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(South Africa) Coutumes Moeurs & Habillemens des Peuples Qui Habitent aux Environs du Cap de Bonne Esperance avec une Description des Animaux et Reptiles qui set truvent dans ce Pais [Customs, Manners, and Attire of the Peoples Who Inhabit the Vicinity of the Cape of Good Hope, with a Description of the Animals and Reptiles Found in this Country.]

Stock#: 89738
Map Maker: Chatelain
Date: 1719
Place: Amsterdam
Color: Uncolored
Condition: VG+
Size: 17 x 15 inches
Price: \$ 475.00



Description:

A remarkable representation of early 18th-century cartography, Henri Chatelain's "Coutumes, Moeurs & Habillemens des Peuples qui Habitent aux Environs du Cap de Bonne Esperance Avec Une Description Des Animaux et Reptiles Qui Se Trouvent Dans Ce Pais" encapsulates the essence of life and biodiversity in the vicinity of the Cape of Good Hope. Authored in 1719 in Amsterdam, the chart captures an array of human customs, indigenous attire, and the rich variety of local fauna, a testament to Chatelain's scholarly attention to detail and breadth of understanding.

The chart is part of Chatelain's monumental 7-volume "Atlas Historique," an acclaimed work of the early 18th century. It vividly portrays the customs and habits of the local people, capturing a unique snapshot of life around the Cape of Good Hope. In addition to the human element, the chart dives into the natural world, with a meticulous enumeration of animals and reptiles found in the region. The reader can discern the details of the native wildlife, including descriptions of the rhinoceros, marine cows, and various lizards, illustrating the broad biodiversity of the area.

In a historical context, Chatelain's chart was groundbreaking for its time. It showcased the diversity of the region in a period when exploration and natural science were in their infancy. The vivid descriptions of



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local customs and wildlife became a valuable resource for further European exploration and colonization in the region. Moreover, the chart is a testament to the Enlightenment's ethos of encyclopedic knowledge, which sought to catalog and understand the diversity of the world.

While it remains firmly a product of its time, the chart also exhibits an early acknowledgement of cultural and biological diversity. Chatelain's work, despite the biases and limitations of 18th-century knowledge, provides an insight into an era of exploration and discovery. Its rich details, striking engraving, and broad coverage of the region around the Cape of Good Hope make it a noteworthy piece within the broader tapestry of historical cartography.

Detailed Condition: