The United Provinces or Netherlands

Stock#: 94322
Map Maker: Moll

Date: 1729
Place: London
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG+
Size: 10.5 x 8 inches

Price: SOLD

Description:

Interesting map of the Low Countries, notably includeing a large inset map of the ancient Arx Britannica, a fortress purportedly built by the Roman Emperor Caligula at the mouth of the Rhine River, which disappeared under the river's silt at the end of the 16th Century.

Moll's 1729 map of the United Provinces provides a snapshot of the region during the later stages of the Dutch Golden Age, which extended roughly from the late 16th century to the early 18th century. It encapsulates the Netherlands' geographic, political, and economic landscape during a period of unparalleled maritime power, global exploration, and cultural influence.

One of the most intriguing features of Moll's map is the large inset depiction of Arx Britannica, the Roman fortress said to have been constructed by Emperor Caligula at the Rhine River's mouth.This Roman fortress, once a potent symbol of Roman imperial power, had disappeared from sight by the end of the 16th century, engulfed by the accumulated silt of the Rhine River.   The story of Arx Britannica's construction by the Romans, detailed on the map, strengthens the link between the present geography of the Netherlands and its past as a part of the Roman Empire. This layer of historical information accentuates the map's dual function as a geographical guide and a historical document.

The map's mention of Ortelius's reference to the fortress's foundation in 1552 adds yet another layer of intrigue. Abraham Ortelius was another important figure in the development of modern cartography. The brief reappearance of Arx Britannica above water in 1562, as mentioned in Moll's map, indicates a moment of renewed visibility for this ancient landmark before its final disappearance in 1588.

Detailed Condition:

Drawer Ref: Belgium   Stock#: 94322