



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

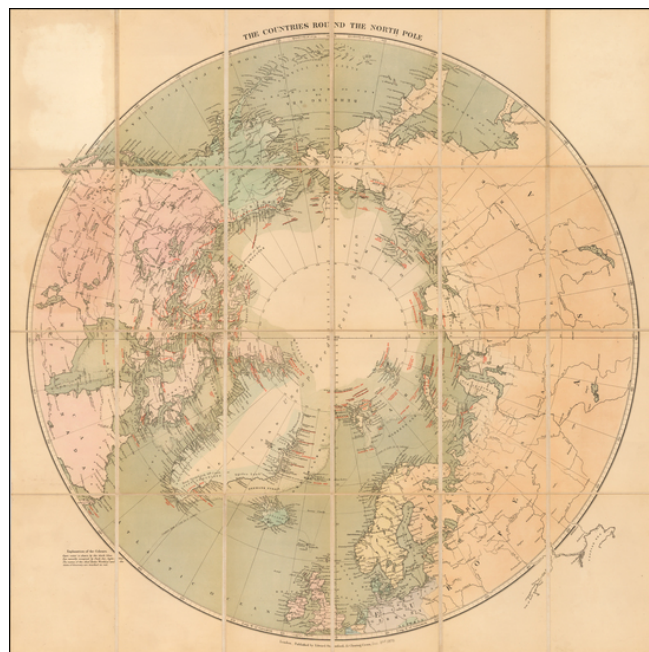
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The Countries Round the North Pole

Stock#: 44332
Map Maker: Stanford
Date: 1878
Place: London
Color: Color
Condition: VG+
Size: 24.5 x 24.5 inches
Price: \$975.00



Description:

Rare Map of the Polar Regions, Updated To Show Adolf Erik Nordenskold's Progress in 1878 Toward Completion of the First Northeast Passage.

Fine example of Edward Stanford's map of the North Polar Regions, featuring the furthest most points reached by numerous exploring expeditions.

Published on December 2, 1878, the map notes the names and dates of explorers, from the earliest time to Nares' expedition of 1875-76 and Nordenskold in 1878, showing his location off Cape Chelyuskin and another point to the east, but prior to his wintering in the Behring Sea.

Centered on the North Pole, Stanford's map reaches as far south as 50° North Latitude. All countries are distinguished by their own colors, and major geographic and oceanic features are labeled.

Most interesting, is the labeling of the furthest-most points of literally dozens of expeditions of discovery, along with the corresponding dates (printed in red). These extend chronologically from Sebastian Cabot's supposed visit to northern Newfoundland in 1497 to the Nordinskold expedition of 1878. All the great names are mentioned, including Frobisher, Davis, Hudson, Baffin, Barents, Bering, Franklin, Nordenskjold, Ross and Peary, amongst many others. The amount of information featured on the map is



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truly extraordinary, and is unrivalled by any Arctic map of comparable size.

The map was issued Edward Stanford, then Britain's leading map publisher, in an effort to capitalize on the great contemporary interest in Polar expeditions, seen as the 'last frontier' in global exploration. Stanford had good connections with academic institutions such as the Royal Geographical Society and government bodies such as the Admiralty, so was always able to gain the most accurate information. The present map was one of Stanford's series of progressively updated maps of the Arctic Regions, the first of which was published around 1875, and the last issued in the 1930s.

Stanford's Map of the Countries Round The North Pole was first issued in 1875 and again in 1876. In December 1878, this new edition was issued, with the shortened title *The Countries Round The North Pole*. These early separately issued maps are scarce on the market, this being the first example we have seen offered for sale and we note no examples the 1875, 1876 or 1878 edition of the map on the market (dealer catalogs and auctions listed by *Rare Book Hub*) since a Francis Edwards Catalog entry in 1982.

Detailed Condition:

Dissected and laid on linen, with original covers.