



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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Etats de la Couronne de Pologne, out sont les Royes de Pologne, le GD Duce de Lithuanie, la Russie Noire, la Volhinie.

Stock#: 67741
Map Maker: Nolin
Date: 1750 circa
Place: Paris
Color: Outline Color
Condition: VG
Size: 10.5 x 8 inches
Price: \$ 825.00



Description:

An attractive antique map of Poland showing the cities, rivers, lakes, and forests of the region during the commonwealth with the Grand Duchy of Lithuania. The various regions are demarcated and named, including Black Russia, Podolia, Volhynia, Greater and Lesser Poland, and several palatinates. Parts of adjacent countries are shown, including Russia, Turkey, Hungary, and Germany.

The map shows the Kingdom of Poland in the middle of its great decline. The establishment of the liberum veto in 1573 had strengthened democratic tendencies in the country, but it also introduced an easy way to manipulate the political system. External observers could bribe a single nobleman to stop the passage of any unfavorable legislation or the election of any hostile kings. While Prussian and Austrian statesmen also abused this veto, Russian meddling was particularly advanced, with Catherine the Great even managing to get a lover elected leader of the country.

The commonwealth would eventually commence disappearing in 1772. Three partitions between its neighboring countries would dismember both Poland and Lithuania, and an independent Poland would disappear from maps for nearly a century and a half.

As with other maps by Nolin, attention to detail is apparent in this example. It appears that Nolin has drawn some material from De Fer in making this map. This map is quite scarce.

Detailed Condition:

Drawer Ref: Poland 1

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Toning along centerfold. Minor loss of margin to center top.