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Africa XVIII Nova Tabula

Stock#: 22480
Map Maker: Munster

Date: 1542
Place: Basle
Color: Uncolored
Condition: VG+
Size: 13.5 x 10 inches

Price: SOLD



Description:

Munster's map of Africa is the earliest obtainable map of the continent.

The map is also rich in mythical content, adorned with a cyclops, ship, and an elephant. The Kingdom of Prester John is also indicated. The map is based in part on the work of Ptolemy, partly on Portuguese and Arabic sources. Zaphala Aurifodina of Portuguese origin is the supposed region from which King Solomon imported his gold and silver. Quiloa and Melinda were Arab settlements. It also shows Hamarich, Prester John's capita city.The Cape of Good Hope is marked, and the Nile flows into the Mountains of the Moon, south of which the country (the Cape) is said to be uninhabited. Crowns and sceptres indicate kingdoms; and parrots, elephant and a Cyclops illustrate its western shores, with a fine galleon in full sail to the left of the Cape of Good Hope.

The map is unchanged from the 1540 edition. Munster's *Geographia* was a cartographic landmark, including the first separate maps of the 4 continents and the first map of England and the earliest obtainable map of Scandinavia. Munster dominated cartographic publication during the mid-16th Century. Munster is generally regarded as one of the most important map makers of the 16th Century. The information for the *Geographia* was compiled from scholars around the Europe in the 1530s and included the most up to date information. A fine dark impression of this first state.

Detailed Condition: