

THE
MAP OF THE WORLD

A. D. 1600.

CALLED BY SHAKSPERE

“THE NEW MAP,

“WITH THE AUGMENTATION OF THE INDIES”

TO ILLUSTRATE THE VOYAGES OF

JOHN DAVIS

LONDON:
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Twelfth Night, Act III, sc. 2

Markham, Albert Hastings. “The Map of the World, A.D. 1600”, in *The Voyages and Works of John Davis, the Navigator*. The Hakluyt Society, No.LIX, London, 1880:1-4.

THE “New Map” of 1600, the first Map of the World that was engraved in England on Wright’s (Mercator) projection, is fully described by Mr. Coote in his Note at page lxxxv of the *Voyages of John Davies*, which it is intended to illustrate.* It was published the year after Wright had explained the principle of the projection in his *Certain Errors*.

A list of all the names on the map, for convenience of reference, is here furnished. The list is arranged geographically, and it seems desirable to precede it with a few general remarks on the materials which formed the basis of the Map.

The northern part, including Spitzbergen, Novaya Zemla, and the Lapland coast, is taken from the map drawn by Willem Barents to show his discoveries, and published at Amsterdam, in 1599, by Cornelius Claeszoon.†

* Hakluyt Society’s volume, issued in 1890.

† This map was reproduced, and issued to members of the Hakluyt Society, with the volume of *Voyages to the North-East* (1876).

The notice printed on the right hand upper corner of the "New Map" refers to a geographical question, to which Hakluyt attached importance. On previous maps an imaginary strait called the Strait of Anian, was shown between Asia and America. It is so drawn on the Barents map of 1599. Here it is omitted, and the furthest point of New Albion, which was reached by Sir Francis Drake, is the northern extreme of the West coast of North America that is shown. The exclusion of the Strait of Anian is on the authority of "Francis Gaulle". The discoverer here alluded to is Francisco de Gali, a Spanish captain and pilot, who made a voyage from Acapulco to Manilla and China in 1583, returning so as to strike the Californian coast in latitude $37^{\circ}30'$ N. The narrative of Gali was translated into Dutch by Linschoten, and thence into English in the "Discourse of the East and West Indies, by J. H. van Linschoten" (London, 1598), Book III, chap. 54. It is given in the work of Hakluyt (ed. 1600, III, p. 442 ; ed. 1812, III, p. 526–31), and is noticed by Admiral Burney (II, p. 58). Gali (Gaulle) proved that there was no Strait of Anian in 38° N., but a wide ocean between Japan and California.*

The northern discoveries of Frobisher and Davis, with the attempt to reconcile them with the old map of the Zeni, were probably delineated by John Davis himself. That navigator had just returned from his first voyage to India, in the Dutch fleet, and was in England from June 1600 to

*The question is discussed by Davis, in his "Worlde's Hydrographical Description".—See p. 211.

February 1601,* when he sailed for India again, with Lancaster. He was thus at hand to assist Hakluyt, Wright, and Molyneux in the compilation of this important map. The northern names retained from the Zeni map are St. Thome cenobium, Friseland, and Esotiland. Davis' own discoveries are correctly placed,† but Frobisher's are on the wrong side of Davis Strait.

One thing which gives this map special interest is that it appeared in the year that the East India Company was formed ; so that it shows the state of knowledge just before the Company's operations were commenced. Great pains were evidently taken to obtain information from the charts of the Portuguese, and from Linschoten. We can trace, also, the hand of Davis in the delineation of Sumatra and Java, and in the names Achen and Bantam. Japan, Corea, and the Yellow Sea assume an approach to their correct shapes in this map. The result was a notable improvement on all former maps as regards the eastern seas, well deserving Shakspeare's description, " The New Map, with the augmentation of the Indies".

The slight indication of Australia is also very interesting. The Gulf of Akaba, at the head of the Red Sea, is omitted.

Along the American coasts we see the work of Cartier in Canada; the report of Herriot, published in 1588, supplied the material for Virginia ; while the details on the Florida coast represent information obtained by Hakluyt himself, in

* It was in February 1601 that the play of "Twelfth Night", in which Shakspeare mentions the "New Map", was first performed at the Middle Temple.

† See page 211 of the Davis's Voyage.

1586, when he was in Paris, respecting the ill-fated French colony.* South America is taken from Spanish charts, with a correction in the trend of the west coast, derived from the observations of Drake, Cavendish (1587), and Sarmiento.

A surprising number of names have been inserted, upwards of 830 along the coasts of the Old World, and 379 round North and South America, making a total of 1209 names.

* Hakluyt's English translation of Laudonnière's *Florida* was published in 1587.

