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E L I Z A B E T A E
 S E R E N I S S I M A E P O T E N T I S S I M A E q̄; A N -
 G L I A E, F R A N C I A E E T H I B E R N I A E
 R E G I N A E.

GV M Gerardus Mercator P. Ducis Iuliacensis, cum vi-
 ueret Cosmographus, Serenissima Regina, ætatem in
 studijs Mathematicis & præcipuè in Geographicis con-
 sumpsisset, & non paruum gratiam jisdem apud omnes Europæ
 Dynastas inijsset, vt ea posteritati quoq̄; commendaret; operi
 suæ Nouæ Geographiæ, titulum Atlantem fecit, vt & ipso no-
 mine regis vetustissimi memoriam celebraret, & suo operi gra-
 tiam conciliaret. Ne autem Rex ille vetustus & à multis decan-
 tatus, aliquo hoc tempore parum commodo vel idoneo patro-
 no in publicum prodiret, mihi filio eius magnoperè cauēdum
 fuit. Nam vt non satis est ædificium aliquod rectè collocasse,
 sed ad eius consummationem decorus ornatus etiam requiri-
 tur: Sic cum Atlantem Regem edere cogitarem, eius secundam
 partem quæ Geographiam continet, tuæ Maieitati dedicare vo-
 lui, vt per eam & ornatior prodiret, & à maleuolorum morsi-
 bustutior permaneret. Idque ea potissimum de causa feci liben-
 tius, quod vt in nomine Atlantis antiquissimus Mauritaniæ
 Rex, & docta in eo antiquitatis tempora nunquam intermori-
 tura coluntur, ita equum sit vt futura ætas ad eius exemplum, te
 Reginam Geographiæ nomine in perpetuum colat & celebret.
 Per te enim tuosque subditos septentrionalium terrarum, quæ
 hætenus latuerunt notita & illustratio primum mundo illux-
 it, dum per aspera glacièq̄; nitentia Neptuni regna, ad remotis-
 simos Indos in auditis nauigationibus instituis quærisq̄; itinera:
 Quæ vt successu temporis proculdubio sunt foelicem habitura
 exitum: ita non tantū Britannistuis, sed etiā reliquis omnibus
 vicinis Europæ incolis, magnum aliquando fructum allatura
 sunt. Nec hisce contenta, nitidum Regina virgo caput arctoo-
 polo tantum exeris alto: sed magnanimorum Thomæ Can-
 difshij, Francisci Draci, Martini Forbosheri & aliorum hero-
 um, maritimis expeditionibus multa incognita admirandaq̄;
 de Regnorum ac regionum diuerso situ, de differentijs fluxu-
 um & refluxuum maris, de ventorum, coeli & aëris temperatu-
 ra eiusq̄; varietate, per vniuersum terrarum orbem detegis & il-
 lustras