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A Chart of the Banks of Newfoundland Drawn from a Great Number of Hydrographical Surveys, Chiefly from those of Chabert, Cook and Fleurieu, Corrected and Ascertained Astronomical Observations. . . 1775

Stock#: 81951
Map Maker: Sayer / Bennett
Date: 1775
Place: London
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG
Size: 26 x 19.5 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

Detailed map of Newfoundland the Grand Banks, published in Jeffery's *American Atlas*.

The map includes three ship illustrations representing the voyages of Chabert, Cook and Fleurieu, inset of astronomical observations on which the chart is based, as well as depths and rhumb lines.

This edition was published by Robert Sayer and John Bennett in 1775.

This detailed chart of the Grand Banks, Newfoundland, and the entrance to the St. Laurence, was first published in the *North American Pilot*. Following the end of the French and Indian War, the English were determined to conduct detailed surveys of much of Canada's eastern coastline, as the waterways were deemed of vital economic importance to the inland fur trade. Among those selected for the task was James Cook.

On April 19, 1763 James Cook, Master R.N.. was ordered to proceed to Newfoundland 'in order to your taking a survey of the Parts of the Coasts and Harbours of that Island' (Tooley & Skelton, p.177). Cook started by surveying the northwest stretch of coastline in 1763 and 1764, then in 1765 and 1766, the south coast between Cape Ray and the Burin Peninsula, and in 1767, the west coast. Cook's work in the region allowed him to master the art of practical surveying and navigation, bringing his name to the attention of the Admiralty and Royal Society. After Cook returned to England to commence the first of his three great voyages to the Pacific, the survey of Newfoundland and southern Labrador was finished by



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Michael Lane, between 1768 and 1773.

The charting of Newfoundland and southern Labrador by Cook, in the years 1763-7, and by his successor Michael Lane, in 1768-73, was unequalled, for thoroughness and method, by any previous hydrographic work by Englishmen; and it produced the first charts of this extensive and difficult coastline that could (in the words of a later hydrographer) 'with any degree of safety be trusted by the seaman' (Skelton & Tooley). For Cook, his accomplishment led directly to his being commissioned to the *Endeavor*, launching his reputation as the greatest maritime explorer of his age, and perhaps of all time.

Detailed Condition: