



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

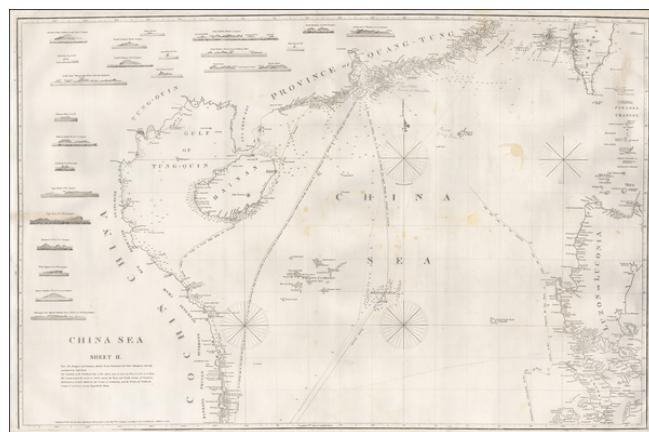
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China Sea Sheet II . . . 1823 . . . Additions to 1850 (Hong Kong, Taiwan, Philippines, etc)

Stock#: 50158
Map Maker: Horsburgh
Date: 1850
Place: London
Color: Uncolored
Condition: VG
Size: 39 x 26 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

Finely executed general chart of the South China Sea from Na Trang to Tonkin, Taiwan and Mindoro, with views.

The publishers imprint reads Published 1st Feb. 1823, by James Horsburgh, Hydrographer to the Hon.ble E.I. Company, according to Act of Parliament - Additions to 1850. The update shows Hong Kong and Victoria, founded only a few years before. Also shown are Canton, Whampoa, and Macao, regular ports of call for vessels engaged in the China trade, the tea clippers being the most famous.

The need for more accurate charts was forcibly brought home to James Horsburgh on May 30, 1786, when his ship wrecked off the coast of Diego Garcia 'in consequence of an error in her chart' (DNB). For almost the next twenty years Horsburgh gathered information about the sea lanes travelled by the East Indiamen, both from his own observations - most particularly during a seven year period when he commanded a ship called the 'Anna' - and from the work of others. The value and importance of his observations and the resulting charts was swiftly recognized and they were published over a lengthy period, with revisions being made as they were needed.

Horsburgh was rewarded by being elected a member of the Royal Society in March 1806 and, more importantly from a financial point of view, he was appointed hydrographer to the East India Company in October 1810.

Detailed Condition:

Silked edges. Minor soiling and an abrasion near Formosa.