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17th century two-sheet Italian map of North America

CORONELLI, Vincenzo Maria. America Settentrionale Colle Nuoue Scoperte fin all'Anno 1688.

Venice, 1691. Coloured. Two sheets conjoined, total 605 x 880mm.

£8,500

A very fine example of this large and highly decorative two-sheet map of North America, with two large cartouches and many vignettes from de Bry engraved in the interior and seas. Despite showing California as an island the map contains the most current information: as map-maker to Louis XIV Coronelli had access to the most recent reports by French explorers, including Marquette (1673) and La Salle (1682). Cumming notes that 'his delineation of the Great Lakes is the best and most accurate on a general map before the eighteenth century'.

CUMMING: Exploration of North America, p.148.

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