Finch & Co



EXCEPTIONALLY LARGE HEAVY SCRIMSHAW SPERM WHALE TOOTH

AN EXCEPTIONALLY LARGE HEAVY SCRIMSHAW SPERM WHALE TOOTH ENGRAVED WITH A SCENE DEPICTING NUMEROUS WHALE BOATS IN ACTION IN THE MIDST OF A SCHOOL OF SPERM WHALES THE SCHOONER WITH A LOOKOUT UP TOP THE REVERSE WITH A SCENE DEPICTING A COTTAGE WITH A MAIDEN CARRYING A BASKET AND A MANOR HOUSE AND GARDEN THE BORDERS OF EACH SCENE ENCIRCLED WITH FLOWERING TENDRILS

CIRCA 1830-60

SIZE: 8.5CM HIGH, 26CM LONG, 5CM DEEP - 3¼ INS HIGH, 10¼ INS LONG, 2 INS DEEP

WEIGHT: 1136 GRAMS / 2.5 LB'S

LITERATURE

BY THEIR ARTISTIC DEPICTIONS THE SCRIMSHANDER CREATED THE COMMON IMPRESSION OF WHALING AS A ROMANTIC AND EXCITING ACTIVITY, AND IT WAS TRUE THAT ON SUCH OCCASIONS AS THE CHASE AND THE CATCH THERE WERE PERIODS OF HIGH ADVENTURE, DANGER AND EXCITEMENT. HOWEVER, IT WAS THE FACT THAT FOR MOST WHALE MEN THESE TIMES WERE SO INFREQUENT, THAT CREATED THE NECESSITY FOR THE CRAFT OF SCRIMSHAW TO OCCUPY THE LONG HOURS OF DREARY IDLENESS SPENT ON BOARD SHIP.