

Engraved map, fine original hand-colour, dissected and mounted on linen, explanation and directions pasted to left and right margin, a few losses to old folds.

JEFFERYS' GEOGRAPHICAL GAME OF THE WORLD

The Royal Geographical Pastime, Exhibiting a Complete Tour Round the World in which are delineated the North and North West Passages into the South Sea, and other modern Discoveries, By Thomas Jefferys, Geographer to the King. To His Royal Highness George Prince of Wales, Duke of Cornwall, &c., &c., and Knight of the Most Noble Order of the Garter. This Plate is By Permission most Humbly Dedicated By His Royal Highness's most Obedient & devoted Humble Servant Thomas Jefferys.

Author
[OUR SHARE] JEFFERYS, Thomas

Publication date
1st January, 1770.

Publisher
Published according to the Statute of the 7th. of George III by Thomas Jefferys at the Corner of St Martins Lane,

Publication place
London,

Physical description
Engraved map, fine original hand-colour, dissected and mounted on linen, explanation and directions pasted to left and right margin, a few losses to old folds.

Dimensions

510 by 700mm (20 by 27.5 inches).

Notes
Rare cartographic game of the world.

The game begins in the Azores, and heads down the west coast of Africa, passing St Helena, and the Cape of Good Hope were you “stay 3 turns to survey the Dutch Settlement”, from there the player heads up the east coast and into the Red Sea to Mecea (Makkah or Mecca) where “to which the followers of Mahomet are to make a pilgrimage once in their lives”. The player leaves the Arabian Peninsula, journeying through Iran and into India, where one must stay a turn in Calcutta the capital Bengal, “to see the richest country in the world, but take care to avoid the Black hole”. From here they head south to Bencoolen on Sumatra, the “principal British Settlement in the East Indian Islands”, hence to Australia and Botany Bay “the first European Colony in New South Wales”. From there they head north through the Philippines and on to Canton “the only sea port in China, where European’s are suffered to trade, and the Grand mart of Tea”. The player then turns their attention to Russia, Nova Zembla. The player arrives in the New World through Baffin’s Bay “discovered by an Englishman in quest of a North West Passage”. From where they journey to Husdon’s Bay, the Baring Straits

Down the south coast to California where “the inhabitants have no houses, dwell in arbours in the summer, and creep into caves in the winter”, to Central and South America and up the east coast to New York, and Newfoundland, were the traveller must stay a turn to sample the “chauder” a dish of cod boiled with fat salt pork, and a cup of “black strap” spruce beer and rum sweetened with treacle. The game ends with the sight of Lands End “the first pleasant place in England which is seen by mariners in their return from long voyages”.

The present example is the second state with the engraved dedication to the Prince of Wales added to the lower right.

Rare we are only able to trace two institutional examples: a first state housed at the British Library; and an example of the second state at Colonial Williamsburg.

Bibliography
Cartographic Items Maps * 950.(22.)

Provenance

Price:

Inventory reference: 3037

© Daniel Crouch Rare Books Ltd | 2025