



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

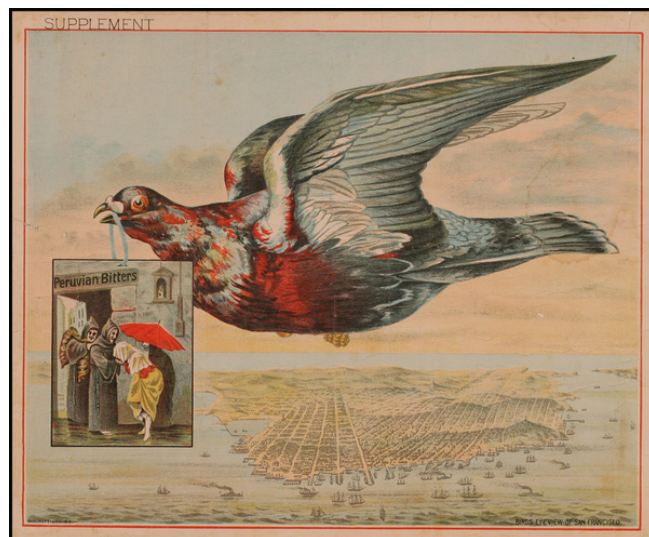
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Birdseye View of San Francisco [Promotional Advertisement for Peruvian Bitters]

Stock#: 17801
Map Maker: Bancroft & Co.
Date: 1880 circa
Place: San Francisco
Color: Color
Condition: VG
Size: 10.25 x 8.5 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

Unrecorded chromolithographic birdseye view of San Francisco, advertising Peruvian Bitters.

This little-known lithograph is literally a bird's-eye view, depicting a plump and well-drawn pigeon flying high over San Francisco Bay, with the City stretching westward beneath it. The extent of the metropolis and the steamers and sailing ships that crowd the Bay and the City's wharves help date the View to the prosperous 1880's.

The bird carries in its beak a ribbon to which is attached an advertisement for Peruvian Bitters. This advertisement shows two monks on a rainy city street, presumably in Lima. A woman in Peruvian costume and carrying an umbrella kisses the hand of one monk, while the other monk bears a large bag which clearly contains the ingredients for the bitters, the name of which is carved above a doorway behind him.

The view was almost produced as a promotion for Peruvian Bitters and issued to readers of some local periodical, such as *The Wasp*. Baird & Evans could find no information on this extremely rare item and located only one copy, in a private collection. Reps merely repeats the information from Baird & Evans. Not in Peters or Deak.

Detailed Condition:

Some minor soiling and a small tear at the center left edge, just entering printed image