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in the 16th century

ANTIQUARIAAT  
FORUM





## Early humanist edition, printed by Plantin

### 01 AESCHYLOS and Gulielmus CANTERUS (editor).

Tragoediae VII ...

Antwerp, Christoffel Plantin, 1580. 16°. With a small woodcut printer's device on the title page, 9 decorated woodcut initials, 7 woodcut headpieces, and 8 woodcut tailpieces, further with printed manicules in the margins throughout. Contemporary gold-tooled calf.

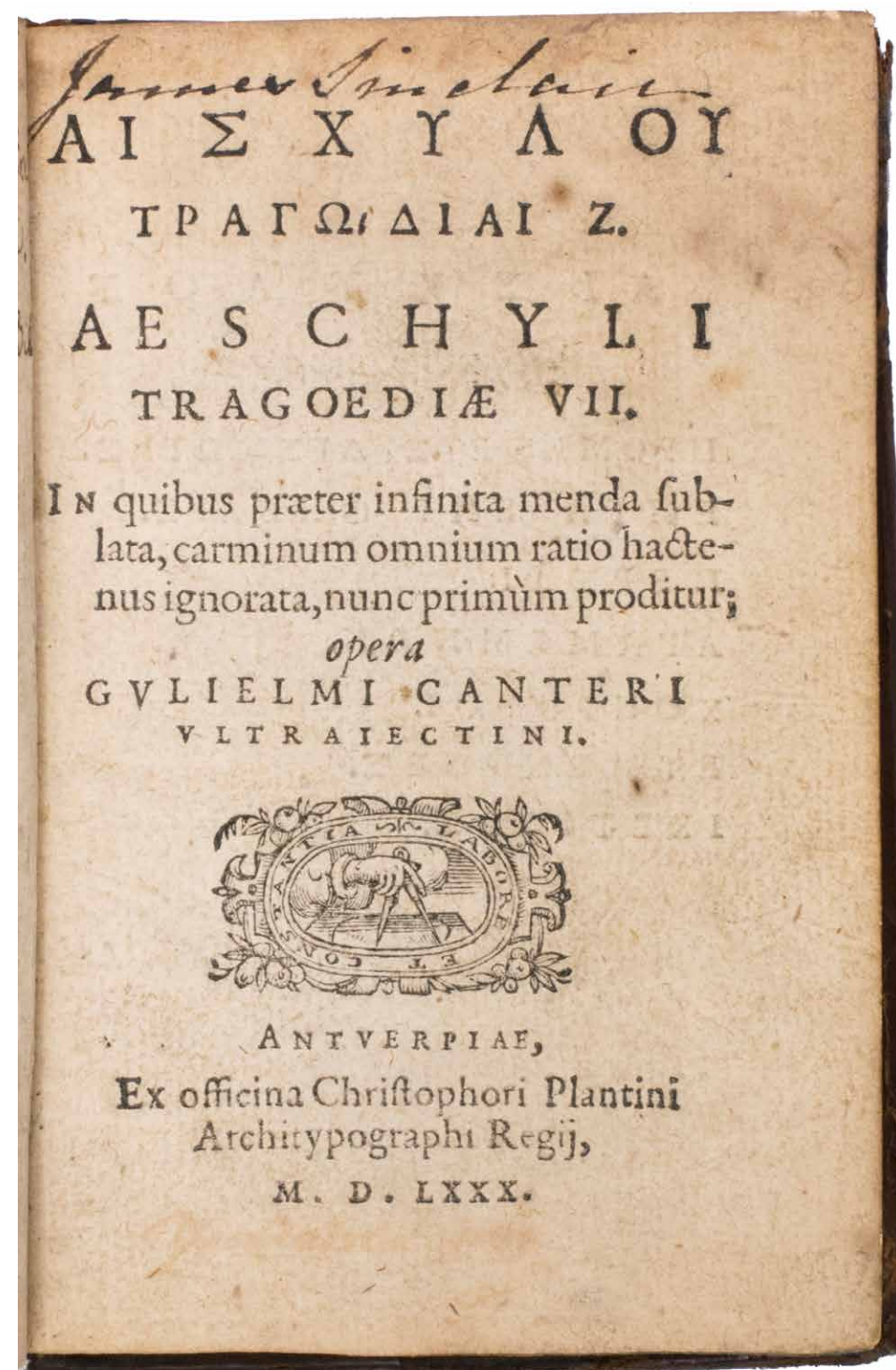
€ 1250

First Canterus edition, in Greek, of 7 tragedies by Aeschylus: Prometheus, Hepta epi Thebais, Persai, Agamemnon, Choephoroi, Eumenides, and Iketides. The text has been much corrected, and the metre restored. The present edition also includes, for the first time, the rediscovered part of the prologue of Aeschylus's *Choephoroi*. The work is finely produced, mainly printed in a small Greek type, and adorned with charming small woodcut initials, several with animals or a human figure, and with fine arabesque woodcut head – and tail pieces.

The editor, Gulielmus Canterus (1542–1575), a brother of Theodorus, was born in Utrecht, as stated on title, where he studied under George Macropedius. Only 12 years old, he went to study at the University in Louvain. When 16, he made a Grand Tour through France, Italy, and Germany, and studied at Paris with the celebrated professor in Greek, Johannes Auratus. Then he settled at Louvain, devoting his life to his studies, editing and translating into Latin a large number of Greek authors, for which he won great fame. The present edition of Aeschylus's tragedies, published posthumously by Plantin, is a true monument to Canterus's learning and acuteness.

With a later ownership annotation ("Jannes Sinclair") at the head of the title page, and a modern annotation from a previous seller on the verso of the first blank. The work has been recased, with new endpapers, the spine is somewhat rubbed, with some loss of material, the head of the spine has been restored, lacking the closing ties. The leaves are somewhat browned. Otherwise in good condition.

[2 blank], 355, [1 blank], [7], [3 blank] pp. *Adams A-270*; *Belg. Typogr.* 38; *Dibdin I*, p. 238; *STC Dutch* p. 2; *STCV* 12920582; *USTC* 407824; *Voet, Plantin Press*, 10. [More on our website](#)



# One of the earliest Antwerp records of Charles V's Italian financier

02

**AFFAITATI, Giovan Carlo (Johannes Carolus de AFFAYTADI).**

Ratificatio facta p[er] m[agnifi]cu[m] d[ominum] Jo[hannes] Carolu[s] de Affaytalis, in favorem m[agnifi]ci et r[everen]di d[omino]. Guidi d[e] Crema et Rafaelis Krumani p[er] Castro S[anc]ti Laurentii et terris.

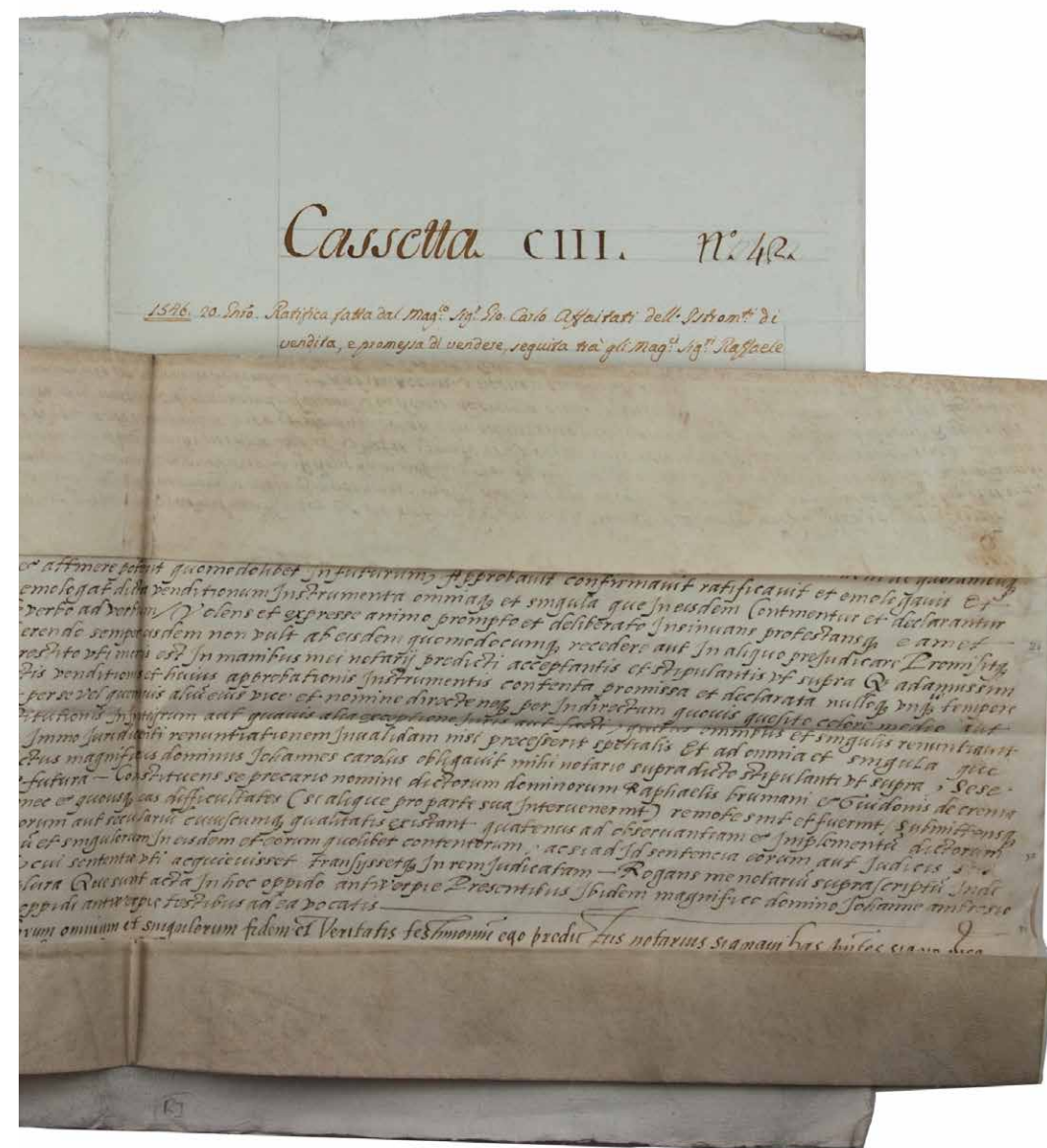
Antwerp, 20 January 1546. Manuscript notarial document in Latin, written in a Latin hand on one side of a single piece of sheepskin parchment (31 × 54.5 cm), opening with a large capital and closing with the notary's decorative signature, with the title and "M. Johan Carlo" on the back. Folded and loosely inserted in a paper folder (ca. 1690s?).

€ 1250

An Antwerp notarial declaration made voluntarily by Giovan Carlo Affaitati, also known as Johannes Carolus de Affaytadi (Cremona 1500 or 1510–Lier 1555 or Ghistelle 1587) soon after he moved to Antwerp, on behalf of Guido de Crema, citizen of Mantua, and Raphael Brumani, citizen of Cremona. It was drawn up before the Antwerp notary Anthony Amala and three named witnesses and appears to concern De Crema and Brumani's inheritance. Affaitati testified to the content of a document drawn up on 31 December 1545 before the Mantua notary Hieronimus de Zizolis. Affaitati came from a merchant banking family in Cremona. He set up in Lisbon but moved to Antwerp in 1545, when the Holy Roman Emperor Charles V made him Baron of Ghistelle. He was active in the spice trade and is said to have been the most important financier of the wars of the Holy Roman Emperor Charles V and King Philip II of Spain.

Formerly folded to a smaller size, leaving traces of the old folds, but still in very good condition. A primary document recording Charles V's financier in Antwerp, only months after he moved there.

[1] leaf. *For Affaitati: Diz. Biogr. Italiani I; Kellenbenz, "Die Konkurrenten der Fugger als bankers der Spanischen Krone", in: Zeitsch. Unternehmensgeschichte XXIV (1979), pp. 81–98, at pp. 88–89; Schotel, Jean Diodati (1844), pp. 145–150.* [More on our website](#)





# Extensively illustrated classic of cosmography, geodesy, mensuration, perspective and optics

03

**APIANUS (APIAN), Petrus and Gemma FRISIUS.**

*Cosmographia.*

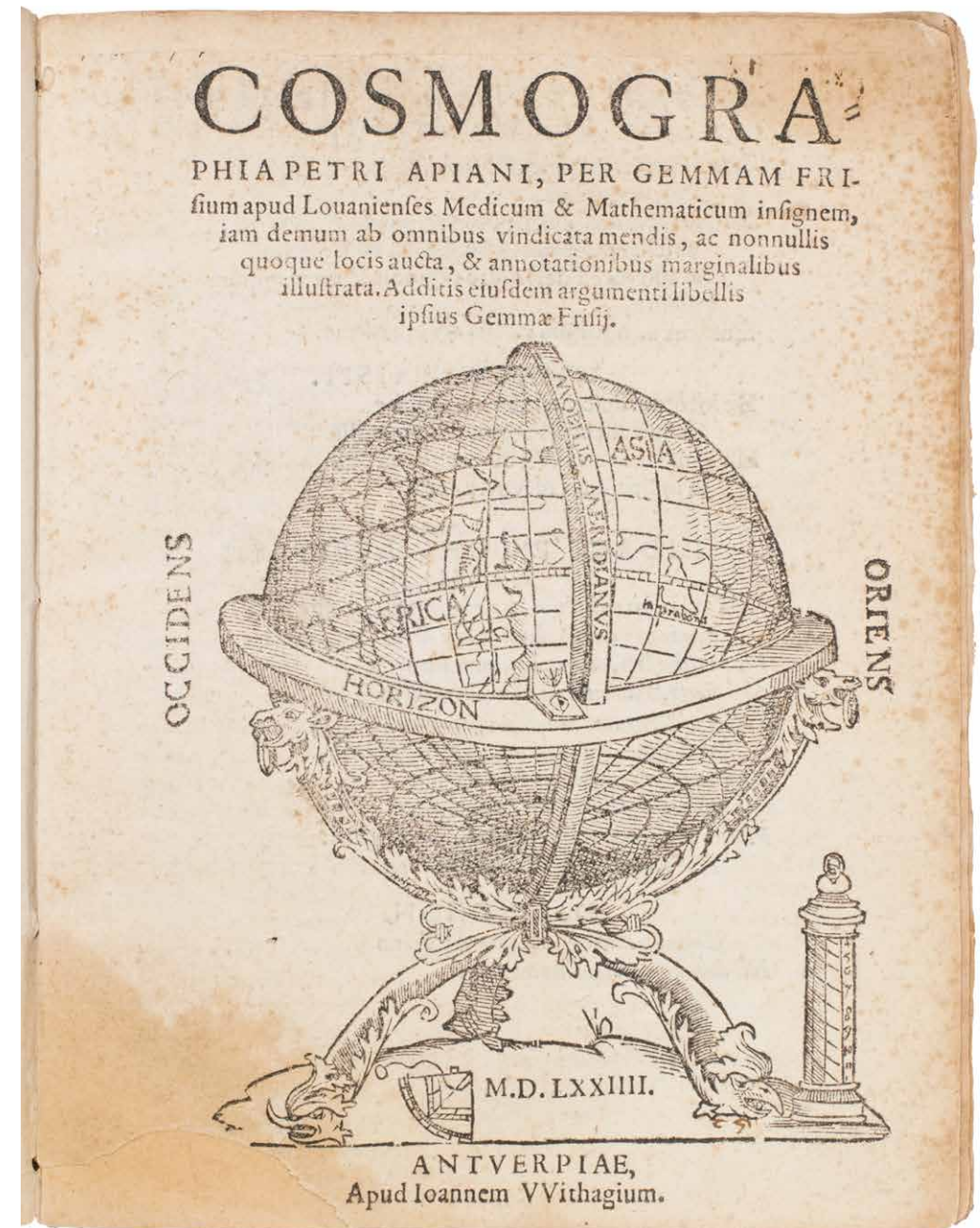
Antwerp, Jan Verwithagen (colophon: printed by Verwithagen), 1574. 4°. With a large woodcut on the title page; 4 printed paper volvelles with moving parts and a woodcut sun dial with a string attached to its centre; a folding woodcut cordiform mappa mundi with letterpress text in the margins; well over 100 further woodcut illustrations, diagrams, maps, etc., in the text. Recased in 17th-century(?) limp sheepskin parchment.

€ 12 500

A great and influential work on cosmography, perspective and many related subjects, in the original Latin, being Gemma Frisius's extensively revised and expanded version of Petrus Apianus's account of cosmography, providing readable explanations and numerous clarifying woodcut illustrations. Apianus and Frisius discuss latitude and longitude and their determination, the earth's climatic zones, maps, surveying, triangulation, and give a brief description of the continents, including the New World. The illustrations include a folding cordiform world map. The ingenious volvelles with their moving dials and pointers clearly illustrate the position and movement of celestial bodies.

With a few small marginal tears, chips or excisions, one at the foot of the title page very slightly affecting the border of the woodcut and one at the head of the title page removing an old owner's inscription, and browned water stains at the foot throughout and at the head of the last 5 quires.

[2], 64, [2] ll. plus folding woodcut. *Adams A1284; Belg. Typ. 5087; Bib. Belg. A227; STCV 12915940; USTC 408135; cf. Van Ortroij, Frisius 28 (Bellère issue); Sabin 1738–1756 (other eds. & issues); Voet 573 (Plantin issue); for Apianus: DSB I, pp. 178–179.* ➔ More on our website





## The apostles in Latin verses from the 6th century

04

### ARATOR.

Acta Apostolica, carmine heroico descripta.

(Colophon): Antwerp, Joannes Grapheus, 1535. 8°. Old boards.

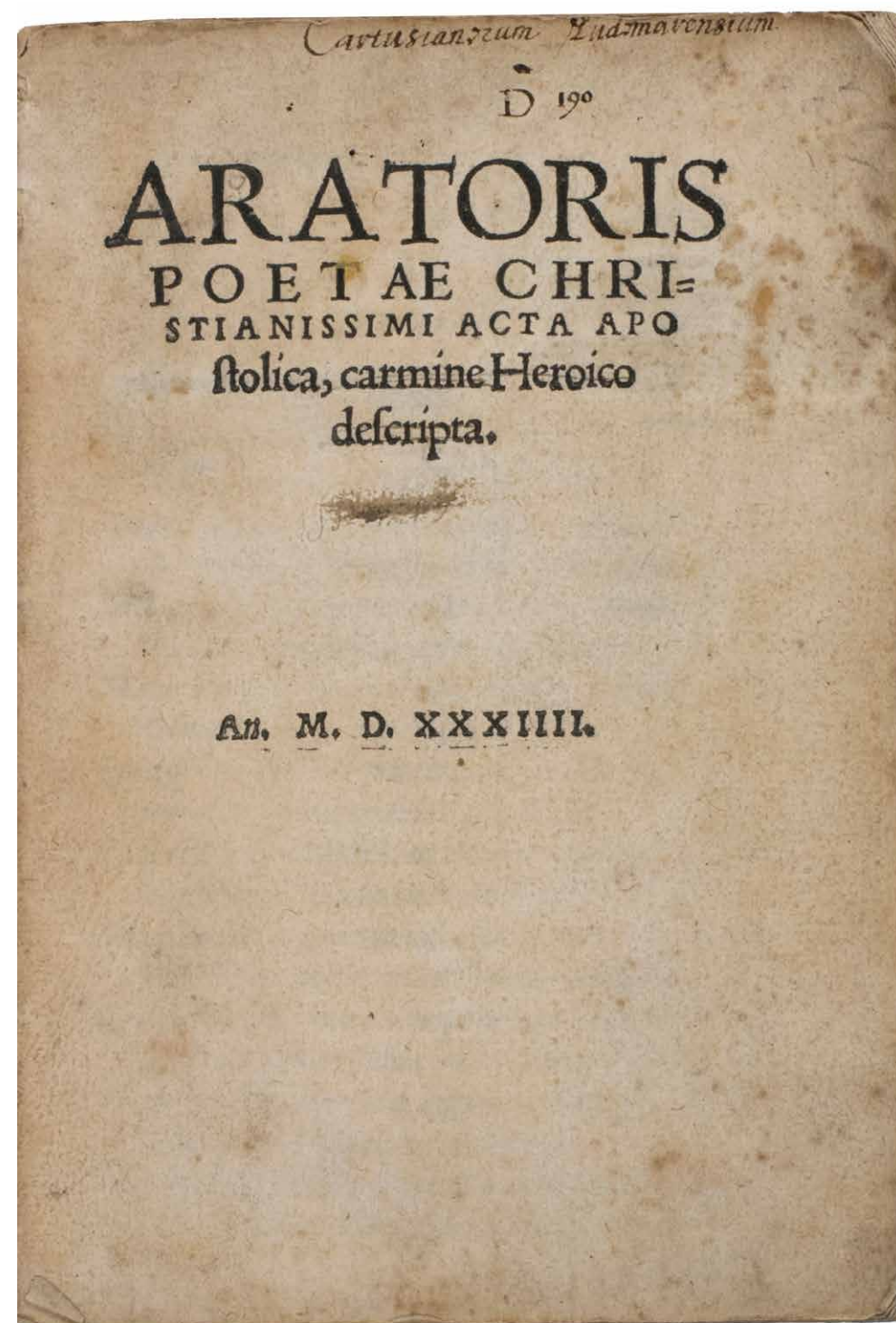
€ 1250

Antwerp edition of Arator's Acts of the Apostles in Latin verses. The Italian poet Arator (490-c. 560), subdeacon in Rome, composed these verses in 544 and presented them to Pope Vigile. They were published by Aldus at Venice in 1502, and later in the Bibliothèque des Pères, Paris, 1575.

Good copy, with on verso of the front board, spine damaged, boards loose, first leaves stained, slightly browned, old owner's manuscript entries.

(48) ll. *Nijhoff-Kronenberg* 129; *Machiels A* 831; not in *STC Dutch*, *Adams*; *NUC* lists one copy.

[More on our website](#)





# The hexameter acts of the apostles by Arator

05

## ARATOR.

Acta apostolica, carmine heroico descripta.

(Colophon: Antwerp, Joannes Grapheus), 1534 (impressum: 1535). 8° (15.2 × 9.7 cm). With the title on the verso of leaf 24 underlined in red ink and the accompanying initial also coloured in red. Modern half brown calf.

€ 1250

First and only 16th-century edition of the most celebrated work of Arator (ca. 490–after 544), a 6th-century Christian poet and subdeacon of Rome. *De Actibus Apostolorum*, written in Latin verse, stands as a remarkable example of early Christian literary culture.

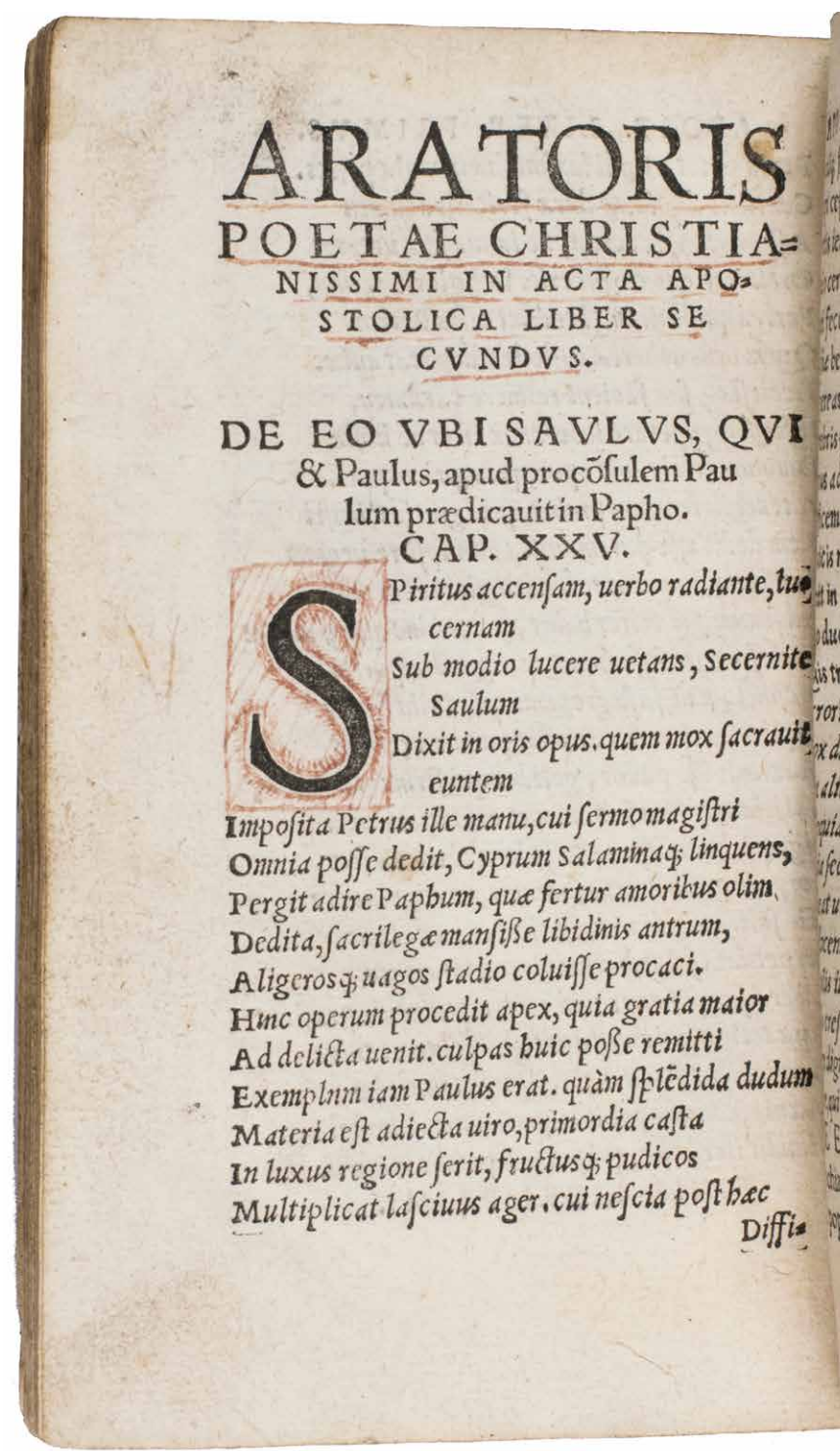
Arator, originally from Liguria in north-western Italy, left the imperial court to become a subdeacon in Rome, where he was closely associated with Pope Vigilius. He composed these verses in 544, dedicating them to the Pope. The work was first published by Aldus Manutius in Venice in 1502, and later included in the *Bibliothèque des Pères*, Paris, 1575.

The poem is composed in two books of hexameters, offering a poetical rendition of the Acts of the Apostles and recounting the deeds of the Apostles up to the martyrdom of Peter and Paul. The first book contains 1076 hexameters, the second 1250, drawing upon the Acts of Luke as its textual foundation.

Arator's poetic paraphrase represents an early Christian adaptation of the New Testament, providing an elaborate exegesis of the symbolic and theological meanings within the biblical narrative. The work was widely studied in the Middle Ages for its rich vocabulary, intricate numerical symbolism, and profound interpretive depth.

The final leaf is mounted on the second to last flyleaf, the leaves are occasionally browned and stained. Otherwise in very good condition.

[48] Il. Broda, "An Unnoticed Twelfth-Century Manuscript of Arator's *Historia Apostolica*, Wrocław University Library", *AKC*, 1 (2018), pp. 1–16; Machiels A 831; Nijhoff/Kronenberg 129; STCV:12926082; USTC 403902; not in Adams; BM STC Dutch. [More on our website](#)





## The work that gave rise to the Batavian myth

06

**AURELIUS, Cornelius Gerardi.**

Batavia, sive de antiquo veroque eius insulae quam Rhenus in Hollandia facit situ ...

Antwerp, Christophe Plantin, 1586. 8°. With a woodcut device on the title page and woodcut initials throughout. Limp vellum, sewn on three supports laced through the joints (top one broken), with a green morocco label lettered in gold on the spine.

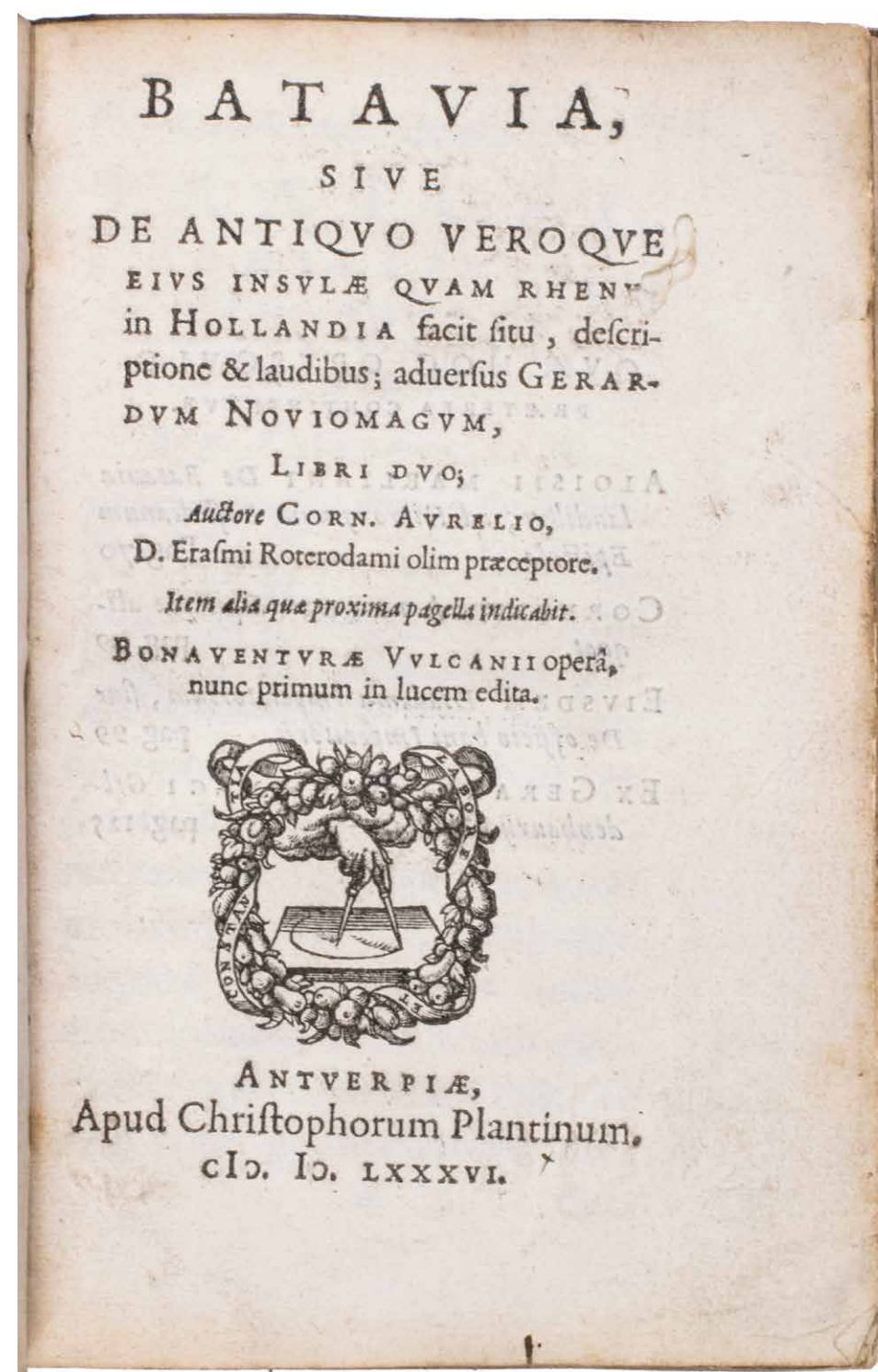
€ 700

The Antwerp issue of the first edition of this work on the origin of the Netherlands by the early Humanist and historian Cornelius Gerardi Aurelius (ca. 1460–1531), teacher and friend of Erasmus in Gouda and best known for his *Divisiiekroniek* (1517). The other issue of the *Batavia* is printed in Leiden in the same year.

Aurelius' *Batavia* brings together his earlier writings on the history and geography of the Batavian region, here appearing in their first printed editions: (1) *Defensorium gloriae Batavinae* (written ca. 1508–1509), on the ancestors of the Dutch people, and (2) *Elucidarium scopulosarum questionum super Batavina regione et differentia* (written ca. 1509–1510), dedicated to the historian Reinier Snoy of Gouda. On pp. 99–124 the first edition of his *Diadema Imperatorium* (written ca. 1519–1520) a treatise on the ideal monarch, dedicated to Charles V. All these works are edited by Bonaventure Vulcanius (1538–1614) who has played a leading role in Northern humanism. In 1577, he became secretary of Philips of Marnix of St. Aldegonde (1540–1598), burgomaster of Antwerp, friend and councillor of William the Silent (1533–1584), and probable author of the Dutch national anthem. From 1581, Aurelius was professor of Greek and Latin at the Leiden University.

With the bright pink Cholmondeley Library bookplate on the front pastedown and a manuscript owner's inscription. The binding is somewhat stained, with a hole in the back board where one of the ties would have been, lacking all ties, and a tear on the title page (not affecting the text). Otherwise in good condition.

[16], 135, [1 blank] pp. See our website for the reference list. [More on our website](#)





# Shaping Brabant's past: a Humanist chronicle

07

**BARLANDUS, Adrianus.**

*Rerum gestarum Brabantiae ducibus historia ...*

(Colophon:) Antwerp, Hadrianus Tilanus & Johannes Hoochstraten, 1526. 8°. With woodcut frame on the title page, and some woodcut decorated initials. 19th-century half vellum.

€ 950

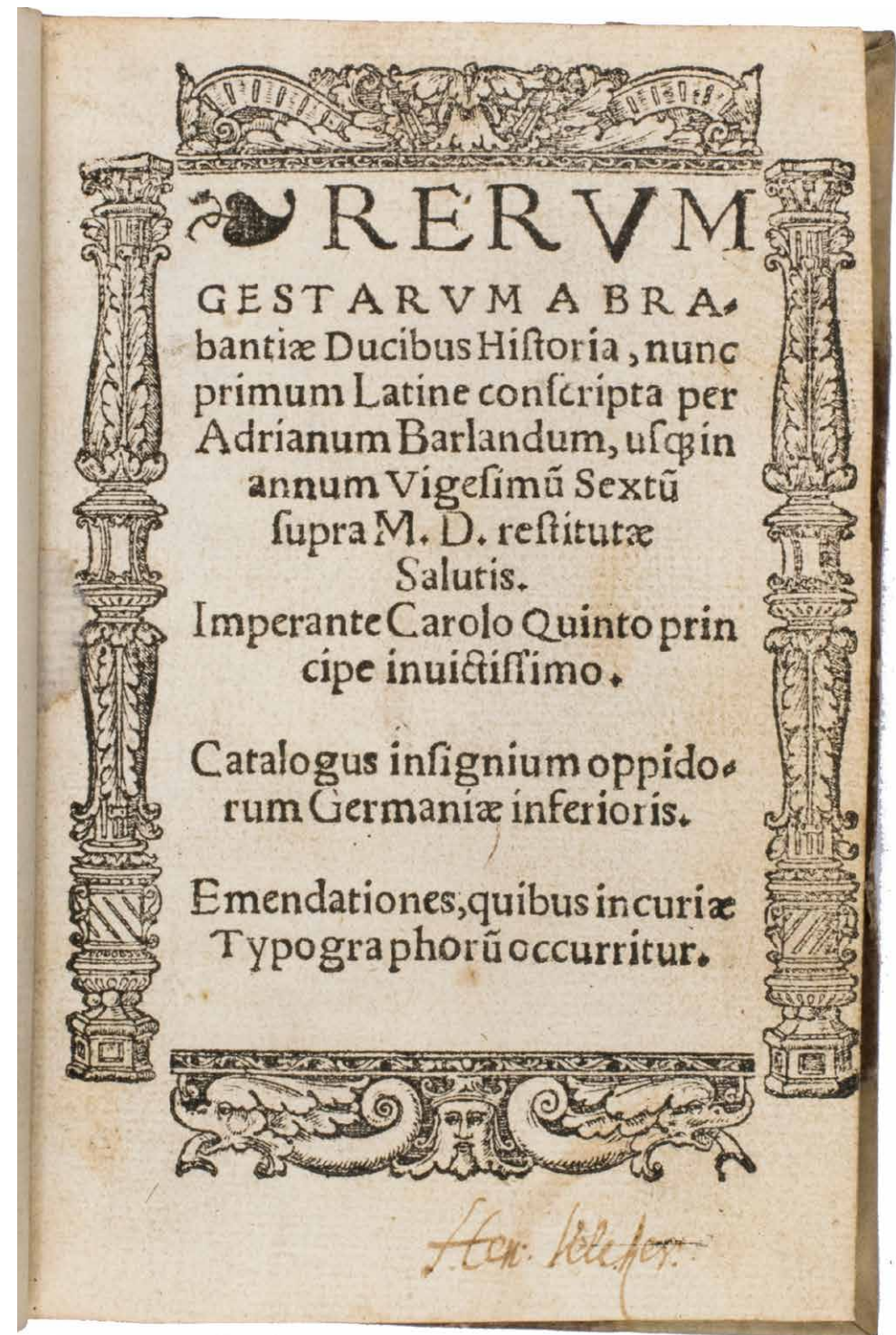
First edition of Adrianus Barlandus' (1486–1538) seminal Humanist chronicle of Brabant, a landmark in 16th-century Netherlandish historiography and one of the author's most influential works. The present work offers a sweeping history of the Duchy of Brabant the supposed first Duke of Brabant Pepin I of Landen (ca. 580–640) to the early life of Holy Roman Emperor Charles V (1500–1558).

Completed and printed in 1526, the *Rerum gestarum* marks a deliberate break with medieval chronicle tradition. While structuring his narrative by reign, a method common in Brabantine historiography since the 13th-century, Barlandus consciously omits the Dukes of Lotharingia and the early Counts of Louvain and Brussels, judging the surviving sources too unreliable. This bold decision created the famous "gap" between 840 and 1095 and illustrates the author's emerging sense of critical method.

The present work preserves much information on political, ecclesiastical and cultural events in the early Habsburg Netherlands.

With an old ownership inscription on the title page, inner margins reinforced, the margins are cut slightly short, somewhat affecting the headlines but never the main text, and occasional browning. Otherwise in good condition.

[148] pp. *Bibl. Belgica* pp 154–156; Bijsterveld, "De Kroniek van de hertogen van Brabant door Adrianus Barlandus. Vertaling, inleiding en voortzetting", (2004); Machiels B-112; Nijhoff & Kronenberg 236; *USTC* 437339; *WorldCat* 1439785608 (1 copy); not in Adams, *STCV*; cf. Cockx-Indestege and Geneviève Glorieux, 257 and 258 (only 1551 and 1566). [More on our website](#)





# The definitive edition of an anthology of classical and Humanist anecdotes

08

**BARLANDUS, Adrianus.**

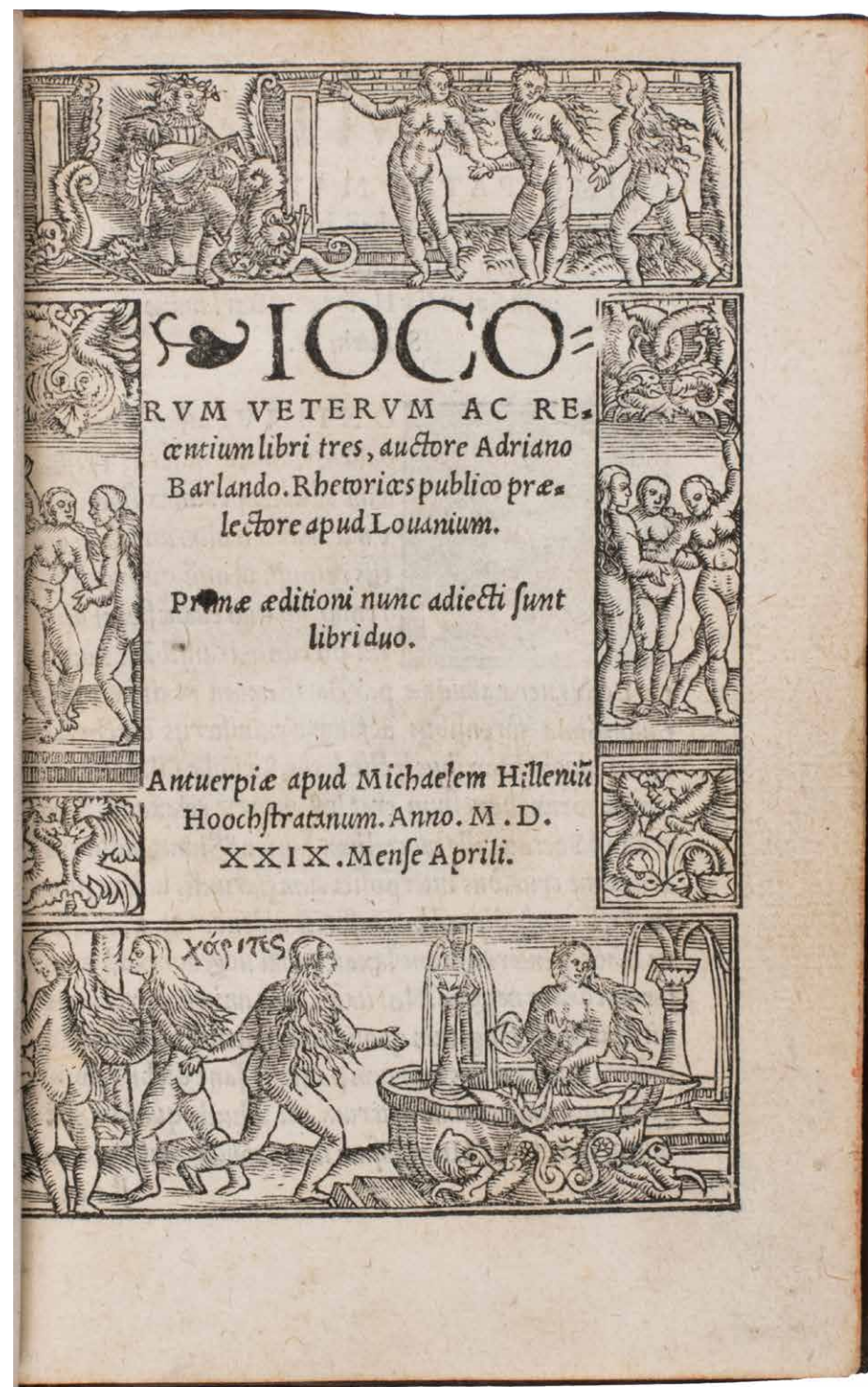
Jocorum veterum ac recentium libris tres ... Primae aeditioni nunc adjecti sunt libri duo.

Antwerp, Michiel Hillen van Hoochstraten, 1529. 8°. With a woodcut decorated frame on the title page, and several woodcut initials throughout. 18th-century mottled calf.

€ 2750

This first complete edition presents a varied collection of humorous anecdotes drawn from both Classical authorities, such as Macrobius, Quintilian, Diogenes Laertius, and Martial, and the author's own 16th-century milieu, in which figures like Erasmus (1469–1536) and Thomas More (1478–1535) appear alongside ancient voices. The first edition of the work, printed in 1524, contained two books, the present work is the first to offer the collection in its expanded three book form. The author, the famous Dutch humanist Adriaan van Baarland, (or Hadrianus Barlandus, ca. 1486–1538), was born in the Zeeland village that gave him his name and may have belonged to the local nobility. He studied at the University of Louvain, earning his magister artium degree in 1505, and went on to teach at several of its colleges, including the Pig College (from 1512) and the Collegium Triligue (from 1518). In 1525 he was appointed professor of rhetoric at Louvain, a post he held until his death. Barlandus also taught prominent pupils such as the De Croÿ brothers Guillaume (Prince-Bishop of Cambrai and Archbishop of Toledo, 1497–1521) and Charles (Bishop of Tournai, 1506–1564). With a small (library?) stamp on the front board. Otherwise in very good condition.

[64] ll. *Contemporaries of Erasmus I*, pp. 95–96; Meertens, "Letterkundig leven in Zeeland in de zestiende en de eerste helft der zeventiende eeuw" (1943), pp. 27–41; Nijhoff & Kronenberg 230; STCV 12923765 (1 copy); USTC 437448; Vander Haeghen, *Bibl. Belgica B* 260. [More on our website](#)





# Lavishly and vividly hand-coloured copy of the famous Moerentorf Bible by Moretus & Keerberghen, the standard Dutch translation of the Vulgate for centuries, in contemporary, richly blind-tooled calf

09

## [BIBLE – DUTCH – VULGATE].

Biblia sacra. Dat is de geheele heylighe schrifture bedeylt int out ende nieu Testament ...

Antwerp, Jan I Moretus & Jan I van Keerberghen, 1599. 2 volumes bound as 1. Folio. With an engraved title page (coloured by a contemporary hand with extensive use of gold), and 90 woodcuts in the text of both the Old and the New Testament, all except one vividly coloured by a contemporary hand. Contemporary richly blind-tooled calf over wooden boards, with brass fittings.

€ 27 500

Extraordinary copy of the first edition, published by Moretus (Moerentorf) & Van Keerberghen, of the famous Moerentorf Bible in the vernacular Dutch language, printed in 1599, especially interesting for its vivid contemporary hand-colouring and for its richly blind-tooled contemporary binding. The authoritative Moerentorf Bible was a revision of the 1548 Louvain Bible in Dutch, but corrected based on the improved Latin Vulgate of 1592 published by the authority of Pope Clement VIII. The Moerentorf Bible met extraordinary success and "became the standard Bible for Dutch Roman Catholics" (Darlow & Moule) for almost 3 centuries, being repeatedly reprinted as the official Dutch translation of the Vulgate in the Low Countries. With the bookplate and library stamp, and a contemporary annotation on Pp1 of the Old Testament. Binding slightly worn around the edges, especially around the spine, edges a little dust-soiled and some damage to the back board where the leather fastenings were originally attached to the boards with brass pins. Minor marginal stains, spots and dust-soiling, mostly in the first part, and a few creases throughout the book, a small tear in the right lower corner of Oo6 in the Old Testament (not affecting the text), a larger tear (partly restored) and restoration in the foot margin in L6 of the Old Testament. The colouring of the initials and woodcuts has slightly browned the paper. Overall, however, the Bible is in good condition.

[4], 410; [106] ll. See our website for the reference list. ➡ More on our website





# Latin New Testament printed by Plantin, in an attractive binding with elaborately gauffered edges

10

[BIBLE – NEW TESTAMENT – LATIN].

Novum Jesu Christi Testamentum.

Antwerp, Christophe Plantin, 1564[-1565].

*With:* (2) [BIBLE – ALPHABETICAL LIST OF BIBLICAL NAMES & PLACES]. Hebraea, Chaldaea, Graeca, et Latina nomina virorum, mulierum, populorum, idolorum, urbium, fluviorum, montiu[m], caeterorumq.; locorum quae in Bebliis sparsa leguntur ...

Antwerp, Christophe Plantin, 1565. 2 works in 1 volume, the 1st in 2 parts. 16° (11.2 × 7.2 cm). With Plantin's woodcut compasses device on both title pages with woodcut decorated initials throughout the first work (and 1 in the second). Hebrew and Greek types in 2nd work. Contemporary blind- and gold-tooled calf, gilt and elaborately gauffered edges.

€ 2950

Two complementary works printed by Plantin: a Latin New Testament and an alphabetical list of Hebrew, Greek and Latin names of biblical people and places, appearing together in a lovely binding with beautifully decorated edges. The New Testament opens with Saint Jerome's preface and his short introductions also accompany the different books. The order of the ecclesiastical year with the different readings is included at the end. The present New Testament appeared in a series of parts of the Bible (Voet 682 I-VI & VI bis), all in a 16mo format. The second work "must be considered to be the last volume of this edition" (Voet I, p. 352).

Rebacked, with the remnants of the original spine laid down, slightly damaged, with faint water stain on front board, not affecting the book block. Minor corrosion spots, only on the inside of the front board and in the margins of the first few leaves, not affecting the text, some very slight, very light foxing throughout. A good copy of Plantin's 16mo New Testament in a contemporary binding with extensively and beautifully decorated edges.

316, [68]; [111] [1 blank] ll. *Ad 1: Belg. Typ. 443; Voet 682 VI and VI bis (8 copies). Ad 2: Belg. Typ. 443 and 1390; Voet 1750 (2 copies).* [➔ More on our website](#)





## Bishop Pierre-Daniel Huet's psalmbook with his annotations

11

[BIBLE – PSALMBOOK]. PSALTERION.

Prophetou kai Basileoos tou David [in Greek type] – Davidis Regis ac Prophetæ Psalmorum Liber. Ad exemplar Complutense.

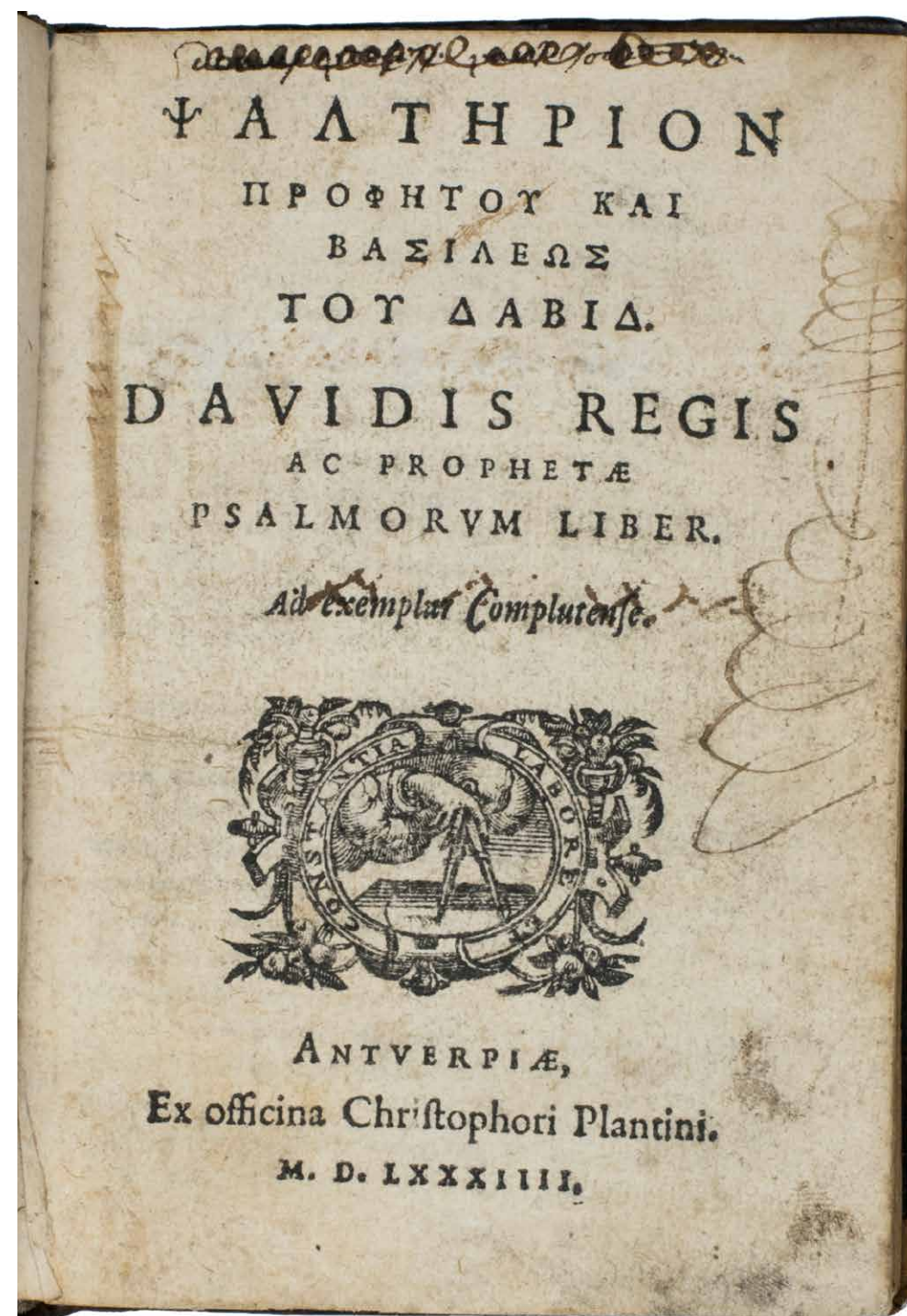
Antwerp, Christophe Plantin, 1584. 16° (11,8 × 8 cm). With woodcut printer's device on the title page, text is partially printed in Greek. Late 17th-century gold-tooled dark brown calf, with gold-stamped coat of arms of Pierre-Daniel Huet on both boards, red speckled edges.

€ 3500

The text of this Book of Psalms is printed in Greek and Latin, in parallel columns and on each page the inner column contains the text in Greek, while the outer column contains the same in Latin. There are separate Greek and Latin indexes at the end of the work. This copy belonged to Pierre-Daniel Huet (1630–1721), a French clergyman and scholar. According to the title page, this bilingual work was published by Plantin after the example of the Complutensian Polyglot Bible (1520). Plantin also issued a 24mo edition in the same year. The present copy is bound in dark brown leather with the coat of arms of Pierre-Daniel Huet stamped in gold on the front and back covers. Huet was the Bishop of Soissons, and later Avranches. He was the cofounder of the Académie de Physique in Caen and in 1674 he became a member of the Académie française. He was one of the most learned men of his age; he studied Greek and Hebrew and he claimed to have read the Hebrew text of the Bible 24 times.

Covers show signs of wear, spine has been expertly restored. With Huet's ex libris-label on the front pastedown, an inscription in brown ink in Hebrew and several inscriptions in pencil, all on the first fly leaf. With crossed out inscriptions on the verso of the third fly leaf and at the head of the title page, with some annotations in dark brown ink (in Greek) throughout, very slight foxing throughout, a small water stain in the top margin of the second half of the book, without affecting the text. On pp. 29–30 a small corrosion spot, on p. 30 a marginal stain, and a small hole in the text in p. 87, all very slightly affecting the text. Otherwise in good condition.

267, [13] pp. See our website for the reference list. [More on our website](#)





## A foundational work of early modern anthropology

12

**BOEMUS, Joannes.**

Omnium gentium mores, leges & ritus ...

Antwerp, Joannes Grapheus for Joannes Steelsius, 1538. 8°. With a woodcut illustration incorporating Steelsius' device at the end, and some woodcut initials. Later vellum, a dark brown calf title-label lettered in gold at the head of the spine.

€ 850

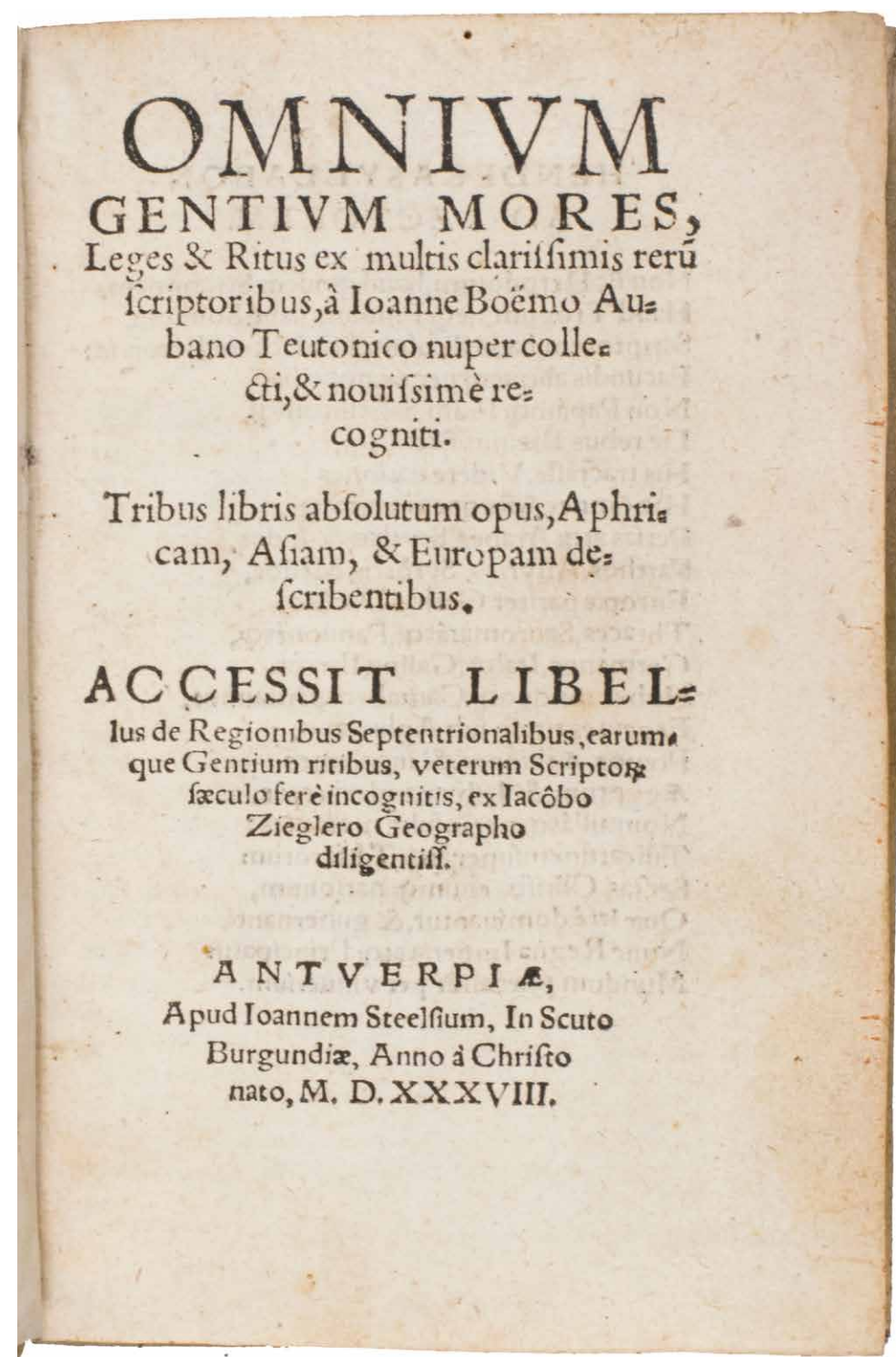
Second Antwerp edition of one of the most pioneering and influential foundational works of early modern anthropology, first published at Augsburg in 1520. Johann Boemus (1485–1535), often described as the "father of scientific ethnography", here produced the first printed compendium of the religions, laws, and customs of the peoples of Africa, Asia, and Europe, a work that would shape European perceptions of cultural differences for more than a century.

Boemus' ambition is stated plainly in his preface: to collect, abridge, and organise ethnographic knowledge previously scattered across numerous classical and medieval authorities, so that readers might easily consult in a single volume what had once required laborious searching through many books. Drawing principally on ancient historians such as Herodotus, Diodorus Siculus, Josephus, Pliny, Ptolemy, and Pomponius Mela, Boemus transmitted the ethnological learning of the Middle Ages to the Renaissance, while subjecting it to a new system of classification and comparison. The world is divided according to the traditional tripartite scheme of Africa, Asia, and Europe, with chapters devoted to Egypt, Assyria, Persia, India, Russia, Ethiopia, and many other regions.

The present Antwerp edition is further distinguished by the addition of a treatise on the Northern peoples, derived from the work of Jakob Ziegler (ca. 1470/71–1549), containing early printed descriptions of Greenland and Iceland.

With some repair to the outer margins of the last leaves, and some occasional damp staining. Otherwise in very good condition.

149, [3] ll. *Nijhoff-Kronenberg 454; USTC 400617, not in STCV.* [More on our website](#)





# The future King Philip II of Spain's travels from Spain to the Low Countries: eye-witness account by his tutor

13

**CALVETE DE ESTRELLA, Juan Cristóbal.**

El felicissimo viaje d'el muy alto y muy poderoso Principe Don Phelippe, hijo d'el Emperador Don Carlos Quinto Maximo, desde España à sus tierras dela Baxa Alemaña ...


Antwerp, Martinus Nutius I, 1552. Small 2° (27×19.5 cm). With the woodcut arms of Charles V on title page, a full-page woodcut illustration, Nutius's woodcut device at the end, and dozens of woodcut decorated initials. Near contemporary limp vellum, with 6 fragments of a 16th-century manuscript reinforcing the spine of the bookblock, blind- and (later) gold-tooled spine.

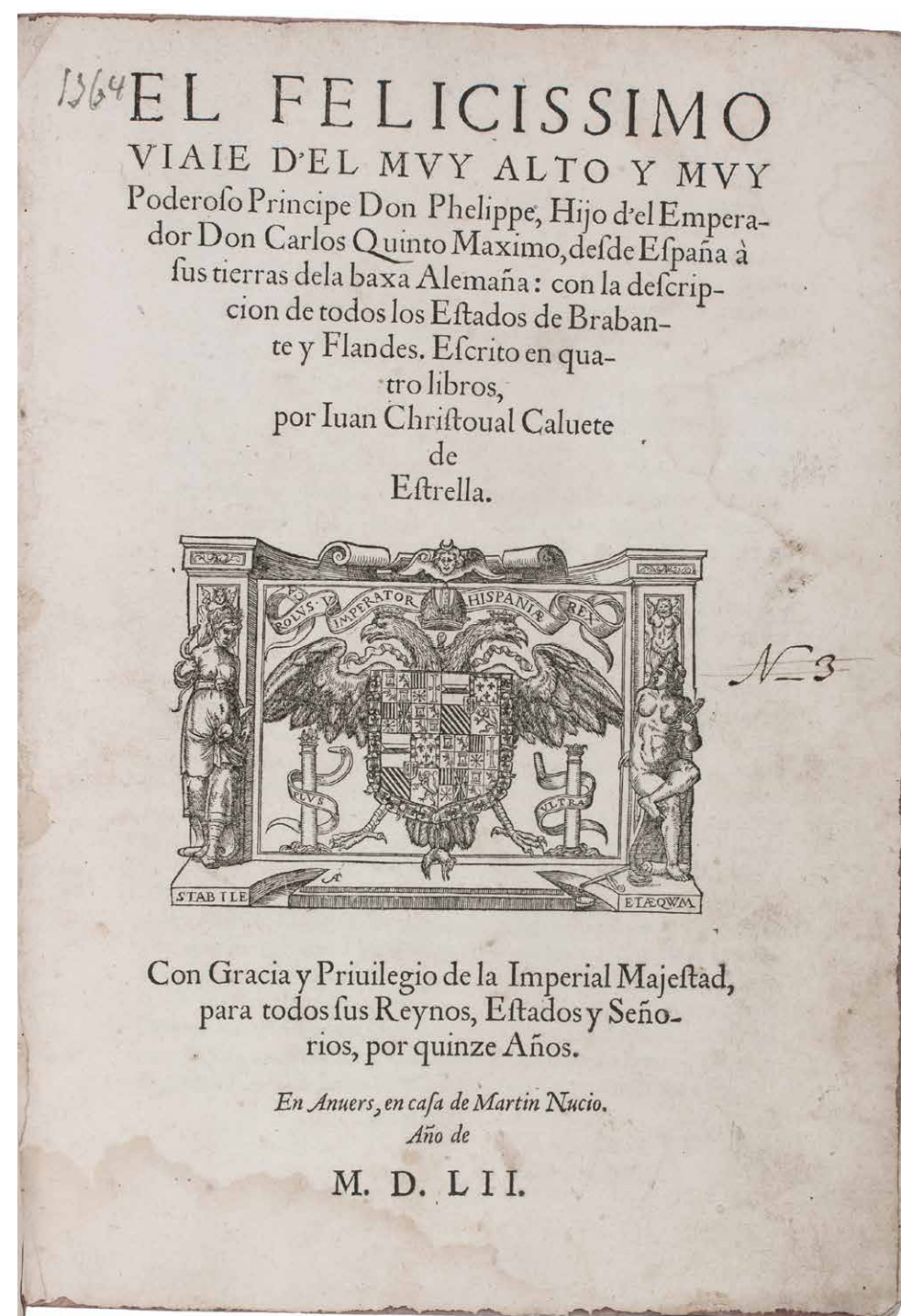
€ 9000

First (and only early) edition, in the original Spanish, of an eyewitness account of the future King Philip II of Spain's travels from Spain through Italy and the German states to the Low Countries from 1548 to 1550 or 1551, intended as preparation for the duties he would face when he succeeded to (in the event only some of) the titles of his father, the Holy Roman Emperor Charles V, who was also King Charles I of Spain.

The Aragon humanist scholar Juan Cristóbal Calvete de Estrella (ca. 1510/20?-1593) served in the Spanish court of Charles V, who appointed him tutor to Prince Philip (1527-1598) in 1541. He accompanied Philip on these travels, so that his book forms an essential primary source for both the life and personality of the future King Philip II.

With an early marginal manuscript note and occasional later (mostly pencil) notes and marks. With a small worm trail in the inner foot margin of about 40 leaves, not approaching the text, and faint marginal water stains in the last and first three leaves, but still in very good condition. The cover has nearly come loose from the bookblock, has some tears and stains, has lost its 2 pair of ties and the endpapers are tattered.

[8], 335, [19] ll. Adams C264; Belg. Typ. 539; Iberian books 2403; Heredia 7039; Landwehr, *Splendid ceremonies* 14; *Netherlandish books* 6408; Palau 40491; Peeters-Fontainas, *Meridionaux* 170; Ruggieri 913; Salvá 3758; USTC 440071; not in Bibl. Belg.  More on our website





## Contemporary account of the Italian Wars

14

**CAPELLA, Galeazzo Flavio.**

De rebus nuper in Italia gestis libri octo ... (¶c.).

[Antwerp, Johannes Grapheus?], 1533. 8°. 19th-century gold-tooled red morocco.

€ 2750

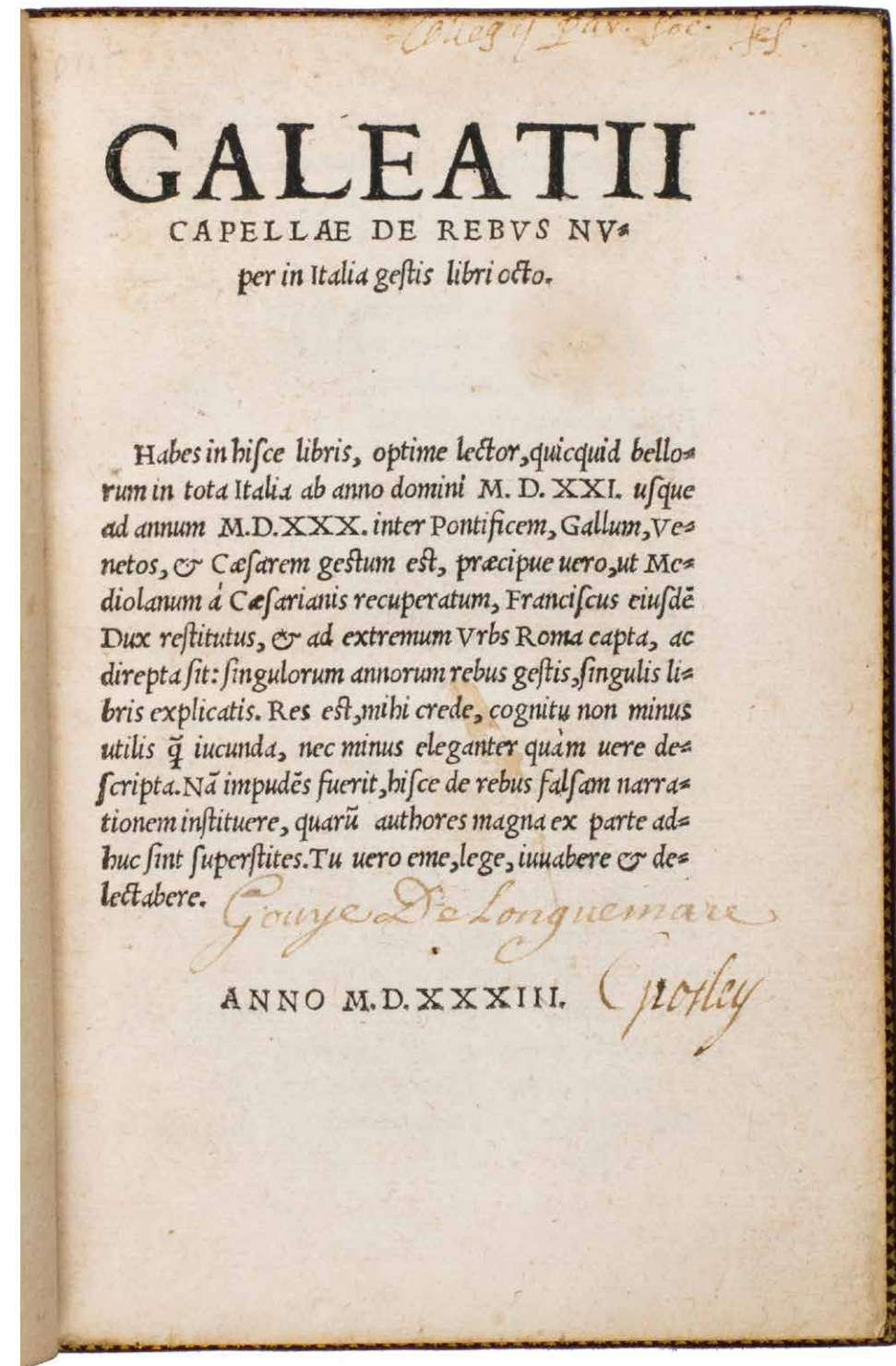
Important contemporary account of the Italian Wars (1521–1530), in particular the struggle between the Pope, the Emperor, the French, and the Venetians about the restitution to power in Milan of Duke Francesco II Sforza (1495–1535). The work is written by Galeazzo Capella (1487–1537), who was a diplomat and minister in service of the duke, and therefore had first-hand experience with the war. His work was first published in Milan in 1531, shortly after the war had ended, and was several times reprinted and translated. The first two Antwerp editions were both printed in 1533. The present edition is the most scarce of the two, as we have not been able to trace any other copies in sales records.

In 1521 the recently elected Holy Roman Emperor Charles V managed to secure the alliance of his former opponent Pope Leo X and after him Pope Clement VII in his power struggle against King Francois I of France. He succeeded in wresting Milan from decades of French control and returned it to the Duke of Milan. Although France had to concede in 1526, the Ottoman defeat of Imperial forces at the battle of Mohács in Hungary that year weakened the Empire and Clement turned against Charles, supported by several Italian princes. Once again the strategically important Milan was central in the power struggle, and once again the Empire got the upper hand, leading to the imprisonment of the Pope in 1529.

With the bookplate of Comte Chandon de Briailles mounted on the second free flyleaf, a 17th-century ownership annotation at the head of the title page ("Collegii pav. fol. jef (?)" ), and two 18th-century annotations near the foot ("Gouye De Longuemare" and "Grotley"). The edges of the boards are lightly scuffed. The title page and final page are somewhat browned. Otherwise in very good condition.

96 ll. Nijhoff & Kronenberg 519; STCV 12926317; USTC 403886; cf. Adams C-583 (other ed.).

More on our website





# Contemporary accounts of two power struggles, in Italy and in the Low Countries

15

**CAPELLA, Galeazzo Flavio.**

*De rebus nuper in Italia gestis* [in the running heads: “*De bello Mediolanensi*”] libro octo ...

(Colophon: Antwerp, Maarten de Keyser), 1533.

*With:* (2) **SERVILIUS, Johannes (Jan KNAAP).** Geldrogallica conjuratio in totius Belgicae clarissimam civitatem Antverpnam, duce Martino Rosheymio, ...

Augsburg, Heinrich Steiner, 1544. 2 works in 1 volume. Small 8° (15 × 10 cm). Contemporary vellum wrappers, with 2 fragments of the March and April calendar leaf (in red and black) of a manuscript *Missale romanum* (ca. 1475/1500?) used as end leaves.

€ 4500

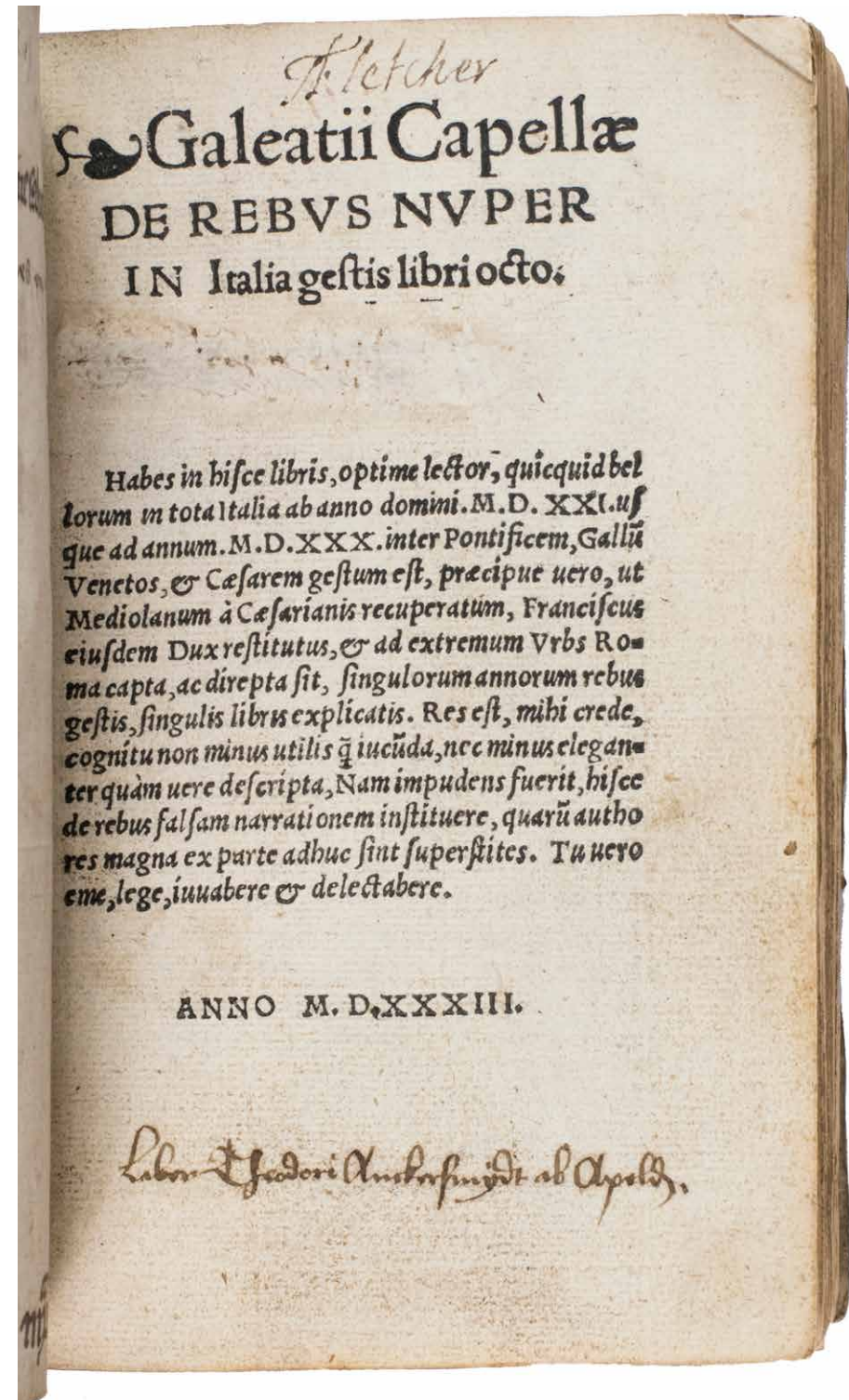
Contemporary accounts of two political and military power struggles, written in Latin and bound together at an early date.

Ad 1: First edition of an important contemporary account of what the running heads and the titles of some later editions call the Milanese Wars (in English more often known as the Italian Wars) of 1521 to 1530, written by Galeazzo Capella (1487–1537).

Ad 2: Second edition of an exciting contemporary account of the rebellious war by Maarten van Rossum in Brabant and Guelders in 1542, generally successful in spite of his failed surprise attempt to capture Antwerp, first published at Antwerp in 1542. The present account remains an important source for Van Rossum's exploits, for the author gathered much of his information from eye-witnesses to the events he relates and was sometimes even an eye-witness himself.

With a contemporary owner's inscription at the foot of the first title page, another erased in the space below the third line of the title, and a later owner's name at the head of each title page. First title page somewhat dirty, faint water stains in the foot of the last quire, but otherwise in good condition. Binding slightly soiled, wrinkled and with a small tear.

96; [44] ll. See our website for the reference list. [More on our website](#)





# Correspondence of Emperor Charles V with King Francis I and Pope Clement VII during the Italian Wars, from the library of Andrew Fletcher of Saltoun

16

[CHARLES V].

Pro invictiss[imo] Caesare Carolo ... ad epistolam Franci Regis ad Principes Imperii transmissam ...

Antwerp, Joannes Grapheus, 19 August 1527.

*With (bound before ad 1):* [CLEMENT VII, Pope]. Epistolae duae, Altera Clementis VII Papae ad Karolum V Imperatorem Aug. etc. ... Cologne, [Petrus Quentell?], March 1527. 2 works in 1 volume. Small 8°. With a woodcut printer's device on the final page of ad 1, and 2 decorated woodcut initials in ad 2. 17th-century vellum.

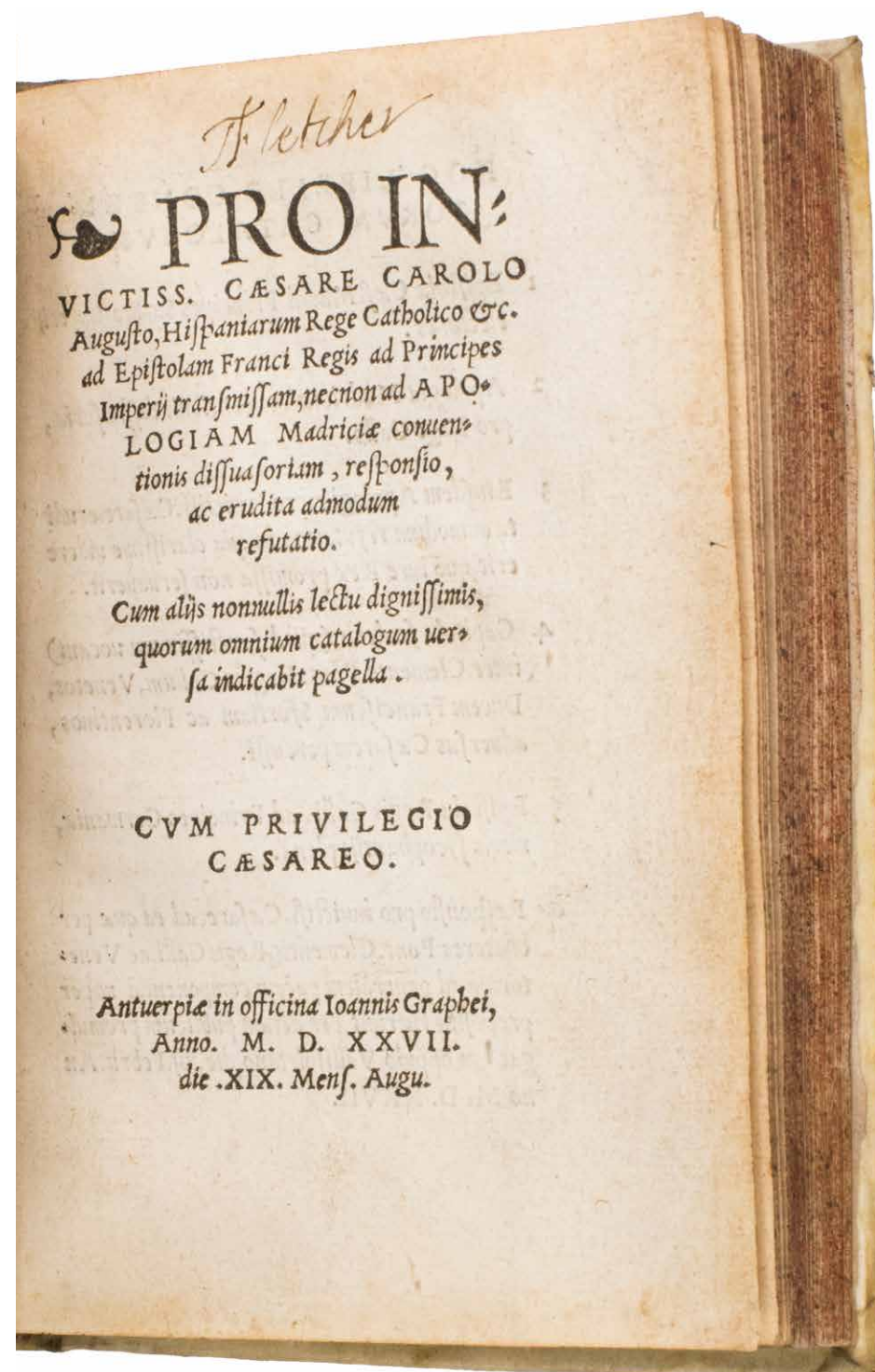
€ 3950

Early edition of the correspondence between Emperor Charles V and King Francis I, illustrating the strained political situation in Europe during the years 1526–1527. Francis was captured by Charles' army in February 1525, and held captive until he signed the Treaty of Madrid in January 1526, in which he surrendered Italy, Artois, Flanders, and Burgundy to Charles. However, he broke the treaty upon his return to France. The present work contains nine documents. Together these were issued as political propaganda intended to counteract the indignation aroused in many parts of Europe when the imperial army invaded Italy and ransacked Rome (May 6, 1527). The present copy comes from the library of Andrew Fletcher of Saltoun (1655–1716).

Ad 2 contains two letters, one from Pope Clement VII to Emperor Charles V, written on the 23rd of June 1526, and the response of the latter, written on the 17th of September of the same year. The pope had just entered into an alliance with Francis I against Charles, and started the War of the League of Cognac (1526–1530) to drive him away from the Italian Peninsula. Together with ad 1, the present work provides an understanding of the complex political and religious tensions in Europe during the period.

With a 17th-century ownership annotation on the title page of ads 1 and 2. A brown stain on the front board. The work is somewhat browned throughout. Otherwise in good condition.

[88]; [48] ll. Ad 1: Knuttel 32; Nijhoff & Kronenberg 1263; USTC 403777; not in the STCV; Ad 2: Adams C 2135; USTC 651301; VD 16 K339. ➔ More on our website





# Rare 1542 edition of one of the most important works of Saint John Chrysostom

17

**CHRYSOSTOM, John.**

In sanctum Jesu Christi evangelium secundum Matthaeum commentarii ...

Antwerp, Joannes Steelsius, 1542.

*With:* **CHRYSOSTOM, John.** Passio Domini Nostri Iesu Christi secundum Matthaeum in decem Homilias divisa.

Antwerp, Joannes Steelsius, 1542.

2 works in 1 volume. 8°. Ad 1: with two woodcut initials, and a large woodcut printer's device on the last page. Ad 2: with a woodcut initial. Contemporary Flemish blind-tooled, panel-stamped calf, remnants of ties.

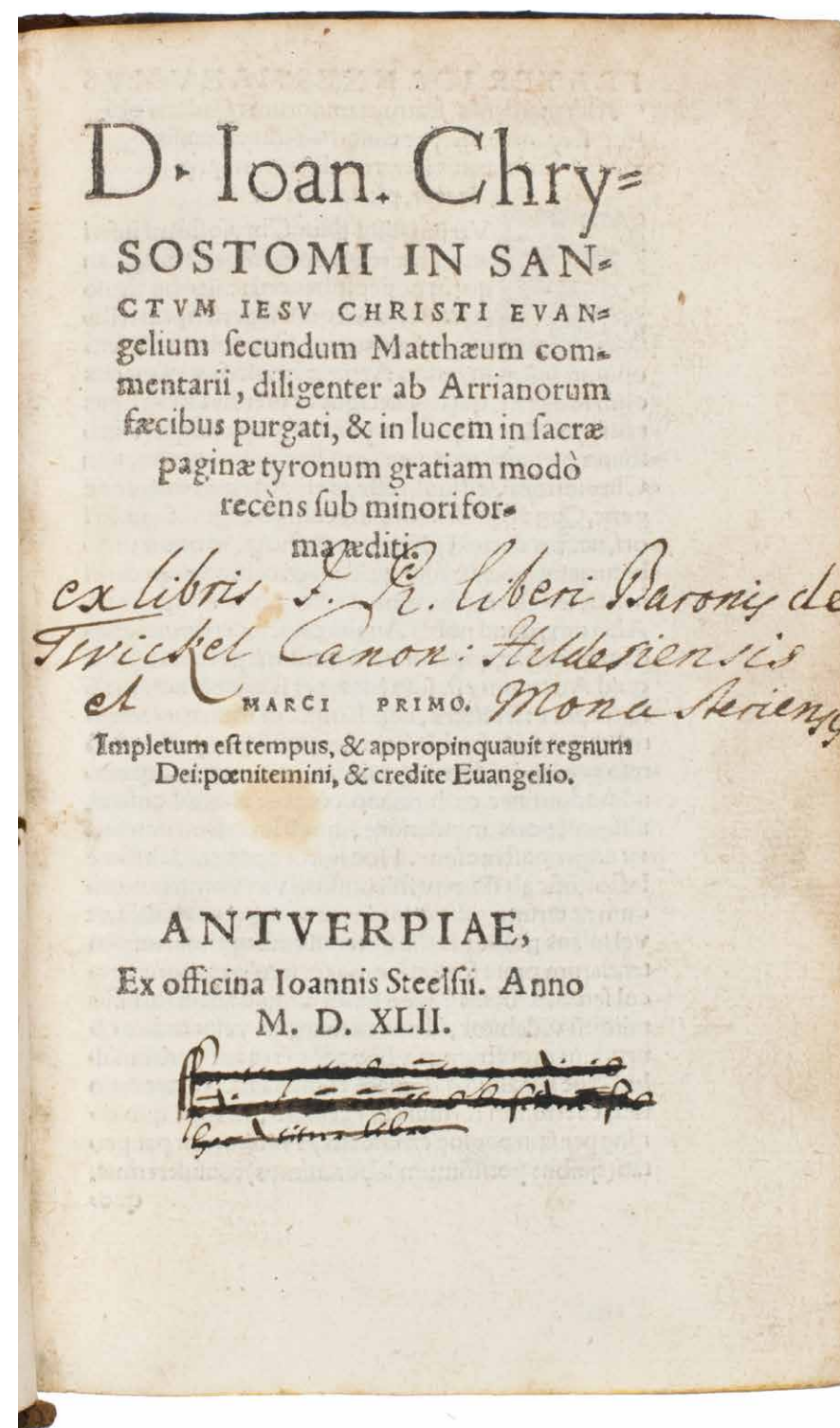
€ 9500

Rare second edition of a devotional work by Saint John Chrysostom (347–407 CE). The contents of this second edition are more extensive than those of the first edition, published 5 years earlier, which only contains the first two-thirds of the work. The last third was published separately as *Passio Domini* in 1542 and added to this copy. The present work very rarely appears on the market.

The design of the binding is typically Flemish. Multiple bindings from the same time period with a very similar panel-stamp are known. However, this binding is unique. Not only is it larger, but it also has extra blind-tooling around the edges that the other bindings lack. Most importantly, however, the text on the stamp is different. While all the other bindings are stamped with a line of psalm 130, here it is psalm 70. This variation is not mentioned in any of the reference works.

With manuscript owner's inscriptions on the first flyleaf and the title page. Some loss of leather, mainly at the head of the spine and the corners of the back board. The pastedowns are missing, showing the boards and the manuscript waste used to reinforce the spine. Small brown stains on the first flyleaf and title page, occasionally slightly browned. Otherwise in good condition.

[8], "313" [=314], [1]; 47, [1] ll. See our website for the reference list. [More on our website](#)





# Extremely rare Dutch translation of a devotional work by the Church father Johannes Chrysostomus in an attractive contemporary Antwerp panel binding

18

**CHRYSOSTOMUS, Johannes (Antonius van HEMERT, translator).**

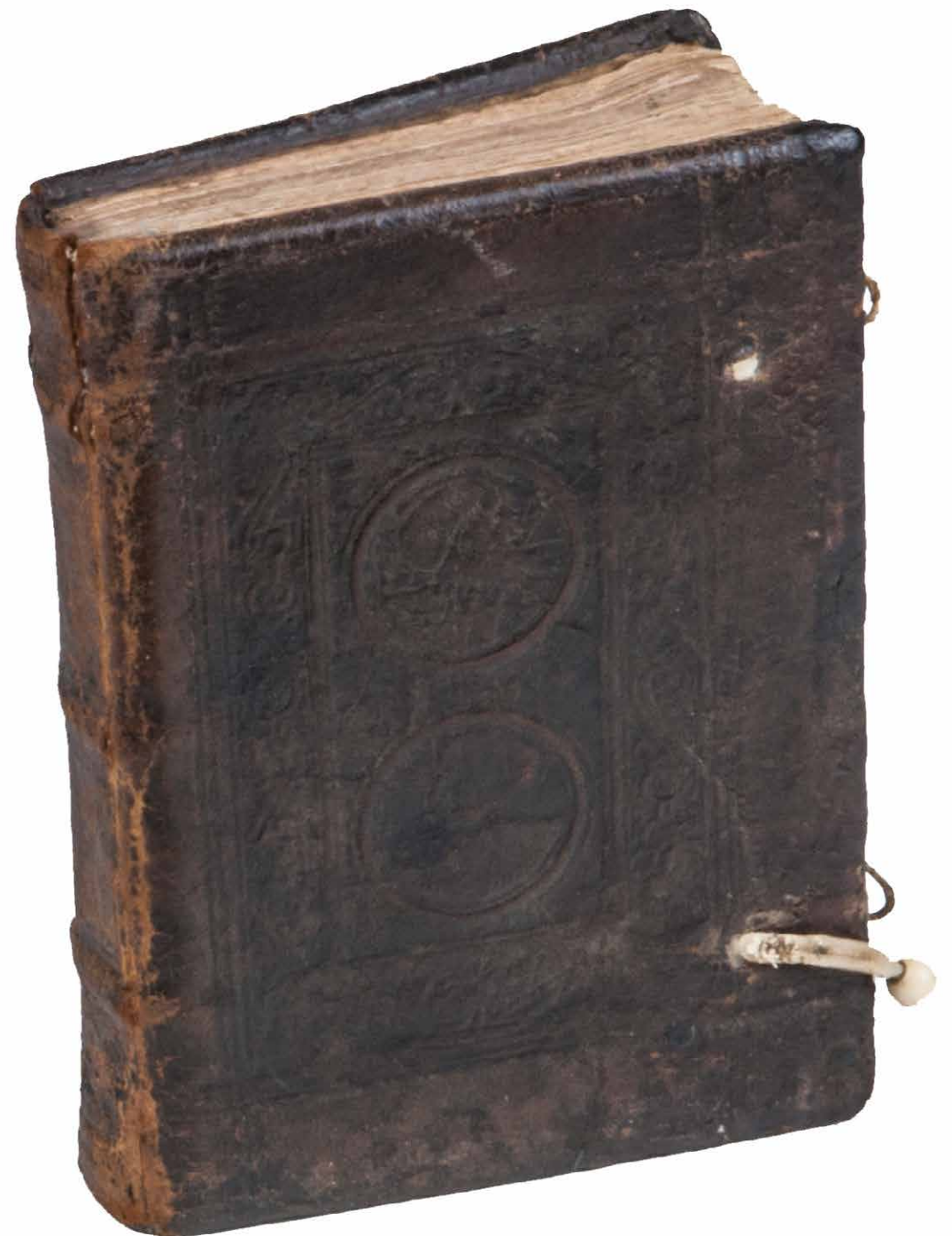
Van die beweechnisse des herten, tot berouwe der sonde[n]. ...

(Colophon:) Antwerp, Symon Cock, 18 August 1546. 8°. With the title page in red and black in a framework of thin rules, 6 woodcut decorated initials and 2 vine-leaf ornaments. An Antwerp binding of contemporary panel-stamped calf, with cord loop, bone button, and leather strap fastenings.

€ 12 500

Rare first and only edition (apparently one of two copies known to include the final quire R, with the Imperial privilege noted on the title page) of the Dutch translation of devotional tracts and sermons by Johannes Chrysostomus (ca. 347–407), Archbishop of Constantinople and an important Greek Church Father and preacher, sometimes known in English as Saint John Chrysostom. After the title page, table of contents and translator's prologue follow the main work noted in the title and three additional works: *Van die weder rechinghe eens menschen, die ghevallen was*; *Hoe dat niemant ghequetst en wort, dan van hem selven* and *Van vyantschap, toornicheyt, ende van niet te sweren*. Although the colophon appears at the foot of Q8v, it is followed in the present copy by quire R, containing the 6-page privilege granted by the Holy Roman Emperor Charles V on 1 February 1545. We have located 8 other copies, but it appears that only the present copy and that at the Wissenschaftliche Bibliothek der Stadt Trier include this privilege at the end. With a contemporary owner's inscription on the verso of the last leaf and on the back pastedown. Also with another inscription pasted on the front pastedown and with a 20th-century inscription on the first free endleaf. One of the leather straps with the bone button gone, but otherwise in good condition.

[131], [1 blank] ll. See our website for the reference list. [More on our website](#)





## Beautiful series illustrating the Book of Revelations

19

[COLLAERT, Adriaan and Gerard de JODE].

Icones revelationum S. Johannis Evangeliste in Pathmo.

[Antwerp], Gerard de Jode, [ca. 1585]. Ca. 12 × 10.8 cm. With an engraved title page, and 24 full-page numbered engraved plates. 19th-century quarter vellum, marbled paper sides.

€ 2750

Original edition, in second state, of the plates illustrating the last book of the New Testament, the Book of Revelation. Written by the apostle John, it tells about the prophetic visions that St. John received about the return of Jesus Christ and the end times (cap. 1–23). The present plates are attributed to Adriaan Collaert after designs of Jan Snellinck (1544–1638), and published by the Netherlandish cartographer, engraver and printer/publisher Gerard de Jode (ca. 1511–1591), well-known for the publication of his two-volume atlas *Speculum orbis terrarum* in 1578. Born in Nijmegen, he was active in Antwerp from 1547 where he published many maps and plates, including his greatest project, a set of Bible illustrations, finally published under the title *Thesaurus Novi Testamenti elegantissimis iconibus expressus continens historias atque miracula domini nostri Jesu Christi* in 1585, of which our series on the Book of Revelation is a part.

The first state, printed by Gerard de Jode in the same year, has two, unnumbered prints per plate. Further editions were published in Amsterdam by Claes Jansz. Visscher in 1643, Amsterdam by Jan Ph. Schabaelje in 1646, and in Antwerp by Joannes Galle (after 1646).

The boards are somewhat rubbed. The leaves are very lightly browned. Otherwise in very good condition.

Hollstein, IX, (G. de Jode), p. 201, nos. 50–75; *New Hollstein (The Collaert Dynasty)*, II, nos. 399–423; Poortman, *Bijbel en prent*, IIa, p. 54; P. Visser, *Broeders in de geest* (1988), II, pp. 353–354, 510–517; cf. Mielke, H., 'Antwèrpener Graphic in der 2. Hälfte des 16. Jahrh., *Der Thesaurus veteris et novi testamenti* des Gerard de Jode (1585) und seine Künstler', in: *Zeitschrift f. Kunstgeschichte*, 38 (1975), pp. 33–42, 83, no. 60/I. [More on our website](#)





# The complete series of Collaert's views around Brussels in its first state

20

**COLLAERT, Hans I [after Hans BOL or Jacob GRIMMER?].**


[Views in the vicinity of Brussels].

[Antwerp], Hans van Luyck, [ca. 1575/80]. Oblong 2° album (24.5 × 35.5 cm). Series of 24 engravings with views of landscapes around Brussels, each with a caption in the plate. Trimmed down to the plate edge and mounted on album leaves, numbered in pencil on the album leaves, next to the engravings. Modern red half cloth, marbled sides.

€ 15 000

Album with the complete series of Collaert's views around Brussels, here in its first unnumbered state, published by Hans van Luyck in Antwerp. Hans I Collaert (ca. 1525/30 – 1585) was a painter-draughtsman who founded the influential Collaert dynasty of engravers and print publishers. The views show villages, castles and abbeys in the vicinity of Brussels, engraved in a very naturalistic way. The series includes a view of the cloister of Zevenborren (south of Sint-Genesius-Rode), views of Schaarbeek, Elsene, Etterbeek, Stal, Eggevoort and Bosvoorde, and views of the some castles, including those of Brussels, Coensborg (south of Laken) and Carloo. Some references attribute the drawing of the views to Hans Bol because of an inscription added to the first plate of the later Visscher edition, but the "related drawings are not consistent with Bol's style" (*New Hollstein*). Others name Jacob Grimmer as an alternative candidate for the artist who drew the views.

With a 20th-century manuscript inscription on the first free endleaf, mistakenly identifying the series as the second state published by Visscher, which is however numbered in the plates in contrast to the present series in an unnumbered first state. Binding slightly worn around the edges, some slight marginal foxing, stains, browning and soiling, but overall a beautiful album, complete and therefore rare with all the plates of Collaert's views around Brussels, here in its first state.

[24] ll. *Hollstein* IV, 149–172; *New Hollstein*, *The Collaert dynasty* V, 1229–1252; cf. *New Hollstein*, *The Collaert dynasty* I, pp. xlix–liii.  More on our website





## Defending the Church in turbulent times

21

**CROCUS, Cornelius.**

*Ecclesia ad confirmandam fidem catholicorum dogmatum, & stabiliendos animos adversus falsae doctrinae ventos, nimium extremis hisce periculosis temporibus ...*

Antwerp, Joannes Grapheus, 1536. 8°. With a full page woodcut illustration incorporating Steelsius' device at the end, and with 1 woodcut decorated initial. Modern printer's waste paper binding.

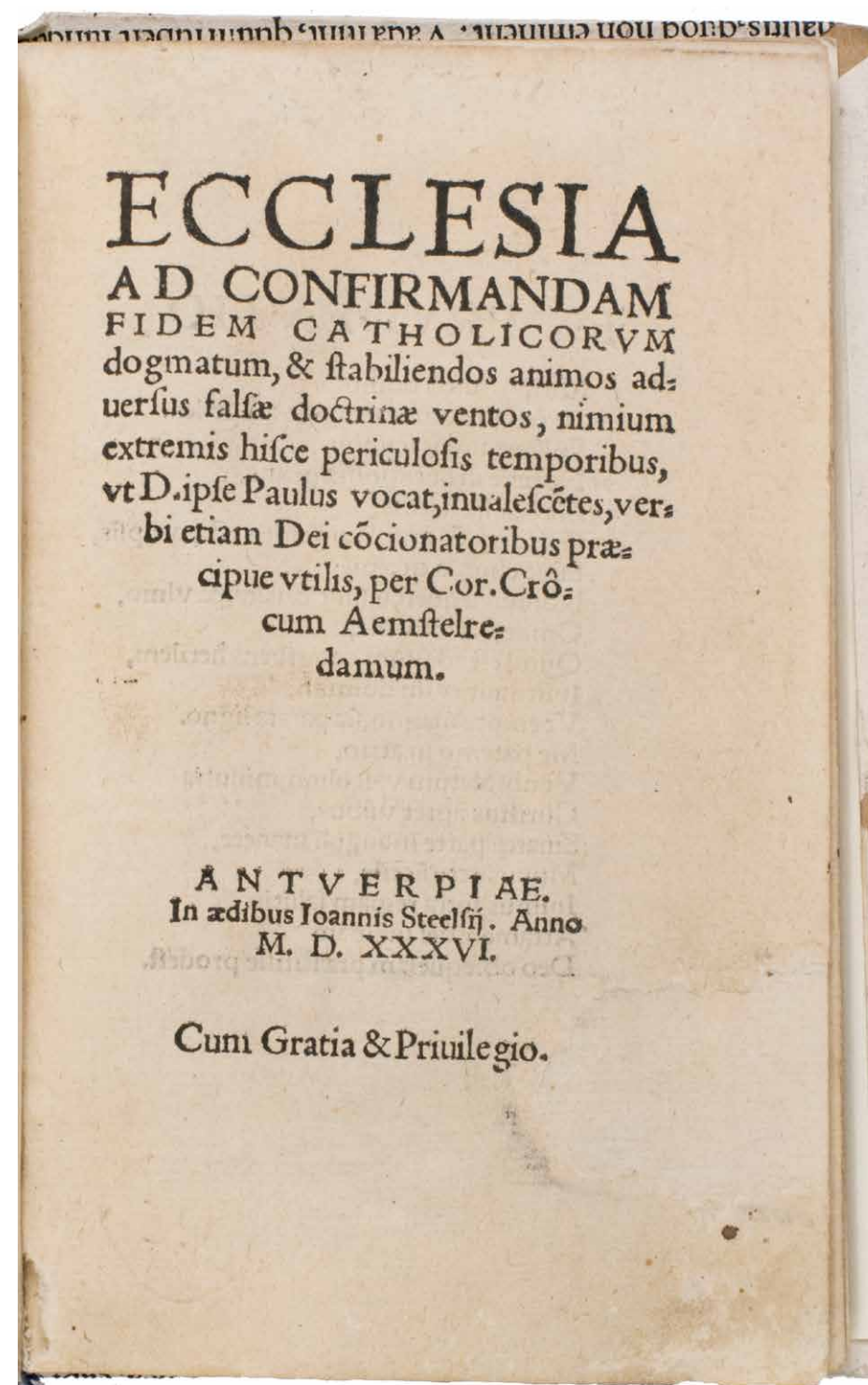
€ 2250

Rare first edition of Cornelius Crocus' (ca. 1500–1550) major apologetic work *Ecclesia*, on the authority of the Catholic Church, an impassioned response to the winds of false doctrine that swept through the Low Countries in the turbulent 1530s. The book is prefaced by a six page dedicatory letter to his fellow citizen Nicolaus Cannius (1504–1555), rector of the Ursuline convent in Amsterdam. In this preface Crocus frames the central problem of his age: although Scripture is perfect and complete, its interpretation is endlessly contested. Only the Church's divinely guided magisterium, he argues, can anchor the faithful amidst doctrinal turmoil.

Crocus, educated at Louvain and praised by Erasmus for the purity of his Latin, spent most of his life in Amsterdam, where he served as rector of the Latin school and became an influential humanist pedagogue. A vigorous defender of Catholic orthodoxy, he had already opposed Lutheran teaching in *De Fide et Operibus* (1531) and answered the Anabaptists in his *Dissertatio cum Anabaptistis* (1535). In *Ecclesia*, his most substantial and enduring theological work, he takes aim at the doctrinal excesses of Anabaptists, Sacramentarians and other reforming groups, not with speculative theology but with a battery of Scripture, patristic authorities and church history. The tone is at times sharp, unsurprising in the aftermath of the unrest of 1535, but the work is conceived as a pastoral tool, intended "especially for the preachers of the Word of God" (verbi Dei concionatoribus).

With 2 small fragments cut from the title page and the final leaf, repaired with old paper, and some occasional browning. Otherwise in good condition.

[55] ll. See our website for the reference list. ➤ More on our website





# On priesthood

22

**DIONYSIUS CARTHUSIENSIS (Denys van Rijkel).**

*Vita sacerdotum.*

(Colophon:) Antwerp, Willem Vorsterman, May 1532. Small 8°. With a woodcut title border, a decorated woodcut initial, and a woodcut printer's device at the end of the work. Modern blind-tooled half calf.


€ 4950

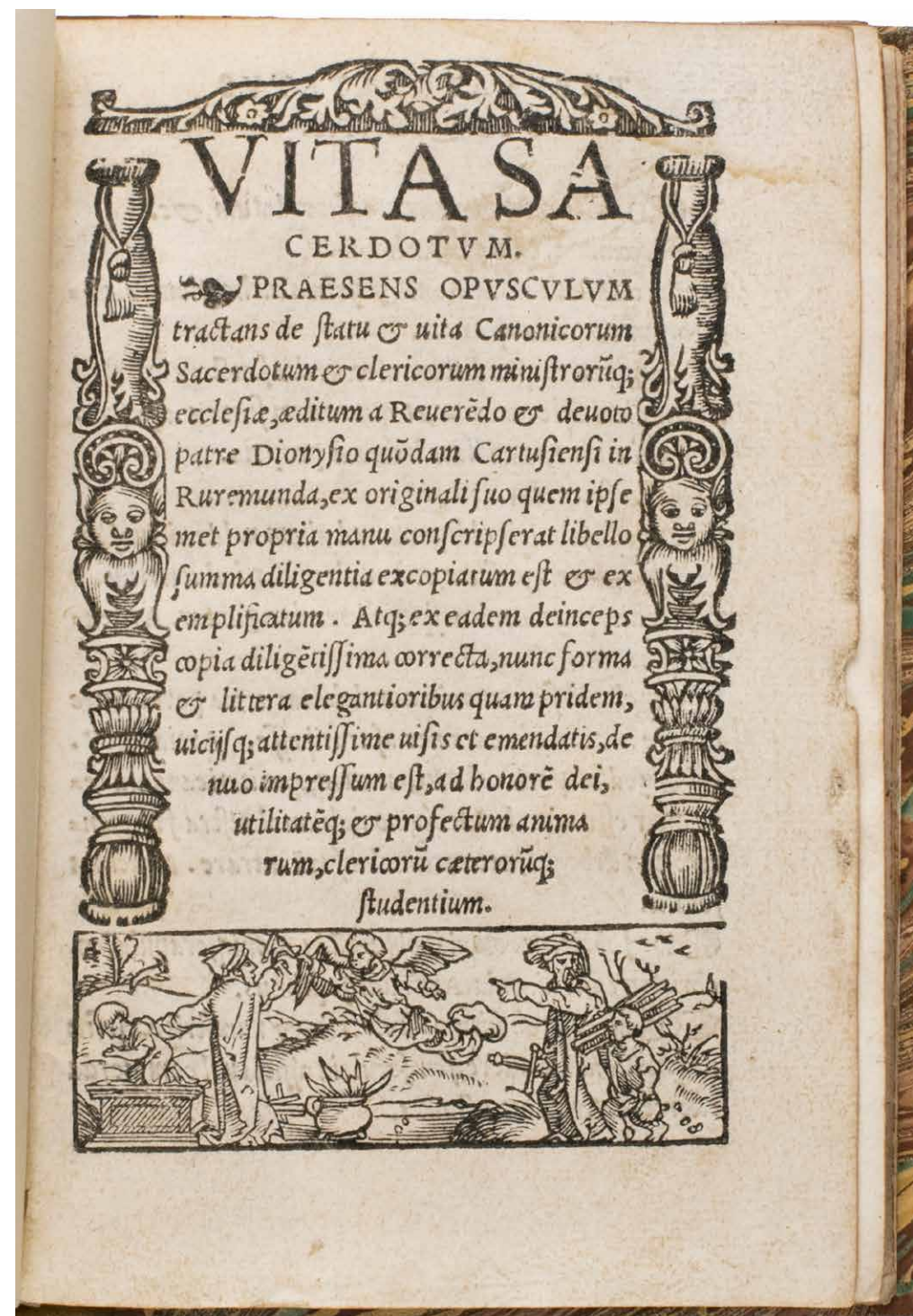
Very rare early Antwerp edition of a treatise on priesthood by one of the famous theologians and mystics of the 15th-century Low Countries, Dionysius the Carthusian (Denys van Rijkel or van Leeuwen, ca. 1402/03–1471), who was given the title "Doctor ecstaticus". The work, divided in 27 articles, discusses the origins of priests and canons, explains why they are not allowed to fight or marry, and why they should stay away from games and empty pleasures. The beautiful woodcut border on the title page shows Abraham's sacrifice.

Dionysius was born near St. Truiden and attended the well-known Latin school in Zwolle, the centre of the Windesheim Congregation and the Devotia Moderna. There, he studied philosophy and became acquainted with the principles and practice of religious life, which the rector, John Cele, himself taught. After his study at the University of Cologne he entered the Carthusian monastery at Roermond, Limburg, in 1424. A synthesizer of all previous doctrine, he wrote over 150 works (now also available in a modern edition of 43 volumes), which include commentaries on the entire Bible and over 900 sermons. He is considered the last great Scholastic author. The present work was first published in 1504 in Cologne. The first Antwerp edition, also by Willem Vorsterman (?–1543), dates to 1517. The present, corrected edition, is the third. All Vorsterman editions are very rare.

The work is lightly browned, a faint water stain in the upper outer corner of the first 8 leaves, some of the leaves are slightly frayed around the edges, the upper margin has been cut somewhat short, but without loss of text. Otherwise in good condition.

[52] ll. Adams D-622; Nijhoff & Kronenberg 717; STCV 12912278; USTC 410288 and 444071 (9 copies).

 More on our website





# A window onto the growing botanical world: early herbals by Dodoens and Plantin

23

**DODOENS, Rembert.**

Florum et coronariarum odoratarumque nonnullarum herbarum historia ...

Antwerp, Christophe Plantin, 1569.

*With: (2) IDEM.* Historia frumentorum, leguminum, palustrium et aquatilium herbarum ...

Antwerp, Christophe Plantin, 1569. 2 works in 1 volume. 8°. Ad 1: with 109 full-page woodcut illustrations, Plantin's device on the title page, 1 headpiece, 1 tailpiece, and several woodcut initials throughout. Ad 2: with 86 full-page woodcut illustrations, Plantin's device on the title page. 17th-century gold-tooled vellum, both boards show the stylised monogram of Denis de Sallo as a gold-tooled centrepiece within a single fillet frame, the author and title are lettered in gold on the spine, gilt edges.

€ 7500

Two of the small octavo herbals that marked the early collaboration between Rembert Dodoens (1517–1585) and Christophe Plantin (ca. 1520–1589), both published in Antwerp in 1569. Dodoens, was a physician, botanist, and one of the leading natural historians of the Low Countries. Additionally, he was the first to study the flora of the Low Countries with systematic precision. Trained as a medical doctor, Dodoens brought a clinician's interest in the properties and uses of plants to a rapidly developing humanist science, combining classical sources with direct observation of living specimens. The present work offers a window onto the rapidly developing botanical scholarship of the Low Countries.

Ad 1: with a later ownership inscription on the first flyleaf, a bookplate mounted on the front pastedown. Some ink staining on pp. 14–15, a small tear in pp. 155–156 and pp. 163–164, occasional foxing. Ad 2: an annotation on p. 289, slightly browned throughout. Otherwise in good condition.

"309" [=311], [8], [1 blank]; 293, [1 blank], [9], [1 blank] pp. See our website for the reference list.

➔ More on our website





# Attacking Anabaptism: first edition of an apologetic work by a leading Dutch Catholic of the Counter Reformation

24

DUNCAN, Martin.

Anabaptisticae haereseos confutatio, et vere Christiani baptismi ...  
Antwerp, Johannes Gravius, 1549. 2 parts in 1 volume. 8°. With  
printer's device on the title of the second part, many interesting  
woodcut initials. 17th-century boards covered with marbled paper.

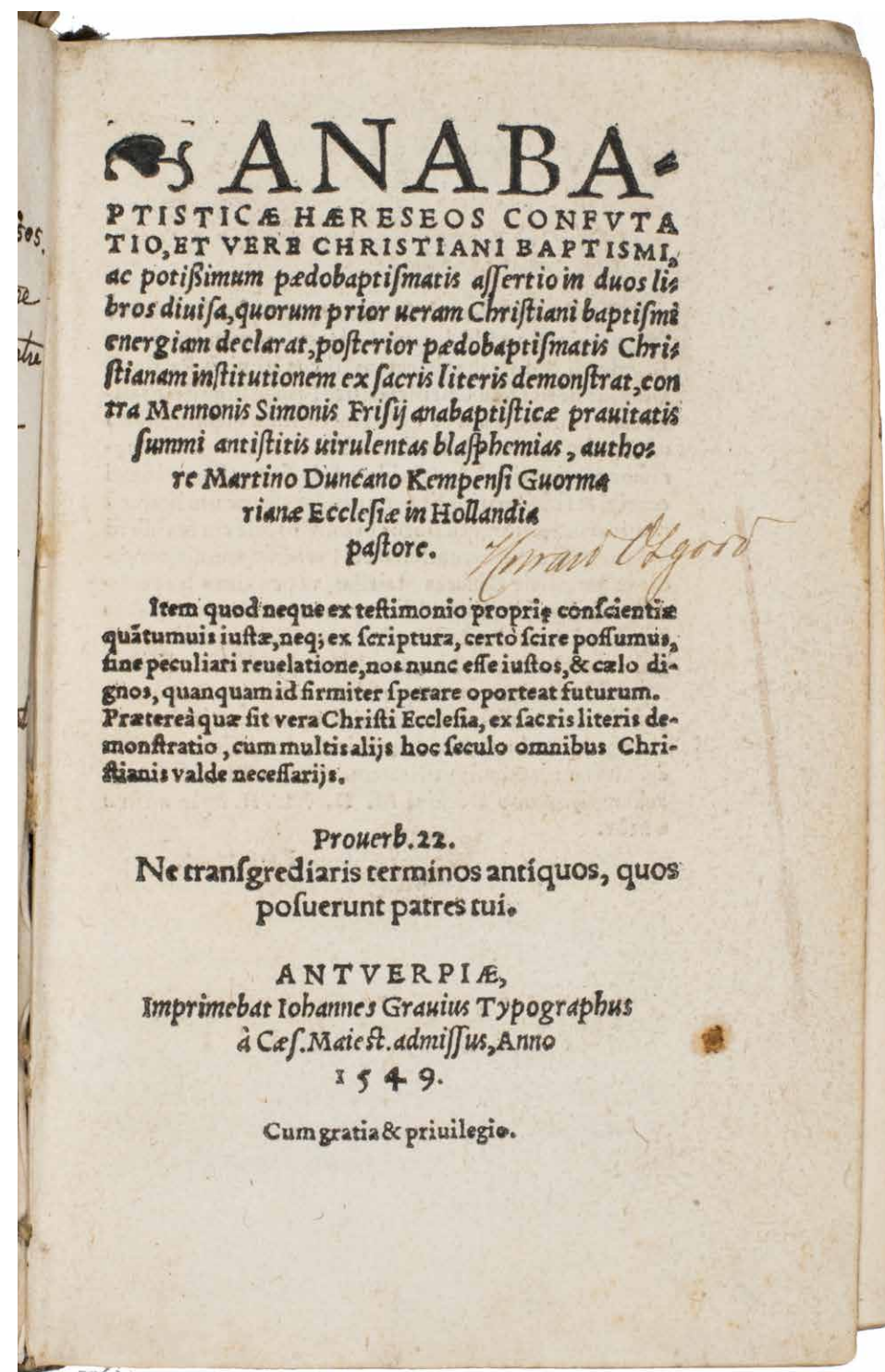
€ 5000

First and only edition of this important apologetical work by the Catholic priest Martinus Duncanus or Maarten Donk or Verdonck (ca. 1505-1593) presenting his arguments against the Anabaptists. He lived in the heart of the Anabaptist movement in Waterland, The Netherlands, in 1535. At least 57 persons in his village were persecuted, including 32 who had taken part in the infamous procession to Münster. After his studies in Louvain he became priest in 1536. In 1541 he was appointed priest in Wormer (North Holland) where he founded a Latin school and where he actively defended the Catholic faith against rising Protestantism and especially Anabaptism among his parishioners. In 1550 Charles V appointed him one of the book censors in the Netherlands. From 1558 to 1572 he served as priest of St. Hippolytus in Delft; from 1572 to the "Satisfaction" in 1578 as priest of the Nieuwe Kerk in Amsterdam.

Duncanus was one of the first Catholic opponents of Menno Simons. He directed the present book against Simons, the "leader" of the Anabaptists. He presented it to the city of Amsterdam and received as a gift from the mayors the sum of 12 Carolus guilders. It was the first of Duncanus' apologetical writings and one of the most violent books ever published against the Dutch Anabaptists.

With inscriptions on the recto and verso of the first flyleaf and on the title page, Frederik Muller's bookplate and Howard Osgood's coat of arms on the front pastedown. Backstrip lacking (heavily damaged), some quires partly detached, but otherwise a good copy.

[15], [1 blank], 227 ll. See our website for the reference list. [More on our website](#)





## Erasmus' first work

25

ERASMUS, Desiderius.

De contemptu mu[n]di epistola.

Antwerp, Michiel Hillen van Hoogstraten, 1523. 8°. With a decorative woodcut border on the title page, and 2 decorated woodcut initials. Later vellum.

€ 12 500

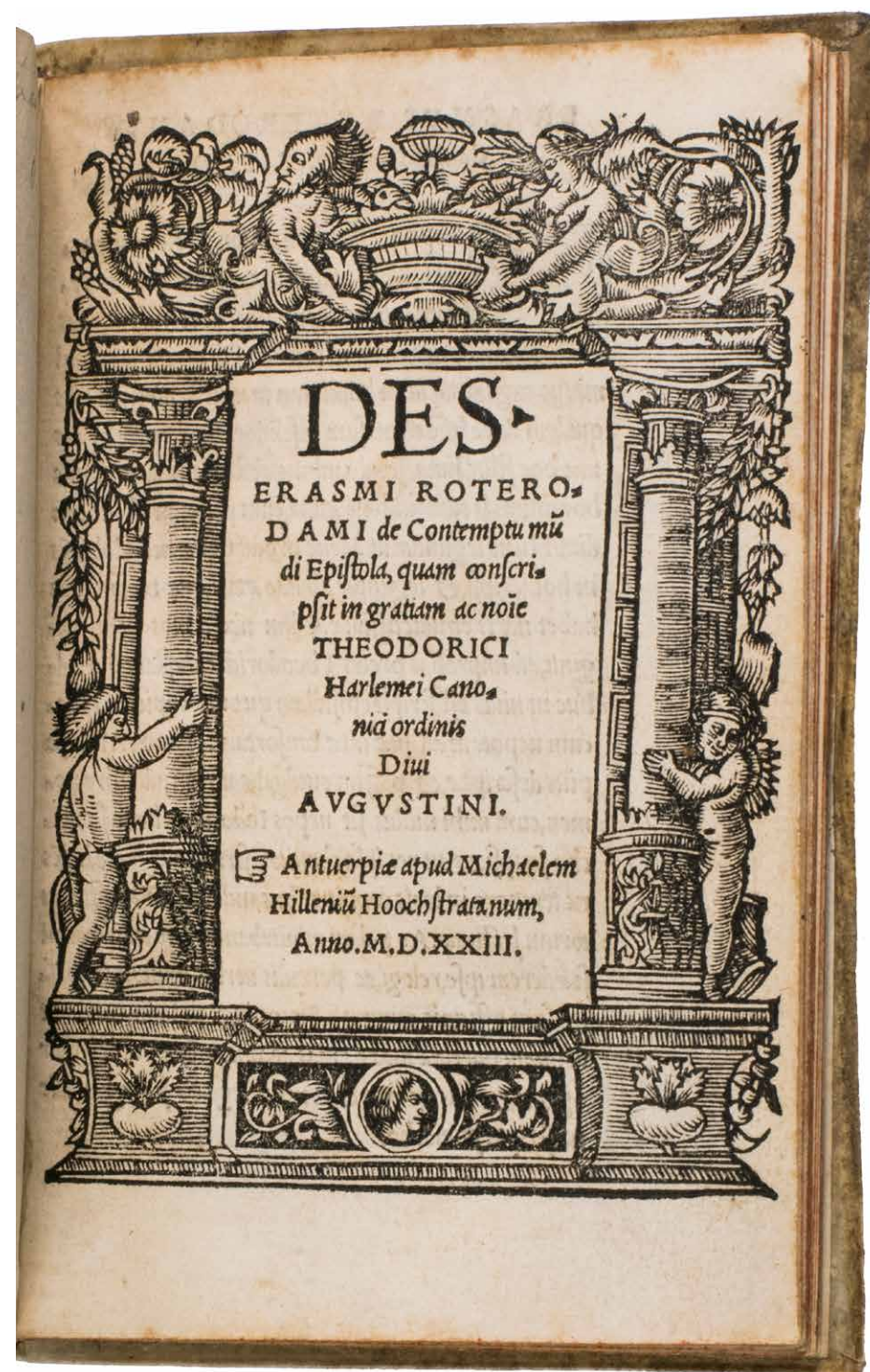
Very rare early edition of Erasmus' first written work, a letter in praise of monastic life, which was only published later in his career. Erasmus wrote it in 1488 or 1489 when he was 20 years old, at the request of Theodoricus of Haarlem, a fellow canon at the Augustine monastery at Steyn, in order to persuade his nephew to join the order. It circulated in manuscript form for many years, and was likely used to entice prospective candidates to enter the order of Canons Regular of St. Augustine.

The work is divided into three parts: the first seven chapters focus on the evils of this world; chapter eight through eleven on the pleasures of the religious life; and chapter twelve on the ultimate choice between the material world or the religious state. This final chapter appears to counteract the rest of the work as it advises Theodoricus' nephew to carefully consider whether he truly wanted to enter a religious order, since being a Christian is enough in itself. As such, it has been suggested that Erasmus rewrote the text before its publication, adding the 12th chapter, but as he apologises for his adolescent writing style in the preface, the work was likely mostly unedited.

The first edition was published in Louvain in 1521, more than 30 years after it was written. The present edition is the first by Michiel Hillen van Hoogstraten, and one of four printed in 1523. It is exceptionally rare on both the market and in institutions, as only four copies have been recorded in libraries, and we have not been able to find any others in sales records of the past century.

The vellum is slightly soiled. The work is slightly browned throughout. Otherwise in good condition.

[32] ll. *See our website for the reference list.* ➤ More on our website





## A call for peace amid Reformation turmoil

26

ERASMUS, Desiderius.

Liber de sarcienda ecclesiae concordia deque sedandis opinionum dissidiis, cum aliis non nullis lectu dignis ...

Antwerp, Michiel Hillen van Hoochstraten, 1523. 8°. With a full-page woodcut illustration incorporating Hillen van Hoochstraten's device on the last page, and 3 woodcut decorated initials. Modern boards covered with a leaf from a Latin incunable, red sprinkled edges.


€ 2750

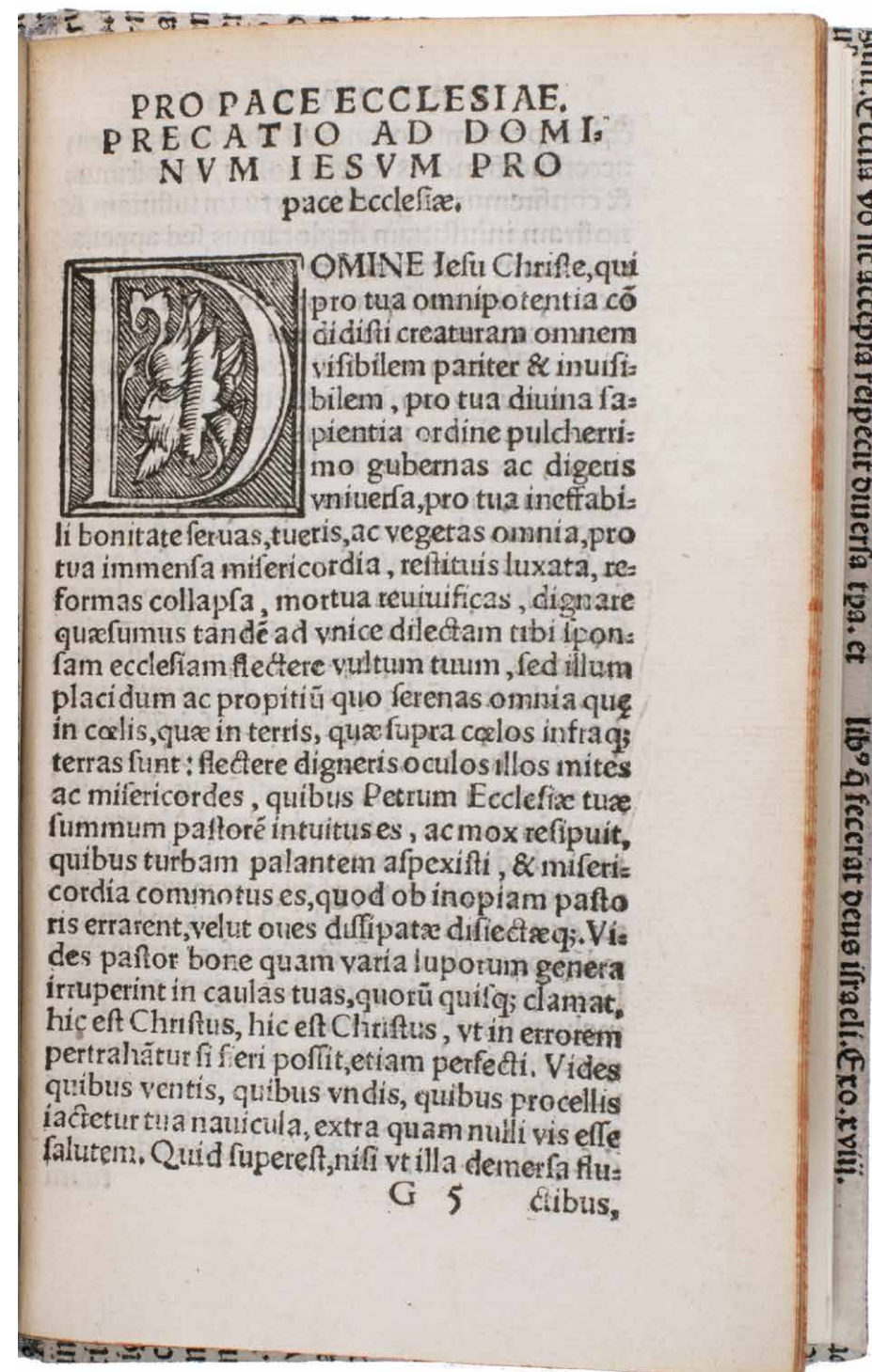
First Antwerp edition, published in the same year as the first Froben edition in Basel of Erasmus' *De sarcienda ecclesiae concordia*. Dedicated to Julius Pflug of Eytra (1499–1564), later the last Catholic Bishop of Naumburg, the work sets out Erasmus' most urgent appeal for unity at a moment when the fractures of the Reformation were widening by the month. Pflug, who valued peace and moderation, shared Erasmus' unease about the increasingly bitter debates dividing Western Christendom.

*De sarcienda ecclesiae concordia* opens as a commentary on psalm 83, in which Erasmus underscores the spiritual necessity of harmony within the Church. From this biblical foundation he advances his lifelong conviction: that a polarised Christendom is fundamentally at odds with the teaching and example of Christ. In passages marked by clarity, moral urgency, and classical poise, Erasmus argues that contentious theology has little to do with genuine faith, and everything to do with human pride.

Appended to the treatise is the brief *Precatio pro pace ecclesiae*, addressed to the Cologne jurist Johann Rinck, further underlining Erasmus' conviction that peace, moderation, and the diligent search for concord must prevail over doctrinal intransigence.

With very minor underlining on three pages and one tiny marginal annotation, a small ink stain in the upper margin of the title page, a small wormhole running from leaves A6 to B6, and some occasional water staining confined to the margins. Otherwise in good condition.

[56] ll. Adams E 387; De Reuck 248; Erasmus online 2340; Nijhoff & Kronenberg 798; STCV 12920380; USTC 403885; Vanderhaeghen I 117.  More on our website





## On the art of preaching: one of Erasmus' major works

27

ERASMUS, Desiderius.

*Ecclesiaastae* [!] sive de ratione concionandi libri quatuor ...

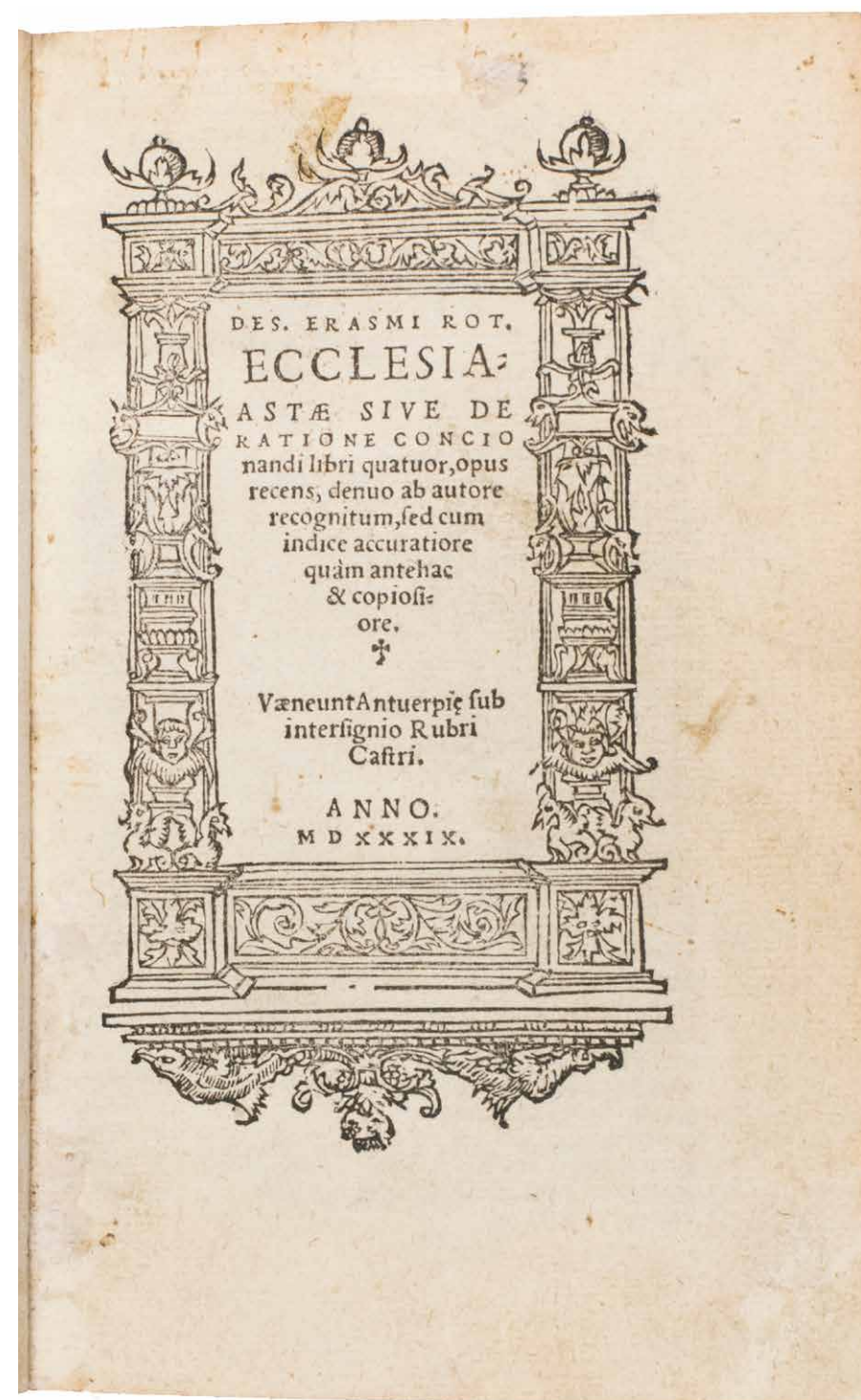
Antwerp, sub intersignio Rubri Castri [= Guilielmus Montanus], 1539. Small 8°. With an architectural woodcut border on the title page, 7 decorated metalcut initials, 5 woodcut headpieces, 7 woodcut tailpieces, and a woodcut printer's device at the end of the work. 18th-century half vellum.

€ 2500

Scarce early edition of an influential manual on preaching. It was one of the last major works which Erasmus produced and is considered one of his most significant treatises on theology. The work was incredibly popular in his own time, as Erasmus had been pressured for many years to write it. The present edition, which is the first by Montanus and the third authorised edition, is relatively scarce, however, with only two other copies recorded in sales records of the 21st century.

"The *Ecclesiastes* is really a collection of three works: a theological treatise on the importance of preaching and the role of the preacher in the church (Book I), a textbook on homiletics and hermeneutics which provides the preacher with the basic tools necessary for both the interpretation of scripture and the construction and delivery of sermons based on biblical terms (Books II and III), and a list of sermon topics with an explanation of how some of them should be developed. From this organization it is clear that Erasmus attempted to provide his contemporaries with both a theology of preaching and clear and precise advice on the art of preaching" (Kleinhans). With 18th-century annotations on the front pastedown and in the margins of some of the leaves, several portions of text are underlined. The edges and corners of the boards are somewhat scuffed, the vellum is somewhat soiled and stained. The work is somewhat browned throughout, with brown ink stains on a few leaves, affecting a few words, minor loss of material in the lower margin of a7 and a8, without affecting the text. Otherwise in good condition.

"549" [=544], [31], [1 blank] pp. [See our website for the reference list.](#) [More on our website](#)





# 1st Antwerp edition of Seyssel's French Eusebius, the contemporary binding with an unusual Flemish panel stamp

28

**EUSEBIUS.**

L[']histoire ecclesiastique ...

Antwerp, Maarten de Keyser, 1533. 8°. With a woodcut border on the title page, assembled from 4 blocks, about 10 woodcut decorated initials plus about 10 repeats. Contemporary Flemish blind panel-stamped calf, remnants of leather ties.

€ 7500

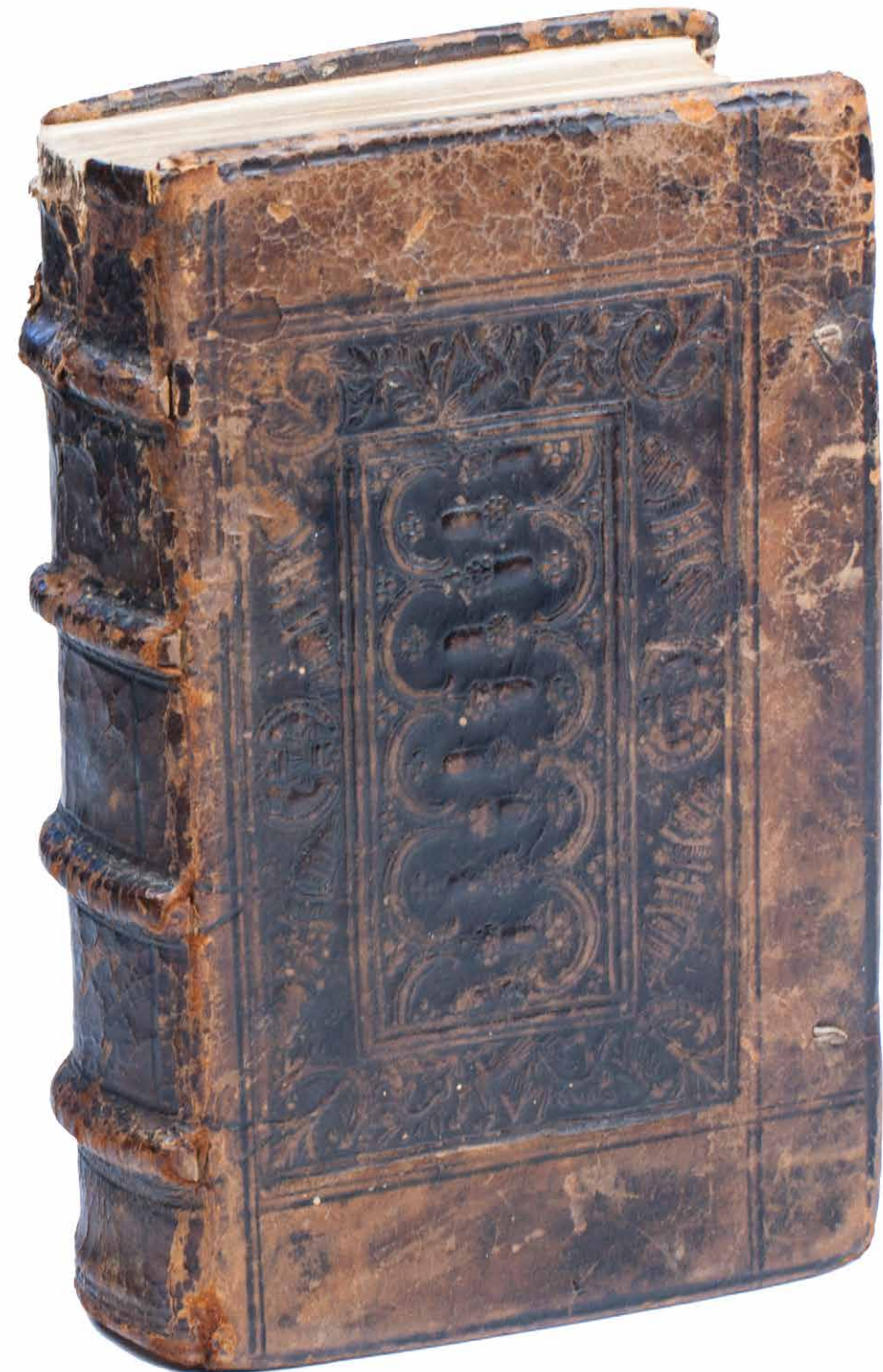
Rare second (first Antwerp) edition of Claude de Seyssel's French translation of Eusebius's chronological church history, first published by Geofroy Tory in Paris in 1532. Written in Greek in the 4th century, Eusebius drew on a wide variety of sources, recording much valuable historical information that would otherwise have been lost. Seyssel's translation was based on Rufinus's Latin rendering of 401 CE.

The central panel of the panel stamp on the binding resembles those cited in Foot, Goldschmidt, Oldham and to a lesser degree Sorgeloos/Speeckaert, all dated ca. 1527-ca. 1534, but their outer panels are all similar to each other and differ greatly from the present example. We have found nothing similar to the present outer panel in the literature.

With owners' entries on front pastedown: "SGS MGS/H. Spanofsky" dated 1555 and "Gott begnadet Hoffnung/Christ. Tenngler zum/Ramblsperg und Schaltenstain" (in Bavaria) dated 1563. In very good condition internally. The binding slightly chafed, cracks in the spine and hinges and head of spine chipped, but most of both panel stamps remains well preserved. Rare Antwerp edition of an important ecclesiastical history, also important for the printing types and panel-stamped binding.

[12], "297" [= 299], [1] ll. *Nijhoff & Kronenberg* 884; *Pettegree & Walsby, Netherlandish books*, 11968; *USTC* 7514; for panel stamps with a similar inner panel: *Foot, Henry Davis Gift* 293; *Goldschmidt* 134; *Oldham, Blind panels of English binders*, Ac.3; *Sorgeloos/Spreckaert, Quatre siècles de reliure* III, 5.

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# First Dutch translation of the *Historia ecclesiastica*

29

**EUSEBIUS PAMPHILUS.**

Die Historie diemen heet ecclesiastica ... (ἔκ.).


Antwerp, Govert van der Haghen, May 1534. Small 2°. With the title printed in red and black, set within a woodcut title border, 12 decorated woodcut initials, and 2 woodcut tailpieces. 17th-century vellum.

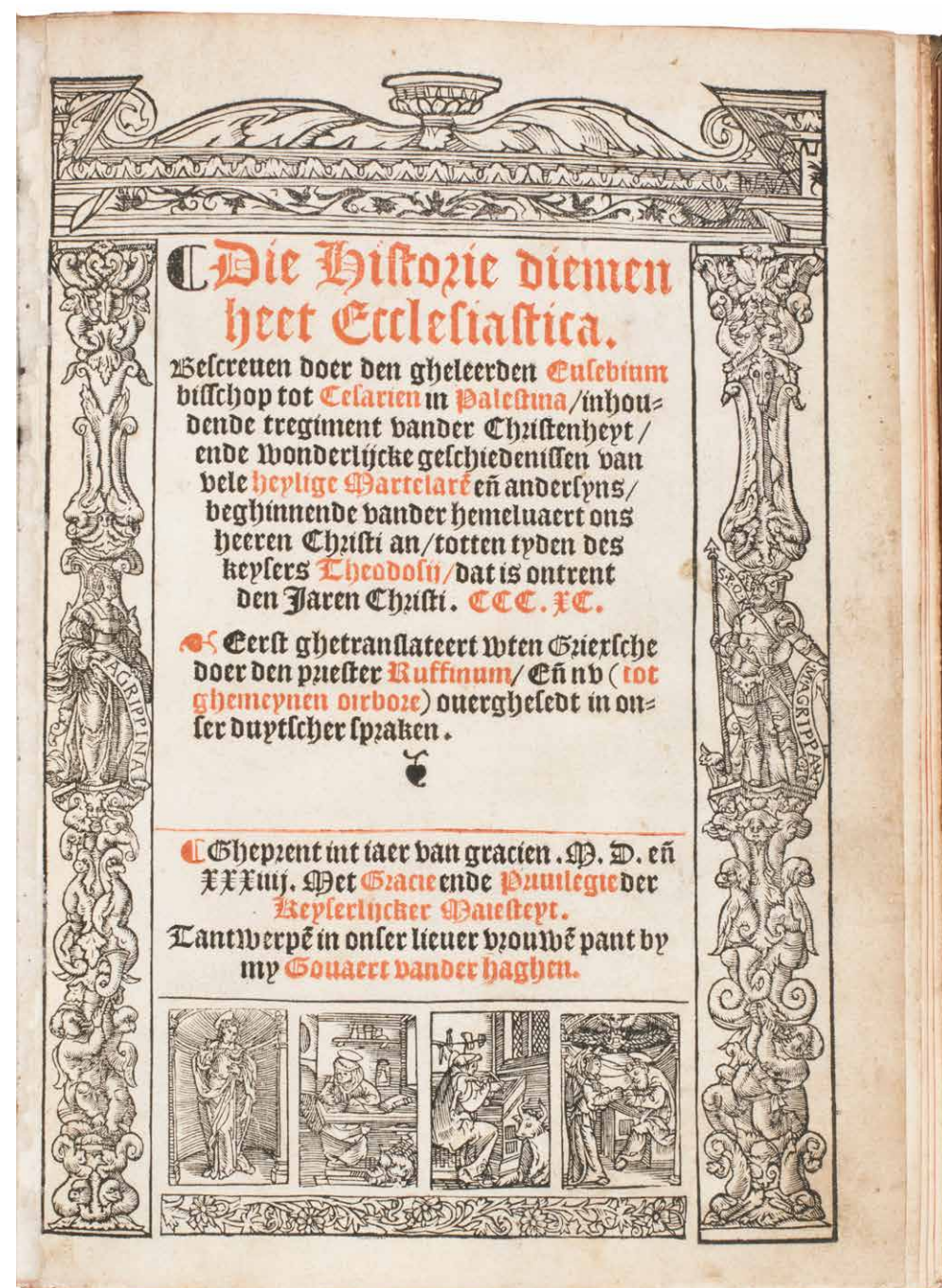
€ 9500

Very rare first Dutch translation of the famous history of the church by the great historian Eusebius (270–338), from the Arenberg collection. The *Historia ecclesiastica* is the earliest history of the Christian church. Divided in ten books, it gives a clear survey of the first three centuries. This turbulent period, in which the Church changed from an unorthodox, marginal society with a loose structure to a firmly established institution with fixed dogmas and a hierarchic structure, was not easy to describe as the annals were sparse. Eusebius succeeded in transforming the scattered information into a coherent historical account, rejecting anything doubtful or fabulous.

Eusebius wrote his text in Greek, before 326. The present Dutch edition, however, was translated after the Latin translation by Tyrannius Rufinus (ca. 340–410), which was first published in Rome, 1474. Rufinus made a rather free translation, and added two books carrying the narrative down to the death of Theodosius the Great in 395. The popular work was translated into multiple languages in the 16th century. The present first Dutch translation is very scarce, as we have not been able to trace any other copies in sales records of the past hundred years.

The vellum is somewhat soiled. The title page and final blank are somewhat browned, occasionally water stained. Otherwise in good condition.

[6], CLIII, [1 blank] ll. *Machiels* E-763; *Nijhoff & Kronenberg* 883; *STCV* 12925229; *USTC* 407374; *WorldCat* 558777084, 67204893, 69053134 (5 copies); not in *Adams*.  More on our website





# Early bogus claim to have squared the circle, with the circle's views on the matter

30

**FALCO, Jacobus (Jaime Juan FALCÓ y SEGURA).**

Hanc circuli quadraturam invenit.

Antwerp, Petrus Bellerus (Peter Belaert), 1591. Small 4° (19.5 × 14 cm).

With a woodcut, and 29 woodcut diagrams. 20th-century half calf.

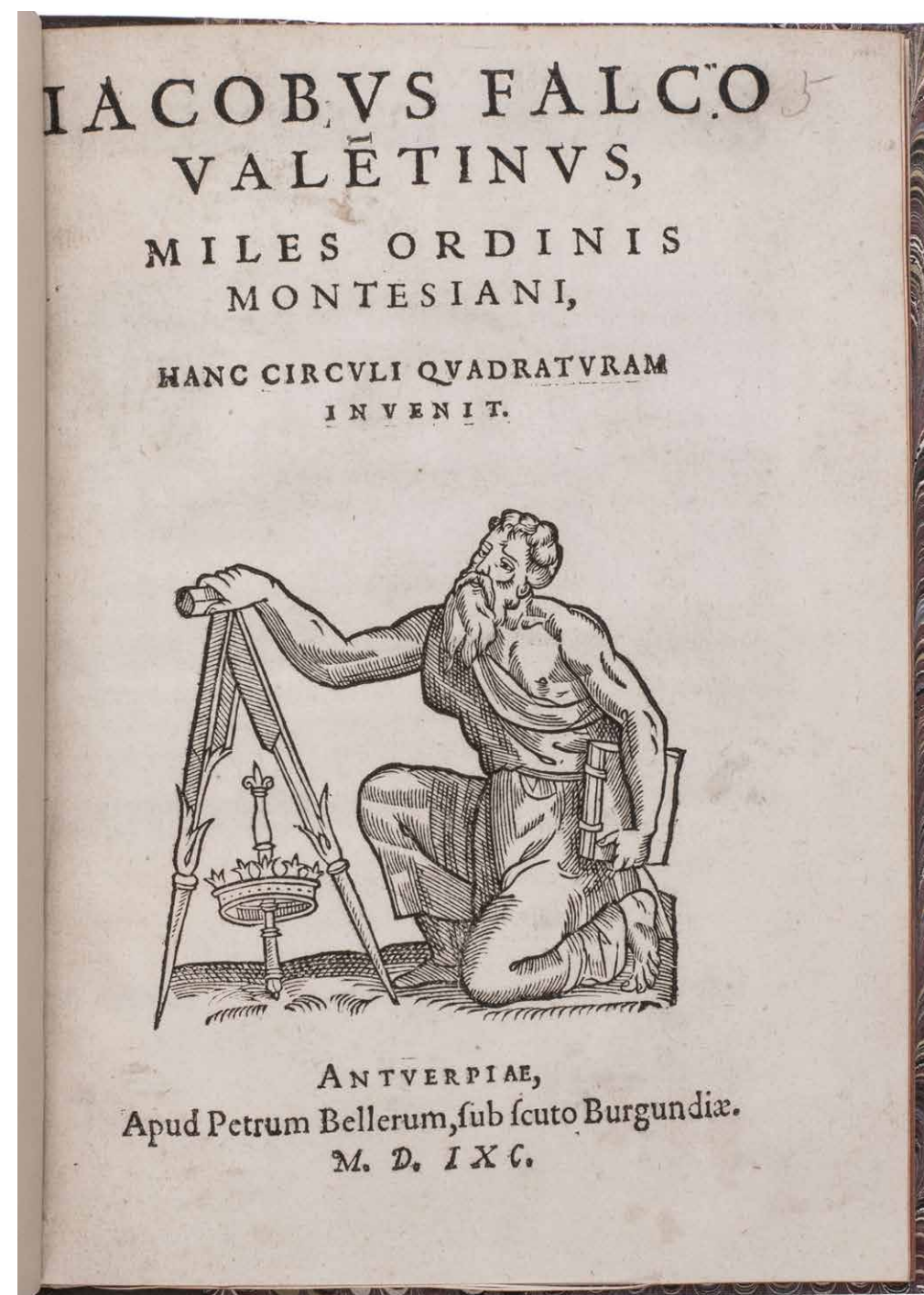
€ 2950

Second edition of an early treatise claiming to have squared the circle (geometrically constructed a square matching the surface area of a given circle, shown to be impossible in 1882). Falco (Valencia 1522-Madrid 1594), a humanistic poet and mathematician, and a Knight of the Order of Montesa, seems to have been a better poet than mathematician. His treatise has been called "more than commonly worthless" (De Morgan, *A budget of paradoxes*, 1872, p. 36), but it ends with a charming poem. In the first verse, the disappointed squared circle wonders who robbed it of its former noble form, and in the second Falco replies.

With the direction line (containing the quire signature and/or catchword) shaved on 4 pages, but still in very good condition, binding fine. An ill-fated attempt to solve an impossible problem, here by someone who thought he had succeeded.

29, [1] pp. *Anet* 12863042; *Netherlandish books* 12099, 12097 (misdated) and probably 12098 & 12100 ; *USTC* 406886, 402179 (misdated) and probably 407081 & 441190; not in *STCV*.

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## Causes and cures for flatulence

31

FIENUS, Joannes.

De flatibus humanum corpus molestantibus, commentarius nouus ac singularis ...

Antwerp, Jan van Ghelen for Henricus Henricius, 1582. 8°. With a woodcut printer's device on the title page and last page. Contemporary limp vellum with the manuscript title on the spine.

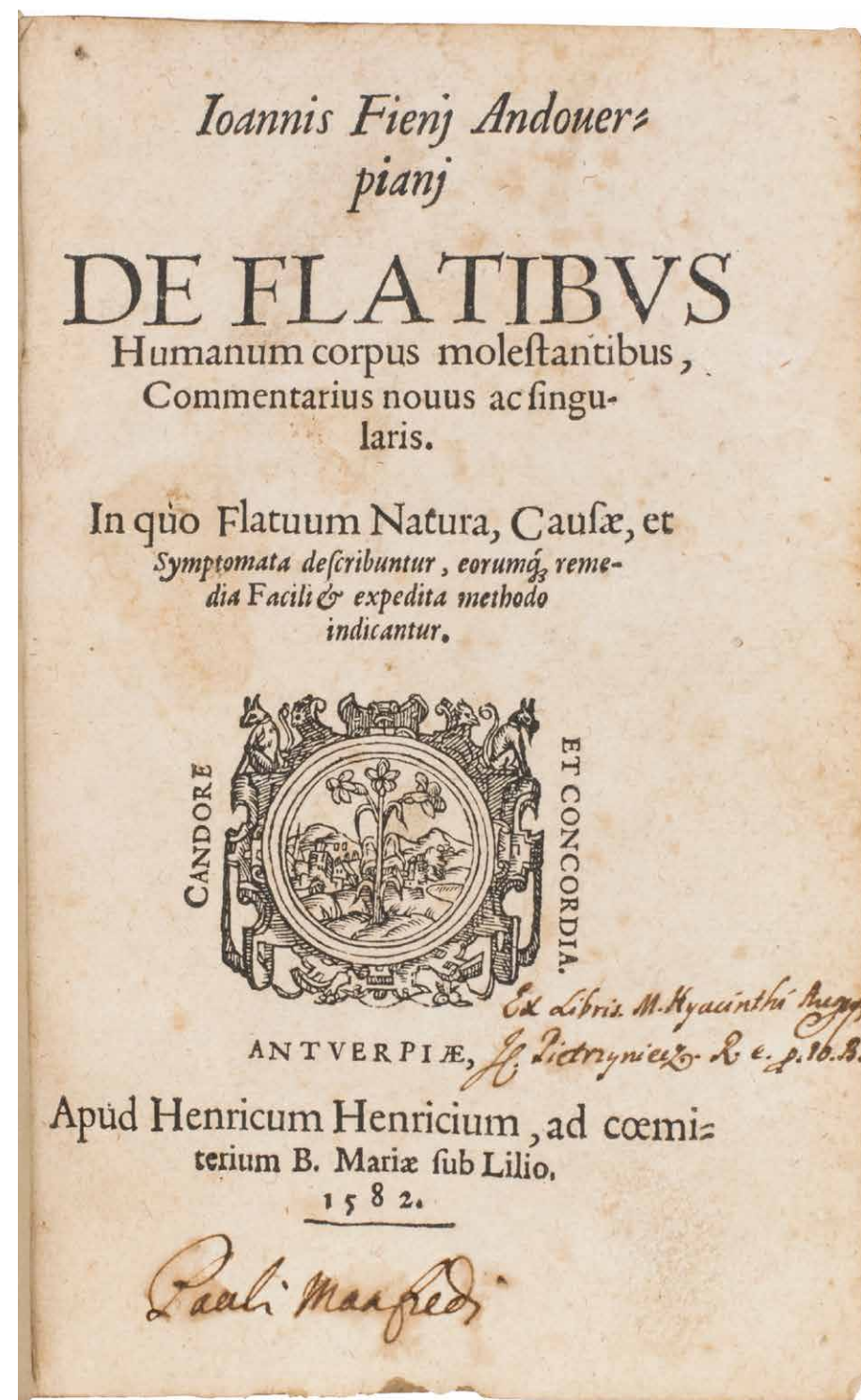
€ 1250

First edition of a treatise on flatulent gas and its discomforts in the human body, written by the Antwerp physician Joannes Fienus (or Feyens, d. 1585). Fienus was born in Turnhout, Belgium, and probably studied medicine at the University at Leuven. He describes the causes of the gas, such as particular foods and climates, and investigates the organs and places where the gas emerges. He also suggests a wide range of cures and remedies for the flatulence. The treatise was reprinted at Heidelberg in 1589 and 1592. In Amsterdam it was published by J. Janssonius in 1643.

With a 17th-century ownership annotation on the title page ("Ex libris M. Hyacinthi Au...(?), H. Pietryniecez. R. e. p.16.B.") and another underneath ("Pauli Manfred"). The spine is somewhat worn and has been restored, with some loss of material at the top, the title has faded, the boards are slightly stained, lacking the closing ties. The leaves are somewhat browned and foxed. Otherwise in good condition.

215, [5], [4 blank] pp. Belg. Typ. 1140 (1); Bibl. Medica Neerl. I 261; Durling 1528; Nave, *De geneeskunde in de Zuidelijke Nederlanden* (1475–1660), 20; USTC 401914; not in Adams; STCV; Wellcome.

➤ More on our website





# Sixteenth century commentary on psalms by the Italian humanist Marcus Antonius Flaminus in an attractive binding

32

**FLAMINIUS, Marcus Antonius.**

M. Antonii Flaminii in Librum Psalmorum Brevis Explanatio ...

Antwerp, Christophe Plantin, 1558.

*With: (2) FLAMINIUS, Marcus Antonius.* M. Antonii Flaminii De Rebus Divinis Carmina ...

Antwerp, Christophe Plantin, 1558.

2 works in 1 volume. 16° (11.4 × 7.7 cm). With Plantin's woodcut device on both title pages, and a different one on the verso of the final blank page of ad 2, 5 decorated initials. Contemporary gold-tooled brown leather, gauffered edges.

€ 3450

Commentary on the Book of Psalms with religious poetry in an attractive, contemporary binding. The Italian humanist Marcus Antonius Flaminus (Seravalla 1498 – Rome 1550) first published his commentary in 1545. He gives a short summary of each psalm, followed by the Latin text of the psalm, its commentary, and a paraphrase. He also wrote an additional paraphrase in poetry of 30 psalms. The work is dedicated to Cardinal Alexander Farnese, one of Flaminus's protectors. It was popular and Adams lists editions for 1547, 1551, 1557, 1558 (present copy), 1561 and 1567. The second work contains a series of neo-Latin poems on biblical and religious subjects, dedicated to Margaretha of Valois, the sister of Henry II of France, who knew Latin and Greek and whose praises were sung by many poets. *De Rebus Divinis Carmina* was first published in Paris in 1550, and was normally sold together with Flaminus's commentary on the Book of Psalms.

Upper part spine skilfully repaired, spine and covers show signs of wear, very slight browning throughout, small ink stain on the fore-edge. One ownership inscription on the front pastedown, two ownership inscriptions on the title page, several ownership inscriptions on the back pastedown, other annotations and remnants of removed bookplates on both pastedowns. Annotation in the margin of leaf 8v, marginal ink stain on leaves 9r and 176v. Good copy in an attractive contemporary binding.

365, [3]; [24] ll. *See our website for the reference list.* ➤ More on our website





## A rare 16th-century Dutch devotional work printed in Antwerp

33

[FLORIS VAN HAARLEM].

Den wech des levens ...

[Antwerp, Heyndrick Peetersen van Middelburg, 1547?]. 8°. With the title printed in black and red, within woodcut borders. Contemporary slightly overlapping parchment, remnants of ties.

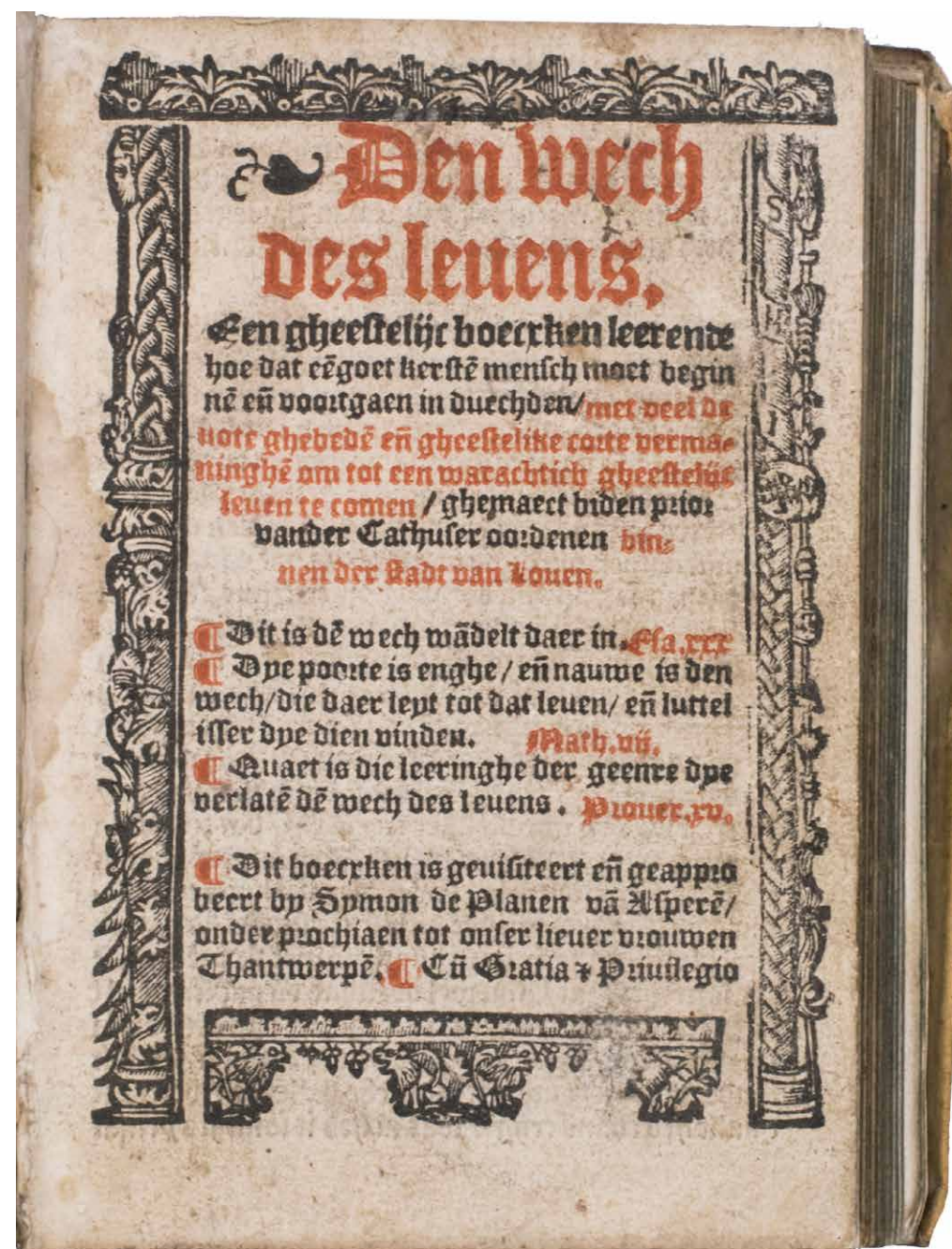
€ 7500

Third(?) edition of a rare 16th-century Dutch devotional work written by Floris van Haarlem, Carthusian prior at Louvain and edited by the Antwerp priest Simon van Planen. With a dedicatory letter to Gheraert Heerman, rector and confessor of the Roman Catholic monasteries at Leiden, dated Louvain, 2 April 1542. The work itself is divided into four treatises, with an extensive index.

The colophon at the end of the work is cut off, but the privilege at the end is granted to Heyndrick Peetersen and dated 17 January 1546. Because an edition of 1546 is unrecorded, it seems likely that this is the edition published in 1547. Other editions were published by Peetersen van Middelburg in 1542, 1544 and 1552, followed by two other editions in 1564. A Latin translation by Nicolaus Zegerus appeared in 1656 as *Via vitae, libellus plane aureus* ... Only a few copies of the several editions are known.

With library stamp of "St. Hugh's, Parkminster" and manuscript owner's inscription entry of "Pieter Loontjens, filius Johannis" on flyleaf. First and last leave somewhat soiled, four leaves loose in the last quire, some occasional thumbing and colophon on last leave cut off and restored. Binding slightly soiled and spine chipped. Still a good copy.

[200] ll. Cf. BCNI 01998, 02056, 02135, 02329, 02870, 02871; Belg. Typ. 5805, 1159–1162; BMC STC Dutch, p. 76; Jaspers 289–292; Machiels F-155–158. [More on our website](#)





# On the conquest of Africa and the Ottoman corsair Dragut

34

**FUENTES, Diego de.**

Conquista de Africa ...

Antwerp, Philippo Nutio, 1570.

*With (bound before ad 1):* **(2) VALLES, Pedro.** Historia del fortissimo, y prudentissimo Capitan Don Hernando de Avalos ...

Antwerp, Philippo Nutio, 1570. 2 parts in 1 volume. 8°. With a printer's device on the title page, and several decorated woodcut initials. Late-19th-century gold-tooled brown morocco

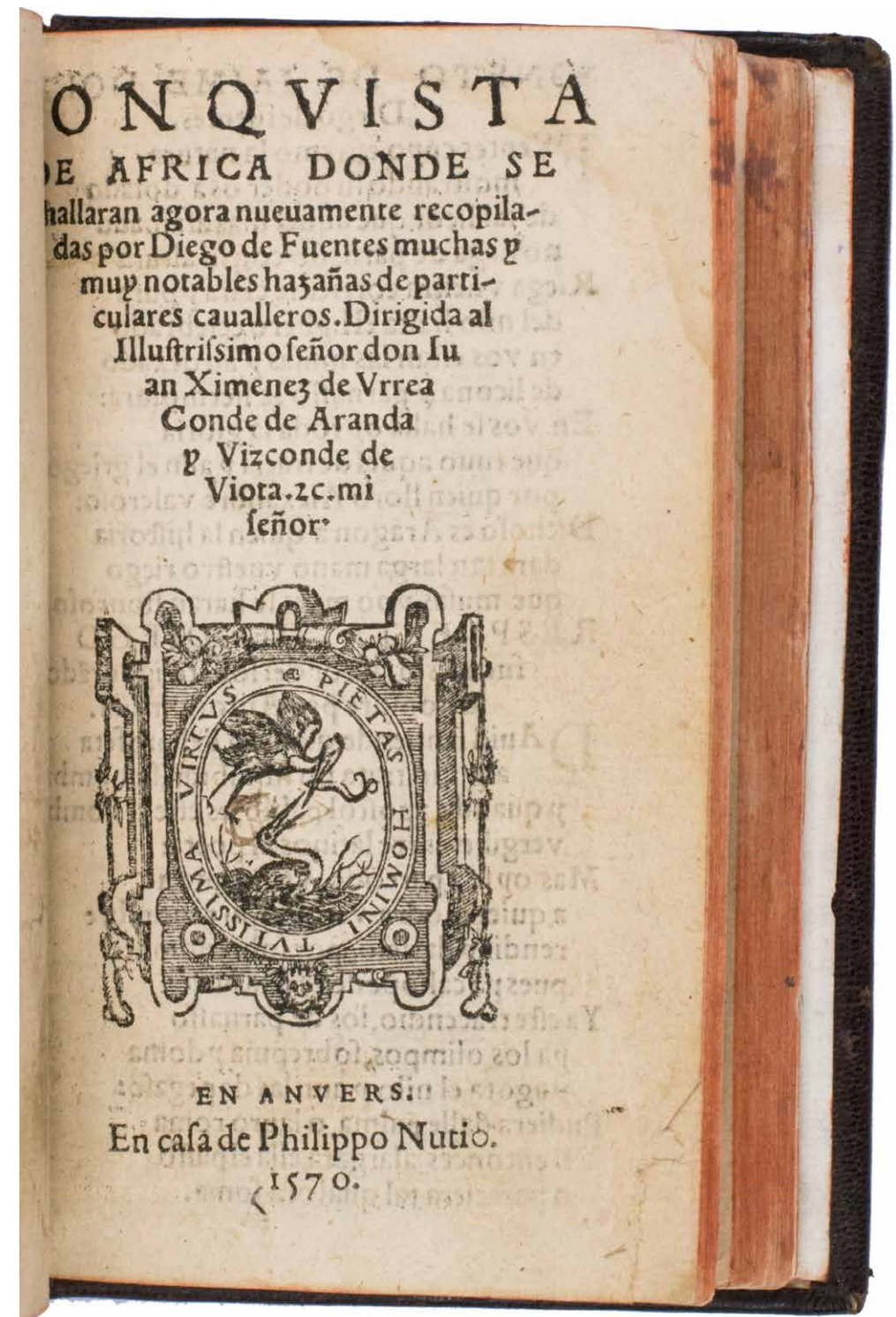
€ 2750

Early Spanish work on piracy and the contemporary history of the Spanish presence in Africa by Diego de Fuentes. It starts with a chapter on the famous Ottoman corsair Dragut (1485–1565), who is considered the greatest pirate warrior of all time. Known as "The drawn sword of Islam", he was a renowned naval commander, praised for his sailing skills and knowledge of the Mediterranean. He sailed under Suleiman the Magnificent, and became Governor of Algiers and Pasha of Tripoli. The work tells of his imprisonment and subsequent escape, the campaigns to search for him, his becoming Lord of Africa, the Spanish armada landing in Africa, and the wars that ensued from it.

Ad 2, by Pedro Valles, is a biography of Fernando d'Avalos (1489–1525), a military leader who played an important role during the Italian wars (1494–1559). It is a translation from a part of Paolo Giovio's (1483–1552) *Vitae* (1549). Ad 1 was first published in 1558 and is here present in second edition. The two works were always combined after 1558. The present edition is very scarce on the market, as we have only been able to find one other copy in sales records of the past hundred years.

The binding is somewhat rubbed, the front board has been scratched. The work is somewhat browned throughout, with some marginal water stains, the final leaf of ad 1 and the title page, and ll. 8 and 161 of ad 2 have been reinforced, occasionally affecting the text, a brown ink stain on leaf 121 in ad 2, lacking leaf 176 in ad 2, ink scribbles in the margins of some of the leaves. Otherwise in good condition.

"71" [= 72]; [8], "255" [= 354], [1 blank] ll. See our website for the reference list. [More on our website](#)





# Affirming the rights of Emperor Charles V to the Duchy of Gelre and the County of Zutphen

35

[GELDERLAND].


Het bescheet vanden Keyser Kaerle de vijfde van desen name, uutgegheven inden Rycxdach van Reynsborch Int iaer ons heeren M.D. ende XLI. vanden goeden rechte dat hij heeft tot ten hertochdom van Geldre ende Graefschap van Zutphen ...

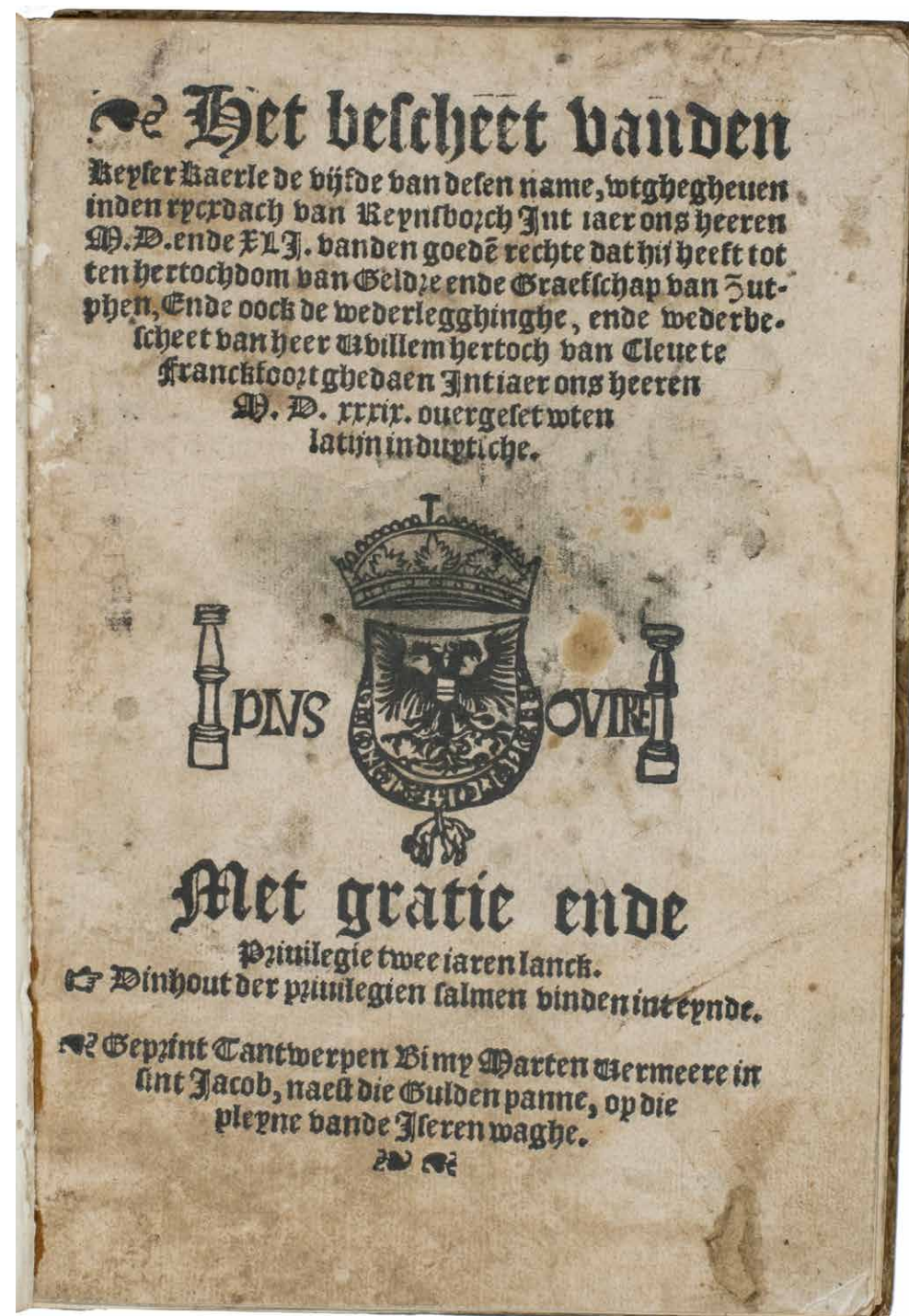
Antwerp, Marten Vermeere, [1541]. 4°. With the woodcut coat of arms of Charles V on the title page. 19th-century half calf, brown decorated paper sides.

€ 5000

First Dutch edition of the decision taken by the Reichstag, the meeting of the Counts of the Holy Roman Empire at Regensburg, to the effect that the rights of the Emperor Charles V to the Duchy of Gelre and the County of Zutphen were legitimate, together with the rejection of the objections raised by Duke William of Cleve at Frankfurt in 1539. The present text was translated from the Latin edition, which was also published by Martin Vermeere at Antwerp in 1541. In the present Dutch edition is the date of the text at the end erroneously printed as 1561.

With a sixteenth-century note to the binder by a former owner pasted on the second free endpaper. Title stained, last leaf restored in the fore-edge margin, but still in good condition.

[64] ll. *Belg. Typogr.* 5187; *BMC STC Dutch*, p. 83; *Machiels K100*; *Netherlandish books* 7650 (3 copies); *USTC* 410414 (same 3 copies); not in *STCV*.  More on our website





## Rare edition printed under the patronage of Erardus de Marcha, prince-bishop of Liège

36

[GERSON, Jean].

Opus tripartitu[m] Tractans de preceptis. De confessione et de arte bene moriendi.

(Colophon: Antwerp, Michael Hillen van Hoochstraten), [ca. 1512]. 4°. With a large woodcut on the title page, the title printed in red and black, and 2 woodcut decorated initials. Later vellum, red edges.

€ 4500

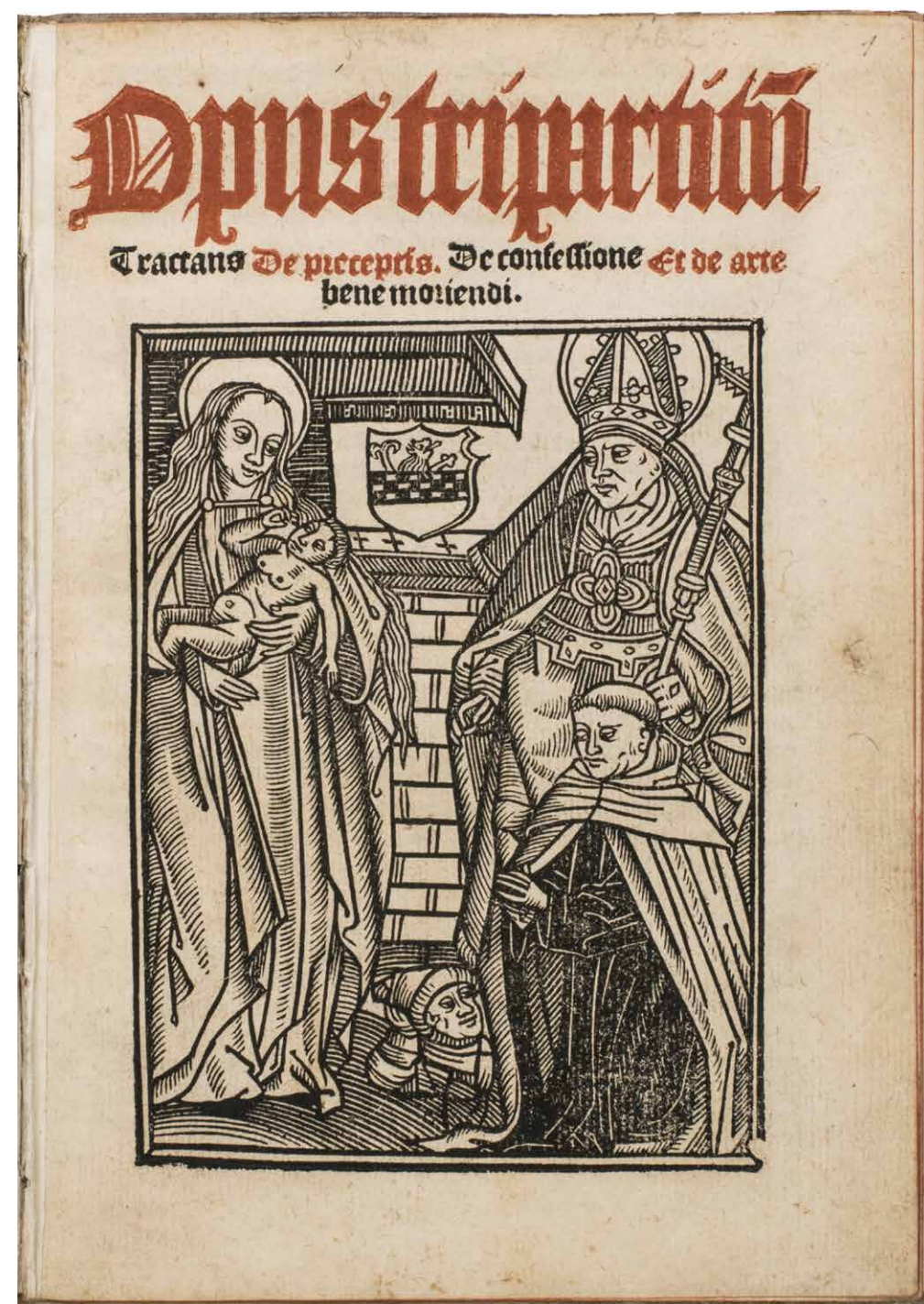
Rare edition of one of the most important practical guides for the salvation of the souls of ordinary Christians, both in life and in death. It contains three short devotional tracts by Jean Gerson (1363–1429), the renowned Chancellor of the University of Paris, treating respectively the Ten Commandments, confession, and the art of dying well.

The present work was issued under the patronage of Erardus de Marcha (Erard de la Marck, 1472–1535), Prince-Bishop of Liège from 1505 until his death in 1538. De la Marck also served as Bishop of Chartres and Archbishop of Valencia. Several works intended for clerical use were printed under his auspices and bear his coat of arms. This work includes a fine woodcut on the title page, attributed to the anonymous Master Van Doesborch. The composition depicts the Virgin Mary holding the Christ Child on the left, while to the right kneel a priest and a standing bishop. Between them, the faint head of a reclining beggar may be seen, with the coat of arms of De la Marck appearing in the background.

In total, sixteen Latin works were dedicated to De la Marck in his dual capacity as Prince and Bishop. Authors publishing under his protection naturally regarded him as their patron, a fact clearly expressed in their dedicatory prefaces.

The vellum is slightly soiled. The leaves have been reinforced at the gutter, a very small hole in the outer margin of the title page. Otherwise in very good condition.

[16] ll. *Delen II*, 26; *Halkin, Le mécénat*, pp.20–21; *Nijhoff & Kronenberg* 992; *USTC* 441788 (2 copies); *WorldCat* 1415167165 (1 copy). [➔](#) More on our website





# First edition of the only known contemporary source on the history of Britain directly after Roman departure

37

**GILDAS and Polydore VERGIL (editor).**

Opus novum ... de calamitate excidio, et conquestu Britanniae, quam Angliam nunc vocant ...


[Antwerp, Christopher van Ruremund?, 1525]. Small 8°. With 3 decorated criblé initials. Modern blind-tooled dark green calf by the Period Bookbinders in Bath, with the author, title, and year of publication lettered in gold on the spine, a double fillet border on both boards and at the head and foot of the spine.

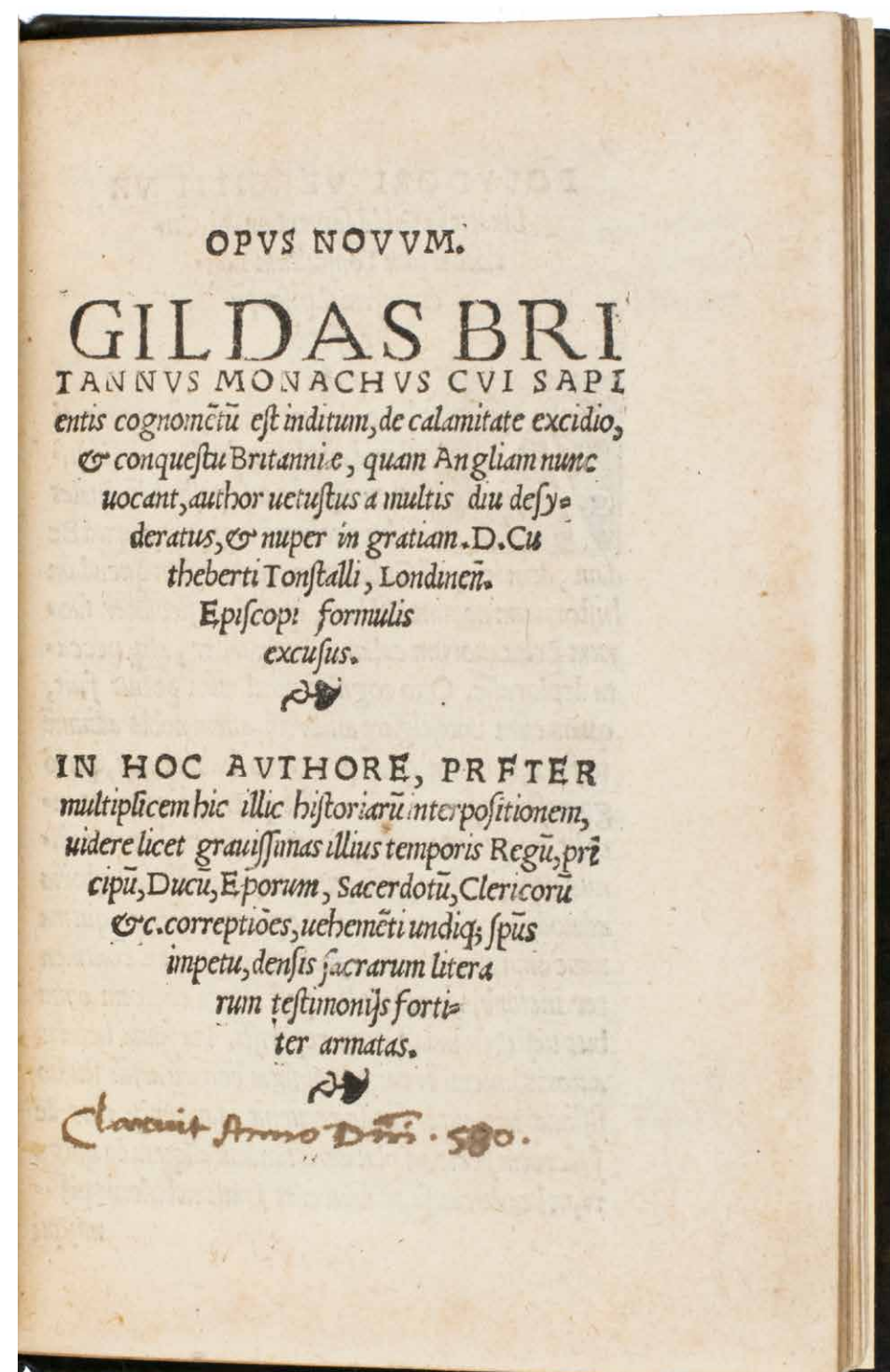
€ 4500

First edition of one of the most important sources for the history of Britain in the 5th and 6th centuries, written by a near-contemporary, the 6th-century British monk Saint Gildas (ca. 450/500-ca. 570). This religious polemic condemns the acts of several of the most important figures of his time, and blames them for the state of the country. It also includes one of the earliest descriptions of Hadrian's Wall. The present copy is the rare first issue, with the misprint on the title page. Gildas wrote the present work, titled *De excidio et conquestu Britanniae* (On the ruin and conquest of Britain), in the late 5th or early 6th century. It is a sermon in three parts.

The work circulated in manuscript form for multiple centuries, but first appeared in print in 1525, edited by the Italian humanist Polydore Vergil (ca. 1470-1555).

A contemporary ownership annotation at the foot of the title page, a blind-stamp of the Stadsbibliotheek Antwerpen in the lower corner of the title page and in the margins of several leaves, and the bookbinder's label of the Period Bookbinders in Bath mounted on the recto of the last free end leaf. The colour of the binding is slightly faded in some places, the work is lightly browned, a waters stain in the margins of some of the leaves, the lower corner of leaf B2 is torn off, without loss of text. Otherwise in good condition.

[44] ll. Adams G-614; ESTC S105687; Nijhoff & Kronenberg 0562; Pollard & Redgrave 11892; STCV 12919077; USTC 403749; cf. Denis E. Rhodes, "The first edition of Gildas", in: *the Library* S6-I (4), 1979, pp. 355-60.  More on our website





## A feast of knowledge: the Roman world of fish

38

GIOVIO, Paolo.

*De Romanis piscibus libellus*, doctus, copiosus & elegans, iam recens aeditus.

Antwerp, Joannes Grapheus, 1528. 8°. With a full-page woodcut decorated illustration, incorporating Grapheus' device on the verso of the last leaf. Modern vellum.

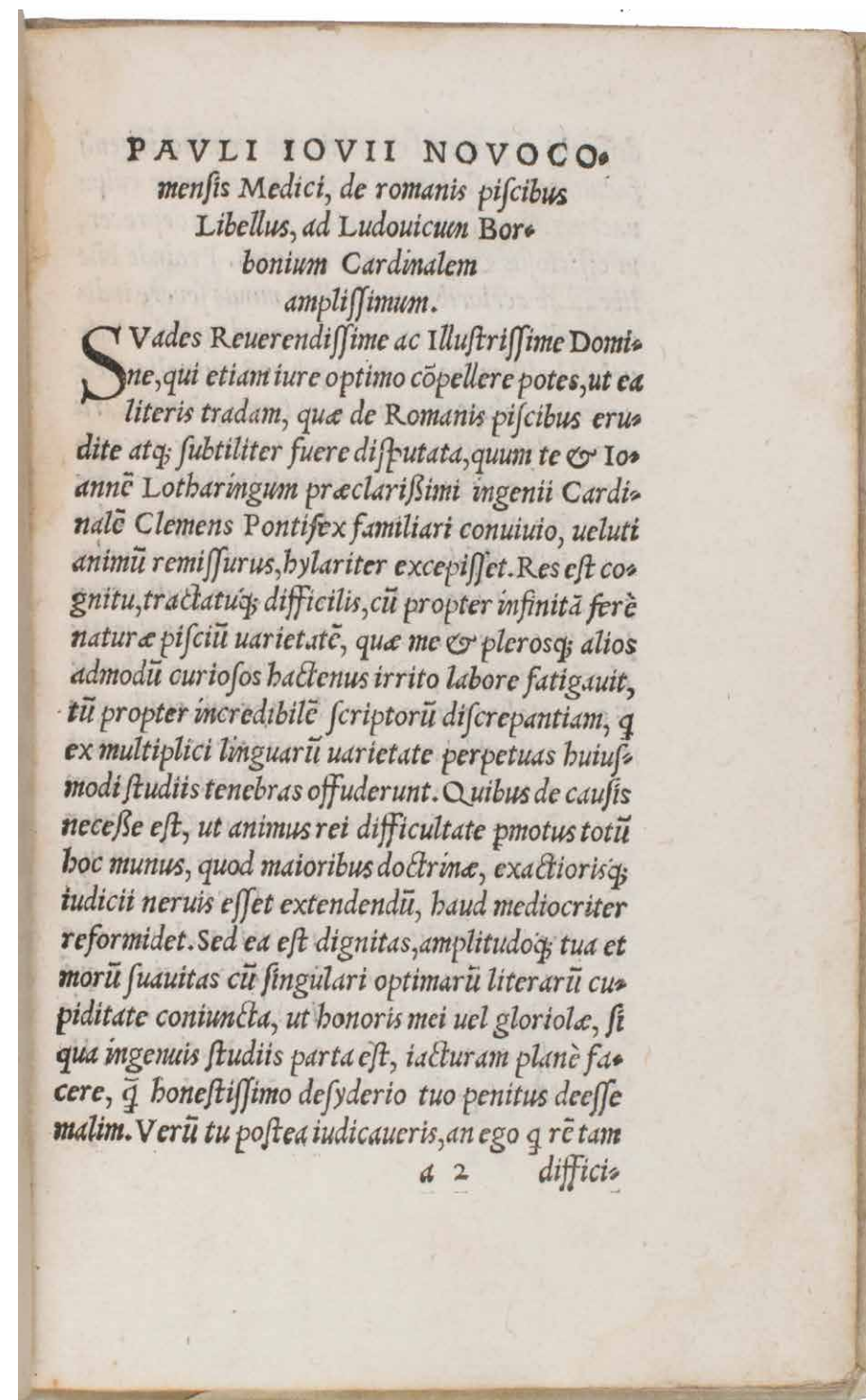
€ 950

Second edition of Paolo Giovio's (1483–1552) most curious and engaging work *De romanis piscibus*, his little treatise on the fishes of the Mediterranean. First printed in Rome in the summer of 1524, the work was conceived, fittingly, at a papal banquet. Pope Clement VII had gathered distinguished guests, among them Cardinal François Louis of Bourbon (1493–1557), when a spirited dispute broke out over the proper names of the fish served at table. Giovio, physician, courtier, and soon to be bishop, took up the challenge with characteristic wit. Out of this moment of convivial erudition grew a book that would become a classic.

The present work represents an early and little-known witness to the text's swift circulation and its appeal to both scholars and gastronomes. Giovio catalogues some forty species of sea, river, and lake fish known to ancient and contemporary Romans. Drawing on Pliny, Galen, Athenaios, and a wide range of classical authors, he compares ancient and modern nomenclature, describes fishing grounds, comments on medical and dietary properties, and, with occasional relish, offers instructions on how best to prepare the catch. More than once he remarks on the difficulties of matching classical terminology to the living experience of contemporary fishermen, an undertaking made all the more complex, he notes, by the "almost infinite variety" of aquatic life and the migrations that carry fish into Roman waters from distant seas.

With some old annotations in the margins, commenting on the work itself and one annotation on the recto of the last flyleaf. With a very light water stain in the outer margin. Otherwise in good condition.

[64] ll. See our website for the reference list. ➔ More on our website





## One of the first European books printed with Chinese type

39

GONZALES DE MENDOÇA, Juan.

Historia de las cosas mas notables, ritos y costumbres del Gran Reyno de la China ...


Antwerp, Pierre Bellère I, 1596. 2 parts in 1 volume. 8°. With a woodcut printer's device, some woodcut initials, and a few Chinese characters in the text. Contemporary mottled calf.

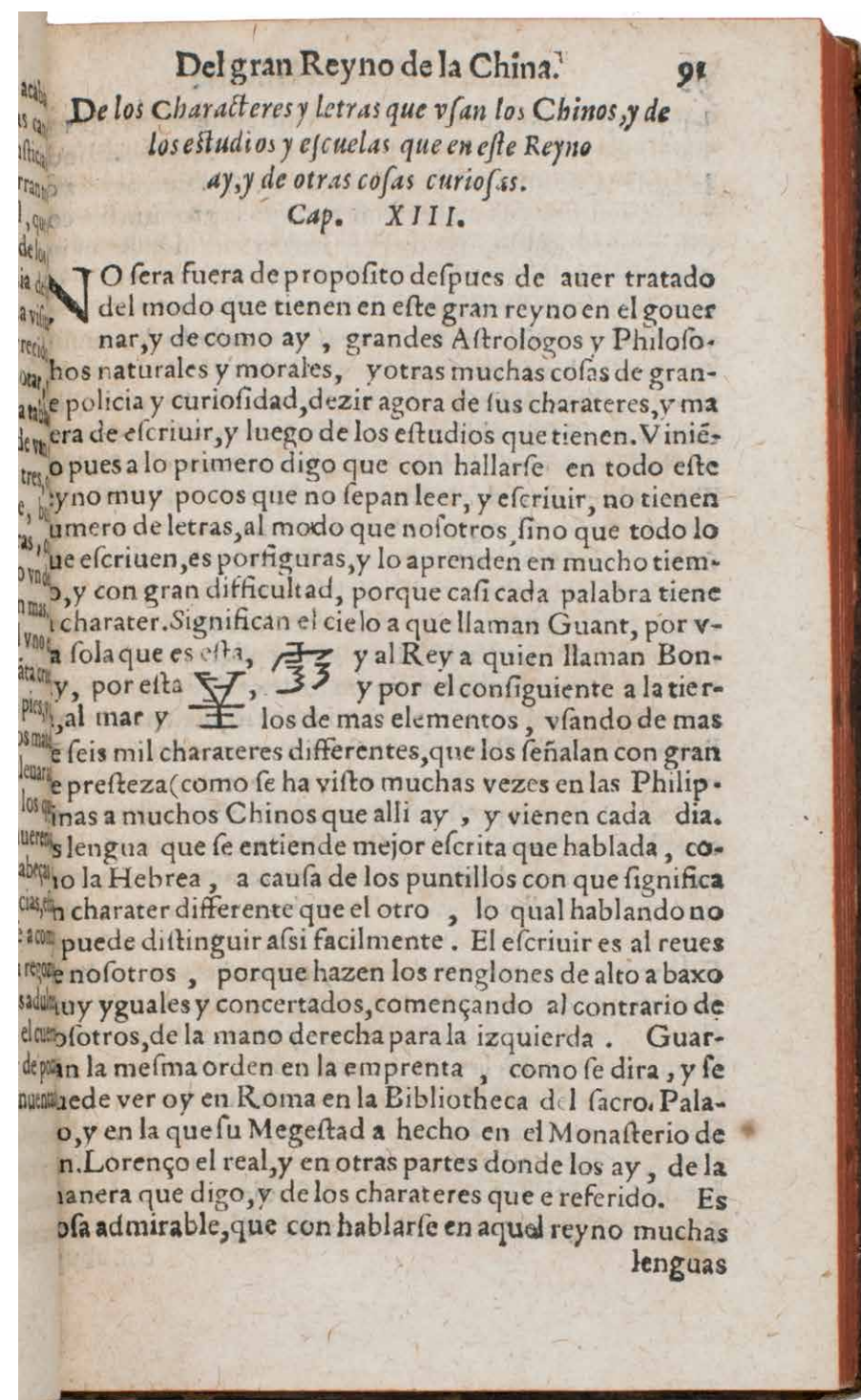
€ 9000

First Antwerp edition, in the original Spanish (in fact, the first Spanish edition published outside Italy and Spain), of the first major work on China, originally published at Rome in 1585, and one of the first books printed in Europe to include Chinese characters. It soon became the standard European reference work on China, translated into many languages and printed in more than 30 editions before 1600.

In 1580, King Philip II of Spain appointed the Spanish Augustinian friar Juan Gonzales de Mendoza (ca. 1540/45–1617/18) to a mission to the Ming Empire and commissioned him to write an account of China. He intended to travel from Mexico to the Philippines and then to China, but in the event, he never got further than Mexico, where he consulted all the travel accounts written by Franciscan and Augustinian Jesuits missionaries, including much unpublished material. He returned to Spain in 1583 then went on to Rome, where he published his account under the authority of Pope Gregory XIII. Among his main sources were the accounts of Martin de Rada (1533–1578), one of the first missionaries to visit Ming China and bring back some important materials. The *Historia* therefore contains a four-page sketch of the Ming dynasty, from Emperor Yao to the Wan-li Emperor.

With a bookplate on the front pastedown and an inscription on the title page. Binding slightly worn around the edges, head and foot of spine a little chipped, some leaves a little browned, a few edges a little frayed, and a few ink stains on the fore-edge. Otherwise a in good condition. A highly important and interesting work on the journeys of missionaries to China, being the first major survey of China and the first presentation of the Ming Empire to Europe.

[24], 380, [1], [1 blank] pp. See our website for the reference list.  More on our website





# Antwerp on parade: the city staged for a prince, finely bound by Albert Magnus for Paulo van Uchelen (ca. 1641–1702)

40

GRAPHEUS, Cornelius Scribonius, and Gilles COPPENS VAN DIEST (translator).

De triumphe van Antwerpen ...

(Colophon:) Antwerp, Gillis Coppens van Diest for Pieter Coecke van Aelst, 1550. Folio. With 24 mainly full-page woodcut illustrations, 4 double-page woodcut illustrations, and 1 folding plate, a half-title within a woodcut ornamental frame, and a frame on the colophon leaf. With several woodcut initials throughout, including 1 coloured in red. 17th-century gold-tooled vellum, bound by Albert Magnus for the Dutch book collector Paulo van Uchelen.

€ 8500

First edition of the Dutch translation, attributed to Gillis Coppens van Diest (ca. 1496–1572), of the original Latin text by Cornelius Grapheus (1487–1558), long-serving secretary of the city of Antwerp. This work is regarded as one of the major Renaissance festival books produced in Antwerp. It offers a rich and detailed record of how the city presented itself at the height of its prosperity. Among the most impressive are the designs for the triumphal arches erected by foreign guilds and other residents of Antwerp, executed from Pieter Coecke van Aelst's (1502–1550) models. These works mark the transition from lingering Late-Gothic forms to the Italianate, Serlian architectural style that would shape Antwerp Mannerism.

The present copy has a very interesting provenance: it was in the possession of the great Dutch book collector Paulo van Uchelen (ca. 1641/42–1702), who had it bound by the most famous bookbinder of the Dutch Golden Age, Albert Magnus. The boards are somewhat stained, and some light marginal damp staining throughout (not affecting the text). Otherwise in good condition.

[56] ll. Adams S-764; Belg. Typogr. 1326; Berlin Kat. 2938; Delen II pp. 50–52; *Jeudwine* p. 261 and no. 403; *Landwehr, Landwehr, Splendid Ceremonies*, 25; Machiels G-448; *Semper*, "Antwerp: the city rehearsed", (2009); *STC Dutch* 185; *USTC* 403178; *Van der Wulp* 63; cf. for Magnus and Van Uchelen see: H. de la Fontaine Verwey, "De binder Albertus Magnus", in: *Uit de wereld van het boek II*, pp. 147–169, at pp. 161–162. [More on our website](#)





# Early work on navigation and a primary source for seamen's "barbaric" language

41

**GUEVARA, Antonio de.**


Libro de los inventores del arte de marear, y de muchos trabajos que se passan en las galeras ...

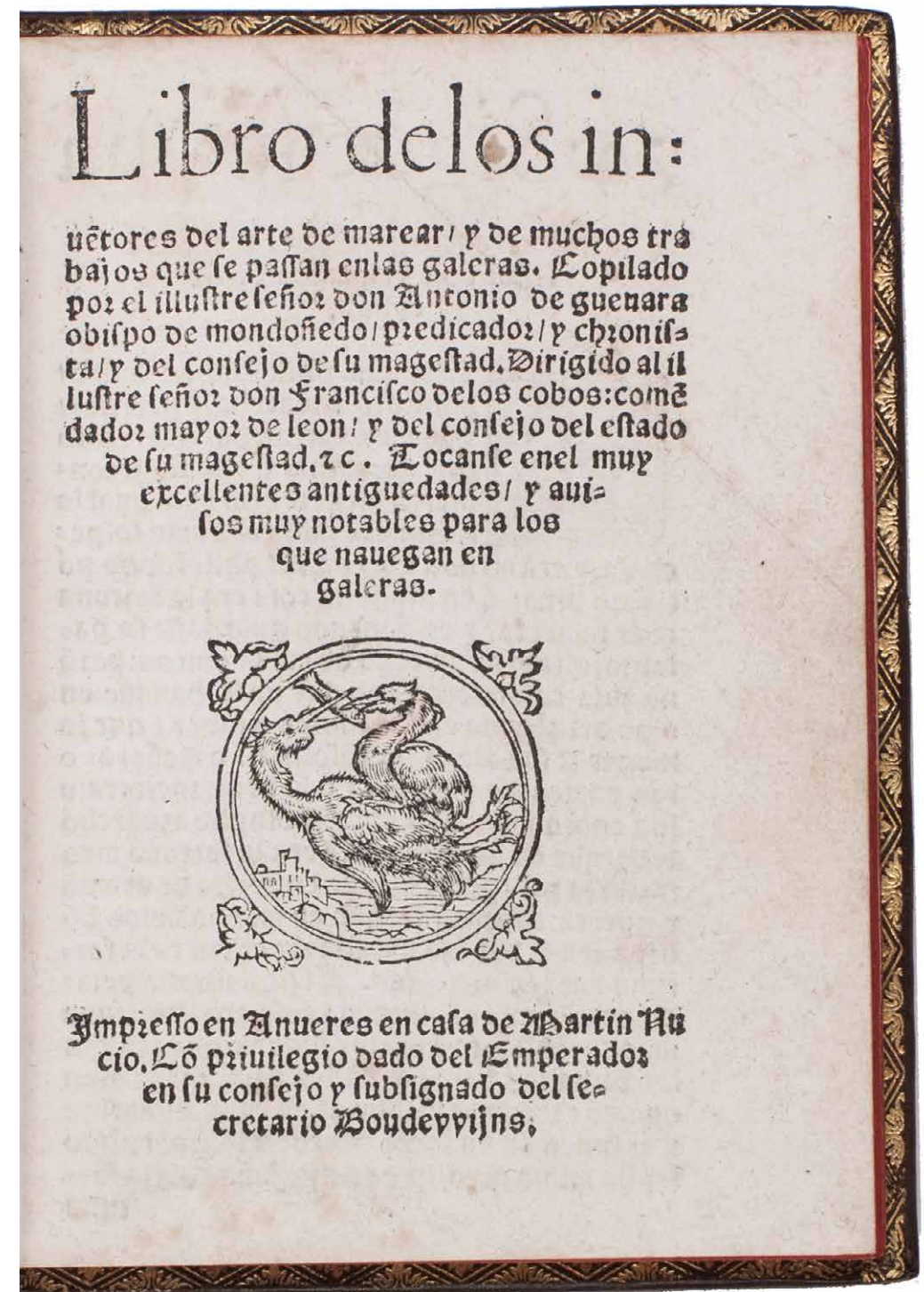
Antwerp, Martin Nutius, [ca. 1545/46]. Small 8° (13.5 × 10 cm). With Nutius's woodcut device on the title page. Blind-tooled brown goatskin (1920s?) in 16th-century style by Victor Arias (1856–1935) in Madrid, gold-tooled turn-ins.

€ 12 000

Rare (first?) separately published edition of an early discourse on the art of sailing and navigation, in the original Spanish, first published as part of *Libro llamado Menosprecio de Corte*. The book discusses the invention and use of the galley, mariners of classical antiquity, the dangers of the sea, pirates, the sea and its properties, and of special interest a chapter on the barbaric language spoken in Spanish galleys: a primary source for their lost maritime dialects. Although it covers sailing from classical antiquity onward, most of the text focuses on Guevara's own era. He includes often humorous descriptions of the horrendous food aboard the galleys, and lists, with tongue in cheek, 58 "privileges" reserved for those who live a life at sea. Ultimately, sailing separates men from beasts, for beasts flee danger while men willingly sail into unknown waters. The present work was later translated into English, French and Italian, the first as *A book of the invention of the art of navigation*.

With the bookplates of the famous collector Harrison D. Horblit (1912–1988) and Frank S. Streeter (1918–2006), an important collector of voyages of discovery, but also the son of the great Americana collector, Thomas W. Streeter. Trimmed close to the running heads, but with no loss, in very good condition and complete with the two final blanks. The binding shows a small tear as the head of the spine and a bit of wear at the extremities generally, but otherwise very good.

XXIX, [1], [2 blank] ll. Belg. typographica 1353(1 copy); Iberian Books 9931; Netherlandish books 13936; Palau 110393 (cf. 110276); Sotheby 11 Nov. 1974 (Horblit coll.) 496 (the present copy); USTC 440510 (4 copies); not in Adams; STCV; UniCat.  More on our website





# The legendary 16th-century illustrated description of the Low Countries in its first edition in French – with a very early acquisition date: 10 March 1567!

42

**GUICCIARDINI, Lodovico.**

Description de tout le Païs-Bas ...

Antwerp, Guillaume Silvius, 1567. Folio. With a woodcut vignette on the title page, 2 folding engraved plates, the woodcut coat of arms and portrait of King Philip II, and 15 double-page woodcut illustrations in the text, the title is set within a frame of ornamental typographical elements, and woodcut initials. 18th-century mottled calf.

€ 8500

Much enlarged first edition in French of the first illustrated description of the Low Countries. This popular guide to the Netherlands was written by the nobleman Ludovico Guicciardini (1521–1589), an Antwerp-based merchant from Florence, Italy. The original Italian edition was published in 1567, with 17 maps and plans, mainly in woodcut. In 1581, Plantin published the Italian edition with nearly three times as many illustrations, all copper-engravings, and the present French edition was again enlarged. Not only was Guicciardini's work a great success, going through dozens of editions in a wide variety of languages, but its maps, plans and views were also copied for decades, both for use in other works and for separate publication.

Written just at the beginning of the Dutch revolt against Spain by an eye-witness, the work is a very important source of information for the history of the Low Countries at the time describing all of the 17 provinces with their main cities and towns, albeit Antwerp takes the most prominent place. According to Prof. Robert Fruin it is the most original and important work on this turbulent and revolutionary period.

With an unidentified armorial ownership stamp on the front pastedown, a 20th-century bookplate mounted on the back pastedown, a contemporary ownership annotation in the lower blank margin of the title page, and on the verso of the final leaf of the index a 16th-century ownership annotation. The edges and corners of the boards are somewhat scuffed, the top and foot of the spine are slightly damaged. Some soiling and staining, the folding plate of the town hall of Antwerp has been restored. Otherwise in good condition.

[24], "389" [=405], [26] pp. *See our website for the reference list.* [More on our website](#)









# First edition of Guicciardini's celebrated 16th-century description of the Low Countries

43

**GUICCIARDINI, Lodovico.**

Descrittione ... di tutti i Paesi Bassi, altrimenti detti Germania Inferiore.

Antwerp, Willem Silvius, 1567. Folio. With the title, the large coat of arms of Philip II, and his portrait set within a woodcut architectural frame, 5 double-page woodcut maps, 12 double-page plates. Further with 15 woodcut divisional title pages, and numerous woodcut decorated initials. Later overlapping vellum, sewn on 3 parchment tapes laced through the joints.

€ 7500

First edition of the first illustrated description of the Low Countries. This popular guide to the Netherlands was written by the nobleman Ludovico Guicciardini (1521–1589), an Antwerp-based merchant from Florence, Italy. Most of the cities shown in the plans and views had never before been depicted in a book. Not only was Guicciardini's book a great success, going through dozens of editions in a wide variety of languages, its maps, plans and views were also copied for decades, both for use in other books and for separate publication.

With some occasional manuscript annotations and underlining of the text in brown ink, foxed and browned throughout, with a tear along the gutter of the view of 's Hertogenbosch (Bolduc) barely affecting the illustration, some small holes and brown spots on some pages, very slightly affecting the text, some wormholes in the inner gutter margins of the last third of the work, the fourth page (blank after the portrait of Philips II) has been reinforced and the plan of Bruges has been reinforced along the gutter. Otherwise in good condition.

[3], [1 blank], [16], "296" [= 339], [1 blank], [19], [1 blank] pp. Belg. Typ. 1360; Deys, *Guicciardini illustratus* 1; Tiele, *Bibl.* 420; STCV 7036217 (2 copies, 1 incomplete); USTC 405351 (numerous copies); cf. H. de la Fontaine Verwey, "The history of Guicciardini's description of the Low Countries", in: *Quaerendo* XII (1982), pp. 22–51. [More on our website](#)





# First edition of Guicciardini's celebrated description of the Low Countries

44

**GUICCIARDINI, Lodovico.**

Descrittione ... di tutti i Paesi Bassi ...

Antwerp, Willem Silvius, 1567. Folio. With the title, the large coat of arms of Philip II, and his portrait set within a woodcut architectural frame, and 17 double-page plates, maps and views (15 woodcuts, 2 engravings). Further with 15 woodcut divisional title pages, and numerous woodcut decorated initials. Later vellum.

€ 8000

First edition of the first illustrated description of the Low Countries. The present copy comes from the library of princess Maria Gabriella of Savoy (1940). This popular guide to the Netherlands was written by the nobleman Ludovico Guicciardini (1521–1589), an Antwerp-based merchant from Florence, Italy. Most of the cities shown in the plans and views had never before been depicted in a book. Not only was the work a great success, going through dozens of editions in a wide variety of languages, its maps, plans and views were also copied for decades, both for use in other books and for separate publication.

Guicciardini's work was published in Italian, French, Dutch, Latin, German and English, all through the 16th and part of the 17th century, with slightly different plates in each edition. The work is divided into sections, each devoted to a particular region. It is a sophisticated traveller's guide, with emphasis on the topography of the various regions and the major cities, which are beautifully illustrated by the engraved plans and views. The work covers also all aspects of contemporary life in each area. As a result, it is also an important source for early modern Dutch history.

With the label of Princess Maria Gabriella of Savoy mounted at the foot of the spine, remnants of a paper label on the pastedown, next to two crossed out 18th-century manuscript annotations and an earlier one which is not crossed out underneath, a faded 17th-century ownership annotation at the foot of the title page. The boards are somewhat warped. The work is somewhat browned and foxed throughout. Otherwise in good condition.

[3], [1 blank], [16], "296" [= 339], [1 blank], [19], [1 blank] pp. *See our website for the reference list.*

[More on our website](#)









# One of the most important works on the Low Countries in the 16th century

45

**GUICCIARDINI, Lodovico.**

*Descrittione di tutti i Paesi Bassi ...*

Antwerp, Christopher Plantin, 1588. Folio. With an engraved allegorical frontispiece, an engraved architectural title in its first state with printed text, an engraved plate with a border of the coat of arms of the 16 Provinces and that of Brabant together with the coat of arms of Philip II in the centre pasted in, an engraved plate with an allegorical depiction of the Arts and Sciences and an architectural border with the portrait of Philip II in the centre, a large woodcut coat of arms of Guicciardini, 64 double-page engraved maps and views, 6 full-page engraved maps and views, 4 single pages with on each 2 engraved maps, woodcut headpieces and initials. Contemporary gold-tooled vellum, with an oval centrepiece on both boards within a decorative frame, gilt edges, remnants of ties.

€ 8500

Third Italian edition of the first illustrated description of the Low Countries. This popular guide to the Netherlands was written by the nobleman Ludovico Guicciardini (1521–1589), an Antwerp-based merchant from Florence, Italy. Most of the cities shown in the plans and views had never before been depicted in print before. Not only was Guicciardini's work a great success, going through dozens of editions in a wide variety of languages, but its maps, plans and views were also copied for decades, both for use in other works and for separate publication. This 1588 edition is the last and at the same time the most beautiful edition published in the Southern Netherlands. The vellum is somewhat soiled. The work is somewhat browned throughout, with some leaves affected more than others, some occasional spotting. Otherwise in good condition.

[24], 432, [18] pp. *Boele van Hensbroek* 1877, no. VIII; *Guicciardini illustratus* 8; *Tiele* 1877; *Touwaiide* 1973, 81–93; *Touwaiide* 1974, no. 8; *USTC* 413827; *Voet* 1280; cf. *Touwaiide, Messire Lodovico Guicciardini gentilhomme Florentin (Nieuwkoop, 1975)*. ➔ More on our website





# First state of a beautiful series of prints of the seven planets known by the Romans

46

**HEEMSKERCK, Maarten van.**

[The seven planets].

[Antwerp], Hieronymus Cock, [ca. 1568]. With 7 engraved plates (ca. 22.5 × 26.5 cm). Each engraving is tipped onto a passepartout.

€ 7000

First state of a series of seven numbered plates with allegorical depictions of the seven planets that were known in classical antiquity: the Moon, Mercury, Venus, the Sun, Mars, Jupiter, and Saturn. The series was designed by Maarten van Heemskerck (1498–1574), a Dutch portrait and religion painter, whose style was heavily influenced by Italian art. He was one of the first artists from the Low Countries who made drawings specifically intended to be reproduced by printmakers. He usually depicted stories from the Bible or classical mythology, and often in a series of 7 prints. His work was quite popular. Many of the nearly 600 different prints he designed were published by Hieronymus Cock (1518–1570) and his successors until well into the 17th century. The present series was engraved by Herman Jansz. Muller (ca. 1539–1617), who worked for Cock. It is in the first state, with Cock's name, which is removed in later states, printed at the bottom of each plate. The first and last plate are very slightly creased, mostly in the margins. Otherwise in very good condition.

*New Hollstein, Maarten van Heemskerck, 546–552.* [More on our website](#)





## An Antwerp union of the Iliad and Odyssey

47

**HOMER, and Raffaele MAFFEI (translator).**

Odysseae Libri XXIII. Raphaele Volaterrano interprete ...

(Colophon:) Antwerp, Joannes Grapheus, April 1528.

*With:* (2) **IDEM.** Iliados, tum odysseae libri XLVIII. In singulos libros argumenta. Batrachomyomachia. Deorum hymni XXXII. Homeri vita.

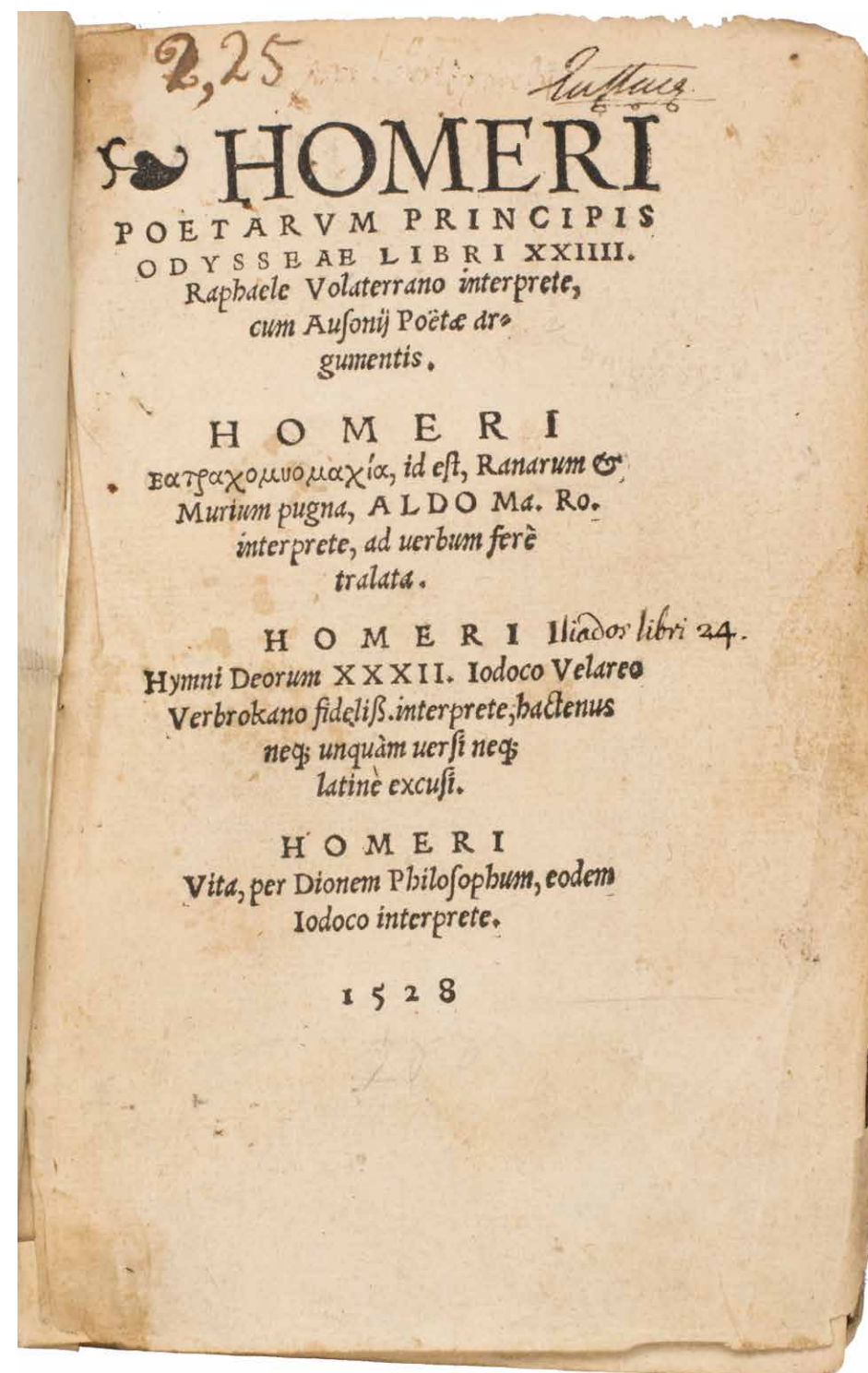
(Colophon: Antwerp, Joannes Grapheus), 1528. 2 parts in 1 volume. 8°. Ad 1 with a full page woodcut device at the end of the volume, lightly hand-coloured. Ad 2 with the same device. Contemporary blind-tooled calf, rebacked.

€ 3750

Rare first Antwerp edition, and the earliest truly complete Latin Homer to be printed in the city, from the press of Joannes Grapheus (1502–1571). Conceived as a two-volume “opera omnia”, it gathered together all the major Latin translations of Homer available in the early 16th century, creating what was, in effect, the earliest attempt to present Homer’s entire surviving corpus in a unified Latin form. The present work is bibliographically intricate, and the two volumes do not always appear together. Each was designed in parallel, the first devoted to the *Odyssey*, the second to the *Iliad*, and both concluding with the same constellation of ancillary texts. Grapheus clearly intended the pair to form a complete whole, but also structured each volume so that it could circulate independently. Ad 1 is split in two, and ad 2 is placed between the two parts.

With multiple ownership inscriptions, one on the first endpaper, one on the recto of the first flyleaf, and on the title page. The title page also bears an oval blind stamp. The final endpaper bears an ownership inscription. The corners of the binding are rubbed. The first few leaves are reinforced at the inner margin, the work is damp stained throughout and some minor underlining on several pages. Otherwise in good condition.

183; 259, [8]; [1], “184–214” [=31], [8] ll. *See our website for the reference list.*  More on our website





## Plantin edition of an early Christian classic

48

### IGNATIUS of ANTIOCH.

[In Greek:] Τοι εν αγιοις ιερομαρτιρος ignatioi archiepiskopioi antiocheias, epistolai. – Antiochiaie, & martyris epistolae, prosus apostolicae.

Antwerp, Christophe Plantin (colophon:) 8 August, 1566.

*With: IDEM.* Antiochiaie, & martyris epistolae, prorsus apostolicae. Antwerp, Christophe Plantin, 1566. Small 8°. With Plantin's woodcut device on each title page and some decorated woodcut initials. Contemporary calf.

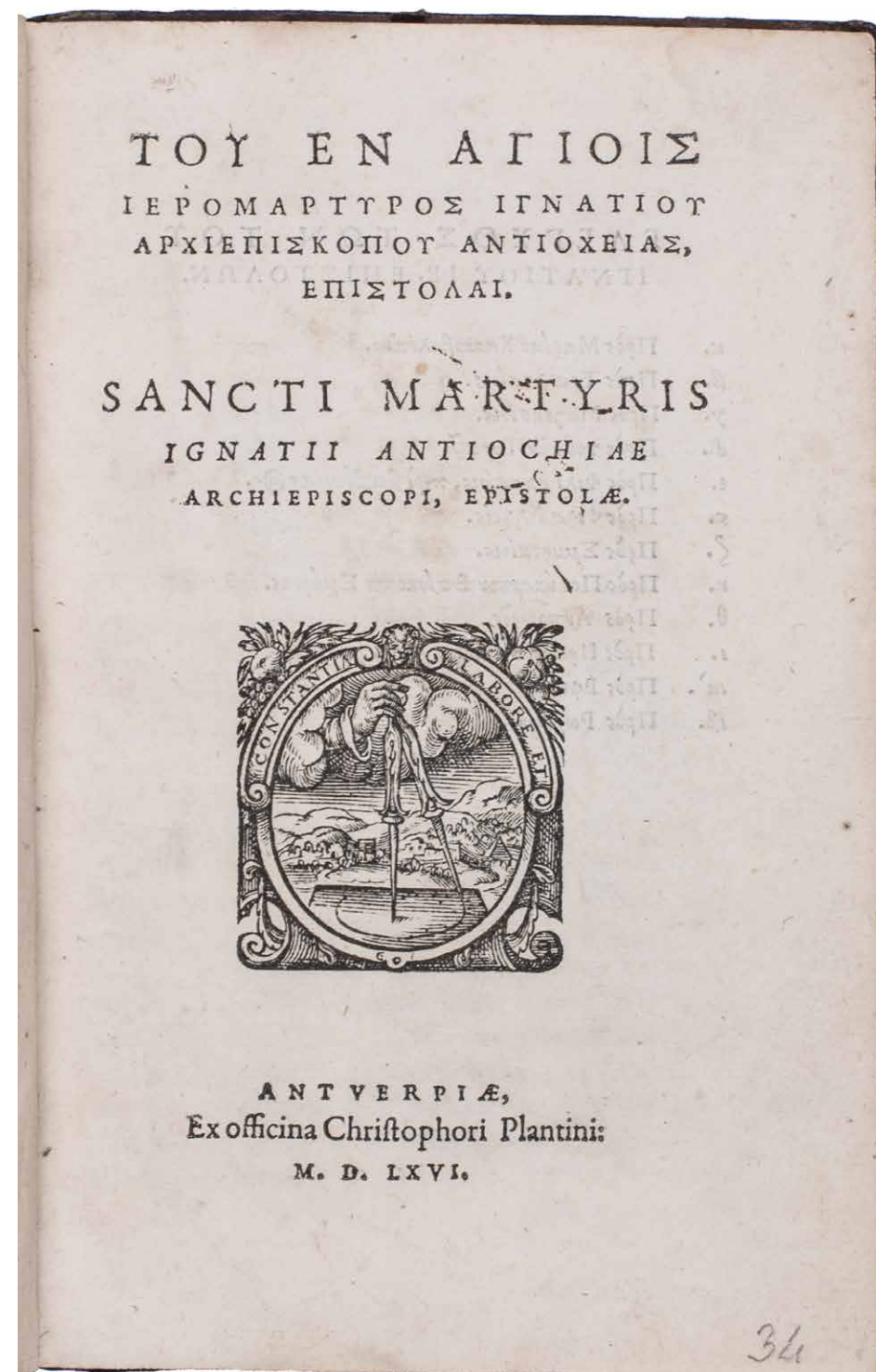
€ 2500

Greek and Latin edition of 12 epistles of St. Ignatius. The Greek and Latin texts are presented as two separate editions, each having its own title page and its own series of quire signatures and page numbers, but only the Greek has a colophon and they were normally bound and sold together. The Greek text was first published in 1557 and reprinted in 1558, then accompanied by a Latin translation. The Latin translation was made by Hieronymus Vairlenius. Ignatius of Antioch, also known as Theophorus, was born in Syria, around the year 50 and died at Rome between 98 and 117. He is said to be the third Archbishop of Antioch after St. Peter and Evodius. After his long and difficult travels to Rome he was declared holy martyr. His letters are of very great importance.

With some manuscript notes in the margins. Ad 1 lacking the blank final leaf E4, ad 2 lacking the blank final leaf E8. In good condition.

69, [1 blank]; 78 pp. *Ad 1: USTC 404502; Voet 1435; ad 2: USTC 407631; Voet 1436.*

 More on our website





# Variant of the rare editio princeps of a famous emblem book printed by Plantin

49

**JUNIUS, Hadrianus.**

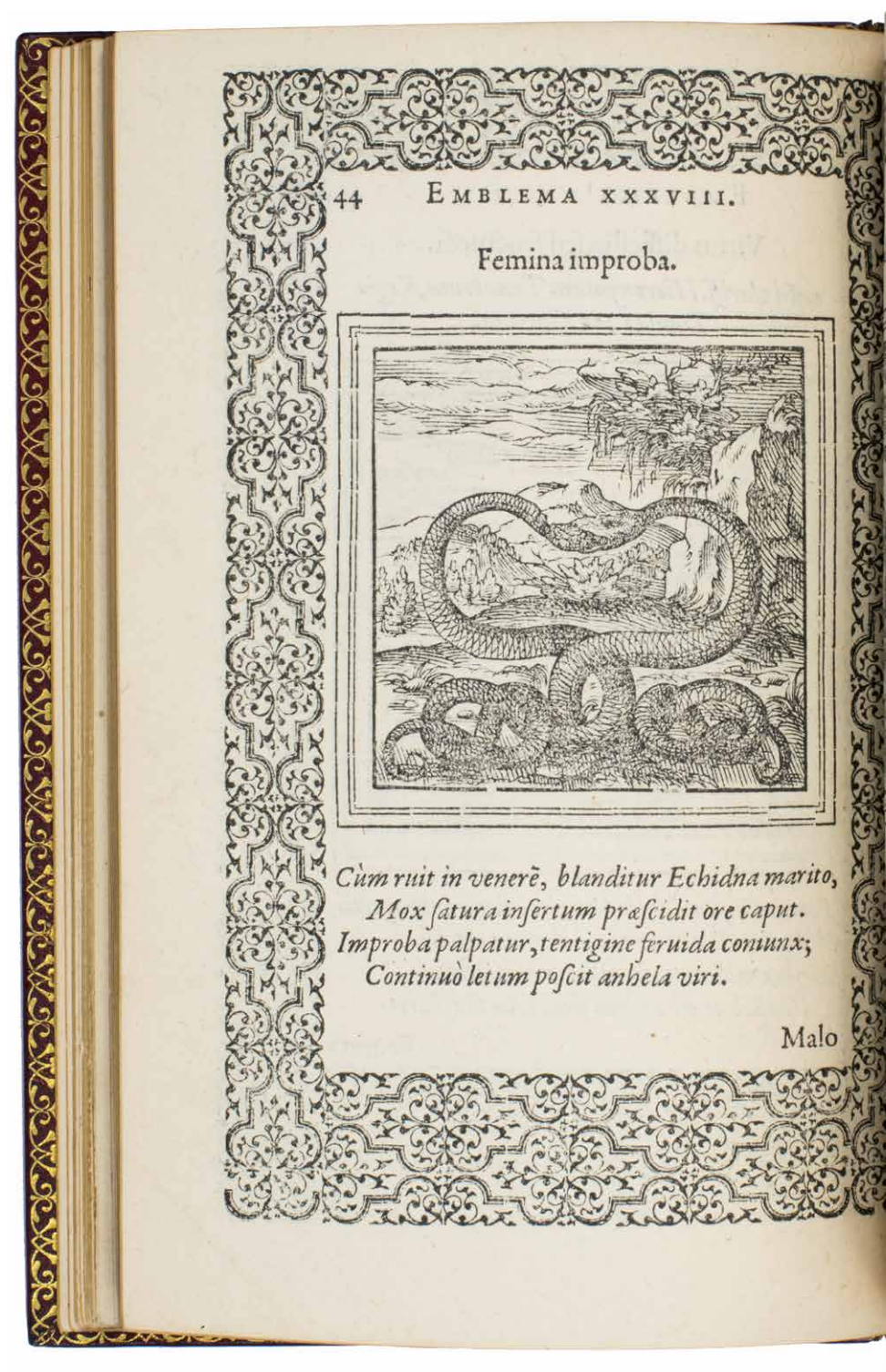
[title page \*1:] Eiusdem Aenigmatum libellus ... [title page A1:] Emblemata ...

Antwerp, Christophe Plantin, 1565. 2 works in 1 volume. Small 8° (17×11.5 cm). With 57 woodcut emblems. Red goatskin morocco (ca. 1850/60?) by Charles-François Capé in Paris, signed "CAPÉ" in the foot of the front turn-in.

€ 9500

First edition of the *Emblemata* by Hadrianus Junius (1511–1575), a Dutch physician who took his doctorate in Bologna. He is best known as a prolific classical scholar, translator, lexicographer, antiquarian, historiographer, school rector, Latin poet and "one of the most creative and influential sixteenth-century pioneers of neo-Latin emblematics. His emblem book of 1565 (*Emblemata*) is a true masterpiece, with regard to both form and content ..." (Enenkel, who devotes an entire chapter to this book and calls the variety of Junius's metres "a most spectacular artistic achievement"). Capé apparently bound the book for himself, for it was auctioned with his library in 1868, the catalogue noting the 57 woodcuts and describing the binding as "mar[oquein]. r[ouge]. jansén[iste]. tr[anches]. dor[ées]. (Capé)", a Jansenist binding being a high quality binding that shuns external decoration. The later bookplate of the bibliophile couple Anne (Pardee) Lyon Haight (1891–1977) and Sherman Post Haight (1889–1980). Though rebound ca. 1850/60, only about 4 mm has been trimmed from the fore-edge and perhaps a bit more at the head. With the paper very slightly browned and one or two minor marginal spots, but otherwise internally in very good condition. The lower outside corner of the binding is slightly damaged (with a 1×2 cm scuff on the front and a smaller one on the back) and the edge of the turn-in has lifted in one place (4 cm along the foot of the front marbled pastedown), but otherwise in good condition, with only some tiny scuff marks around the extremities.

[15], [1 blank]; 149, [3] pp. See our website for the reference list. ➤ More on our website





# Influential dictionary bridging science, language, and culture

50

**JUNIUS, Hadrianus.**

*Nomenclator, omnium rerum propria nomina ...*

Antwerp, Christophe Plantin, 1583. 8°. With Plantin's woodcut device on the title page. 18th-century marbled calf, gold-tooled spine, with a red calf label lettered in gold, red edges.

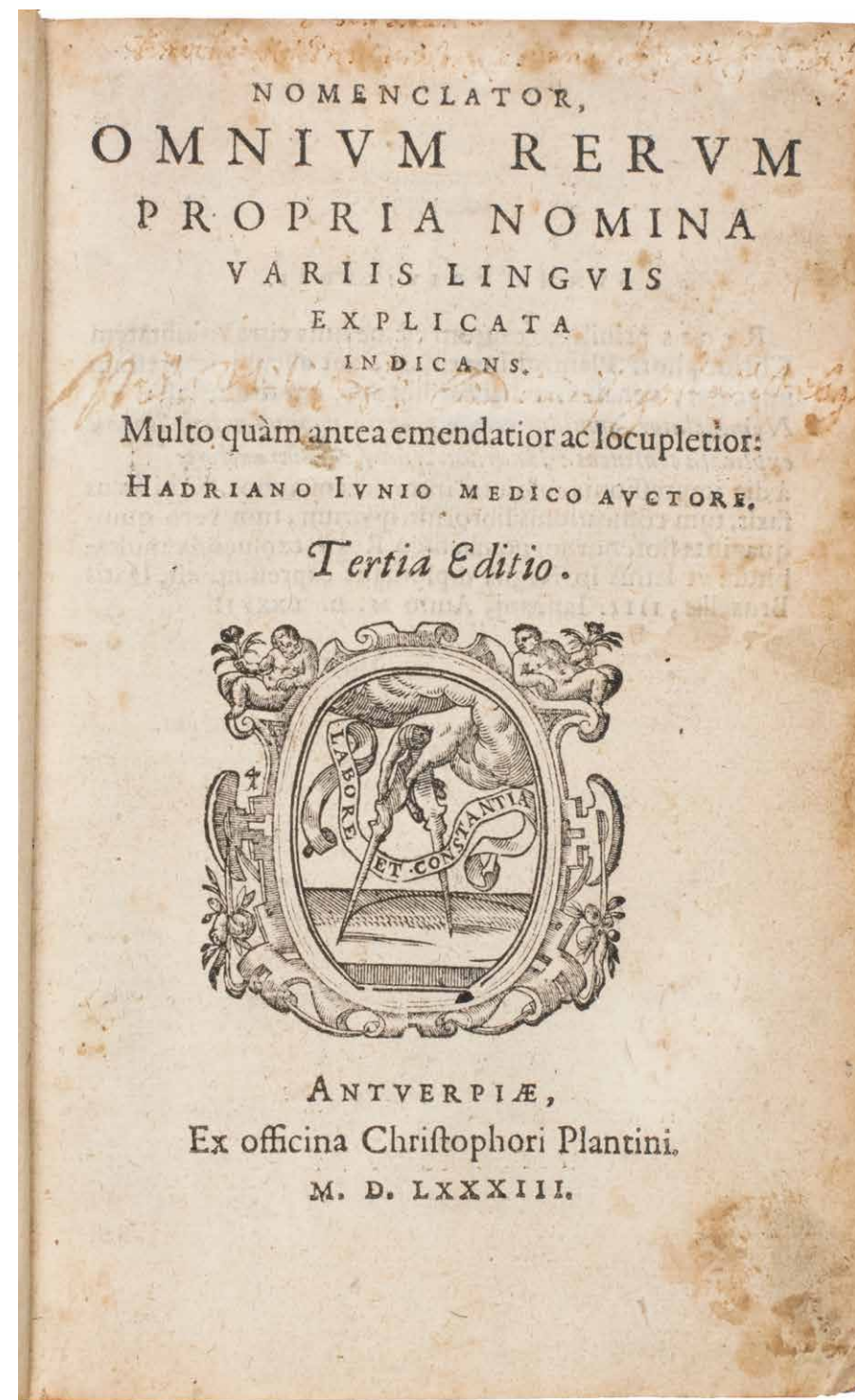
€ 750

Third Plantin edition of *Nomenclator*, the highly influential dictionary by the Dutch physician and humanist Hadrianus Junius (1511–1575). The present work is a line-for-line reprint of the corrected and expanded second edition of 1577. The work was originally published in 1567 by Plantin in Antwerp and became one of the most popular Latin-Dutch vocabularies of the 16th-, 17th-, and 18th century.

Junius' *Nomenclator* is a thematically arranged dictionary, with Latin catchwords explained in Latin and translated into Greek and six languages: French, German, English, Dutch, Spanish, and Italian. The thematic organisation covers an extraordinary variety of subjects, including: *De re libraria et librorum materia* (a substantial chapter on the book trade), *De cibis* (food) and *De potu* (drink), *De chirurgia* (surgery), *De re nummaria* (money and finance), and *Musica*. The work also reflects Junius' training as a physician and offers particular insight into contemporary scientific terminology. Its practical approach, collecting words from craftsmen and taverns, gives the dictionary a close connection to spoken language, akin to a modern traveller's guide to foreign terminology.

With a faded old ownership inscription on the title page, some wear to the spine ends, margins a bit short and damp stained, the work is slightly browned throughout. Otherwise in good condition.

[8], 432, [70], [2 blank] pp. *Adams* f 450; *Belgica typographica* 1670; *Claes* 282; *EEB (Proquest)* ned-kbn-all-00028865-001; *Heritage of the Printed Book Database* no. GBCC6472-E %IO; *Peeters-Fontainas* 653; *Ruelens-de Backer* p. 257 no. 19; *The Plantin Press Online* cp010503; *USTC* 340794; *Voet (Plantin)* 1491; not in *BM STC Dutch*. [More on our website](#)





## Early Antwerp edition of Roman poetry

51

**JUVENALIS, Decimus Junius.**

Satyrae decem et sex. Cum annotatiunculis in margine, brevis commentarii vice adiectis.

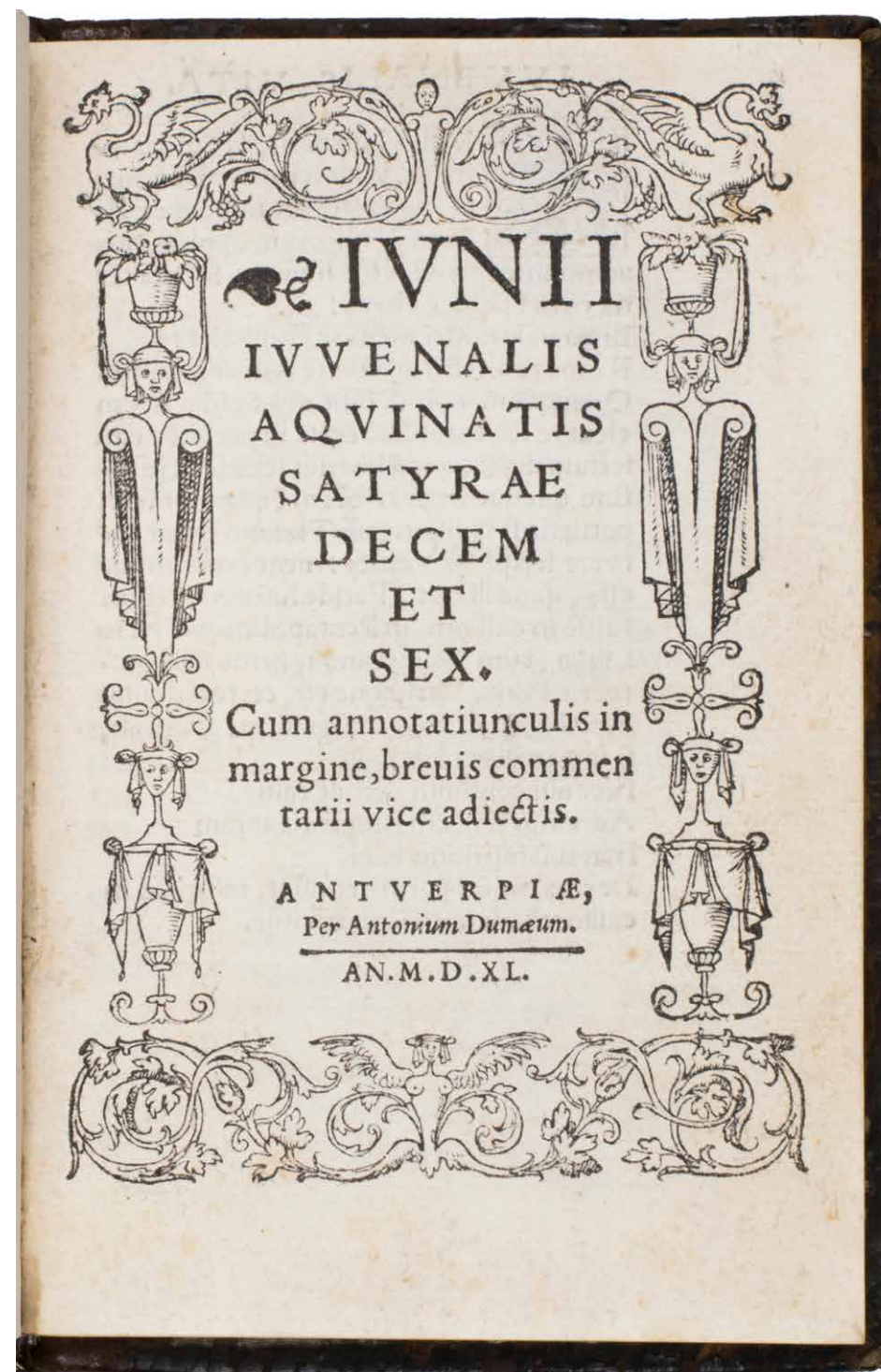
Antwerp, Antonius Dumaeus [= Anthonis van der Haeghen], 1540. Small 8°. With a woodcut title border, and 2 decorated woodcut initials. Contemporary blind-tooled calf, with a central panel on both boards, surrounded by a vegetal border and a blank border, brown sprinkled edges.

€ 4750

Very rare Antwerp edition of the famous Satires. This collection of 16 poems was written in the early 2nd century by Decimus Junius Juvenalis (or Juvenal, ca. 55–127 CE), one of the greatest satirists of Imperial Rome. With his sharp wit and biting tone he criticises what he considers the moral rot of Roman society, such as prostitution, marital infidelity, sodomy, hypocrisy, and the decadence of the aristocracy. Many of the satires include references to Greek and Roman mythology. The present edition, which is the first by Anthonis van der Haeghen and the fourth to be printed in Antwerp, includes a beautiful woodcut title border, a short life of the author, and printed marginal annotations, which are likely by Antonius Mancinellus (1452–1505). We have not been able to trace the present edition in sales records of the past hundred years.

The work has been rebaked with brown calf, lacking the closing ties, the leather on the boards is somewhat cracked, with some losses around the edges. The leaves are lightly browned, a water stain in the outer margin of leaves 17–21, affecting the printed notes. Otherwise in good condition.

64 ll. *Adams* 7-761; *Nijhoff & Kronenberg* 1247; *Shaw, D., Editions of Juvenal printed before 1601, Juv136; USTC* 438106 (8 copies) and 404856 (1 copy); not in the STCV. ➔ More on our website





# The Mass explained by an opponent of the Reformation

52

**KRETZ, Matthias.**

*Missae sacratissimae brevis & plana elucidatio.*

Antwerp, Joannes Grapheus for Joannes Steelsius, 1535–1537. Small 8°. With a woodcut title border, 2 decorated woodcut initials, and a woodcut printer's device on the final page. Modern green calf.

