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The first printing of this classic 16th century map of Scotland

ORTELIUS, Abraham. Scotiae Tabula.

Antwerp: Plantin, 1573, Latin text edition. Old colour. 355 x 480mm.

£1,200

A fine map of Scotland, one of the earliest maps to show the country separately. Orientated with north to the right, it is derived from Mercator's 8-sheet map of the British Isles, published 1564. On the map are two interesting notes in Latin: 'There are obnoxious tempests in Loch Lomond, and its fish have no bones' and 'Loch Ness and the river Ness never freeze'. The pagination on the verso was originally '6.A.', identifying it as a printing from the first issue of the map, the 1573 Additarmentum. Here the '6' has been changed to a '9' with old ink mss and the 'A' scratched out, suggesting that an unused sheet was added to a 1579 edition of the full 'Theatrum' atlas.

VAN DER BROECKE: 18, first state of three.

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