



## Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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### Gold Fields of Australia. Notes on the Distribution of Gold Throughout the World Including Australia, California, And Russia, With Five Maps . . . .

**Stock#:** 89711  
**Map Maker:** Wyld  
**Date:** 1852 circa  
**Place:** London  
**Color:** Outline Color  
**Condition:** VG+  
**Size:** 5.25 x 8.25 inches  
**Price:** \$ 4,500.00



#### Description:

#### *With Excellent Maps of the Australian and California Gold Districts*

Rare guidebook to the gold regions of California, Russia and most notably, Australia. The present example is styled the second edition on the title page. Thomas Streeter's copy, purportedly an example of the first edition, was issued with only four maps. However, Gary Kurutz describes the first edition of this title as having the full complement of five maps, as in the present second edition, while not describing the four-map edition owned by Streeter. Wyld had issued an earlier separate work focusing on California in 1849: *Geographical & Mineralogical Notes to Accompany Mr. Wyld's Map of the Gold Regions of California*.

Although the present title focuses on the gold regions of Australia, the California content is notable, and the author seems intent on comparing the two regions by juxtaposing them in a single volume. The California section of the text mentions an 1825 gold discovery near San Diego "at St. Isidore," as well as Marshall's famous discovery, the Ave Maria mine on Col. Fremont's estate, and other early California mining ventures. According to Gary Kurutz:

*Wyld wrote in a tone in keeping with the ambition of imperialistic Victorian England, extolling British possibilities for the gold of California and the entire world... The author provided comparisons... between California and Australia - Kurutz.*

The present work includes five maps, which are:

- *The World On Mercator's Projection, Shewing The Distribution of Gold . . .*



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### **Gold Fields of Australia. Notes on the Distribution of Gold Throughout the World Including Australia, California, And Russia, With Five Maps . . . .**

- *Gold Districts of Australia* (all of Eastern Australia)
- *Map of the Gold Regions of Australia* . . . (Bathurst to Sidney and Newcastle)
- *Map of the Gold Regions of Australia* . . . (Victoria and New South Wales)
- *The Gold District of California.*

The California map is very similar to Wyld's rare separately published *Map of the Gold Regions of California* (1851), but focusing more particularly on California, with less of the surrounding areas as a whole.

According to Thomas Streeter (whose copy was issued with only 4 maps):

*The interest of this pamphlet lies in the attention paid to quartz mining for gold in California. This was scarcely mentioned in the Wyld 1849 pamphlet. Various gold bearing quartz veins are shown on the California map, which still shows the "Mountain of Pure Sulphur" of the 1849 Wyld map.---TWS.*

#### **Rarity**

The work is very rare. The Streeter copy (with only 4 maps) sold for \$400 in 1968. This is the second iteration of the work, with one additional map (Victoria and New South Wales). There was also a third edition, issued in 1853.

#### **Detailed Condition:**

Octavo. Recent half crimson morocco and marbled boards. 44 pages + [4] page catalog "Wyld's Maps." With 5 folding lithograph maps, the gold regions outlined in color. Clean nice example, with the maps in beautiful condition.