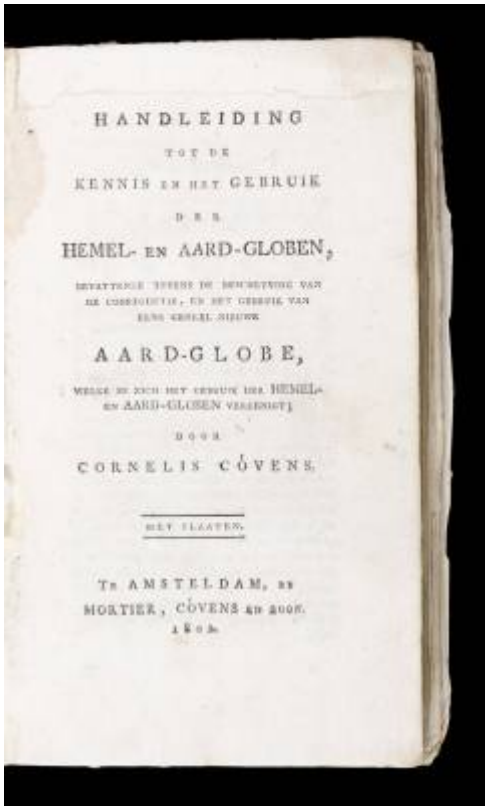

HANDLEIDING

TOT DE

KENNIS EN HET GEBRUIK

DER

HEMEL- EN AARD-GLOBEN,

AAR D-GLOBE,

DOOR

CORNELIS COVENS.

Te AMSTELDAM, by

MORTIER, COVENS en zoon.

Octavo. 8 printed tables and 14 folding engraved plates; contemporary half calf, speckled paper boards, gilt.

AN INNOVATIVE GLOBE

Handleiding tot de kennis en het gebruik der hemel- en aard-globen.

Author
COVENS, Cornelius

Publication date
1802.

Publisher
Mortier, Covens and son,

Publication place
Amsterdam,

Physical description
Octavo. 8 printed tables and 14 folding engraved plates; contemporary half calf, speckled paper boards, gilt.

Dimensions
227 by 137mm. (9 by 5.5 inches).

Notes
First and only edition of this manual for the construction and use of an innovative type of terrestrial globe by Cornelis Covens (1764-1825), a member of the well-known Amsterdam Covens family of publishers, mapmakers and cartographers.

In 1802 the Amsterdam mapmaker Cornelis Covens (1764-1825) had published a 12-inch terrestrial globe with a new construction. By means of a complex mounting with numerous brass rings, Covens designed this Copernican globe – inspired by one brought out by the English instrument maker George Adams senior (1704-1772) – to show the real movement of the earth and other related phenomena. Initially Covens didn't intend to make a new construction for his celestial globe, because in his opinion the common celestial globe sufficiently shows the apparent movement of the sky. The Leiden professor Jacob de Gelder (1765-1848), however, didn't agree with him. According to De Gelder, the ideal celestial globe was one that could be adjusted to an arbitrary "epoch". He therefore advised Covens to make a "new" celestial globe as well. Shortly afterwards Covens indeed designed a a new globe, which served as the counterpart of his new terrestrial globe. Covens's new globes got an enthusiastic scholarly reception. Because the mounting included many brass rings, however, the globes were very expensive compared to common globes. Consequently, Covens's "unusual" globes proved a commercial disaster.

Each of the folding plates is illustrated with several schematic figures of terrestrial and celestial globes, astronomical diagrams, planetary motion, and directions on mounting the globes.

Bibliography
XXIV, 415, 20, [16] pp. Elly Dekker & Marco van Egmond, "Het 'ongewone' globepaar van Cornelis Covens …", in: Caert-Tresoor, 22/1 (2003), pp. 1-13, with illustr. of the "unusual" globes by Covens in the Koninklijk Huisarchief.

Provenance

Price: £3000

Inventory reference: 17686

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