Barry Lawrence Ruderman
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Hemisphere Septentrional pour voir plus distinctement Les Terres Arctiques . . .

Stock#: 40795
Map Maker: Covens & Mortier

Date: 1720 circa
Place: Amsterdam
Color: Outline Color
Condition: VG
Size: 18 x 18 inches

Price: SOLD



Description:

Fine example of the Covens & Mortier edition of this important map of the Northern Hemisphere, first published by Guillaume De L'Isle in 1714.

This map would become the proto-type for a number of other 18th Century maps of the Northern Hemisphere and would be re-issued by De L'Isle and his heirs for the next 70 years.

Cartographically, this means of projection has the opposite effect of the Mercator projection. The Mercator projection inflates land masses at the northern and southern extremes while showing regions closer to the Equator correctly. This projection shows the Polar regions correctly and distorts Equatorial lands.

California is shown as a peninsula. Japan is still in a fairly early stage of cartography, and the northeast coast of Russia has not yet been charted out to its full extent. However, it is the blank spaces that show one of the major steps achieved here; De L'Isle is little given to speculation about what has not been proven by actual exploration. His approach is emblematic of the more scientific approach taken in cartography during the 18th Century.

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Detailed Condition:
Minor fold split at lower margin, repaired on verso.