

Finch & C^o



SPECIMEN OF A SEYCHELLES DOUBLE COCONUT OR 'COCO DE MER' WITH AN OLD SILVER MOUNT FOR SUSPENSION

AN UNUSUAL SMALL SHAPELY SPECIMEN OF A SEYCHELLES DOUBLE COCONUT OR 'COCO DE MER' WITH AN OLD SILVER MOUNT FOR SUSPENSION

EARLY 19TH CENTURY

SIZE: 19.5CM HIGH, 22.5CM WIDE, 12.5CM DEEP - 7¾ INS HIGH, 8¾ INS WIDE, 5 INS DEEP

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LITERATURE

THE GERMAN 17TH CENTURY BOTANIST GEORG EBERHARD RUMPHIUS (1627 - 1702) WHILST WORKING FOR THE DUTCH EAST INDIA COMPANY FOUND EXAMPLES OF THESE EXOTIC DOUBLE NUTS FLOATING IN THE SEAS JUST OFF THE MALDIVE ISLANDS AND SO NAMED THEM 'LODOICEA MALADIVICA'. IN FACT THEY ORIGINATE FROM TWO OF THE 115 ISLANDS THAT MAKE UP THE SEYCHELLES IN THE WEST INDIAN OCEAN. DESCRIBED IN THE 1737 INVENTORY OF THE ROYAL DANISH KUNSTKAMMER AT ROSENBERG CASTLE IN COPENHAGEN AS 'COMPLETE, RARE AND BEAUTIFUL' THE 'COCO DE MER' BECAME A LEGENDARY CURIOSITY.

PROVENANCE

EX PRIVATE WEST COUNTRY COLLECTION