

Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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A New and Exact Map of Spain & Portugal Divided into its Kingdoms and Principalities &c. . . . 1711

Stock#: 94991 Map Maker: Moll

Date: 1711 (1726)
Place: London
Color: Hand Colored

Condition: VG+

Size: 38.5 x 24 inches

Price: \$ 1,400.00



Description:

Herman Moll's *New and Exact Map of Spain & Portugal*, first published in London in 1711, is a highly decorative and meticulously detailed geographical representation of these two nations, reflecting the burgeoning British interest in the Iberian Peninsula during the early 18th century.

Moll's work is notable for the depth of information it provides. The map features intricate divisions of the kingdoms and principalities within Spain and Portugal, each rendered with clarity and precision. These territorial divisions are augmented by an extensive road network, demonstrating the map's utility for overland navigation. The map's accuracy is underscored by its claims of having been "rectify'd according to the Newest Observations."

The title cartouche is resplendent with 16 coats of arms, adding a symbolic depth to the territories represented. In addition, a dedicatory cartouche honors Field Marshal John Campbell, the 2nd Duke of Argyll, who led British forces in Spain during the War of Spanish Succession from 1711 until 1712.

The unique and contentious advertisement included speaks to the competitive nature of map publishing during this period. Moll criticizes his contemporaries for their inaccurate, copied, or deceitfully outdated maps, casting himself as an arbiter of geographical truth. The accusation that others' maps might even pose a hazard at sea lends gravity to his assertions and highlights the seriousness with which he viewed his own work's reliability.

By combining utility and beauty, this map stands as one of the most decorative maps of Spain to emerge in a commercial atlas at the dawn of the 18th century, attesting to Moll's commitment to geographical precision and aesthetic presentation.



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State

This is the third of five states, with the imprint of John Bowles substituted for that of Daniel Midwinter Sr., published in 1726.

Detailed Condition:

Original hand-color in outline, retouched. Expert restoration to separation of the left and right vertical folds. Minor toning at the left vertical fold. Flattened.