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## (Ardennes) Carte Du Pais De Retelois

**Stock#:** 18659  
**Map Maker:** Le Clerc / Picart  
**Date:** 1619  
**Place:** Paris  
**Color:** Hand Colored  
**Condition:** VG+  
**Size:** 18 x 14 inches  
**Price:** SOLD



### Description:

Rare original color example of Jean Le Clerc's map of Retelois. This map first appeared in Le Clerc's very rare *Theatre du Royaume de France*.

The map focuses on the Ardennes region, stretching from Charleville-Mezieres and Sedan in the north to the edge of the Champagne region in the south. The map is attractively designed, with forests and mountains shown pictorially, red highlighting on major cities, and other fine detail. The map is dedicated to Francois de Gonzague, at the time Duke of Rethellois (area shown on the map) and a Lieutenant General for the King in Champagne.

Le Clerc's *Theatre* sought to complete the project started by Maurice Bougeaurou in his *Le Theatre Francoys*, considered to be the first national atlas of France. However, Bougeaurou's work was spatially incomplete, as he was unable to get data from large parts of the country. Le Clerc here worked with the surveyor Henri Picart to produce the present map. Since Le Clerc and Bougeaurou used earlier material whenever possible, this means that the present map is likely the earliest detailed work on the region shown.

### Detailed Condition:

Original hand-color.