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Attaque de Brimstomhill en l'Ile St. Christophe, Vue prise entre le Fort Charles, et le Ravin de Molener

Stock#: 27780
Map Maker: Godefroy
Date: 1777
Place: Paris
Color: Uncolored
Condition: VG+
Size: 6.5 x 7 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

Rare early view of the attack of Brimstone Hill at Fort Charles on the Island of St. Christopher (St. Kitts), an early Caribbean battle fought during the American Revolution.

This view depicts what is known as the Great Siege of Brimstone Hill. France, which along with Spain and Holland had allied with the Revolutionary Government of America against Britain, had already captured four British Caribbean Colonies (Dominica, St. Vincent, Grenada, Tobago), when it attacked St. Kitts with 8,000 soldiers and 31 warships. The local militia retreated to British Hill Fortress where with the garrison (altogether numbering approximately 950 men, assisted by marauding African slaves) held out for four weeks of heavy artillery fire from 62 cannon, howitzers and mortars deployed around the Hill. Meanwhile the British Admiral Hood was able to outflank the French fleet under De Grasse at Basseterre.

This tactical victory combined with the prolonged resistance at Brimstone Hill may have prevented a French rendezvous with a Spanish fleet in Cuba assembled for a joint invasion of Jamaica. Had that attack taken place and been successful, it would have severely - perhaps conclusively weakened British influence



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in the West Indies. The naval victory over the French at the islets 'the Saintes' off Dominica re-established British naval supremacy.

The view appeared in Nicolas Ponce and Francois Godefroy's *Recueil d'estampes représentant les différents événements de la guerre qui a procuré l'indépendance aux Etats unis de l'Amérique*, first published in Paris in 1783.

Detailed Condition: