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Carte De La Californie Et Des Pays Nord Ouest separes de L'Asie par le Detroit d'Anian...1772

Stock#: 10226
Map Maker: Diderot / de Vaugondy

Date: 1772
Place: Paris
Color: Uncolored
Condition: VG
Size: 15 x 12 inches

Price: SOLD



Description:

Fascinating study in the comparative cartography of the West Coast of North America, from the Straits of Anian to Cabo San Lucas and the southern tip of Baja California.

The work consists of extracts from two maps, both reportedly done by Visscher in the 1612 and 1641 respectively and with information derived from Mercator and Plancius. The larger map prominently shows the Strait of Anian, Anian Regnum, Quivira Regnum, the Sierra Nevada, Nova Albion, Tontonteac Regnum, Tolm Regnum and a coastal detail which includes over 30 coastal place names, including Mendocino, San Miguel (San Diego), Cape Fortuna, I. De Paxaros (Catalina?), and many mythical/ephemeral place names.

The smaller map also shows the Straits of Anian, but depicts an open sea above, clearly portending a NW Passage in the Arctic Circle. The NW Coastline differs radically, and only Anian Regnum and Quivira Regnum are located, that later considerably south of the location on the larger map. The smaller map includes a similar number of coastal placenames, but includes several important ones not listed on the larger map, including C. Blanco (3 times), C. de San Francisco and los Farilones, but ommits any significant effort to depict bays.

Diderot's work is part of a 10 map supplement to his Encyclopedia, and provides one of the most fascinating studies in contemporary comparative cartography which can be obtained by collectors, much of which is dedicated to the NW Coast.

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Detailed Condition:
Somewhat light impression in the lower left side of the image.