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Prima Ostro Tavola

Stock#: 11668
Map Maker: Ramusio
Date: 1554
Place: Venice
Color: Uncolored
Condition: VG
Size: 15.5 x 11 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

Very rare first edition of Ramusio's map of Africa. Ramusio was Secretary to the Council of Ten in Venice for 43 years and his collection of reports on voyages is among the most important works of the period. Ramusio's map of Africa is the first major published map of the African continent after the far more rudimentary map of Munster (1540). This map appeared in the second edition of I of Ramusio's *Della Navigazioni et Viaggi* in 1554. It was planned as the first of a three sheet map extending to SE Asia and China, compiled for Ramusio by the famous cartographer, Giacomo Gastaldi. The information to produce this map was based on knowledge obtained from Arab geographers and Portuguese discoveries. The sea contains numerous ships and sea monsters. Includes text on the verso. In the later copperplate editions, there is no text on verso and several additional sea monsters are added in the upper right. Norwich 6, state 1. The usual thinning at the centerfold. Minor restoration below Alexandria and at centerfold, both virtually invisible, and a bit of spotting. In all, a nice example of this rare first state of the map. Only one recorded appearance in a dealer catalog in the past 25 years (Betz 2000).

Detailed Condition: