



**Barry Lawrence Ruderman
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Paskaert waer in de graden der breedde over weder zyden vande middellyn wassende soo vergrooten, dat die geproportioneert syn tegen hunne nevenstaende graden der lengde. Vertonende (behalven Europaes zuydelyckste) een gedeelte van de custen van Africa en America, in 't Octroy by de H.M.H. Staten Genl. der vereenichde Nederl. verleent aende Genle. West-Indische Comp . . .

Stock#: 79385
Map Maker: Van Keulen
Date: 1680
Place: Amsterdam
Color: Hand Colored
Condition: VG
Size: 23.5 x 20 inches
Price: \$ 2,500.00



Description:

The Triangle Trade At The End of the 17th Century

Rare early Dutch sea chart of the Atlantic, issued separately and appearing in a few rare Dutch composite sea atlases and the *De Groote Nieuwe Vermeerderde Zee-Atlas ofte Water-Werelt*.

The map bears the same title as Blaeu's *West-Indische Paskaert* (circa 1621). The chart is done on Mercator's projection, unlike earlier Dutch charts of the Atlantic by Theunis Jacobsz and Johannes Van Loon. The map includes one significant improvement over these earlier Charts of the Atlantic, an extension further to the east, in order to incorporate both the coast of Africa, Spain and Southern Ireland and provide a better treatment of the Brazilian Coastline, thereby bringing to focus the vast majority of the area covered by the Triangular Trade, the historically transatlantic slave trade which operated between Europe, Africa and the Americas from the 16th to 19th centuries.

Van Keulen's "Paskaert" is a compelling document of the age of exploration and colonial expansion. Offering a glimpse of the intricate network of maritime trade routes that connected Europe, Africa, and America, it serves as a testament to the complexity of global commerce and the transformative power of



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European colonialism during this period.

The chart, with its name translating to "chart where the degrees of latitude on either side of the meridian are so enlarged, that they are proportionate to their corresponding degrees of longitude," shows not only the southernmost part of Europe but also a portion of the coasts of Africa and America. Van Keulen's sea chart was a navigational tool, yet it was also a statement about the scope and ambition of the Dutch colonial project.

The Octroy mentioned in the title refers to the exclusive charter or patent granted by the High Mighty Lords, the States General of the United Netherlands, to the Dutch West India Company (or Generale West-Indische Compagnie in Dutch). This Octroy essentially provided the company with a trade monopoly in the West Indies, the area designated as the Western Hemisphere, which included parts of the Americas and the Caribbean. It granted the Dutch West India Company the exclusive right to carry out both trade and colonization efforts in these regions.

This system of exclusive rights was instrumental in the establishment and expansion of what has since become known as the Triangular Trade. This notorious trading system of the 17th and 18th centuries involved the exchange of goods and enslaved Africans between Europe, Africa, and the Americas. Europe sent manufactured goods, including weapons, to Africa in exchange for enslaved people. These enslaved Africans were transported under brutal conditions to the Americas (the infamous Middle Passage), where they were sold for labor in mines, plantations, and households. The ships then returned to Europe with a cargo of raw materials and agricultural products, including sugar, tobacco, and cotton, produced by the enslaved labor force.

While Van Keulen's "Paskaert" was a marvel of cartographic skill and aesthetic design, it also represented the complex and often harsh realities of the globalized world of the 17th century. The Dutch West India Company, backed by the Octroy granted by the States General, used charts like this to navigate and control vast trade networks, which were, tragically, fueled in part by the trade in enslaved Africans. The "Paskaert" serves as a reminder of this era of exploration, trade, and exploitation that shaped the modern world.

States of the Map and Rarity



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There are 3 states of the map:

- 1680 - lacking privilege
- 1681 circa (with privilege for 15 years added at end of title)
- 1702 circa (Soute Eylanden and Vlaamse Eylanden added)

The map is rare on the market.

We located examples at the Danish National Library and Huntington Library (Kashnor Collection) (state 2) and Universite Catholique de L'Ouest and Osher Library (state 3).

The map appears as item 2119 in Henry Stevens 1872 catalog, *Bibliotheca Geographica & Historica, Or, A Catalogue of a Nine Days Sale of Rare & Valuable Ancient and Modern Books ... Et Cetera Illustrative of Historical Geography & Geographical History* (dated 1660?).

Detailed Condition:

Trimmed along top margin, with loss of image.