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Southern Italy, published during the Parthenopean Republic

LAURIE & WHITTLE.
A New Map of Sicily the First or The Kingdom of Naples, Drawn with Several Additions From Zannoni's Map Published by Order of the King of the Two Sicilies. Published 12th May 1799.

London; Laurie & Whittle, 1799. Original colour. Dissected and laid on linen, as issued, total 690 x 510mm, folded into contemporary marbled slipcase.

£450

A map of southern Italy and the east edge of Sicily, published in the last days of the short-lived Parthenopean Republic. After a failed attempt to drive the French occupiers from Rome, King Ferdinand IV abandoned Naples, fleeing to Palermo about Horatio Nelson's ship 'Vanguard'. The French occupied the city on 21st January 1799 and the Parthenopean Republic was proclaimed. On 13th June (a month after this map was published) the Royalist counterattack arrived at Naples, backed by the British, Turks and Russians. An armistice was signed allowing the French to withdraw with the Republicans; however, Nelson intercepted the departing ships and arrested the republicans. When news reached Britain of the executions of the leaders, Charles James Fox spoke in the House of Commons denouncing Nelson's part in "the atrocities at the Bay of Naples".

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