€ 1750

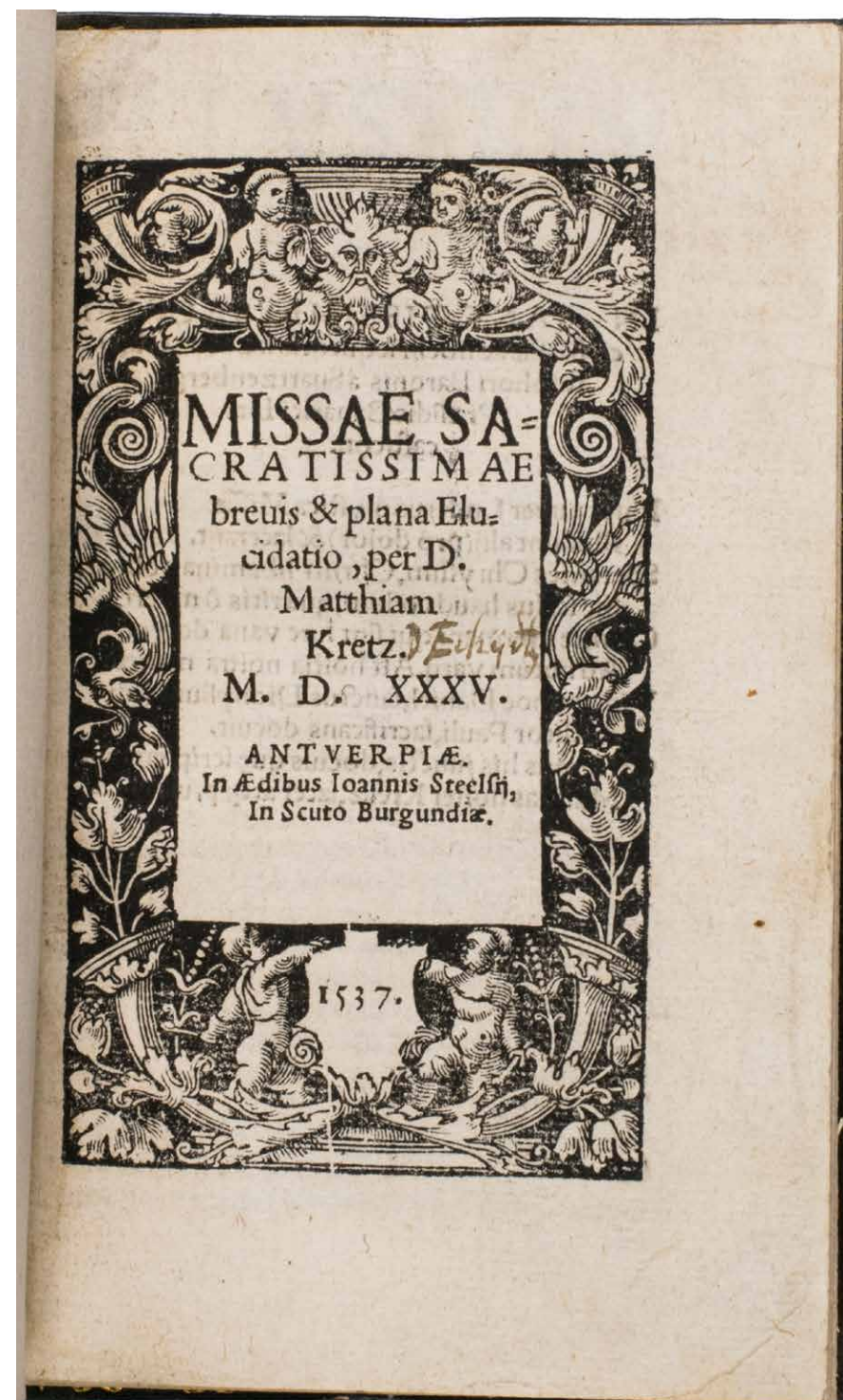
First and only Antwerp edition of an explanation of the mass by the German Catholic theologian Matthias Kretz (ca. 1480–1543). It is probably a Latin translation of the author's earlier *Von der Meß unnd wer der recht priester sey* (1524). The title page of the present work mentions both the years 1535 and 1537, but was mostly likely printed in 1537. The first edition was published in 1535 in Augsburg. All editions are quite scarce.

Kretz, an early opponent of the Reformation, passionately defended such Roman dogmas as the mass, confession, priesthood, and purgatory. He also took an active part in the religious conferences of his time: He attended inter alia the Diet of Augsburg of 1530 and the Colloquy of Worms of 1540, where he represented the conservative views of the Bavarian clergy. Kretz is also remembered as a correspondent of Erasmus.

With a 17th-century ownership annotation ("D Eifrijdt(?)") on the title page, and annotations and underlinings throughout the work in the same hand. The margins have been cut, slightly affecting some of the annotations. Otherwise in very good condition.

[24] ll. *Nijhoff-Kronenberg* 1291; *STCV* 12925796; *USTC* 437787; not in *Adams*.

More on our website





# First edition of an account of the secrets of nature and the interplay of nature and medicine

53

LEMNIUS, Levinus.

Occulta naturae miracula, ac varia rerum documenta, probabili ratione atque artificio coniectura duobus libris explicata ...

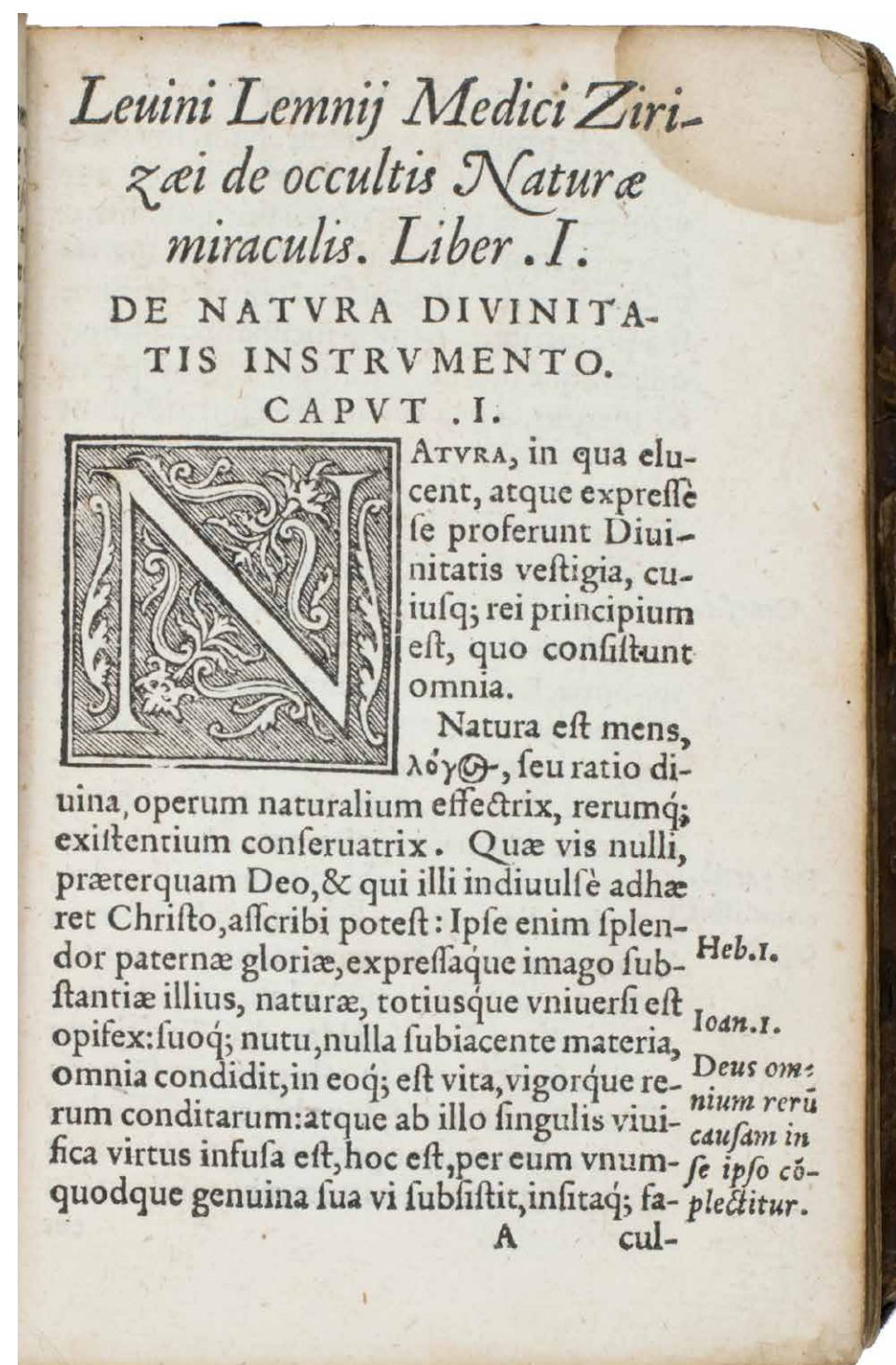
Antwerp, Willem Simon, 1559. 8°. With Simon's woodcut device on the title page and a woodcut coat of arms on title page of the second part. Contemporary gold- and blind-tooled calf.

€ 1950

First edition of a very popular Latin presentation of the secrets of nature, considering physiological, physical, medical, religious and moral topics, by Levinus Lemnius (1505–1568), attempting to explain extraordinary natural phenomena. "Bits of medical and natural lore are thrown together hit-or-miss" in this work, but it was not without importance "since it was often cited by subsequent learned authors, and since the numerous editions and translation of it show that it was well suited to the taste of the time" (Thorndike). Lemnius clearly intended both to educate and to entertain the reader. Despite his interest in the occult and his astrological beliefs in the influence of the stars and the moon on people, Lemnius always remains pragmatic. Examples are the effects of human saliva, whether it is better to sleep with one's mouth open or closed, whether people should drink white wine before red, the use of vinegar in times of plague, the quarrelsome effect of Poitou-wines and the amorous effect of Rhine-wines, and why not to sleep in the moon's rays when you are drunk.

With some contemporary(?) manuscript annotations on the first endleaf, which is half cut off. Head and foot of the spine and corners damaged, hinges weak, endleaves damaged, faint marginal water stains in the first quarter of the book (not affecting the text), some wormholes (hardly affecting the text), last leaf half loose, with a large stain affecting the text on 184v. Otherwise in good condition.

[16], 192 ll. Anet 821036; Belg. typog. 1848; Coumont L51b.1; Durling 2770; Thorndike VI, pp. 393–394; USTC 401037; cf. STCV 12917184 (1567 ed.). ➔ More on our website





# The secret miracles of nature revealed

54

LEMNIUS, Levinus.

Occulta naturae miracula, ac varia rerum documenta, probabili ratione atque artifice coniectura explicata.

Antwerp, Guillaume Simon, printed by Christophe Plantin, 1567. 8°.

With a woodcut printer's device on the title page, an oval woodcut portrait of the author, and 6 decorated woodcut initials. 17th-century gold- and blind-tooled brown calf, with a red morocco title label on the spine, the supralibros of The Society of Writers to the Signet as a central ornament on both boards.

€ 2000

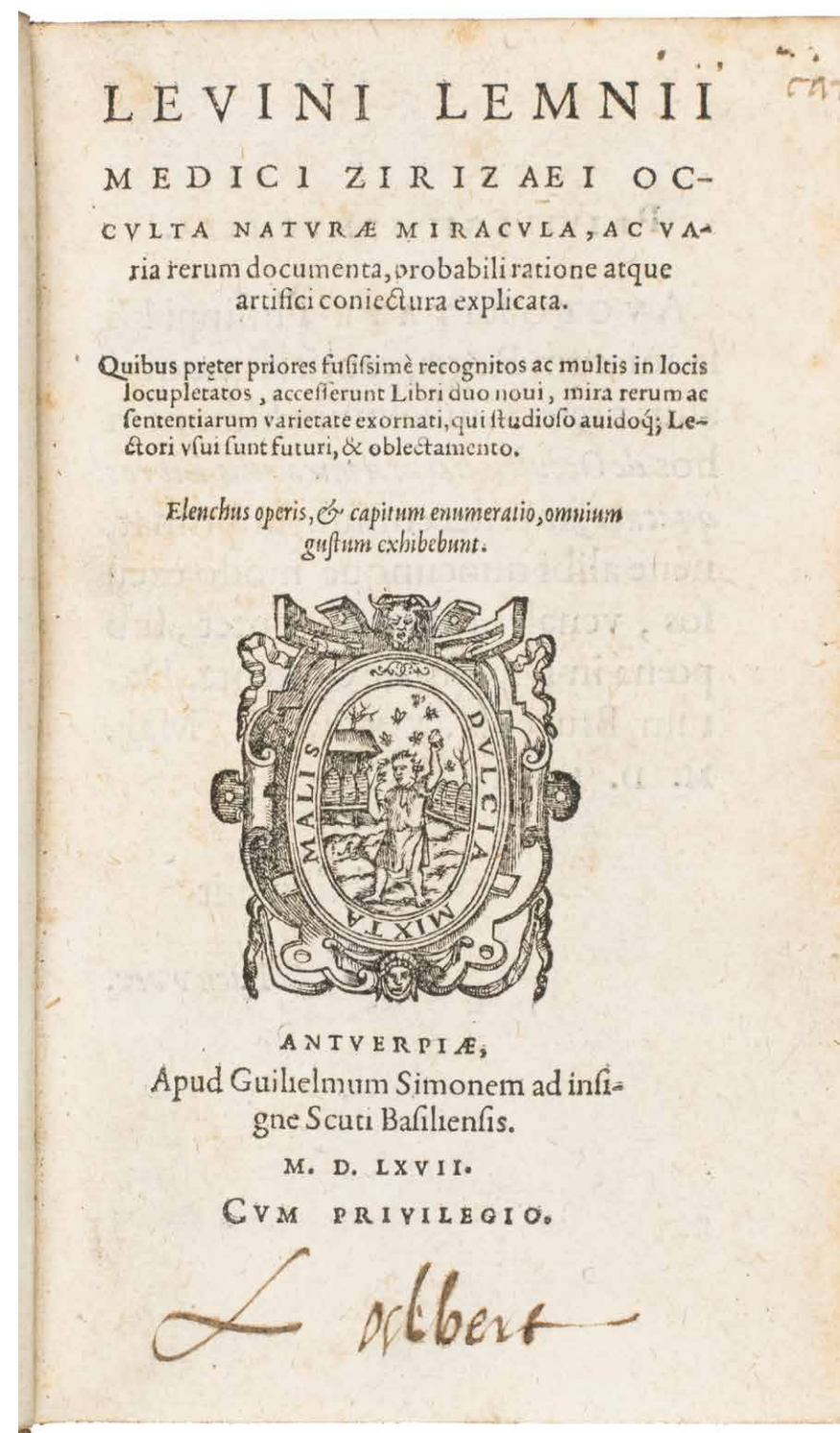
Enlarged, first Plantin edition of a very popular work of the secrets of nature, considering physiological, physical, medical, religious and moral topics. Guided by the Hippocratic Corpus, Aristotle, natural philosophy, Christianity, and the four humors, the author wrote a complicated treatise that covers reproduction, hygiene, demonology, diet, the use of alcohol, the influence of the stars, natural history, pregnancy, and much more. It was republished numerous times, and versions of it were read well into the 20th century.

In the present work, Lemnius took some of the information from ancient Greek, Hebrew, Arabic and Latin sources, giving a haphazard mixture of true facts and fantasy. He clearly intended both to educate and to entertain the reader. Despite his interest in the occult and his astrological beliefs in the influence of the stars and the moon on people, Lemnius always remains pragmatic, concentrating on more practical matters.

With an annotation on the first free flyleaf and the title page. The edges and corners of the boards are somewhat scuffed, the joints are weakened, but the structural integrity of the binding is still intact. The work is lightly browned throughout. Otherwise in good condition.

[16], 473, [22], [1 blank] pp. Belg. Typ. 1850; Coumont L51b.4; Ferguson, supplement III, p. 31; Selleslach, K., and Loon, Z. van., *The Plantin Press online*, cpo10502; STCV 12917184; USTC 404536; Voet III, 1513; cf. Durling 2770–2776 (other eds.); Caillet 6480 (other eds.); Thorndike VI, pp. 393–394.

➔ More on our website





# First Dutch edition of one of the greatest herbals, with approximately 2185 botanical woodcuts

55

**LOBEL [also L'OBEL or LOBELIUS], Matthias de.**

Kruydtboeck oft beschrijvinghe van allerleye ghewassen ...

Antwerp, Christoffel Plantin, 1581. 2 volumes bound as 1, the second in 3 parts. Large 2°. With an engraved title page, the author's large woodcut device on leaf \*6r, ca. 2185 botanical woodcuts in the text, 8 woodcut decorated initials plus repeats, and 1 typographic interlaced initial. Later (17th-century?) blind tooled vellum.

€ 8500

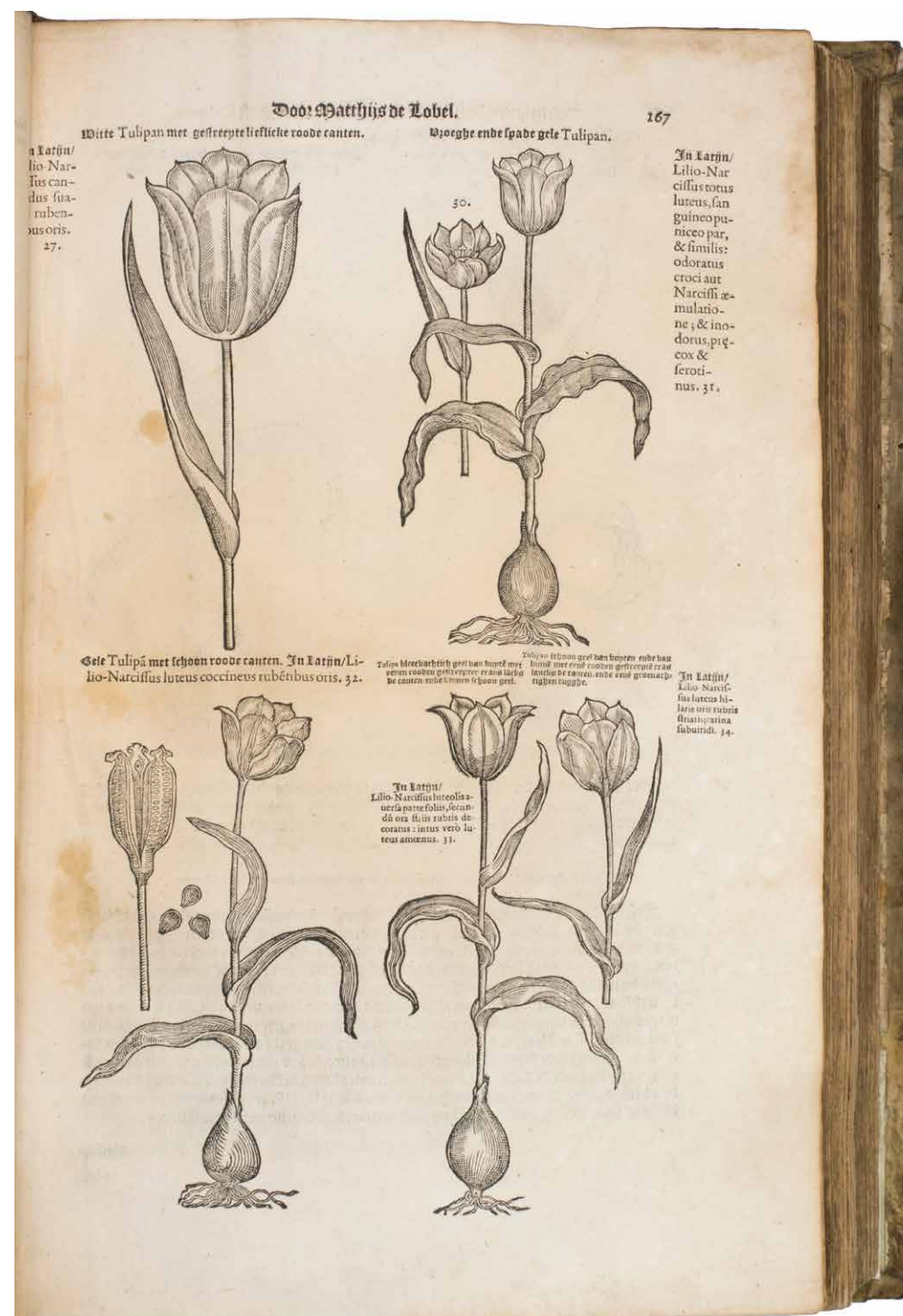
First Dutch edition, with approximately 435 more woodcuts than Plantin's Latin edition of 1576, of one of the greatest herbals. Besides the expected herbs, medical plants, etc., it illustrates and discusses mushrooms, a coconut, corals, petrified wood and what may be a fossil fern.

Matthias de Lobel (1538–1616), a Flemish botanist and physician, published his *Stirpium adversaria nova* in London in 1571, but greatly expanded it after his return to the Low Countries. The 1571 Latin edition had included about 275 woodcuts. Plantin acquired 120 of them, but also added many more for his editions. The number of woodcuts therefore grew to about 1750 in the 1576 Latin edition and about 2185 in the present Dutch edition, but Plantin appears to have had some new blocks cut as well.

With a purple owner's stamp and an inscription on the front pastedown and some additional inscriptions on the rectos of the blank flyleaves, engraved title page and the back pastedown. With some occasional annotations in brown ink in the margins and some discrete additional manuscript shading to a few illustrations. The binding is somewhat soiled and the head and foot of the spine are slightly damaged, all without affecting the structural integrity of the binding. The margins of the preliminary leaves, final blank flyleaves and back pastedown are somewhat water stained and have been restored. Somewhat browned throughout, but the impressions of the woodcut illustrations remain clear. With some minor defects to several leaves, only occasionally slightly affecting the text. Otherwise in good condition.

[10], 994, [2 blank], "312" [= 312, 294 + 2 blank], [2 blank], 15, [1 blank], [67], [1 blank] pp.

See our website for the reference list. [More on our website](#)





# A mystical path through the Song of Songs

56

**LOYAERTS, Samuel.**

*Den wech der deuchden, bedeylt in acht boecxkens. Ghemaect op Canticum canticorum ...*

Antwerp, Jan van Keerberghen, printed by Hendrik Swingen, 1599. 8°. With a full-page woodcut illustration on the recto of the last leaf, and some woodcut decorated initials throughout. Contemporary richly blind-tooled calf over wooden boards.

€ 1250

First edition of Samuel Loyaerts' principal Dutch-language devotional work, *Den wech der deuchden*, a substantial moral and mystical commentary on the Canticum Canticorum (Song of Songs).

Loyaerts (1546–1614), born in Attenhoven and educated at the University of Louvain, served from 1578 until his death as pastor of St Michael's Church in Louvain. In 1586 he obtained the degree of Doctor of Theology and two years later accepted a professorship at the same university. Widely respected as a preacher, scholar, and spiritual guide, he drew deeply on the writings of Augustine, Bernard of Clairvaux, Ambrose, and Gregory the Great, as well as on Scripture, in shaping his pastoral and theological works.

In the present work Loyaerts offers in eight booklets a richly layered exposition of the Song of Songs, presenting four principal figures: Christ as the bridegroom, the Church as the perfected bride, the angels and prelates as the bridegroom's companions, and the "young maidens", symbolising those who follow the bride in virtue. Dedicated to Magdalena de Nivelles, Abbess of Kortenberg, the work is intended as a practical guide for religious communities, illustrating the progress of the soul in love and virtue through patristic insight and moral instruction.

With a few simple cross shaped drawings in the outer margins of some leaves. The binding shows some slight signs of wear, mainly around the spine, and some occasional minor browning. Otherwise in very good condition.

[311], [1 blank] ll. *Bib. catholica Neerlandica impressa* 4504; *Cockx-Indestege and Glorieux*, 1994; *STCV* 7036468; *USTC* 407993. ➤ More on our website





# Acts of the synods of the Archbishopric of Malines of 1570, 1607 and 1609, printed by Plantin and Moretus

57

## [MALINES – SYNOD].

Decreta et statuta Synodi Provincialis Mechliniensis ...

Antwerp, Christophe Plantin, 1571.

*With:* (2) Die vigesima sexta mensis Iunii anni millesimi sexcentissimi septimi ... et vigesima die mensis Iulii eiusdem anno conclusae ...

Antwerp, Jan Moretus, 1607.

(3) [Decreta et statuta Synodi Dioecesanæ Mechliniensis]: die quinta Maij anni millesimi sexcentissimi noni inchoataev ...

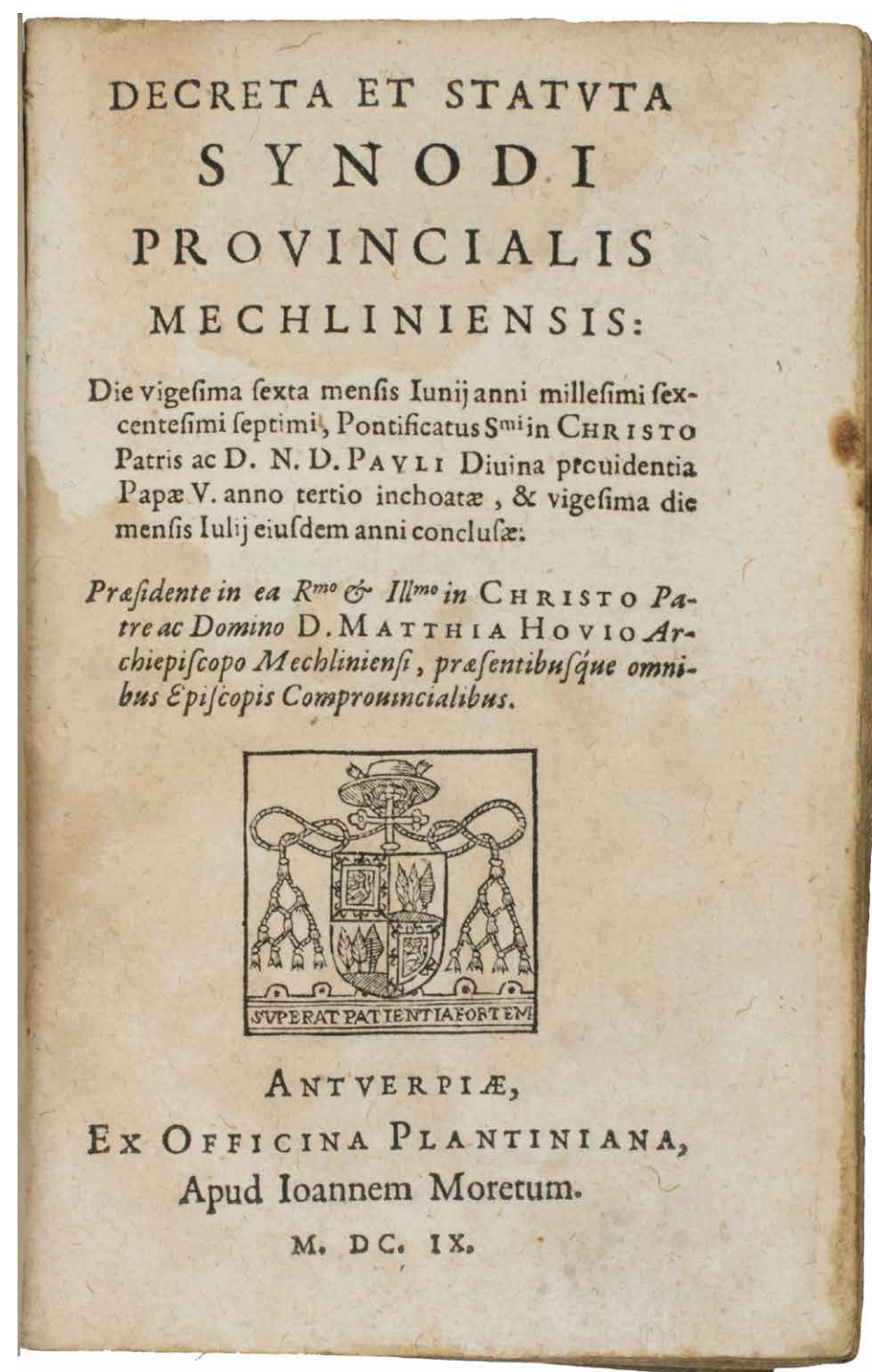
Antwerp, Jan Moretus, 1609. 3 editions in 1 volume. With Plantin's woodcut device on the title page of the first work, incorporating the coat of arms of King Philip II of Spain, and another on the last leaf of the third work, and the woodcut coat of arms of Archbishop Matthias Hovius (1542–1620) on the title pages of the 2nd and 3rd works; some fine woodcut initials. Contemporary limp vellum, remnants of ties, with the manuscript title on the spine and front board.

€ 1500

Rare official acts of the only three synods held in the city of Malines, in 1570, 1607 and 1609, published by Christoffel Plantin (in 1571) and his son-in-law Jan Moretus (in 1608 & 1609). The first work contains the acts of the provincial synod held in Malines from 11 June to 14 July 1570, the first 8vo edition, published by Christophe Plantin, copies of which still must have been in stock as late as 1609. The colophon states that the book was printed by Christophe Plantin on 15 December 1570. The second work, acts of the 1607 synod, must have sold better, since it appears here in its second edition. The third work, like the second is in its second edition.

Good copies of a rare series. With owner's inscriptions on second flyleaf and the title page, and library stamps on first flyleaf. Ad 1 and the last leaves of ad 3 water stained, binding slightly damaged at the foot of the spine.

79, [1]; 127, [1]; 76, [4] pp. See our website for the reference list. [More on our website](#)





# Beautiful Plantin edition of one of the favourite books of Emperor Charles V

58

[MARCHE, Olivier de La] and Hernando de ACUÑA (translator).

El cavallero determinado ...

Antwerp, Officina Plantiniana, 1591. 8°. With an etched vignette on the title page, 20 full-page etchings, a full-page printer's device at the end, decorated woodcut initials, and woodcut tailpieces. Late 18th- or early 19th-century diced and blind-tooled red morocco, with the title and author lettered in gold on the spine, with an almond shaped ornament in the center of both boards, surrounded by two fillet frames, blind tooled board edges and turn-ins, marbled endpapers.

€ 9500

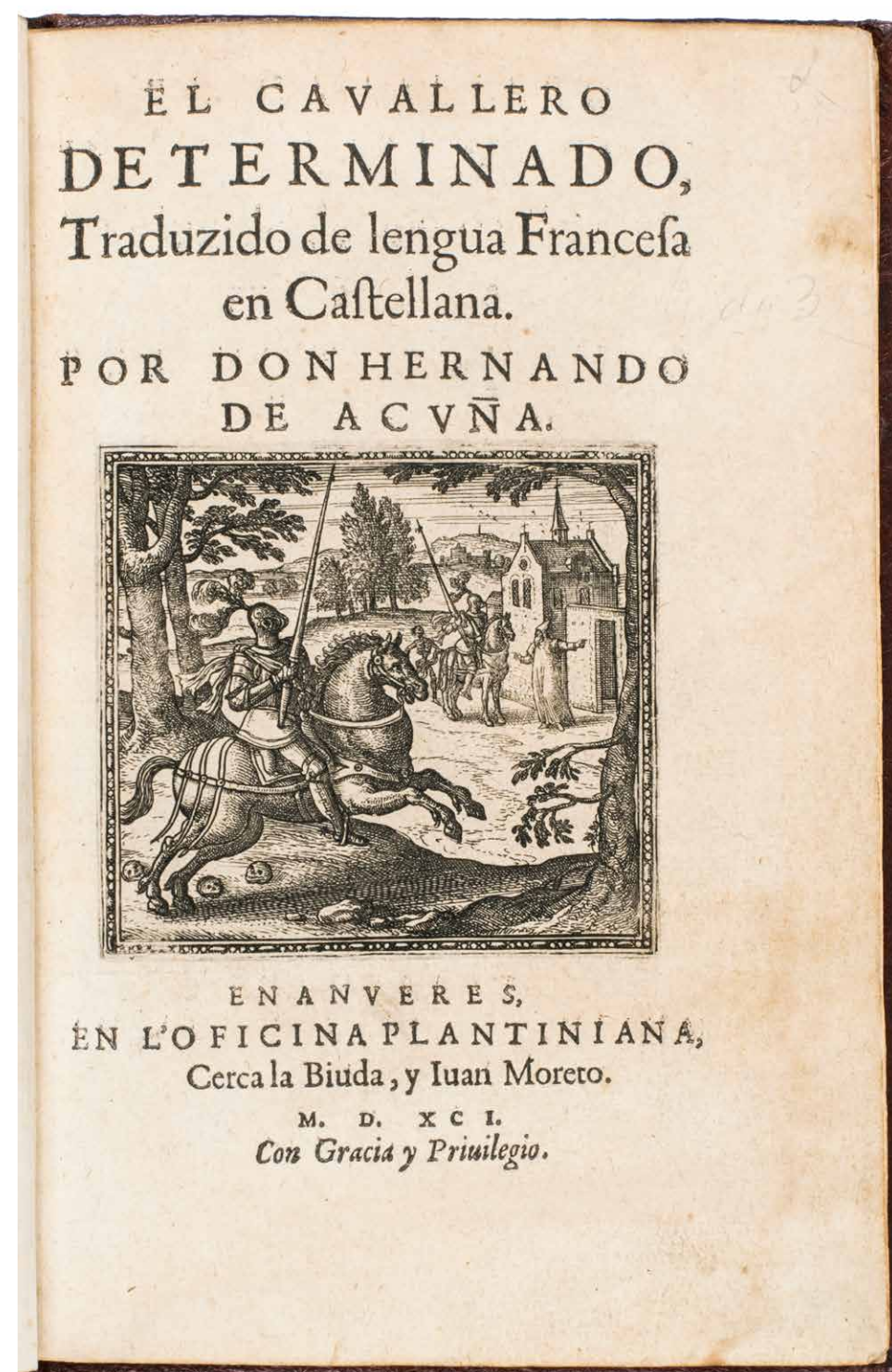
Splendid first and only Plantin edition of a popular allegorical chivalric romance, with twenty beautiful full-page etchings. It contains the Spanish translation of Olivier de La Marche's (1425–1502) *Le chevalier délibéré*, made by Hernando de Acuña (1518–1580), the famous poet and translator of the Golden age of Spanish literature. The text was incredibly popular in its own time and is known to have been the favourite book of Emperor Charles V (r. 1519–1556), who even commissioned the present translation.

Olivier de La March (1422–1502) was a Burgundian courtier, poet and chronicler. The present work is considered his best. It was first published in 1488, but earlier manuscript copies are known. The story was written in praise of Charles the Bold and describes a knight's search for salvation in the form of a quest.

While the story was originally written in prose, the Spanish translation is in verse. It contains 379 numbered poems (double limericks) of 10 lines each, and was first published in Antwerp by Jan Steelsius in 1553. The present edition is the eighth overall, but the first by Plantin, and the first with the 20 etchings.

The boards have been scratched. The work is internally very lightly browned and foxed, the leaves may have been washed, as the few annotations in the margins have nearly completely faded. Otherwise in good condition.

[32], 208, [5], [3 blank] pp. See our website for the reference list. [More on our website](#)





# Beautifully hand coloured copy of an abundantly illustrated work detailing the genealogy of the Counts of Flanders

59

**MARTIN, Cornelis and Pieter BALTEN (illustrator and publisher).**

Les genealogies et anciennes descentes des Forestiers et Comtes de Flandre ...

Antwerp, Pierre Balthasar, [1580]. Folio. With an engraved title page, a full-page engraved dedication plate, a full-page engraved plate showing the coats of arms of the Foresters and counts of Flanders and a map of Flanders, a full-page engraving, 40 full-page engraved portraits of the Foresters and Counts of Flanders, 30 small coats of arms in the text, and numerous woodcut decorated initials. All illustrations (except the initials) are expertly coloured by hand. Contemporary parchment, with remnants of green closing ties.

€ 12 500

Rare, beautifully illustrated and contemporary hand coloured copy containing the biographies and portraits of the rulers of Flanders since the 9th century CE. The work details the genealogy of the Counts of Flanders, supposedly – according to the so-called Foresters legend – starting with Liederik (?-836), a Forester of the “Vlaanderengouw”. Via Baldwin I (830s?-879), the first margrave of Flanders, and his grandson Arnulf I (ca. 893/899-962) the first Count of Flanders, to Holy Roman Emperor Maximilian I (1459-1519) and Philip II King of Spain and Lord of the 17 Provinces of the Netherlands (1527-1598); it tells the story of the Mediaeval and 16th-century Counts of Flanders.

The present work is richly illustrated, most noticeably with the contemporary hand-coloured portraits of the Foresters and Counts of Flanders. Coats of arms also feature heavily in the present work.

With a small inscription in brown ink on the recto of the first free end leaf. The binding is creased and soiled, without affecting the overall integrity of the binding, with a water stain in the bottom outer corner of most leaves, not affecting the illustrations, somewhat browned throughout. The illustrations and their colouring remain bright. Overall in good condition.

[6], 119, [2], [1 blank] pp. *See our website for the reference list.* [More on our website](#)





# Six lively dialogues by a Spanish humanist from Seville, bound for the Landgrave of Hesse

60

**MEXIA, Pedro.**

*Coloquios o dialogos ...*


Antwerp, widow of Martinus Nutius, 1561. Small agenda 12° (14 × 6.5 cm). With Nutius's woodcut device on the title page. 17th-century(?) blind-tooled overlapping vellum, each board with the coat of arms of the Landgrave of Hesse, gilt edges.

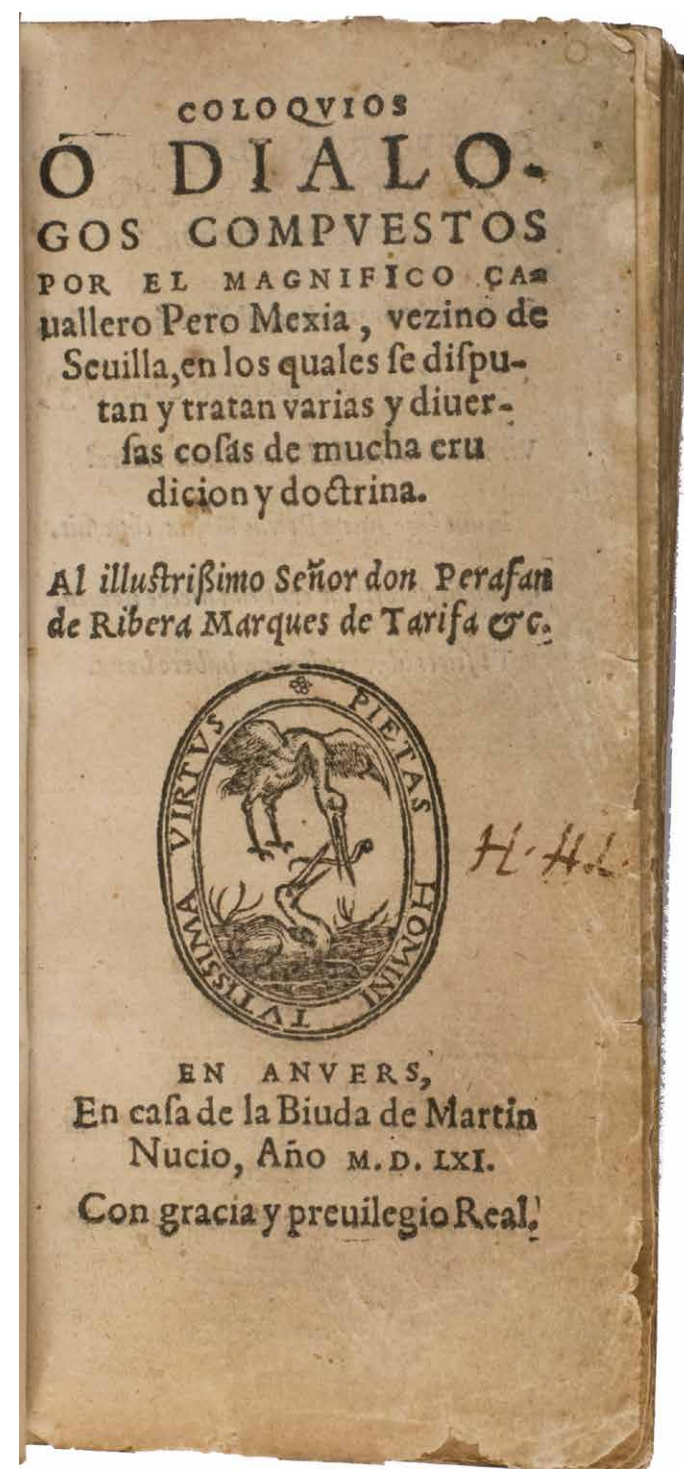
€ 2950

Very rare first Antwerp edition of six dialogues in Spanish by Pedro Mexia (1496–1552), a humanist who lived in Seville. The first edition appeared in Seville in 1547. The work is dedicated to Perafan de Ribera, Marques de Tarisa, and includes a verse note to the reader by Gaspar Lupus. The six dialogues, in a very lively style, cover: "Dialogo de los medicos" on the advantages and disadvantages of the physicians; "Colloquio del combite" on comets; "Colloquio del sol" on the sun (and moon); "Coloquio del porfiado" on stubborn people; "Dialogo de la tierra" on the earth; and "Dialogo natural" on natural phenomenon such as the variety of clouds, thunder, earthquakes, etc.

The coat of arms on the binding is that first used in 1548 by Philip I, Landgrave of Hesse (1504–1567), but the general style of the binding suggests the 17th rather than the 16th century.

With a tear across one leaf, repaired, but otherwise in good condition. The first and third of the 3 integral final blank leaves have been removed from the final quire and inserted as endleaves before the title page. Ties lacking. A collection of six dialogues mainly on natural phenomena.

165, [3 blank] ll. *Belg. Typ.* 2113; *BMC STC Dutch*, p.133; *Graesse IV*, p. 512; *Peeters-Fontainas* 782; *Palau* 167369; *NBG XXXV*, cols. 267–268; *Thicknor, Hist. of Spanish litt.* I, pp. 537 & 555; not in *Machiels*.  More on our website





# The birth of modern Flemish historiography

61

MEYERE, Jacobus de.

Flandricarum rerum tomi X ...

Antwerp, Willem Vorsterman, 1531. 8°. With several woodcut decorated initials, and a woodcut illustration incorporating Vorsterman's device at the end. 17th-century mottled calf, with a gold-tooled spine, and the title lettered in gold.

€ 1250

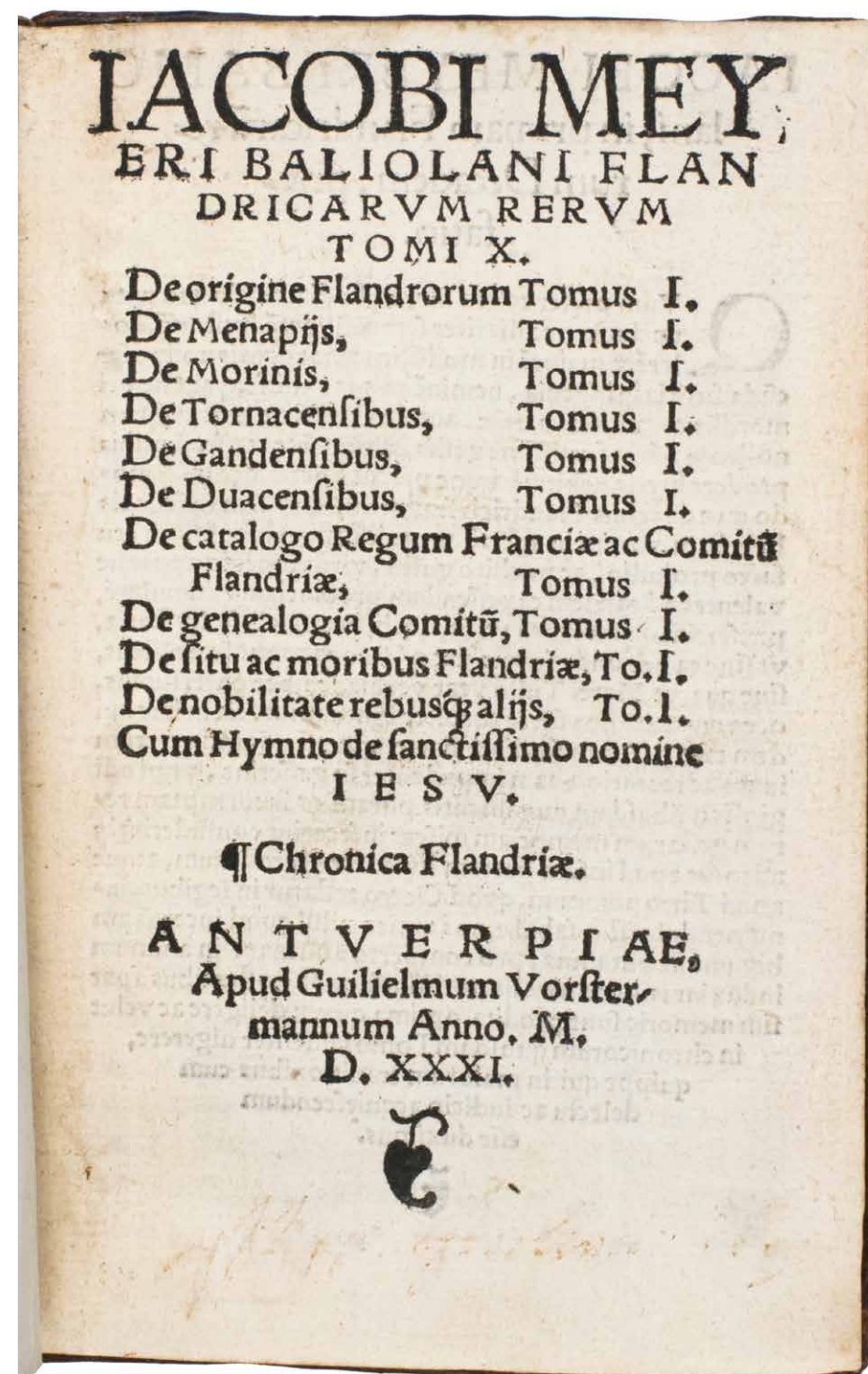
Second edition of the *Flandricarum rerum tomi X*, first printed the same year by the Bruges printer Hubert de Croock. It is the first original work of the historian, poet, and humanist Jacob de Meyere (Vleteren 1491/92–1552). Within months, the Antwerp printer Willem Vorsterman produced an pirated edition, a move that infuriated De Meyere and vividly illustrates the fierce commercial rivalry between Bruges and Antwerp's presses.

De Meyere, educated at the Sorbonne and later schoolmaster and chaplain in Bruges, is today regarded as the first "modern" historian of Flanders, a title that earned him the sobriquet "Father of Flemish Historians." In ten concise chapters he offers a fresh historical and geographical survey of the County of Flanders. He begins with the Celtic inhabitants of the region and proceeds through its territories, its succession of counts, its abbeys, and the gradual Christianisation of the land. The work culminates in a vivid description of Flanders as it appeared around 1530: its trade, agriculture, crafts, social conditions, household life, poverty and prosperity, and its lively cultivation of arts and letters.

With remnants of a catalogue entry and several annotations on the front pastedown, and a faded (owner's?) inscription on the title page. The binding shows slight signs of wear. Otherwise in very good condition.

67, [5] ll. Dewitte, "Plaatsnamen in *Flandricarum Rerum Tomi X* (1531)", *Handelingen van de Koninklijke Commissie voor Toponymie en Dialectologie*, 73, 1 (2001), pp. 395–404; Nijhoff & Kronenberg 1518; STCV 12916358; USTC 402993; Vandamme, "De boekdrukkunst in Brugge tijdens de 16de eeuw", *Vlaanderen Kunsttijdschrift*, Jaargang 43, (1994), pp. 133–137; WorldCat 1089693992.

More on our website





# Plantin's missal, from the famous Buxheim library

62

[MISSAL – LATIN].

Missale Romanum ...

Antwerp, Christoffel Plantin, 1587. 8°. With a woodcut vignette on the title page, 6 full-page woodcuts, 6 half-page square woodcuts, 1 woodcut, and 2 smaller oval woodcuts. The work is printed in red and black. Contemporary elaborately blind-tooled pigskin, both boards with rolls in a panel design, two original brass clasps and catches, leather tabs, and 6 original bookmarkers plaited into a big knot.

€ 3750

Plantin edition of the revised Roman Missal following the directives of the Council of Trent, first published in Rome in 1570 by order of pope Pius V (1504–1572) and later approved by Clemens VIII (1536–1605) and Urbanus VIII (1568–1644). The work was quite popular, as Plantin published a new missal nearly every year from 1571 onwards. All editions were printed in different sizes and in two issues, one with woodcut illustrations and one with engravings. The present copy is the octavo edition with woodcut illustrations, and comes from the library of the famous Carthusian monastery of Buxheim, Maria Saal, near Memmingen (Bavaria).

The monastery of Buxheim was founded in 1402 and dissolved after the secularisation in 1803. The rich library was auctioned in 1883 by Förster and in 1884 by Ludwig Rosenthal in Munich. The Museum of the Charterhouse Buxheim today is actively studying the history of the library and the present location of its books and manuscripts. The present copy is bound in contemporary pigskin, which was likely bound for the monastery itself, as the rolls depict Saint Bruno, who was the founder of the Carthusian order. The Missal is therefore probably bound in a South-German bindery in the surroundings of the monastery.

With an ownership annotation on the title page. The binding is somewhat rubbed and soiled. The leaves are lightly browned, some of the leaves are slightly stained, especially around the leather tabs. Otherwise in good condition.

XLV, [19], 528, CX, [2] pp. See our website for the reference list. ➤ More on our website





# Natalis's famous print series in their first editions with both title pages highlighted with gold as rarely seen

63

**NATALIS, Hieronymus (Jerónimo NADAL).**

*Evangelicae historiae imagines ex ordine evangeliorum ...*

Antwerp, [Martinus Nutius], 1593.

*With: (2) IDEM. Adnotationes et meditationes in evangelia quae in sacrosancto missae sacrificio toto anno leguntur ...*

Antwerp, Martinus Nutius, 1594. 2 works in 1 volume. Folio. Each work with an engraved title page, highlighted in gold, and woodcut initials and headpieces. Ad 1 153 full-page engravings, an engraved headpiece on A2. Mid 19th-century light brown calf with a blind-tooled ornamental frame on both boards, a gold-tooled spine, a black morocco spine label with the title in gold, red edges and marbled endpapers.

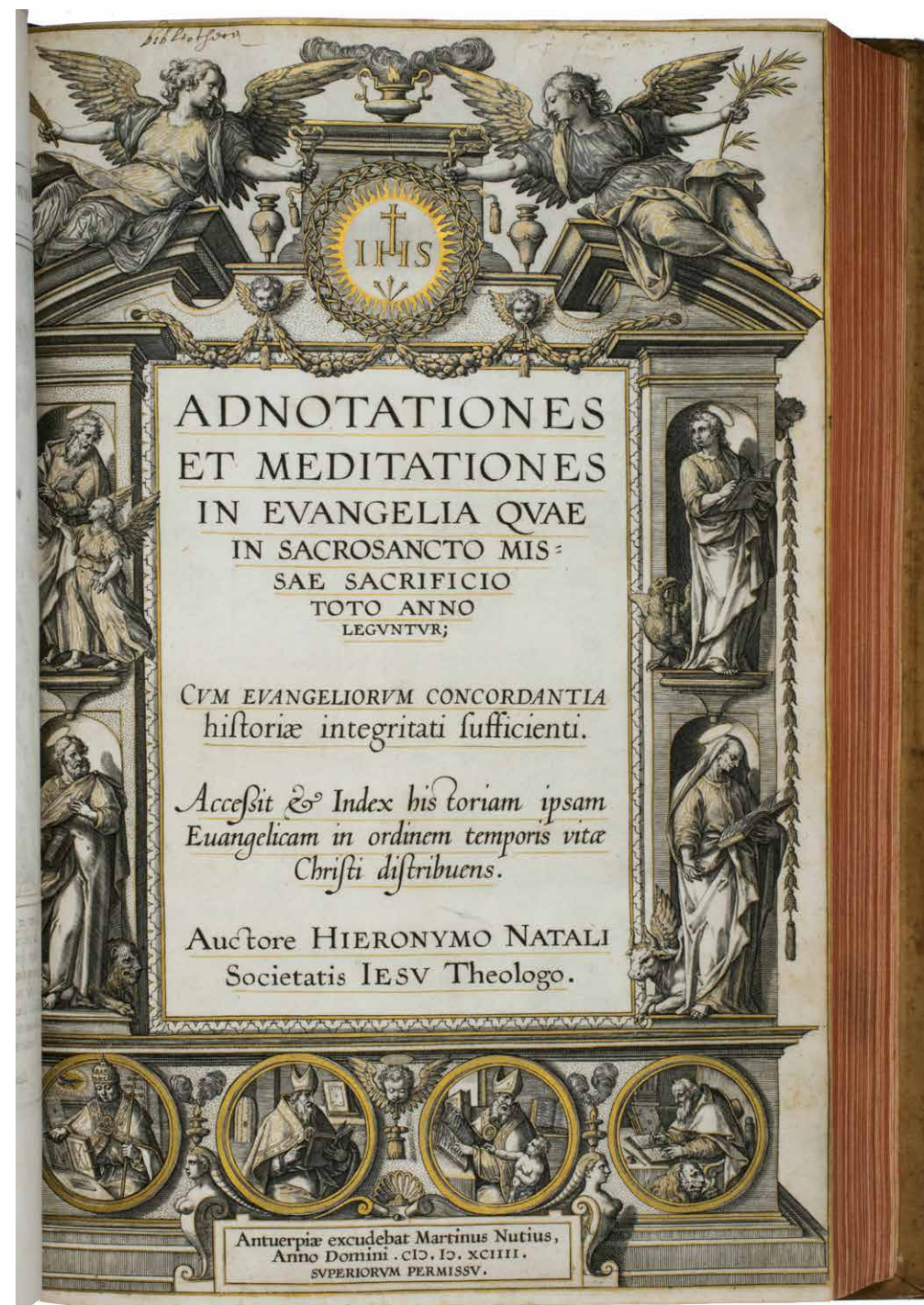
€ 9750

Natalis's famous print series for the gospels, depicting the life of Christ in an extensive series of 153 numbered large and detailed gospel illustrations, here bound together with his additional commentary to this work, here both in their first editions. The engravings, showing the life, death and resurrection of Christ, were made by some of the best Flemish engravers. The present copy is outstanding because both title pages are highlighted with gold, which is rarely seen.

With an inscription on the title page of ad 2. Ad 2 lacks two preliminary leaves (+2 and +3), but these seem likely to have been intentionally omitted when the two works were published or bound together, because they contain the same text, reset and reprinted almost line for line, of the corresponding leaves in ad 1. Binding slightly worn around the spine, especially at the head and foot, some margins of the plates slightly stained or foxed (not affecting the engraved images) and only a few plates with some minor stains, some leaves of ad 2 browned or slightly foxed. Overall in very good condition. Natalis's famous print series with his complementary text, here in their first editions and with their title pages extensively decorated with gold.

[5] ll. plus 153 engraved prints; [1], [3 blank], 595 [= 593], [5] pp. *See our website for the reference list.*

[More on our website](#)





# Heralds of a new age: three first editions, including the first Renaissance narrative poetical works in Dutch

64

**NOOT, Jan van der.**

*Cort begryp der XII. boeken Olympiados ... Abregé des douze livres Olympiades.*

Antwerp, Gillis van den Rade, 1579.

*With: (2) IDEM. Lofsang van Braband ... Hymne de Braband.*

Antwerp, Gillis van den Rade, 1580.

**(3) IDEM.** *Verscheyden poetische werken ... Divers oeuvres poetiques.*

Antwerp, Gillis van den Rade, 1581. 3 works in 1 volume. Folio. Ad 1: with 1 engraved plate, 17 full-page engravings and a full-page woodcut of an obelisk at the end. Ad 2: with 4 full-page woodcuts. Ad 3: with full-page woodcut portrait, and a full-page woodcut at the end. Early 18th-century gold-tooled mottled calf.

€ 35 000

Ad 1: Rare first edition in the original Dutch (a German translation appeared in the same year at Cologne) of one of the most important poetical works by the Dutch Renaissance poet Jan (Baptist) van der Noot (ca.1539-ca.1595) illustrated by the famous engraver and theologian, Dirck Volkertsz. Coornhert (1522-1590).

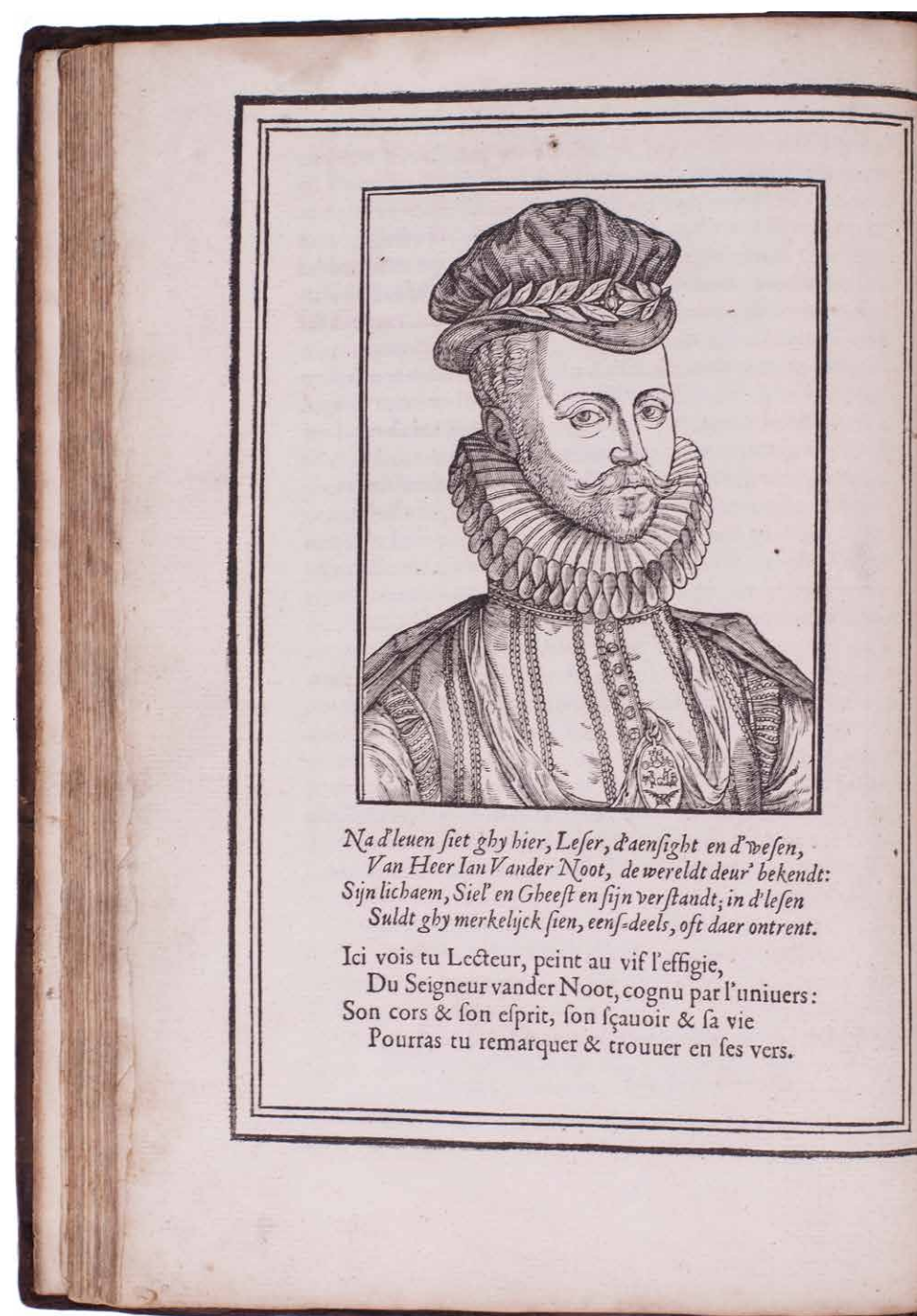
Ad 2: First and only edition of a poem glorifying the Duchy of Braband.

