



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

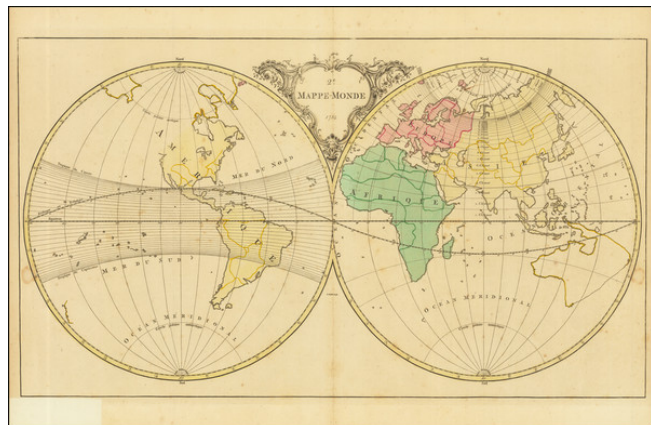
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2e. Mappe Mond 1754.

Stock#: 83329
Map Maker: Kitchin / Palairet
Date: 1755
Place: London
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG
Size: 28.25 x 16 inches
Price: \$ 475.00



Description:

Teaching Geography in the Eighteenth Century

Striking double-hemisphere map of the world, the second in a sequence of three world maps which featured in Jean Palairet's *Atlas méthodique, composé pour l'usage de son altesse sérénissime Monseigneur le Prince d'Orange et de Nassau* (1755).

Palairet, an accomplished teacher, tutored the children of George II of Britain and later served as the Agent to the Dutch States General in London. He gathered his pedagogical ideas for teaching geography in this atlas, which was sold in London, Amsterdam, Berlin, and the Hague. The maps were engraved by Thomas Kitchin, who frequently collaborated with Palairet. The atlas was meant to be used alongside a companion geography text.

Palairet thought that it was inappropriate to overload a pupil with data. In the preface to the atlas, he explains, "the maps are so loaded, so confused, or so small, that the eye finds and distinguishes only with difficulty, the considerable places, among those whose names put little, or not at all, to be noticed: hence, the disgust."

To combat this, Palairet included multiple maps of the same place, adding more and more detail to each iteration. A student was supposed to memorize all the information on a map before moving on to the next. As he writes, again in the preface to the atlas:

The Atlas is made up of Maps of the same size as those of Mr de l'Isle. There are several for each country of the world, the knowledge of which is necessary or interesting; so that instead of presenting all that is essential at the same time and from a single point of view, the first map of a



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continent, or of a country, is only loaded as much as necessary, so that the objects are arranged in the memory, by degrees, and in the way in which one must know them, in order to study successfully. The second, by repeating the same things, contains new ones, and so on others, until they are sufficiently filled, without being too much.

The Maps are illuminated in a particular way, which will facilitate the study of the respective situation of the States, provinces, rivers, &c.

This method seems to have worked, as eight surviving puzzles made from these maps are in the collections of the Victoria & Albert Museum today. These dissected maps were made at the request of Lady Charlotte Finch, the Royal Governess, who commissioned them for the children of George III.

The first world map includes the names for oceans and continents, the equator and the ecliptic, the Tropics of Capricorn and Cancer, the Arctic and Antarctic Circles, the North and South Poles, and the directions of the compass. An ornate cartouche is included between the two hemispheres.

This second world map adds the climatic zones on the eastern hemisphere and the shading of the main trade winds between the tropics in the western hemisphere. Climactic zones were used to describe similar areas of temperature and weather, but was also often applied to the temperament and physical features of the people who lived there.

A third map completes the sequence. It includes place names, the tracks of important historical voyages, and the antipodes of significant European cities in the South Pacific, near the partial coast of New Zealand.

Detailed Condition:

Original hand-color. Tabs added in lower corners to strengthen pages.