



## Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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### A Generall Mapp of the Kingdom of France. Designed by Monsieur Sanson, Geographer to the King of France.

**Stock#:** 85534  
**Map Maker:** Blome  
**Date:** 1669  
**Place:** London  
**Color:** Hand Colored  
**Condition:** VG  
**Size:** 16 x 11 inches  
**Price:** SOLD



#### Description:

***One of the first maps of France printed in England.***

This attractive map of France was printed in London, as part of Richard Blome's *Geographical Description Of Four Parts Of World* (1670), one of the first commercially successful English atlases.

The depiction of France is taken from the mapping of Nicolas Sanson (1600-67), the French royal geographer, and depicts France at the height of the power of the 'Sun King' Louis XIV. Each of France's provinces is outlined in vibrant, typically English, original color, including the regions in modern Belgium recently acquired by France during its recent war against Spain. This map would have been of great interest to the English public, as many would have been curious about the nature of their country's perennial military antagonist.

The composition is beautifully adorned with the arms of the map's dedicatee, William Russell, Earl of Bedford and Lord Russell of Thornhaugh.

Richard Blome (1635-1705) was a preeminent force in the great resurgence of English cartography and publishing that accompanied the Caroline Restoration. A highly enterprising businessman, he continually sought out the latest geographical intelligence and employed London's leading engravers to execute his publications. In addition to the *Geographical Description Of Four Parts Of World*, first issued in 1669 (with later editions entitled as the *Cosmography and Geography*), Blome notably published *Britannia* (1673), the third part of his atlas project, detailing the 'Sceptred Isle'. He also issued an important work on England's growing New World Empire, *The Present State of His Majesties Isles and Territories in America* (1687).



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**Detailed Condition:**

Minor restoration in lower right corner.