



antikart

Housed in a gilt titled slip-case, a rare set of French cartographical cards, 86 x 71 mm., unfortunately lacks any trace of author, publisher or date. The pictorial title-card simply has the word 'France' below the title. On its reverse is a 'Table des planches'. The eighty six numbered cards each have a map of a department in outline hand-colour, 80 x 63 mm., with the title in a plain oval panel:

*Ain; Aisne; Allier; Basses Alpes; Hautes Alpes; Ardèche; Ardennes; Ariège; Aube; Aude; Aveyron; Bouches du Rhône; Calvados; Cantal; Charente; Charente Inférieure; Cher; Corrèze; Corse; Côtes du Nord; Côte D'Or; Creuse; Dordogne; Doubs; Drôme; Eure; Eure et Loir; Finistère; Gard; Haute Garonne; Gers; Gironde; Hérault; Ille et Vilaine; Indre; Indre et Loire; Isère; Jura; Landes; Loir et Cher; Loire; Haute Loire; Loire Inférieure; Loiret; Lot; Lot et Garonne; Lozère; Maine et Loire; Manche; Marne; Haute Marne; Mayenne; Meurthe; Meuse; Morbihan; Moselle; Nièvre; Nord; Oise; Orne; Pas De Calais; Puy De Dôme; Basses Pyrénées; Hautes Pyrénées; Pyrénées Orientales; Bas Rhin; Haut Rhin; Rhône; Haute Saône; Saône et Loire; Sarthe; Seine; Seine et Marne; Seine et Oise; Seine Inferieur; Deux-Sèvres; Somme; Tarn; Tarn et Garonne; Var; Vaucluse; Vendée; Vienne; Haute Vienne; Vosges; Yonne.*

Two maps are misnumbered: *Meurthe* is 55 in lieu of 53 and *Morbihan* vice versa. The backs of the cards are divided in two, with information about the department on the left and on the right, a biography of a famous woman from there. Dating is problematic and the Bibliothèque Nationale opts for the middle of the century. On the grounds of style the British Library favours the 1820s for its set, plus the lady on *Manche*, said to have died in 1821, is the latest celebrity included and not one of the women was born in the nineteenth century.

*Géographie historique des dames.* France (Paris, 1824).