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Tabula Europae II [Spain & Portugal]

Stock#: 34342
Map Maker: Ruscelli
Date: 1598
Place: Venice
Color: Uncolored
Condition: VG+
Size: 10 x 7 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

Rare third state of Ruscelli's map of Spain and Portugal.

The third state can be recognized by the addition of the sailing ship and two sea monsters.

The map provides an elegantly engraved depiction of the Iberian Peninsula, with a curious set of rivers crossing the peninsula from east to west and flowing into the Ocean Ocean, with the exception of the Iber River, which seems to suggest a continuous water course from the Mediterranean to the Atlantic Ocean. The major cities are represented with stylized town view vignettes, including Augusta (Astorga), Corduba (Cordoba), Valeria, Barcinon (Barcelona), Pompelo (Pamplona), Complurico, and Carpetani (near Toledo)

Ruscelli's edition of Ptolemy's *Geographia* is an expanded edition of Gastaldi's edition of 1548, which has been called the most comprehensive atlas produced between Martin Waldseemüller's *Geographiae* of 1513, and the Abraham Ortelius *Theatrum Orbis Terrarum* of 1570. Ruscelli and Gastaldi's maps were beautifully engraved on copper, marking a turning point in the history of cartography. From that point forward, the majority of cartographic works used this medium. As it was a harder material than wood it gave the engraver the ability to render more detail. Gastaldi sought the most up-to-date geographical information available, making the modern maps in Ruscelli's *Geographia* among the best modern maps of the period.

Detailed Condition: