



An important Leo Belgicus in fine original colour

LANGREN, Hendrik Floris van.

Leo Belgicus. Artificiosa & Geographica tabula sub Leonis figura 17, inferioris Germaniae Provincias repraesentans, cui addita sunt singularum insignia, unà cum ordinaria Praefectuarum distinctione earumque Praefectis prout a.o 1559. à supremo earundem Magistratu distributae atque constitutae fuerunt.

Amsterdam: Pieter van den Keere, 1622, French text edition. Original colour. 370 x 460mm.

£18,000

A map of the seventeen United Provinces depicted as a lion, facing right, one paw raised (over Cologne). It is decorated with a large strapwork title cartouche, three pairs of costumes, two galleons and a sea monster. Engraved by Hendrik Floris van Langren (c.1548-1648), it was first published sometime before 1609. However the original state is so rare (only three known examples) that it was often attributed to Pieter van der Keere (1571-post 1646), who added his name to the plate when he included it in his 'La Germanie Inferieure de Petrus Keerius'. This work, the first Dutch national atlas, was not a success (Koeman lists only three editions, in Latin 1617 & 1622, and this French edition), so even his state of this map is rare.

KOEMAN: Kee 3.

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