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Map of the United States, The British Provinces, Mexico &c. Showing the Routes of the U.S. Mail Steam Packets to California and a Plan of the Gold Region . . . 1849

Stock#: 46468
Map Maker: Colton
Date: 1849
Place: New York
Color: Outline Color
Condition: VG
Size: 24.5 x 18 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

Rare Variant of One of the Most Important 1849 Overland Guide Maps to the Gold Regions of California.

Seminal map of the overland routes to the Gold Regions of California, published by Colton in 1849.

This map was issued separately as a pocket map and broadside (this example) and was also used to illustrate a rare German pamphlet entitled *Californien und sein verhatlnisse...* by Fr. Osswald, in Leipzig, and Fayette Robinson's, *California and its Gold Regions...*, both issued in 1849.

Colton's map is regarded as one of the most popular and influential of all 49er overland guide maps. The map shows overland routes to the Gold Regions in Blue and the Gold Regions in Gold, with an inset of the regions. Interestingly, there are Gold Regions noted in Southern California as well.

An important map of the U.S. Main Routes, the Oregon Trail, routes of various explorers, and a "direct" route via the Smoky Hill Fork, Bent's Fort, Salt Lake, and almost directly west to the gold region. Includes two insets at left: (1) a Map of the Gold Region, (2) California and Pyramid Lake, Upper California. Discovered by Captain Fremont 1844, one inset at right: From New York to San Francisco via Cape Horn, and a table of distances.

Streeter referred to the map as "one of the rarest California Gold Rush maps."

The present example of the map is a rare early variant edition of the map. The two most notable differences are:



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- There is only a single route to the Gold Regions crossing below Salt Lake to San Francisco (rather than a series of 3 alternate routes)
- In the inset, the words "Quick Silver" below San Francisco Bay is in a single line (rather than Quicksilver Mines)

This first edition is very rare on the market, this being only the second example we have seen in over 20 years.

Detailed Condition:

Very minor foxing.