



First Edition of Speed's Saxon Heptarchy

SPEED, John.

Britain As It Was Devided in the tyme of the Englishe Saxons especially during their Heptarchy.

London, John Sudbury & George Humble, 1611-1612. Coloured with some gold highlights. 385 x 505mm.

£3,500

The uncommon First Edition of the most decorative printed map of the British Isles, engraved by Jodocus Hondius for Speed's 'Theatre of the Empire of Great Britain'. England is shown divided into the seven Saxon kingdoms, with the kingdoms of the Scots, Picts and Welsh also marked. Flanking the map are two columns of vignettes: on the left can be seen the first king of each region; on the right the conversions of their successors to Christianity, persuaded by discussion, preaching, visions and violence. Speed's map was influential, copied by both Blaeu and Jansson for their atlases of the British Isles.

SHIRLEY: 317, catchword 'B [tou-]ching'.

Stock ID :19814