



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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Oregon and Upper California . . . 1848

Stock#: 45174
Map Maker: Mitchell
Date: 1848
Place: Philadelphia
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG+
Size: 15.5 x 12.5 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

Scarce 1848 edition of Mitchell's magnificent map of the West.

Mitchell's map of Oregon & Upper California is unquestionably the best atlas map of the West of the era, reflecting the contemporary knowledge of the west. Shows Spanish Trail, Lewis & Clark's Canoe Route, Oregon Trail, early roads, towns, Indian Tribes, mining claims, etc. This is the first map of the West to appear in an American Atlas. The map is still in the state of the first edition, which can be determined by the lack of a page number, having initially been inserted in the second issue of the 1846 Mitchell Universal Atlas. This 1848 edition is the last to utilize the first plate and is quite rare--this is the first example of the 1848 edition we have ever offered.

The difference between the first and second states of this map is very clear. In the first state, the landmass is considerably farther east and therefore there is more ocean shown off the Coastline and the map does not extend quite as far east as the second state of the map. The first edition of the second state of the map is also easily distinguishable, as the title is changed to *Oregon, Upper California & New Mexico* and the first edition of this second state shows the gold regions of California shaded in Gold.



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The Great Basin information pre-dates Fremont. The elevation of the pass in the Sierras is shown. The Owens Valley (River and Lake) is not yet present. Humboldt and Nicollet Lakes are not yet present. Fremont's route to Oregon is shown, but his route from Walker Lake to Salt Lake is not shown, nor is any of the regional cartography. The region between Mud Lake and Salt Lake City are similarly uncharted by Fremont.

The tributaries of the Upper Colorado River are substantially incomplete, lacking the White River, Red River etc. The Gila River is shown with its terminus in the Gulf of Mexico and with a radically incorrect course and apocryphal tributaries. There is an apocryphal Sevier River along Rio Colorado. The border with Mexico is also substantially south of its true course.

A bright clean example in rich full color.

Detailed Condition: