



CUTLASS

Sweden, 1685 and 1832.

Weight: 880 g.

Length overall: 80 cm.

Length blade: 64 cm.

Manufactured in Wira. Marks on blade, hilt and shell.

This is a typical Swedish cutlass as it was used on battle ships of the Royal Navy in order to board other ships. The present piece was originally manufactured back in 1685 as the first standardized Swedish infantry sword in Wira. The three marks on the blade are the typical proof marks for Wira in the 17th century. In 1832 the stock of swords was reworked as cutlasses for the navy. Their blades were shortened and the thumb ring removed. While boarding an enemy ship shorter blades were advantageous.

The present piece shows a wonderful original untouched condition. On the surface of the bar hilt that has never been opened you can find the original blackening. Consistently the wooden grip is also pure (wire bound missing). When you have a closer look at the blade you can immediately recognize all the traces of wear and usage like the tiny notches on the edge that occur when you fence with such a sword. This blade has been exposed to excessive fighting, been grinded, polished, cleaned and used again - an interesting object that stimulates our fantasy due to the history that it emanates. Presumably these traces occurred during its use as an infantry sword, maybe at the battles of Narva, Poltava, Bender or on Norwegian grounds.







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