

Finch & C^o



BERING SEA NORTON SOUND ESKIMO INUIT CARVED SPRUCE WOOD SNOW GOGGLES

A PAIR OF BERING SEA NORTON SOUND ESKIMO INUIT CARVED SPRUCE WOOD SNOW GOGGLES COLOURED BLACK TO
THE REVERSE OF THE NARROW EYE SLITS

AN OLD NATIVE REPAIR TO HAIRLINE CRACK AT RIGHT HAND SIDE

OLD INK INSCRIBED LABEL TO REVERSE '28'

MD 19TH CENTURY

SIZE: 4.5CM HIGH, 13 INS WIDE - 1¼ INS HIGH, 5¼ INS WIDE / 12CM INS HIGH - 4¾ INS HIGH (WITH BASE)

LITERATURE

AROUND THE BEGINNING OF MARCH THE RETURNING SUN BEGINS TO PRODUCE A GLARE ON THE SNOW COVERED
ARCTIC LANDSCAPE ESPECIALLY NORTH OF THE TREE LINE. BY LATE APRIL THE COUNTRY ACTS LIKE A GIANT MIRROR
REFLECTING EVER MORE DIRECT BRIGHT LIGHT. INUIT HUNTERS OUT IN THIS ENVIRONMENT SUFFERED SEVERE PAIN

AND EVEN BLINDNESS IF THEIR EYES WERE NOT WELL PROTECTED. SNOW GOGGLES ALSO INCREASED THEIR
DISTANCE VISION BY FOCUSING THE LIGHT. THE GOGGLES VARIED ACCORDING TO THE LOCALITY IN WHICH THEY WERE
MADE AND COULD BE CARVED OF WOOD, OFTEN DRIFTWOOD COLLECTED ON THE SHORELINE, OR WHALEBONE OR
FROM THE TUSK OF A WALRUS.