



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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(Mercator's Atlas Minor) Atlas Minor, Das ist: Eine kurtze jedoch gründliche Beschreibung der gantzen Welt In zwey Theile abgetheilt.

Stock#: 97016
Map Maker: Mercator / Hondius / Jansson
Date: 1651
Place: Amsterdam
Color: Uncolored
Condition: VG
Size: 9.25 x 7.5 inches
Price: SOLD



Description:

One of the Largest Atlas Minors Ever Published. The Final German Edition.

A handsome copy of a Jansson-published edition of the Mercator *Atlas Minor*, complete with some 215 engraved maps.

The *Atlas Minor* was first published in 1607 in Latin; French and German editions followed shortly thereafter. The 1610 edition was published in Dordrecht by Adrianus Bottius. The book underwent some modest changes in collation until the copperplates for the map were sold to Jan Janszoon of Arnhem in 1621. Shortly thereafter, and before 1625, he resold the plates to some English printers, and they used the maps to illustrate their editions of *Purchas his Pilgrimes*, an English translation of Mercator's *Atlas*, and Michael Sparke's *Historia Mundi*.

As the original plates for Mercator's *Atlas Minor* had made their way to England, Johannes Janssonius had to hire the engravers Pieter van den Keere and Abraham Goos to engrave a new set of plates. The latter was responsible for the world and continents, while the former took charge of the rest of the book. Latin, French, Dutch, and German editions started appearing in 1628, all with 143 maps (save the French with 142 maps). In 1648, the atlas was expanded into a two-volume production, including 214 plates. Two such editions appeared, in 1648 and 1651. This edition new maps, including maps of the Dutch provinces, although the world and continents maps engraved by Goos were discontinued. Eventually, the plates came into the possession of Pieter van der Aa, who re-engraved and published them in his *Nouveau Petit Atlas*.

The book includes the map of *Cleves*, which is not called for in the index and is unsigned but is present in the copies inspected by Koeman.



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Collation

[Title]; [x] 1-460 [including various errors in pagination and 114 engraved maps]; [iv]; [Title]; 1-428
[including various errors in pagination and 101 engraved maps]; [ii].

Detailed Condition:

Oblong quarto. Contemporary stiff vellum with gilt armorial on front board. Complete with 215 engraved maps. With art nouveau-style bookplate from Gody Freiherr Ebner von Eschenbach. (Some internal dampstaining. Title reinforced on verso where ink manuscript partially effaced. Minor marginalia, mostly covered tastefully. Small repaired tears to first few including title, with some creasing and soiling. Endpapers renewed. Mostly VG+ internally, occasional VG due to dampstaining.)