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Partie de la Coste de la Louisiane et de la Floride depuis le Mississipi Jus qua St. Marc d'Apalache . . . 1744

Stock#: 46057
Map Maker: Bellin
Date: 1744
Place: Paris
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG
Size: 16.75 x 8 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

Important early coastal chart of the Gulf Coast, from Apalachicola Bay and St. Marc in western Florida to St. Joseph's Bay and Pensacola.

The coastline includes to Mobile Bay, to Biloxi and Bay St. Louis, as well as Lake Ponchartrain and New Orleans, Lake Borgne and the Mississippi River to the Delta. On either side of the River are sand and mud banks, including an area of woods called "Bois de Chene Verd Propre pour la Construction." Fort La Boulaye is located and noted as having been abandoned.

The chart is drawn from manuscript sketches brought back to Paris by Pierre Francois Xavier de Charlevoix (1682-1761) a Jesuit Priest who traveled through Canada and North America's eastern regions from 1705-1720. Engraved under the direction of Jacques Nicolas Bellin (1703-1761), the Royal Hydrographer to the King in Paris, the chart was included in *L'Histoire et Description Generale de la Nouvelle France*, published in Paris in 1744.

In 1720 the Duke of Orleans sent the Jesuit scholar and explorer Pierre François-Xavier de Charlevoix, to America to record events in New France and Louisiana and determine the best route to the Pacific Ocean. Charlevoix gathered geographic information from fur traders in Quebec and traveled through the Great Lakes and down the Mississippi River. After he returned to France, Charlevoix published his views on North America in his *Histoire et description générale de la Nouvelle France*, which has become one of the most important works on North America during the period prior to the French & Indian (Seven Years) War.

Thomas Jefferson owned a copy of Charlevoix's *Histoire et description générale de la Nouvelle France* and recommended it, along with the accounts of Hennepin and Lahontan, as a "particularly useful species of



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reading." He referred to Charlevoix's book as he developed his own ideas of Louisiana and the Northwest.

Detailed Condition: