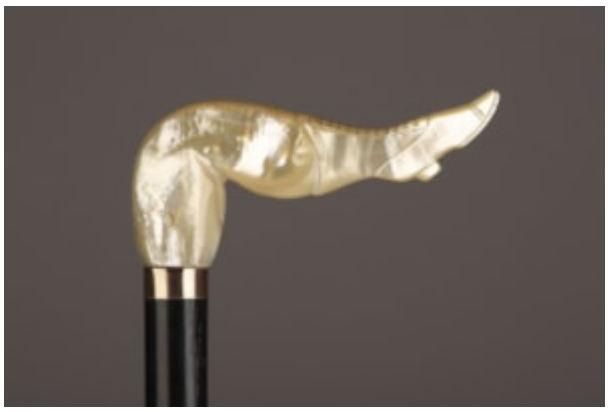
Finch & Co



VICTORIAN GENTLEMAN'S WALKING CANE

A FINE VICTORIAN GENTLEMAN'S WALKING CANE
THE HANDLE OF CARVED MOTHER OF PEARL SHAPED AS A LADY'S LEG WEARING A HIGH-BUTTONED BOOT SET ON AN EBONY SHAFT WITH A GOLD COLLAR
CIRCA 1860
SIZE: 86CM LONG – 34 INS LONG

LITERATURE

FROM THE 16TH CENTURY AND POSSIBLY EARLIER MEN OF MEANS AND STATUS, WHEN HAVING TO MOVE AMONG THE MASSES, CARRIED CANES WITH A POUNCET BOX KNOB WITH A GOLD AND SILVER OUTER COVER AND A PERFORATED INNER ONE CONTAINING A SPONGE SOAKED IN AROMATIC VINEGAR. DESIGNED TO WARD OFF EVIL SMELLS AND DISEASES, THESE POMANDER STICKS SOMETIMES HAD A SECOND CAVITY THAT WAS USED FOR CARRYING MONEY. THUS WAS THE FASHION FOR WALKING CANES BEGUN.