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## ☐ 71 The Conquests of the Emperor Qianlong

SET OF SIXTEEN ENGRAVINGS AFTER CASTIGLIONE ET AL., C. 1775

with blue silk mats and framed

Complete set of sixteen engravings commemorating the victories of the Emperor Qianlong over the Eleuths during the period from 1755 to 1760, and depicting various battles, the surrender of the enemy and the victors' celebratory feast. Each numbered, attributed to the artist and engraver, and dated (16)

Each approximately 24½ by 36½ in. 62.2 by 92.8 cm.

The original set of engravings was commissioned by the Emperor Qianlong for the Palace in Beijing. The drawings were prepared by four Jesuits in Beijing, headed by Giuseppe Castiglione (Lang Shining), Jean-Denis Attiret, Ignatius Sickelpart, and Jean Damascene. The engravings were executed in France from 1767 to 1774, under the direction of Charles-Nicholas Cochin of the Academie Royale at the Court of Louis XVI. Other complete sets of the sixteen engravings are in the Musée Guimet, Bibliothèque Mazarine and Bibliothèque Nationale, Paris, and a set in the Château de Coppet in Switzerland.

A set of sixteen printed manuscript poems accompanies the set of engravings, written by the Emperor Qianlong to commemorate each of the battles or events documented and recorded by the numbered engravings. An introductory piece by the Emperor states the commemorative purpose of the engravings; a supplementary letter was written to the Emperor by the fifty generals involved in the conquests.

Affixed to the back wooden cover (now split) a written inscription by *Jueluo Tuside*, Viceroy of Hunan and Hubei Provinces, states that this set was presented to him by the Emperor. The inscription is dated *Qianlong* forty-fourth year, 1779, the seventh month, and with two seals of the calligrapher. A second inscription by the great-grandson *Bingcheng*, dated *Daoguang* twenty-third year, fourth month, twelfth day (May 11, 1843), and with one seal of the calligrapher. Each manuscript poem matted with blue silk; one framed; front and back wooden covers (16).

The complete set of engravings are documented in a monograph by Michele Pirazzoli-t'Serstevens, Gravures des Conquêtes de l'Empereur de Chine K'ien-long au Musée Guimet, 1969.

This set is accompanied by the original manuscript of a translation of the poems made by Carl Soderborn in 1911.

\$40,000-50,000

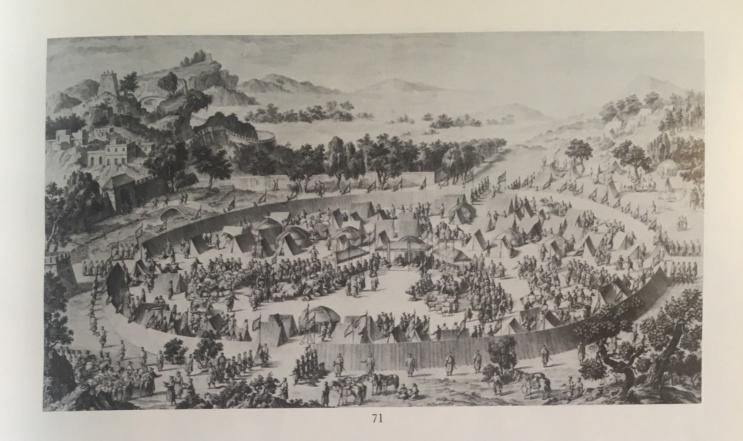
See illustration of three

## ☐ 71A Thomas Allom (19th Century)

SCENES OF CHINA

grey wash heightened with color; framed and matted Depicting an itinerant barber, silkworm cultivation, a Mandarin's pavilion and a river view of the city of Ningpo based on the drawings by T. Allom, set of four engravings by S. Bradshaw, A. Willmore and Aug. Fox (4) Each engraving 61/4 by 83/4 in. 15.8 by 22.2 cm.

\$700-900



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