



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

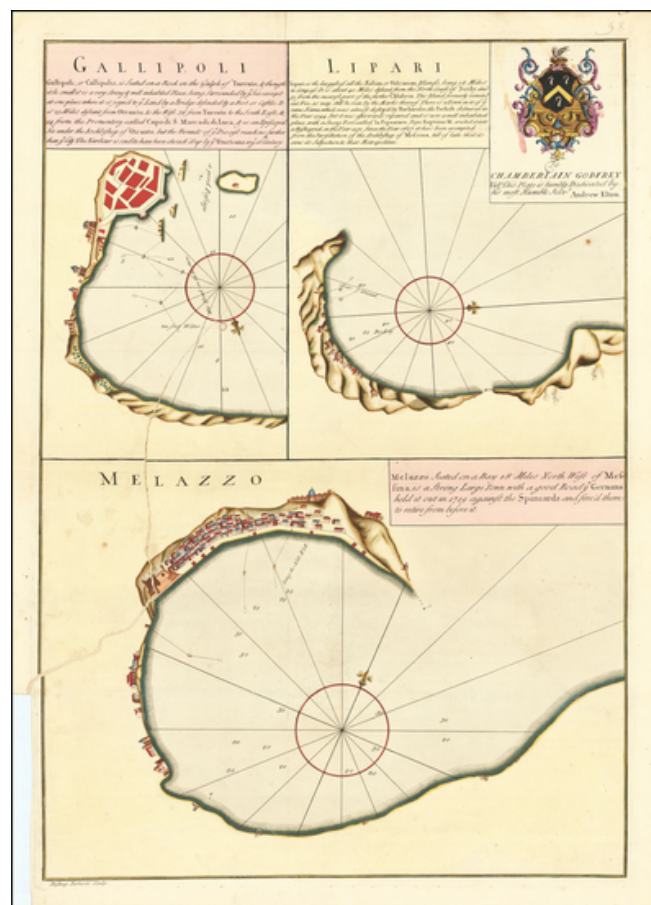
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Gallipoli, or Callipolis [with] Lipari [with] Melazzo

Stock#: 62935op
Map Maker: Elton & Roberts
Date: 1730
Place: London
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: See Description
Size: 18 x 25.5 inches
Price: \$ 1,900.00



Description:

Very rare English chart of southern Italian ports, by Andrew Elton, in superb contemporary hand-color.

Engraved sea chart of the southern Italian ports of Gallipoli (Apulia), Lipari, and Melazzo, with integral town plans. The chart, by Andrew Elton, includes a dedication to Chamberlain (sic) Godfrey.

In 1730 and 1731, the English merchant mariner, Captain Andrew Elton Jr. issued a series of sea charts of harbors and coastal locations that he had visited during his voyages to the Mediterranean Sea. Each chart was masterfully engraved by Bishop Roberts, an artist who subsequently emigrated to America, where he produced one of the most important early views of Charleston, SC.

The British Library dates the chart to 1780, though this is about 50 years too late.



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Gallipoli is a fortified port in southern Apulia. It was unsuccessfully besieged by the Venetians in 1484, and since then had been an important harbor in Spanish-controlled southern Italy. Elton wrote that:

Gallipoli, or Callipolis, is seated on a Rock on the Gulph of Tarento, & though it be small it is a very strong & well inhabited Place, being surrounded by y.e Sea except at one place where it is joyn'd to y.e Land by a Bridge defended by a Fort or Castle. It is 25 Miles distant from Otranto, to the West. 36 from Tarento to the South East, & 24 from the Promontory called Capo di S. Maracado di Luca, & is an Episcopal See under the Archbishop of Otranto, but the Bounds of y.e Diocess reach no further than y.e City. The Harbour is said to have been choak'd up by y.e Venetians in y.e 16.th Century [referring to the 1484 Venetian siege, albit with incorrect dating].

Lipari is a harbor on the Aeolian island of the same name that formerly featured a very active volcano. Located near the northern mouth of the Strait of Messina, it lied along a major shipping route and was thus a crossroads of historical events. Elton notes that:

Lipari is the largest of all the Æolian or Vulcanian Islands, being 18 Miles in Compass. It is about 40 Miles distant from the North Coast of Sicily and 50 from the nearest part of the further Calabria. This Island formerly vomited out Fire, as may still be seen by the Marks thereof. There is a Town in it of y.e same Name, which was almost destroy'd by Barbarossa the Turkish Admiral in the Year 1544, but it was afterwards repaired and is now a well inhabited place, with a strong Fort called la Pignataro. Pope Eugenius III, erected it into a Bishoprick, in the Year 1151. Since the Year 1627, it has been exempted from the Jurisdiction of the Archbishop of Messina, till of late that it owns its Subjection to that Metropolitan.

Finally, this fine chart features the harbor of Melazzo, Sicily, which is strategically located near the Strait of Messina. In Homer's *Odyssey*, Milazzo, known in ancient times as Mylae, was the place where Ulysses was shipwrecked met Polyphemus. Elton notes that:

Melazzo, seated on a Bay 18 Miles North West of Messina, is a strong Large Town with a good Road y.e Germans held it out in 1719 against the Spaniards and forc'd them to retire from before it.

The battle Elton is referring to was the Battle of Milazzo (October 15, 1718), during which an Austrian force under the Count von Daun successfully held the town against a larger Spanish force under the Marquis de Lede.

Rarity

We are aware of only two institutional holdings of Elton charts. The British Library holds examples of the



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sheets containing the charts of Corve & Zea; Livorno; Charella & Stromboli; Salonica; Naples; and Gallipoli, Lipari & Milazzo. The Richard M. Daly Library at the University of Illinois-Chicago holds the charts of Corve & Zea; Livorno; Charella & Stromboli; Salonica, Gallipoli, Lipari & Milazzo and Smyrna.

Detailed Condition:

Contemporary Dutch hand-color. An excellent example but for a long, fairly clean, tab-tear from the left edge into the image - closed on verso.