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[Modern World] Das Erst General / inhaltend die beschreibung . . .

Stock#: 57124
Map Maker: Munster
Date: 1548 circa
Place: Basle
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG+
Size: 15 x 11 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

Nice example of the second edition of Munster's map of the world, one of the most recognized world maps of the 16th century.

This example is from the second woodblock which can be distinguished from the editions from 1540 to 1548, by the initials DK (David Kandel) in the lower corner. Other differences include a sailing ship below Japan (Zinpangri) and names on the faces of the windheads at the bottom of the map. In the first edition, Iceland (Island) is placed within the landmass attached to Scandinavia, while the island below is called Thyle, whereas the name Thyle is removed from the second block.

The map is based upon a mix of information derived from Verrazano's explorations (1522-24), which mistook the Chesapeake for the Indian Ocean, and Cartier's voyages (1534-35) up the St. Lawrence in search of the Northwest Passage. The west coast of America appears on the right side of the map. This is also the 1st map to name the Pacific Ocean (Mare Pacificum). Munster is non-committal as to the continuity of North and South America, an unbroken Central America being implied but not clearly shown. Though unnamed, Terra Australis is present but small, only serving to form the Magellan Strait.

All of North America is called Terra Florida. Munster here adds further to the current confusion over Taprobana and Ceylon, depicting a Sumatra-shaped Taprobana on the west side of the Indian subcontinent, and Java in the approximately correct size and position of Sri Lanka.

Detailed Condition: