



A sperm whale beached near Scheveningen in 1598

FRANCUS, Jacobus.

Warhafftigh Und Wunderbarlich Monster Oder Pottfisch In Der Gestalt Eines Wallfisches, Aus Dem Möer Sich Versandet Hatt Zwischen Catwyck Und Schevelingen Als Wyter In Der Relation Ercleret Am 4. February, Anno 1598.

Frankfurt, 1598. 240 x 295mm.

£750

A 70 foot long sperm whale which was stranded on the beach at Berckkey, between Katwijk and Scheveningen, in February 1598. The whale was fastened with ropes and anchors and was climbed by ladder to be measured and examined, with men even clambering inside the massive jaws of the animal. It was one of a spate of sperm whale strandings on the Dutch North Sea coast, from the end of the 16th century through to the middle of the 17th century, with a few even later.

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