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Map To Illustrate Capt. Bonneville's Adventures among the Rocky Mountains . . . 1856

Stock#: 72210
Map Maker: Colton
Date: 1856
Place: New York
Color: Uncolored
Condition: VG
Size: 18 x 11 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

Scarce map of the West, published by J.H. Colton at the outset of the Gold Rush.

The map identifies the Oregon Trail, noting "The figures on the Oregon Route denote the distance in Miles from Westport Landing, Mo." Fremont's Route is also shown, as is General Kearny's Route of 1846, the Santa Fe Trail and Humboldt's "Supposed Residence of the Aztecs of the 12th Century." James Bonneville's route along the Snake and Columbia Rivers to Fort Walla Walla is also shown, one of the earliest expeditions through Oregon Territory.

The map notes the "Gold Region" in California and makes a credible attempt at depicting the topographical detail of the Western Slope of the Sierra Nevada Mountains and the many rivers flowing westward toward the Central Valley.

A number of early Western Forts are located the Columbia River and the "Snake R or Lewis Fork of the Columbia R.", which reaches nearly to "Jacksons" and "Three Tetons," to the east of Fort Hall. "Mormon Settlement" and "Mormon Fort" area located on the eastern edge of L. Bonneville or Great Salt Lake,

The map was intended to illustrate the route of Captain James Bonneville, one of the earliest explorers of the American West, and appears in at least 1 rare 1849 California Gold Rush guide book. Benjamin Louis Eulalie de Bonneville immigrated to the United States in 1803, graduating from West Point in 1815, achieving the rank of captain in 1825. In 1832 he took a 3 year leave of absence from the army to lead an expedition supposedly to trap and trade in the Wyoming Territory, although it is believed he was in fact spying on foreign activities in the West. The expedition was one of the earliest to provide substantial information of the yet unexplored territories in the eastern part what was then Oregon Territory, information that found its way onto the present map.



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One of the best obtainable maps of the West at the outset of the Gold Rush.

Detailed Condition:

Narrow lower right margin, as issued. Mended tab tear from the right edge. Small amount of toning.