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Isidore Stanislas Henri Helman

**Lot 536: China.- Helman
(Isidore Stanislas Henri) Suite
des seize estampes
representant les conquetes de
l'Empereur de la Chine,
1783-88.**

Est: £10,000 - £15,000

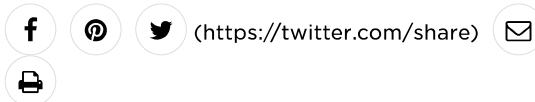
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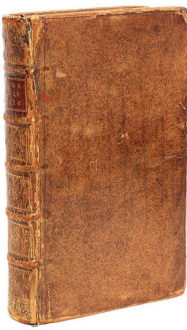


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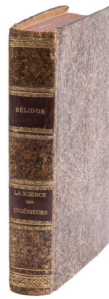
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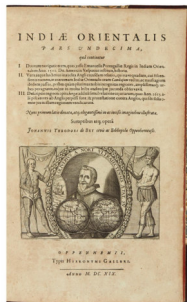


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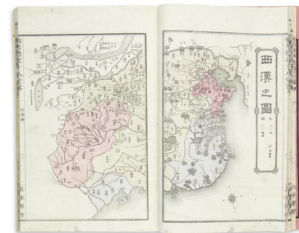
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Item Overview

Description: China.- Helman (Isidore Stanislas Henri) Suite des Seize Estampes Representant les Conquetes de l'Empereur de la Chine, engraved title with plate list and 24 plates, Paris, chez l'auteur et chez Ponce, 1783-88 bound after Faits Mémorables des Empereurs de la Chine, Tirées des Annales Chinoises, engraved title and 24 plates, each with accompanying engraved text (repaired tear running into explanatory text for first plate), lacking engraved dedication, Paris, chez l'auteur, 1788 and Abrégé Historique des Principaux Traits de la vie de Confucius, Célèbre Philosophe Chinois, engraved title and 24 plates, each with accompanying engraved text, Paris, chez l'auteur et chez Ponce, [1788], together 3 works in 1 vol., tissue-guards, occasional spotting or rust marks, mostly restricted to margins, a remarkably fresh and clean set overall, 19th century red half morocco, gilt, spine gilt, oblong folio.

✱ A complete set of Helman's finely engraved works on China. Rare to find all 3 together and all in the preferred oblong folio edition.

The engravings were commissioned by the Chinese Emperor Qianlong to celebrate his military conquests as well as depicting ceremonial devotions and honouring of the life and influence of Confucius. The drawings were prepared in China by four Jesuit missionaries and then sent to France to be engraved by eight artists under the direction of Charles-Nicolas Cochin of the Academie Royale at the Court of Louis XVI. These large engravings were completed in 1774 and sent to China, with only a few rare proofs remaining in Europe. Such was the popularity of the images however that Helman (a pupil of J. P. le Bas who worked on the original plates) published the plates in reduced format with captions and titles in French.

Artist or Maker: Isidore Stanislas Henri Helman

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
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