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One of the first examples of two-colour printing

SYLVANUS, Bernard.
Sexta Europae Tabula.

Venice, 1511. Woodcut on two sheets conjoined, total 420 x 565mm.

£4,500

A rare map of Italy, from Sylvanus's edition of Ptolemy's Geography, the first to be published in Venice. Having many names printed in red makes it one of the first examples of two-colour printing, achieved by printing the sheet twice. It is also what Shirley calls 'an isolated example of Venetian cartographic enterprise', forty years before Gastaldi's version of Ptolemy. It was never reissued. As the maps were printed on both sides of the sheet, this has half of the maps of Sardinia & Sicily and Dalmatia on the reverse.

BORRI: 13.

Stock ID :21808