

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



## **COLLECTION OF FIVE FIJIAN CHIEFS BREAST ORNAMENTS 'TABUA'**

A FINE COLLECTION OF FIVE FIJIAN CHIEFS BREAST ORNAMENTS 'TABUA' FASHIONED FROM SPERMWHALE TEETH  
ALL WITH OLD AGED PATINATION

EARLY 19TH CENTURY

SIZES: 18CM WIDE – 7 INS WIDE (MAX) – 14.5CM WIDE – 5¾ INS WIDE (MIN)

SEE: FINCH AND CO CATALOGUE NO. 13, ITEM NO. 117 AND 119, CATALOGUE NO. 16, ITEM NO. 126, FOR OTHER EXAMPLES

## **LITERATURE**

MADE TO BE WORN AS PENDANTS FROM SINNET CORD SUSPENDED THROUGH STONE DRILLED HOLES TO EACH END THESE CHEST ORNAMENTS HAD A PROFOUND CEREMONIAL SIGNIFICANCE ON THE PACIFIC ISLAND OF FIJI. WORN ONLY BY CHIEFS AND MEN OF RANK THEY WERE IMPORTANT RITUAL EXCHANGE ITEMS AT DYNASTIC GATHERINGS SUCH AS WEDDINGS.