



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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Mappe-Monde en deux Hemispheres, Oriental et Occidental, dressee sur les Nuvelle decouvertes, dont les dernieres ont ete faites en 1742 Dediee au Roi par le Chr. de Beurain, Geographe Ordinaire du Roi. 1753.

Stock#: 41301dm
Map Maker: Beurain
Date: 1753
Place: Paris
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG+
Size: 13 x 7 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

One of the earliest appearances of the Sea of the West on a printed map, following J.N. De L'Isle's monumental map of 1752.

Prepared by the Royal Geographer, Jean Beurain, the map depicts many of the most important discoveries of the prior decade, including most notably the Russian discoveries reported by De L'Isle in the north Pacific.

Of perhaps equal note is the extraordinary depiction of the discoveries of Bouvet in 1738-39. In 1738-9, the voyage of Jean-Baptiste Charles Bouvet de Lozier (1705-86), commanding the ships *Aigle* and *Marie*, was undertaken at the behest of the French East India Company. Bouvet's mandate was to find the apocryphal great southern continent. The map greatly over-dramatizes Bouvet's discovery of icebergs between two and three hundred feet high and half a league to two or three leagues in circumference. On January 1, 1739, Bouvet reportedly encountered an icy promontory, which he named Cap de la Circoncision, at 54° South, below Africa, supposedly located next to one of the openings of his polar sea, where he had recorded his many great icebergs .

Importantly, this was the first time land had been spotted beyond the 50th parallel South in the Eastern Atlantic. Bouvet, spotted Cape Circoncision, but severe fog and ice ensured that he was unable to explore the area further, and thus he was unaware that the landmass was part of an island, and not a southern continent. Bouvet lost sight of the cape and was unable to relocate it in the days that followed. For many decades, it remained a mystery as to the true nature of this discovery. Bouvet's plotting of his course was inaccurate, and in spite of several attempts, the cape was not encountered again until 1808, when it was proven to be an island. Named Bouvet Island, it is one of the World's most isolated points of land.



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Detailed Condition: