



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

7407 La Jolla Boulevard
La Jolla, CA 92037

www.raremaps.com

(858) 551-8500
blr@raremaps.com

Pinnated Grouse, Tetrao Cupido.

Stock#: 97453mp2
Map Maker: Audubon / Bien
Date: 1860
Place: New York
Color: Color
Condition: VG
Size: 35 x 23.5 inches
Price: \$ 4,500.00



Description:

A handsome example of the Julius Bien edition of John James Audubon's *Pinnated Grouse*.

The chromolithograph captures a behavioral moment among the Pinnated Grouse, also known as Greater Prairie Chickens, a bird species native to the North American prairies. The two male birds are shown amid a competition, a common display to assert dominance and vie for the attention of a female. Their postures suggest a ritualistic display, a behavior typical of many grouse species during mating season. One male flies towards the other, feathers fluffed out, asserting his presence, while the other responds with a similar, if more defensive, gesture.

Contrastingly, the female bird, discernible by her subdued coloration and markings, appears more reserved, possibly even apprehensive. She keeps her head down, while observing the ongoing competition, perhaps feeling the weight of being the subject of such intense attention.

Set against the backdrop of a serene prairie landscape, the scene is enlivened by the detailed foreground of grasses and yellow lilies (perhaps Turk's-cap lilies). The distant water body surrounded by gentle hills anchors the setting and emphasizes the vastness of the habitat these birds occupy.

Detailed Condition:

Chromolithograph on double-elephant folio sheet of wove paper, color lightly retouched. Minor marginal repairs.