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A New Chart of The Pacific Ocean, Exhibiting The Western Coast of America from Cape Horn to Beerings Strait, The Eastern Shores of Asia Including Japan, China . . . according the most Modern Surveys . . . Additions to 1836 (Large Insets of Hawaii, Honolulu, Karakakooa Bay, San Francisco, San Diego)

Stock#: 46400
Map Maker: Norie

Date: 1836
Place: London
Color: Uncolored
Condition: VG
Size: 32 x 73 inches

Price: SOLD



Description:

Fine example of Norie's monumental sea chart of the northern part of the Pacific Ocean.

The present chart was used aboard ship, with the tracks of an expedition between Lahaina (Maui) and San Francisco plainly noted in pencil, showing daily progress.

The chart is noteworthy for the large insets views of San Francisco, San Diego, Hawaii, Honolulu and Karakakooa Bay in Hawaii.

Issued with revisions up to 1836, Norie's chart is the most comprehensive map of the Pacific available to commercial mariners.

First issued in 1825, Norie's chart was periodically reissued with improvements for the next 25 years.

The usage of the chart between San Francisco and Hawaii is of note and likely reflects very early trade in the San Francisco Region. In addition to Western Europeans, Russian fur-traders also visited the area. From 1770 until about 1841, Russian traders colonized an area that ranged from Alaska south to Fort Ross in Sonoma County, California. The naming of San Francisco's Russian Hill neighborhood is attributed to the remains of Russian fur-traders and sailors found there.

In 1835, Englishman William Richardson erected the first significant homestead outside the immediate vicinity of the Mission Dolores, near a boat anchorage around what is today Portsmouth Square. Together with Alcalde Francisco de Haro, he laid out a street plan for the expanded settlement, and the town,



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named Yerba Buena, began to attract American settlers. In 1838, Richardson petitioned and received a large land grant in Marin County and, in 1841, he moved there to take up residence at Rancho Saucelito.

The British Empire briefly entertained the idea of purchasing the bay from Mexico in 1841, claiming it would "Secure to Great Britain all the advantages of the finest port in the Pacific for her commercial speculations in time of peace, and in war for more easily securing her maritime ascendancy". However little came of this, and San Francisco would become a prize of the United States rather than that of British naval power.

On July 31, 1846, Yerba Buena doubled in population when about 240 Mormon pioneers from the East coast arrived on the ship Brooklyn, led by Sam Brannan. Brannan would later become well known for being the first publicist of the California Gold Rush of 1849.

US Navy Commodore John D. Sloat claimed California for the United States on July 7, 1846, during the Mexican-American War, and US Navy Captain John Berrien Montgomery and US Marine Second Lieutenant Henry Bulls Watson of the USS Portsmouth arrived to claim Yerba Buena two days later by raising the flag over the town plaza, which is now Portsmouth Square in honor of the ship. Henry Bulls Watson was placed in command of the garrison there.

Detailed Condition:

Working sea chart. Laid on linen, with silk edges. Some soiling and a bit of foxing, but generally a very nice image.