



## Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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### Kaart van Tartaryen Vogens de Voyagien door Johan du Plan Carpin en Acelin Inde laaren 1246, 1247 ens.

**Stock#:** 18758  
**Map Maker:** van der Aa  
**Date:** 1707  
**Place:** Leiden  
**Color:** Hand Colored  
**Condition:** VG+  
**Size:** 9.5 x 6 inches  
**Price:** SOLD



#### Description:

Detailed map of the region from the Caspian to Cathay, illustrating the earliest two Catholic Embassies to the courts of the Mongol Rulers.

Giovanni da Pian del Carpine was one of the first Europeans to enter the Court of the Great Khan of the Mongol Empire. His account of his expedition is one of the first early overland travel accounts to Asia. Dispatched by Pope Innocent VI in 1245 to the Court of the Khan, Carpine left Lyon in April 1245, accompanied by Stephen of Bohemia. Travelling by way of Kiev, the party crossed the Neper to the Don and Volga Rivers (Carpene is the first to identify the modern names for these rivers). At the camp of Batu on the Volga, Carpine met with the famous conqueror of eastern Europe and his senior princes. In April 1246, Carpine was allowed to proceed eastward to the court of the Great Khan, where they were fairly received, although the Khan refused to convert to Christianity and sent them back with a letter urging the pope to swear allegiance to the Great Khan.

Nicolas Ascelin (also known as Ascelin of Cremona and Ascelin of Lombardia) was a Dominican Friar who was the leader of the 2nd of 4 embassies to the Mongol courts sent by Pope Innocent VI in March 1245, prior to the First Council of Lyon. Ascelin travelled as far as the court of the Mongol ruler Baiju in Armenia, where his letters were translated into Persian and then Mongol. During the stay, Ascelin and his group apparently offended the Mongols with their lack of respect for the Mongol Court and efforts to convert the Mongols to Christianity. Ascelin was not allowed to travel further east and he returned having failed to make it to the court of the Great Khan. The account of Ascelin's embassy survived through the written account of Simone of St. Quentin, who was part of the expedition and recorded his observations in his *Historia Tartarorum*. Simone's work does not survive, but is described in 19 chapters of the work of



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Simone's contemporary, Vincent of Beauvais.

**Detailed Condition:**