



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

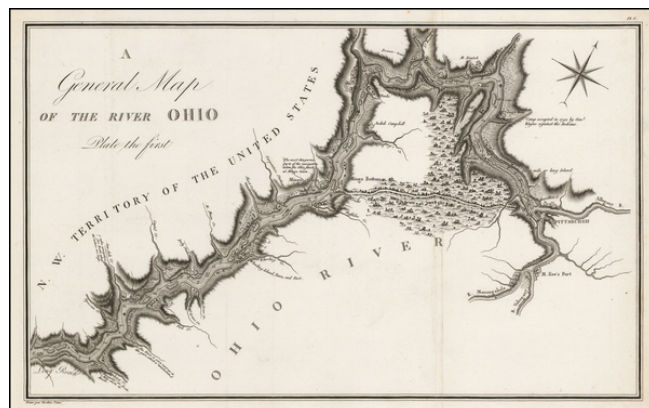
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A General Map of the River Ohio. Plate the first

Stock#: 43380
Map Maker: Collot
Date: 1826
Place: Paris
Color: Uncolored
Condition: VG+
Size: 19.5 x 12.5 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

Important early map of the Upper Ohio River, compiled by Collot for his *Voyage dans l'Amerique Septentrionale*, one of the most important American cartographic works of the 18th Century.

The map is the first part of Collot's detailed map of the Ohio River, extending from Pittsburg and McKeesport to Long Reach, just northeast of Marietta, Ohio. The map includes meticulous details, showing soundings in the main channel of the River, creeks, towns and each small structure along the route. The topographical detail is exceptional for the period.

In 1796 General George Henri Victor Collot undertook a reconnaissance of what was then the United States' frontier from France. His mission was to assess whether the region could be retaken by France. He traveled from Pittsburgh down the Ohio to the Mississippi, up the Mississippi to the Missouri and Illinois Rivers, and then back down the Mississippi to New Orleans. During his journey, he constructed a large number of exceptionally fine manuscript maps and views of the region that he traversed. Many of these were groundbreaking, containing never before recorded information on a wilderness that was just beginning to undergo settlement. Collot's maps were engraved in Paris in 1804, but publication was suppressed due to Napoleon's sale of Louisiana to the United States in 1803. The sale ended any possibility that these regions could be acquired by France. As a result the plates were not printed until 1826, when they were issued in a limited number as *Voyage dans l'Amerique Septentrionale*. Copies were published with both French and English text.

"A nineteenth-century bookseller called this work 'one of the most famous, most important, and rarest of all books of Mid-Western Explorations.' Its rarity is due to the deliberate destruction of all but three hundred French and one hundred English copies by the publisher, who had purchased the edition from Collot's estate, hoping to increase its value" (Cohen.) This wonderful map is a lovely example of Collot's



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important charts of the Ohio River. The second in a set of four maps of the River, this elegant chart depicts the path of the river from Limestone to Three Brother Islands. It includes all the ports and cities along the river, as well as the large towns of Belleville and Marietta. Collet has carefully charted the location and names of the smaller tributaries and has paid great attention to the names of the smaller settlements along the river.

Detailed Condition: