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(Luxembourg) Lucenburgum urbs eiusdem nominis Ducatus primaria, et Tribunal Suprenom, montoso et inaequali situ spectabilis

Stock#: 96853
Map Maker: Braun / Hogenberg
Date: 1596 circa
Place: Cologne
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG+
Size: 18.25 x 14.5 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

Striking late 16th Century set of images showing the urban landscape of Luxembourg, a city renowned for its strategic military significance and aesthetic beauty, emphasized by its mountainous and uneven terrain. The views offered are a testament to the city's architectural grandeur and its harmonious integration with the rugged natural surroundings.

The commentary by Braun highlights the city's notable religious establishments, such as the magnificent Franciscan monastery and the splendid monastery referred to as the minster. The geographical layout of Luxembourg is described in a manner that reflects its defensive considerations and urban evolution. The Old Town, nestled in the depths of a valley, gradually gave way to the more secure Upper Town, elevated upon a cliff, demonstrating the city's adaptation to its topographical challenges. The move to higher ground is noted as a strategic shift, made to enhance the city's defensibility.

Luxembourg Palace, depicted in the lower view, served as the opulent residence of Peter Ernst I of Mansfeld. His tenure as commander of the Spanish armies and governor of Luxembourg, among other titles, spanned a significant part of the late Renaissance period. The palace, with its elaborate gardens, exemplifies Renaissance tastes and architectural trends. The accompanying text draws attention to the palace's remarkable interior, adorned with exceptional paintings and antiquities, indicative of the cultural and artistic richness of the era.

The Igel Column, prominently illustrated to the right, stands as a monument to the ancient world's craftsmanship and the legacy of the Roman presence in the region. Erected by a family of cloth merchants,



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the Secundinii, the column's reliefs narrate tales of commercial success and daily life in antiquity. This funerary monument, a rare relic north of the Alps and now recognized as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, captivates the observer with its intricate artistry and the historical narrative it encapsulates.

Together, these images not only showcase the grandiosity of Renaissance Luxembourg and its Roman heritage but also serve as a visual chronicle, preserving the essence of a cityscape that deftly melds the cultural sophistication of human settlement with the stark, imposing beauty of its natural environment. Braun & Hogenberg's work, through detailed cartographic artistry, allows us to traverse time, offering a window into the soul of a historic European capital and its enduring monuments.

Detailed Condition: