Old Devil's Bridge, Kirkby Lonsdale

Henry Edridge



REF: 3030

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Description

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Henry Edridge (1769-1821)
Old Devil's Bridge, Kirby Lonsdale

Black and grey wash heightened with white on blue paper
26 by 37.7 cm., 10 ¼ by 14 ¾ in.

Provenance:
Dr J Percy (1817-1889), collection mark verso (Lugt 1504);
His sale, Christie's 16th April 1890, lot 405, sold to Reggall;
Leonard G. Duke (1890-1971);
With P. & D. Colnaghi, London;
Michael Ingram (1917/8-2005), his sale, Sotheby's, 8th December 2005, lot 170 (part lot);
With Lowell Libson Ltd;
Private collection

Literature:
Lowell Libson and Sarah Hobrough, Watercolours and Drawings, 2006, no. 11, ill.

Exhibited:
London, Lowell Libson Ltd, Watercolours and Drawings, 15th November - 8th December 2006, no. 11

The Old Devil's Bridge is a triple arched bridge built in the 12th or 13th century spanning the River Lune to the south-east of Kirby Lonsdale, Cumbria. The town and its surroundings were popular with artists and tourists in search of suitably romantic and picturesque subjects. Ruskin wrote of the view looking over the valley of the Lune: 'I do not know in all my country, still less in France or Italy, a place more naturally divine.' (E.T. Cook and A. Wedderburn, The Complete Works of John Ruskin, 1903-12, Vol. XXVIII, p. 299).

The present, bold drawing on blue paper has formed part of several notable collections including that of the metallurgist and amateur artist Dr John Percy, whose collection was once described as 'the most complete ever formed for the illustration of the history of British art, especially English watercolour painting' as well as that of L.G. Duke which was sold at Sotheby's in 1970-1.

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