

Finch & C^o



TURNED LIGNUM VITAE PUZZLE BOX

A FINELY TURNED LIGNUM VITAE PUZZLE BOX CONTAINING SIXTEEN IVORY SQUARES EACH MARKED 1 – 16

EARLY 19TH CENTURY

SIZE: 4CM HIGH, 10CM DIA – 1½ INS HIGH, 4 INS DIA

SEE: FINCH AND CO CATALOGUE NO. 20, ITEM NO. 56, FOR AN ENGLISH IVORY EDUCATIONAL THROWING BALL

LITERATURE

PUZZLES BECAME POPULAR IN ENGLAND DURING THE 18TH CENTURY AS A SUPPLEMENT TO FORMAL TEACHING. THIS FINELY TURNED BOX CONTAINING SIXTEEN NUMBERED IVORY SQUARES WAS PROBABLY AN INSTRUCTIVE PUZZLE AID TO TEACHING THE NUMERALS. IT MADE LEARNING FUN. A CONTRIVANCE TO TEACH CHILDREN TO COUNT AND ADD WHILST THEY THOUGHT THEY WERE ONLY PLAYING.