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Philipsburg

Stock#: 76913
Map Maker: Luffman
Date: 1800
Place: London
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG+
Size: 6.2 x 5.2 inches (including text)
Price: SOLD



Description:

Attractive plan of the Philipsburg Fortress on the Rhine River in southern Germany.

The fort sits across from the city of Speyer, which contains the tombs of eight Holy Roman Emperors and German Kings. The fortress has now disappeared, but it was the subject of much ridicule when it was in use. Carl von Clausewitz, in his book *On War*, says that:

If a fortress cannot be located directly on a river, it is better not to place it in the immediate vicinity, but some fifty to sixty miles away; otherwise the river will cut through and interfere with its sphere of influence with respect to all the points mentioned above. . . Phillipsburg was a perfect example of how not to site a fortress. Its location was that of an idiot standing with his nose against the wall."

Luffman's *Select Plans* is an uncommon traveler's guide that served to educate the intrepid traveler regarding any part of the world, from the major cities of Europe to the wild coasts of the Spice Islands. Each of Luffman's maps contained detailed coastal descriptions showing the major landmarks and cities, as well as basic but necessary navigational information. This plate appeared in the first of Luffman's two volumes.

Detailed Condition:

Original hand-color.