



**Barry Lawrence Ruderman
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[Nemesis]

Stock#: 97517
Map Maker: Durer
Date: 1501 circa
Place: n.p.
Color: Uncolored
Condition: VG
Size: 9.125 x 13 inches
Price: \$ 35,000.00



Description:

A Fine Meder II a-b Nemesis.

Illustrated Bartsch (.077) states:

Bartsch referred to this engraving as "La Grande Fortune," presumably following Sandrart. However, as early as Vasari, it had been recognized as symbolic of Temperance. Durer himself, in the diary of his journey to the Low Countries, 1520/21, referred to this sheet as "Nemesis." He gave it away on three occasions and recorded a sale of two other impressions. Giehlow discovered a close relationship between this representation and the description of Nemesis in Poliziano's poem "Manto." Nemesis was credited with transferring Greek knowledge to Rome, much as Pirckheimer, by his numerous translations from the Greek to Latin, transferred Greek knowledge beyond the Alps. The



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identification of the landscape in the engraving as Chiusa, near Innsbruck, supports t his contention. A secondary meaning might be a reference to the defeat of the Imperial troops by the Swiss in 1499. Pirckheimer had been the commander of the Nuremberg contingent. Two preparatory drawings remain (SD.1502 / 9 and SD.1502/25). A drawing by Urs Graf after this engraving is in Regensburg (Collection of Prince van Thurn und Taxis).

Detailed Condition:

Crisp silvery II a-b impression with a high crown watermark. Thread margins on two sides, trimmed to image (but not into image) along left. Margins extended further on three sides. Expert and invisible repair of a few small closed tears.