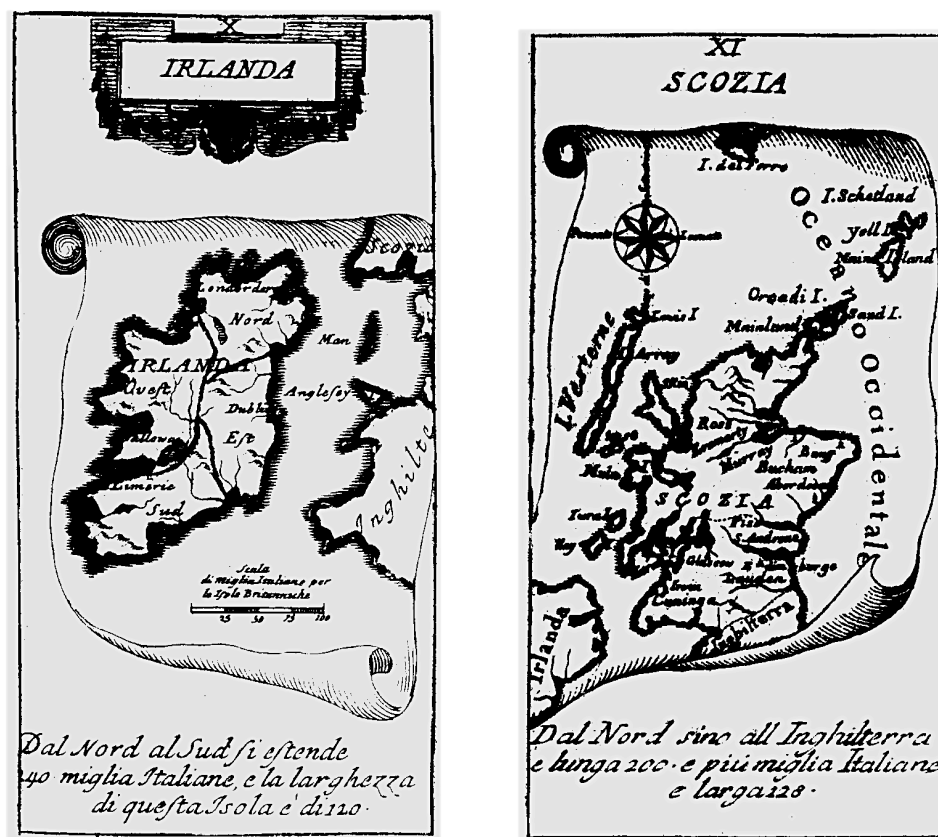


Several sets of cards featuring maps appeared in Italy towards the end of the eighteenth century (see also 1779, 1790 & 1794a). A Tarot pack was issued consisting of seventy-eight cards about 70 x 125 mm. Most of them have heraldry and descriptive notes but the twenty two atouts, or numbered trump cards, feature designs about 60 x 115 mm. incorporating attractive little maps on scrolls.

There are maps of the continents and of European countries, with three relating to the British Isles: *Irlanda* (see below); *Scozia*; *Inghilterra*. These are described by Sylvia Mann and David Kingsley: *Playing cards depicting maps of the British Isles, and of English and Welsh counties*. London, Map Collectors' Circle, 1972 (page 23).



The British Museum

The authorship of these cards is not known but it is thought they were probably issued about 1770-1780 in Naples. Some time later, a close copy of the pack was published. The titles on these new plates lack the cartouches of the earlier ones and the position of the maps is slightly higher (see *Scozia* above). A complete example of the first set made £11,875 at Sotheby's London sale-rooms in November 2013.

*Gioco geografico dell'Europa*. (Naples, 1770; 1780).