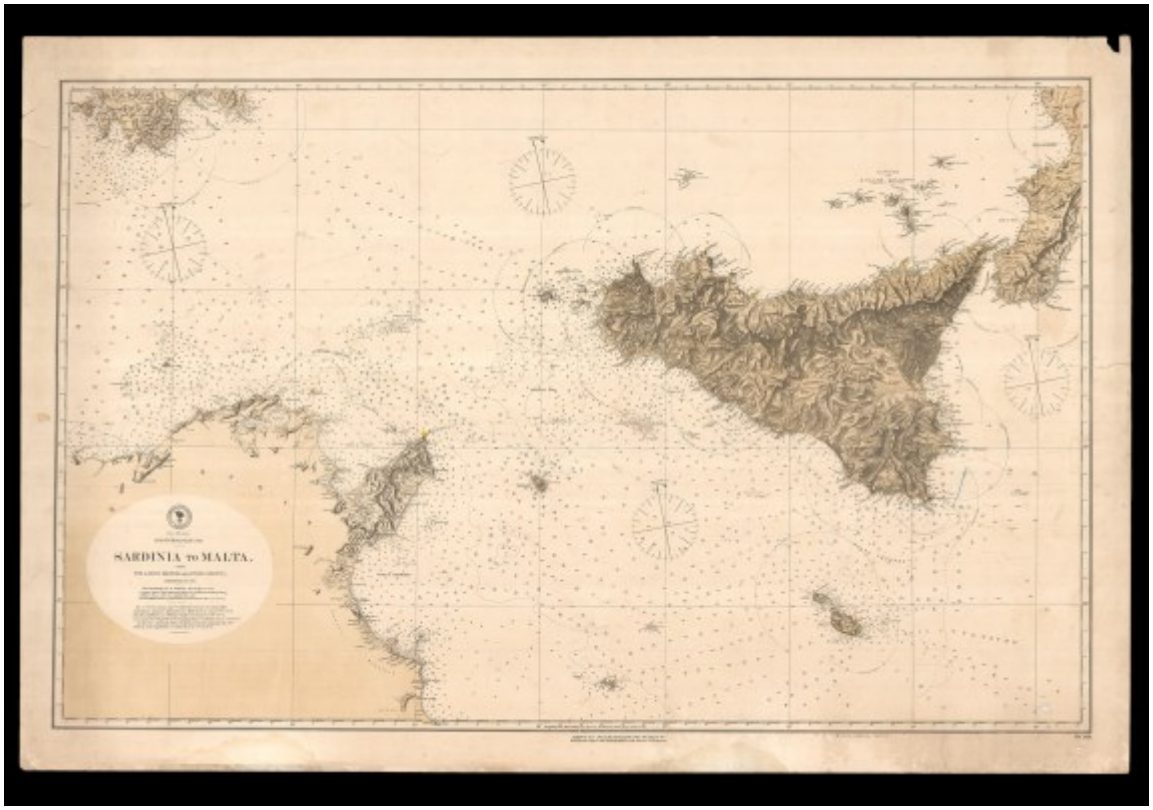


Engraved chart, with hand-colour in part, manuscript annotations in pencil, blue, and red crayon, lighthouses and beacons picked out in yellow and red, tears to left and right margins, some staining.

SICILY AND HER WATERS

A chart of the Tyrrhenian and Mediterranean seas from Sardinia to Malta. From the Latest British and Other Surveys.

Author
UNITED STATES NAVY HYDROGRAPHIC OFFICE; WYMAN, R.H., Capt[ain]

Publication date
1871. [Corrections to 18]78.

Publisher
Hydrographic Office,

Publication place
Washington D.C.

Physical description
Engraved chart, with hand-colour in part, manuscript annotations in pencil, blue, and red crayon, lighthouses and beacons picked out in yellow and red, tears to left and right margins, some staining.

Dimensions
710 by 1075mm (28 by 42.25 inches).

Notes
A chart of the Tyrrhenian and Mediterranean seas from Sardinia to Malta.

Highly detailed with multiple clusters of soundings and topographical relief. Tunisia features in the bottom left corner, although topographical details are only shown around the coastline. Dotted lines indicate banks, some of which are named. Arcs around the coastline indicate the distance from which the beam of a lighthouse can be seen. Various lines and crosses have been added to the map in colourful crayons.

Robert Harris Wyman (1822-1882) was a rear admiral in the US Navy. After several tours of sea duty, Wyman headed the Navy's hydrographic office for eight years. This was of great benefit to the US Navy, as they had relied largely on British charts during the Civil War before Wyman's appointment. Under his leadership, a systematic programme of surveying was established, a legacy which continues today in the form of the US's oceanographic research. The naval ship USNS Wyman, launched in 1969, was named in his honour.

The U.S. Navy Hydrographic Office was set up in 1866, with the express intention of moving away from the navy's reliance on British Admiralty charts. The first bodies of water surveyed by the new department were the Caribbean, and the Pacific. Unlike the British Admiralty charts, U.S. charts were not licensed for sale to the general public making them considerably rarer.

Bibliography

Provenance

Price: £750

Inventory reference: 24150

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