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CHINA IN PRINT AND ON PAPER, INCLUDING THE LIBRARY OF BERNARD HANOTIAU AND THE FLOYD SULLY COLLECTION

242

Helman, Isidore Stanislas--Qianlong, Emperor of China

[SUITE DES SEIZE ESTAMPES REPRÉSENTANT LES CONQUÊTES DE L'EMPEREUR DE LA CHINE]

Estimate 2,000 — 3,000 GBP ▼ LOT SOLD. 5,000 GBP





## DETAILS & CATALOGUING

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Helman, Isidore Stanislas--Qianlong, Emperor of China  
[SUITE DES SEIZE ESTAMPES REPRÉSENTANT LES CONQUETES DE  
L'EMPEREUR DE LA CHINE. PARIS, 1783-1788]



4to (323 x 250mm.), 19 (of 24) double-page engraved plates numbered I-XX, the engravings appear to be proof before letters, early nineteenth century crimson half roan, marbled boards, *lacking the title (as often) and 5 plates (nos. 3, and 21-24), plate 7 with small tear, plate 19 trimmed to plate mark and laid down, some spotting or staining, binding worn, lacking backstrip*

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THE LIBRARY  
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COLLECTION**

07 NOVEMBER 2016 | 1:00 PM

GMT

LONDON

CATALOGUE NOTE

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A RARE SET OF ENGRAVINGS, recording the battles, victories and ceremonies of the Chinese Emperor Qianlong. The emperor commissioned the original set of sixteen engravings of his conquests on 13th July 1765, for the central hall of the Imperial Palace in Beijing. The drawings were prepared in China by four Jesuit missionaries and were then sent to France, where they were engraved by eight artists under the direction of Charles-Nicolas Cochin of the Académie Royale at the Court of Louis XVI. These large engravings were completed in 1774 and distributed only in China, with a few rare proofs remaining in Europe, but demand was so great Helman reproduced the series in a reduced format between 1783-1785, and then added 8 further plates of imperial ceremonies between 1786-1788.

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