



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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[Hungarian Traveler In the California and the West with a Comanche and Wichita to Hungarian vocabulary] Levelei Éjszakamerikából -- Tizenkét eredeti rajzok után készült kő- és egynehány fametszettel. Közli Prépost István (Letters from North America)

Stock#: 98502
Map Maker: Xántus
Date: 1858
Place: Budapest
Color: Uncolored
Condition: VG
Size: 5.5 x 8.1 inches (binding)
Price: \$ 3,600.00



Description:

First edition of these *Letters from North America* written by a Hungarian freedom fighter in exile and naturalist.

The unauthorized first edition of letters by János or John Xántus (1825-1894) an exile from Hungary who first settled in a Hungarian colony in Iowa, served in the Army in Kansas, and later found himself employed as a scientist in Southern California and Baja California in the late 1850s, collecting natural history specimens for what became the Smithsonian Institution.

This book includes 37 letters written from 1852 to 1857, not intended for publication. Four letters are dated from San Francisco and Los Angeles, in addition to letters from his travels across the continent earlier in the decade, not included in the later authorized edition, from New Orleans, Kansas, Nebraska, Iowa, and Missouri.

A vocabulary of the Comanche and Wichita languages appears on pages 118-122.

The book was edited by István Prépost, and some of the content is repurposed from Marcy's official report of the Red River. The illustrations are mostly of Plains Indians and scenery, closing with views of Los Angeles; San Gabriel Mission; and New York's Union Square.

The plates are based upon his drawings.



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America)**

Detailed Condition:

12 tinted lithograph plates. 175, [1] pages. 8vo, publisher's cloth, minor wear; moderate foxing, early pencil notes; later number tag on rear free endpaper.