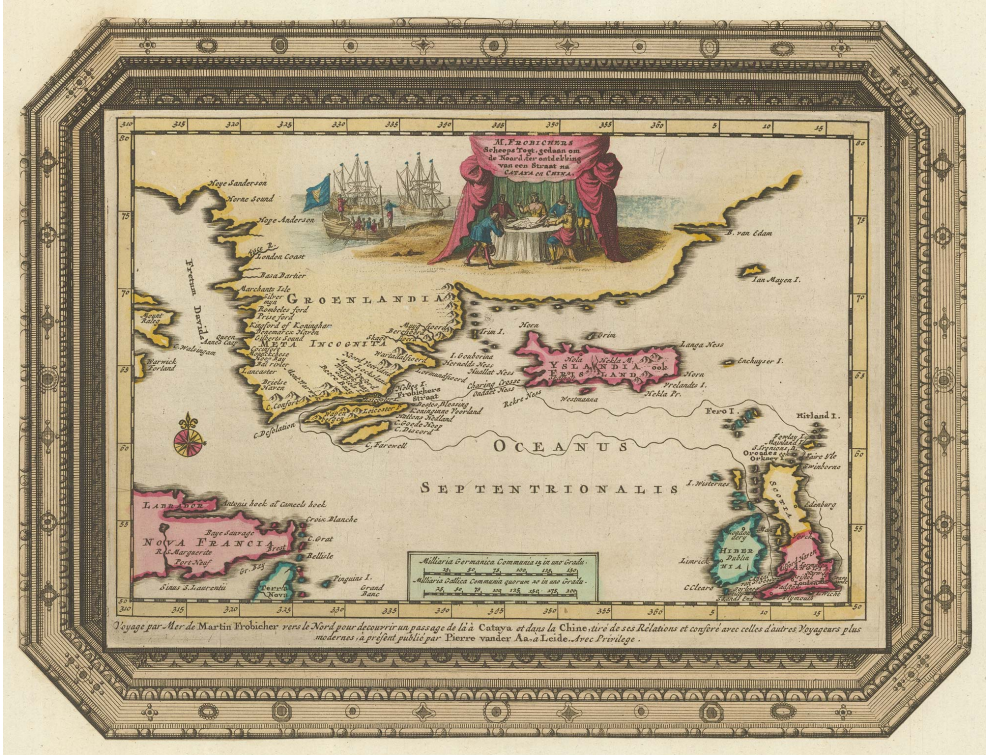
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Martin Frobisher's voyage in search of the North West Passage

AA, Pieter van der.
M. Frobichers Scheeps 'Togt, Gedaan om de Noord, ter Ontdekking van een Straat na Cataya en China. Voyage par Mer de Martin Frobicher...

Leiden, c.1714. Original colour. Map within separately-printed frame-like border, total printed area 220 x 290mm.

£650

Martin Frobisher's map of his route across the rth Atlantic to Greenland in 1576, with the straits he supposedly discovered there. However it is based on his belief in the existence of the mythical island of 'Frisland', causing him to mistake Greenland for his true location on Baffin Island in Canada. Frobisher (1535-94) intended to find the North West Passage: he landed on Greenland but thought it to be the non-existent Frisland shown on his charts. When he sailed on and touched land again he believed he had arrived in Greenland when in fact he was at what is now Iqaluit (previously Frobisher Bay) on Baffin Island in the Canadian Arctic. Entering the bay he believed he had discovered a strait on Greenland, and even two more voyages (1577 & 1578) did nothing to make him doubt himself. Over a century later this map still shows Frobisher's Strait on Greenland, although Frisland had been consigned to history.

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