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**[Empire of Brazil] Nova Carta Chorographica do Imperio do Brazil Reduzida pelo  
Bacharel Pedro Torquato Xr. de Brito Tenente Coronel Gro do Corpo D'Engenheiro e  
Socio effectivo do Instituto Polytechnico Brasileiro, da que foi confeccionada pelo  
Coronel Conrado Jacob de Niemeyer, e outros Officiaes Eugenheiros en 1856 . . . 1867**

**Stock#:** 74628  
**Map Maker:** Brito  
  
**Date:** 1867  
**Place:** Rio de Janeiro  
**Color:** Uncolored  
**Condition:** VG  
**Size:** 25 x 25.5 inches  
  
**Price:** SOLD



**Description:**

***Rare Map of the Empire of Brazil***

Proof State (?) of this rare map of the Empire of Brazil, published in 1867 by the Lithographic office of the Archivo Military by Alvaro e Pereira.

The present example lacks the tables and other information, which was later added.

The mapmaker, Pedro Torquato Xavier de Brito, was a coronel from the army corps of engineers, archivist at the Military Archives in Rio de Janeiro, member of Brazil's Institute of History and Geography (Instituto Histórico e Geográfico Brasileiro), and founding member of the Polytechnic Institute.

**Empire of Brazil**

The Empire of Brazil was a 19th-century state that broadly comprised the territories which form modern



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Brazil and (until 1828) Uruguay. Its government was a representative parliamentary constitutional monarchy under the rule of Emperors Dom Pedro I and his son Dom Pedro II. A colony of the Kingdom of Portugal, Brazil became the seat of the Portuguese colonial Empire in 1808, when the Portuguese Prince regent, later King Dom João VI, fled from Napoleon's invasion of Portugal and established himself and his government in the Brazilian city of Rio de Janeiro. João VI later returned to Portugal, leaving his eldest son and heir, Pedro, to rule the Kingdom of Brazil as regent.

On September 7, 1822, Pedro declared the independence of Brazil and, after waging a successful war against his father's kingdom, he became Pedro I, the first Emperor of Brazil, in October 1822.

The empire's bicameral parliament was elected under comparatively democratic methods for the era, as were the provincial and local legislatures. This led to a long ideological conflict between Pedro I and a sizable parliamentary faction over the role of the monarch in the government. He faced other obstacles. The unsuccessful Cisplatine War against the neighboring United Provinces of the Río de la Plata in 1828 led to the secession of the province of Cisplatina (later to become Uruguay). In 1826, despite his role in Brazilian independence, he became the king of Portugal; he immediately abdicated the Portuguese throne in favor of his eldest daughter. Two years later, she was usurped by Pedro I's younger brother Miguel. Unable to deal with both Brazilian and Portuguese affairs, Pedro I abdicated his Brazilian throne on 7 April 1831 and immediately departed for Europe to restore his daughter to the Portuguese throne.

Pedro I's successor in Brazil was his five-year-old son, Pedro II. As the latter was still a minor, a weak regency was created. The power vacuum resulting from the absence of a ruling monarch as the ultimate arbiter in political disputes led to regional civil wars between local factions. Having inherited an empire on the verge of disintegration, Pedro II, once he was declared of age, managed to bring peace and stability to the country, which eventually became an emerging international power. Brazil was victorious in three international conflicts (the Platine War, the Uruguayan War and the Paraguayan War) under Pedro II's rule, and the Empire prevailed in several other international disputes and outbreaks of domestic strife. With prosperity and economic development came an influx of European immigration, including Protestants and Jews, although Brazil remained mostly Catholic. Slavery, which had initially been widespread, was restricted by successive legislation until its final abolition in 1888. Brazilian visual arts, literature and theater developed during this time of progress. Although heavily influenced by European styles that ranged from Neoclassicism to Romanticism, each concept was adapted to create a culture that was uniquely Brazilian.



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Even though the last four decades of Pedro II's reign were marked by continuous internal peace and economic prosperity, he had no desire to see the monarchy survive beyond his lifetime and made no effort to maintain support for the institution. The next in line to the throne was his daughter Isabel, but neither Pedro II nor the ruling classes considered a female monarch acceptable. Lacking any viable heir, the Empire's political leaders saw no reason to defend the monarchy. After a 58-year reign, on 15 November 1889 the Emperor was overthrown in a sudden coup d'état led by a clique of military leaders whose goal was the formation of a republic headed by a dictator, forming the First Brazilian Republic.

**Detailed Condition:**