



# Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

7407 La Jolla Boulevard  
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**[Siege of Poitiers] Vero disegno della nobilissima Citta di Poitiers, nella Gallia Celtica, Soggi Aquitania detta, e, da Ceare Pictones Populi. Con il tremendo assedio de essa, postolio alli xxvij, di Luglio di questo anno M.D. Lxix da Gasparo Coligni S. di Ciatigliogia Armiraglio di Francia dal Prencipe di Navarra et di Conde, et altri SS. Cavalieri Francesi Vasalli del Re et Capi della setta Ugonotta. con altri d'Alamagna condotti dal Conte di Mansfelt. et tenuto sino alli vy di Settembre. . . .**

**Stock#:** 61361sb  
**Map Maker:** Lafreri  
**Date:** 1569  
**Place:** Rome  
**Color:** Uncolored  
**Condition:** Good  
**Size:** 13.5 x 20 inches  
**Price:** \$1,800.00



### Description:

Rare separately published broadside illustrated the Siege of Poitiers in 1569.

Detailed birds-eye view of the city of Poitiers, engraved to celebrate the resistance to the siege by the Huguenots led by Admiral Coligny. The long title tells how the city managed to resist thanks to "vigilance,



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prudence, value and virtue and ardor" of the Catholic commanders, of the governor Luda and of the inhabitants themselves.

The plan is oriented with west at the top, and illustrates in great detail the Huguenot attacking positions, camps, Bridges across the Clain River,

The plan is addressed to an Italian audience, expressing the importance of the "Italian Venturiers" Baglioni, Palavicino, Rangone and delegates of the Pope, Sforza, Orsini and Cesi.

### **The Siege of Poitiers**

The siege of Poitiers (July 27 - September 7 1569) was a failed Huguenot attempt to capture the important trading center of Poitiers, under the command of Huguenot Admiral Gaspard II de Coligny.

1569 began with a Catholic victory at Jarmac in March 1569, a battle which saw the death of one of the primarily Huguenot commanders, the Prince of Condé. The Catholics next besieged Cognac, suffering heavy casualties. During the siege of Cognac, German Protestant reinforcements arrived.

The two factions fell back for a time, planning their next moves. The Huguenot Admiral Coligny wanted to attack Saumur to establish better lines of communication between La Rochelle and the Huguenots in the north, but the majority of the Huguenot leaders preferred to attack Poitiers, then one of the richest cities in France.

The Huguenot army marched to the city on July 24, 1569 and the siege began on July 27. The Comte de Lude let the defense of Poitiers, joined by Henry, Duke of Guise and Charles, Duke of Mayenne.

Coligny focused on eastern side of Poitiers, requiring his forces to cross the Clain River. Artillery fire managed to break a portion of the east wall, but the defense was able to destroy the bridge used to cross the river.

The defenders also managed to dam the Clain, causing flooding in the Huguenot campsite. The resulting lake flooded the Huguenot camp, and disease was rife. Even Coligny was taken ill.



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In September, Coligny oved on the Rochereiul, at the southwest of Poitiers. The town wall was breached and an assault was launched on September 3, 1569, but was repelled under the leadership of the Duke of Guise.

Reinforcements for Poitiers, led by the Duke of Anjou, threaten the Huguenot-held city of Châtellerault, forcing Coligny to withdraw on September 7, 1569.

**Detailed Condition:**

Some soiling and small worm hole in lower left corner. Weak impression in the last 2 lines in the legend below.