NOTE ON THE “NEW MAP”,

By

C. H. COOTE

“Come, here’s the map.” — 1 *Henry IV*, Act iii, Sc. 1.

Coote, Charles Henry. “Note on to the ‘New Map’ ” in *The Voyages and Works of John Davis, the Navigator*. The Hakluyt Society, No. LIX, London, 1880: l–lxi.

The map which forms so suitable an illustration of the present volume, is a fac-simile, executed in a manner worthy of the Society, of the rare map or “*Hydrographical Description*” sometimes found bound up with the *magnum opus* of Hakluyt in three vols. folio, London, 1598–1600. This last, as is well known, is a development of his earlier work of 1589 in one vol. It is a somewhat remarkable fact, in the bibliography of these two important but distinct works, that in Hallam’s well known *Introduction to the Literature of Europe in the 15th, 16th, and 17th Centuries*, they are conspicuous by their absence, and that the only allusion to either, is an incidental one to the first, made in reference to what turns out to be a later impression, with additions, of the original of our map.¹ No better introduction to the “*Hydrographical Description*” will be found than in Hallam’s own words, which although written apparently with an imperfect knowledge of its real history and antecedents, are, on the

¹ This has been reproduced by the autotype process by Mr. Quaritch for the Grenville copy of Hakluyt.

whole, not an unworthy description of it. He writes, "The best map of the sixteenth century is one of uncommon rarity, which is found in a very few of the first (*sic*) copies of *Hakluyt's Voyages*."

"This map contains Davis's Straits (Fretum Davis), Virginia by name, and the Lake Ontario. The coast of Chili is placed more correctly than in the prior maps of Ortelius; and it is noticed in the margin that the trending of the coast, less westerly than had been supposed was discovered by Drake in 1577, and confirmed by Sarmiento and Cavendish.¹ The huge Terra Australis of the Old Geography is left out. Corea is represented near its place, and China with some degree of correctness; even the north coast of New Holland is partially traced. The Strait of Anian which had been presumed to divide Asia from America has disappeared, while a marginal note states that the distance between those two continents in latitude 38° is not less than 1200 leagues. The Ultra-Indian region is inaccurate; the Sea of Aral is still unknown, and little pains have been taken with central and northern Asia. But upon the whole it represents the utmost limit of geographical knowledge at the close of the sixteenth century, and far excels the maps in the edition of Ortelius at Antwerp in 1588."²

Further investigation respecting this map, more

¹The cartouche containing the notice of the trending of the coast of South America is omitted in the first state of the plate. The example in the British Museum from which our facsimile is made, would appear to be unique.

² 5th edition, vol. iv, p. 355.

particularly in reference to the period at which the original was produced, serves to show that it has claims upon our attention, beyond those suggested by Hallam. At a paper read before the New Shakspeare Society at University College on June 14th, 1878, and since published,¹ it was shown that the original of our map was no other than the "new map" referred to by Shakspeare in Twelfth Night, Act iii, scene 2, *a play produced for the first time in the Hall of the Middle Temple, February 1601-2. It is a source of pleasure to add that the arguments in its favour have, thus far, been accepted by competent critics as sound and conclusive.

What appears to have escaped the notice of Hallam, and those who have attempted to describe it, at various times down to our day, is, that our map is laid down upon the projection commonly known as Mercator's. So little appears to be known as to the early history of this projection, that as recently as April 16th, 1878, it has been suggested by Mr. Elias F. Hall² that charts upon this projection were not in general use among seamen at a period much earlier than 1630. Still more recently, it has been gravely asserted that a distinguished Admiral of the American navy only knew it as the Merchant's projection! and that he never knew that there was such a man as Mercator.³ In 1569 was produced at Duisbourg

¹ *Transactions* of New Shakspeare Society, 1877-79, Part I, pp. 88-100.

² *Bulletin* of the American Geographical Society, No. 4, 1878, p. 184.

³ *Ibid*, No. 1, 1879, p. 36.

* [MARIA: "he does smile his face into more lines than is in the new map with the augmentation of the Indies." (Added)]

Mercator's well known *Mappemonde*, and many years elapsed before it attracted the notice of other map-makers. However interesting it might be to us as a monument of geography, it is now admitted that, as regards to the projection, it is only approximately correct up to latitude 40° . For the want of a demonstration for the true principles upon which such a projection was to be laid down, beyond the legend on the *mappemonde*, it found but few imitators. The only three known to us are, Bernardus Puteanus of Bruges in 1579, Cornelius De Jode in 1589, and Petrus Placius in 1594. Of the first and third no examples of their maps on this projection are known to exist, these two doubtless had all the imperfections of the original Mercator. De Jode's *Speculum Orbis Terrarum* of 1589 is remarkable, as, while being on the old plane projection with the lines of latitude and longitude equidistant, there is to be seen on it a feeble attempt to divide the central meridional line according to the idea of Mercator, one of the best possible proofs how imperfectly this idea was understood by Mercator's own fellow-countrymen. About 1597 was published by Jodocus Hodicus in Amsterdam, a map entitled *Typus Totius Orbis Terrarum*, etc., easily to be recognised by an allegorical figure, at the bottom of it, of a Christian soldier armed for the fight against all the powers of evil. This is on the true projection, known as Mercator's, but which is really that of Edward Wright. From Hondius' connection with Mercator, and whose joint portraits form the frontispiece of the well known

Atlas of the latter, it might with good reason be supposed, that Hondius acquired the art of projecting this map from Mercator, yet if one thing is more certain than an other in the history of this projection, it is the fact that Hondius did *not* acquire this art from Mercator or his map, but from Edward Wright, the friend and colleague of Hakluyt.

In proof of this the following evidence is adduced. We learn from Blundervile¹ that at some previous period, probably as early as 1592, Wright sent to his friend, the author, "a table to drawe thereby the parallels in the Mariner's Carde, together with the vse thereof in trewer sort, with a draught" or diagrams of the projection. These, it is evident, were extracts from Wright's *Errors in Navigation*, then in MS. Wright in his preface to the reader, in his work when printed, bitterly complains that he was induced to lend this MS. to Hondius, who, with its aid and without Wright's consent, prepared and published several "mappes of the World, which maps had been vnhatched, had not he (Hondius) learnt the right way to lay the groundwork of some of them out of this book."² That the above *Typus* is one of the printed maps complained of, seems to be proved by the allusions to Wright to be found on it.

The strongest evidence against the theory of Hondius having acquired this art from Mercator, is the fact that in none of the subsequent editions of Mercator's *Atlases* edited by him is there a map on

¹ *Exercises*, 1594, p. 326. ² *Errors*, 1599, Preface, p. x.

this projection to be found. The truth is, that to Wright, and not to Mercator, is due the honour of being the first to demonstrate the true principles upon which such maps were to be laid down by means of the now well known *Tables of meridional parts*.

The first legitimate attempt to lay down a map upon the really true projection, is no other than the original of our map. Before proceeding to point out some the remaining points of interest, it will be convenient here to endeavour to remove one or two misapprehensions respecting it, which are even now entertained by more than one of our eminent book-sellers.

Mr. Quaritch, without adducing the least amount of evidence, asserts that " Hakluyt intended to insert this map in his work of 1589".¹ This is impossible, as from internal evidence it could not possibly have been produced at an earlier period than 1598 or 99, as has been before pointed out.² Upon this point we fear that Mr. Quaritch has allowed himself to be misled by the pardonable blunder of Hallam. Again, he says, that Haklyut calls the original of our great map, a terrestrial *Globe*. This is also a mistake. When Haklyut said a globe, he meant one, not a map ; such a globe as he describes was forthcoming in 1592, at a period midway between the first edition of the *Voyages* and the appearance of our map. The only example of this globe

¹ *Bib. Geog. Ling*, Part 3, No. 12081.

² Note to *Transactions*, New Shakspeare Society, p. 94.

at present known to exist, is preserved in the library of the Middle Temple.³

Hitherto one of the difficulties in describing and establishing the identity of this map has been its anonymous authorship. Mr. Quaritch, in otherwise fair appreciation of the writer's labours in this direction, has thought fit, in another part of his catalogue,¹ to charge the writer with appropriating Mr. Quaritch's labours in this matter of authorship. The charge has no foundation in any fact whatsoever. The writer's conclusions about it were based solely upon a comparison made between our map and a globe, two things which Mr. Quaritch has confounded. The globe referred to is known to be by Molyneux, the reference to it on the title on the map lead the writer to the not unnatural inference that they were by one and the same author. This position the writer strengthened by two quotations from a scarce tract by the late D. J. Kohl² of Bremen, which was published twenty years before Mr. Quaritch's catalogue of 1877 saw the light. The conclusion arrived by the writer, without any assistance from Mr. Quaritch, was that our map, *circa* 1600, was a new one, on a new projection, made by one of the most eminent globe makers of his time, probably under the superintendence of Hakluyt. The evidence on this point is of course strongly circumstantial only, which future research may either refute or confirm. Be this as it

¹ See article, "Globe", *Ency. Brit.* 9th edition, vol. 10.

² No. 11919.

