Finch & Co



KING KOFFEE'S ASANTE STOOL FROM THE BENIN CITY OF 'COOMASSIE' KOMASI

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THE WOODEN STOOL WITH FINE OLD SMOOTH PATINATION AND SEVERAL TRIBAL REPAIRS OF COPPER AND BRASS RIVETS

AN OLD LABEL BENEATH INSCRIBED… 'KING KOFFEE'S SEE: LIFE OF GEN…'

FIRST HALF OF 19TH CENTURY

SIZE: 28CM HIGH, 46CM WIDE, 24CM DEEP - 11 INS HIGH, 18 INS WIDE, 9½ INS DEEP

LITERATURE

GENERAL GARNET WOLSELEY WAS IN COMMAND AT THE TIME OF THE 3RD ANGLO-ASANTE WARS 1873 - 74. THIS STOOL IS SAID TO HAVE COME FROM THE KING'S PALACE IN THE CAPITAL KOMASI WHEN THE CITY WAS SACKED AND THEN BURNT TO THE GROUND AS THE ASANTE KING REFUSED TO RETURN AND TREAT FOR PEACE WITH THE BRITISH.

IN AFRICA STOOLS AND CHAIRS ARE OFTEN SIGNIFIERS OF STATUS BEING TREASURED BY THEIR OWNERS AND RECOGNISED BY OTHERS NOT ONLY AS PRIVATE AND PERSONAL, BUT AS A PRESTIGE OBJECT AND INDICATION OF THE STATUS OF THE OWNER.

PROVENANCE

EX PRIVATE WEST COUNTRY COLLECTION