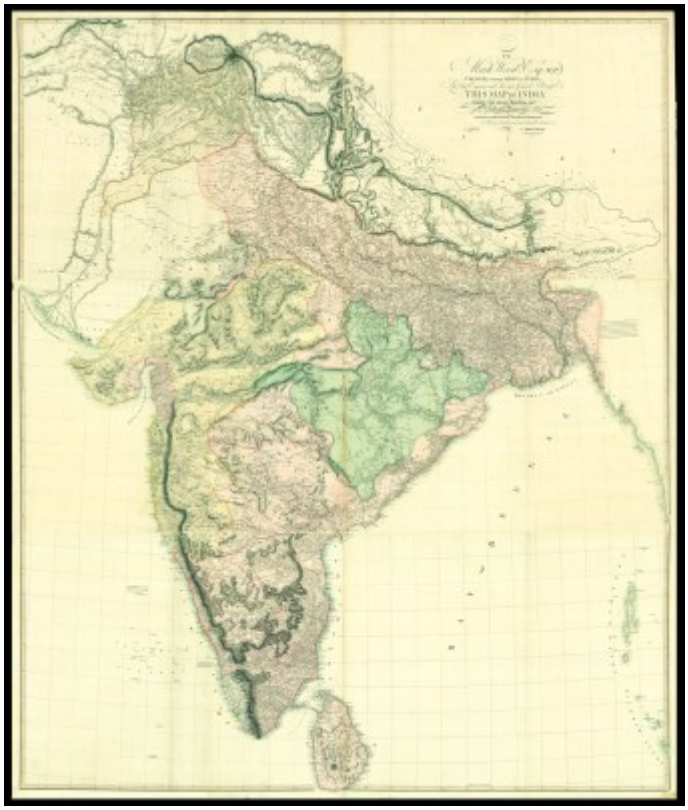


First edition, large engraved map, on six sheets, in three sections joined, fine original hand colour.

RARE LARGE-SCALE MAP OF INDIA IN FULL ORIGINAL COLOUR

To Mark Wood Esq. M.P., Colonel of the Army in India, Late Chief Engineer and Surveyer General, of Bengal, This Map of India Compiled from various Interesting and Valuable Materials Is Inscribed in Grateful Testimony of His Liberal Communications By his obedient and most humble Servant A. Arrowsmith.

Author
ARROWSMITH, Aaron

Publication date
1804

Publisher
A. Arrowsmith,

Publication place
London,

Physical description
First edition, large engraved map, on six sheets, in three sections joined, fine original hand colour.

Dimensions
1971 by 1595mm. (77.5 by 62.75 inches).

Notes
Originally published in six sheets, it shows British controlled areas at the turn of the 18th century.

Arrowsmith’s dedication of this map to Wood is probably more a reflection of the fact that Wood was in the public eye (he had recently published two successful works on India and the route to India), than a recognition of his work as a surveyor (which had ended over ten years earlier). Sir Mark Wood (1747- 1829) had returned to England in 1793 after a distinguished career in the East India Company, culminating with his appointment as surveyor-general in 1787 and chief engineer in Bengal in 1790.

Aaron Arrowsmith (1750-1823) was the finest cartographer of his generation. Although he received little formal education it is believed that he was taught some mathematical instruction by William Emerson, an author of several books on the application of mathematics to the area of cartography. Around 1770, Arrowsmith moved to London to seek employment. It is believed that he worked for William Faden before joining John Cary Sr. in the early 1780s. There he provided the measurements for John Cary’s early publication detailing the roads from London to Falmouth, his first signed work. Arrowsmith set up on his own in 1790 and over the next thirty years produced some of the most beautiful and elegant maps of the era.

Rare, OCLC records three institutional examples: British Library, Harvard, and BNF.

Bibliography

Provenance

Price:

Inventory reference: 12018

© Daniel Crouch Rare Books Ltd | 2025