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## THE LIBRARY OF 'JANUS ALBINUS' AT AUCTION (1696)

### MYSTIFICATION, MISUNDERSTANDING AND REALITY

On 24 September 1696 and the following days an important auction was held in Dordrecht by the bookseller Cornelis Willegaerts; according to the title of the catalogue, the auction concerned the library of Janus Albinus, about whom the same title mentions that he was a Doctor of Law, and that he had collected his books from all points of the compass with great zeal and effort; that the books were very special and rare, on all subjects and in all languages, in manuscript as well as printed, and that many of them had originally been in the possession of such scholars as J. Parrhasius, J. Scaliger, C. Salmasius, F. Ursinus, N. Rigaltius, and D. and N. Heinsius (1)\*.

Who was this Janus Albinus? According to G.C.J.J. van den Bergh (2) this name was a pseudonym for the famous Grand Pensionary Johan de Witt (1625-1672); he adduced contemporary data which indeed connect the auction with the name of Johan de Witt; he contested R. Feenstra's opinion that the previous owner of at least one book from this catalogue had been Johan de Witt the Younger (1662-1701) (3), arguing that the latter's library was auctioned in 1701, that the name of the Grand Pensionary was still too charged to be used, and that only a very prominent statesman could have owned this extremely rich library. He might have added that extensive bio-bibliographical research has not brought to light a single bearer of the name of Janus Albinus in the Netherlands of that period, so that it is obvious that one should think of a pseudonym for Johan de Witt when 'Janus Albinus' is mentioned, since Albus, Albius or Albinus is a logical choice for someone who wishes to translate the name of De Witt into Latin.

It is a known fact that the study of early catalogues is extremely important to the study of book history, and catalogues of private libraries can be rich sources for the biographies of important personalities. Unfortunately, only few biographers of prominent statesmen have such a catalogue at their disposal, and it is my unpleasant duty to prove in this article that in the catalogue of 'Janus Albinus' the biographers of the Grand Pensionary do not have an inventory of Johan de Witt's books, either. The fact is that there are decisive arguments making it impossible that the books auctioned in 1696 belonged to him;

\* Notes see p. 141

indissolubly connected to this is a number of facts making it almost certain that the books were part of the library of his son Johan de Witt the Younger.

The first argument against the Grand Pensionary having been the owner is an auction held at Leiden in 1791. The title of the catalogue belonging to this auction reads (4):

Catalogue d'une collection précieuse & très rare de livres manuscrits, proprement reliés, & pour la plus grande partie délaissés par feu Messires Jean de Witt, conseiller pensionnaire de Hollande & de Westfrise, &c. &c. &c. et Corneille de Witt, Ruward de Putten, &c. &c. &c. et ayant appartenus en dernier lieu à Messire Jean de Witt, en son vivant conseiller d'état & des finances de sa majesté impériale & royale, mort à Bruxelles. Le tout sera vendu publiquement au plus offrant le lundi 21 novembre 1791. dans la librairie des freres Honkoop, libraires à Leide, chez qui se trouve le catalogue.

These are books from the estate of the Grand Pensionary's great-grandson who had died in 1783. About half of the 93 manuscripts in the catalogue may have been owned by Johan and Cornelis de Witt: these are mid-17th-century texts concerning current state and legal affairs. The other manuscripts are of the same nature, but are of a later date than 1672. Consequently, the political reference library of the Grand Pensionary and his brother remained at least partly in the possession of the family, with more recent additions.

The second argument is provided by the catalogue of 'Janus Albinus' itself. Of the 4426 numbers that the section of printed books in it contains, 684 were printed after 1672 (i.e. 15.5%); therefore, these books cannot have been part of the library of the statesman who was murdered in that year. Many books have no date in the catalogue; a number of these probably also date from after 1672, especially a number of the French books in duodecimo. Of 84 books (all printed before 1672) the catalogue states that they were formerly part of the library of a scholar mentioned by name; 35 of these 'Albinus' can only have bought at an auction held after 1672 (i.e. 41.7%): 32 from Stephanus le Moyne's collection (auction 1689) and three from Nicolaas Heinsius' collection (auction 1683); in addition to this, one book from Isaac Vossius' library (deceased 1689). There is no plausible reason why this ratio should not apply to *all* books in the catalogue: in that case 'Albinus' bought 1560 of the books printed before 1672 in the 1680's, bringing the total number of books acquired after 1672 to over 2240, i.e. more than half of the entire collection; about the remainder nothing can be proved, but presumably the same logic applies.

The situation concerning the manuscripts confirms this picture: of the 253 manuscripts in the catalogue (not taking into account the separate section of Italian manuscripts), 10 can be proved not to have been acquired until the 1680's; three of them were written in 1686 (Quartos 83 and 102) and 1688 (Quarto 15); one manuscript comes from S. le Moyne's library which was auctioned in 1689 (Quarto 107); one comes from Constantijn Huygens' library

(Folio 41, in the Huygens catalogue of 1688 Misc. in Fol. 115); and five are from Nicolaas Heinsius' collection, which was auctioned in 1683 (Quarto 92 cannot be identified accurately in the Heinsius' catalogue, Quartos 87, 88, 94 and 95 are Poetae in quarto 322, 336, 315 and 313 respectively in this catalogue).

Another argument that could be advanced is that in 1696 there can hardly have been any reasons for keeping the name of the Grand Pensionary secret in the title page of an auction catalogue; it is more likely that his name would have been used for publicity purposes, as was also done in the catalogue title of the auction of his son's books in 1701, where elaborate mention is made of the fact that he is the son of the 'Grand Pensionary and Keeper of the Great Seal of Holland' (5).

The last and certainly not the least important argument against identifying Janus Albinus with Johan de Witt the Grand Pensionary is that fact that, assuming Albinus *not* to be a real Albinus, there is a much likelier candidate: Johan de Witt the Younger, the Grand Pensionary's son, who lived from 1662 till 1701, and who compensated for the family's frustrated political ambitions by travelling and through his artistic and philological interests; in concrete terms: collecting books, prints, paintings, sculpture, inscriptions, coins and medals, which he, as J.G. Graevius informs the reader of the 1701 catalogue, gathered especially on his *grand tour* to France, Italy, Sicily and Malta. The large number of Italian books published in the years up to approximately 1685 about art, architecture and such, is indeed striking in the 'Albinus' catalogue.

Let us now consider the hard facts that speak in favour of Johan de Witt the Younger being the owner of the library. First of all, the two testimonials published by Van den Bergh may be mentioned here, provided that they are understood correctly: the letter which Corn. van Bijkershoek wrote to Corn. van Eck (30 October 1696), in which he speaks of 'the so-called Albinus auction' (auctio, quae Jani Albini dicebatur), and states that he had bought an incomplete *Corpus juris* manuscript there, for which De Witt had previously paid a large sum of money after having looked for such manuscripts in vain for a long time (6); secondly, the note pasted on the first leaf of the manuscript (now Leiden, University Library BPL 6C), which deserves to be quoted in full (7):

These two volumes of the *Corpus juris* such as were sold at auction by the bookseller Willigert, were purchased by me, the undersigned, in Amsterdam from a Mr van Ens, whom I believe to be a lawyer, but I am not sure. I have no other volumes in my library, nor do I know where to get any.

*Actum* in Dordrecht on 23 October 1696. Johan de Witt.

Obviously, the subject is *not* the statesman murdered in 1672, but his son (then living in Dordrecht), whom Bijkershoek, in search of the missing parts, had evidently asked if he had any more, and from whom he had bought them. Reasons to assume beside the mystification: Albinus = De Witt, yet another

mystification: De Witt the Younger = De Witt the Elder, are lacking entirely.

Another clear indication that the identification Albinus = De Witt the Younger is correct is provided by the section of manuscripts in the 1696 catalogue, and by a comparison of these manuscripts with the ones at the auction held in 1701, after De Witt the Younger's death. As already stated, the 1696 catalogue numbers 253 manuscripts, while the 1701 catalogue has 279. A comparison of the two lists shows that 141 manuscripts from the 1696 catalogue can be found again in the 1701 catalogue. Now if one refrains from such forced constructions as: in 1696 De Witt the Younger had the books of his father, who had been murdered 24 years before, put up for auction and bought half of the latter's manuscripts himself at that auction, then the only simple explanation of what happened is that in 1696 more than half of the manuscripts did not find their way to a buyer and were consequently returned to the owner's library, so that they could again be put up for auction after his death (8).

A somewhat more uncertain indication is that fact that what is said about Albinus on the title page (Doctor of Law, books collected from all points of the compass) corresponds to what is known about De Witt the Younger, as does the nature of the collection of books, prints, paintings, coins and medals; a comparison with the 1701 catalogue confirms the similarity of the Albinus and De Witt collections.

The questions which then remain are: why did De Witt the Younger sell part of his book and art collection in 1696, and why did he use the (transparent) pseudonym Janus Albinus in doing so? First of all, there are also questions that will have to be answered by someone who believes that Albinus is the Grand Pensionary. Secondly, selling part of one's library during one's lifetime is not unparalleled; in 1610 Bonaventura Vulcanius sold part of his books himself, and in 1615 after his death the remaining volumes were put up for auction by his heirs. In the third place, the reason for the sale in 1696 *could* be the same as the reason for assuming a pseudonym: for instance, the necessity of a public sale of part of his collection, caused by imminent bankruptcy, would undoubtedly have been viewed as a scandal in which De Witt would not have liked to see his real name involved.

