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[Untitled Map Africa, Red Sea and Saudi Peninsula]

Stock#: 11667
Map Maker: Ramusio
Date: 1554
Place: Venice
Color: Uncolored
Condition: VG+
Size: 9 x 6 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

Very rare first edition of Ramusio's (Mezzo Di) map of Africa (extending south to the Tropic of Capricorn). Ramusio was Secretary to the Council of Ten in Venice for 43 years and his collection of reports on voyages is among the most important works of the period. This map appeared in the second edition of I of Ramusio's Della Navigazioni et Viaggi in 1554. It was planned as the centerpiece of a three sheet map extending to SE Asia and China, compiled for Ramusio by the famous cartographer, Giacomo Gastaldi. The information to produce this map was based on knowledge obtained from Arab geographers (including Idrisi) and Portuguese discoveries. The map shows North at the bottom of the map and is centered on the course of the Nile, which has its primary source in two lakes in Southern Africa. The map extends south to the Tropic of Capricorn and Isola Di S. Lorenzo (Madagascar). The Saudi Peninsula, Red Sea and Gulf of Aden are also shown, as is Mecca. Curiously, the map is not referenced in either Tooley or Norwich. I fine example of this rare first state of the map, with the 3 pages of accompanying text entitled Discorso Sopra Il Crescer Del Fiume Nilo. Striking dark impression.

Detailed Condition: