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The Coast of New Schotland, New England, The Gulph and River of St. Laurence. The Islands of New Foundland, Cape Breton, St. John, Anticosti, and Soundings thereof . . . 1783

Stock#: 29001
Map Maker: Van Keulen
Date: 1783
Place: Amsterdam
Color: Uncolored
Condition: VG+
Size: 50 x 24 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

Fine example of Gerard Hulst Van Keulen's sea chart of Eastern Canada, Newfoundland, etc., published in Amsterdam in 1783.

The map is highly detailed, relying in part on the information derived from Des Barres charts of the region, with a fantastic inset of Quebec. One interesting note, provided by Michael Buehler of Boston Rare Maps, helps to understand why the House of Van Keulen was no longer pre-eminent in the American chart market by this time period:

The title contains an error reflecting the firm's ignorance of how the British administration worked at the time the chart was made. Only the Newfoundland (Cook & Lane) and Nova Scotia (Des Barres) surveys were conducted under Admiralty orders. The rest, including Prince Edward Island, Cape Breton, and New England, were conducted by Samuel Holland working under orders of the Board of Trade.

Regarding the source of the chart, Ashley Baynton Williams notes on Mapforum as follows:

This rare sea-atlas is apparently a version of van Keulen's Eene Verzameling Van Nieuwe Zee-Kaarten Van Noord-America In Het Groot Beginnende Van Kaap Charles, Of De Golf Van St. Laurens, Tot Aan De Golf Van Mexico ...

Koeman records two examples of the sea-atlas with title-pages. The first, with the title dated 1785, is in the Nederlandsch Historisch Scheepvaartmuseum, Amsterdam. The second, with the title undated, is in the William L. Clements Library, University of Michigan.



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The [atlas] was assembled for ship-board use . . . Also the maps [typically] printed on very thin paper and then pasted together in such a way that the right-hand side of the first chart backs onto the left-hand of the second, and so on. The two outer pages [were] then covered with the traditional protective blue-backing, associated with charts supplied for ship-board use, and then stored as a roll in a pigeon-hole.

The chart title continues as follows:

These Charts are followed, according to them Executed by order of the LORDS COMMISSIONERS of the ADMIRALTY in ENGLAND to be Sold at AMSTERDAM, by Gerard Hulst van Keulen Anno 1783.

In these Charts is to be found, Quebeck, as also the other Places Situated, on the Longitude, which is according to the Latest Observations of the English, and French Academy's but in the English Charts which are Executed by order of /he Admiralty, Quebeck and all other Places lay a bout 1 ½ Degree Westerley.

Detailed Condition: