

Finch & C^o



CARVED WHALEBONE SAILORS BILLET OR SHORT STICK

A CARVED WHALEBONE SAILORS BILLET OR SHORT STICK

OLD SMOOTH AND WORN YELLOW PATINA

EARLY 19TH CENTURY

SIZE : 61 CMLONG – 24 INS LONG

LITERATURE

OUTFITTING A WHALING SHIP FOR A 3 OR 4 YEAR SOJOURN BEFORE LEAVING PORT WITH ALL THE SUPPLIES NEEDED WAS IMPOSSIBLE AND IN REMOTE WATERS THE REPLACEMENT OF EQUIPMENT WAS VITAL TO THE SUCCESS OF THE VOYAGE, SO WHALE-MEN BECAME INNATELY RESOURCEFUL. SCRIMSHAW CAME TO PLAY AN IMPORTANT ROLE ON BOARD SHIP.

SCRIMSHANDER'S MADE ALMOST EVERY TYPE OF TOOL OR ITEM NEEDED : SAIL-MAKERS FIDS, AWLS, THIMBLES, BLOCKS AND A VAST ARRAY OF CARPENTERS TOOLS. ALL OF WHICH ARE NOW EAGERLY SOUGHT AFTER AND COLLECTED.