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[Edmund Halley's Meteorological/Astronomical Winds Chart]

Stock#: 89322
Map Maker: Halley
Date: 1686
Place: London
Color: Uncolored
Condition: VG
Size: 19 x 6 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

The Earliest Meteorological Chart—Previously Unknown State!

Fine example of important Halley's chart of the trade winds, first published in 1686 along with an article in the *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society*.

This state includes printer's instructions to have the map bound into an appendix at page 36. Such a state has not been recorded before.

The untitled chart shows the Atlantic and Indian Oceans, with parts of the far eastern and western Pacific, between thirty degrees latitude north and south. This is the area where the trade winds blow. Curved, dotted lines indicate the direction of the winds in particular areas, showing for the first time on a map the systematic operation of weather patterns.

Halley would later build on this early thematic map with his use of isogonic lines on maps of magnetic declination, but this is his first published cartographic output. This chart would have considerable influence on contemporaries. William Dampier, buccaneer and first person to circumnavigate the world three times, used it on his own voyages and extrapolated from it for the unshown Pacific waters.

To construct the chart, Halley compiled information from a variety of logs, journals, and mariner testimony. He also added his own firsthand observations from a voyage to St. Helena he took in 1676-8.

States of the chart

The chart was published with Halley's corresponding article, "An Historical Account of the Trade Winds, and Monsoons, Observable in the Seas between and near the Tropicks, with an Attempt to Assign the Physical Cause of the Said Wind," in volume 16, issue 183 (September 30, 1686) of the *Philosophical*



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Transactions.

[As published in the journal](#), it had no page number or printer's instructions included in the upper right corner, making this example a previously unrecorded state.

The chart was reprinted in 1687 in a French edition.

Detailed Condition: