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James Otto Lewis Collection

Lewis, James Otto. Lithographs, 1835. .10 foot.

Painter. Forty lithographs (1835) of American Indian portraits by Detroit painter James Otto Lewis. The hand-colored lithographs were produced by Lehman & Duval from Otto's early American Indian portraits series, created during 1825 to 1827 on his trips into Indian Territory with Governor Lewis Cass of Michigan Territory.

Biographical Note:

Between 1825 and 1827, Lewis, a Detroit painter, accompanied Governor Lewis Cass of the Michigan Territory on three separate treaty-making trips into the Indian Territory. During these trips he painted more than 250 portraits from life, reportedly portraying only the most notable and colorful chiefs and warriors from all the tribes he encountered.