



## Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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**To the Rt. Hon'ble the Lords Commissioners for Executing the Office of Lord High  
Admiral of Great Britain, &c. &c. Of His Majesty's Ships on the Secret Expedition,  
against Havanah; Down the Old Straits of Bahama in the Seven Divisions taken the 20.  
of June 1762.**

**Stock#:** 47244mp2  
**Map Maker:** Serres  
  
**Date:** 1762 circa  
**Place:** London  
**Color:** Hand Colored  
**Condition:** VG  
**Size:** 25 x 17.5 inches (Each)  
  
**Price:** SOLD



**Description:**

A fine hand-colored engraved view Sir George Pocock's naval force, responsible for capturing Havana in 1762, executed by the greatest maritime painter of the 18th century, Dominic Serres.

The engraving is of the highest quality; the skill of the artists is particularly evident in the diverse and elaborate typography below the image. The rendering of the clouds and the ability of the engraver to suggest the sun's rays streaming through them is also quite remarkable. A key in the lower left elaborates the ships, their commanders, and the complement of guns aboard.

Sir George Pocock (1706-1792) was a British naval officer of considerable consequence during the Seven Years War. His crowning achievement was the capture of Havana in 1762, as a result he became very rich, however, he was passed over for the Admiralty Board in spite of his success, and, as a result, he resigned his commission in 1766.

The "secret expedition" to capture Havana set off from Spithead on March 5, 1762. By the 26th of April it had arrived in Martinique, pausing there before setting off again on May 6. The flotilla landed troops six miles east of Havana on June 7 and siege-works were started upon at once. The army was aided by a large number of seamen who helped land canon, man the batteries, and supply the troops with water. The British had received detailed reports of the weak points in Havana's defenses provided by the Governor of Jamaica, Admiral Knowles. By the 30th of June, the batteries were ready, and they opened fire on the July 1. Three ships of the line engaged from the water, but two of them left action after heavy losses six hours into the battle. Eventually, the land batteries subdued the Spanish defense, and on the 30th of July, the Moro was stormed. The city capitulated on August 13. The prize money was considerable, netting Pocock



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over £122,000 alone.

**Detailed Condition:**

Expert restoration of some small tears at edges.