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A New Map of the Netherlands or Low Countries, Shewing their Principal Divisions, Cities, Towns, Rivers, &c. Dedicated to his Highness William Duke of Gloucester

Stock#: 77509
Map Maker: Wells
Date: 1712 circa
Place: Oxford
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG+
Size: 19 x 14.5 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

From An Atlas Designed To Educate A Future King of England

Great original antique decorative map of the Netherlands and Belgium. At the time, the Netherlands formed its own independent nation, the United Kingdom of the Netherlands, while Belgium was part of the Hapsburg Empire and termed the Austrian Netherlands.

The map shows cities, geographical features, and more. An inset map in the lower right names the pre-Roman tribes that settled in the area. The map shows a much less accurate representation of the coastline, which curiously resembles what the area would have looked like at a time of lower sea levels.

The map includes a decorative title cartouche and the royal coat of arms. A tall ship sails in the North Sea. A compass rose and scale bar also appear, following mid-18th century English decorative tendencies.

This map was part of an atlas dedicated to the young William, Duke of Gloucester, who was then attending school in Oxford. Edward Wells was then a fellow at Christchurch College, and he intended this work to be used as a pedagogical tool for his students, among whom was William. Following Edward's death at age 11 in 1700, the atlas was published until 1738, retaining its original dedication.

Detailed Condition: