Finch & Co

PAIR OF 'LUCKY' SHOES CARVED FROM SCOTTISH CANNEL COAL

AN UNUSUAL PAIR OF 'LUCKY' SHOES CARVED FROM SCOTTISH CANNEL COAL
19TH CENTURY
SIZE: 8CM HIGH, 14.5CM LONG, 4CM WIDE – 3 INS HIGH, 5¾ INS LONG, 1½ INS WIDE
SEE: FINCH AND CO CATALOGUE NO. 17, ITEM NO. 32, FOR A PARROT COAL TABLE

LITERATURE

CANNEL COAL IS FOUND IN LARGE MASSES IN THE COAL MEASURES OF NEWCASTLE AND SCOTLAND. IT WAS USED FOR CARVING ORNAMENTS AND FURNITURE AND THE VENEER OF FURNITURE. IT IS A SAPROPELIC COAL THAT IS COMPOSED LARGELY OF FINELY DISINTEGRATED PLANT DEBRIS. IT HAS MORE VOLATILE HYDROCARBONS THAN JET AND FRAGMENTS BURN MORE EASILY WITH MORE FLAME AND LESS SMOKE.
IN 19TH CENTURY SCOTLAND THERE WAS A SMALL INDUSTRY MAKING SNUFFBOXES, MINIATURE TABLES AND SHOES SUCH AS THESE. JEWELLERY WAS SELDOM MADE. IN WHITBY THE 19TH CENTURY JET WORKERS SOMETIMES USED CANNEL COAL FOR LARGER SCULPTURES.