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MEHMED II. *Epistolae Maumetis Turcor[um] Imperatoris ad diversos pri[n]cipes*. [Venice: Otinus de Luna, ca. 1500].

4to (195x140 mm), modern limp vellum with handwritten title at spine, ff. 46. Text in Latin, Roman type, 31 lines.

VERY SCARCE FIRST EDITION OF THIS COLLECTION OF LETTERS OF MAHOMET II, EMPEROR OF TURKS, THE PHILOSOPHER DIOGENES, THE PHYSICIAN HIPPOCRATES AND MARCUS BRUTUS, JULIUS CAESAR'S ADOPTIVE SON AND KILLER.

At leaf 12r, Laudivio Zacchia declares to be the translator of Mahomet's Letters, but indeed he was the actual author.

LAUDIVIO ZACCHIA (1567–1637) was an Italian Catholic cardinal. He worked in the Roman Curia and later became pro-treasurer of the Apostolic Chamber and later its commissary-general.

MEHMED II (1432–1481), was an Ottoman sultan. He conquered Constantinople (now Istanbul) and brought an end to the Byzantine Empire. Mehmed continued his conquests in Anatolia with its reunification, and in Southeast Europe. Being a highly regarded conqueror and caliph of Islam, Mehmed is considered a hero in the Muslim world.

CONDITION: Light foxing but a good and crisp copy.

REFERENCES: IGI 5972; Goff M66; BMC V 570; BSB-Ink Z-17; GW M25652; HCR 10500.

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