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POLVS ARCTICVS AC TERRARVM CIRCVM- iacentium descriptio.

GENERALI descriptione (Candido Lector) totius orbis terræ & quatuor partium eius iuxta naturæ ordinem methodice repetita & præmissa, statui ad imitationem Ptolemæi Cosmographorum principis ab ipso polo & regionibus sub ipso circumiacentibus, singularum deinceps particularum Geographiam inchoare: ut nimirum ab alto ad inferiora descendens & à sinistris ad dexteriora progressus septentrionem cum austro & occidentem cum oriente paulatim coniungam: Quod ut mihi reiq; publicæ Christianæ fœlix faustumq; sit, Deum optimum maximum præcor & obtestor. De harum autem terrarum & præcipue polo vicinarum regimine & statu nihil certi Europæis adhuc constat: bona tamen spes est, quotidianis Anglorum & Batauorum per borealia transiit ad Moluccas certatim quarentium nauigationibus, earum situm & terminos breui certiores detectos fore. Duæ tantum habitationes in extremis quasi septentrionis, in Groenlandia videlicet, nobis notæ sunt, Alba ii: o. 74: 45. & S. Thomæ Cœnobium 16: o. 75: 12. Figuram sumpsimus quæ illi parti orbis maxime congruebat, quæque situm & faciem terrarum, qualis in sphæra esset, redderet. Quod ad descriptionem attinet, eam nos accepimus partim ex Hugonis Villoughbei equitis, Richardi Chanceleri, Stephani Boroughij, Arturi Pet. & Caroli Iacmans, Iacobi Aldaij, Martini Frobischeri, Iohannis Dauis & aliorum Anglorum nauigatorijs obseruationibus, partim ex itinerario Iacobi Cnoyen Buseodicensis, qui refert (quod tamen ab alio prius accepit) Minoritam quendam Angulum Oxoniensem Mathematicum terras polo circumvicinas descripsisse & astrolabio dimensum esse in hanc sequentem formam fere, vti ex Iacobo collegimus. Euripos illos quatuor dicit tanto impetu ad interiorem voraginem rapi, vt naues semel ingressæ, nullo vento retroagi possint, neque vero vnquam tantum ibi ventum esse vt molæ frumentariæ circummagendæ sufficiat. Simillima his habet Giraldus Cambrensis in lib. de mirabilibus Hiberniæ, sic enm scribit: Non procul ab insulis Ebudibus, Islandia &c.) ex parte boreali est maris quædam miranda vorago, ad quam à remotis partibus omnes vndique marini fluctus tanquam ex conducto confluunt & concurrunt, qui in secreta naturæ penetralia se ibi transfondentes quasi in abyssum vorantur, si vero nauem hanc forte transire contigerit, tanta rapitur & attrahitur fluctuum violentia, vt eam statim irrevocabiliter vis voracitatis absorbeat.