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Eastern Passages To China Sheet II (southern Mindanao to Timor and North Australia)

Stock#: 97380mp2
Map Maker: Horsburgh
Date: 1849
Place: London
Color: Uncolored
Condition: VG
Size: 25.25 x 37.25 inches
Price: \$ 975.00



Description:

Used At Sea -- With Tracks of A Voyage in 1852

Detailed sea chart of the region extending from the southern tip of Mindanao to North Australia and Timor, showing Boutton's Passage and Pitts Passage, by the East India Company in 1849.

The present chart shows the route of a ship likely proceeding south from the Philippines, beginning on July 22, 1852, following the line of the Gillolo Passage and Pitts Passage for approximately 3 weeks, and exiting the chart on about August 15, 1852 south of Bouton, via the Bouton Passage.



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The need for more accurate charts was forcibly brought home to James Horsburgh on May 30, 1786, when his ship wrecked off the coast of Diego Garcia 'in consequence of an error in her chart' (DNB). For almost the next twenty years Horsburgh gathered information about the sea lanes travelled by the East Indiamen, both from his own observations - most particularly during a seven year period when he commanded a ship called the 'Anna' - and from the work of others. The value and importance of his observations and the resulting charts was swiftly recognized and they were published over a lengthy period, with revisions being made as they were needed.

Horsburgh was rewarded by being elected a member of the Royal Society in March 1806, and more importantly from a financial point of view, he was appointed hydrographer to the East India Company in October 1810.

Detailed Condition:

Overall minor soiling and evidence of use at sea. Several minor tears, expertly repaired on verso.