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Maris Pacifici quod vulgo Mar del Zud [Rare English Edition]

Stock#: 0044
Map Maker: Ortelius
Date: 1606
Place: Antwerp
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG
Size: 20 x 13.5 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

A nice example of the exceptionally rare English edition of Ortelius' *Maris Pacifici*..., published in London by John Norton in 1606. Ortelius' *Theatrum Orbis Terrarum* is widely regarded as the first modern atlas. At the time of its publication, it was the most expensive book ever produced. Between 1570 and 1612, it was issued in 31 editions and 7 languages. The *Maris Pacifici* map was first issued in 1590. It is based upon Mercator's world map of 1569, with details from 25 Portuguese manuscript maps of Bartolomeo de Lasso which Plancius obtained and later used for his own world map. Ortelius shows the Moluccas and the Philippines, already the site of considerable Dutch activity and a misprojected Japan. An odd *Isla de Plata* appears above Japan. Guam (*Isla de Ladrones*) is shown. New Guinea appears much different than on Ortelius' World map of 1588, suggesting he may have drawn additional information from an unrecorded voyage. Among other notable features, it is detached from *Terra Australis*. The Solomons or Melanesia are located, as are some of the islands of Micronesia. This was the first map to focus on the Pacific Ocean. The map reflects a much smaller body of water than the true size of the Pacific. The treatment of America and notably the West Coast is reminiscent of Hondius' America. Van Den Broeck estimates that only 300 copies of the English edition were published. The separate maps are extremely rare, this being the first example of *Maris Pacifici* to appear in many years.

Detailed Condition: