHICH WAS PRINTED IN 1719 AND DESCRIBED THE METHODS TO BE USED IN LAVISH 'HOLDING' HUNTS.

THE MOST DESIRABLE GAME FOR EUROPEAN NOBLES WAS THE STAG, OFTEN RESERVED FOR THE EXCLUSIVE HUNTING PLEASURE OF THE REIGNING MONARCH OR BY SPECIAL PRIVILEGE TO THOSE HE FAVOURED. HUNTING LARGE GAME BY PARTIES OF ARISTOCRATS USUALLY ASSISTED BY PACKS OF DOGS WAS KNOWN SIMPLY AS 'THE CHASE'.