



PROANTIC
LE PLUS BEAU CATALOGUE D'ANTIQUITES

Caricature On Textile Rouen C. 1854



2 000 EUR

Signature : BUQUET, Narcisse.

Period : 19th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Linen

Description

[ENGRAVING ON TEXTILE. POLITICAL CARICATURE]. BUQUET, Narcisse, State of Europe in 1854, Rouen: Lamy Godard Frères, ca 1854. A rectangular piece of chintz, 79.5 x 69 cm, printed in black on the front only, in a large frame in the color "red of Adrianople", or ochre, highlighted with six black lines. Excellent condition despite a few rare small spots. Rare illustrated "handkerchief" (ie scarf) from Rouen, printed on a copper plate, bearing an allegorical caricature on European geopolitics in 1854. The caricature is divided into two registers. In the upper register, on the trestles of a theater stage, Tsar Nicholas I of Russia appears surrounded by various characters symbolizing the European countries engaged in the Crimean War: on the left, the coalition opposed to Russia, Spain,

Dealer

Le Zogrscope

Instruments scientifiques et médicaux anciens

Tel : +33688778366

5 rue de Condé

Paris 75006

England, France, Turkey; on the right, Russia's allies, Prussia and Austria. In the lower register, popular figures make up the theatre's stalls, commenting on the scene with humorous reflections worthy of the *café du commerce*. The print was made by the brothers Jean-Thomas Lamy-Godard and François-Thomas Lamy from the copper plate drawn and engraved by Narcisse-Alexandre Buquet, according to the signatures at the bottom of the engraving. The engraving of the central motif is done on a copper plate while the handkerchief surround is printed on a wooden block, thus allowing for bright flat areas of colour. "Indienne manufacturers generally asked more or less renowned artist-designers to decorate their fabrics; however, it sometimes happened that certain types of designs, such as news images for example, were entirely created by the engraver himself, taking inspiration from the events of the day." (Pierre Villette, *La Cravate Illustrée*, 1902). "However, some Rouen factories sought to innovate, starting with the Restoration, by printing current affairs on large scarves or handkerchiefs, that is to say, everyday consumer items that were easily renewable. This was particularly the case [...] of Jean-Thomas Lamy (1782-1849), known as Lamy-Godard, after his wife, to distinguish him from his brother François-Thomas (1781-1851), Thomas Stackler's first partner in Saint-Aubin from 1822 to 1832. Both employed the engravers Buquet, father and son, tireless illustrators of current events, happy (the return of Napoleon's ashes in 1840) or unhappy (the accidental death of the Duke of Orléans, in Neuilly, on July 13, 1842), religious (the election of Pius IX in 1848) or secular (the soldier's wedding), but almost always carrying a strong political connotation. » (Serge Chassagne, « Indiennes et indienneurs à Rouen », *Etudes Normandes*, 45th year, no. 3, 1996. De Gaulle and Normandy. pp. 39-54.) Narcisse-Alexandre Buquet (1825-1894) came from a family of Rouen artists, notably creators of illustrated handkerchiefs and printed furnishing

fabrics. From 1852 to 1870, he worked for the Lamy-Godard frères house. Buquet exercised his verve against Russia during the Crimean War, in particular in this caricature where Emperor Nicholas is sharply attacked.