Ad 3: First edition of a collection of laudatory poems in honour of Van der Noot's patrons, originally meant to serve as some kind of prologue to the *Cort Begryp* and *Lofsang* (ad 1 & 2). There are no page numbers or quire signatures, and Waterschoot notes, "For each new buyer Van der Noot arranged the leaves differently" (*E Codicibus Impressisque*, p. 436).

Some occasional minor thumbing, a few spots and a couple small waterstains in the upper margin, otherwise in very good condition. Binding slightly rubbed along the extremities, spine professionally restored, and otherwise good.

[14], 87, [1]; [8], 33, [4]; [40] pp. plus 1 plate. See our website for the reference list.

➤ More on our website





# Most complete set known of the extremely rare series of laudatory poems by the first Dutch Renaissance poet

65

NOOT, Jan van der.

De poetische werken van mijn Heer vander Noot. Les oeuvres poetiques du Sr. Jan vander Noot.

Antwerp, Daniel Vervliet and Arnout Coninx (shared printing), “1594” [=1588–1595]. Folio. With the general title page bearing Vervliet’s 1594 imprint, the only part-title bearing s’Coninx’s 1594 imprint, 7 small bust portraits, 2 portraits of the author, 10 small rectangular illustrations, 2 medium illustrations, and 8 full-page illustrations (on integral leaves), all woodcut, some (and the 2 title pages) in architectural and/or arabesque woodcut frames. B lind-tooled calf (ca. 1725/30?) by the so-called “Minnewit” bindery in Amsterdam.

€ 35 000

The most complete set known of the extremely rare series of laudatory poems – in Dutch, French, Italian, Spanish, German and Latin – written by the Dutch Renaissance poet Jan Baptista van der Noot (1539–post 1595). Van der Noot had each of his poems in the *Poetische werken* printed as a 4-page folio, so a single bifolium per poem. The author himself assembled these in different collections as circumstance, opportunity and his own interest dictated, issuing them with a preliminary bifolium that included a dated title page and sometimes a second preliminary bifolium. As a result, no two copies are the same. Larger collections were most likely compiled for and/or commissioned by very wealthy bibliophiles. The complete description and a full list of the contents are available upon request.

Some bifolia have been inappropriately quired. With a small bookplate on the front pastedown. With a professionally restored tear in the title page, and a small stain in 1 leaf, but otherwise internally in very good condition. The binding is rubbed, and the chemicals that the binder used to blacken the spine and outer field of the boards have caused superficial damage, but the binding remains structurally sound and the tooling within the central fields remains clear.

[102] ll. See our website for the reference list. [More on our website](#)





# 16th-century Dutch map of Persia

66

ORTELIUS, Abraham.

Persici sive Sophorum Regni Typus.

Antwerp, Christophe Plantin, 1574. Engraved map (35×50 cm), in contemporary hand-colouring and highlighted in gold. Scale 1:9,000,000.

€ 2500

16th-century Dutch map of Persia based on the Gastaldi map, with additional new cartographic information.

*Alai, General maps E.70; Al-Qasimi 30; Van den Broecke 167 (first state).* [More on our website](#)





# First illustrated edition of Osiander's Harmony of the Gospels, with 98 woodcuts

67

OSIANDER, Andreas.

Harmoniae Evangelicae libri quatuor, in quibus Evangelica historia ex quatuor Evangelistis ita in unu[m] est contexta ...


(Colophon:) Antwerp, Matthias Crom, 1540. 8°. With 2 woodcut vignettes, 1 full-page and 97 half-page woodcut illustrations (including a few repeats). 17th-century limp sheepskin parchment.

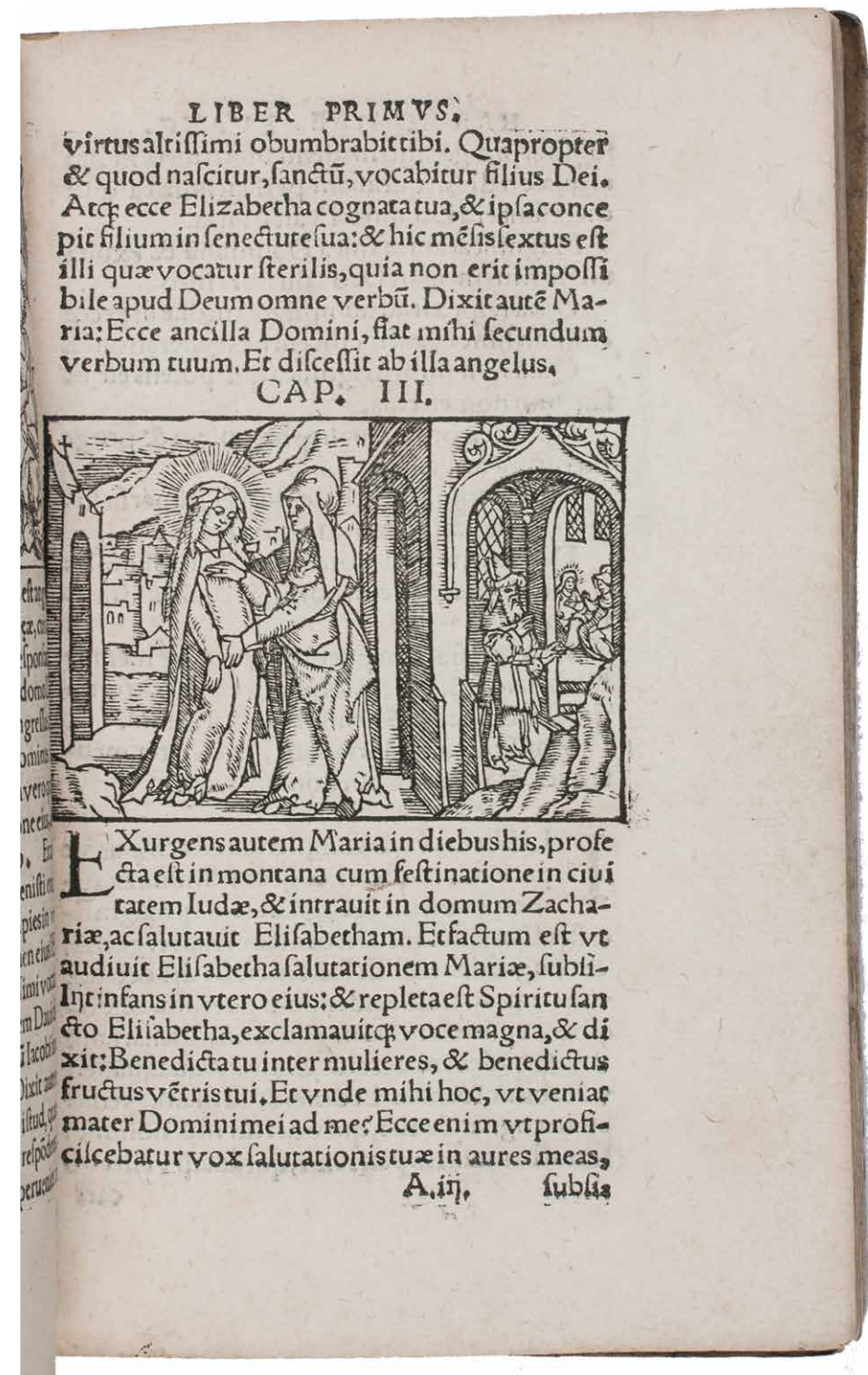
€ 8500

Third (first illustrated) edition of Osiander's Harmony of the Gospels. It brings the four Gospels together to make a single narrative, prefaced by a comparative synopsis of the content of the four Gospels. Having studied Hebrew and Greek in Ingolstadt, Andreas Osiander (1496–1552) became a priest in 1520. He subsequently came in contact with supporters of the Reformation and became a prominent Protestant leader. In 1548 he was appointed professor of theology in Königsberg. His last years there were, however, overshadowed by the bitter debates caused by his controversial doctrine of divine justice: the so-called "Osiandrische Streit". Osiander's writings consist for the most part of expositions of the scripture, sermons and essays on the theological controversies of the day.

Osiander's present Harmony of the Gospels is his only work that was also published outside Germany. The woodcuts are ascribed to Levinus (Liévin) de Witte (ca. 1503 – 1578 or soon after), a painter, designer and perhaps also a woodcutter, working in Antwerp, Brussels and Ghent.

With an owner's inscription removed from the title page. With an occasional minor stain and with a corner of one leaf restored (not approaching the text), but still in very good condition and only slightly trimmed.

[164] ll. *Netherlandish books* 23283; *Nijhoff & Kronenberg* 3650; *USTC* 410397; *I. Veldman & K. van Schaik, Verbeelde boodschap: de illustraties van Lieven de Witte bij "Dat leven ons Heeren" (1537) (Haarlem 1989), esp. pp. 14, 23 & 44; Hollstein* LIII, p. 234, with illustrations of the woodcuts on pp. 249–280; *G. Seebass, Das reformatorische Werk des Andreas Osiander (Nuernberg 1967); G. Seebass, Bibliographia Osiandrica (1971), 24.3; cf. W. Nijhoff, L'art typogr. II (Anvers-Matthaeus Crom. I,2); not in Belg. Typogr.; for De Witte, see also Thieme & Becker* XXXVI, p. 129.  More on our website









## Freedom of religion in times of Reformation

68


### [PAMPHLET – REFORMATION]

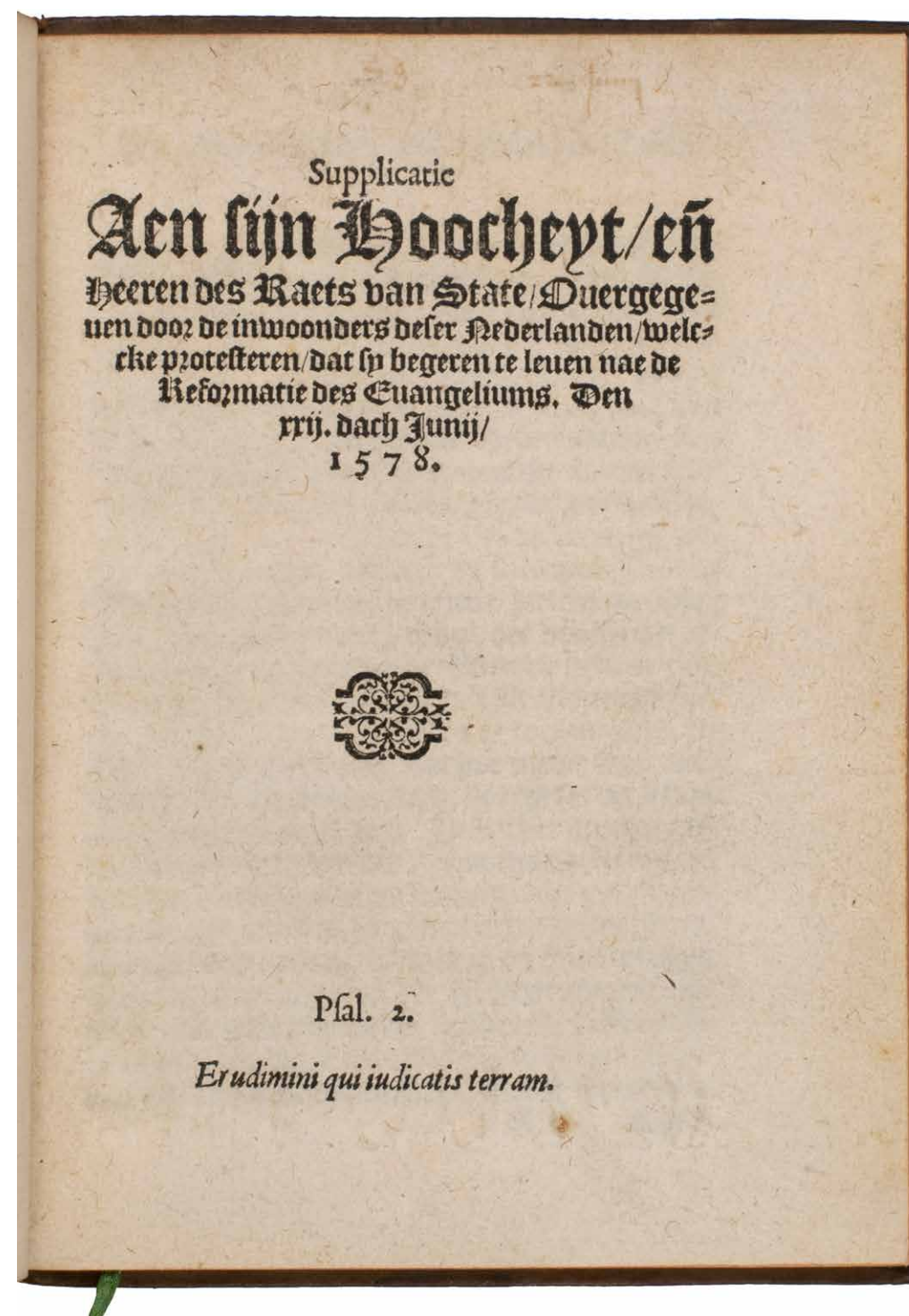
Supplicatie aen sijn hoocheyt ende heeren des Raets van State, overgegeven door de inwoonders deser Nederlanden welcke protesteren dat sy begeren te leven nae de Reformatie des Evangeliums. Den xxii dach junii, 1578.

[Antwerp, Christopher Plantin?, 1578]. 4°. With a vignette built up from typographical ornaments on the title page, and a decorated woodcut initial. 18th-century gold- and blind-tooled mottled and polished calf, a red morocco title label lettered in gold, the date of publication lettered in gold on the spine, gold-tooled board edges, red edges, marbled end papers.

€ 2500

John of Austria (1547–1578) had become the governor-general of the Low Countries in 1577. He conquered Namur and charged Antwerp, forcing the protestants and their leader, William of Orange, to retreat. This pamphlet was published soon after, asking for religious freedom, arguing that two different religions are very capable of coexisting peacefully in one state. The work was published in French in the same year, titled *Requete presentee a son alteze et Messieurs du conseil d'estat par les inhabitants des Pais Bas*. With the bookplate of P.P.C Lammens and one with monogram and motto "Labor omnia vincit improbus" mounted on the front pastedown, a later ownership annotation ("Biblioth[eca] GG. De Servais") on the verso of the first free flyleaf. The spine is somewhat rubbed, the head of the spine has been bumped. The work has been bound with 24 blank leaves/ Otherwise in good condition.

[2], XXII pp. Belg. Typ. 4443; Knuttel 363; STCN 110801512; Tiele, Pamfletten 177; USTC 41120/ 421800.  More on our website





## Third Plantin edition of a popular emblem book

69

**PARADIN, Claude and Gabriel SYMEON.**

*Symbola heroica*. M. Claudii Paradini, beliiocensis canonici et D. Gabrielis Symeonis. Multo, quàm antea, fideiùs de Gallica lingua in Latinam conversa.

Antwerp, Christophe Plantin, 1583. 12°. With 216 woodcut illustrations in text. 19th-century gold-tooled red morocco, gilt edges; bound by Thompson.

€ 3500

Fourth edition (third edition printed by Plantin) of the Latin translation of the emblem books by Claude Paradin (1510–1573) and Gabriel Symeon (1509–1575). "The generalist collections of devices of Paradin and Simeoni, for example, which were first published in the 1550's, enjoyed enduring popularity throughout the second half of the sixteenth century, and this lasted well into the seventeenth century also ..." (Saunders). Paradin and Symeon each published a very popular emblem book, both written in French, which Plantin combined and published in both the original French and in Latin translation. The present edition was translated by Johannes Gubernator. Each woodcut is accompanied by a motto, followed by an explanation.

With a small restoration to the foot of the title page and some spots to the title page and last blank, otherwise in good condition. Binding with some minor wear along the extremities, but otherwise very good.

319, [1 blank] pp. *Landwehr, Emblem books Low Countries* 470; *Landwehr, Emblem and fable books* 605; *Praz, p. 445*; *Saunders, The 17th-century French emblem* (2000), p. 65; *STCV 12923934 (1 copy)*; *USTC 401954*; *Voet 1954*. ➤ More on our website





# Crispijn de Passe's complete print series, The Acts of Mercy, including The Last Judgement

70

**PASSE, Crispijn de (the elder) [after Maarten de VOS].**

[The acts of mercy, including the Last Judgement].

Antwerp, Adriaen Collaert (7 plates with the Acts of Mercy) & Johannes Galle (the Last Judgement), ca. 1580–1588. Folio (7 of 8 plates trimmed). 8 engravings (ca. 17.5 × 20.5 cm) on laid paper by Crispijn de Passe I (the elder) after Maarten de Vos with the central scene framed by an exquisite ornamental border showing crafts, tools and scenes relating to the subject. All engravings captioned with engraved Latin text in a cartouche below the images. Loose prints.

€ 9500

Complete series of the Acts of Mercy, including the plate of the Last Judgement, engraved by the engraver, illustrator and publisher Crispijn de Passe I (ca. 1564–1637) after Maarten de Vos (1532–1603), one of the most prolific and influential print designers of his generation. They were first published by the engraver Crispijn de Passe the elder (I), and subsequently by Adriaen Collaert, Theodoor Galle and Johannes Galle. Our set shows the 7 prints of the Acts of Mercy in their second state (of 4) by Collaert, with his monogram "AC" in the plates. The eighth print, showing the Last Judgement, is in its third state, published by Johannes Galle.

The acts of mercy depicts feeding the hungry, giving drink to the thirsty, clothing the naked in a dress shop, housing the homeless, tending the sick, visiting prisoners and burying the dead.

One print (feeding the hungry) untrimmed. The 7 trimmed prints are reinforced with two small white paper slips in the head margin, the Last Judgement very slightly toned and with a few spots. Otherwise in good condition with very sharp and dark impressions of the plates. The complete series of the Acts of Mercy, including the Last Judgement.

*Hollstein XV, 471–477; New Hollstein (Maarten de Vos), 613.3; 614–620.2.* [More on our website](#)





## 16th-century royal decree on marine insurance, printed by Plantin

71

[PHILIP II, King of Spain].

Ordinancie, statuyt ende policie gemaect byden coninck onsen aldernadichsten Heere, op tfeyt vande contracten vande assurancen ende versekeringen in dese Nederlanden.

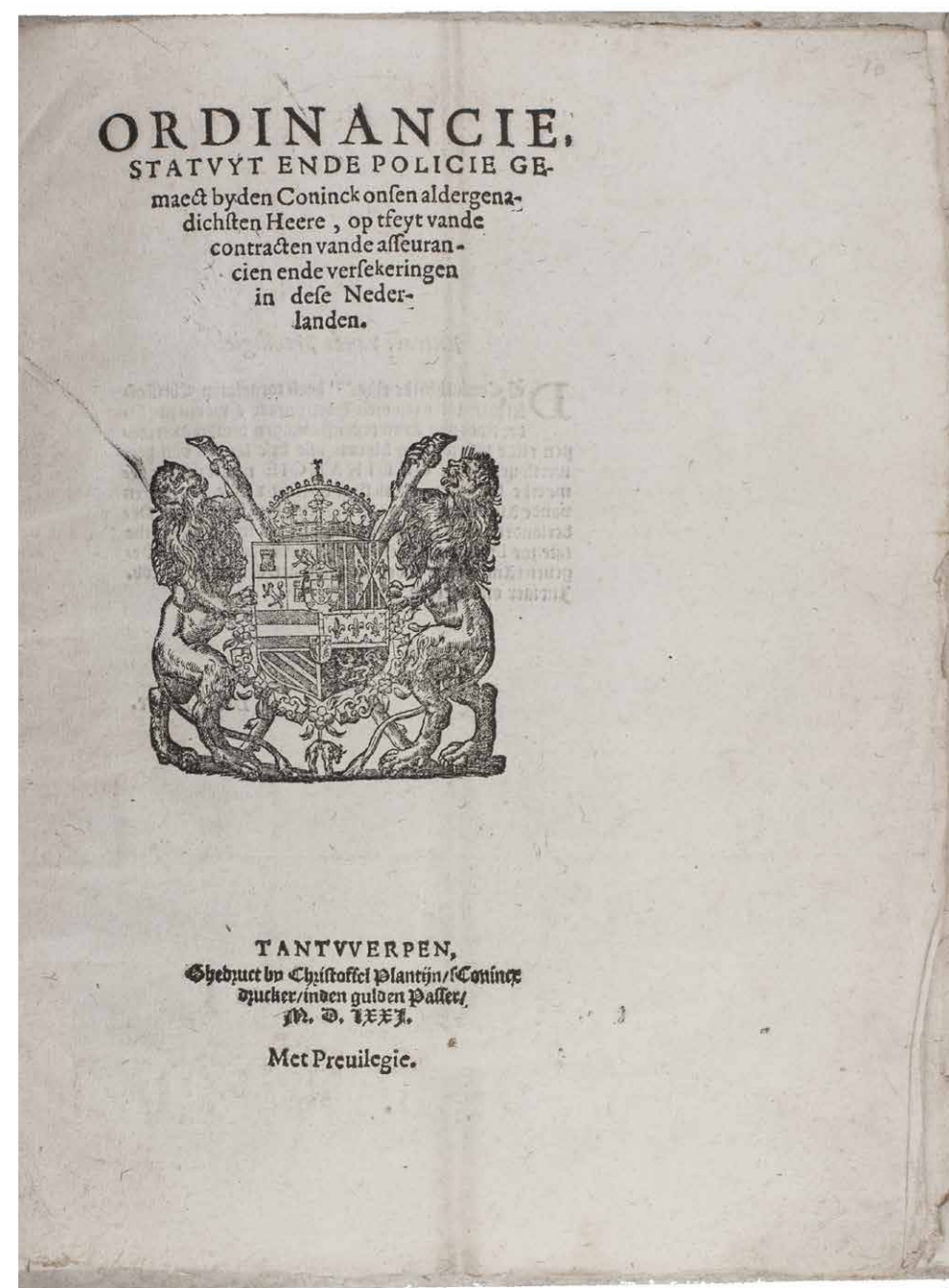
Antwerp, Christophe Plantin, 1571. 4°. With armorial woodcut on the title page. Modern vellum.

€ 7500

Rare royal decree on marine insurance addressed to the Council of Brabant, replacing the decree of 27 October 1570. In 1569 the Duke of Alfa took a radical measure by banning all marine insurance. "This "provisional" decree of 31 March 1569 was abolished by an ordinance of 27 October 1570 of Philips II. Marine insurances were again allowed. ... Ships could only leave the port with the permission of an officer after an inspection of their armament. This decree also charged that all policies should contain a detailed report of the goods on board. ... Diego Gonzalez Gante was appointed to inspect these contracts. He also had to prepare an new instruction. This decree contained as well a formulary of an marine insurance. After a petition of the merchants and Nations of Antwerp, a new ordinance was promulgated three months later, on 20 January 1571. This decree provided that only ten percent remained to the own risk of the insurance taker. The goods, the name of the vessel and the captain had to be mentioned in the insurance policy. To prevent fraud, Diego Gonzalez Gante was also appointed to control everything. An insurance policy which was not recorded by him was to be declared null and void. Not only in Antwerp, but also in Bruges, Amsterdam and Middelburg people under his authority had full powers to verify this" (Huybrechts). This decree also prohibited life assurance.

With three lines underscored, otherwise a very good copy and wholly untrimmed.

15, [1 blank] pp. *USTC 401508* (6 copies); *Voet 1981* (4 copies, incl. 3 the same); *WorldCat* (3 the same copies); cf. M. Huybrechts (ed.), *Marine insurance at the turn of the millennium II* (2000), p. 18; V.d. Wulp 213 (1570 ordinance). [More on our website](#)





## A cornerstone of Low Countries ecclesiastical history

72

**PLACENTIUS, Johannes Leo.**

Catalogus omnium antistitum Tungarorum, Traiectensium, ac ... (Colophon:) Antwerp, Willem Vorsterman, [1530?]. 8°. With a woodcut coat of arms of Cardinal Everard van de Marck within a woodcut frame on the title page, 2 woodcut illustrations, a large woodcut on the last page, and 7 decorated woodcut initials. 18th-century half calf.

€ 3950

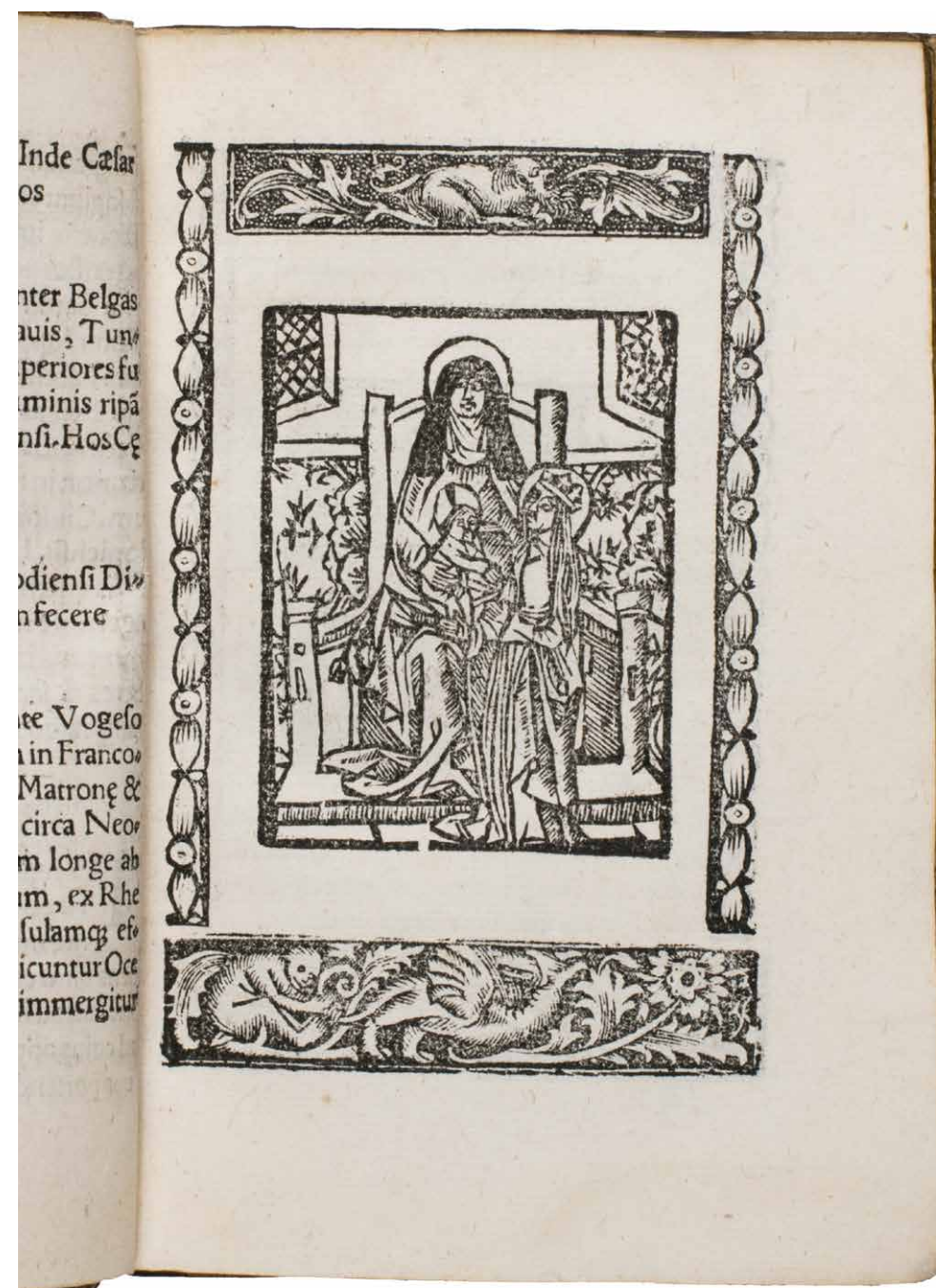
First and only 16th-century edition of Johannes Leo Placentius' (also known as Jan Leo Struyven, ca. 1500–1548) Latin chronicle of the bishops and the wider ecclesiastical history of the dioceses of Tongres, Maastricht and Liège, bringing the narrative up to the year 1506. Long regarded as an essential early source for the religious and cultural development of what is now the south-eastern Netherlands and north-eastern Belgium, it stands among the foundational printed histories of the Low Countries.

Placentius born in Sint-Truiden, educated in Louvain and later a Dominican in Maastricht, was a versatile Neo-Latin author. His writings include a verse chronicle, a celebrated 253-hexameter tautogram, and the satirical *Pugna porcorum* ("The battle of the pigs"), a sharp portrait of student life at Pig College (Collegium Porci) of the University of Louvain, published in 1546 under the pseudonym Publius Porcius.

The present work, dedicated to Cardinal Everard van de Marck (1472–1538), bishop of Liège from 1505 until his death in 1538, predates the better-known *De Leodiensi republica* of 1633, edited by Marcus Zuerius Boxhorn (1612–1653), and preserves a uniquely early perspective on the region's ecclesiastical identity. It is particularly notable for its rich visual and typographical programme.

With a small stamp and the number 122 in manuscript on the front board, the stamp repeated on the recto of the first flyleaf and with two bookplates, one mounted on the first endpaper. The binding is slightly rubbed, some leaves slightly stained in the outer margins, and the final page with the printer's device is browned. Otherwise, in very good condition.

[116] ll. See our website for the reference list.  More on our website





# First edition of the history of the dioceses Tongres, Maastricht & Liège


73

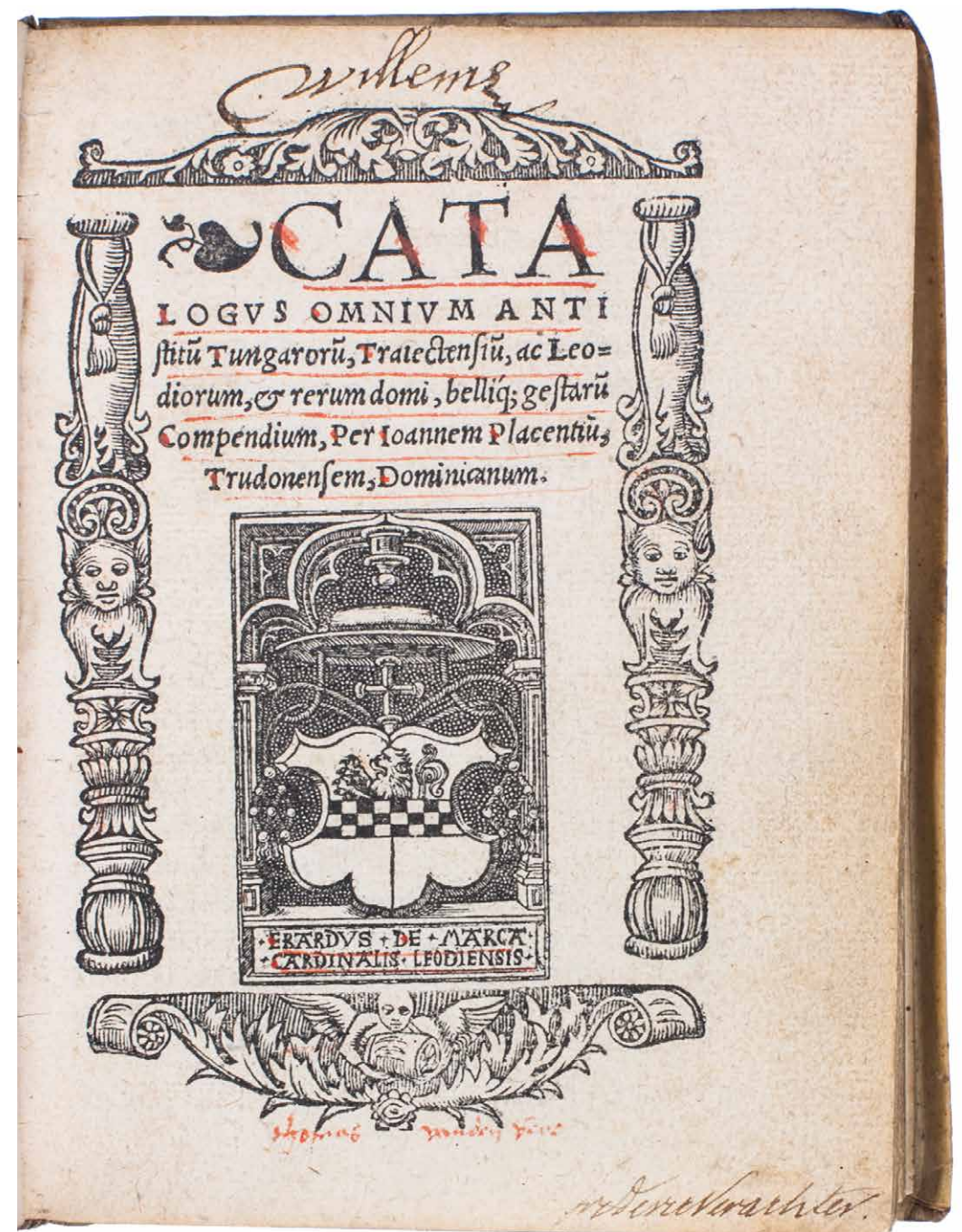
**PLACENTIUS, Johannes Leo.**

Catalogus omnium antistitum Tungarorum, Traiectensium, ac ... Antwerp, Willem Vorsterman, [1530?; preface dated 14 September 1529]. Small 8° (13.5×10 cm). Title with woodcut coat of arms of Cardinal Everard van de Marck in a woodcut border, a large woodcut on the last page, 2 woodcut illustrations. Capitals rubricated throughout, some woodcuts also rubricated and some headings and other words underlined in red. Vellum (ca. 1700?).

€ 3500

First (and only 16th-century) edition, in the original Latin, of Placentius's history of the bishops and general history of the dioceses Tongres (Tongeren), Maastricht and Liège (Luik), in the eastern central Low Countries, up to 1506. What appears to be the book's first owner signed his name in red at the foot of the title-page and at the foot of the first page of his manuscript index: "Pro Thoma. v. Ven[n]e, p[re]s[b]yte[ro] in Oirschot convi[vio]rum". He came from a leading Oirschot family. His index has three parts, listing the 84 bishops by location and alphabetically, and indexing the most important subjects. These and his notes are written on a quire of 4 leaves. He probably also wrote the occasional annotations in the margins. Also with later owners' inscriptions, including the Antwerp Jesuit Jean P. Clé (1722–1800) and the Comte d'Oultremont, the Antwerp city librarian and archivist Frederic Verachter (1797–1870) and the Belgian politician Gustave van Havre (1817–1892). Slightly trimmed, shaving many of the manuscript leaf numbers, but in very good condition. With a few tears in the front paste-down and its conjugate, and a small hole in the vellum, but the binding is still very good. An essential early source for the history of what is now the southeastern Netherlands and northeastern Belgium, especially its religious history.

[16], [216] pp. NK 1726; Machiels 931; Nijhoff, *L'art typographique* XII, 35–38 & XXVIII, 176; USTC 404768, 407352 & 430366.  More on our website





# Early Antwerp edition of Pliny's letters in an exceptionally well-preserved contemporary pigskin binding

74

**PLINIUS CAECILIUS SECUNDUS, Caius.**

Epistolarum libri X ...

*Including:*

- **SUETONIUS TRANQUILLIUS.** De viris illustribus liber.

- **OBSEQUENS, J.** Ab anno urbis conditae quingentesimoquinto ...

- **CATANAEUS, Johannes Maria.** C. Plinii Caecilii secundi Vita.

Antwerp, Antonius Dumaes [= Anthonis van der Haeghen], 1542.

8°. With several decorated woodcut initials. Contemporary blind tooled pigskin, remnants of white leather closing ties.

€ 6500

Rare early Antwerp edition of the Letters by Plinius Secundus, in a beautiful contemporary pigskin binding. This edition is virtually a reprint of the edition by Johannes Sichardt published in 1530 by Andreas Cratander at Basel.

Writing in the first century, Pliny the younger (ca. 61–112 CE) was in a position to provide essential information for historians of a poorly documented period: the reigns of Domitian, Nerva and Trajan. Nine books of his personal letters – 247 in all – survive, as well as his official correspondence with the emperor Trajan, posthumously published and later added as the tenth book. These official letters are a major source for understanding Roman provincial government. Of his speeches delivered during his successful senatorial career only the one of thanks to Trajan for his consulship in 100 CE survives and is known as the *Panegyricus Traiano Augusto dictus*, and is added on pp. 321–405 of our edition. The work further includes Suetonius' set of biographies of Roman men of letters, Obsequens' work on prodigies that lived from 249–12 BCE, and Cataneus' life of Pliny.

With 2 slightly later owner's entries on the title page. The front board is somewhat water stained, some insect droppings and a worm hole on the back board, the boards are slightly rubbed, but the blind-tooling is overall quite clear. The leaves are slightly browned and occasionally (water) stained or foxed, annotations in some of the margins and between the lines on some of the leaves. Otherwise in good condition.

"494" [=496], [39], [1 blank] pp. *Belg. Typ.* 4018; *Machiels* 990; *STCV* 12923944; *USTC* 400687.

[More on our website](#)





## Influential and popular work on natural history and magic

75

**PORTA, Giambattista della.**

*Magiae naturalis, sive de miraculis rerum naturalium libri IIII.*

Antwerp, Christophe Plantin, 1585. 12°. With Plantin's woodcut printer's device on the title page, and 9 decorated woodcut initials. Slightly later vellum, dark blue edges.

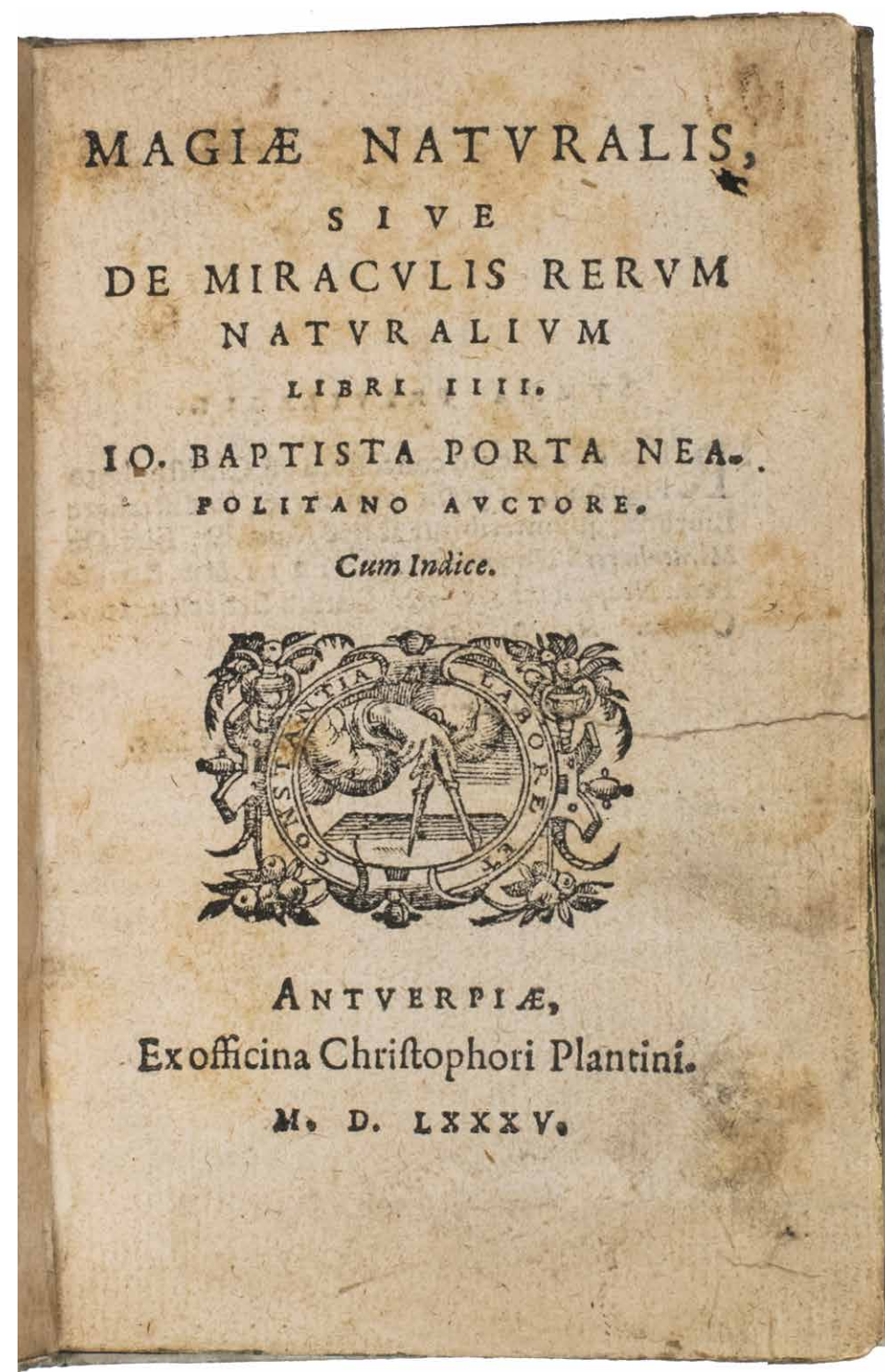
€ 1750

Early edition of a famous work on natural magic, discussing a wide variety of topics, from invisible writing to alchemy and cosmetics. It became the most popular treatise on the subject in the 16th century and was translated into many European languages. The present Latin edition, however, is one of the first editions with an index. It is also quite rare on the market, as we have only been able to trace one other copy in sales records.

*Magiae naturalis* is a continuation of the books of secrets and experiments from the late Middle Ages, and was written when the author was just fifteen years old. It was first published in Naples in 1558, and republished 15 more times within the next two decades by publisher's across Western Europe. Due to its popularity, the author expanded the work from four to twenty books in 1589. The present edition, however, was published before this, and therefore only includes four books. It is the 6th and final edition by Plantin and is a textual reprint of his 1576 edition, which was the first to include an index.

A later shelfmark label mounted on the front pastedown, with two bookplates mounted below, a later annotation on the 4th free flyleaf in the front, and near-contemporary calculations on the first free flyleaf in the back. The vellum is slightly soiled. The work is somewhat browned throughout, a tear in the outer margin of the title page, which has been repaired with tape on the verso, and a tear in the outer margin of page 289 that has been repaired with Japanese paper, slightly affecting a few words. Otherwise in good condition.

296, [7], [1 blank] pp. *Belgica typographica* 4045; *Machiels P* 1131; *USTC* 406717 (13 copies); *Voet* 2090; cf. *DSB* 11, pp. 95–98; *Caillet* 8854 (edition 1560); *Thorndike* VI, pp. 418–422; this edition not in *Duveen*; *Ferguson*; *STCV*. ➔ More on our website





## Sacred verse and Humanist minds: Prudentius' collected works

76

**PRUDENTIUS CLEMENS, Aurelius; Johannes SICHARD and Elio Antonio de NEBRIJA (editors).**

Opera multo quam antea castigatiora ...

Antwerp, Merten de Keyser, 1536. 8°. With some woodcut decorated initials throughout. Later overlapping vellum.


€ 1750

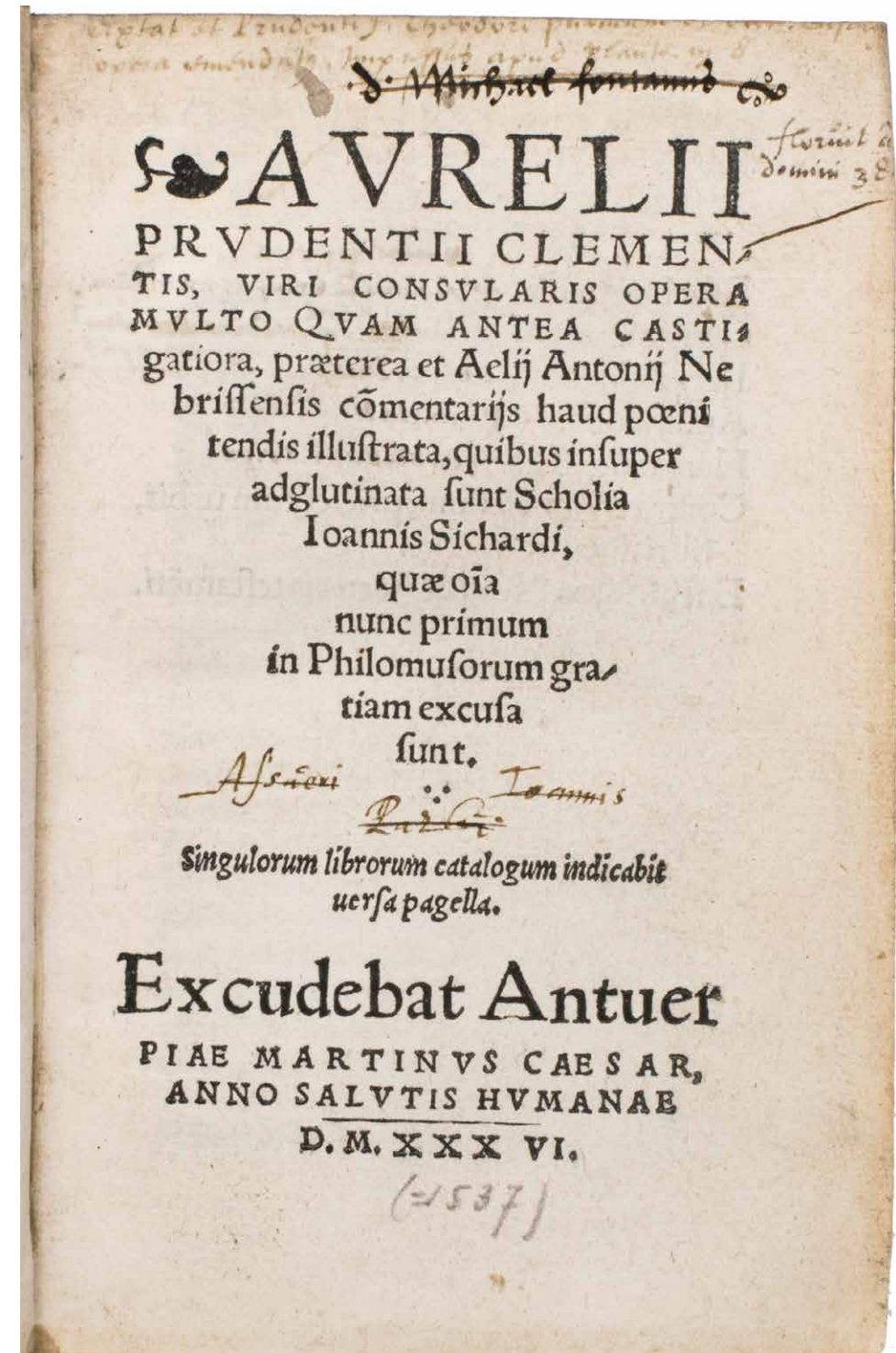
First Antwerp edition of the collected works of Aurelius Prudentius Clemens (348–405), one of the most significant early Christian poets of the Western tradition. Known for bridging classical Roman literary techniques with Christian themes, Prudentius' poetry combines deep theological reflection with the elegance of Latin verse.

The present work was published in 1536, although the dedicatory epistle by Johannes Sichard (ca. 1499–1557) to Martinus Golias is dated from Basel, March 1537. It features extensive commentaries by the Spanish humanist Elio Antonio de Nebrija (1441–1522), renowned for his pioneering work in Latin and Spanish grammar, alongside annotations by the German humanist Sichard. The edition consolidates insights from earlier Basel and Aldine manuscripts, and it contains *Psychomachia*, the first allegorical poem in Latin literature depicting the battle of virtues against vices, here in a meticulously edited form.

Other works included are the famous *Cathemerinon*, twelve hymns structured around the hours of the day and church festivals, the *Peristephanon*, fourteen poems celebrating the martyrdom of Spanish and Roman saints, *Apotheosis*, a polemic defending the divinity of Christ, *Hamartigenia*, a theological poem on the origin of sin, opposing Gnostic dualism, *Libri contra Symmachum*, two books opposing the pagan senator Symmachus' demands regarding the altar of victory, and finally *Enchiridion Novi et Veteris Testamenti*.

With annotations on both sides of the first flyleaf, and on the title page, and a struck through ownership inscription also on the title page. Some titles in the contents have been supplemented by the annotator. Otherwise, in very good condition.

[16], "563" [= 576] pp. Adams P 2181; Machiels P 1217; Nijhoff & Kronenberg 1768; USTC 403259; not in STCV.  More on our website





## Poetry and commentary: Prudentius presented by the Plantin press

77

**PRUDENTIUS CLEMENS, Aurelius, and T. PULMANNUS (editor).**

Theodori Pulmanni Cranenburgii, et Victoris Gisellini opera ...

Antwerp, Christophe Plantin, November 1564.

*With:* **(2) GISELINUS Victor.** In Aurelii Prudentii Clementis v. cl. opera commentarius.

Antwerp, Christophe Plantin, 1564. 2 parts in 1 volume. 8°. With Plantin's woodcut device on the title page of both works, ad 1 with a woodcut decorated initial. 19th-century calf.

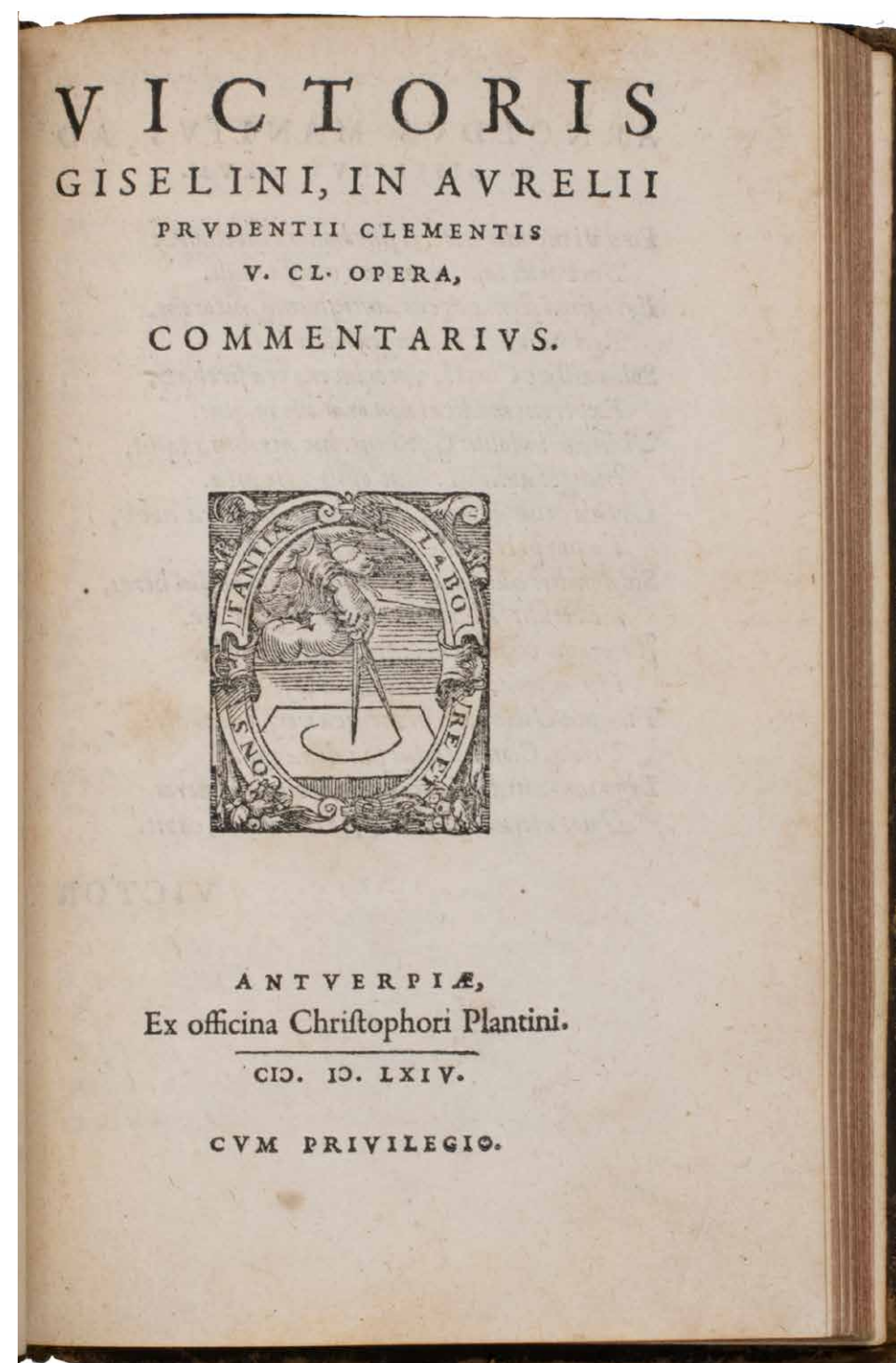
€ 850

Two 16th-century Plantin press publications bringing together the most authoritative Renaissance readings of Aurelius Prudentius Clemens (348 – after 405), the finest Christian poet of Late Antiquity. Both works were conceived as complementary parts of a single editorial project: the first presenting a carefully revised text of Prudentius' writings, the second offering an extensive humanist commentary. Fittingly for an author long regarded as the Christian heir to Horace and Virgil, the two parts unite rigorous philology with profound theological and literary insight, reflecting the intellectual energy of the early Antwerp Humanist milieu.

Together these two works form a coherent and distinguished Renaissance presentation of Prudentius, combining textual authority, philological diligence and humanist erudition.

Ad 1 with an early ownership inscription on the title page together with a few scribbles, and some marginal annotations commenting on the text and occasional underlining. The top third of the front joint is split, the spine is rubbed, some minor wear to the extremities of the boards, the upper margin is cut somewhat short, and the first few leaves show a clear damp stain. Ad 2 has some occasional browning. Otherwise in good condition.

350, [2]; [168] pp. *Adams P* 2186; *Belg. Typ.* 4078; *BM STC Dutch p.* 173; *Erasmus Online* 4649; *STCV* 12917044; *USTC* 415501 (both works); *Vander Haeghen II*, 49; *Voet* 2113 and 1250; *Ad 2: USTC* 409574; *STCV* 12917046. [More on our website](#)





## First Latin edition

78

### QUINTUS SMYRNAEUS.

*Derelictorum ab Homero libri quatuordecim* ...

Antwerp, Joannes Steelsius, 1539. Small 8°. With 16 decorated woodcut initials. Modern blind-tooled calf by the Period Bookbinders in Bath, with the author, title, and year of publication lettered in gold on the spine, the manuscript author on the fore edge.

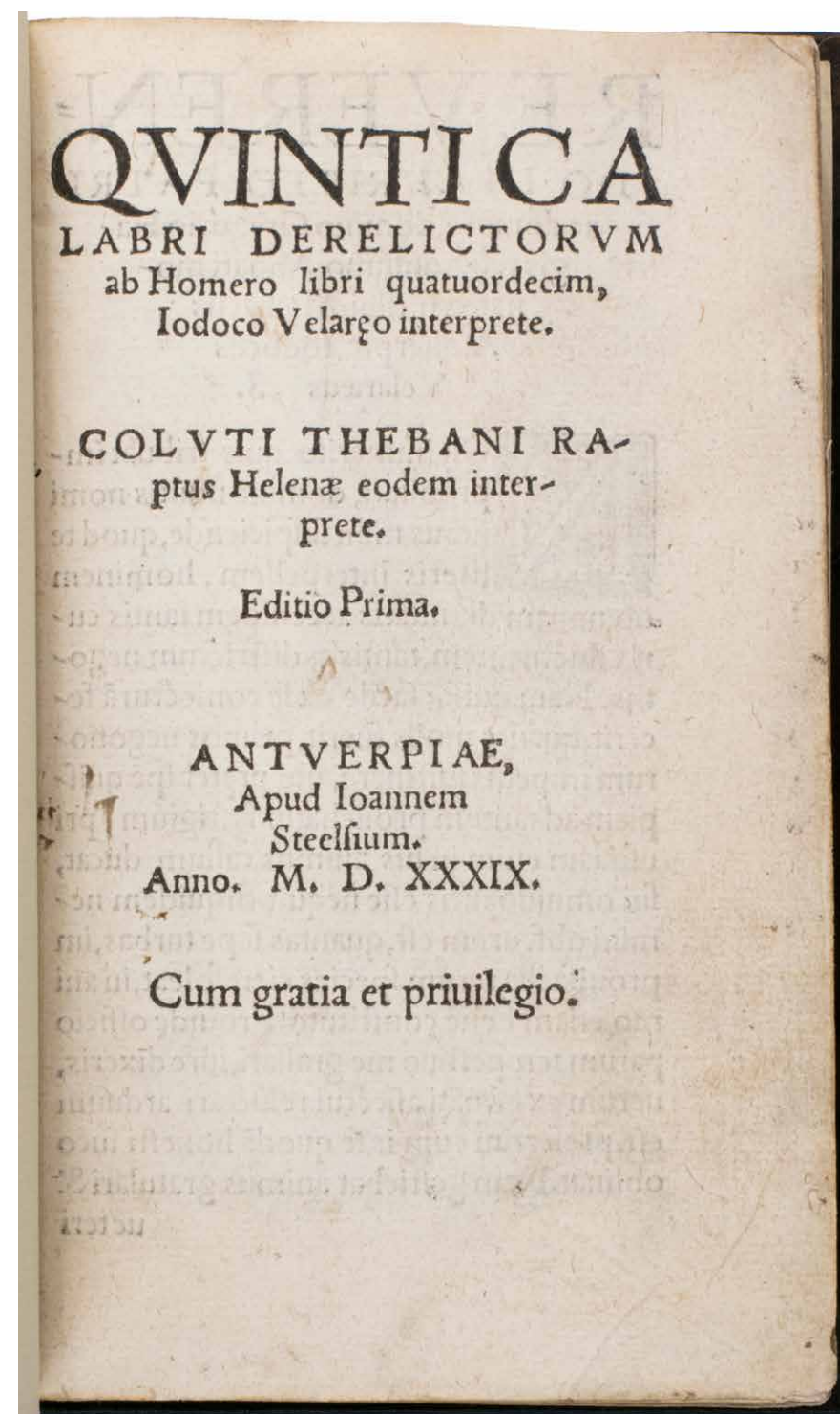
€ 950

First Latin edition of the *Posthomerica*, an epic Greek poem in 14 books, intended as a continuation of the *Illiad*. Written by Quintus Smyrnaeus (or Calaber), probably in the 3rd century CE, it tells the story of the Trojan War between Hector's death and the fall of Troy. It is an abridgement of various poems from the lost Epic Cycle, and the earliest surviving work on this part of the Trojan War. The *Posthomerica* survived in only one manuscript, which was rediscovered in Southern Italy around 1450. The work was first published in 1505 in Greek by Aldus Manutius. The present edition is the first Latin edition and the second overall. It also includes the *Raptus Helenae* by Coluthus, a poem on Helen's abduction, which had been translated into Latin by Helius Eobanus Hessus in 1533.

With the bookbinder's label of the Period Bookbinders in Bath mounted on the recto of the last free flyleaf. The work is lightly browned, with minor water stains in the margins of some of the leaves, red underlinings on some of the leaves. Otherwise in good condition.

[4], "CCVII" [= 208] ll. *Adams* 2-78; *Nijhoff & Kronenberg* 1776; *STCV* 12928667; *USTC* 403998.

➤ More on our website





# Second copy located of the 1550 Antwerp edition of the Dutch adaptation of the famous Sachsenspiegel

79

[REPGOW, Eike von].

Den spiegel van sassen van alle keyserlijcke rechten.

Antwerp, Marie Ancxt, 31 October 1550. 4°. With the title page printed in red and black with a woodcut of the emperor, between two ornamental borders. 18th-century mottled calf, gold-tooled spine with a red title label lettered in gold, with a blind-tooled single fillet frame on both boards, gold-tooled board edges, red sprinkled edges.

€ 12 500

Incredibly rare mid-16th century Antwerp edition of the Dutch adaptation of the famous Sachsenspiegel (literally "Saxon Mirror"), one of the most important law books and customs written, compiled and translated from the Latin between ca. 1220 and 1235 by the Saxon administrator Eike von Repgow (1180–1235). It is a compilation of existing local and traditional customary laws and rulings of the Holy Roman (German) Empire and used in places until as late as 1900. The Sachsenspiegel contains two parts of law: common law and feudal law and its influence, or at least parallels with it, can still be found in modern German and Dutch law, for instance in inheritance law.

The present 1550 Antwerp edition appeared in the same year as an Amsterdam edition printed by Jan Ewoutzoon. Our Antwerp edition was printed by Marie Ancxt, the widow of Jacob van Liesveld, printer of the famous Liesveld Bible in 1526, who was active as printer/publisher from 1546 to 1566. The present work is incredibly rare, we have not been able to trace any copies that have appeared on the market in the last 100 years. Additionally, we have only found one copy held at an institution worldwide, namely at the Plantin Moretus Museum in Antwerp.

The spine is rubbed and with some leather missing from the head of the spine, the corners and edges of the boards show slight signs of wear. Further with a slight water stain in the top margin throughout. Otherwise in good condition.

XLIII ll. Belg. Typ., no. 6780; *USTC* 430461/408666 (1 copy); *WorldCat* 902387104 (1 copy, same as *USTC*); not in *STCV*. ➤ More on our website





## A very important source for the early history of Zeeland

80


[REYGERSBERCH, Jan Janse].

Dye cronijcke van Zeelandt.

Antwerp, Widow of Heyndrick Peetersen, 1551. 4°. With an allegorical woodcut title with the coat of arms of the province of Zeeland, Charles V and Maximilian, a folding woodcut map, a small woodcut portrait of Charles V, a full-page woodcut coat of arms of Zeeland on the verso of the last leaf, and 6 mostly full-page woodcut coats of arms of Maximilian, the province of Zeeland, and of the cities Middelburg, Veere, Zierikzee, and Cortgene in the text, further with numerous decorated woodcut initials. 17th-century gold-tooled sprinkled calf.

€ 4000

First edition of the first Chronicle of the Dutch Province of Zeeland, which is still a very important source for its early history. It is the first work to discuss non-political aspects of Zeeland, such as floods, trade, the growing importance of towns and cities, dykes, and changes in soil. Jan Janse Reijgersberch from Cortgene (dies 1560), whose identity is revealed in the granted privilege, moved in 1532 to Veere when Cortgene was inundated, and he stayed there until his death in 1572. He was a protégé of Maximilian of Burgundy, and must have had easy access to the government files. The present first edition was already in 1831 by De Wind called very rare. With the large armorial bookplate mounted on the front pastedown, with an ownership annotation below. The binding is somewhat rubbed, with a scratch on the front board, the joints are weakened, but the structural integrity of the binding is still intact. A mild water stain in the upper outer corner of the first three quarters of the work, barely affecting the text, the map is somewhat browned. Otherwise in good condition.

[194] ll. Belg. *Typogr.* 4156; *Haitsma Mulier & van der Lem* 397; *Nijhoff & Van Hattum* 262; *STCN* 11518024; *STCV* 12916783; *USTC* 400841; *De Wind*, pp. 152–156.  More on our website





# A eulogy to Erasmus and his works, by Erasmus' contemporaries

81

**RHENANUS, Beatus.**

Des. Eras Roterodami viri incomparabilis vita, & epitaphia quaedam.

Antwerp, Willem Vorsterman, 1536. Small 8° (9.8 × 15.6 cm). With woodcut medallion portrait of Erasmus on the verso of the title page, and 4 woodcut decorated initials. Modern vellum.

€ 3750

First and only edition of this commemorative work, published shortly after Erasmus' death in 1536, brings together a series of biographical and poetic tributes by some of his closest associates. The volume opens with the *Vita Erasmi* by Beatus Rhenanus (1485–1547), a humanist scholar and one of Erasmus' most trusted friends. Rhenanus had lived and worked with Erasmus in Basel and was responsible for editing several of his works, including the *Epistolae*. His *Vita* is based on first-hand knowledge and provides a concise and authoritative account of Erasmus' life and character.

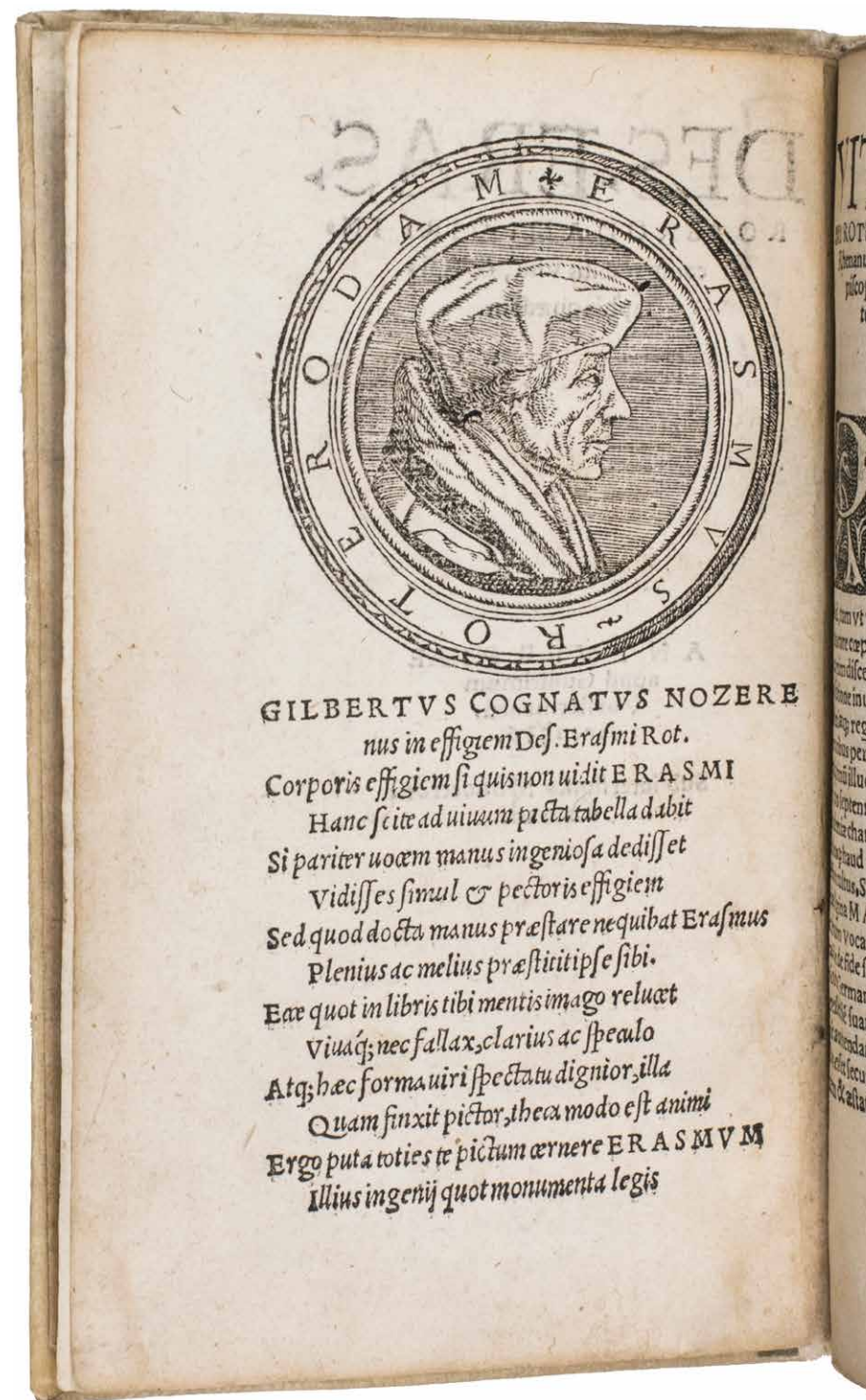
The *Vita* Antwerp edition of 1536 derives from the text that appeared earlier that year as a prefatory notice to Erasmus' edition of *Origenes* (Basel, Officina Frobeniana). This Antwerp printing constitutes one of the earliest printed memorials to Erasmus. The work was later revised and incorporated as the introduction to the *Basel Opera omnia* (1538–1540).

Following Rhenanus' biography is Friedrich Nausea's (1496–1552) lengthy poetic lament written in memory of Erasmus and occupying the greater part of the volume. At the end, several epitaphs by Nausea, Cornelius Grapheus (1482–1558), and multiple others, together with Erasmus' own *In mortem Thomae Mori, heroica monodia*, his elegy on the death of Sir Thomas More (1478–1535), can be found.

The work is slightly browned throughout and with marginal water stains, the title page has been reinforced in the gutter. Otherwise in very good condition.

[24] ll. De Reuck 615; Enekel, "A blueprint for the reception of Erasmus: Beatus Rhenanus's second *Vita Erasmi* (1540)", *In The Reception of Erasmus in the Early Modern Period* (2013), pp. 23–40, see pp. 25–26; Nijhoff-Kronenberg 873; STCV :12924374 (1 copy); USTC 437833; Vander Haeghen III, 50.

More on our website





## Variant issue of an account of the “Landjuweel” of Ghent 1539

82

[RHETORICIANS].

Spelen va[n] sinne ...

(Colophon:) Antwerp, [Matthias Crom], 25 October 1539. 8°. 18th-century half vellum.

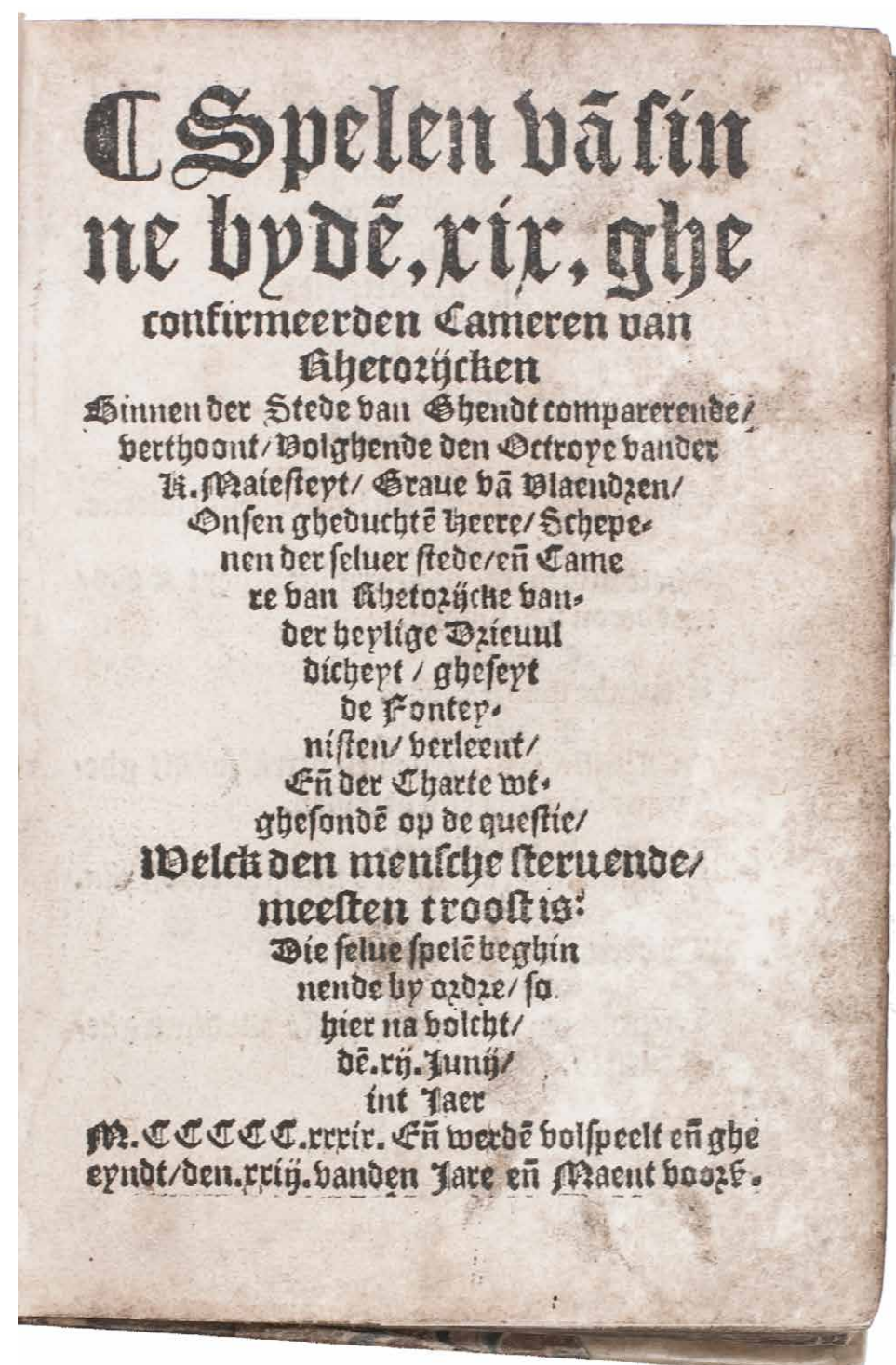
€ 13 500

Possibly unrecorded variant of one of the three scarce Antwerp editions published in the same year as the first edition by Joos Lambrecht at Ghent in 1539, of an account of a so-called “Landjuweel”, a rhetoricians’ festival organized in Ghent in June 1539. They were organized by the chamber “De H. Drievuldicheyt” of Ghent and the 19 participating chambers from different cities each presented a play answering the question: “What is of the most comfort for somebody who is dying?” It was the first time that the texts of the plays were published immediately after the festival. The texts breathe the spirit of the Reformation and the book was banned in 1540.

The sequence of the three editions is not certain and the differences are minimal. Our copy has the title as described in Nijhoff & Kronenberg 3890, but contains a variant in the colophon: “xxv. Octob.” instead of “xv. Octob.”. This variant is described in the literature only as part of the other Antwerp editions, but because the variations in the title concern only abbreviations, many libraries may have catalogued copies improperly. Another edition appeared in 1564 in Wesel by Hans de Braecker.

Title page soiled, slip of paper pasted over an erased library stamp in the lower margin of the second leaf, a few minor dampstains and small wormhole in the last leaves. Good copy.

[220] ll. *Machiels S-491, cf. S-490 & S-492; Nijhoff & Kronenberg 3890 (3 imperfect copies), cf. 1926–1928; cf. Bibl. Belg. V, p. 190; Typ. Batava 4704 (1564 ed.).* [More on our website](#)





## A work of learning and pastoral wisdom by a moderate inquisitor

83

ROSEMONDT, Godschalc.

Confessionale sive libellus modum confitendi pulcherrime co[m]plecte[n]s ...

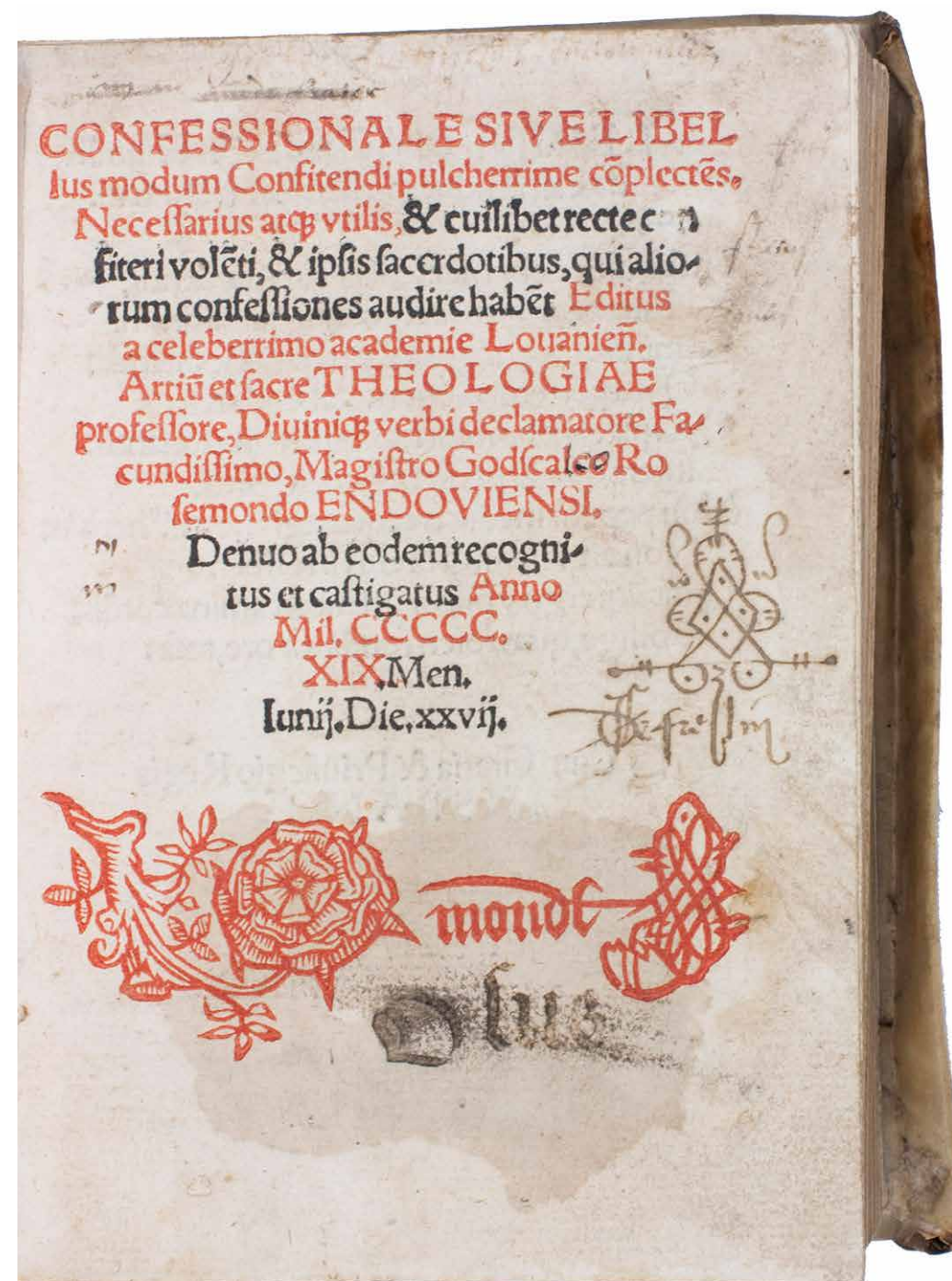
(Colophon:) Antwerp, Michiel Hillen van Hoochstraten, 8 July 1519. Small 8° (14 × 10 cm). Title page in red & black with a red woodcut rebus of the author's name at the foot. 17th-century(?) vellum with the vellum.

€ 7500

Rare third edition of an interesting Latin work on confession by the highly respected Louvain (moderate) inquisitor and professor of theology Godschalc Rosemont (1483–1526). He corresponded with Erasmus, who called him in one letter: "Vir melior quam pro vulgari sorte theologorum". Rosemondts was less dogmatic than most inquisitors and his writings have been compared with those of Erasmus. He was also known as an eloquent vicar and a friend of the Dutch Pope Adrian VI.

Between 1516 and 1519 he composed many devotional works, all but the *Confessionale* in Dutch. Parts of the *Confessionale* are translated from his 1517 *Boecxken van der biechten*, and it shares that work's amiable tone, but it is far longer, providing considerably more detail. The content reflects the fact that it is intended for a better-educated reader. It is the first book to use the *Summa* of Thomas Aquinas for resolving conflicts of conscience. Pope Benedict XIV rebuked Rosemondts for his audacious statements in chapter XX, "De excommunicatione", declaring it to be in discord with the views of the church. Although Rosemondts based his arguments on old concepts of Catholic clerical law, he expanded these principles to a much greater extent than the church was prepared to accept.

With a contemporary owner's inscription and occasional contemporary marginal notes and underlining. With a transparent stain at the foot of the title page, the title page slightly worn, a couple faint marginal stains, and with the margins trimmed, but otherwise in fine condition. The binding is somewhat worn, and its vellum had been previously used for a book that was only about 2.5 cm thick but had slightly larger leaves.





# Four rare post-incunables in defence of the Catholic faith, printed in Antwerp

84

**SCHENCK DE TAUTENBURCH, Fredericus.**

*Enchiridion veri praesulis secundum apostolicam traditionem.*

Antwerp, Michiel Hillen van Hoochstraten, 1526

*With:*

**(2) ISIDORUS Hispalensis.** *De officiis ecclesiasticis ...*

Antwerp, Johannes Graphaeus for Johannes Steelsius, 1534.

**(3) WICELIUS, Georgius.** *Loci ex sacris literis de bonis operibus ...*

Antwerp, Johannes Graphaeus for Johannes Steelsius, 1534.

**(4) AMBROSIUS.** *De his qui mysteriis initiantur, cum nonnullis aliis hac tempestate scitu dignissimis ...*

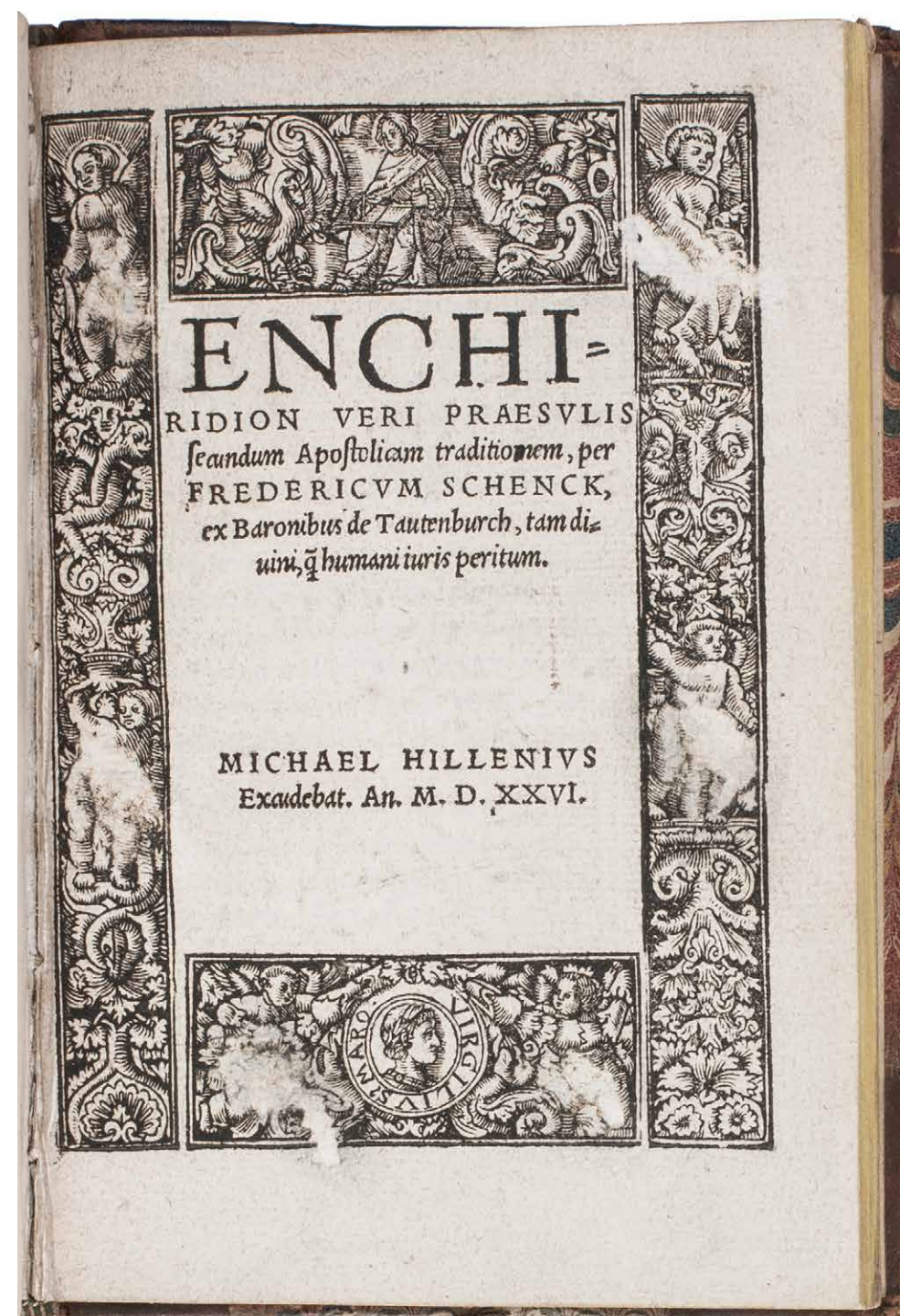
Antwerp, printed by Johannes Graphaeus for Johannes Steelsius, 1534. 4 works in 1 volume. 8°. With the title page of ad 1 within a fine woodcut border, with the portrait of Virgilius Maro, and several decorated woodcut initial letters. 19th-century half calf.

€ 4500

Four rare post-incunables clearly bound together with the intention to form a collection of texts in defence of the Catholic faith and its liturgy against Lutheranism and to serve as an example for good and just behaviour for priests to purify the widely corrupted practice. All treatises are the only editions published in the Low Countries in the period 1500–1540, all printed in Antwerp by the most important printers/publishers active there: Michiel Hillen van Hoochstraten and Johannes Steelsius. The present copy of the treatise by Schenck van Tautenburch even is the second copy recorded of the only known edition.

With a few pages with some slight foxing. Binding also in very good condition, slightly rubbed near the edges. Very good copies.

[48]; 72; [52]; [27], [1 blank] ll. *Ad 1:* Nijhoff & Kronenberg 4277 (01088bis); De Backer & Vanderhaeghen, in: *Bull. du bibliophile belge*, 20 (1864), p. 281; Colliander, in: *Nord. Tidskrift f. Bok – och Bibl. väsen*, 28 (1941), pp. 198–199; Nijhoff, in: *Het Boek*, 3 (19), p. 360; *ad 2:* NAT II, 7; Nijhoff & Kronenberg 1181; *ad 3:* Nijhoff & Kronenberg 2207; *ad 4:* Nijhoff & Kronenberg 112. [More on our website](#)





## A Dutch Humanist's vision of the Psalms

85

**SNOY, Reinier.**

*Psalterium Davidicum paraphrasibus brevibus illustratum ...*

Antwerp, Michael Hillenius, 1535. 8°. With woodcut frame on the title page, 2 woodcut decorated initials, and Hillenius' woodcut device on the final page. Contemporary blind-tooled calf in a panel design, with remnants of 2 pairs of green closing ties.

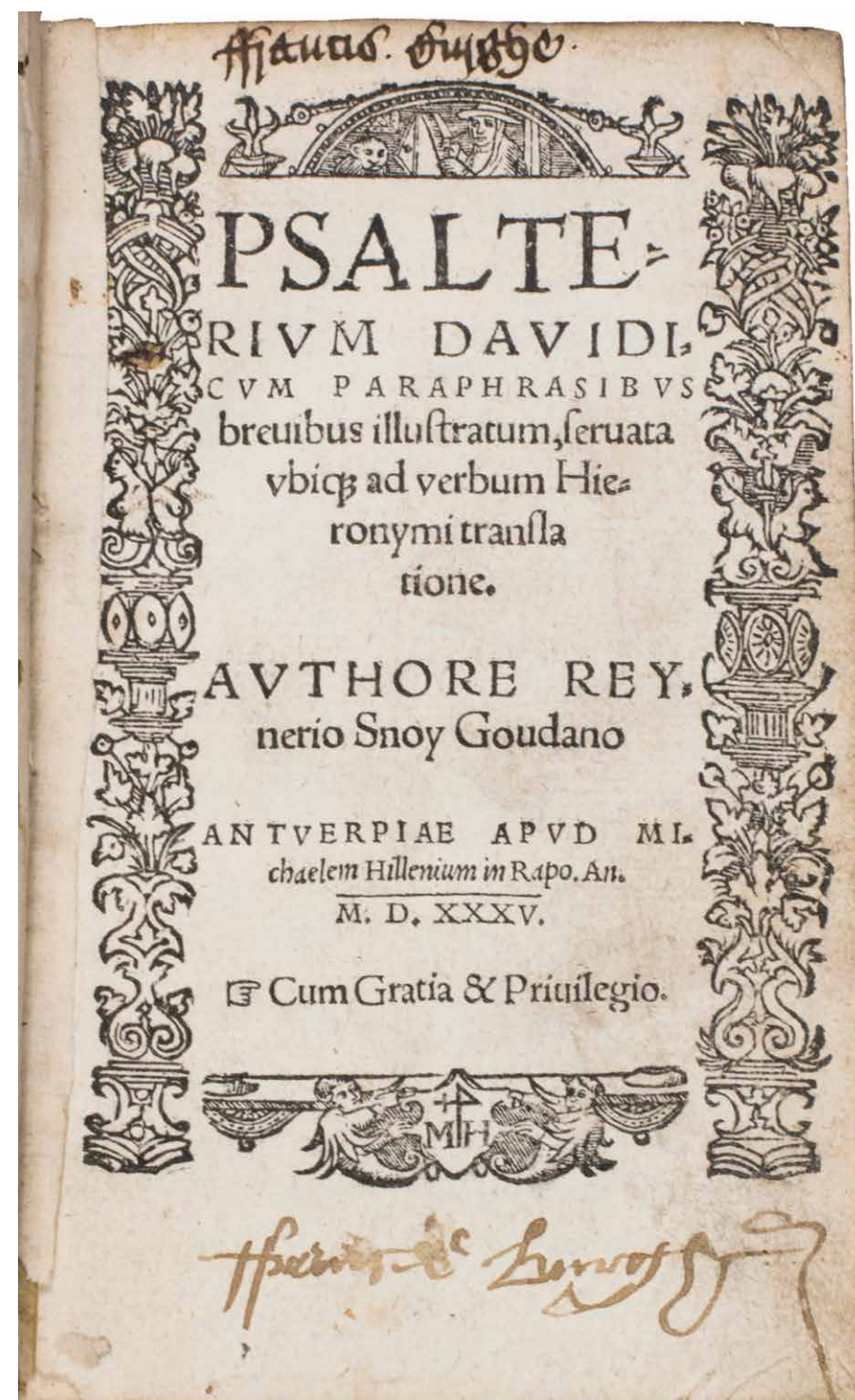
€ 6000

Rare first edition of the principal work of Doctor Reynerius Reinier Snoy (or Renerus Snoyus, ca. 1477–1537) of Gouda, The Netherlands, a scholar-physician, diplomat, and humanist theologian of the early 16th century. The present work was an instant success upon publication and remained popular throughout Europe for centuries, appearing in over thirty subsequent editions, the last printed as late as 1780. The present first edition, however, is very rare, as it has only been recorded in three institutions, and no copies have appeared on the market since 1971.

The *Psalterium Davidicum* was conceived during a period of forced seclusion at Zandenburg, when a catastrophic dike breach in 1532 inundated much of Duiveland. Snoy spent those months in quiet reflection, completing his manuscript on 29 May 1533. The Antwerp printer Michiel Hillen van Hoochstraten published it two years later, in 1535. In the present work, Snoy's biblical humanism shines through. His paraphrases of the Psalms seek to uncover the spiritual essence of Scripture, a theme resonant with the Erasmian ideal of inner piety. The tripartite moral journey of the Christian soul, recognition of sin, growth in virtue, and perfection in eternal life, forms the structure of his commentary.

With a bookplate mounted on the front pastedown, a 17th- or 18th-century annotation on the recto of the third free flyleaf, a small annotation on the verso of the same leaf, two small annotations on the title page, two leaves of manuscript waste used as flyleaves. The binding has been professionally restored, with losses filled in at the foot of the spine and on the back, boards are somewhat rubbed, affecting the clarity of the blind tooling. Brown stains on some of the leaves. Otherwise in good condition.

[16], 233, [2] pp. Abels, "Reynier Snoy uit de slagschaduw van Erasmus", in *Tidings* (2016), pp. 171–176; Nijhoff & Kronenberg 1907; USTC 437798 (3 copies). ➔ More on our website





# 16th-century Antwerp edition of “The Twelve Caesars”

86

SUETONIUS Tranquillus, Gaius.


Caesarum XII libri ...

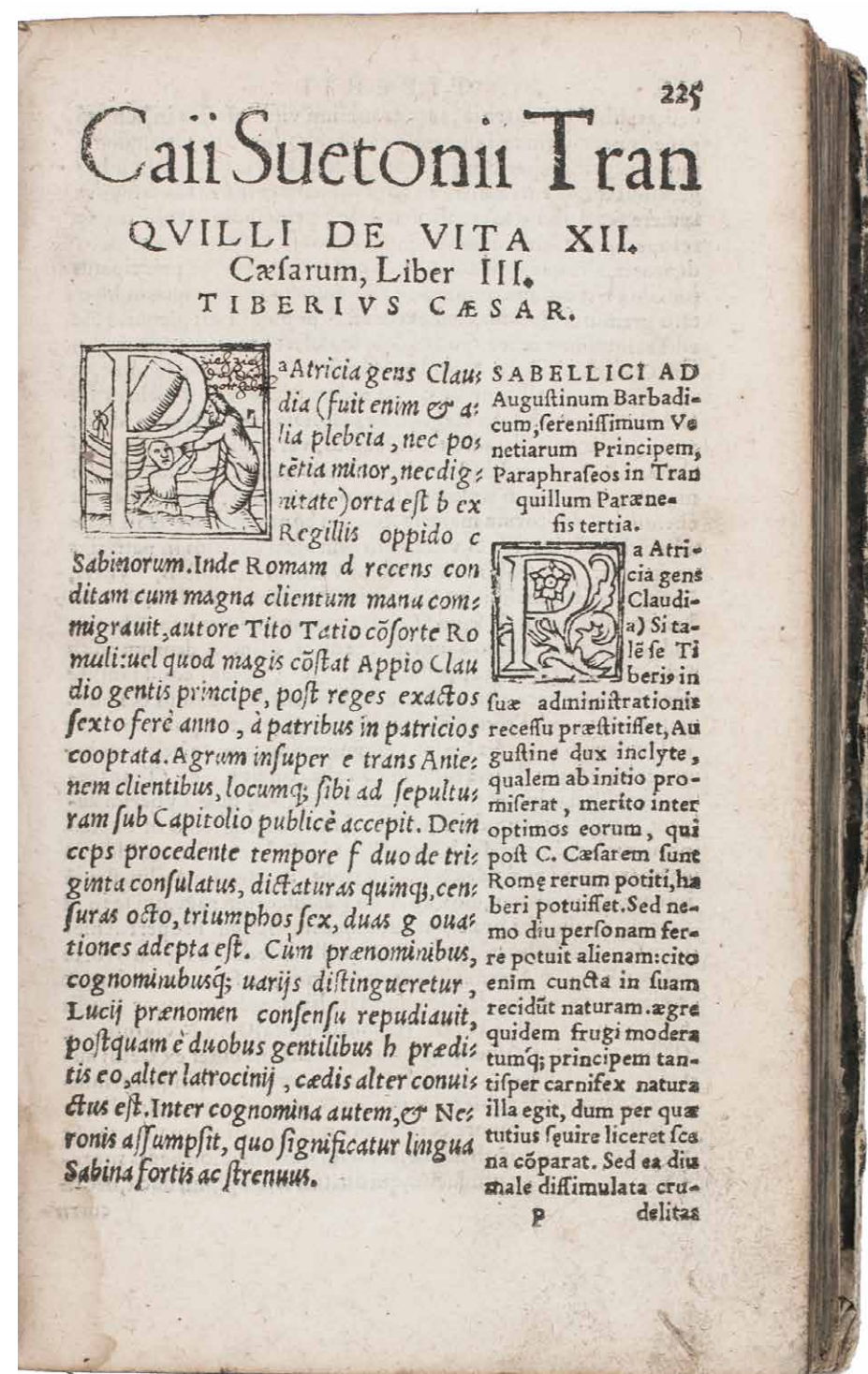
Antwerp, Jan van der Loe, 1548. 8°. With woodcut device on title page and numerous woodcut initials in text. Later marbled boards.

€ 1750

Jan van der Loe edition of Suetonius's biographies of the first twelve Roman emperors (including Julius Caesar). The book opens with a dedication by Hieronymus Gemusaeus to Gulielmus Yzernaesus, councillor to King François I of France, followed by a preface by the Italian humanist Poliziano (1454–1494). The lives of the twelve Roman Emperors (Julius Caesar, Augustus, Tiberius, Caligula, Claudius, Nero, Galba, Otho, Vitellius, Vespasian, Titus and Domitian) are printed on 626 pages with the commentary and annotations by Marcus Antonius Coccius Sabellicus (1436–1506), a scholar and historian from Venice, in a smaller script in the margins. Sabellicus had studied under the Italian humanist Pomponius Laetus, became professor of eloquence at Udino and Venice, and was appointed curator of the San Marco Library in 1487. The main text is followed by the annotations on Suetonius by Joannes Baptista Egnatius (ca. 1478–1553), the commentary by Erasmus, a brief comment by Ausoni, a note on the name “Caesar”, and a short biography of Suetonius by Philippus Beroaldus. As a fund of fascinating and often outrageous anecdotes, Suetonius's work is unrivalled.

With many contemporary and later annotations and underscoring in ink. With some restorations to the title page and second leaf, title page browned and soiled, browned throughout with occasional spots and marginal water stains. Binding worn.

[24], 661, [1 blank] pp. Adams S2045 (incomplete copies); Belg. Typ. 6808; Machiels S640; USTC 403287.  More on our website





# Where Greek philosophy meets Christian doctrine: the second edition of Theodoret's *Graecarum affectionum curatio*

87

THEODORET of CYRRHUS, and Z. ACCIAIUOLI (transl.).

De evangelicae veritatis ex Graecorum atque gentium philosophia cognitione ...

Antwerp, Joannes Steelsius, 1540. 8°. With some woodcut decorated initials throughout, and Steelsius's woodcut device at the end. 18th-century red morocco, gold-tooled spine with the author lettered in gold, gold-tooled board edges and turn-ins, marbled endpapers, gilt edges, and a green ribbon marker.

€ 2950

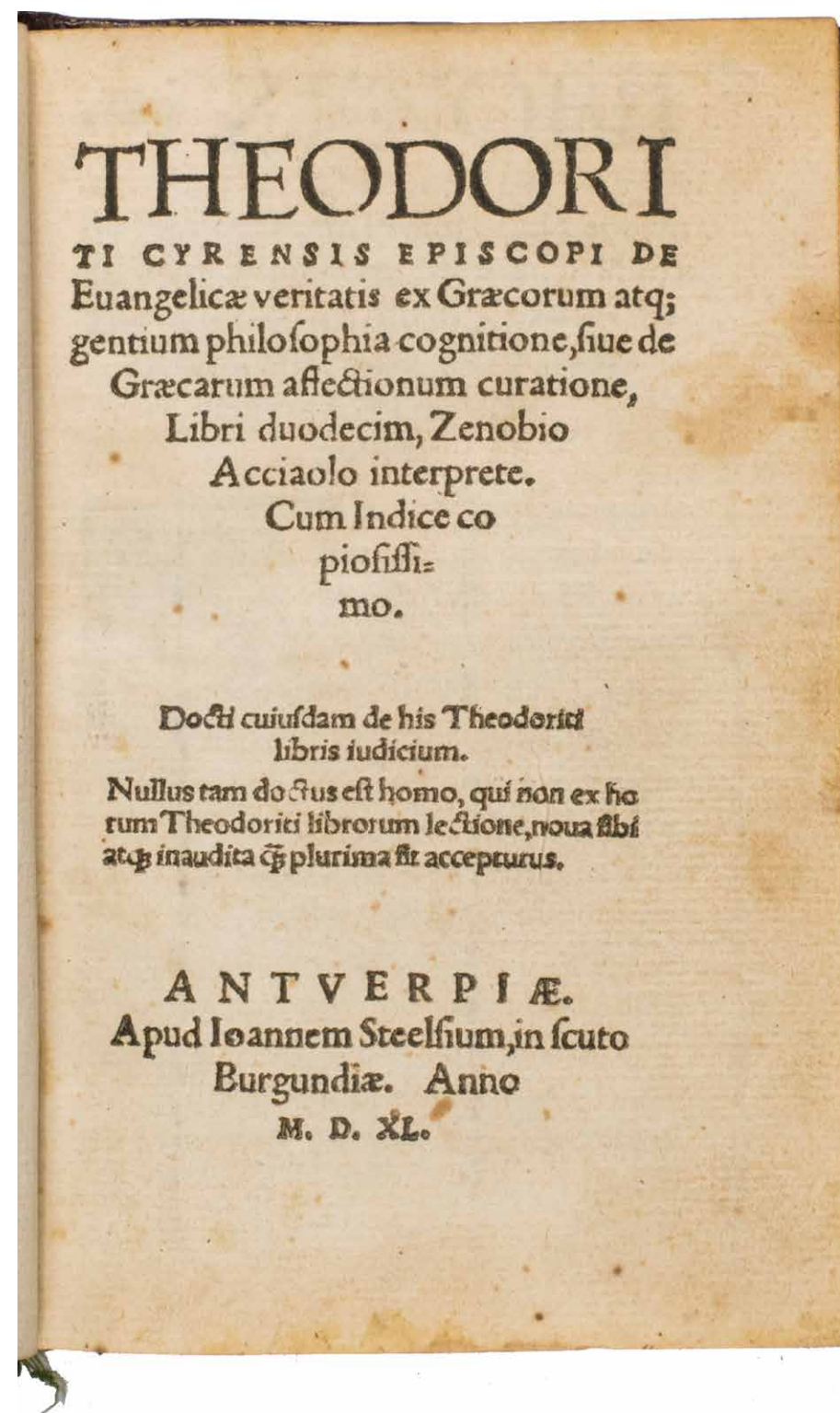
Second edition of the first Latin translation (1519) of *Graecarum affectionum curatio*, Theodoret's (393–457) celebrated apologetic work composed against the last defenders of Hellenism. Intended as a vigorous piece of Christian propaganda, the treatise seeks to demonstrate the truth of the Gospel from within the philosophical tradition of the Greeks and other ancient peoples. Remarkably, the original Greek text did not appear in print until 1592, making Zenobio Acciaiuoli's (1415–1478) Latin version the principal vehicle through which Western scholars encountered the work for much of the 16th century.

Zenobio Acciaiuoli's rendering and adaptation of Theodoret's treatise played a crucial role in reintroducing Greek patristic literature to Renaissance Europe, particularly to readers without knowledge of the Greek language.

The work itself is divided into twelve books. In these, Theodoret defends the truth of the Christian message, subjects Greek religion, mythology, and philosophy to a critical examination, and demonstrates that several Greek philosophers approached, albeit imperfectly, the insights later revealed fully by Christianity. He further exposes the irrational and morally troubling nature of pagan cults and practices. *Graecarum affectionum curatio* ranks among the most influential early Christian polemical and apologetic texts, a bridge between Classical thought and Christian doctrine.

With 2 bookplates mounted on the first endpaper. The work is slightly browned throughout. Otherwise in very good condition.

8, 158, [6] ll. See our website for the reference list. [More on our website](#)





# Reintroducing Roman law to the Renaissance

88

**THEOPHILUS ANTECESSOR and Jacobus CURTIUS (transl.).**

*Institutionum juris civilis libri quatuor ...*

Antwerp, Joannes Steelsius, 1539. 8°. With a large woodcut folding table at the end, a woodcut device of Steelsius on the recto of the otherwise blank last leaf, and some woodcut decorated initials throughout. Contemporary blind-tooled pigskin, binding is dated on the front board: 1541, remnants of ties.

€ 2500

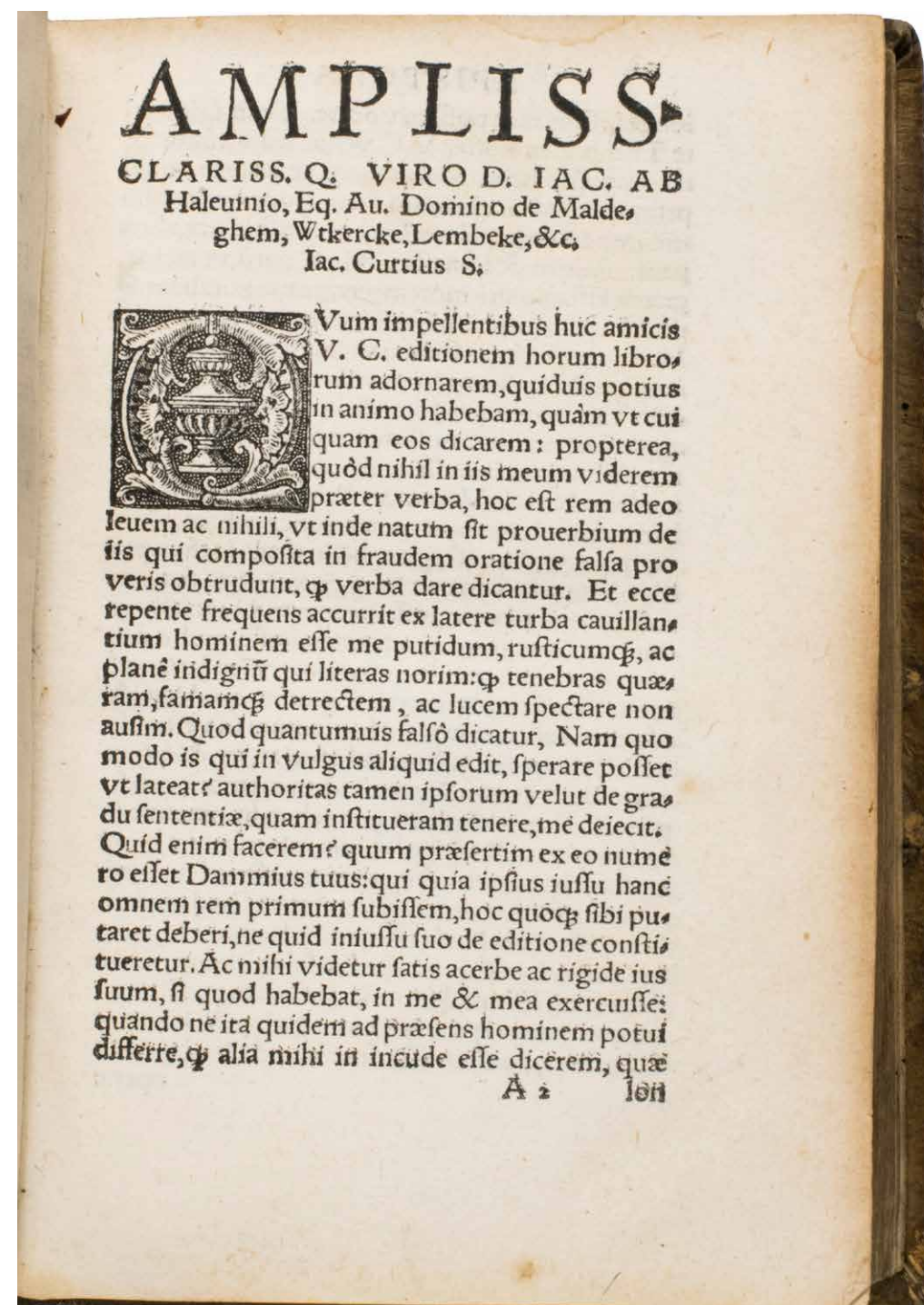
Rare complete second Latin edition of the Greek paraphrase of Justinian's *Institutiones* composed by the Constantinopolitan jurist Theophilus (fl. 6th century). His paraphrase was intended to diffuse the newly codified imperial law among the Greek-speaking populations of the Eastern Roman Empire. More than a translation, Theophilus' work functions as a continuous explanatory commentary, indispensable for any learned reader of the *Institutiones*.

Theophilus, who lectured at Constantinople and, with Dorotheus (ca. 388–407) under the direction of Tribonian (500–542), helped draft Justinian's official *Institutiones*. This paraphrase was a direct product of the pedagogical reforms of Justinian's *Constitutio omnem*. It was designed to make a Latin legal manual intelligible to Greek-speaking students in a world where Greek legal education had to reconcile itself with Latin authoritative sources.

The present work was translated by Jacobus Curtius from Bruges (ca. 1510–1577). Curtius, familiar with both the newly recovered Greek text and Viglius' introductory commentary, undertook the task. Curtius' version proved extraordinarily successful.

The present work comes with an large folding woodcut genealogical table at the end, often missing in other volumes, but present here. With several contemporary annotations towards the end commenting on the text. Lacking the ties along the fore-edge, and with some very minor browning and marginal staining. Otherwise in very good condition.

[8], 221, [3] ll. See our website for the reference list. [More on our website](#)





# Definitive edition of the first substantial Dutch manual on the notary's practice

89

THUYS, Jacques.


Ars notariatus. Dat is: Conste en[de] stijl van notarischap ...

Antwerp, Arnout s'Conincx, 1590. 8°. With woodcut publisher's device on the title page, a woodcut tailpiece and woodcut decorated initials. 17th-century parchment.

€ 2500

Fourth (third Antwerp) edition, extensively revised and expanded to reach its definitive form, of the first substantial Dutch manual on the notary's practice, based partly on older Latin and French works, some with the same Latin title. It was written (in part translated) by the Antwerp notary Jacques (Jacob) Thuys. Hendrick Heyndricxz published the first 2 editions at Antwerp in 1583 and 1585. The present calls itself the third, clearly following on the 1585 edition, which calls itself the second, but Bruyn Harmansz. Schinkel published an edition at Delft in 1589 (copying even the "second edition" statement from the 1585 edition). Shinkel appears to have copied the present edition for his 1596 edition. The book was, of course, intended for the use of the notaries themselves, and for notaries in training, but Thuys's note to the reader also offers it to merchants, investors and tradesmen, since they would benefit from a better understanding of the documents they might have to have drawn up for business purposes.

The manual remained in use for a century not only in Flanders and Brabant, but also in the Northern Netherlands, going through more than 20 editions. Later manuals by Dirck Heymansz. van der Mast and others also owed it a great deal to Thuys's example. It insights into legal and financial practices and organization concerning business and daily life in the 16th- and 17th-century make it an essential tool for the study of cultural history and for understanding archival documents. We have located only 7 other copies. Owner's stamp on title page: "Francois Rosset[?] A ...oborn[?]". The title page, slightly damaged and soiled but with no loss, has been reattached, but the book is otherwise in good condition. Binding rubbed.

[16], 231, [1] pp. Belg. Typ 4529; Carter & Vervliet 258; Dekkers, *Bibl. belgica juridica*, p. 170; Machiels T226; Pitlo & Gehlen, *De zeventiende en achtiende eeuwse notarisboeken* (2004), pp. 9-13; KVK & WorldCat (2 copies); Picarta (2 copies); UniCat (2 copies); USTC (3 copies); cf. Typ. Batava 321-323 (Delft eds.).  More on our website





# Twin pillars of Titelmans' Psalm commentary

90

**TITELMANS, Frans.**

Elucidatio in omnes psalmos ...

Antwerp, Merten de Keyser, June 1531.

*With:*

**(2) IDEM.** Annotationes ex Hebraeo atque Chaldaeo in omnes psalmos ...

Antwerpen, Simon Cock, 1531. 2 works in 1 volume. Folio. Ad 1 with a woodcut decorated title frame, a full-page woodcut, and several woodcut decorated initials throughout. Ad 2 with a full-page woodcut at the end, and 1 woodcut decorated initial. 18th-century overlapping vellum.


€ 3500

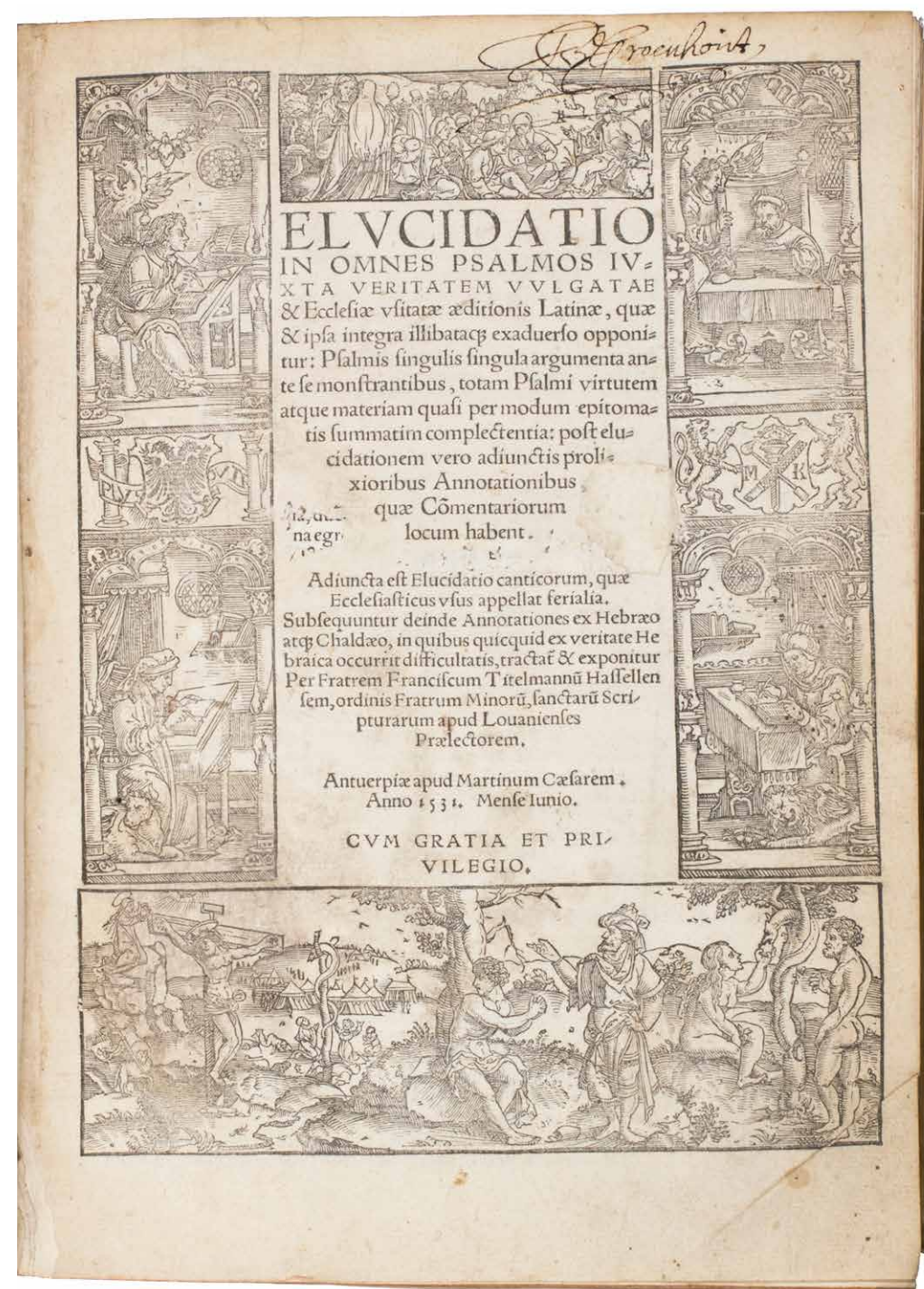
Two first editions of works by the Franciscan scholar Frans Titelmans (1502–1537), one of the most famous theologians produced by the University of Louvain in the early 16th-century.

Ad 1 is a commentary on the entire Book of Psalms. The psalms, after all, were not merely sung or read: they were memorised, the daily spiritual bread of monastic and clerical life.

Ad 2 explored the Hebrew and Chaldean (Aramaic) elements of the Psalms. These annotations were deliberately separated from the main commentary. Titelmans wished to spare the ordinary reader the burden of complex philological debates.

With an ownership inscription on the title page, a small tear on the title page (not affecting the text or woodcut), a small wormhole from leaf 307 towards the end, some staining in the upper margin, and some occasional browning. Otherwise in good condition.

[18], 393, [1]; XLIII, [1] ll. *De Troeyer II*, 310–313 no. 535; Schmitz, "Frans Titelmans: latinist en theoloog", *Het aandeel der Minderbroeders in onze middeleeuwse literatuur* (1936), pp. 80–89; Tomasz Karol Mantyk, "Biblical Scholarship of Franciscus Titelmans", (2023); WorldCat 1151576707 (8 copies); Ad 1: CCPB 000026195–5; Nijhoff & Kronenberg 2041; USTC 403849; WorldCat 68854395 (7 copies); not in STCV; Ad 2: Nijhoff & Kronenberg 2034; USTC 403840; not in STCV.  More on our website





# Rare 1527 edition of classical dictionary, owned by the neo-Latin poet Renier Tegnagel (d. 1565)

91

**TORRENTINUS, Hermannus (Herman van der BEKE).**

*Elucidarius poeticus continens historias poeticas, fabulas ...*

Antwerp, Michiel Hillen van Hoogstraten, 1527. With the title in an elaborate woodcut border.

*With (bound before ad 1): (2) [FIOCCHI, A.D.] as L. FENESTELLA.*

*De magistratibus, sacerdotiisque Romanorum libellus ...*

[Cologne, Hero Fuchs, 1527]. With the title in a finely cut 4-piece woodcut border. 2 editions in 1 volume. 8°. 16th-century(?) limp vellum, probably bound in Flanders.

€ 9500

Ad 1: Extremely rare third Antwerp edition of a well known Latin dictionary of classical antiquity by Hermannus Torrentinus, covering people, Gods, topographic names, etc., taken mostly from classical literature and arranged in alphabetical order. Pafraet published the first edition at Deventer in 1498. The book went through about 70 editions in 50 years, making it one of the most popular reference works of its time and certainly the most important classical dictionary. Torrentinus (d. ca. 1520) was born in Zwolle, studied under Alexander Hegius at Deventer, joined the Brethren of the Common Life and taught at Groningen and Zwolle. Only two other copies of the present edition are known.

Ad 2: First Cologne edition of a Latin account of classical Roman priests and magistrates by the Florentine Andreas Dominicus Floccus (d. 1452), writing under the name of the Roman historian Lucius Fenestella (49 BCE – 21 CE). Almost 40 editions appeared over a century. The present edition includes three shorter works on the same subject by Pomponius Laetus.

Ad 1 is bound after ad 2. With the flourished signature of Reinier Tegnagel (d. 1565) on the first flyleaf and his motto on the facing parchment endleaf. With extensive marginal manuscript notes on 3 pp. of ad 1, one covered with 2 slips of paper, and a few shorter notes in ad 2. With a browned patch in the last leaves of ad 1 and an occasional minor marginal defect, but still in good condition. With some chips and stains in the vellum and 2 of the supports broken at the front hinge.

[88]; [88] ll. See our website for the reference list. [More on our website](#)





# The art of persuasive speech

92

VALERIUS, Cornelius.

In universam benedicendi rationem tabula, summam artis rhetoricae complectens: recognita & emendatius excusa.

Antwerp, Christophe Plantin, 1573. 8°. With Plantin's woodcut device on the title page, and 2 woodcut decorated initials. Modern binding using older printer's waste, with the author, title and year lettered in grey ink on the spine, red edges.

