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Iedo, Capitale du Japon (Tokyo)

Stock#: 88881
Map Maker: van der Aa
Date: 1720
Place: Leiden
Color: Uncolored
Condition: VG
Size: 30.25 x 11.25 inches (including Dutch text)
Price: \$ 850.00



Description:

Fine antique engraving of Tokyo, then called Edo, after a view by Arnoldus Montanus. While the capital of Japan and Imperial Court was still in Kyoto, Edo was the seat of the Tokugawa shogunate, during this period becoming one of the biggest cities in the world. Chiyoda Castle is at a distance in the center background, with Nihonbashi River to the left. Many palaces of daimyo, or feudal lords, are labeled in Marunouchi district, the area within the outer moat.

At number 31 (below number 23 and to the right of the Castle), Zōjōji Temple (Xaca Temple) is shown.

In the foreground, two groups are traveling in procession, one away from and the other towards Edo on one of the five Gokaido roads.

Montanus' *Denckwürdige Gesandtschafften der Ost-Indischen Gesellschaft* (1669), translated into English by John Ogilby as *Atlas Japonensis*, with accounts collected from emissaries of the Dutch East India Company, offered a rare glimpse into Japan under the isolationist Tokugawa shogunate. James Clavell's novel *Shogun* is set during the rise of Tokugawa Ieyasu to the shogunate.

Detailed Condition:

Moderate foxing. Uneven top margin.