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Fortunino Matania R.I. (1881-1963)

General Count Luigi Cadorna (1850-1928), Commander-In-Chief of the Italian Army.

Pencil, grey wash and gouache. Inscribed verso 'Sphere 19 June 1915 p.287'.

Stamped: 'The Sphere No.864'. Illustrated: *The Sphere*, London, 19th June, 1915, p.287.

11x7 inches.

£475

'General Cadorna, Chief of the General Staff of the army and Commander-in-Chief of the Italian armies in the field, is now in his sixty-fifth year. He was born at Pallanza, Piedmont, of a family well-known for its military prowess and patriotism. His father, General Count Raffaele Cadorna, attached high distinction in the Italian Army, and the present commander's own son is now well on his way towards an equally distinguished career, being a subaltern in the same cavalry regiment as Count Raffaele Cordona commanded in 1866 in the war against Austria. General Cadorna himself was educated at the Military College at Milan and Military Academy at Turin, later passing the Staff College. He served alternatively on the staff and with infantry regiments. He became captain in 1875, eventually becoming Chief of Staff of the Verona Army Corps; his promotion to major-general took place in 1898, after he had been in command of the 10th Bersaglieri for some time, and he reached his present rank of lieutenant ten years ago. He is credited with a great knowledge of the Austro-Italian frontier, which will prove of the utmost importance during the present campaign, and is the author of a book, which has run through many editions, on armies in wartime'. (Extract from *The Sphere*).