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A Chart of ye West-Indies or the Islands of the Americas in the North Sea &c. Being ye Present Seat of War...

Stock#: 26324
Map Maker: Moll
Date: 1745
Place: London
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG+
Size: 14 x 11 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

Detailed map designed to show the theater of war for the War of Jenkins's Ear.

The War of Jenkins's Ear got its name from an event that occurred in 1731, when Robert Jenkins, the captain of the *Rebecca*, was captured in the West Indies by the Spanish. He claimed that his crew was mistreated, and that he was tortured, threatened with death, and his ear cut off.

At the time there was not much interest in his plight, but later in the decade the situation had deteriorated between Spain and England. Spain was miffed that the English were logging wood from their territory of Honduras, and the English were upset that the Spanish were limiting their access to the slave trade in the West Indies, access supposedly guaranteed by treaty. This friction was aggravated by a continuing dispute over the border between Spanish Florida and Georgia. In 1739, these issues were debated in Parliament and Jenkins's preserved ear was prominently exhibited, causing such a public uproar that Prime Minister Walpole was forced to declare war on Spain in October, 1739.

A classic example of Moll's fine engraving work. The map shows various sea routes, prevailing currents and other interesting features.

Detailed Condition: