

The Coast near La Piana, Corsica

Edward Lear

Sold



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