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A Plan of the Operations of the King's Army under the Command of General Sr. William Howe, K.B. in New York and East New Jersey, against the American Forces Commanded By General Washington, From the 12th of October to the 28th of November 1776 . . .

Stock#: 45696
Map Maker: Stedman / Faden

Date: 1793
Place: London
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG+
Size: 28.5 x 19.5 inches

Price: SOLD



Description:

Fine example of the Stedman edition of Faden's map of the Battle of New York, first published in London in 1777.

The map illustrates Howe's New York campaign, with the landing on Long Island, the victory in the battle of Long Island, and pursuit of the American forces north to Fort Washington. Faden's map was frequently revised as the campaign progressed, this being the fifth and final state, showing the American retreat northwards to Fort Washington.

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Faden's map illustrates an important early battle during the American Revolution, when the American success and resolve were far from certain. The map was drawn from the work of a British military engineer, Claude Joseph Sauthier, who participated in the campaigns.

Nebenzahl calls the map one of the "most informative" of all the early Revolutionary War battle plans. It was printed in London, a remarkably short period of time after the events depicted on it transpired-a matter of just a few months.

The plan shows the period when the American army, still hurting from its defeat on Manhattan Island in September of 1776, was retreating to Westchester. The vastly superior British forces were in pursuit, looking for the opportunity to crush the American army and end the war. The campaign involved complex amphibious landings by the British in the Bronx and Westchester, reprising the type of maneuvers that led to the overwhelming success of the British in the Battle of Brooklyn.

Faden's map depicts the various campaigns of October and November 1776, in northern Manhattan, lower Westchester, and New Jersey. "It is the most accurate published delineation of the movements of the armies of Washington and Howe in Westchester, from the time of the British landing through November 28, particularly focusing on the Battle of White Plains." (Nebenzahl, Atlas). Clearly delineated are British and Hessian troop landings in the area of Mamaroneck, Larchmont, New Rochelle, Pelham Manor, and the Bronx. Also shown is Cornwallis' capture of Fort Lee, and the beginning of his pursuit of Washington's army through New Jersey, that would end in Washington's storied crossing of the Delaware River.

The Battle of White Plains, could easily have ended the war, as Washington had massed most of his army. The battle was fought to a relative standstill, due to the skill of American soldiers fighting from good defensive positions and to the disinclination of General Howe to aggressively pursue the engagement after early successes. The British failed to consolidate their gains and Washington's Army lived to fight another day.

Stedman's map is published from the same copperplate as the 5th edition of Faden's, with the addition of the reference to Stedman's *History of the American War,* and a revised date (April 12th, 1793).

Detailed Condition: