



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

7407 La Jolla Boulevard
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House of Rana of Cote Gooroo.

Stock#: 52095
Map Maker: Havell & Fraser
Date: 1820
Place: London
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG-
Size: 24 x 18.5 inches
Price: \$ 1,450.00



Description:

The First Views Taken by Europeans in the Himalayas.

Fine hand-colored aquatint view engraved by Robert Havell & Son, after artwork by J. B. Fraser.

The British Library describes the subject of the view thusly:

The village of Kotgarh is situated upon a rock above the river Giri, a tributary of the Yamuna. It was reached by the party led by Fraser's brother William on 6 June 1815. They camped here, according to James, "in a pleasant grove of mulberry and oak trees", and were intrigued by a feline pawprint, smaller than that of a tiger or leopard. The local Rana came to visit them. James commented in his journal: "He was a very corpulent, sickly, ill-looking man ... unable from illness and fat to move himself, he was pulled up the hills in a sort of litter by 50 men."

James Baillie Fraser

James Baillie Fraser (June 11, 1783 - January 1856) was a Scottish explorer, artist, and travel writer who wrote extensively about India, the Himalayas, Persia, and Central Asia.

Fraser traveled to India with the intention of setting up a trading operation and thereby extricating his family from debt incurred by a failed sugar operation in the West Indies. In 1815, Fraser went to meet his brother William (then an employee of the East India Company) in Delhi. William had been appointed to work as a political agent in the Anglo-Nepalese War. James met him in the hilly region northeast of Delhi



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and began to sketch the scenery of the Himalayas. He later traveled the region, seeking the source of the rivers Yamuna and Ganga. The sketches taken on this expedition were printed as Views in the Himala Mountains in 1820.

On 18 June 1815 Fraser and his brother William reached Urshalun, near to where the Nepalese General Kirti Rana had surrendered. Three days later James celebrated his 32nd birthday by climbing the peak, Tiba, behind the village.

Fraser's works include:

- *Journal of a Tour through Part of the Himala Mountains and to the Sources of the Jumna and the Ganges* (1820)
- *A Narrative of a Journey into Khorasan in the Years 1821 and 1822, including some Account of the Countries to the North-East of Persia* (1825)
- *Travels and Adventures in the Persian Provinces on the Southern Banks of the Caspian Sea* (1826)
- *Travels in Koordistan, Mesopotamia, etc.* (1840)
- *Mesopotamia and Assyria* (1842)
- *Military Memoirs of Col. James Skinner* (1851).

Detailed Condition:

Toned with light foxing.