



**Barry Lawrence Ruderman
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To the Rt. Honourable Humfrey Parsons Esqr. Lord Mayor of London and one of Her Representatives in Parlaiment The Chart of the Downs is Humbly Dedicated and Presented by his most Obedient Servant C. Price Hydrographer to the King 1730. Sold by J. Atkinson, Teacher of Mathematics at Chery Garden Stairs, I Eades Compass maker a King Edward Stairs, I. Rossey near the Hermitage Stairs, I Clark Bookseller at the Royal Exchange. T. Heath Mathematical Instrument-maker next the Fountain Tavern in the Strand.

Stock#: 57645

Map Maker: Price

Date: 1730

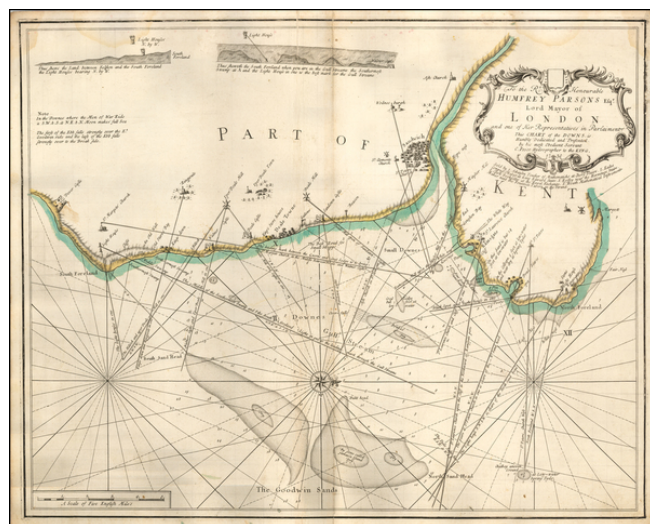
Place: London

Color: Hand Colored

Condition:

Size:

Price: SOLD



Description:

Rare sea chart of a part of the Coast of Kent (including Sandwich and Deal), which appeared in Charles Price's *Atlas maritimus, or, A new sea atlas*, published in London in 1732.

A remarkable rarity, the chart was apparently prepared for inclusion in a sea atlas planned by Charles Price, which was still not completed at the time he went to Debtor's prison in 1731. In fact, the atlas was so rare that there are no known examples in British Institutions, although a single example survives in the Bancroft Library, plus the example of the atlas which we acquired in 1732 (from which this illustration is drawn -- the atlas was intact, with 25 charts and a title page).

As noted by Tony Campbell in his description of the British Library's acquisition of a 21 chart collection of maps without title page in the early 1980s, by 1730, Charles Price had announced his intention to publish "a Compleat Sea Atlas" to remedy 'the Great want of a good sett of Sea Charts now extant in Great Britain (excepting for our own Coasts).' It was believed that the project was not completed, as Price was believed to have sold off his charts by 1731 and ended 1731 in debtor's prison. However, the title page of this map shows that the project was in fact completed to the point of selling a collection of maps with the Atlas



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Maritimus title page, although neither of the two surviving examples included an index page.

The information noted by Tony Campbell above was drawn from an advertisement on one of the maps. This is the only note we can locate regarding Price's Sea Atlas, with the exception of an entry written in 1780 by William Gough in his *British Topography. Or, An Historical Account of what Has Been Done for Illustrating The Topographical Antiquities of Great Britain and Ireland* (1780) at page 112, wherein Gough notes:

*Charles Price seems to have engraved a set of English charts, 1726—30. A correct chart of the sea-coast from Arundel in Sussex, to St. Alban's in Dorsetshire. I have two, one dedicated to lord Masham, 1729; another to Thomas Jones, esq; one of the Chanel, and of Scilly islands. **He advertised proposals for engraving a compleat sea Atlas for the whole world, dedicated to capt. G. Rogers j to be sold at his shop in Westminster-hall.***

Rarity

The map is unrecorded, although we note a single example in the only other known example of Price's *Atlas Maritimus*, at the Bancroft Library (UC Berkeley)

Detailed Condition: