



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

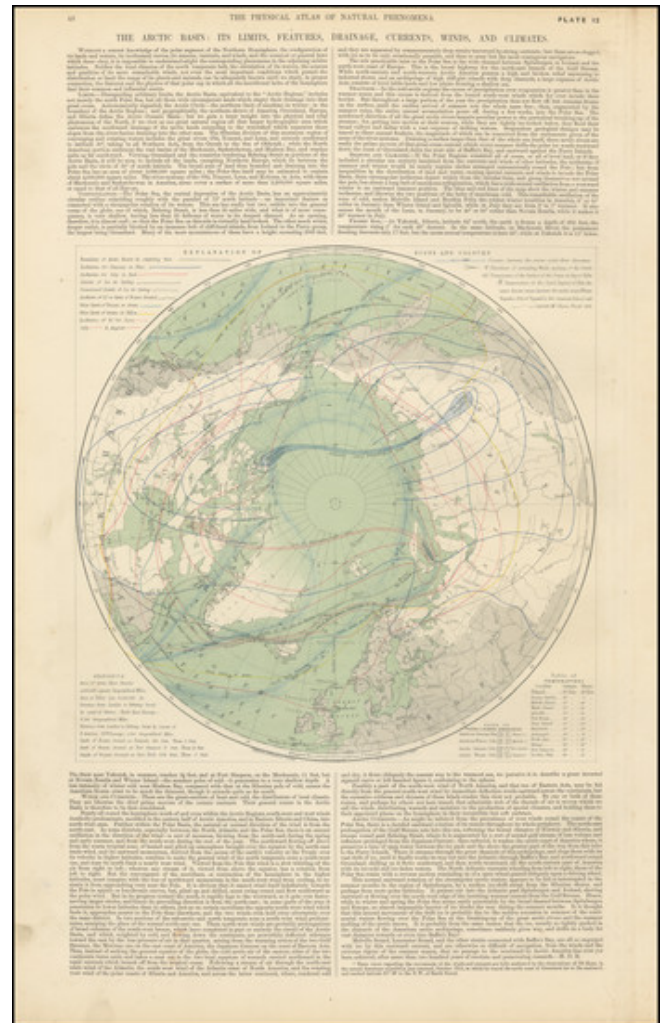
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(North Pole) The Arctic Basin: Its Limits, Features, Drainage, Currents, Winds, and Climates

Stock#: 97283
Map Maker: Johnston
Date: 1856
Place: Edinburgh
Color: Color
Condition: VG+
Size: 15 x 21.8 inches
Price: \$ 145.00



Description:

Early Scientific Work on the North Pole

Single sheet, printed recto-verso, featuring two maps, the first of which is a nice map of the Arctic Basin with the northernmost parts of Europe, North America, and Asia shown. There is significant scientific detail illustrated in color to represent the seasonal isotherms and polar limits for the flora of the region. The map also includes the oceanic currents, prevailing wind directions, and average temperature readings for the surface of the ocean and land of the region. A decent amount of the map is blank or loosely



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illustrated, likely due to the lack of knowledge of the poles during the 1850s. Note the incomplete Greenland and focus on the coasts.

Around this map are paragraphs of text that further explain the Arctic Basin. Measurements on the depth of frozen soil, a general description of the possible climate of the region, and various statistics on distances between the Arctic and other places on Earth accompany the chart of the North Pole.

The second image continues the text from the previous page and another map. This map, *General Sketch Chart of the Oceanic Currents*, is a colorful world map that illustrates the currents of the world's oceans and known sea impediments. In blue are the Arctic and Humboldt Currents that circulate cool water in the ocean. In red are the Gulf Stream and Equatorial Currents which move warm water through the oceans. Several small symbols are dotted across the map which indicate the presence of icebergs according to the season. Below India is an area simply labeled Hurricane region. In the center of the Atlantic is a large mass of seaweed, presumably of the free-floating *Sargassum* family.

Detailed Condition:

Minor wear along extremities.