



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

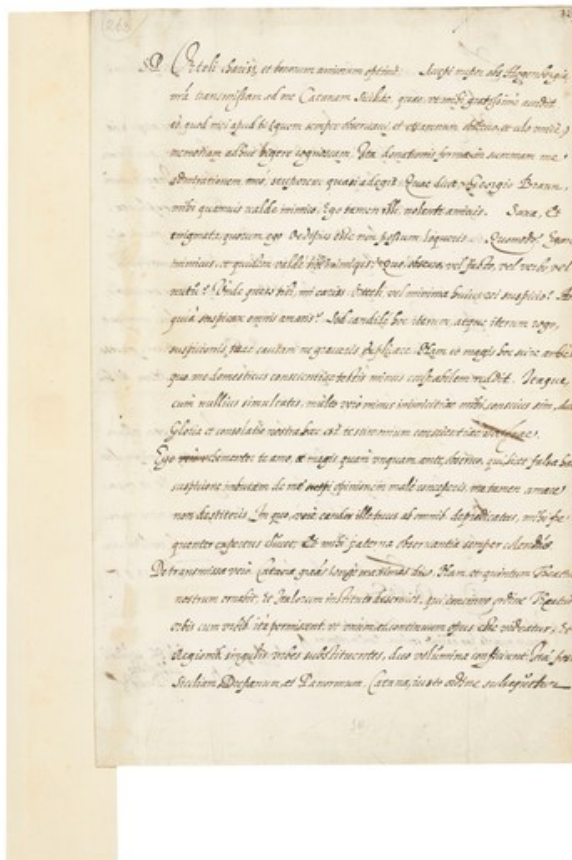
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Autograph letter signed ('G. Braun') to Abraham Ortelius, Cologne, 22 January 1595.

Stock#: 64468
Map Maker: Braun
Date: 1595 January 22
Place: Cologne
Color: Uncolored
Condition: VG
Size:
Price: Reference



Description:

In Latin. Two pages, 318 x 215mm, integral address leaf (tipped onto a guard; paper discreetly strengthened at outer margin on f.1v, and more extensively on the address leaf). **Provenance:** left by Ortelius's nephew, Jacob Cole, to the Dutch Church in London; Sotheby's sale of 'The highly important correspondence of Abraham Ortelius', 14 February 1955, lot 41; Sotheby's, 18 June 1968 (which again included the whole Ortelius correspondence), lot 350.

Braun's astonishment that Ortelius considers him an enemy; and on the treatment of the *Civitates orbis terrarum* alongside Ortelius's *Theatrum* by the Italian book trade. Braun has received through 'Hogenbergia n[ostr]a' (perhaps the widow or daughter of his former partner Frans Hogenberg) the gift from Ortelius of a map of Catania: he is however astonished at the inscription, which reads 'To Georg Braun, although he is very much an enemy to me, I am a friend to him, even if against his



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will'. Braun professes his stupefaction at this, and stresses his long-standing admiration and friendship towards Ortelius. He is however very grateful for the Catania plan: 'For it will both adorn the fifth [part of] our *Theatrum* [i.e. the *Civitates orbis terrarum*], and serve the purposes of the Italians, who so neatly combine the *Theatrum orbis* with the towns that they seem to be a single and continuous work, and placing the towns alongside the individual regions, they make up two volumes. Thus after Sicily, Trepani and Palermo, Catania will follow in due order. / Behold, what the world and its endeavours have joined together, what zeal of imperfection shall put asunder?' Braun goes on to discuss the presentation of Ortelius's own city of Antwerp in the *Civitates*: 'You are not unaware that your city of Antwerp appears to better advantage on two sheets. I should like to add an accurate description, worthy of such a great town'; he concludes by explaining the form of his planned description, asking for a catalogue of Ortelius's recent publications, and emphasising again his undying friendship.

Detailed Condition: