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Carte Generale et Nouvelle de toute la Pologne du Grand Duché de Lithuanie et des Pais Limitrofes . . . MDCCXX

Stock#: 96461
Map Maker: Perthées
Date: 1770
Place: Warsaw (Varsovie)
Color: Outline Color
Condition: VG
Size: 38.5 x 32.75 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

Constructed for King Stanisław August Poniatowski (Stanislaus II Augustus).

Monumental map of Poland the the Grand Duchy of Lithuania, published in Warsaw and dated 1770, produced on a scale of 1:1,300,000, this remarkable map is the product of an amalgam of work largely produced by Karol Herman de Perthees, who was then serving as the official mapmaker to King Stanislaus II Augustus and his predecessor, Franciszek Florian Czaki.

The map is of significant interest for several reasons. First, it is seemingly an entirely Polish production, engraved in Warsaw and constructed from manuscript maps created for the Poland's King. It is also a significant leap forward in detail and accuracy, most notably being the earliest printed maps of Poland to include post roads and postal towns at such a granular level. Settlements and post stations are densely marked along the roads.

Overview

In the waning years of Augustus III's rule, Poland experienced a burst cartographic initiatives. Numerous maps of varied scales emerged. Many of these maps were produced during the outset of Stanislas Augustus's reign, their origins often shrouded in mystery, as many have not survived and most only exist in manuscript form.



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Pays Limitrophes . . . MDCCXX**

The late 18th century was a period marked by geopolitical tumult in the region, with Russian military's aggression rendering maps of Poland essential for combatants on all sides. Poland's engagement in the wars of succession, the Seven Years War, and confrontations against the Confederacy of Bar highlighted this pressing need.

Mapping The Region Prior To The First Polish Partition

Amidst this backdrop, two maps prominently stand out. The first, the *Regni Poloniae, Magni Ducatus Lithuaniae, Provinciarum Foedere et Vasallagio illis iunctarum et Regionum vicinarum Nova Mappa Geographica*, a 16 sheet map dated 1770, published in 1771 in Königsburg by Jan Jakub Kanter, seemingly drew inspiration from Polish manuscript sources is perhaps the most famous. The most notable of these sources was Franciszek Florian Czaki, who brought with him a drove of 201 maps to the Polish court from the Library of Prince J.A. Jablonski, which were ultimately sold to King Stanislaus II Augustus. This map would later be reproduced in a 4 sheet edition in Nuremberg in 1773 and later in Amsterdam in 1788.

The second map, entirely conceptualized and produced in Poland, is Bartolomeo Folino's engraved "Carte générale et nouvelle de toute la Pologne, du Grand Duché Lithuanie et de pays limitrophes." Dated 1770 and published in Warsaw, the map is enigmatic. Initial beliefs credited Anthony Hiż and Folino as its creators, but this is unlikely as Folino was an Italian painter and engraver. As noted by Buczek,

The prospectus announcing this map published by the well-known Warsaw bookseller Michael Gröll stated that it was made "d'après la Carte de S.A. Monsgr le Prince Repnin", whereas on the manuscript copy of the map bought by the King of Prussia, Frederick II, in 1770 there was the name of Anthony Hiż, an officer of the Lithuanian Foot Guards. But neither Hiż nor Bartholomew Folino were the authors of this map and it was not of Russian origin: it was closely connected on the one hand with the cartographic works of Prince J.A. Jablonowski, resembling in some respects the map of Poland made under the Prince's supervision by J.A. Rizzi-Zannoni, and on the other to the works of Charles de Perthées, the main executor of the cartographic projects of the Polish King, Stanislas Augustus.

As noted by Buczek, the map origins can be traced largely to the work of Charles de Perthées and Franciszek Florian Czaki, drawing from early surveys brought by Czaki and updated information which post dated the Polish delimitation survey of the border of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania with Russia (1766-67), which appear on Perthées's maps, as well as the addition of the Oginski Canal, built between 1765 and 1783 and financed by Kazimierz Oginski.



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A smaller version of the map was published by Michel Groll (Michał Gröll) in Warsaw in 1773 (Carte Generale & Itineraire de Pologne). The original 4 sheet map was also copied by Rizzi Zannoni.

Rarity

The map survives in a few Eastern European institutions, but we are unaware of any examples appearing on the market.

Detailed Condition:

4 sheet joined. Old fold splits, reinforced on verso. Some minor soiling.