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L'Amerique, Divisee Selon Letendue De Ses Principales Parties, Et Dont Les Points Principaux Sont Placez Sur Les Observations De Mes.rs . . . 1717

Stock#: 77866
Map Maker: de Fer
Date: 1713 (1717)
Place: Paris
Color: Outline Color
Condition: Good
Size: 62 x 44 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

Rare example of the "Original Beaver Map," one of the most influential maps of North America published at the end of the 17th Century.

De Fer's wall map of America is one of the most important and well regarded maps of its time, incorporating late 17th Century Jesuit information from the Mississippi River and Great Lakes regions, as well as a massive depiction of California as an Island. The map is surrounded by images of natives and scenes from varying parts of the continents including two industries important to the old world, Beavers, for their pelts and the Newfoundland cod fishery. The two text panels describe the various regions including Louisiana, Florida and the English colonies.

The map is the first map to include a vignette of Beavers in Canada, which was later used by Herman Moll for his famous Beaver Map of the British Dominions in North America. According to Dahl, de Fer's map was engraved by van Loon, but the decorative vignettes were all designed, etched and engraved by Nicolas Guerard. The beaver scene shows dozens of industrious creatures against a backdrop of Niagara Falls, which Guerard most likely based on Hennepin's first printed view of the falls, published a year earlier in 1697.

Rarity

The first issue, from 1698, is extremely rare. Dahl calls it almost unknown. Neither Tooley nor McLaughlin cite any edition prior to 1705.



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Jacques-Francois Benard, de Fer's son-in-law published a later edition in 1739-40.

Detailed Condition:

Old color. Restored, with some soiling. Laid on linen.