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Charte eines sehr grossen Landes Zwischen Neu Mexico und dem Eis Meer Se Gross Brittanische Majestate Wilhelm III unterhanig uber reichet durch den R.P. Ludwig Hennepin, Mission Recoll & Not. Apost Bremem beij P. G. Sauremann 1699

Stock#: 58858
Map Maker: Hennepin / Saurmans
Date: 1699
Place: Bremen
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG
Size: 20.5 x 17 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

Rare Separately Published Bremen Edition of Hennepin's Map of North America in Original Color From A Russian Composite Atlas

Fine old color example of the rare Philip Gottfried Saurmans edition of Louis Hennepin's map of North America, first published in a French language edition in 1698.

Finely colored example of Hennepin's highly important map of North America, from his *Nouvelle Decouverte d'un Tres Grand Pays*, which were described by Karpinski as "remarkable improvements" from the then best available modern maps for the Great Lakes.

In addition to its exceptional rarity, the present example is interesting for several reasons. First, the present example was bound into a Russian composite atlas, with the manuscript title in Russian, preserved on the verso of the map. Second, the map appears in original color. This is the first time we have ever seen a Hennepin map bound into a composite atlas and the first time we have ever seen a Hennepin map in original color.

Fr. Louis Hennepin, a member of the Recollect Order of Franciscans, accompanied Rene-Robert de LaSalle on part of his journey down the Mississippi in 1682. LaSalle was hoping to reach the Pacific Ocean, but instead ended up in the Gulf of Mexico, thereby adding a large slice of North America to French claims



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west of the Appalachians, well away from the threat of British colonists. Later, the French would use this expedition as the basis for claiming all of the land between the Rio Grande and Mississippi River as belonging to France, a claim which would not be resolved until the Adams-Onis Treaty in 1819.

The map provides an excellent summary of the state of knowledge of North America, at the beginning of the 18th century. Among other things, this beautiful map attempts to place into perspective Hennepin's mapping of the Great Lakes and the Mississippi River. Karpinski noted that Hennepin's delineations of Lakes Superior, Michigan and Huron are remarkable improvements upon the Sanson maps.

Hennepin produced two maps of North America for this work, this general map and a more regional map. This map's configuration of the Great Lakes and of the North American Coastline suggest reliance upon a different map than Hennepin's more regional map. Both maps, however, show the Mississippi River entering the Gulf far to the west of its actual location. Some historians believe this was done deliberately by La Salle to discourage colonization of the Gulf area by rival nations, by showing the lower Mississippi as Spanish territory.

Hennepin was one of the most popular chroniclers of the exploration of the American interior. Several books in numerous editions appeared under his name, although he was also given to sensational and unsupportable claims, such as his claim to have been first to the mouth of the Mississippi, ahead of LaSalle.

A seminal collectors map.

Rarity

The Bremen edition of the map is rare on the market, and to our knowledge, unique as a separately issued example in old color.

Detailed Condition:

Old color. Minor reinforcement on verso to support old color.