



# Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

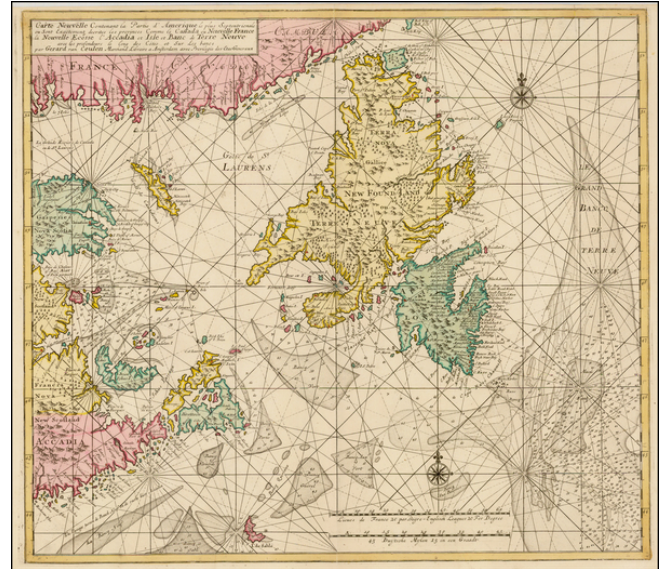
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## **Carte Nouvelle Contenant la Partie d'Amerique le plus Septentrionale ou Sont Exactement decrites les provinces Comme le Canada ou Nouvelle France la Nouvelle Ecosse l'Accadia et Isle et Banc de Terre Neuve . . .**

**Stock#:** 38290  
**Map Maker:** Van Keulen  
**Date:** 1750 circa  
**Place:** Amsterdam  
**Color:** Hand Colored  
**Condition:** VG+  
**Size:** 23.5 x 21.5 inches  
**Price:** SOLD



### **Description:**

***Finely colored example of this working sea chart of Atlantic Canada, from a scarce late edition Van Keulen's 'Zee-Fakkel', the finest Dutch sea chart of the region published during the 18th Century.***

The present sea chart embraces the majority of Atlantic Canada, including the entire coastlines of the Gulf of St. Lawrence and all of the territory east of the Gaspé Peninsula. Notably, Newfoundland takes in an exaggerated form, the Avalon and Burin Peninsulas are outsize, while the depiction of the Grand Banks (very well known to European fishermen) is highly detailed. Familiar names include 'St. Iohn' (St. John's, the capital) and 'Plasentia' (Placentia, the capital of the former French colony of Terre-Neuve, ceded to Britain in 1713).

'Cape Brettoon Land' (Cape Breton Island) takes on a roughly familiar form, although it precedes the founding of Louisbourg (established in 1720). The mapping of peninsular Nova Scotia is quite rudimentary, as it does not yet take into account the mapping done for the French Depot de la Marine, first published by Jacques-Nicolas Bellin. However, some familiar names such as 'St. Marguerite' (St. Margaret's Bay) and 'Canso' are included. The east coast of New Brunswick is recognizable, with the indentations of Miramichi Bay and the Bay of Chaleurs, while Prince Edward Island (St. Iohn) takes on a vaguely accurate form. Further north, the Gaspésie and the mouth of the St. Lawrence are depicted in a



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roughly accurate fashion. To the far southeast, Sable Island, the true "Graveyard of the Atlantic" takes on an exaggerated form, perhaps owing to its outsized threat to Trans-Atlantic shipping.

This scarce chart appeared in a late edition of the *Zee-Falkel*, volume VI (North America & West Indies), an atlas which was the signature masterpiece of the Van Keulen family, the dominant nautical chart makers in the Netherlands for over 100 years. This particular edition was issued by Johannes II Van Keulen, based upon a chart designed by his father, Gerard Van Keulen, around 1717. Gerard Van Keulen, in turn, based his chart upon a map of the same title by Nicholas Vissher, published in Amsterdam around 1700. While earlier Van Keulen maps from the 17th Century appear frequently on the market, the later charts, especially those issued after 1750, are very rare, as most copies of the work were used at sea and therefore very few survived.

The Van Keulen chartmaking firm was perhaps the most long-lived dynasty in the history of map publishing, described as "the largest non-governmental hydrographic office in the world." In 1678, the founder of the dynasty, Johannes Van Keulen (1654-1715), established himself in Amsterdam and in 1680 he obtained a patent from the States of Holland and West Friesland permitting him to publish maritime atlases and shipping guides. Van Keulen named his firm 'In de Gekroonde Lootsman' ('In the Crowned Pilot'). Van Keulen employed the cartographer Claes Jansz. Vooght to design his charts. The *Nieuwe Lichtende Zee-Fakkkel* was issued serially in five volumes from 1681 to 1684. Vooght compiled the maps, with artistic embellishments added by Jan Luyken. The *Zee-Fakkkel* was a great commercial success and led the Van Keulen firm to assume a leading role in the European sea atlas trade.

Johannes's son, Gerard Van Keulen (1678-1726), continued his work and produced new editions of the various volumes. In 1755, the head of the next generation, Johannes II Van Keulen (1704-1755), published a new edition of the volume with maps of Asian waters, including the 'Secret Atals' of the Dutch East India Company (the VOC), in 1753. Johannes's great-grandson Gerard Hulst Van Keulen (1733-1801) occupied himself with the last editions of the *Zee-Fakkkel*. The Van Keulen firm operated in various forms until 1885.

Van Keulen's chart is the finest and most interesting Dutch sea chart of Atlantic Canada published during the 18th Century and as such is an essential piece for any serious collection of the cartography of the Maritimes and Newfoundland.

#### **Detailed Condition:**