



# Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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## Endymion: A Poetic Romance

**Stock#:** 85854  
**Map Maker:** Keats  
**Date:** 1818  
**Place:** London  
**Color:**  
**Condition:** VG+  
**Size:** 6.7 x 9.7 inches  
**Price:** \$ 12,500.00



### Description:

***"A Thing of Beauty is a Joy Forever"***

***First edition, second issue. Original boards.***

London: Printed for Taylor and Hessey, 1818.

Keats' *Endymion* was met with scathing reviews from the *Quarterly Review* and *Blackwood's* when it was first published in 1818; John Gibson Lockhart described it in the latter as "calm, settled, imperturbable drivelling idiocy." The attacks were even believed to play a part in Keats' 1821 death from tuberculosis, with Lord Byron remarking in *Don Juan*, "John Keats, who was kill'd off by one critique, Poor fellow! His was an untoward fate / 'Tis strange the mind, that very fiery particle, / Should let itself be snuff'd out by an article." In an 1818 letter to his brother George, Keats had written, "There have been two Letters in my defence in the Chronicle and one in the Examiner... I think I shall be among the English Poets after my death." Particular veneration of his works came three decades later by the Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood, who placed Keats in the same upper echelon as "Homer, Dante, Chaucer, Leonardo, Shelley, [and] Browning" (MacGillivray), above Milton and Lord Byron.

### Issue points



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Errata on [xi] with five corrections.

Imprint on verso of half-title: "T. Miller, Printer, Noble street, Cheapside."

**Detailed Condition:**

Octavo. Original drab boards with paper spine label (slightly chipped) in manuscript ("Keat's Endym[ion]"). (Joints expertly repaired. Minimal spotting to boards, minor shelfwear.) Early bookseller's label ("W. Heath") on front pastedown. On wove paper, edges deckled. Minor foxing, mainly affecting first and last few leaves. Manuscript inscription ("[Osborn?] University College London", 1836 or later) on front free endpaper. Housed in custom cloth clamshell case. [xii], [3], 207, [4, Taylor & Hessey ad dated May 1818].