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A caricature map of Wales published in Wales

HUGHES, Hugh.
Dame Venodotia, Alias Modryb Gwen. A Lady Incog.

Caernarvon: Hughes, c.1835. Coloured lithograph, Printed area 240 x 310mm.

£1,300

A rare early version of this famous caricature of North Wales as 'Aunt Gwen', an old woman with a sack on her back, striding along stoically. An extensive key down the sides lists lighthouses, towns, lakes, rivers and mountains. 'Designed, drawn, engraved and published by H. Hughes' (although printed in Liverpool by A. Miller), it pre-dates the more common version lithographed by J.J. Dodd for the publisher H.Humphreys c.1845, which has the key underneath the image. Hugh Hughes (1790-1863) was an artist and publisher whose views of local scenery (for example 'Beauties of Cambria', 1823) did much to establish North Wales as a tourist destination.

Stock ID :20775