



Lithograph view.

NINETEENTH CENTURY VIEW OF NEW YORK

Die Stadt New York.

Author

PARSONS, Charles [and] ATWATER, Lyman

Publication date

[1876].

Publisher

Currier & Ives,

Publication place

New York,

Physical description

Lithograph view.

Dimensions

(image) 540 by 858mm (21.25 by 33.75 inches). (sheet) 695 by 970mm (27.25 by 38.25 inches).

Notes

A fine German edition of Currier & Ives bird's-eye view of the city of New York from the south.

The developed city stretches to the horizon, with many familiar buildings easily identifiable and with Central Park clearly delineated in the far distance. Both the East River and the Hudson filled with ship traffic, including images of the steamers Massachusetts, Providence, and City of New York.

Perhaps the most surprising feature is the large view of the “Great East River Suspension Bridge” (i.e. the Brooklyn Bridge), in anticipation of its completion some seven years following the publication of this view.

Currier and Ives were the most famous lithographic print publishers of the nineteenth century. Among their vast body of work are a number of topographical views; these are usually restricted to the large metropolises and especially New York, which was not only their home town but also their largest market. Their strategy to attract their audience appears to have been to create very large, highly detailed views from a breathtaking bird’s-eye perspective, and to issue new editions of this view to keep up with the ever-changing skyline of the city.

Bibliography

Reps 2721; Conningham 1107; Gale 1220.

Provenance

Price: £8000

Inventory reference: 12635