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**Globe de la Lune Dressé sous la direction de Camille Flammarion Par C.M. Gaudibert E.  
Bertaux Editeur à Paris**

**Stock#:** 76991  
**Map Maker:** Flammarion  
  
**Date:** 1897 circa  
**Place:** Paris  
**Color:** Uncolored  
**Condition:** VG  
**Size:** 6 inches (Diameter)  
  
**Price:** SOLD



**Description:**

***Rare Lunar Globe by French Author and Astronomer Camille Flammarion***

The globe gores are printed by Casimir M. Gaudibert (1823-1901) and Emile Beraux under the direction of Camille Flammarion, the famous French populariser of science and astronomy during the 19th century and founder, in 1883, of the private observatory of Juvisy-sur-Orge (now a French historical monument).

This globe was produced primarily as a teaching instrument, as evidenced by the small, educational format of the globe. The work collates the named features of the moon, which students of astronomy would have



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had to learn in order to achieve proficiency in the subject.

#### **The Globe**

A fine and rare 6-inch (15.2cm.) diameter moon globe made up of twelve lithographed gores and two polar calottes. The globe shows numerous craters in grey, the seas and oceans (Mares) of the Moon demarcated by dotted stippling, and a "dark" side of the moon with no geographical features shown. Instead, the unmapped portion of the moon contains a table of the 343 numbered craters with names alongside a table of *Principaux Eléments* comprising details about the size and orbit of the moon.

Flammarion's 6-inch globe was published in Brussels in 1892 by Louis Niesten, in the present Paris edition in around 1897, and again in 1903 in Berlin by H. Albrecht. This circa 1897 edition was produced by Casimir Gaudibert and Emile Bertaux, two amateur astronomers who collaborated closely with Flammarion on several projects. Bertaux himself was a prolific manufacturer of globes.

An announcement in the 1893 *Bulletin de la Société astronomique de France* mentions the creation of the instrument in December of that year.

#### **Nicolas Camille Flammarion (1842-1925)**

Flammarion was one of the most important French astronomers of the golden age of astronomical observation in the late-19th and early-20th centuries. He was a prolific author and popularizer of astronomical discoveries. He also dabbled in less-empirically-derived pseudosciences and science fiction. Flammarion published the magazine *L'Astronomie* starting in 1882.

Flammarion was part of the intellectual environment that produced Giovanni Schiaparelli and Percival Lowell and shared their interest in the supposed "canals of Mars", which he believed were of an artificial nature. Furthermore, he believed that Mars was home to an advanced civilization that had engaged in advanced hydroengineering to attempt to survive on a dying world. He also believed that the Martians had attempted to communicate with Earth.

Flammarion entertained numerous apocalyptic beliefs, on several occasions believing that Earth would be destroyed, or at least all life killed, by various cosmic phenomena.

Flammarion is also closely associated with the famous wood engraving of a traveler putting his head under the edge of the firmament discovering the marvelous realm of circling clouds, fires, and suns beyond the heavens. This anonymous wood engraving is called the "Flammarion engraving" because it appeared in his



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1888 book *L'atmosphère : météorologie populaire* ("The Atmosphere: Popular Meteorology").

**Rarity**

OCLC notes one example found in the BNF. We have located three further examples in the EPFL scientific instrument archives, the London Science Museum, and the University of Toronto Archives.

**Detailed Condition:**

15cm (5 3/4-inch) diameter (1:23,000,000 scale) on a late-19th-century bronze stand, raised on a turned ebonized column and plinth base. The globe gores are printed by C.M. Gaudibert and Emile Beraux.