



**Barry Lawrence Ruderman
Antique Maps Inc.**

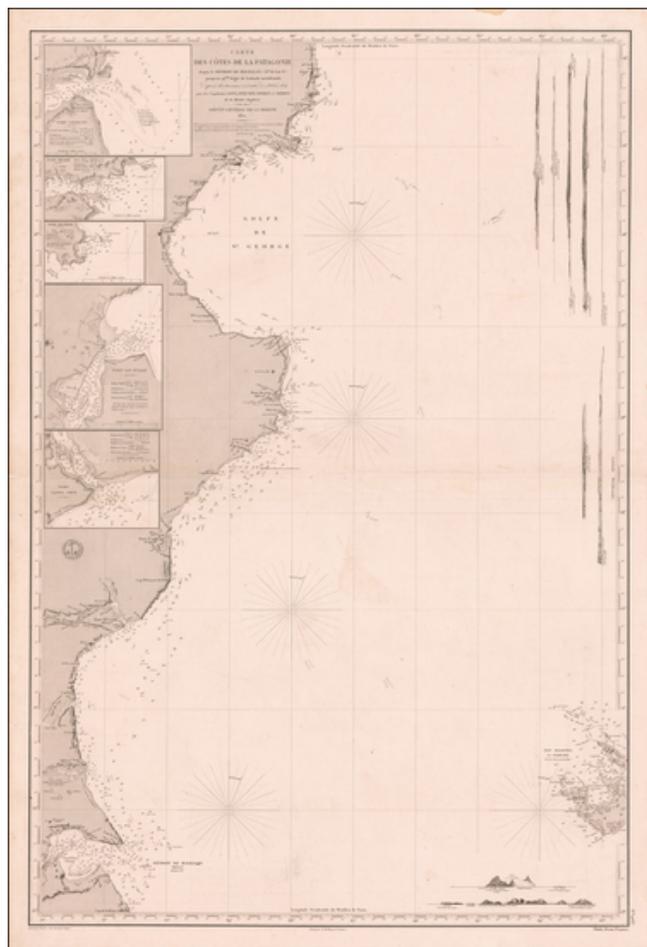
7407 La Jolla Boulevard
La Jolla, CA 92037

www.raremaps.com

(858) 551-8500
blr@raremaps.com

[Patagonia / Straits of Magellan] Carte Des Cotes la Patagonie depuis le Detroit de Magellan (53° de Lat S.) jusqu'au 44.eme de Latitude meridionale d'apres les travaux executes de 1828 a 1834, par les Capitaines King, Fizt-Roy, Stokes et Skiring de la Marine Anglaise 1851

Stock#: 58782
Map Maker: Depot de la Marine
Date: 1851
Place: Paris
Color: Uncolored
Condition: VG
Size: 28 x 40 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

Fine Sea Chart of Eastern Patagonia Based on the Beagle Surveying Expeditions

Remarkable sea chart of the eastern coast of Patagonia, published by the French hydrographic authority, the *Dépôt de la Marine*. The hydrography is based on the pioneering surveying expeditions of the British Admiralty from 1826 to 1836, the second of which was host to Charles Darwin.

The chart extends from just south of Bahia Blanca on the coast of Argentina to the entrance to the Strait of



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

7407 La Jolla Boulevard
La Jolla, CA 92037

www.raremaps.com

(858) 551-8500
blr@raremaps.com

[Patagonia / Straits of Magellan] Carte Des Cotes la Patagonie depuis le Detroit de Magellan (53° de Lat S.) jusqu'au 44.eme de Latitude meridionale d'apres les travaux executes de 1828 a 1834, par les Capitaines King, Fitz-Roy, Stokes et Skyring de la Marine Anglaise 1851

Magellan. To the east, the Falklands peek out from the chart's frame. Below and above them are views of landmarks and mountains as they would be seen from the water. Several simple compass roses are included in the water, to aid navigators in charting a course.

In inland South America, there are inset plans of:

- Port Gallegos (Cape Fairweather)
- Port Desire
- Sea Bear Bay
- Port Santa Cruz
- Port San Julian

There are manuscript additions in pencil marking the dates that a ship was in those coordinates and other information.

The *Beagle* surveying voyages

Since its first passage by Ferdinand Magellan in 1520, the Strait was known for its maze-like path and terrible weather. After the discovery of the alternative route round Cape Horn by the Dutchmen Le Maire and Schouten in 1615, most ships preferred to brave the harsh winds of the Horn than crawl through the labyrinthine strait.

Eager to improve navigation between Atlantic and Pacific, the Admiralty and their newly-created Hydrographic Office, founded in 1795, sought to make better charts of the Strait and Patagonia. They sent the HMS *Adventure* with the smaller HMS *Beagle* to survey the southern coast of South America. The *Beagle* was under the command of Commander Pringle Stokes, while the *Adventure* and the expedition itself was led by Phillip Parker King.

After two years of surveying work in the dismal conditions of Tierra del Fuego, Stokes shot himself. He lingered for two weeks before dying. His role was filled by the first lieutenant of the *Beagle*, William Skyring. Somewhat to the chagrin of Skyring and King, this promotion was not made permanent and the position was instead given to Robert Fitzroy, then only 23 years old. He served out the final two years of the first expedition and proved himself a skilled hydrographer.

In part to alleviate the anxieties and depression that had plagued Stokes, the Admiralty suggested that



**Barry Lawrence Ruderman
Antique Maps Inc.**

7407 La Jolla Boulevard
La Jolla, CA 92037

www.raremaps.com

(858) 551-8500
blr@raremaps.com

**[Patagonia / Straits of Magellan] Carte Des Cotes la Patagonie depuis le Detroit de
Magellan (53° de Lat S.) jusqu'au 44.eme de Latitude meridionale d'apres les travaux
executes de 1828 a 1834, par les Capitaines King, Fizt-Roy, Stokes et Skiring de la
Marine Anglaise 1851**

Fitzroy take a naturalist, and a social equal, on ship with him for the second surveying voyage, which was to carry on the work of the first. In September 1831, Francis Beaufort, Hydrographer of the Navy, wrote to Fitzroy that they had found just the man, a young Charles Darwin. Together, they sailed until 1836, when the *Beagle* returned to England two years later than expected.

Although eventually eclipsed by Darwin's writings on the Galapagos and other natural history discoveries, the hydrography of the *Beagle* expeditions was unparalleled in its precision and volume. The maps produced by King, Stokes, Skyring, and Fitzroy were still in use well into the twentieth century. They were also clearly good enough for Britain's rivals, as this French version of the chart shows.

Detailed Condition: