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Europae Tabula VIII [Russia, Baltic, Scandinavia]

Stock#: 94884
Map Maker: Ruscelli
Date: 1561
Place: Venice
Color: Uncolored
Condition: VG
Size: 10 x 7 inches
Price: \$ 225.00



Description:

Europae Tabula VIII is a significant map of Girolamo Ruscelli's oeuvre, published in Venice in 1561. It is a quintessential representation of Eastern European Ptolemaic cartography, harking back to the mapmaking traditions of Claudius Ptolemy, the ancient Alexandrine-Greek geographer.

The map's geographical focus encompasses a large swath of Northeastern Europe, spanning the realms of present-day Russia, the Baltic states, and Scandinavia. Notably, it brings to light several significant historical and geographical entities such as Sarmatia Europaea, Taurica Chersonesus, and Maeotidis Palus.

"Sarmatia Europaea" pertains to a vast region stretching from the Vistula River to the Ural Mountains, populated by the Sarmatians, an ancient Iranian people. "Taurica Chersonesus" refers to the Crimean Peninsula, a historically significant area coveted by numerous empires across time. "Maeotidis Palus" corresponds to the Sea of Azov, located off the northern shores of the Black Sea.

The map also showcases "Caesaris arae" and "Alexandri arae," two supposed monuments, one dedicated to Julius Caesar and the other to Alexander the Great. The "Hyperborei Montes," refer to a mountain range in the far north, aligning with the mythical Hyperboreans' location.

Also depicted are "Carpatus Mons," likely representing the Carpathian Mountains, "Daniae et Norvegiae Pars," a section of the Scandinavian Peninsula, and "Gothia Insula," modern-day Gotland.

Ruscelli's "Europae Tabula VIII" is indeed a compelling artifact, bridging the geographical conceptions of



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the ancient and early modern worlds. It is not only a mirror reflecting the cartographic knowledge of its time but also a vibrant testimony to the enduring influence of Ptolemaic geography.

Detailed Condition:

Toning at the top edge and faint dampstain at the bottom. Good to VG.