



**Barry Lawrence Ruderman
Antique Maps Inc.**

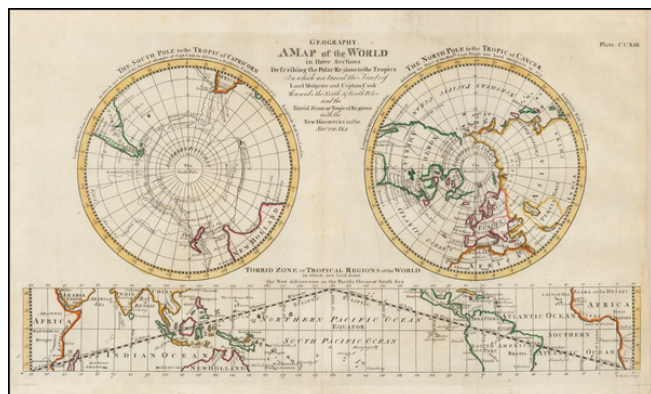
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**A New Map of the World in Three Sections Describing the Polar Regions to the Tropics
In which are traced the Tracts of Lord Mulgrave and Captain Cook Towards the North
and South Poles and the Torrid Zone or Tropical Regions with the New Discoveries in
the North Sea**

Stock#: 51091
Map Maker: Barker
Date: 1793
Place: Philadelphia
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG
Size: 17 x 9.5 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

Three-Part World Map From the First American Edition of the Encyclopedia Britannica Showing the Voyages of Cook and Phipps to the Poles

This tri-partite world map featured in the first American edition of the *Encyclopedia Britannica*, published by Thomas Dobson in Philadelphia from 1789 to 1798. It shows the world divided in three: the North and South Pole on Polar projections, with a cylindrical projection of the tropics at the bottom. A multi-part projection like this is rare, as is a map from the American edition.

The South Pole projection is on the left, showing the region radiating around the pole to the Tropic of Capricorn. The tips of South America and Africa just peek out from the rim, while New Holland and New Zealand are also labeled. At the center of the projection, however, is nothing except for criss-crossing tracks of ships, those of the *Resolution* and *Adventure*. At the center of the ships' transits is only a "Southern Icy Ocean."

The North Pole projection is more dominated by land, with the much of North America, Europe, and Asia showing, along with North Africa. However, like the South, the pole itself is covered only with a "Northern Icy Ocean". A ship's track is also shown here, this time that of Commodore Constantine John Phipps.

Running below the circular maps is a cylindrical projection showing the latitudes missing from the polar projections, the "Torrid Zone or Tropical Regions of the World". Unusually, the Pacific Ocean is placed at the center, the better to highlight the "New discoveries in the Pacific Ocean or South Sea." The map's purpose is to show the achievements of recent exploration, thus the Pacific is dotted with islands that only

Drawer Ref: Small Maps -
World

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recently had become familiar to readers of voyage accounts.

The South Pole and Cook

This map was originally created between the second and third voyages of James Cook, the most famous and celebrated of all explorers. His fame in Britain, but also throughout Europe, was unparalleled for the time and would only augment after his death in Hawaii in 1779, on his third voyage. On his first voyage, from 1768-1771, Lieutenant Cook led his crew to observe the Transit of Venus and helped introduce Europe to the island paradise of Tahiti, forever changing how Europeans viewed the Pacific Islands.

This map highlights the second voyage (1772-5), however, which was dispatched with the intention of settling once and for all the question of a Southern Continent. The recently-promoted Commander Cook sailed in the *Resolution*, while his second-in-command, Tobias Furneaux, accompanied in the *Adventure*. The ships circled the world at an extreme southern latitude, one of the first voyages to cross the Antarctic Circle. Furneaux departed for New Zealand and then Britain, but Cook stayed in the South, restocked at Tahiti, and then went south again and eventually stopped at Easter Island, Norfolk Island, New Caledonia, and Vanuatu. Some of these are labeled in the map at the bottom. He then rounded Cape Horn, explored the South Atlantic, and then headed home via South Africa. The Southern Continent, imagined to cover a huge area, had been reduced to mere myth.

