

Armillary sphere, pasteboard, covered with hand-coloured paper, solstice, polar, tropic, and equinox colures, and celestial equator with graduations on the outer side with divisions for months and houses of the zodiac, with a full stamped pasteboard meridian circle showing graduations in degrees, hour and geographical circles at each pole. The main axis with a miniature globe, diameter ¾ inch (17mm.), made up of 12 hand-coloured engraved gores, with two card planets set on brass arms set around. The armillary sphere set in a horizon bar and mounted in its original turned fruitwood case, some cracks in the base neatly repaired.

A GEOCENTRIC ARMILLARY

[Armillary Sphere in Case]

Author
[Anonymous].

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Physical description
Armillary sphere, pasteboard, covered with hand-coloured paper, solstice, polar, tropic, and equinox colures, and celestial equator with graduations on the outer side with divisions for months and houses of the zodiac, with a full stamped pasteboard meridian circle showing graduations in degrees, hour and geographical circles at each pole. The main axis with a miniature globe, diameter ¾ inch (17mm.), made up of 12 hand-coloured engraved gores, with two card planets set on brass arms set around. The armillary sphere set in a horizon bar and mounted in its original turned

fruitwood case, some cracks in the base neatly repaired.

Dimensions
Diameter: 3 inches (75mm).

Notes
The Ptolemaic armillary sphere shows the cosmos with the earth at its centre.

The complex device is made of moving circles: a meridian surmounted by an hour circle with metal pointer and an internal ring structure of polar circles, tropics and equator, joined by an equinoctial and a solstitial colure and surrounded by a planar zodiac band. These elements surround a rotating terrestrial globe, and a revolving sun and moon of flat paste-board discs, horizon band with calendar and zodiac. The four quadrant supporting the horizon ring give the latitude and longitude of major cities throughout the world.

Bibliography

Provenance

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