



PROANTIC
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19th-century Satirical Pen-and-ink Drawing, Humorous Caricature, Before And After Stock Market



220 EUR

Signature : Signé (à identifier), dans le style de Charles Joseph Travies.

Period : 19th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Paper

Width : carton support : 25,7 cm / aux motifs : 10,8 cm / 10,6 cm

Height : carton support : 21,7 cm / aux motifs : 17,6 cm / 17,6 cm

Description

A 19th-century satirical drawing (caricature) humorously illustrating the financial impact of stock market speculation on an individual. The work consists of two comparative panels with handwritten captions: "before -- the Stock Market -- after." Signed: Artist to be identified; dated '91' for 1891. Analysis of the two panels. On the left ("before"): The figure appears uncertain and somewhat disheveled. His top hat is slightly misshapen and tilted to one side; his jacket is wrinkled; and his posture--on the hand resting on his chin and the other buried in his pocket--conveys anxiety, doubt, or an initially modest financial situation. On the right ("after"): After his time on the financial markets, the man has been transformed into a perfect representative of the triumphant upper middle class. His figure has

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become more robust (a symbol of opulence at the time), his clothes are impeccably tailored, his mustache is proudly curled upward, and he displays the outward trappings of wealth: a gold pocket-watch chain, an elegant cane, and a coat draped over his arm. This drawing is part of the great tradition of the French satirical press (such as **Le Charivari** or **La Caricature**), which loved to mock the foibles of nascent capitalism, the bourgeoisie, and the illusions of quick riches offered by the Paris Stock Exchange. It satirically illustrates the theme of rapid social advancement and the fascination--combined with mocking criticism--of the world of speculators at that time. If you have any questions, we'll be happy to assist you. _____

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