Cook is not the only explorer mentioned on the map. Dates from the seventeenth century and Dutch toponyms in New Holland remind us that ships of the Dutch East India Company frequently were wrecked or blown near the Australian shore more than a century before Cook encountered the eastern side of the continent. Similarly, the Straits of Magellan references the first recorded European to venture there. Finally, there is an "Isle discovered by Kerquelin" in the Southern Indian Ocean, a reference to the Kerguelen Islands. French explorer Yves Joseph de Kerguelen de Tremarec discovered the islands in 1772. Cook visited them on his third voyage, in 1776, but they were clearly well-publicized prior to his leaving, as they are included here.

The North Pole and Phipps

Cook's fame is massive, yet other explorers also gained notoriety in this period. One of them was Constantine John Phipps. Phipps was a career Royal Naval officer who served in the French & Indian War and the American Revolution. In June 1773, Phipps led the *Racehorse* and *Carcass* on a voyage to the



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North Pole, the track of which is shown here. With Phipps in the *Racehorse* was Olaudah Equiano, the abolitionist. The *Carcass* was commanded by the fantastically named Skeffington Lutwidge, who had as a midshipman one Horatio Nelson. It was on this voyage that Nelson had a not-so-close encounter with a polar bear, a story that would be exaggerated into a perilous tale of close combat when Nelson later achieved fame as Britain's premier naval strategist and savior.

The voyage did not discover previously unknown lands or make it to the North Pole, but Phipps' published account was the first to describe the polar bear, as well as the ivory gull. Phipps, an Irishman, became Lord Mulgrave in 1775 and served as a Lord of the Admiralty. He retired to land after the American Revolution and died young, at 48, in 1792.

***Encyclopedia Britannica* in Britain, Ireland, and America**

The map first appeared in several editions of the *Encyclopedia Britannica*, the oldest English-language encyclopedia still in production. The first edition was released in serial pamphlet form from 1768 to 1771; when bound it filled three volumes. This first edition's section on geography included several maps, all engraved by Andrew Bell. Bell was the engraver of all the illustrations for the original *Encyclopedia*, while the printing and fundraising was done by Colin Macfarquhar and the writing and research by William Smellie. All three were Scots and the *Encyclopedia* was published in Edinburgh for its first six editions, or until 1826.

The second edition (1777-1784) expanded to ten volumes, and the geography article was significantly lengthened. The plates also multiplied to 340, and it is in the second edition that this particular tri-part map debuted; this map is plate 213, as seen in the upper right corner. Andrew Bell is listed as the engraver in the bottom right corner of the second edition states.

The map was also in the third Edinburgh edition (18 volumes, 542 plates; 1788-1797). This edition was pirated by James Moore in Dublin, but the map in the Dublin edition has no engraver included. Additionally, the third edition was reprinted and slightly expanded (21 volumes (with 3 volume supplement), 595 plates; 1789-1798, supplement in 1803) by the American publisher Thomas Dobson, who also released the first Hebrew Bible printed in the United States. This particular example is special in that it comes from this first American edition, specifically from volume VII (1793).

Dobson was annoyed at the British slant of the *Encyclopedia*. Annoyance aside, he still used many of the



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same plates, including this one, which has copied by American engraver William Barker (signature in lower right corner). Dobson's American version gained many supporters, including George Washington, who subscribed to two sets, one of which is now in the Boston Athenaeum. The third was the last edition to house this map, as it was removed from the fourth edition (20 volumes, 1801-10), which had updated maps.

The map was also reprinted, in a slightly altered state, in several compilations of Pacific voyage accounts. The new state updated the northern polar projection to include Cook's third expedition to find the Northwest Passage (1776-9) and added decorative scrolls and cartouches around the titles. For example, it was in Hervey's revised edition of *The New System of Geography* (London: J. Johnson and G & T Wilkie, 1785) and *New Discoveries Concerning the World* (London: J. Johnson, 1788).

Rarity

In 2012, the *Encyclopedia Britannica* announced it would no longer offer print editions of their encyclopedia, opting for an all-digital edition instead. This decision makes this map an important testament to one of the most successful and ambitious print projects of all time, as well as a historical artifact of the craze for exploration and geography in the late eighteenth century.

The map is quite rare. This is the first example we have ever seen on the market.

Detailed Condition:

Several repaired marginal tears. Minor miscreasing.