Finch & Co



PAIR OF FINE FRENCH 'PALAIS ROYALE' ORMOLU MOUNTED MOTHER OF PEARL PIN BOXES

A PAIR OF FINE FRENCH 'PALAIS ROYALE' ORMOLU MOUNTED MOTHER OF PEARL PIN BOXES
IN THE FORM OF VERSAILLES FLOWER TUBS DECORATED WITH PAPER FLOWERS, THE SLIDING DRAWERS MADE OF SATINWOOD, ALL RAISED ON FOUR BUN FEET
EARLY 19TH CENTURY
SIZES: APPROX: 6.5CM HIGH, 5CM SQUARE – APPROX: 2½ INS HIGH, 2 INS SQUARE (EACH)

LITERATURE

THE EXQUISITELY DELICATE ARTICLES MADE OF MOTHER-OF-PEARL AND NOW COLLECTED UNDER THE NAME OF 'PALAIS ROYALE' WERE SO CALLED AFTER THE PALACE IN PARIS ORIGINALLY BUILT IN 1629 FOR CARDINAL RICHELIEU AND LATER OCCUPIED AT THE END OF THE 18TH CENTURY BY THE POWERFUL DUC D'ORLEANS. MEMBERS OF THE DUKE'S ENTOURAGE REQUIRED ESPECIALLY LUXURIOUS ARTICLES FOR THEIR TOILETTE, TRAVEL AND OTHER NEEDS AND SO TALENTED CRAFTSMEN WERE EMPLOYED WITHIN THE VICINITY OF THE PALACE TO PROVIDE THEM. IN TIME THE PRODUCTS OF THESE WORKSHOPS PROVED SO POPULAR THAT THEY WERE MADE ON A COMMERCIAL BASIS WITH MANY BEING SOLD TO GRAND TOURISTS AS THEY PASSED THROUGH PARIS.