



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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Affrika třetj djl okrsslku zemského [Czech Language Edition]

Stock#: 90942
Map Maker: Bunting
Date: 1581 circa
Place: Magdeburg
Color: Uncolored
Condition: VG
Size: 13.5 x 10 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

Fine Map of the African Continent, Based on the First Modern Map of Africa

Rare Czech language edition of Heinrich Bunting's scarce map of Africa, from his *Itinerarium Sacrae Scripturae*. It is based on the first modern map of Africa, which featured in Sebastian Münster's *Geographia* (1540) and *Cosmographia* (1544).

The map shows the entire continent along with the Sinai Peninsula, part of the Arabian Peninsula, and the southern edge of the Iberian Peninsula. Several large cities are marked with clusters of European-style buildings, including church steeples. Rolling mountain ranges break up the interior, along with massive rivers.

The largest of these is of course the Nile River. It flows from the southern interior of the continent to the north. Following the Ptolemaic model that was also used in Münster's earlier map, the Nile originates in the *Montes Lunae*, or the Mountains of the Moon. Bunting also locates Prester John's kingdom near the Mountains of the Moon.

One of the most distinct toponyms is *Elephantophagi*, near what is today the Congo. This refers to a tribe discussed by Strabo and Pliny who supposedly hunted and ate elephants and traded their hides and tusks across Africa.

At sea, the water is carved in aesthetically pleasing zig-zag lines. A large ship is joined by a merman and a swan.



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Detailed Condition:

Minor soiling