



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

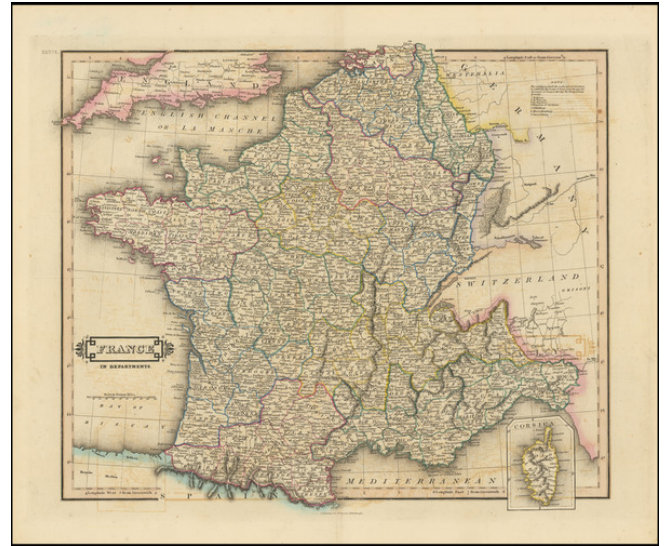
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France in Departments

Stock#: 102169
Map Maker: Lizars
Date: 1830
Place: Edinburgh
Color: Color
Condition: VG
Size: 17.5 x 15 inches
Price: \$ 145.00



Description:

The Lizars map of France illustrates the country shortly after the adoption of the Department system. This map is distinguished by its thorough illustration of France's provincial landscape..

The map shows the the administrative divisions of France following abandonment of the Provincial system during the French Revolution in 1790. The motivation was to move away from the monarchy and an embrace a more centralized system of governance. In lieu of provinces, the nation was divided into departments.

France's transition from provinces to departments took place during the French Revolution, more specifically, in the year 1790. This was part of the revolutionary government's efforts to dismantle the Old Regime's structures and create a more unified and egalitarian nation. Before the Revolution, France was divided into provinces, which were the historical territorial divisions under the monarchy. The provinces were created over centuries through a combination of conquests, treaties, and inheritances. Each province had its own unique customs, laws, and administrative structures, resulting in a nation that was highly decentralized and diverse.

However, with the advent of the French Revolution in 1789, the leaders sought to break away from the monarchy and the inequalities it fostered. The provincial system, with its diverse laws and practices, was seen as a remnant of the feudal past that needed to be abolished to establish equality and unity.

In 1790, the National Constituent Assembly, the revolutionary government, enacted a sweeping reform,



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replacing the provinces with departments. The country was divided into approximately 83 departments, each named after geographical features, primarily rivers, to avoid favoring any historic region or city. Unlike the provinces, departments had standardized laws, uniform taxes, and were directly administered by the central government in Paris.

This transition aimed to reduce regional differences, centralize power, and create a unified, indivisible French Republic. It was a significant moment in French history, marking the shift from feudalism to a more modern form of governance. However, even though the provinces were officially dissolved, they continued to hold cultural significance, and the regional identities they fostered are still evident in modern France.

Detailed Condition: