

Finch & C^o



A SAMURAI ARCHER'S GLOVE (MITSUGAKE) 三つ襖

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DEER LEATHER, MATERIAL, INK

EDO PERIOD / 1603 - 1868

JAPAN

SIZE: 25CMLONG - 9¾INS LONG

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LITERATURE

NOTE: FOR A JAPANESE TABLE SCROLL, DETAILING A VERY SIMILAR GLOVE, LYING NEXT TO A BOW SEE: (PHOTOGRAPH) BY YOSHIZO SHIBAHARA, FROM A PRIVATE COLLECTION.

A RARE SURVIVAL, WE ARE FORTUNATE TO HAVE AN INK INSCRIPTION INSIDE THE GLOVE ALLOWING US TO DATE THE GLOVE TO 1683 寿永二年, TOGETHER WITH THE WORKSHOP WHERE IT WAS MADE: 〇武具店, 〇-ARMOR. KYŪDŌ OR 'KYŪJUTSU' (THE NAME USED PRIOR TO 1919) WAS THE MARTIAL ART OF ARCHERY WITHIN THE 'SAMURAI' CLASS OF FEUDAL JAPAN. THE FIRST 'ASYMMETRICAL' LONGBOW RECORDED IN JAPAN DATES TO THE YAYOI PERIOD (CIRCA 500 BC

TO 300 AD).

PROVENANCE

EX PRIVATE COLLECTION