



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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Africa Tertia Pars Terræ

Stock#: 35414
Map Maker: Bunting
Date: 1581
Place: Hanover
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG
Size: 13.5 x 10 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

Fine Map of the African Continent, Based on the First Modern Map of Africa

Nice example of Heinrich Bunting's scarce map of Africa, from his *Itinerarium Sacræ Scripturæ*. It is based on the first modern map of Africa, which featured in Sebastian Münster's *Geographia* (1540) and *Cosmographia* (1544).

The map shows the entire continent along with the Sinai Peninsula, part of the Arabian Peninsula, and the southern edge of the Iberian Peninsula. Several large cities are marked with clusters of European-style buildings, including church steeples. Rolling mountain ranges break up the interior, along with massive rivers.

The largest of these is of course the Nile River. It flows from the southern interior of the continent to the north. Following the Ptolemaic model that was also used in Münster's earlier map, the Nile originates in the *Montes Lunæ*, or the Mountains of the Moon. Bunting also locates Prester John's kingdom near the Mountains of the Moon.

One of the most distinct toponyms is *Elephantophagi*, near what is today the Congo. This refers to a tribe discussed by Strabo and Pliny who supposedly hunted and ate elephants and traded their hides and tusks across Africa.

At sea, the water is engraved in aesthetically pleasing zig-zag lines. A large ship is joined by a merman and a swan.



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Detailed Condition: