



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

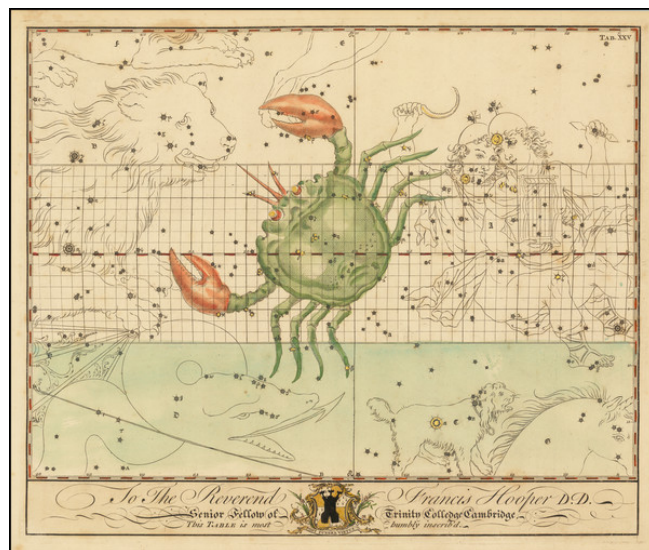
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[Cancer]

Stock#: 67495op
Map Maker: Bevis
Date: 1750 circa
Place: London
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG
Size: 15 x 12 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

A rare star chart centered on the constellation Cancer, the crab. Cancer is sometimes referred to as the most humble constellation, lacking many of the great creation stories of the other constellations. In Greek mythology, Cancer is the crab that pinched Hercules in the foot and was subsequently stepped on during a fight with Hydra. Hera, enemy of Hercules, ascended Cancer into the stars for this feat. Cancer used to be in eclipse during the June solstice during antiquity, which is why it bestows its name on one of the tropics.

The chart includes a colored Cancer and uncolored parts of the constellations of Leo, Argo, Canis Minor, Monoceros, Gemini, and others. Major stars are shown according to brightness and heightened in gold. The image is orientated so that the ecliptic line lies horizontally. Several other lines of celestial importance are shown.

This chart was dedicated to "The Reverend Francis Hooper D.D., Senior Fellow of Trinity Colledge Cambridge" and a coat of arms reads "Post Funera Virtus," or "virtue after death." Hopper left several marks on his college, including dedicating an estate at Barrington to a grant for English students, helping to rebuild Trinity bridge, and leaving a fund to construct a new combination room. He is remembered with a bust in Trinity Chapel.

Detailed Condition:

Minor toning in center top. Stars heightened with gold.