



Stipple-engraved portrait.

CHARLES MARIE DE LA CONDAMINE

Charles Marie de la Condamine. Geb. zu Paris d. 28 Jan 1701. Gestorb. daselbst.

Author

WESTERMAYER, C[onrad]

Publication date

c1805].

Publisher

Friedrich Justin Bertuch,

Publication place

[Weimar,

Physical description

Stipple-engraved portrait.

Dimensions

140 by 90mm. (5.5 by 3.5 inches).

Notes

Along with his friend Voltaire, Charles Marie de la Condamine (1701-1774) exploited a loophole in the state lottery as a young man, winning a small fortune. It may have been this venture that funded his travels in the following years. He visited Constantinople, Ecuador, Panama, and Peru, in part with the French Geodesic Mission to make measurements of the equator. Upon his return to Europe, Condamine published numerous written works, which included the first descriptions of the curare

arrow poison and of the correct use of quinine to fight malaria.

Condamine also prepared the first map of the Amazon region based on astro-geodetic observations, and made notable contributions to the great 'Encyclopédie' published between 1751 and 1772. The portrait in Zach and Bettrich's geographical journal was based on an earlier engraving by P. Choffard, and shows Condamine in profile wearing a peruke, suit and lace cravat, accompanied by his name and date of death written below.

Bibliography

Provenance

Price: £300

Inventory reference: 17732