



Barry Lawrence Ruderman Antique Maps Inc.

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[Academia Land] Kaart van het Stichtsche Academie-Land [Stichtsche Academy Land]

Stock#: 74913
Map Maker: Van Ellemeet
Date: 1834
Place: Utrecht
Color: Outline Color
Condition: VG+
Size: 12 x 14.5 inches
Price: \$ 1,100.00



Description:

Navigating Through Academia in the 19th Century

Rare fantasy map illustrating the journey through the Land of Academia was created by Willem Cornelis Marius de Jonge van Ellemeet (1811-1888).

This remarkable map appeared in a student yearbook entitled *Utrechtsche Studenten-Almanak*, 1834.

Being from a privileged family, Van Ellemeet lived an interesting and well-traveled life. After studying at the Noorthey Institute, he enrolled in the Utrechtsche Hoogeschool in 1829 to study law. In 1830, he joined other Utrecht students in the *vrijwillige jagerscompagnie* in support of Prince William of Orange during the Belgian Revolution. Thereafter he traveled extensively throughout Europe, including England and Scotland in 1834 under the tutelage of Gerard Moll, a professor at the Utrecht University.

Van Ellemeet visited Oxford during his time in England, and it is likely that while there he acquired a copy



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of Joseph Vincent's *Oxford in Epitome* (1819), which explored the theme of an academic voyage from the perspective of an Oxford student. In Van Ellemeet's map, the student's journey begins at the Father Land at the top left, with the goal of reaching the Golden Mountains at the bottom. The student must weather trials and avoid temptations throughout the journey. The first obstacles are the Swamp of Creditors, the Domains of Bacchus and Venus (representing drinking and love), and the Dales of Distraction before one can cross the Mountains of Mathematics and the Republic of Literature. Thereafter the student may choose a path through philosophy, medicine, law, or theology. The final step is to pass through Fort Exams and on to the Island of Rejoicing (without crossing the bridge to the Land of Horrors.)

A fascinating piece that offers a humorous view into the world of higher education.

Rarity

This map is very rare on the market. We locate 2 institutional examples, Harvard University Collections and in the Wesfries Museum in the Netherlands.

Detailed Condition:

Minor soiling and a few short marginal tears, expertly repaired on verso.