



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

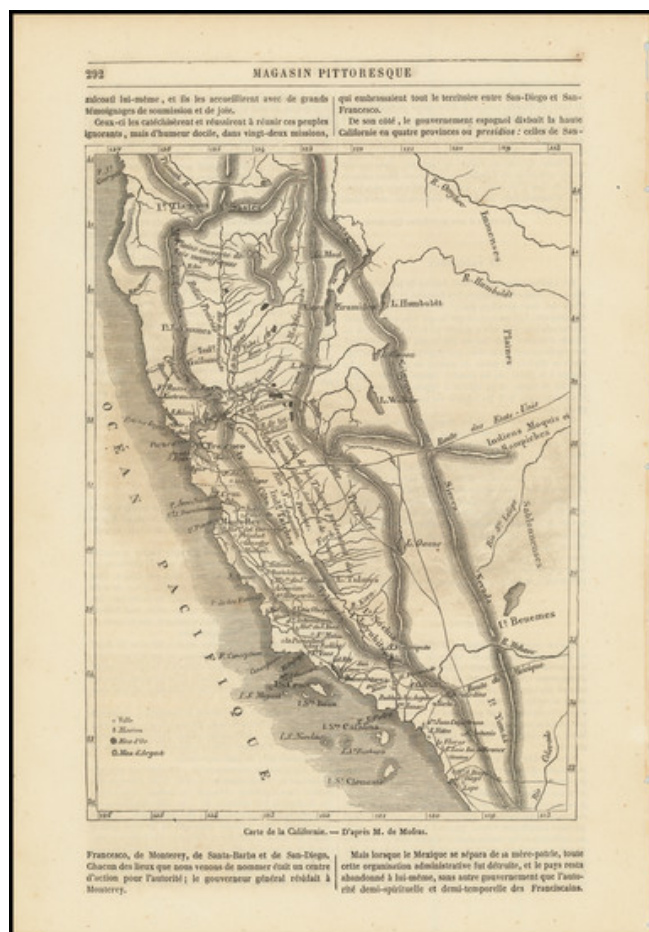
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Carte de la Californie. - D'apres M. de Mofras (and early view of Monterey)

Stock#: 84115
Map Maker: Duflot De Mofras / Magasin Pittoresque
Date: 1849
Place: Paris
Color: Uncolored
Condition: VG+
Size: 6 x 8 inches
Price: \$ 145.00



Description:

Early magazine copy of Eugene Duflot du Mofras's seminal map of California and the West, during his expedition to through the West and the Pacific following his time as ambassador to Mexico.

The accompanying article gives a history of California up to 1849, almost certainly in response to popular French interest in the gold rush.

In 1839, Eugene Duflot de Mofras, was assigned to the embassy in Mexico City and instructed to visit the northwestern provinces of Mexico, report on potential commerce, observe U. S., British, and Russian interests, and determine feasibility of French posts in the region. De Mofras visited Jalisco, Colima, Sinaloa, and Sonora in 1840, then sailed from Mazatlán to Monterey. He met with commandant Mariano Guadalupe Vallejo in Sonoma, continued to Fort Ross, and returned to Monterey in July. On September 1



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he sailed up the Sacramento River with A.G. Rotchev, manager of Fort Ross, to New Helvetia, where he met with John Sutter, with whom Rotchev was to initiate negotiations for sale of the Russian fort. He later visited San Jose, Santa Cruz, and San Francisco, before travelling to the Hudson Bay Company's Fort Vancouver. On this trip, de Mofras met and talked with Charles Wilkes. He returned to San Francisco with Hudson Bay Company director Sir George Simpson and factor John McLoughlin and U.S. agent Horatio Hale to Monterey. On January 3 1842, de Mofras sailed via Santa Bárbara to San Diego, before returning to Mexico.

Duflot de Mofras provided important information on its economic life, foreign involvement, and geography. He provides excellent descriptions of the Russian posts at Ross and Bodega just prior to their sale to the United States, notes Sutter's willingness to serve France, and reports on the reputed plot of Isaac Graham to overthrow Mexican government in California.

Detailed Condition: