

Globe, 12 hand-coloured engraved paper gores, over a papier mâché and plaster sphere, varnished, housed in a modern wooden case.

“CIRCLE OF PERPETUAL OCCULTATION”

Newton’s Improved Pocket Celestial Globe.

Author
NEWTON, [William], NEWTON, [William Edward], and NEWTON, [Alfred Vincent]

Publication date
c1860]

Publisher
No. 66 Chancery Lane,

Publication place
[London,

Physical description
Globe, 12 hand-coloured engraved paper gores, over a papier mâché and plaster sphere, varnished, housed in a modern wooden case.

Dimensions
Diameter: 76mm (3 inches).

Notes
A fine example of Newton’s celestial globe from the middle of the nineteenth century.

Biography

During the first half of the nineteenth century the firm of Newton, together with Bardin and Cary, occupied a leading position in the manufacture of globes in London. The firm was established by John Newton (1759-1844) in 1783 and operated originally from the Globe & Sun 128 Chancery Lane, moving to 97 Chancery Lane in 1803, before settling at 66 Chancery Lane in 1817.

John Newton (1759-1844) was trained by Thomas Bateman (fl1754-81), who had previously been apprenticed to Nathaniel Hill (fl1746-1768). Newton's first globe was a revised edition of Hill's 1754 pocket globe, which he published in 1783 in association with William Palmer. The partnership dissolved shortly after, and Newton continued to publish the pocket globe under his own name. John's second son William Newton (1786-1861) joined the firm between 1814-1816, which traded under the name J. & W. Newton. In the same year the firm produced a new series of globes, including a new pocket globe.

By the 1830s the firm was also active as a patent agent and was joined by Miles Berry, a civil engineer and patent agent, after which the firm was known as Newton, Berry & Son. In 1842, William's eldest son, William Edward Newton (1818-1879), joined the business, followed by his brother Alfred Vincent Newton (1821-1900). The firm became known as W. Newton & Son, or once again, on the death of William, as simply Newton & Son from 1861 until about 1883.

Perhaps the greatest triumph for the Newton family was the Great Exhibition of 1851, where, aside from the globes they exhibited from one to 25 inches in diameter, they were awarded a prize medal for a manuscript terrestrial globe of six feet in diameter.

Astronomy
The celestial cartography labels the constellations, which are depicted as mythological figures. The stars are represented by different symbols according to orders of magnitude and marked by the Bayer notation. A number of astronomical coordinates are labelled, including the ecliptic, north and south declinations, and the "Circle of Perpetual Apparition at London" and the "Circle of Perpetual Occultation".

Bibliography
Dekker ?GLB0060.

Provenance

Price:

Inventory reference: 15680

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