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[Atlantic Ocean] To The Hon:ble The Court of Directors of the United East India Company This Chart Intended as an Accompaniment to the Book of Directions For Navigating to, from and in the East Indies. Is Inscribed by Their Faithful and most obliged Servant James Horsburgh . . .

Stock#: 60617op
Map Maker: Horsburgh

Date: 1814
Place: London
Color: Uncolored
Condition: Good
Size: 39 x 25 inches

Price: SOLD



Description:

First edition of James Horsburgh's important chart of the North Atlantic, published for the East India Company in 1814.

Horsburgh's chart is the first in a series of regional charts intended to accompany his Book of Sailing Directions to the East Indies. It includes the tracks of several voyages which assisted in the compilation of the data for the chart, including some seasonal data.

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,



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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.

Rarity

The chart is quite scarce on the market. This is the first example we have ever seen.

Detailed Condition:

Some soiling.