The Coast near La Piana, Corsica

Edward Lear

Sold

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Description

Edward Lear (1812-1888)
The Coast near La Piana, Corsica

Pen and brown ink and watercolour
9.2 by 10.8cm., 3 ½ by 4 ¼ inches

Lear reached La Piana on the west coast of Corsica on 10th May: `shortly the ridge terminating in Capo Rosso is crossed, and at a sharp turn of the road, a vast and striking picture of mountains, cliff, sea, and the village of La Piana, starts suddenly, as it were, into life ….. in the middle distance is a line of pink granite or porphyry rocks, and nearer still a crest of immense crags above the village of La Piana, and in itself more picturesque than most I have seen in Corsica' (Edward Lear, Journal of a Landscape Painter in Corsica, 1870, p.128).

This drawing is a study for a wood engraving from Lear's Corsican Journal, pl. XVIII, opp. p.142. It was the last of Lear's travel books and it was also the only of his travel books in which he uses wood engravings rather than lithographs for the forty full-page illustrations and the forty vignettes

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