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Carte géographique des postes qui traversent la France... 1632

Stock#: 50445
Map Maker: Tavernier / Sanson
Date: 1632
Place: Paris
Color: Outline Color
Condition: VG
Size: 16 x 20.5 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

Melchior Tavernier's nicely engraved map of the post roads of France at the beginning of the 17th century.

[According to a Princeton University site on thematic maps :](#)

This is the first postal road map -also the first important map issued by Sanson. The map shows all of the routes used by the royal posts of the time, identifying the stops along the way; it was reprinted many times during the seventeenth century. Curiously, the cartouche for the dedication has been left blank. The French postal system dates back to 1477, when King Louis XI set up a Royal Postal Service that employed mounted couriers. The timing of this map is relevant, for private mail delivery had just been legalized several years earlier (1627), so both services were operating over the same major routes. In 1672, France made postal service a government-only function.

Detailed Condition: