

Finch & C^o



NORTH EAST INDIAN BAREILLY PAINTED AND VARNISHED WOOD CASKET

A NORTH EAST INDIAN BAREILLY PAINTED AND VARNISHED WOOD CASKET ON ORNATELY CARVED SCROLLING AND 'X'
SHAPED LEGS TERMINATING IN HOOF FEET

THE WHOLE DECORATED WITH FLORAL MOTIFS ON A BLACK GROUND

MD 19TH CENTURY

SIZE: 21CM HIGH, 32CM WIDE, 18CM DEEP – 8¼ INS HIGH, 12½ INS WIDE, 7 INS DEEP

LITERATURE

CF: LUXURY GOODS FROM INDIA, AMIN JAFFA; 2002 V&A PG 107

PAINTED AND VARNISHED WITH GOLD COLOURED FLORAL MOTIFS IN THE CHINESE MANNER, THIS CASKET OR SMALL CHEST ON STAND WAS ACTUALLY PRODUCED IN INDIA IN BAREILLY. THIS NORTH EAST INDIAN TOWN, EN-ROUTE BETWEEN CALCUTTA AND DELHI, CEDED TO THE EAST INDIA COMPANY IN 1801, BECAME KNOWN IN THE EARLY 19TH CENTURY FOR THE PRODUCTION OF WESTERN STYLE FURNITURE DEVELOPED FROM THE BLACK LACQUERED FURNITURE EXPORTED FROM CANTON. WIDELY IMPORTED FROM THE FAR EAST, FIRSTLY BY THE PORTUGUESE AND SECONDLY BY THE BRITISH INTO COLONIAL INDIA, CHINOISERIE DECORATED BLACK LACQUERED FURNITURE AND OBJECTS WERE BOTH ADMIRER AND POPULAR. REALISING A COMMERCIAL OPPORTUNITY, THE CRAFTSMEN OF BAREILLY BEGAN TO COPY THE CHINESE EXPORTS TO GREAT EFFECT, SO MUCH SO THAT THESE PIECES ARE OFTEN THOUGHT TO BE FROM CANTON.