



PROANTIC

LE PLUS BEAU CATALOGUE D'ANTIQUITES

Rare Set Of 9 Photos: British India, Ca. 1885--elephants, Artillery, Military Camp /...

1 500 EUR

Period : 19th century

Condition : Bon état

Material : Other

Length : 20,5 cm

Height : 15 cm



Description

An exceptional set of 9 original 19th-century photographic prints (circa 1885) on albumen paper, from the colonial era (British Raj / British India). All the photographs are of superb uniform quality (print size: 20.5 cm x 15 cm) and are fully mounted on their original stiff cardboard backing, ensuring their perfect flatness and period authenticity. This collection constitutes a comprehensive and coherent on-site photo essay, documenting a military and logistical expedition by the Imperial Indian Army (presumably involving the Mountain Artillery during a campaign in the Northeast--Assam or Burma). Details of the 9 photographs in the lot: The centerpiece: A spectacular, wide-angle panoramic view showing a massive military column of dozens of elephants crossing a river as

Dealer

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far as the eye can see. The historical close-up: A close-up of pack elephants carrying carved wooden ammunition boxes, with British officers in uniform and colonial helmets (pith helmets) seated inside the structures. Logistics: A scene on the trail showing a transport cart pulled by traditional zebu cattle next to a heavy military engineering or surveying tripod. Camp Life (Heavy Bivouac): A stunning, picturesque view of a camp of regulation tents set up in the shade of a giant banyan tree, with the elephants resting. Headquarters: A scene in front of the large double tents of British officers wearing white helmets. The staging post: A view of a Dâk Bungalow (a raised colonial garrison house) with Indian servants in turbans (wallahs) and a local guard. The Trackers: Two vertical portraits of indigenous trackers (shikaris) clearing the way through giant elephant grass. Wildlife: An impressive carcass feast involving dozens of vultures on the plain, evidence of the remains of a hunt or subsistence slaughter for the expedition. Object characteristics: Date: Circa 1880-1890. Technique: Period albumen silver salt prints, superb chocolate tones. Mount: Mounted on original stiff cardboard. Condition: Very good overall condition for 19th-century field photographs; magnificent contrast and sharp detail when zoomed in.