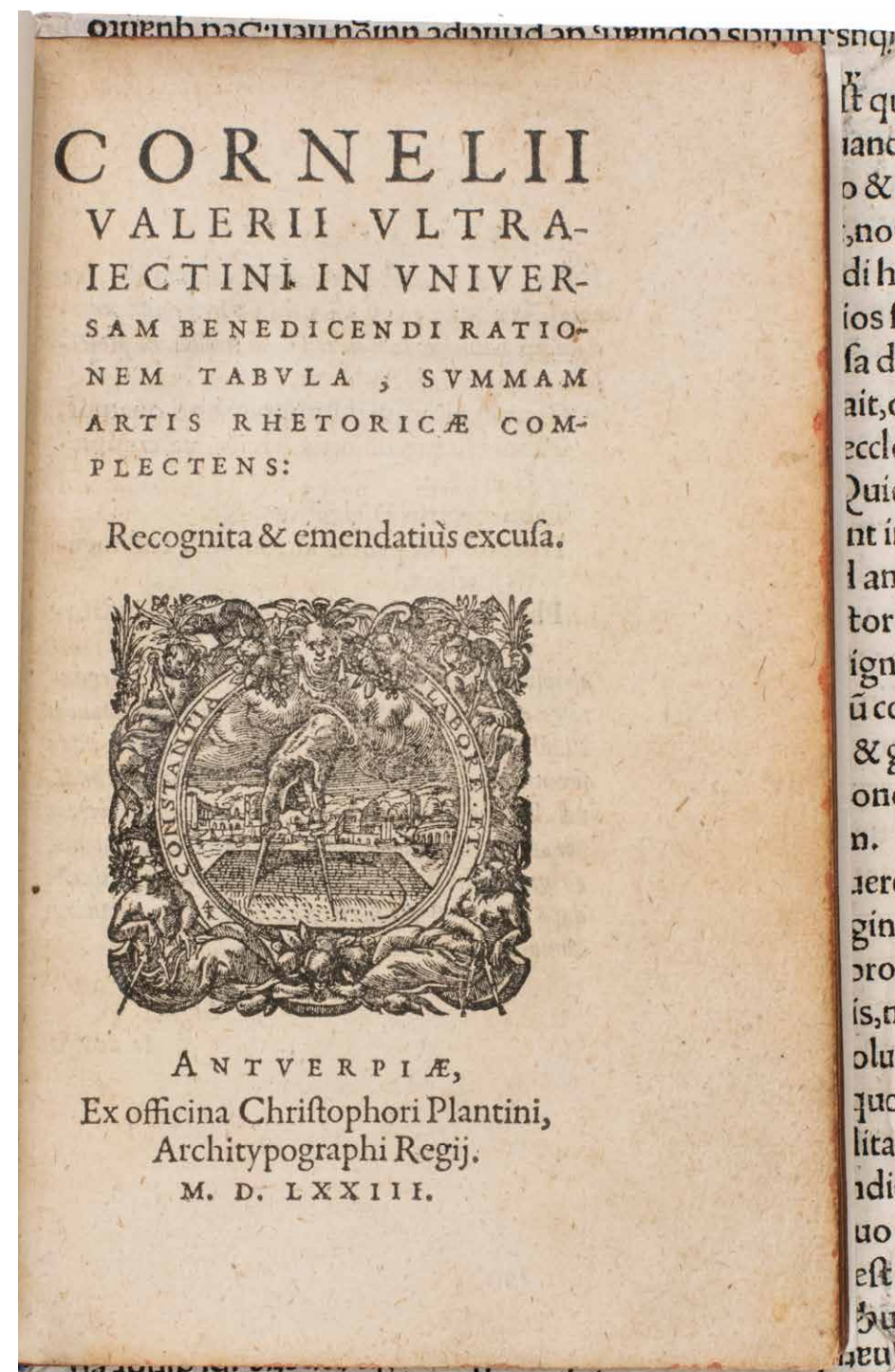
€ 950

Fourth Plantin edition of a seminal work on the art of pastoral rhetoric, first composed in 1557 and subsequently reprinted multiple times. Cornelius Valerius (1512–1578), a native of Oudewater near Utrecht, was a leading Dutch humanist and Latin scholar, successor to Petrus Nannius (1496–1557) as professor at Louvain's prestigious Busleyden College.

The present work served as a schoolbook for the study of rhetoric, drawing upon classical authorities such as Aristotle, Cicero, and Quintilian, while also incorporating contemporary humanist insights from figures including Georgius Trapezuntius, Rudolf Agricola, Erasmus, Melanchthon, Macropedius, and Petrus Mosellanus. As Valerius notes in the dedicatory letter of 1 September 1556, he first composed a concise handbook of rhetorical precepts for his peers in Louvain in 1538, publication was delayed until he could revise the text for wider circulation. The work was esteemed for its clarity, structured according to Valerius' pedagogical method, the "compendiaria via", which aimed to present complex material in succinct, memorable form.

With some underlining in the text and small highlights in the margin in brown ink, the work is browned throughout. Otherwise, in very good condition.

111, [1 blank] pp. *Belgica Typographica* 6951; *The Plantin Press Online* cpo10086; *USTC* 406024; *Voet (Plantin)* 2397; not in *Adams*; *BM STC Dutch*; *Ruelens-de Backer*; *STCV*.  More on our website





# A popular 16th-century compendium of natural philosophy

93

**VALERIUS, Cornelius**

*Physicae, seu de naturae philosophia institutio.*

Antwerp, Christophe Plantin, 1574. 8°. With Plantin's woodcut device on the title page. Modern binding using older printer's waste, with the author, title, and year lettered in grey ink on the spine, red edges.

€ 1250

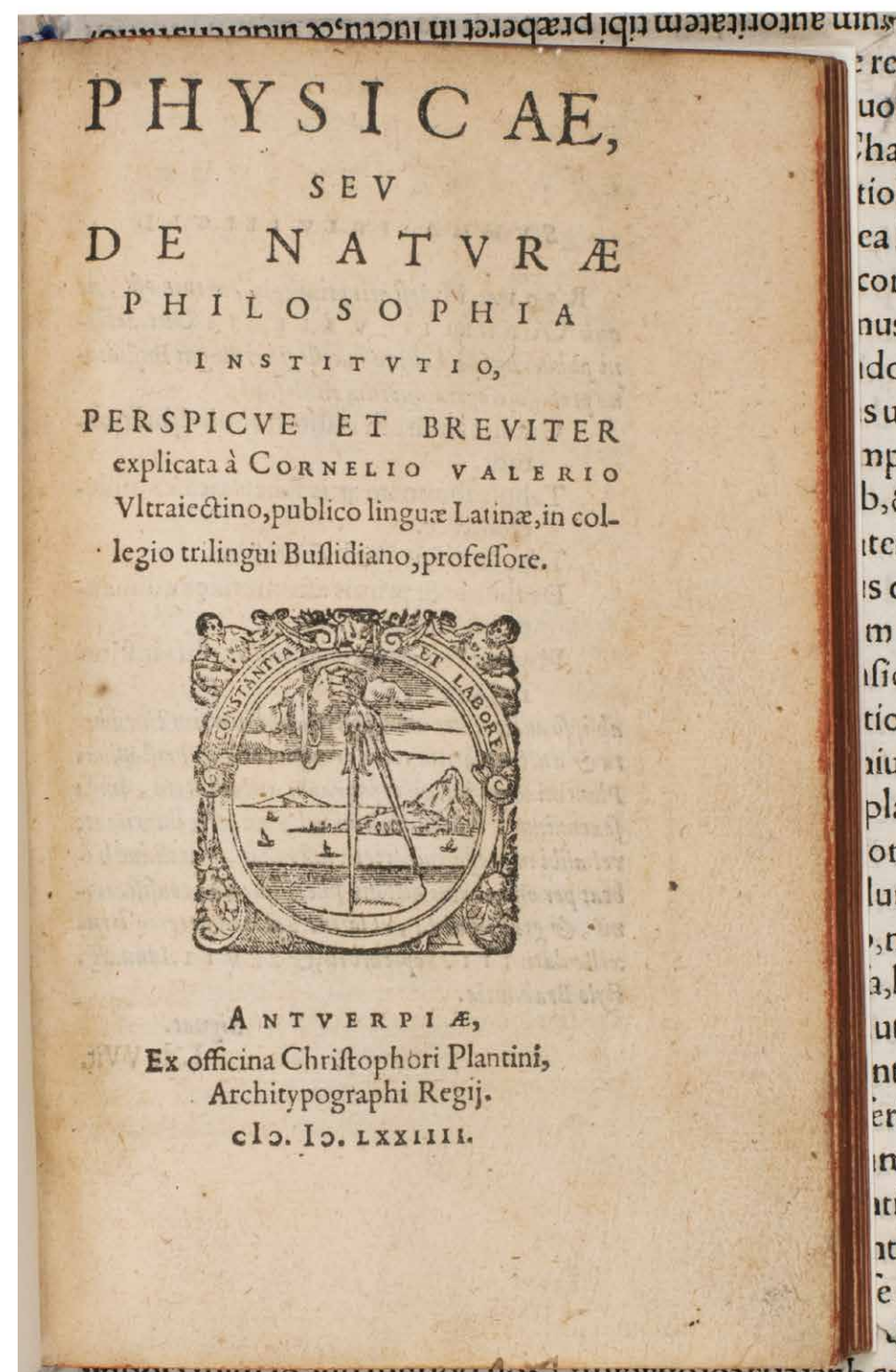
Early edition of an influential compendium of natural philosophy, first published in 1567 and reprinted ca. 15 times between 1568 and 1598. The present 1574 edition testifies to the work's continued popularity at both Catholic and Protestant universities.

The *Physicae* offers a systematic introduction to natural philosophy as it was understood in the later 16th-century. Firmly rooted in Aristotelian natural science, it presents the principles of nature, the elements, motion, and physical causation, supplemented by clear commentary and pedagogical explanation. As such, it provides a valuable illustration of the way Aristotelian physics was adapted and reshaped during the period of late Scholasticism and Renaissance humanism, on the eve of the rise of modern mechanistic science.

The author, Cornelius Valerius (ca. 1512–1578), was born in Oudewater, near Utrecht, hence his frequent toponym Ultrajectinus. He rose from modest beginnings to become one of Louvain's most respected humanist teachers. In 1557, he succeeded Petrus Nannius (1496–1557) as Professor of Latin at the renowned Collegium Trilingue. Ordained as a priest, Valerius combined deep personal piety with intellectual generosity and a lifelong devotion to teaching. Among his pupils were some of the most eminent scholars of the age. Valerius was particularly admired for his pedagogical method, which he termed the compendiaria via: a way of presenting knowledge in short, lucid, and easily memorable form. Textbooks composed according to this principle, on grammar, rhetoric, dialectics, ethics, astronomy, and natural philosophy, circulated widely and enjoyed lasting success.

The work is slightly browned throughout. Otherwise in very good condition.

103, [1 blank] pp. *See our website for the reference list.* ➔ More on our website





# A foundation of Renaissance Latin scholarship

94

**VALERIUS, Cornelius**

Grammaticarum institutionum libri IIII. I. De primis grammatices Latinae rudimentis.

*Including:*

- II. De etymologiae, seu analogia.
- III. De syntaxi, seu recta partium orationis consecutione.

Antwerp, Christophe Plantin, 1575.

*With:* **(2) IDEM.** IIII. De carminum ratione, seu de versibus faciendis.

Antwerp, Christophe Plantin, 1573. 4 parts in 1 volume. 8°. With Plantin's woodcut device on all 4 title pages, some woodcut initials throughout. Modern binding using older printer's waste, with the author, title and year lettered in grey ink on the spine, red edges.

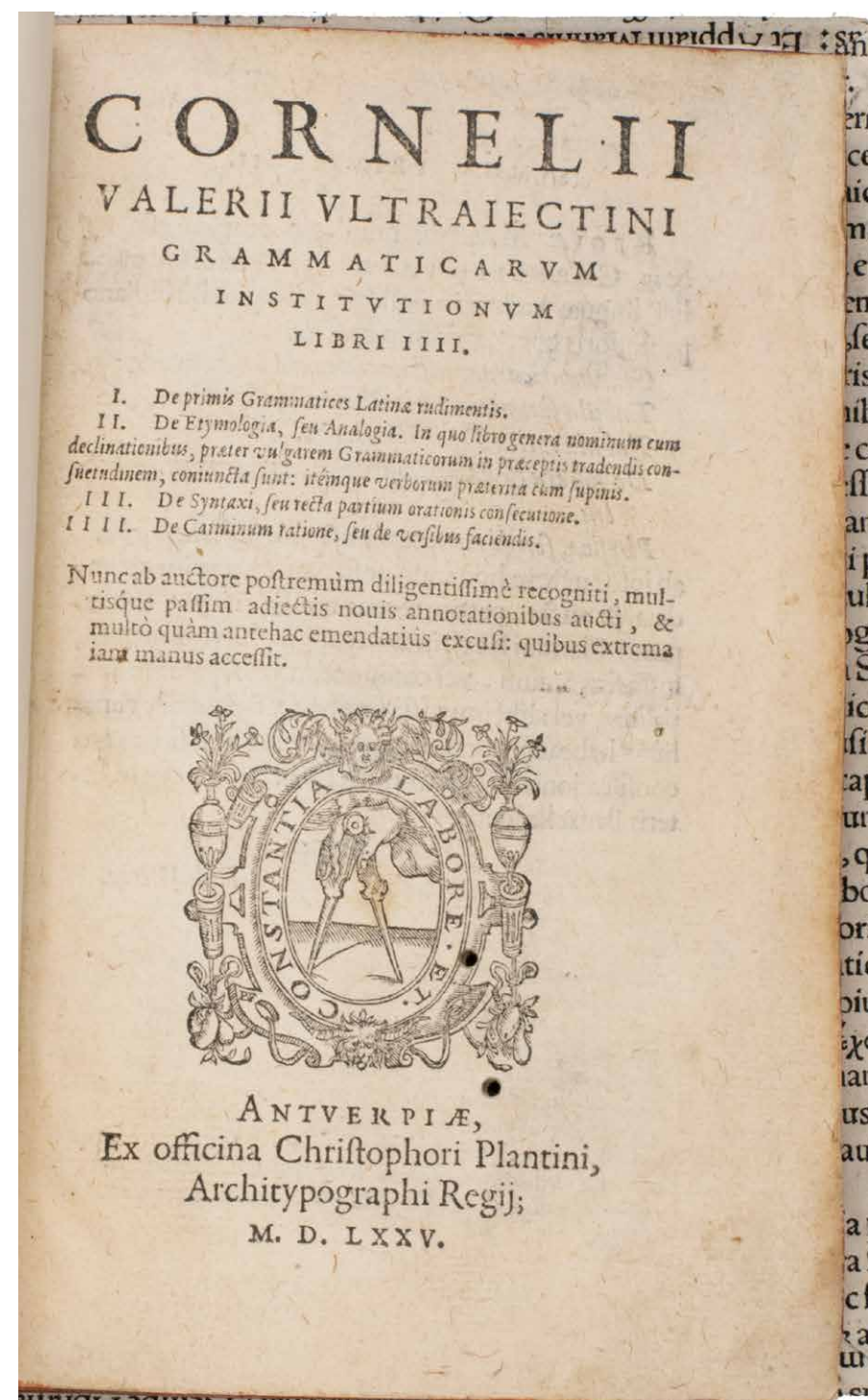
€ 2250

Early edition of an influential Renaissance grammar by the celebrated Dutch humanist Cornelius Valerius (ca. 1512–1578), known by the toponym Ultrajectinus from his native Oudewater near Utrecht, represents one of the most successful pedagogical handbooks of Latin produced in the Low Countries in the 16th century.

The present work is divided into four books, offering a complete and carefully structured introduction to Latin learning. I. covers the first principles of Latin grammar; II. explores the formation and structure of words; III. focuses on syntax, showing the correct arrangement of words in sentences to ensure grammatical precision and stylistic elegance; IV. introduces the principles of versification and Latin poetry. This makes the work suitable for both beginners and advanced students. Valerius' textbooks, written according to the principles of the compendiaria via, enjoyed wide circulation and lasting success.

With two minor wormholes, the work is slightly browned throughout. Otherwise in good condition.

94, [1], [1 blank]; 97–207, [1 blank]; 209–285, [1], [2 blank]; 259–287, [1 blank] pp. *See our website for the reference list.* [More on our website](#)





# Dialectics made visible: gesture and method in a Renaissance textbook

95

VALERIUS, Cornelius.

Tabulae, quibus totius dialecticae praecepta... breviter & summam exponuntur, ordine perspicuo digestae.

Antwerp, Christophe Plantin, 1575. 8°. With a woodcut illustration on p. 79, some tables, Plantin's woodcut device on the title page, and several woodcut initials throughout. Modern binding using older printer's waste.

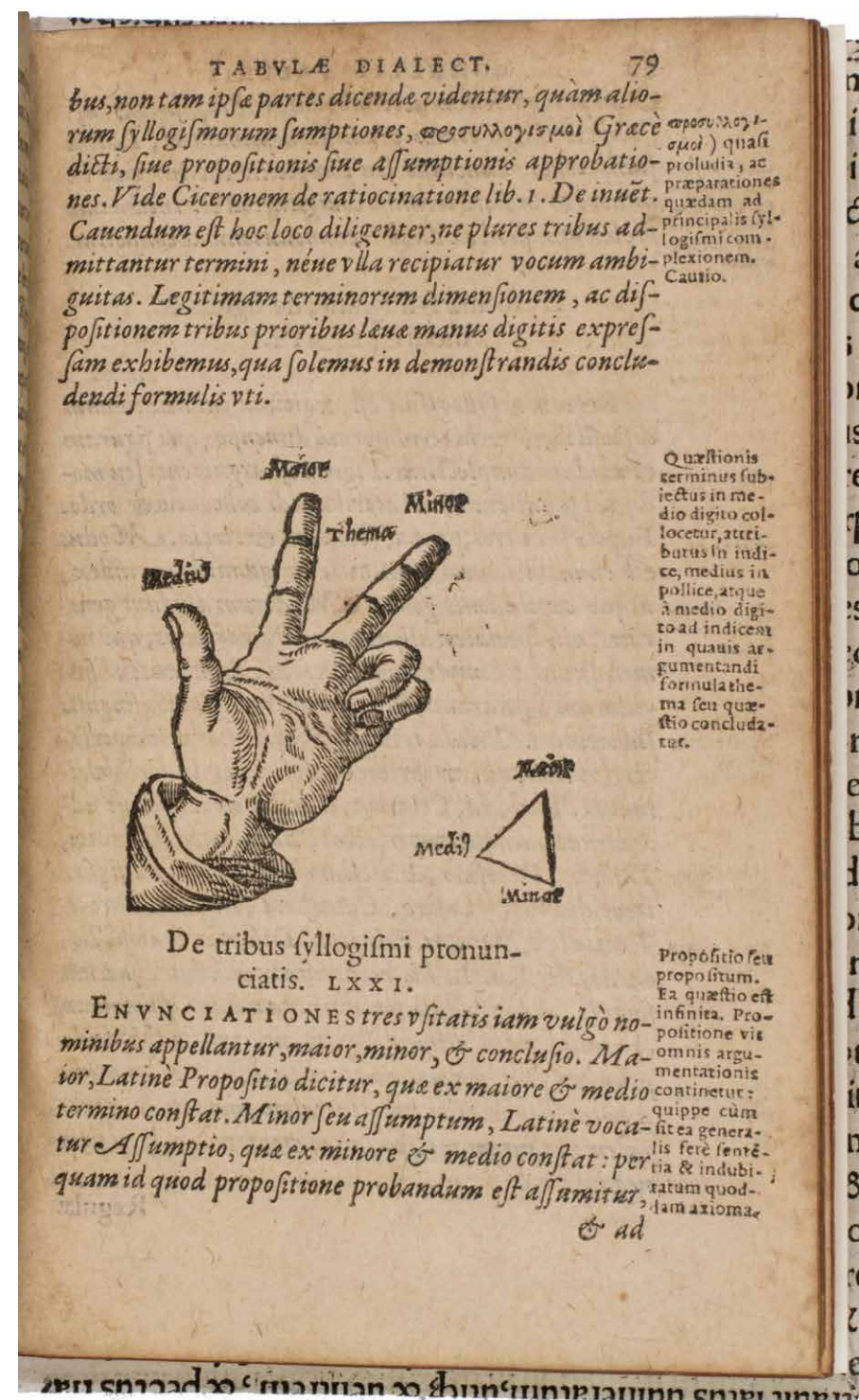
€ 950

Second edition of a scholarly treatise on dialectics, it was first published in 1549 and reprinted several times during the 16th century. The work, is a fine example of the pedagogical culture of Renaissance Louvain. Written by the Humanist scholar Cornelius Valerius (1512–1578), it was designed for practical use: a concise and methodical guide to the principles of logical reasoning, especially as required for academic disputation.

One of the most striking features of the present work is its use of visual and bodily aids to explain logical structures. In the woodcut illustration, Valerius represents the three terms of a syllogism by means of a hand gesture: the thumb stands for the terminus maior, the index finger for the terminus minor, and the middle finger for the terminus medius. Between the fingers are written the themata simplicia, the simple terms that form the building blocks of argument. The hand helps the student to avoid ambiguity and to keep strictly to the three necessary terms. By assigning each term to a finger of the left hand, the structure of the argument becomes surprisingly simple and expedient. The gesture does not merely illustrate logic, it actively supports the act of reasoning itself.

The work is slightly browned throughout. Otherwise in very good condition.

104 pp. Adams V 71; Belgica Typographica 6964; Plantin Press Online cpo11865; USTC 406308; Voet 2365; this ed. not in BM STC Dutch; STCV. [More on our website](#)





# Memorable deeds and sayings of Imperial Rome

96

VALERIUS MAXIMUS.

Dictorum factorumq[ue] memorabilium exempla ...

Antwerp, Joannes Grapheus for Joannes Steelsius, 1535. 8°. With a woodcut title frame, and a woodcut illustration incorporating Steelsius' device at the end. Old half vellum, speckled boards, blue edges.

€ 950

Early Antwerp edition of *Dictorum factorumque memorabilium exempla*, it transmits one of the most influential moral and historical collections of Imperial Rome. The work was compiled by Valerius Maximus, a Latin author active in the early decades of the first century CE, and dedicated in 31 CE to the emperor Tiberius.

Valerius Maximus (first century CE) organised his material into nine thematic books, each arranged to facilitate consultation by rhetoricians and educators. The collection brings together roughly a thousand concise anecdotes drawn primarily from Roman history. These exempla illustrate civic, military, religious, and private virtues such as filial piety, loyalty, courage, justice, moderation, friendship, and modesty, while contrasting them with corresponding vices. The work reflects the Roman conviction that history functions as a storehouse of moral examples, to be used in education, public speaking, and ethical reflection.

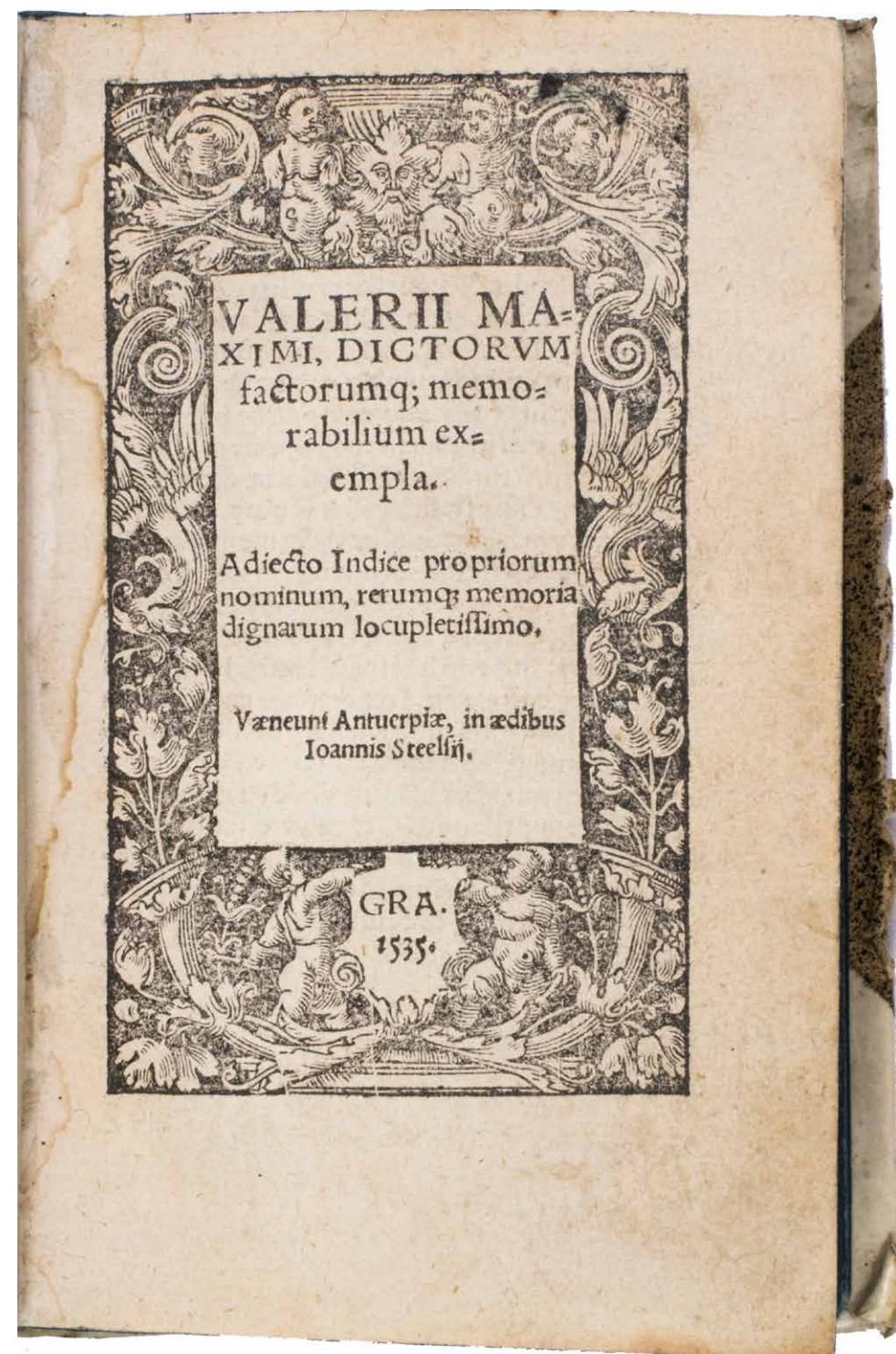
Valerius' sources include Cicero, Livy, Sallust, and Pompeius Trogus, among others, some of whose works are now lost. Though his style is rhetorical and emphatic, characteristic of Silver Latin, the collection remains historically valuable, not least because it preserves material otherwise unattested and offers occasional glimpses into the reign of Tiberius.

In the present work the text is set in ten books. The first nine contain the authentic work of Valerius Maximus. The tenth book, however, is explicitly identified as an epitome, compiled by Gaius Titius Probus.

With some underlining and highlighting in the text, and minimal marginal annotations, occasional damp staining in the inner gutter and bottom margin. Otherwise, in good condition.

237, [11] ll. *Nijhoff-Kronenberg* 2095; *STCV* 12927337 (1 copy); *USTC* 403922 (8 copies).

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## Rare mystic work, with 22 woodcuts by the gifted Pieter van der Borch

97

[VERVOORT, Frans].

Dat vyants net, der booser wercken raet, visioenen, *ende* met alder sijnder verholender stricken ...

Antwerp, Jan van Ghelen, (colophon: 1561). 8°. With the title in a four-piece woodcut border, Van Ghelen's woodcut device on verso of last leaf, a full-page plate, and 20 mostly full-page woodcut illustrations in text. Modern half vellum.

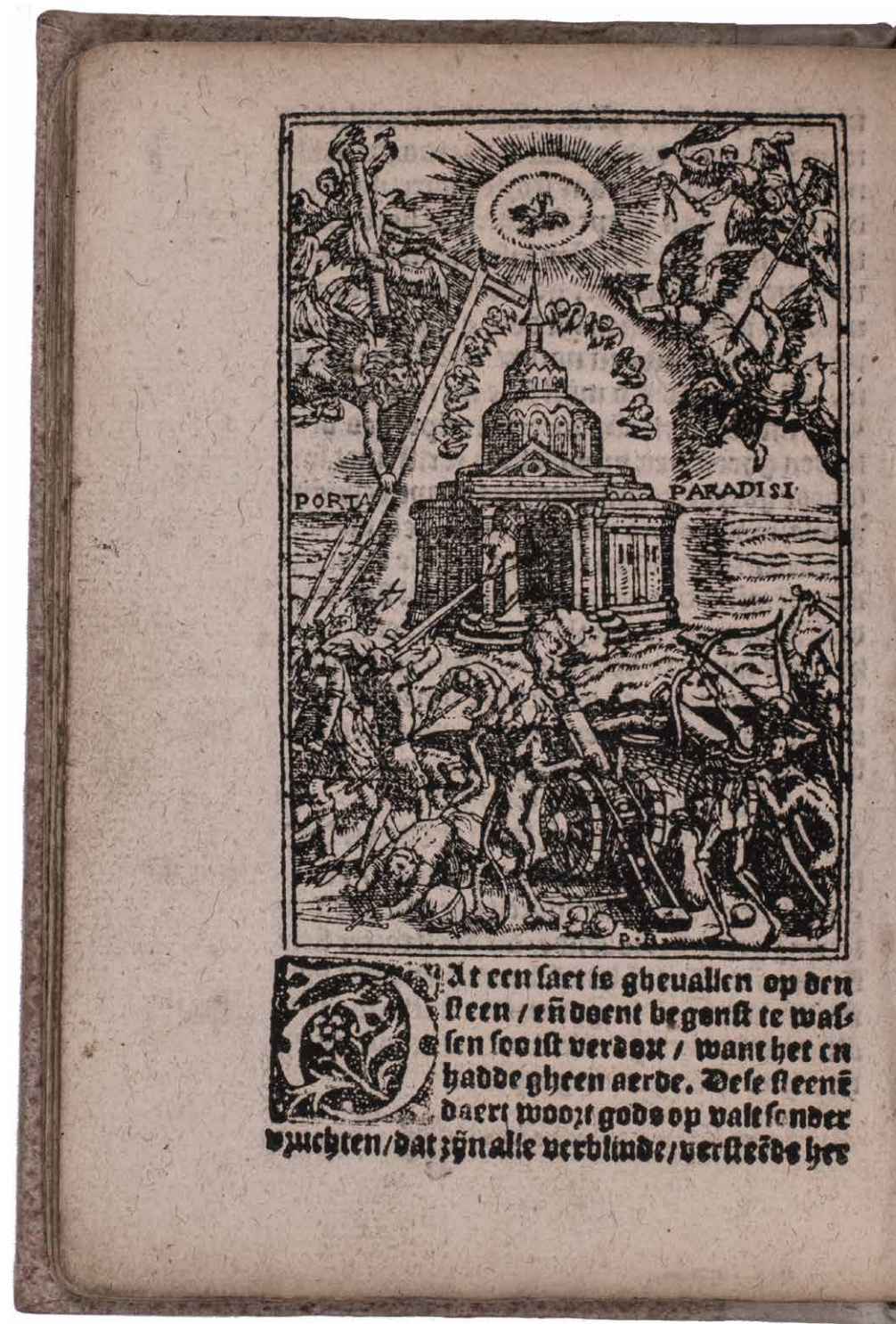
€ 6000

Rare enlarged third edition of a well-illustrated work by the often overlooked Franciscan mystic author Frans Vervoort (ca. 1490–1555), "one of the greatest religious lyrists" (Schmitz) and generally said to be "the greatest follower of Ruysbroeck in the 16th century". In 16 chapters he describes how the human soul is threatened from all sides by the enemy's net ("vyants net") and he urges the reader to be careful.

Vervoort's works circulated in manuscript until at the end of his life he was "discovered" by Henricus Helstanus, his Franciscan superior who sent some of Vervoort's manuscripts to his friend the Archbishop of Trier (this letter is added at the end of our edition). Vervoort did not want his works to be published under his own name, therefore they appeared under the names of the editors – here Jan Verbrugghen, who also lived at Malines. Before his death, three of Vervoort's works were published, including the present one, first published in 1552 at Antwerp by Hans van Liesveld with 14 woodcut illustrations by the gifted Flemish Renaissance artist Pieter van der Borch (ca. 1530–1608). Simon Cock published the second edition at Antwerp in 1556, adding the letter by Helstanus and with a revised text. Both of these editions are extremely rare. The present third edition follows the text of the second but adds 8 additional woodcuts by Pieter van den Borch.

Title page with restored margins, just touching the woodcut border, leaf a8 with a small hole, affecting text on recto and woodcut on verso, final leaf restored in the foot margin, browned and with some occasional small stains, but otherwise in good condition.

[88] ll. See our website for the reference list. [More on our website](#)





# Important 16th-century view of Amsterdam as seen from the IJ

98

**[VIEW – NETHERLANDS – AMSTERDAM]. BAST, Pieter.**

Amstelredam.

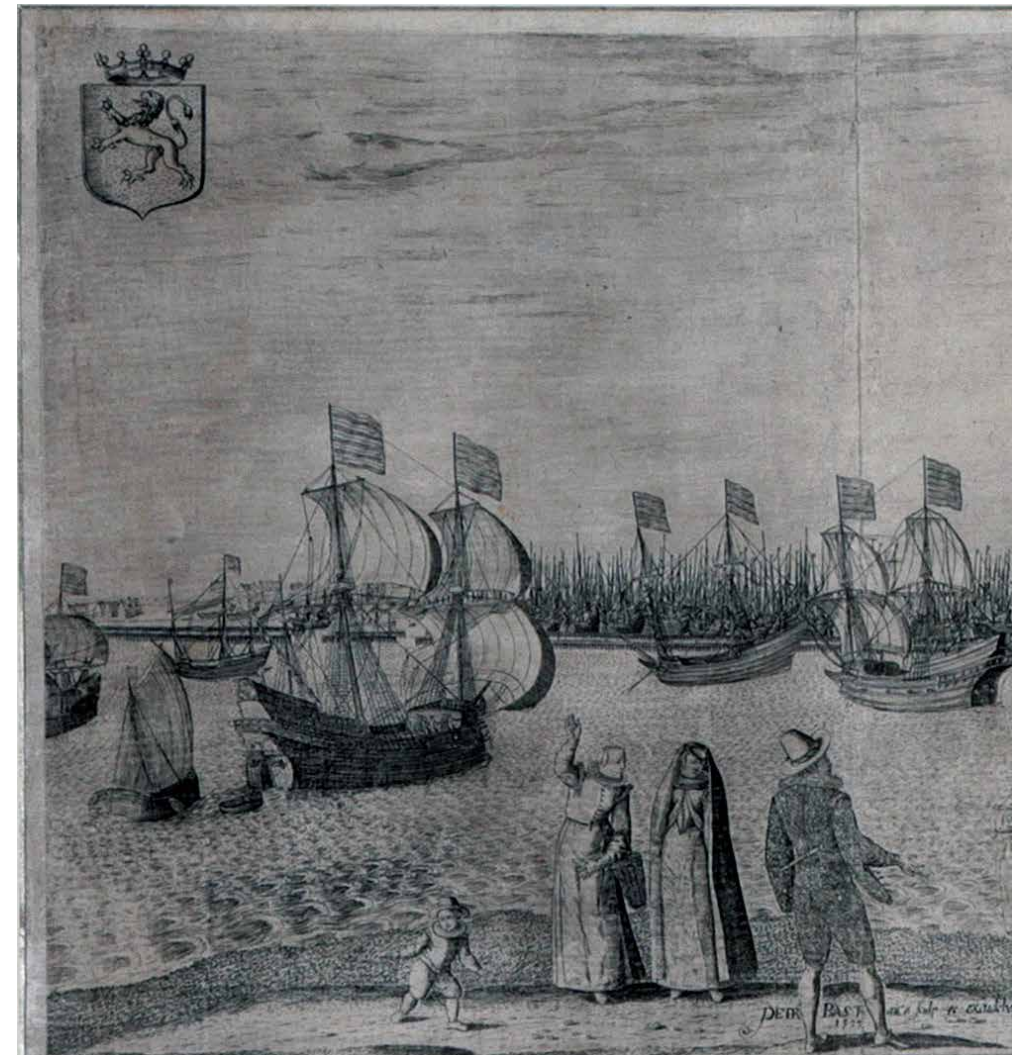
[Antwerp], Pieter Bast, 1599. Large engraved panorama on 2 sheets (ca. 27 × 76 cm as assembled). Framed.

€ 49 500

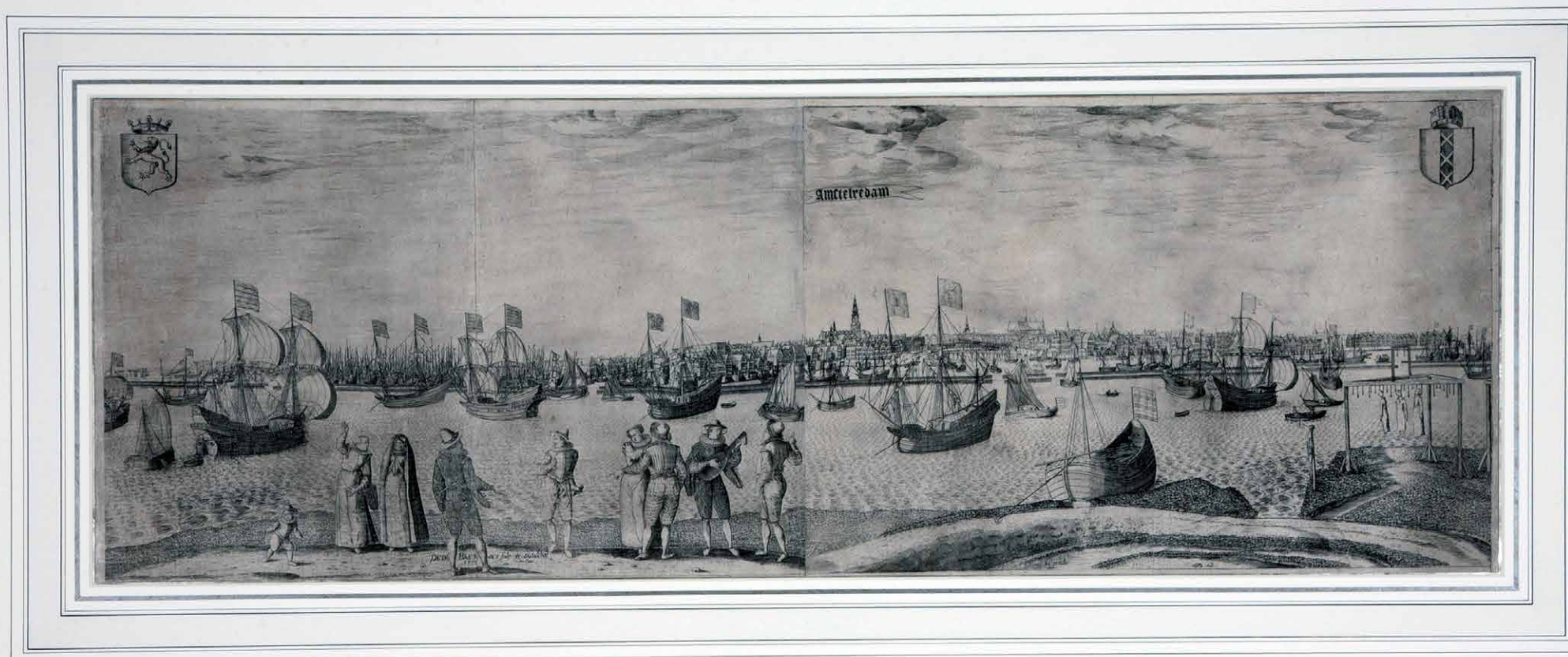
Rare first state of a 16th-century view of Amsterdam as seen from the inlet known as the IJ made by Pieter Bast, a Dutch engraver from Antwerp best known for his city map of Amsterdam and this view. "In its amplitude and the sheer audacity of the presentation, this engraving is indisputably one of Bast's most significant creations. It is as much a portrait of the harbour of Amsterdam as of the city itself and underscores the unique importance of maritime trade as the principle source of the city's wealth and power". With its distinctive orientation he not only initiated the series of representations of Amsterdam as seen from the IJ, but also "established the standard for an entire genre of Dutch maritime painting" (Keyes). In 1611 a second state (edition) was published by Claesz Jansz. Visscher, who drastically altered the composition.

In very good condition.

*Hollstein (Dutch & Flemish) I, p. 168, 8; Keyes, Pieter Bast 8 and p. 19.* [More on our website](#)









## 71 excellent large prints (1561–ca. 1600) on architecture and decoration

99

**VREDEMAN DE VRIES, Jan (Hans), Antonio LABACCO, Giacomo Barozzio da VIGNOLA and others.**

[Collection of architectural and decoration prints including fortification plans, garden plans and architectural decoration].

Antwerp, Venice, Rome, various publishers, [engraved] 1561–1585, [printed 1580–ca. 1600]. Large 2° & small 1° (38.5 × 27 cm). Collection of 4 separately published prints, plus 67 prints from 9 series. Contemporary or near contemporary limp sheepskin parchment (ca. 1600?).

€ 15 000

An extraordinary collection of seventy-one 16th-century architectural prints and prints showing a wide variety of ornamental engraving intended for the use of architects and others. The present states of nearly all prints in the collection date from the period 1561 to 1585 and some plates were modified after the present printings, giving latest possible dates for their printing. In some series it is difficult to identify the watermarks, but most also point to a date around the 1580s.

The prints from the four series by Vredeman de Vries (1527–1609) are especially notable not only for their artistic quality and the high quality of the engraving (mostly by Joannes and Lucas van Doetecum), but also for an extraordinary and detailed print showing about 40 musical instruments and another showing about 50 tools for gardening, farming and building (in wood, brick or stone) both in 1572. Also of special note are four prints that appear to have been separately published rather than forming part of a series, showing important monuments or events in Rome. The series from Labacco, *Artichitettura*, probably the 1584 edition, includes all but one of its 26 prints.

A detailed description is available on request

[77] engraved ll. containing 71 prints. [More on our website](#)





## Rare first edition of a philological aid to the Bible

100

**WESTHEIMER, Bartholomaeus.**

Phrases seu modi loquendi Divini Scripturae, ex sanctis & orthodoxis scriptoribus ... (&c.).

Antwerp, Joannes Grapheus for Joannes Steelsius, 1536. Small 8°. With 15 decorated woodcut initials, and a woodcut printer's device at the end of the work. Contemporary elaborately blind-tooled calf.

€ 3500

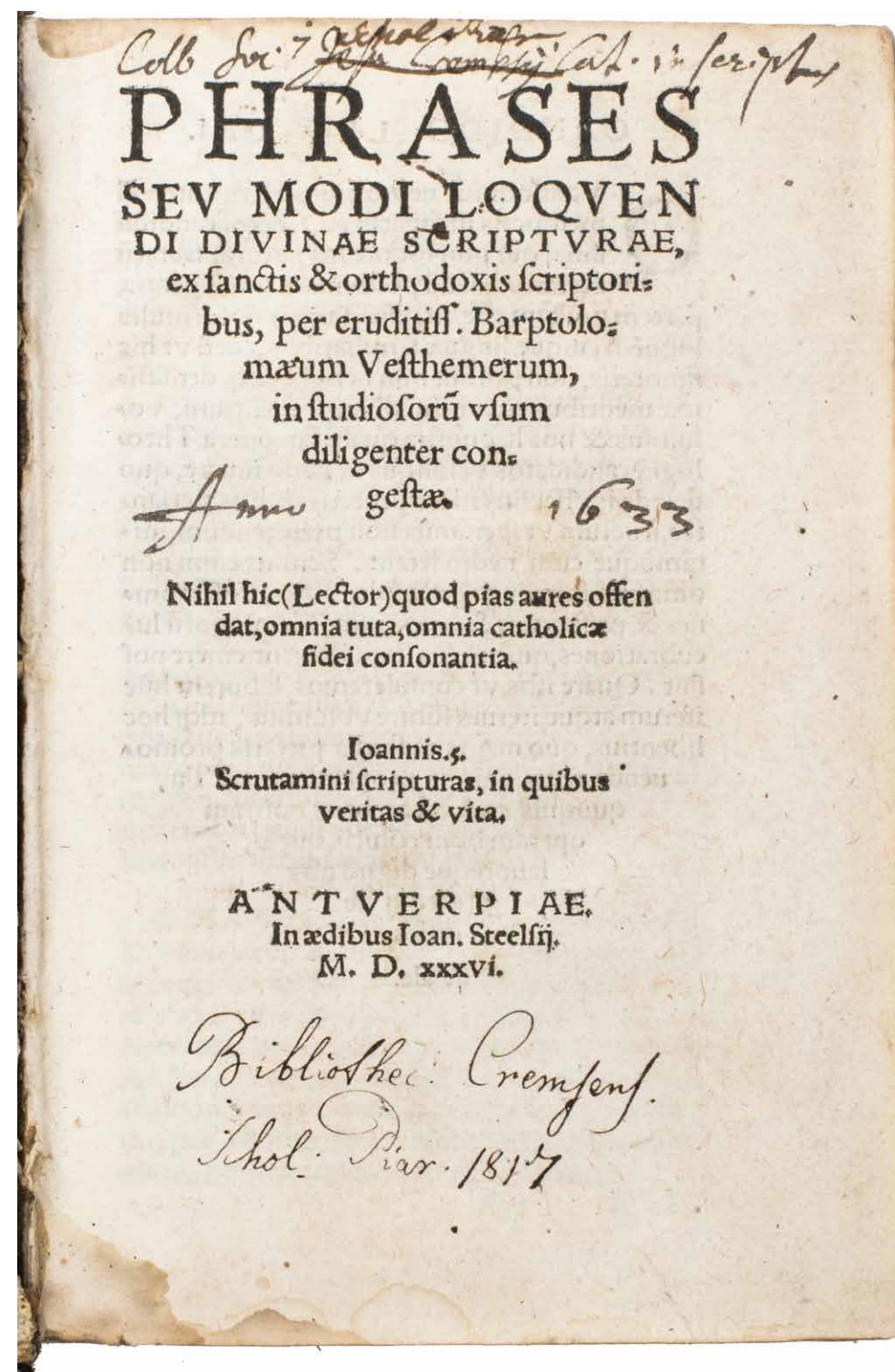
Rare first edition of a survey of biblical terms. Arranged more or less alphabetically, it explains difficult or distinctive biblical expressions and was intended as a philological aid to understanding Scripture. The author made use of traditional Christian sources in Latin and Greek, as well as Hebrew. Many of the entries therefore also include some Greek or Hebrew text, making the work an early example of Hebrew printing in Antwerp. The present first edition is very rare, as we have not been able to trace any other copies in sales records of the past hundred years.

Bartholomaeus Westheimer (1499–1570), a reform theologian, was a native of Pforzheim, who studied at the University of Heidelberg, and was later active as a pastor in Mulhouse and Horbourg, and a printer in Basel (1536–1547). He was also a versatile humanistic scholar who tried to demonstrate, through the philological care of his biblical commentaries and patristic sources, that the Reformation actually constituted a return to the spirit of the primitive Church. The present work is his main work. It was published twenty times between 1536 and 1544 and became a much consulted biblical handbook.

With a partially crossed out owner's inscription from 1633 at the head of the title page, another from 1817 at the bottom, and annotations in the margins of some of the leaves. The boards are somewhat rubbed, the leather on the spine is cracked, with some loss of material at the head of the spine, lacking the clasps. The leaves are lightly browned, a water stain in the lower inner corner of the first 10 leaves. Otherwise in good condition.

340, [8] ll. Adams W-75; Nijhoff & Kronenberg 4056; STCV 12928852; USTC 403950 (8 copies).

 More on our website





## Beautifully illustrated by the Master of Delbecq-Schreiber

101

[WEYNSSEN, Matthias (editor)].

Fascicul[us] mirre ...

(Colophon:) Antwerp, Henrick Eckert van Homberch, 18 January 1518. 4°. With the first word of the title printed in red, 35 woodcut illustrations in the text, with Christ's wounds coloured in red, and 53 decorated woodcut initials. The work is rubricated throughout. 17th-century gold tooled mottled brown calf.

€ 14 500

One of the earliest Dutch editions of a highly popular devotional work, with 35 splendid woodcut illustrations by the Master of the Delbecq-Schreiber Passion, which are not present in most other editions. The text contains meditations on the life of Christ, especially on the Passion, and was a bestseller in its own time. The present copy was owned by nuns or religious lay women in at least the 17th and 19th century. The present edition is quite rare, as we have only been able to trace one other copy in sales records of the past hundred years.

The work was written by an anonymous Franciscan from Cologne. It was edited, and possibly also translated into Dutch, by his fellow friar from Antwerp, Matthijs van Dordrecht, also known as Matthys or Matthias Weynsen (1480–1547). The work became a bestseller in the Low Countries in the early 16th century.

With a 17th-century ownership annotation on the first flyleaf; a 19th-century ownership annotation underneath, and a cropped 16th-century entry in the lower margin of fol. a1v. The edges and corners of the boards are somewhat scuffed, the boards are somewhat rubbed, with a brown stain on the front board, the joints are somewhat weakened, but the structural integrity of the binding is still intact, missing small pieces of leather at the head and foot of the spine. The title page is slightly soiled, a small water stain in the outer margin of the last few leaves, folio k2 and k3 have been bound in the wrong order. Otherwise in good condition.

[196] ll. See our website for the reference list. [More on our website](#)





# Two plates depicting the capture of the Citadel of Antwerp in August 1577 in the wake of the Spanish Fury

102

[WIERIX, Johannes and Maerten de VOS].

[The capture of the Citadel of Antwerp].

[Antwerp, Baltens], 1578–1579. With 2 large engravings, both in an engraved round medallion with ornamental allegorical frame with seated female personifications in the top corners and a poem of six verses in French (left) and Dutch (right) in a cartouche at the bottom. Both tipped onto a passepartout (ca. 50 × 32 cm).

€ 475

Two engraved plates by two of the top engravers and printmakers of Antwerp in the second half of the 16th century. The engravings are part of the series *The capture of the Citadel of Antwerp*, attributed to one of the Wierix engravers, probably Johannes, after the designs of Maerten de Vos (1532–1603).

The first plate, dated 1578 (1/7), depicts the conspiracy of three of the most important magistrates of Antwerp, Baron Jean de Redeghem, Lord of Liedekercke, Pontus de Noyelles, Lord of Bourse and Willem de Roeck (Rouck) on the first of August 1577 to capture the Citadel of Antwerp. Flanked by Fiducia and Charity, and the chariot of Venus above them, the three men take an oath. In the top corners outside the medallion are seated the female personifications of Tribulatio and Pietas.

The second plate (6/7) depicts the handing over of the keys of the Citadel on 23 August 1577 – after the capture – by Bourse to Liedekercke while De Roeck is watching. They are surrounded by soldiers; in the background the Citadel. In the top corners outside the medallion are seated the female personifications of Ratio and Fiducia.

Good impressions, in good condition.

*Alvin, nos. 1459 and 1464; Atlas Van Stolk, 636; Hollstein (De Vos), XLIV, nos. 1336 and 1341; Mauquoy-Hendrick, Les estampes des Wierix, II, pp. 299–300, nos. 1656 and 1661; Muller, Historie platen, 747; cf. Charles Avery, 'Antwerp, August 1577, the "Spanish Fury" and the liberation of the citadel: a series of bronze plaquettes after Martin de Vos', in: The Connoisseur, 1977 (August), pp. 252–263.*

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# Europe described, the future foretold, and Ethiopia revealed; the rare first edition

103

ZELL, Anselm and Christoph ZELL.

*Europae descriptio lucidissima* ...

Antwerp, Joannes Steelsius, Aug. 1535. Small 8° (ca. 9 × 14 cm). With 3 woodcut decorated initials, and Steelsius' printer's device on the verso of the last flyleaf. Modern gold-tooled vellum.

€ 3500

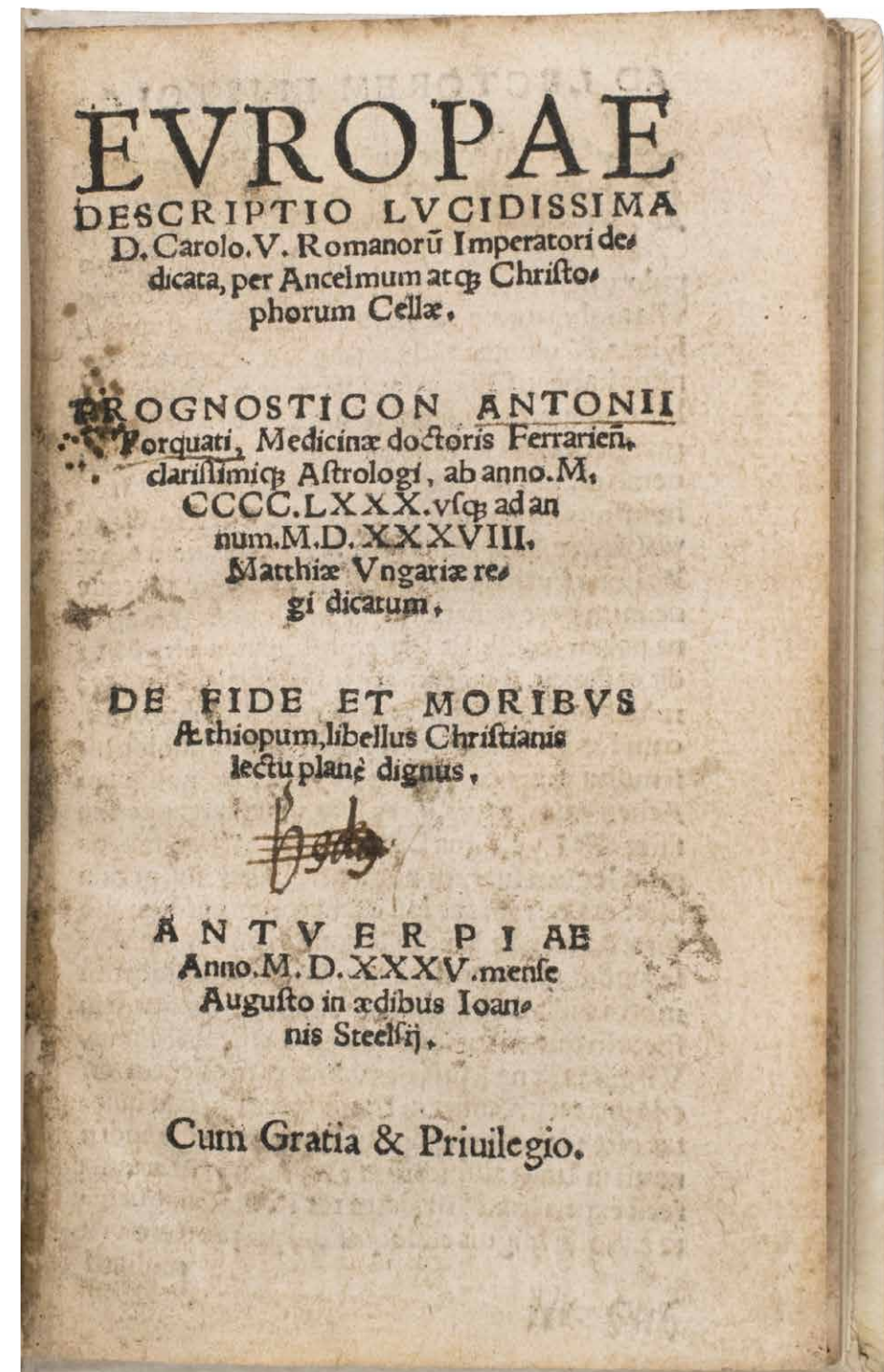
First edition of a fascinating composite volume bringing together three works on geography, astrology, and ethnography. The first and principal part, *Europae descriptio lucidissima*, offers a vivid description of Europe, dedicated to the Holy Roman Emperor Charles V. This geographical sketch extends beyond the continent to include chapters on Northern Africa and Western Asia, and serves as the textual companion to a large map of Europe produced by Anselmus and Christoph Zell (also Cella, Zellius or Cellarius). The map to which the text refers, long believed lost and known only from a single incomplete copy preserved in Berlin, was cited by the great cartographer Abraham Ortelius and holds an important place in the history of early European cartography. The brothers Zell were related to Heinrich Zell (d. after 1560), the Cologne-born mathematician and cosmographer later active in Königsberg, whose cartographic work represented a significant stage in the development of printed maps.

The second part of the present work contains *Prognosticon Antonii Torquati*, an astrological and prophetic treatise by the Ferrarese physician and astrologer Antonio Torquato. First published in Vienna in 1534, it was dedicated to King Matthias Corvinus of Hungary and famously predicted, as early as 1480, the fall of the Ottoman Empire in 1595—a prophecy said to have inspired Hungarian resistance to the Turks.

The third and final text, *De fide et moribus Aethiopum*, is an account of the faith and customs of the Ethiopians by the Franciscan scholar Franciscus Titelmannus (Frans Tittelmans, 1502–1537), and was originally printed in his *Chronica compendiosissima* (Louvain, 1534).

With a later, partially crossed out manuscript cypher on the title page. The fore edge margin has been cut slightly short, mildly affecting the printed notes, some light browning throughout. Otherwise in very good condition.

[24] ll. See our website for the reference list. ➔ More on our website





# Printed in Antwerp in the 16th century

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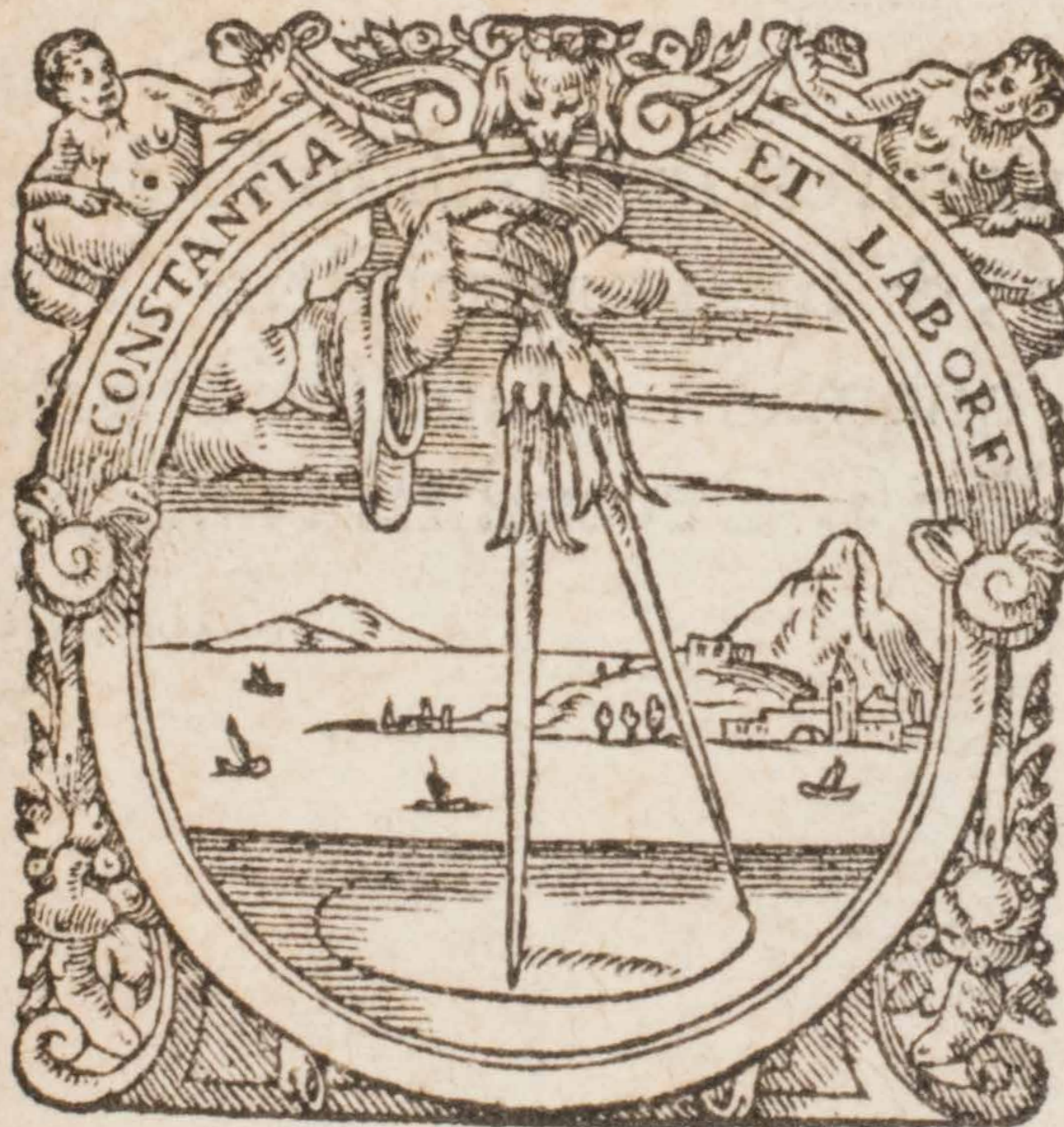


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