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La vera descrizione, di tutta la Francia, & la Spagna, & la Fiandra ... MDLIII

Stock#: 75613
Map Maker: Lafreri
Date: 1554
Place: Rome
Color: Uncolored
Condition: VG
Size: 18.9 x 14.7 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

Impressive Lafreri School Map of France and the Iberian Peninsula

This is a spectacular Italian-published map of western Europe from 1554. It displays classic hallmarks of the Lafreri School style of engraving, most notable in its hydrographic and topographic representations; this work is attributed to Antonio Lafreri himself.

The detail on the map starts at the Rhine River and encompasses all of France and Spain, as well as some of Italy. Important cities and towns are named throughout, with larger cities depicted pictorially. Additional pictorial elements are included: three ships are shown in the ocean, and the Towers of Hercules loom over the Mediterranean.

The title describes the map as:

The true description of all France, Spain, and Flanders, showing the Cities, Oceans, Rivers, and Ports in each. The other parts which surround them are only placed so as to locate these areas. Each item on the map was diligently made and measured.

This map is an updated version of the map engraved by Enea Vico and published in Rome in 1542. Most prior research, including Bifolco and Ronca, attributes the map to Antonio Lafreri. This is supported by its appearance in the c. 1574 Lafreri catalog, wherein it is listed as "Una Parte d'Europa" [A Part of Europe].



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No later states or updated editions of this map are known to exist.

Rarity

According to RBH and OldMaps.com, the map has not appeared on the market in over a decade. An example at sold at Christie's in 2006 for €2,040.

Detailed Condition:

Trimmed close to image. Tear in the upper portion of the map, slightly into image.