



Engraved map, original hand-colour in outline, dissected and mounted on linen, folding into red cloth covers, title to upper cover, lettered in gilt.

AFGHANISTAN AT THE END OF THE FIRST ANGLO-AFGHAN WAR

Map of Afghanistan and the Adjacent Countries. Published by Authority of The Hon[ourable] Court of Directors of the East India Company.

Author

ALLEN, William Houghton

Publication date

May 23rd, 1842.

Publisher

W. H. Allen & Co., No.7 Leadenhall Street,

Publication place

London,

Physical description

Engraved map, original hand-colour in outline, dissected and mounted on linen, folding into red cloth covers, title to upper cover, lettered in gilt.

Dimensions

780 by 630mm (30.75 by 24.75 inches).

Notes

One of the most accurate map of Afghanistan and surrounding countries published to date.

The map provides the most detailed depiction of the theatre of the First Anglo-Afghan War, and is based on the latest surveys by the likes of John Wood (1812-1871), who explored the Indus in 1835, publishing his book 'Voyage up the Indus and Source of the River Oxus' in 1841, and R. Leech (1813-1845), engineer and linguist, whose published works include: 'A grammar of the Panjabee language' (1838), 'Vocabularies of seven languages, spoken in the countries west of the Indus' (1838), and 'Grammar of the Pashtoo or Afghanee language' (1839).

The map was published a mere four months after the disastrous retreat from Kabul, when a column of 16,000 soldiers, and civilians succumbed to disease, exposure, and enemy action. Only one soldier Assistant Surgeon William Brydon, and a handful of Indian sepoy reached Jalalabad. It would be seen as the worst British military defeat until the fall of Singapore some 100 years later.

William Houghton Allen (1787-1873) established the booksellers and publishers W.H. Allen & Co., based in Leadenhall Street. In one iteration or another, the company would exist until 1991.

Bibliography

Provenance

Price: £850

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