



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

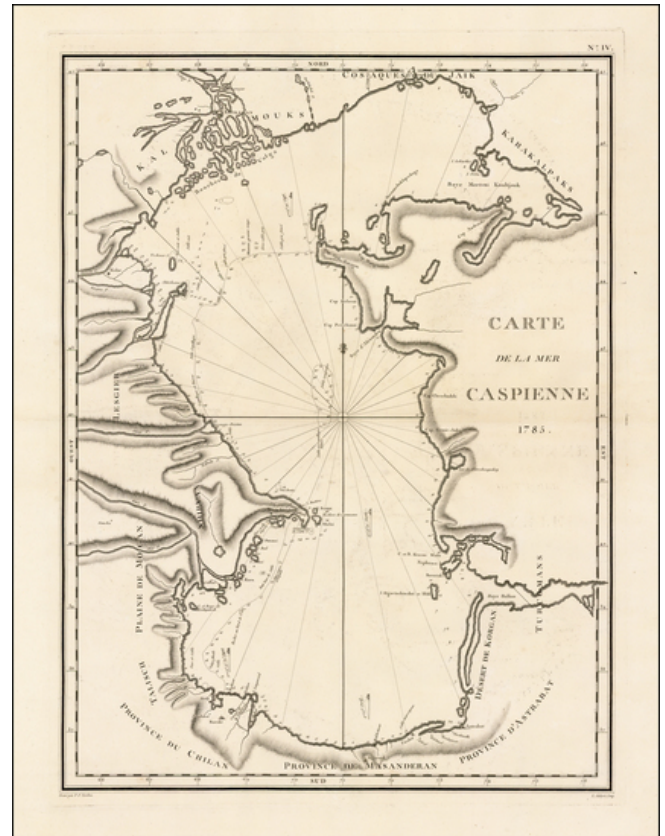
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Carte de la Mer Caspienne 1785

Stock#: 39484
Map Maker: Guldenstadt
Date: 1785 circa
Place: Paris
Color: Uncolored
Condition: VG+
Size: 26 x 19.5 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

Fine large format map of the Caspian Sea by the Russian naturalist, Jean Antoine Guldenstaedt.

Johann Anton Güldenstädt (1745-1781) was a Baltic German naturalist and explorer in Russian service.

Güldenstadt studied pharmacy, botany and natural history in Berlin. He obtained his doctorate in medicine at the University of Frankfurt in 1767. He then joined the Russian Imperial Academy of Sciences' expedition sent by Catherine II of Russia, to explore the Russian empire's southern frontier. Güldenstädt travelled through Ukraine and the Astrakhan region, as well as the northern Caucasus and Georgia, both of which were almost entirely beyond the borders of the Russian empire. In March, 1775, he returned to St Petersburg. The results of the expedition and Güldenstadt's edited expedition journal were published, after his death, by Peter Simon Pallas in *Reisen durch Russland und im Caucasischen Gebürge* (Travels in Russia and the Mountains of the Caucasus).



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The expedition contributed greatly to the fields of biology, geology, geography, and particularly linguistics. Gldenstadt took detailed notes on the languages of the region. After the expedition, which definitively established Gldenstdt's reputation at the Academy, he continued to work as a naturalist.

Gldenstdt's expedition was the first systematic study of the Caucasus. As was typical of contemporary expeditions organized in the spirit of the Enlightenment, it was tasked with the observation and description of virtually every aspect of the region under study. In this sense it was both a scientific expedition and a mission of reconnaissance to learn more about a region that was important in the simultaneous Russian war with the Ottomans, of which the Caucasus was a theater, with the Georgians acting as Russian allies. Immediately following the expedition, Russian interest in the region, particularly Georgia, grew markedly, culminating in the Treaty of Georgievsk, which made East Georgia a Russian protectorate.

Detailed Condition: