

Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

7407 La Jolla Boulevard La Jolla, CA 92037

www.raremaps.com

(858) 551-8500 blr@raremaps.com

A New Chart of the Straits of Sunda

Stock#: 94742

Map Maker: Laurie & Whittle

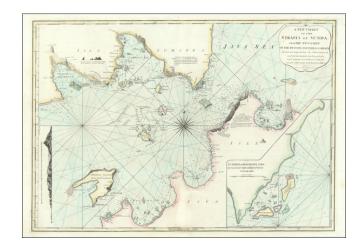
Date: 1794 Place: London

Color: Hand Colored

Condition: VG+

Size: 34 x 23.75 inches

Price: \$ 950.00



Description:

This detailed chart, titled *A New Chart of the Straits of Sunda*, is derived from the manuscript records of the Dutch East India Company and the practical observations of Capt. Henry Smedley in 1785, Capt. Parker of the *Bridgewater* in 1787, and Capt. John Hall of the *Worcester* in 1788. It was produced and published in London by Laurie & Whittle in May 1794.

The map primarily focuses on the Straits of Sunda, capturing the adjacent coastal regions of Sumatra and Java. Notable geographic features, including Lampoong's Bay on Sumatra and Krakatoa (before its 1883 eruption), are precisely marked. The chart also delineates part of the nearby Java Sea.

Several smaller islands are depicted between the larger landmasses of Sumatra and Java. Prince's Island, also known as Pulo Pannaitan, is proximate to the Java coastline. An inset on the map provides a more detailed view of the Zutphen or Hounds Islands, located off the eastern side of Hog's Point, the southeastern most point of Sumatra.

The map incorporates topographical features, indicating the variation in the terrain of the islands. Key trading spots and towns are marked, such as a notable mention of a landing place on Crokatoe Island frequented by Dutch ships. The map employs a clear scale and references degrees of longitude from London, essential for accurate navigation.

Krakatoa

The map shows the Krakatoa archipelago almost 100 years before it was radically altered by a colossal volcanic eruption. The Krakatoa eruption of 1883 is one of the most cataclysmic natural disasters in recorded history. Located in the Sunda Strait between the islands of Java and Sumatra in Indonesia, the



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once-isolated volcanic island of Krakatoa erupted with a force so immense that it resulted in the deaths of over 36,000 people. The eruption's energy was equivalent to that of thousands of atomic bombs, causing tsunamis that reached as far as the African coast and significantly affecting global climate for years. Its aftermath was no less dramatic, with the ejection of so much ash and gas into the atmosphere leading to vivid red sunsets around the world and a significant drop in global temperatures. The loudness of the explosion was so great that it was heard nearly 3,000 miles away, making it the loudest sound in recorded history.

Detailed Condition:

Minor expert restoration at the centerfold towards the bottom of the chart.