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Globe Gore [California, Texas & Southwest]

Stock#: 33630
Map Maker: Coronelli
Date: 1688
Place: Venice
Color: Uncolored
Condition: VG+
Size: 18.5 x 12 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

A fine wide-margined example of the California, Texas and Southwest globe gore from Coronelli's 42 inch Terrestrial Globe.

While the most striking feature of the map is the depiction of California as an island, historically, it is Coronelli's treatment of the Rio Grande that is of greatest significance. Earlier map makers had consistently shown the river flowing into the Gulf of California. While Giovanni Battista Nicolosi was the first to properly show the course of the Rio Grande flowing into the Gulf of Mexico, it was not until Coronelli adopted this treatment of the river that it received universal acceptance. One of the annotations



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in the map adjacent to Il Paeso (El Paso) notes that the course of the river has historically been depicted as flowing southwest, but is correctly shown now flowing northeast.

The map includes a note on either side of the Rio Grande which notes "Scoperta da Spagnuoli L'Anno 1598" (Discovered by the Spaniards in 1598). This is a reference to the expedition of Don Juan de Oñate y Salazar across the Rio Grande River. On September 21, 1595, Oñate was awarded a contract by King Philip II of Spain to settle New Mexico. Spreading Catholicism was a primary objective, but many colonists enlisted in hopes of finding a new silver strike. After many delays, Oñate began his expedition in early 1598. On April 30, 1598, he crossed the Rio Grande River, claiming the region to the north for the Spanish Empire, the foundational basis for Spain's historical claim to Texas. In July 1598, he established the headquarters of his New Mexico colony at San Juan pueblo, thus effectively extending the Camino Real by more than 600 miles. It was the longest road in North America for several subsequent centuries.

The map is richly illustrated with a number of geographical vignettes and a number of annotation in Italian, including one noting the discovery of the region by the Spanish in 1598 and several other dated annotations, referencing early travels in the region. The cartouche in the Pacific Ocean refers to the debate over California's insularity and references the explorers Cortez, Ulloa, Alarcon and Cabrillo in the region. Offshore, a reference to Nuno Guzman's coastal exploration along the coast of Mexico in 1532 is given. The cartography of the gore is very similar to Coronelli's 2 sheet map of North America, which appeared in his *Atlante Veneto*, and there is some question as to which was published first.

Vincenzo Coronelli apprenticed as a Xylographer, before joining the Conventual Franciscans in 1665. In about 1678, after studying Astronomy and Euclid, Coronelli began working as a geographer and was commissioned to make a set of Terrestrial and Celestial Globes Ranuccio II Farnese, the Duke of Parma which were 5 feet in diameter. Coronelli was next invited to Rome to construct a similar pair of Globes for Louis XIV. From 1681 to 1683, Coronelli lived in Paris, where he constructed a pair of 10 foot diameter globes for the King, at a weight of nearly 4000 pounds.

The fame and importance of Coronelli's globe led to the production of a 42 inch diameter globe in 1688, for which complete of examples of which reside in a number of major institutional collections around the world. Separate globe gore sheets from this famous globe periodically appear on the market. Coronelli worked for a number of years as a Geographer and Theologian, before returning to Venice in 1705, where he published his *Atlante Veneto* and founded the *Accademia Cosmografica degli Argonauti*.

Detailed Condition: