



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

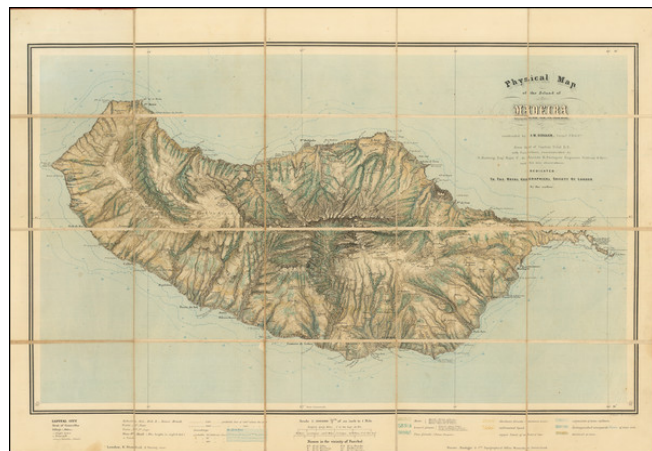
7407 La Jolla Boulevard
La Jolla, CA 92037

www.raremaps.com

(858) 551-8500
blr@raremaps.com

Physical Map of the Island of Madeira constructed by J.M. Ziegler, Crrspg. F.R.G.S.ty from that of Captain Vidal, R.N. with Corrections . . .

Stock#: 100164
Map Maker: Ziegler / Stanford
Date: 1856
Place: London / Winterthur,
Switzerland
Color: Color
Condition: VG
Size: 24.25 x 14.75 inches (map
border dimensions)
Price: SOLD



Description:

Rare separately published map of Madeira, bearing the imprint of both a Swiss and English publisher.

The map was constructed by J.M. Ziegler, a corresponding member of the Royal Geographical Society, drawing from Captain Vidal's earlier work with added corrections. Published in 1856, this map is dedicated to the Royal Geographical Society and offers an intricate portrayal of Madeira's rugged topography and unique botanical landscape.

The map is characterized by its detailed representation of Madeira's mountainous terrain, revealing the island's volcanic origins through its depiction of deep chasms, steep precipices, and high peaks. It is evident from Ziegler's work that the island's geography is marked by a stark contrast between its northern and southern slopes, which is significant for understanding the local climate, vegetation, and suitability for various agricultural endeavors.

J.M. Ziegler's notes accompanying the map provide an invaluable explanation, illustrating how the island's relief impacts the distribution of flora across different altitudes and orientations. These details not only highlight the prevalence of vine cultivation, particularly in the more sun-exposed southern gorges and valleys but also the presence of chestnut woods and the cultivation of rye and wheat at higher elevations.

The map's annotations indicate a landscape that has been shaped by its volcanic legacy yet is no longer marked by active eruptions. Instead, the focus is on the island's potential for scientific study, particularly in meteorology and botany, due to the clear demarcation of north and south-facing slopes that exhibit distinctly different vegetation patterns and microclimates.



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Ziegler's emphasis on the island's suitability for meteorological observation suggests that Madeira was recognized for its potential to contribute to the broader scientific understanding of weather patterns and their relation to geography. The map thus provides a window into the mid-19th century scientific exploration and the growing interest in the empirical study of natural environments.

Detailed Condition:

Folding map, segmented and laid on linen. Front cover detached.