



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

7407 La Jolla Boulevard
La Jolla, CA 92037

www.raremaps.com

(858) 551-8500
blr@raremaps.com

(American Revolution - Naval Engagements) La Fregte. francaise l'Alcmene de 32 Canons attaquée & prise par un Vau. Anglais ~ 70.

Stock#: 90499
Map Maker: Anonymous
Date: 1779 circa
Place: n.p. (Paris?)
Color: Uncolored
Condition: Good
Size: 7.25 x 6.25 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

The Capture of the Alcmène by the HMS Proserpine.

Scarce French copper engraving showing a naval engagement between a French and English Frigate in 1779, during the American Revolution.

The engraving delightfully shows the two ships doing battle, with the English HMS *Proserpine* on the left and the French *Alcmène* on the right. Smoke from cannon fire is seen throughout, and both ships have tattered sails.

The *Alcmène*, a 26-cannon frigate, was the lead ship of her class in the French Navy. She served in the American Revolutionary War and was involved in the blockade of Rhode Island. She would be captured in 1779 by the HMS *Proserpine*, near Martinique, after she had to dump most of her guns overboard during a storm. She was then reclassified as the HMS *Alcmene*.

The *Proserpine* was a 28-gun ship, not quite the 70-gun vessel suggested on the engraving.

Detailed Condition:

Trimmed to the printed image, with minor loss of decorative border, most notably across the top. Soiled and dampstained.