Finch & Co



SAILORS SCRIMSHAW WHALEBONE WALKING CANE

A SAILORS SCRIMSHAW WHALEBONE WALKING CANE THE HANDLE CARVED AS A CLENCHED FRIENDSHIP FIST OF SPERM WHALE TOOTH WITH DECORATIVE INLAYS OF TORTOISESHELL AND ABALONE TO THE SHAFT A BRASS FERRULE TO TIP
CIRCA 1840-60
SIZE: 86CM LONG - 33¾ INS LONG
NOTES REGARDING SHIPPING: THIS CANE CAN BE LEGALLY IMPORTED TO THE USA TOGETHER WITH THE APPROPRIATE CITES EXPORT CERTIFICATE
PLEASE CONTACT FOR DETAILS AND SHIPPING QUOTES

LITERATURE

THE SPIRALING LOWER SHAFT OF THIS CANE IS CARVED TO RESEMBLE THE TUSK OF A NARWHAL, THE UPPER SECTION WITH A DIAMOND PATTERN. THESE CUSTOM MADE CANES WERE NEVER USED ON BOARD A WHALING SHIP, BUT THEY WERE POPULAR ITEMS FOR SCRIMSHANDERS WHO OFTEN SOLD THEM FOR SOME SPARE POCKET MONEY NEXT TIME THEY WENT ASHORE. AVAILABLE MATERIAL AND TOOLS DICTATED WHAT THE SAILOR COULD MAKE ABOARD A WHALING SHIP. WITH SKILL AND IMAGINATION SAILORS COULD CHANGE SCRAPS OF WHALEBONE, BALEEN, ABALONE SHELL, SPERM WHALE TEETH, EXOTIC WOODS, TORTOISESHELL, LENGTHS OF TWINE AND WALRUS IVORY INTO AMAZING CREATIONS.