³ *Maps relating to America in Hakluyt*, 1857. p. 7.

may, one thing is now quite certain, namely, that our map, to a very great extent, bears evidence upon the face of it of the handiwork of another of Hakluyt's friends and colleagues, hitherto unsuspected, we take it, by Mr. Quaritch. Allusion has already been made to Wright's *Errors in Navigation*, the first edition of which was published in 1599. In 1610 appeared the second edition, in which mention is made of a general map, which map it has not been our good fortune to see, as the copy in our national library is without it. Several editions were subsequently published by Moxon. In these are to be seen copies of a map laid down upon lines almost identical with ours. They have geographical additions up to date, and also indicate the variations of the compass. These later maps are avowedly ascribed to Wright, and a comparison of any one of them with our map most certainly points to one common source, namely, the original. The conclusion is therefore irresistible, that whatever may be due to Molyneux or Hakluyt in the execution of the original, it also represents the first map upon the true projection by Edward Wright. It will be observed as a somewhat happy coincidence that Hallam's almost first words of introduction to our map are a reference to the Arctic work of Davis, 1585-7. On the map is also to be observed a record of the discovery by the Dutchman Barents, of Northern Nova Zemlya, in his third voyage of 1596.¹ This is the latest

¹ Observe: "Het behouden hoys", the house of safety where the Barents relics were found.

geographical discovery recorded upon it, which serves not only to determine the date of the map, but to establish for it the undoubted claim of being the earliest one engraved in England, whereupon this last important Arctic discovery is to be found. The striking similarity between our map and Molyneux's globe in the delineations of these Arctic discoveries of Davis and Barents, seems to point to the conclusion that, so far as the geography is concerned, they both came from one source, namely, the hands of Molyneux.

Arctic discovery did not escape the notice of our immortal Shakspeare. In some fifty lines preceding his supposed reference to our map in *Twelfth Night* occur the following words : "You are now sailed into the north of my lady's opinion, where you will hang like an icicle on a Dutchman's beard."¹ The antithetical idea being of course the equatorial region of the lady's opinion. If the date assigned to it is correct, it is probable in the extreme that the thought underlying these words was suggested to the mind of Shakspeare after a glance at the upper portion of our map, evidently well known in his time as a separate publication. The remaining points that call for notice are as follows. The improved geography of the whole of the eastern portion of our map, as compared with its contemporaries, and the traces of the first appearances of the Dutch under Davis and Houtman at Bantam. On all the old maps was to be seen the huge Terra Australis of the old geography.

¹ Act iii, scene 2.

This, as Hallam remarked, has been left out on our map ; but what is so remarkable is that upon it is to be observed, rising " like a cloud out of the sea, like a man's hand," the then unknown continent of Australia. It will be noted that Hallam describes the original as "the best map of the sixteenth century." Mr. Quaritch improves upon this, and says it is "by far the finest chartographical labour which appeared, from the epoch of the discovery of America down to the time of d'Anville"¹! If this implies a reference to our map as a work of art, *i.e.*, an engraving, we beg to differ from him, as such terms are misleading. As a specimen of map engraving, it will *not* compare with even its pirated prototype by Hondius. The art of engraving by Englishmen, more particularly, that of maps, was at this period, as is well known, in its infancy. Maps and illustrations for books were for the most part executed abroad, and those who did work here were almost all foreigners. The two best known were Augustus Rhyther, who executed among other things the maps for Saxton's *Atlas*, and Hondius, who did those for Speed's *Atlas*. Mr. Richard Fisher writes:² "We have scarcely any record of any Englishman practising engraving in this country prior to the commencement of the seventeenth century." The names, however, of two are afforded by Davis himself in his Introduction to the *Seamen's Secrets*, namely, those of Molyneux

¹ *Bib. Geog. Ling.* 12081.

² *Catalogue of Engravings*, p. 309.

and Hillyer.³ It is to be hoped that the position of our map in the history of cartography is secured upon firmer grounds than those suggested by the best intentions of Mr. Quaritch. It was the writer's belief in this that first led him to express the hope that the original of the facsimile, so admirably done for the Society, would henceforth be as firmly associated with Shakspeare's *Twelfth Night* as it certainly is now, not only with the pages of Hakluyt, but with the publications of the Society that bears its name.

C. H. Coote.

³ Nicholas Hilliard. See note at p. 233. To these may be added Rogers, Switser and Cure. See *Palladis Tamia*, Wits Treasury. By Francis Meres, London, 1578, 8vo, p.287.

John Davis the Navigator:

<u><i>Selections from the Works & Voyages of John Davis</i></u> (Index)	(PDF; 27 kb)
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