

# *Finch & C<sup>o</sup>*



A BEAUTIFUL EXAMPLE OF A 'COCO DE MER' OR DOUBLE COCONUT

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19TH CENTURY

SIZE: 31.5CMX28.5CM

## **LITERATURE**

THESE SHAPELY NUTS WERE OFTEN COLLECTED AND BROUGHT BACK BY MERCHANT SEAMEN AND HAVE ALWAYS BEEN HIGHLY PRIZED AS CURIOSITIES.

THEY COME FROM A TALL PALM TREE NATIVE TO THE SEYCHELLES AND ARE THE LARGEST KNOWN SEED IN THE WORLD. AS THE FIRST NUTS WERE FOUND FLOATING IN THE SEA THEY ARE KNOWN AS 'COCO DE MER'.

THERE IS AN EXAMPLE IN THE ROYAL DANISH KUNSTKAMMER 1737 CALLED A 'MALDIVIAN COCO' AND DESCRIBED AS 'COMPLETE, RARE AND BEAUTIFUL'.