

First edition, four volumes (comprising folio atlas, and three volumes of text, 4to), nineteenth century half calf and marbled boards.

A FINE SET, COMPLETE WITH THE HALF-TITLES, OF “ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT [VOYAGES] EVER MADE”

A Voyage of Discovery to the North Pacific Ocean, and Round the World; In Which the Coast of North-West America has been Carefully Examined and Accurately Surveyed undertaken by His Majesty’s Command, Principally with a View to Ascertain the Existence of any Navigable Communication between the North Pacific and North Atlantic Oceans; and Performed in the years 1790–1795, in the “Discovery” Sloop of War, and Armed Tender “Chatham” under the Command of Captain George Vancouver.

Author
VANCOUVER, Captain George

Publication date
1798

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Physical description
First edition, four volumes (comprising folio atlas, and three volumes of text, 4to), nineteenth century half calf and marbled boards.

Dimensions

Notes
Vancouver, who had served on Captain Cook's second and third voyages, was made commander of this expedition to reclaim Britain's territory, resulting from the Nootka convention. The expedition sailed by way of the Cape of Good Hope to Australia, where he discovered King George's Sound and Cape Hood, then to New Zealand, Hawaii, and the Northwest coast of America. In three seasons' work Vancouver surveyed the coast of California; visited San Francisco, San Diego and other Spanish settlements in Alta California; settled the necessary formalities with the Spanish at Nootka; investigated the Strait of Juan de Fuca; discovered the Strait of Georgia; circumnavigated Vancouver Island; and disproved the existence of any passage between the Pacific Ocean and Hudson Bay. The scarce first edition of "one of the most important [voyages] ever made" (Hill).

Collation:
Text: Three volumes, 4to (305 by 235mm), [8, including half-title, title, and dedication], xxix, [9, blank, two page advertisement, two page list of plates, and four page contents], 432pp.; [10, including half-title, title, four page contents, list of plates, blank], 504pp.; [10, including half-title, title, four page contents, list of plates, blank], 505pp., [3, errata], 18 engraved plates.

Atlas (560 x 430 mm): 16 engraved maps, charts, and coastal profiles, several folding.

Bibliography
Ferguson 281; Forbes 298; Hill p. 303; Wantrup 63a.

Provenance

Price:

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