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Nouvelle Carte de la Mer Mediterranee Jusques au Cap S. Vincent et Cap Cantin

Stock#: 35686dc
Map Maker: Olivier
Date: 1746
Place: Toulon
Color: Uncolored
Condition: VG
Size: 32 x 22.5 inches (each sheet)
Price: \$9,500.00



Description:

Rare 2 sheet chart of the Mediterranean, published by Francois Olivier in Toulon in 1746.

One of the most advanced sea charts of the period, which was produced as a working chart and for which there are very few surviving examples.

To the upper right of the chart is an elaborate title cartouche with Neptune riding two white horses together with other personifications of the sea. Above is the coat-of-arms of Jean-Frédéric Phélypeaux, Count of Maurepas, head of the French navy and, to whom the chart is dedicated. Below the title are French, Dutch, Spanish, and Italian scale bars. The scale bars are depicted in the second (Eastern half) sheet within an elaborate cartouche.

Little is known of Francois Olivier (fl.1746-1782), however, he must have been a fine seaman as the present chart gives him the title of Vice-Admiral of the Toulon region ("Vice-Amiral au Departement de Toulon"). By the middle of the eighteenth century Toulon had become one of France's most important naval bases, from where she operated her large Mediterranean fleet.

Rare. We are only able to trace three institutional examples: in the British Library; The National Maritime Museum; and the Bibliotheque Nationale de France. No copies located in America.

Detailed Condition:

Engraved chart on two sheets, a few marks, backed on japan paper with some minor loss to old folds.