



**Barry Lawrence Ruderman
Antique Maps Inc.**

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**Map of Europe drawn from all of the Best Surveys and Rectified by Astronomical
Observations**

Stock#: 88280
Map Maker: Arrowsmith
Date: 1798
Place: London
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: Good
Size: 58 x 49 inches
Price: \$ 795.00



Description:

Europe. By the Leading English Cartographer of his Time.

Full original hand-color example of Aaron Arrowsmith's huge, separately-issued map of Europe, one of the best maps of Europe during the Napoleonic Wars.

This map shows Europe with its political boundaries of the day. The map extends from Iceland to Turkey and inland to the Ural Mountains. The detail is impressive, with roads, mountains, rivers, and cities shown throughout the continent. Political distinctions are delimited, with Austria-Hungary occupying most of Central Europe, Napoleonic France extending past its borders, Prussia consuming parts of the German confederation from the inside, and Turkey maintaining control over the Balkans.

The edges of the map are denoted with various annotations. George Ellis is cited as the source for the eastern and southeastern portions of the map. The average number of boats passing through the Canal of Vetni Volotchok is given at 2,550, and the wonders of Russian inland navigation expounded. The number of foundries in the Urals is given as 105, 56 for iron and 37 for copper (the rest are for both metals).

The cartouche in the lower right features an image of "The Iron Bridge" above the River Severn, which was opened in 1781 and was the first major bridge in the world to be made of cast iron. Behind it is an image of a bridge-borne canal crossing a river. These allusions to innovations in transportation technology presaged the coming Industrial Revolution in Europe.



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Arrowsmith is considered to be one of the greatest cartographers ever to produce maps. Based in London during a period of British expansion and exploration, he was privy to important, new information regarding the geography of faraway places. His work would be relied on by the leading explorers and scientists of his time, and his maps were the gold standard for early 19th-century cartography. Most notably, his chart of the *Interior Parts of North America* was one of the few maps used by Lewis and Clark on their voyage.

The map is dedicated:

To The Right Honble Sir Joseph Banks Bart K.B. One of his Majesty's most Honorable Privy Council and President of the Royal Society This Map is Respectfully Dedicated by His much obliged Humble Servt A. Arrowsmith

States

The map is known in two states.

- First state: Charles Street imprint.
- Second state: Rathbone Place imprint. Arrowsmith moved here in 1799.

Detailed Condition:

Original hand-color. Dissected in 24 parts and mounted on original publisher's linen. Toned and linen disjointed at intersecting folds and along some folds. Small area of loss in Russia. Fair to Good.