



Folio (520 by 335mm), title, eight pages text, with index to charts, world map, and 39 double-page engraved charts (lacking chart of the English Channel), title, world map and all charts in ORIGINAL OUTLINE HAND-COLOUR, some minor toning to a few plates, blind-stamped panelled vellum, with central arabesque device, green ties.

A FINE FRENCH EDITION OF GOOS' 'ZEE-ATLAS', IN ORIGINAL COLOUR

L'Atlas de la Mer ou Monde aquatique.

Author

GOOS, Pieter

Publication date

1670

Publisher

Pieter Goos,

Publication place

Amsterdam,

Physical description

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Dimensions

520 by 335mm. (20.5 by 13.25 inches).

Notes

Although Goos was one of the best-known maritime booksellers of Amsterdam, responsible for publishing a number of different sea atlases, much of his work was derivative. In the case of the 'Zee-Atlas', Goos copied nearly all the charts from Hendrick Doncker's atlas of 1659.

Goos's background was more as an engraver (following on from his father Abraham) and bookseller, rather than chartmaker. As a bookseller Pieter Goos wished to appeal as much to the library as to the galley, as can be seen by his explicit statement on the title page: that the work will be as beneficial to "Heerenen Kooplieden" (gentlemen and merchants) as to "Schippers en Stuurlieden" (pilots and seamen). This bias towards the gentleman's library is also evident in the minimal revision that the atlas and charts undergo throughout their publication history. Similarly, the number of charts is not increased from the 40 or 41 called for in the contents page.

The present example contains 41 charts, the extra charts being: the 'Paskaerte van de Zuydten Noordt Revier in Nieu Nederlandt' (no. 34). The chart of New York and New Jersey is considerably larger than the other charts in the atlases, and Burden states that it was "probably published separately, and included as a supplement upon request". The finely engraved chart details the East Coast of America from New Amsterdam (New York) to the Delaware River.

Goos's atlas is arguably the most aesthetically pleasing of the early Dutch sea atlases, as Koeman notes, "The... beautiful sea-atlas reflect[s] a high professional standard. The many editions published over twenty-five years are an indication of the customers' appreciation".

Bibliography

Burden 388; c.f. Koeman Goos 2C; c.f. Shirley British Library, M.GOOS-2f.

Provenance

Price: £70000

Inventory reference: 21938