Finch & Co



EATING KNIFE WITH A HANDLE OF BRIGHTLY COLOURED VENETIAN MURANO MILLEFIORE GLASS

A FINE EATING KNIFE WITH A HANDLE OF BRIGHTLY COLOURED VENETIAN MURANO MILLEFIORE GLASS
A MEAN SILVER BOLSTER THE IRON TAPERED BLADE WITH A NEAR SQUARE TIP GROUND TO A SHALLOW POINT, THE BLADE MARKED WITH A COPPER INLAID 'V' AND A DAGGER FOR THE CUTLERS COMPANY OF LONDON, CONTAINED IN ITS ORIGINAL PUNCHED LEATHER CARRYING CASE
MID 17TH CENTURY
SIZE: 23.5CM LONG – 9¼ INS LONG

LITERATURE

IT WAS A CUSTOM IN ENGLAND FROM THE TIME OF HENRY VIII'S REIGN (1509-1547) TO GIVE A PAIR OF KNIVES AS A PART OF THE BRIDAL TROUSSEAU, BUT THE CUSTOM OF GIVING KNIVES HAS MUCH A LONGER TRADITION ON THE EUROPEAN CONTINENT. THE 'ATTESTATION OF KNIFE' WAS A PRACTICE IN 14TH CENTURY FRANCE OF PRESENTING A PURCHASER WITH A KNIFE WHEN CONVEYING PROPERTY. THE CUTLERS COMPANY OF LONDON ALSO HAVE RECORDS DATING FROM ELIZABETHAN TIMES OF GIFTS OF A PAIR OF KNIVES BEING PRESENTED TO THE WIVES OF MEN WHO HAD HELPED THE COMPANY.