



The Great Seal of the Commonwealth, 1651

SIMON, Thomas.

The Great-Seal of the Common-Wealth of England. done by Tho. Simon. This Engrav'd from a Curious Proof Impression in Wax which was in the Collection of the R.t Hon.ble ye Earl of Oxford; now in the Possession of her Grace the Dutchess of Portland.

London: George Vertue, 1753. 215 x 150mm.

£650

An engraved copy of the Great Seal of England of 1651, showing a map of England, Wales, Ireland and the Channel Islands, decorated with the arms of England & Ireland and galleons, within a decorative border. The seal was used to authenticate state documents during the Commonwealth, the period between the execution of Charles I and the Restoration of 1660, when England was a republic. The maker of this seal (and others for Charles I and Charles II) was Thomas Simon (c.1623-65), chief engraver of the Royal Mint. This engraving by Vertue was published in 'The Medals, Coins, Great Seals and other Works of Thomas Simon'.

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