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La Grece, ou Partie Meridionale de L'Empire De Turcs en Europe, avec La Table Alphabetique . . . 1686

Stock#: 22773
Map Maker: Du Val
Date: 1686
Place: Paris
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG
Size: 21.5 x 15.5 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

Rare map of the Greek Islands by Pierre Du Val, published in Paris.

Du Val's map focuses on the Aegean and the various trade routes through the region and beyond, tracking the routes of ancient and modern Mariners from the Dardenelles, Gallipoli and Smyrne through the southern islands and on the the Mediterranean both to the east and west of the Isle of Candie (Crete). A curious trio of birds flying southward from the Morean coast is apparently symbolic of Greece's role as the gateway for Oriental trade with the Western Mediterranean and the rest of Europe.

Du Val, then serving as Geographe Ordinaire to the King of France, also includes an unusually early table (index) of place names on each side of the map, one of the earliest such uses on the frontice of a map, which he uses as key for correlating ancient and modern names. At the time, Greece was still an important part of the Turkish Empire, although within the next several decades, Turkish control of the region would be contested by a series of wars led by the Northern European powers and through which Turkish control of the region would be weakened.

Detailed Condition: