Vintage Golf Print, First International Foursome, Leith Links.

Sold

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REF: 27428

Height: 43 cm (16.9")

Width: 58.5 cm (23")

Framed Height: 69.5 cm (27.4")

Framed Width: 80 cm (31.5")

Description

First International Foursome after Allen Stewart.
A rare original photolithograph print titled 'The First International Foursome, Played on Leith Links, 1682'. The print is signed in pencil by the Scottish painter and illustrator, Allen Stewart and is taken from his original painting. Stewart's original was exhibited at the Royal Academy in 1919, the subject is the foursome on Leith Links in which the Duke of York, later James VII of Scotland / II of England, took part. The golf match came about after a discussion arose between the Duke and two English noblemen as to whether golf had been played as long in England as it had in Scotland. The Duke championed the claims of Scotland and quoted acts of the Scottish Parliament dating to 1457 with reference to the game. Similar evidence not forthcoming for England, with stakes arranged, they proposed to play a game of golf on Leith Links to decide it. The Duke's partner was an Edinburgh cobbler, John Paterson, who came from a long line of golfers. The golf match is now known as the first international golf match of which Scotland won. The Duke generously split the winnings with Paterson who used it to build a house in Canongate, Edinburgh, the building later became known as 'Golfer's Land'. The Duke placed a plaque on the wall of the building which included a coat of arms with an outstretched hand bearing a golf club and the motto, "Far and Sure". The building was demolished in 1960.
The golf print is in a modern gilt frame and along the top of the print is 'Copyright. Published by the British Art Company Ltd, 93 New Bond Street, London, W1, Printed in England'.

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