Barry Lawrence Ruderman
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Italia XIIII Nova Tabula [Rare early state]

Stock#: 75576
Map Maker: Munster

Date: 1542
Place: Basle
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG
Size: 13.25 x 10.5 inches

Price: Not Available



Description:

One of the Earliest Obtainable Modern Maps of Italy

Scarce example of Sebastian Munster's modern map of Italy, one of the earliest obtainable modern maps of Italy not based on Ptolemy, first published in 1540.

The map includes Sicily, Corsica, Sardinia and the contiguous Adriatic coastline. Munster's 1542 map is unchanged from the 1540 edition.

Munster's *Geographia* (first published in 1540) and his later *Cosmographia* were cartographic landmarks. The *Geographia* included not only Ptolemaic maps, but also a number of landmark modern maps, including the first separate maps of the 4 continents, the first map of England and the earliest obtainable map of Scandinavia. The *Cosmographia* (first published in 1544) was the earliest German description of the world and a major work in the revival of geographic thought in 16th-century Europe. Altogether, about 40 editions of the Cosmographia appeared between 1544 and 1628.

Munster dominated cartographic publication during the mid-16th Century. Munster is generally regarded as one of the important map makers of the 16th Century. Munster was a linguist and mathematician, who initially taught Hebrew in Heidelberg. He issued his first mapping of Germany in 1529, after which he issued a call geographical information about Germany to scholars throughout the country. The response was better than hoped for, and included substantial foreign material, which supplied him with up to date, if not necessarily accurate maps for the issuance of his *Geographia* in 1540.

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Rarity

While Munster's maps were published for many decades, the first two editions are rare on the market.

Detailed Condition:
Minor toning.