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(Baltic States) [Eastern Section of John Seller's 'A Chart of the Baltick Sea, containing the Banks, Isles and Coasts from the Isle of Zeeland']

Stock#: 97242
Map Maker: Seller
Date: 1685
Place: London
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG+
Size: 17 x 11 inches
Price: \$ 875.00



Description:

This is the eastern section only of John Seller's very rare *A Chart of the Baltick Sea, containing the Banks, Isles and Coasts from the Isle of Zeeland to the extremities of the Gulf of Finland*, one of the very finest 17th-century charts of the region.

While the whole chart, if complete, would embrace the entire Baltic from Denmark eastwards, the present section includes only the far eastern coastlines of the sea, including the shores of modern Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, as well as almost all of the Gulf of Finland. This region was then being fiercely contested between Sweden and the Russian Empire.

The composition includes a large inset *Chart of the Harbour of Dantzick*, detailing what is today Gdansk, Poland.



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John Seller (1630-1697) was a towering figure of English cartography, and key pioneer of modern mapmaking in variety of disciplines. In the early 1670s, he set about to break the near-monopoly enjoyed by the Dutch in sea chart publication. His production of the first parts of the *English Pilot* (1675), including the charts of the Northern and Southern navigation, marked a watershed moment in the development of hydrography in Britain. Financial constraints prevented him from completing the project, and the endeavor was subsequently taken up by John Thornton, and later the firm of Mount & Page.

The complete chart is very rare, as we are not aware of it being separately offered on the market during the last 25 years.

Detailed Condition:

Original hand-color.