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A Map of Russia

Stock#: 75133
Map Maker: Speed
Date: 1676
Place: London
Color: Uncolored
Condition: VG+
Size: 20 x 16 inches
Price: \$ 1,500.00



Description:

Nice example of John Speed's map of Russia, from the 1676 edition of Speed's *Prospect of The Most Famous Parts of the World*. . . , published by Bassett & Chiswell.

This fine plan of Russia was based on Blaeu's maps published in the middle of the 17th century but shows Speed's English decorative tendencies. The map, almost as vast in scope as the country it portrays, extends westwards to Poland and Scandinavia, and shows all of the Baltic States, Ukraine, and the Black Sea. Eastwards, the map shows the start of Siberia, including the mouth of the vast Ob River. The Caspian Sea is shown in full. From the Dnieper to the Volga, a strange representation of a "Great Wall of Russia" is shown in the Lipetsk region, one that Putin has recently vowed to revive.

The map includes a number of views showing Arkhangelsk on the north coast, the emperor's court, Narva Castle, as well as a Russian mill and a "hot house" (sauna). Also shown is a fantastic plan of the city of Moscow, including a legend naming places of interest.

The 1676 edition of Speed's *Prospect* was the first edition in fifty years to include new maps. For this edition, the new publishers (given that Speed was long dead) added this map of Russia, along with maps of Southeast Asia, New England and New York, Virginia and Maryland, Carolina, Jamaica and Barbados, Bermuda, and Canaan. As a result, these are by far the scarcest of the regional maps from Speed's Atlas.

Detailed Condition:

Minor tear in lower left corner.