



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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

Stock#: 63621
Map Maker: Horsburgh
Date: 1823
Place: London
Color: Uncolored
Condition: VG
Size: 39 x 26 inches
Price: \$ 3,200.00



Description:

First State of Horsburgh's Second and Substantially Improved Chart of the Coast of China, Philippines and Cochinchina etc.

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

This chart replaced an earlier Horsburgh chart of 1811 of the same region. The present chart offered a more accurate charting of the China coast, adding shipping route details important to the Hong Kong trade. The chart also extends to the Philippines, reflecting its importance in the China trade.

Much of the detail given was surveyed and/or compiled under the direction of Lieutenant Daniel Ross, considered the Father of the Indian Surveys, who surveyed the coast of south China between 1806 and 1820.

The publishers imprint reads Published 1st Feb. 1823, by James Horsburgh, Hydrographer to the Hon.ble E.I. Company, according to Act of Parliament.

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.



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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

While later states of the map appear on the market occasionally, the first state is quite rare. This is the first example we have offered for sale.

Detailed Condition:

Minor soiling