

TERRESTRIAL AND CELESTIAL
GLOBES

THEIR HISTORY AND CONSTRUCTION
INCLUDING A CONSIDERATION OF THEIR
VALUE AS AIDS IN THE STUDY OF
GEOGRAPHY AND ASTRONOMY

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Last Quarter of the Sixteenth Century.

work of Gessner, in proof of which he noted that it bears the mark of this goldsmith, the same being the letter "Z." The terrestrial globe, like that of Wolfegg, has a diameter of 17 cm., the whole being very artistically designed and engraved. It, too, is surmounted by a celestial globe and rests on a figure of Atlas, which figure in turn stands upon an ornamental base. Each of the two globes can be opened on the line of the equator, thus practically making four drinking cups. On the terrestrial globe, Marcel notes, California is represented as an island. Near "Nova Guinea" one finds the inscription "Nova Guinea semper inventa qual . . . insula an pars continentis australis." A large austral land is represented with the inscription "Hanc continentem australem nonnulli Magelanicam regionem ab ejus inventore nuncupant." The absence of the Strait of Lemaire and of New Zealand, with the representation of the austral land with more or less indefinite outline, Marcel thinks warrants a belief that it was constructed near the close of the sixteenth century. Attention is likewise called by Marcel in his article to three other small globes which he found in the Museum des Cordeliers of Basel, and also to one "très beau et très riche" in the Musée Ariana of Geneva.

A very artistic gold beaker globe (Fig. 82) may be found in the collection presented by Mr. J. P. Morgan to the Metropolitan Museum of New York City. The sphere of this, which opens on the line of the ecliptic, has a diameter of 8 cm. and rests upon the figure of a satyr with uplifted hands forming a part of the support, this figure in turn resting upon an ornamental circular base. Topping the sphere is a small figure of Neptune carrying a trident and standing in a shell or conventionalized small boat. The engraved figures of the many constellations decorate the surface of the sphere.

In the private library of Mr. J. Pierpont Morgan may be found a fine example of an ivory terrestrial globe of this period (Fig. 83). It is hollow, being composed of two

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hemispheres joined on the line of the equator, and has a diameter of about 8 cm. Near the south pole is the author and date legend (Figs. 84, 84^a) "*Antonius Spano tropiensis fecit 1593.*" "*Made by Antonio Spano of Tropea, 1593.*" In the unnamed southern continent, and over a representation of the Spanish arms, is the dedication to the Infante Philip, afterward Philip III, reading "*Principi Philip. Philip II Hisp. Indiar. Neap. e Siciliae Cathol. Regis Filio,*" and within the Antarctic circle a salutation reading "*Princeps felicissime totus Orbis ad se gubernandum te vocat et expectat.*" "O most fortunate ruler, the whole world calls and awaits you to govern it." Antonio, a native of Tropea, near Naples, was granted in the year 1595 a pension of one hundred ducats, by his master and patron, Philip II. This he seems to have enjoyed until his death, which occurred in Madrid in the year 1615. We learn that this was continued to his son, Francisco Spano, by King Philip III. The mounting of the globe, which is simple, seems to be of a later date than that given as the year of construction in the date legend, but it is well suited to the artistic piece. The world map is well executed, and may be said to be in a perfect state of preservation. Its geographical details, in so far as given, are quite as good as the best to be found at this time, though it is very evident that the piece was primarily intended to possess decorative rather than scientific value. The Mediterranean region gives us in its general features a representation of the Ptolemaic ideas, particularly to be observed in the representation of Italy and the Caspian Sea. In Chinese Asia appears a legend reading, "*Hic artem impremendi ante mille años habuerunt.*" "Here they had the art of printing a thousand years ago."

In "Ratai" (Katai) a flag is represented reminding of Marco Polo, and near this the legend "*His magnus Cham Tartarorum et Chataiae imperator longe dominatur.*"

In this Asiatic region we find such names as "Tabin," "Ania," "Quinsai," "Catigara," "Zaiton," "India Orien-



Fig. 83. Ivory Terrestrial Globe of Antonio Spano, 1593.

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talis." "Stretto Anian" appears as a long channel. In Africa we read, "His Imperator magnus Presbyter Africae Rex potentis mus." In the New World we find "America sive India nova," which is not connected with Asia. The coast in the northern regions is better drawn than in the southern. The St. Lawrence River is represented, but the Great Lakes are omitted. "Estland," "Frisland," and "St. Brandan" are laid down. The austral land, as represented, is very large, being designated "Terra Australis: Vastissimas hic esse regiones ex M. Pauli Ven. et Lud. Vartomani scriptis perigrinationibus constat." "Austral land: here is known to be a very extensive region referred to in the travel records of Marco Polo and of Ludovico Vartema." Mr. Beazley says of the globe that it once belonged to the Kempenaer family of Leenwarden, and was later acquired by Mr. H. J. Pfungst through the firm of Miller & Company of Amsterdam.⁸⁶ It later passed into the library of Mr. Morgan.

As noted at the beginning of this chapter, leadership in globe and map making, in the closing years of the century, was passing into the Netherlands, which in the second quarter of the century had contributed in this field of scientific endeavor the great Mercator. His influence, as was also noted, found its way into Italy and into favor with certain globe makers, although the individualistic spirit of the Italians seemed to show a marked preference for manuscript and engraved metal globes. In the front rank of those who were to lead the Low Countries into their place of preëminence stood the Van Langren family, the father, Jacobus Florentius, as he was accustomed to call himself, and the sons, Arnoldus Florentius, Henricus Florentius, and Michael Florentius.⁸⁷ The father was a native of Denmark, but sometime prior to 1580 he transferred his residence to Arnhem in Gelderland, and later to Amsterdam. Legends on his oldest extant globe give us to understand that at the time of its construction he labored jointly with his son Arnold in this work, these legends reading "Jacobus Florentius Ultra-



Fig. 84. South Polar Region on Globe of Antonio Spano, 1593.



Fig. 84a. South Polar Region on Globe of Jodocus Hondius, 1600.