



# Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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**[Original watercolor of a group of Indian arthropods and reptiles, including a scorpion, a sun spider, a praying mantis, geckos, a tropical carpenter bee, etc.]**

**Stock#:** 103912  
**Map Maker:** Schumacher  
**Date:** 1781 circa  
**Place:** n.p. (India?)  
**Color:** Pen & Ink with Wash Color  
**Condition:** VG  
**Size:** 17.75 x 12.5 inches Full Sheet  
**Price:** \$ 4,500.00



## Description:

A fascinating late-18th-century watercolor drawing of a series of Indian and Southeast Asia arthropods and lizards, attributed to Johannes Schumacher or another associate of William Paterson, the famous explorer, natural history collector, and eventual Lieutenant Governor of New South Wales.

The drawing features a scorpion (seemingly a member of the genus *Chersonesometrus*, native to Mysore, India), a tropical carpenter bee (possibly *Xylocopa latipes*), a member of the order *Solifugae* (often called sun spiders or camel spiders), along with a study of a head of the same, an unidentified stink beetle, an unidentified but probably Indian snake, two unidentified geckos, an unidentified lizard, and an unidentified praying mantis. While many of these animals are difficult for us to identify, the circumstantial evidence points to there having been gathered and documented in Mysore in the 1780s.

## Detailed Condition:

Ink, pencil, and watercolor on late-18th-century laid paper watermarked with a Strasburg Lily and "GR" (this is a Whatman watermark, see the description for a more in-depth discussion). Ruled in red as for a ledger book. Two stains at the top of the image retouched, not affecting the subjects.