



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

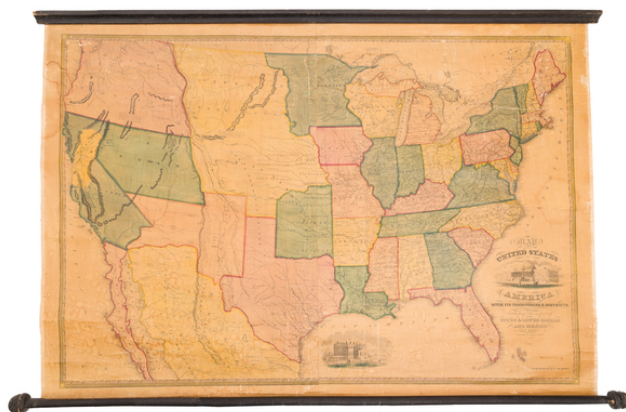
7407 La Jolla Boulevard
La Jolla, CA 92037

www.raremaps.com

(858) 551-8500
blr@raremaps.com

[California Gold Regions] Map of the United States of America with its Territories & Districts. Including also a part of Upper & Lower Canada and Mexico . . .1851

Stock#: 100922
Map Maker: Reed & Barber
Date: 1851
Place: Hartford, CT
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: Good
Size: 42 x 28 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

Massive Gold Region Illustrated In Gold

Rare late variant edition of this fantastic wall map of the United States, one of the most decorative coast-to-coast maps of the United States published before 1840.

In this 1851 edition, the California Gold Region is vastly improved compared to the 1850 edition. Over a dozen cities in the area have been added. An unnamed Bigler (i.e., Tahoe) Lake feeds the American River. Lake Tulare is massive and still covers the southern end of the San Joaquin Valley. "S. Barbary" appears as an unusual misspelling of Santa Barbara. The California coast bears the characteristic errors seen on many American maps from the first half of the 19th century.

As noted by Rumsey in describing the 1835 edition, the map is a marvelous amalgam of cartographic sources, but is perhaps most noteworthy for its striking image of the United States. Rumsey notes:

An unusual map in two sheets, showing the continent coast to coast. Tanner's influence from his North America map is evident in the west, and Long's map has influenced the plains, but Tanner's U.S. map is the primary source, in the Oregon District, the Plains, and the area east of the Mississippi. The Great Basin is filled with a table of distances and heights of mountains (which convention appears in several maps published in Hartford about this time by Thrall, Huntington, Olney's Geography, etc.). Wheat mentions the 1849 and 1850 editions of this map published by Reed and Barber, but this much earlier and different edition was unknown to him. Not in Phillips. Views of the Capital and the White House. Phelps did a related and



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somewhat smaller map in 1833 - see our copy. After the 1835 edition, no editions until the 1848 by Reed and Barber (see our 1849, 1850 and 1854 editions).

An unusual and rare wall map showing the United States just after the Discovery of Gold in California in 1849 and the Compromise of 1850.

In 1845, Texas joined the United States as a new state. Following the Mexican War, the 1846 Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo transferred dominion over the northern Mexican states of New Mexico and Upper California to the United States.

This map shows the situation after the 1846 treaty. Texas is shown in its very large, pre-1850 size, though with a quite unusual configuration. New Mexico is in its first Territorial configuration, including all of Arizona.

Upper California is now shown as California and Utah Territory. The recent discovery of gold is highlighted with a huge section of the map in gold and that is marked on this map with "Gold Region". Also of interest in the territory is the "Mormon Ft." at the south end of the Great Salt Lake. To the east of the continental divide is a very large Nebraska Territory-one of the earliest mentions of this proposed territory, which wasn't, in fact, created for another five years the Indian Territory. In this region are labels for the various Indian Tribes and a large, shaded region labeled "Great American Desert."

Detail in the east is very good, with towns, rivers, and counties shown and each state and territory is colored in a contrasting shade. A vignette of the U.S. Capitol graces the title cartouche and in the Gulf of Mexico is a drawing of the White House. A good early wall map showing this snapshot of the country on the eve of one of the most important political developments of the century.

Detailed Condition:

Original hand-color. Two sheets joined as one, mounted on original linen with original wooden dowels. Some cracking, toning, and dampstaining.