

Finch & C^o



SAILORS SCRIMSHAW WHALEBONE AND SPERM WHALE TOOTH WALKING CANE

AN EXCEPTIONAL SAILORS SCRIMSHAW WHALEBONE AND SPERM WHALE TOOTH WALKING CANE THE HANDLE CARVED
AS A TURKS-HEAD KNOT THE OCTAGONAL SHAFT DECORATED WITH DIAMOND AND ROUNDEL MOTIFS OF
TORTOISESHELL INLAY
FIRST HALF 19TH CENTURY
SIZE: 89CMLONG - 35 INS LONG

LITERATURE

CHARLES MURPHY, THIRD MATE ON A WHALING SHIP WROTE A POEM ABOUT A WHALING VOYAGE OF THE YEARS 1820 TO
1823. ENTITLED 'A JOURNAL OF A WHALING VOYAGE ON BOARD SHIP DAUPHIN OF NANTUCKET' HE EXPRESSED IN TWO
SHORT STANZAS THE ANTICIPATION EVERY CREW MEMBER FELT REGARDING THEIR LONG VOYAGE HOME

“AND HAVING FITTED WELL OUR SHIP
TO PASS CAPE HORN AGAIN,
EACH MAN THEN FORE AND AFT THE SHIP,
SCRIMSHAWING DID BEGIN.
THEN KNITTING-SHEATHS AND JAGGING-KNIVES
WERE CUT IN EVERY FORM,
AND OTHER TRINKETS FOR THE GIRLS,
AS PRESENTS FROM CAPE HORN.’