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Map of the Basin of the Mississippi

Stock#: 31508
Map Maker: Gilpin
Date: 1860
Place: Philadelphia
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG+
Size: 13 x 8 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

Fine example of Gilpin's fascinating map of the US, from his rare *The Central Gold region: The Grain, Pastoral and Gold Regions of North America. With some new views of its physical geography; and observations on the Pacific Railroad*, published in 1860 in Philadelphia.

William Gilpin was one of the most important men in early Colorado History. Gilpin was a land speculator, promotor, and important political figure, serving as the first Governor of Colorado. He was an eloquent booster of western settlement, but he also originated a concept that was foundational to economic geography.

Gilpin's concept is perhaps best illustrated by this map, which provides a self-serving, Colorado-centric, but conceptually important depiction of the importance of the River Systems of the Transmississippi and Trans-Alleghany west. While relatively unassuming at first glance, the map conveys a powerful thematic message, one which would define the expansion of the region between the Mississippi River and the Rocky Mountains for the rest of the 19th Century.

Gilpin's This map of the US focuses on the watershed regions of the country, dividing it into regions, and in doing so shows the great potential of the West. Here divided into territories, the map shows the "Region of the Gold Fields" in Utah and New Mexico, just at the edge of the Kansas Territory. Shows the "Geographical Center" of the nation, where Gilpin saw the future balance of the population to live, (also near to where he owned land). A rare map with a innovative look at the nation.

Detailed Condition:

Drawer Ref:

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