



In 1835 an unusual work was published in an unusual place: Chatellerault in central France. This folio book was a new geography of France by a headmaster, Jacques Henry, and was lithographically printed for him. It was 'ornée de 95 cartes' of which 87 were miniatures: eighty-six of the French departments and one of Algiers.

Further issues were published, 'revue, corrigée et augmentée par l'auteur', but it has only been possible to trace the fourth and fifth editions.

The plates, which have prominent numbers, are printed back to back. They are pretty large at 235 x 340 mm. overall and fill the page. The little maps are within decorative vignettes at upper centre and they are surrounded by a large amount of information in calligraphy. The maps vary in shape and size and many are signed 'A. Thez fit':