Finally, to recapitulate our conclusions, the name 'Janus Albinus' at the 1696 auction is a pseudonym, and, as appears from the letter by Bijnkershoek as well as from the note in BPL 6C, it stands for Johan de Witt. This can only have been the book and art collector Johan de Witt the Younger, who was at that time living and thriving in Dordrecht, since it can be proved that the larger part of the collection of 'Albinus' was acquired in the 1680's. De Witt the Younger's library will undoubtedly have comprised older family possessions as well, among which books of his father the Grand Pensionary, but it cannot be proved how many or which of the son's books that were auctioned in 1696 and 1701 may have been part of it, the more so because manuscripts belonging to the Grand Pensionary (and to his brother Cornelis) remained in the possession of his descendants until the end of the 18th century (9).

## NOTES

- 1) For particulars concerning this catalogue, see Appendix I.
- 2) G.C.J.J. van den Bergh, 'Two letters of Cornelis van Bijkershoek (1673-1743)', in: *LIAS* XI, 1984, pp. 277-286.
- 3) A manuscript of the *Digestum vetus* (now Leiden, University Library BPL 6C) which was supposedly acquired by Johan de Witt the Younger in 1696. See R. Feenstra, *Fata ivris Romani*, Leyde 1974 (Leidse juridische reeks, vol. 13) in the article 'Quelques remarques sur le texte de la Glose d'Accurse sur le Digeste vieux' (pp. 194-214; published earlier in 1971). Van den Bergh identified the manuscript in the Janus Albinus catalogue; see further.
- 4) Copy used: The Hague, Royal Library, Verz. cat. 15740. See also Appendix III.7.
- 5) For particulars concerning this catalogue, see Appendix II.
- 6) 'Audiebam quoque, D. de Wit haec ipsa Corporis utriusque fragmenta ingenti pretio sibi comparasse, cum aliquamdiu frustra inquisivisset in Corporis manuscripta'.
- 7) 'Dese twee deelen van het Corpus juris soodaenig als in d'auctie bij de boeckverkooper Willigert verkocht sijn, heb ick onderschreven gekocht in Amstelredam van eene van Ens, die ick meyne dat een advocaet is, maer weete het niet seecker. Heb geen andere deelen in mijn bibliotheecq ende weeter oock nergens te krijgen.  
Actum in Dordrecht den 23 october 1696. Johan de Witt'.
- 8) Of a part of the manuscripts not found again in the 1701 catalogue it can be proved that they were indeed sold in 1696: when Cornelis Nicolai's books were auctioned (24 November 1698), eight manuscripts were offered which had previously been part of the 'Albinus' library (nos. 1, 4-9, 28). See *Bibliotheca Nicolaiana*, Amstelaedami 1698, pp. 147-148 and 152. The 92 'Libri Italici manuscripti' in this catalogue also originate from the Albinus auction. Copy used of the Nicolai catalogue: The Hague, Royal Library, Verz. cat. 2712.
- 9) I should like to thank Mr B. van Selm (State University Leiden), Mr P.C.A. Vriesema (STCN, The Hague) and Mr C. de Wolf (Royal Library, The Hague) for many stimulating discussions and help offered.

## APPENDIX I.

## Description of the Albinus Catalogue (1696)

*Collation*

8<sup>0</sup>:  $\pi^2$  A-E<sup>4</sup> \*E<sup>4</sup> 2\*[E]<sup>2</sup> F-T<sup>4</sup> \*T<sup>4</sup> V-2R<sup>4</sup> 2S<sup>2</sup> 2T-2X<sup>4</sup> 2Y<sup>2</sup> \*-4\*<sup>4</sup> 5\*<sup>2</sup> 25\*<sup>2</sup> 6\*<sup>2</sup> 26\*<sup>2</sup> 7\*<sup>2</sup> 27\*<sup>2</sup> 8\*<sup>2</sup> 28\*<sup>2</sup> 9\*<sup>4</sup> 2A<sup>6</sup> (25\*1 etc. signed 5\*3 etc.); 230 leaves, paginated [4] 1-41 [11] 41-153 [7] 153-351 [1] [72] [1-2] 3-12, with minor irregularities.

*Contents*

$\pi$ 1r Title 1 (see below);  $\pi$ 1v blank;  $\pi$ 2r Ad emptores;  $\pi$ 2v Ordo venditionis; A1r = p. 1 Catalogus librorum [...]. In Folio (537 lots); on F1r = p. 241 Libri in Quarto (1324 lots); V1r = p. 2153 Libri in Octavo (1637 lots); 2M1r = p. 273 Libri in Duodecimo (928 lots); 2S1r = p. 321 Libri manuscripti in Folio (86 lots); 2V2r = p. 335 Libri manuscripti in Quarto (116 lots); on 2X4v = p. 348 Libri manuscripti in Octavo (28 lots); on 2Y1v = p. 350 Libri manuscripti in Duodecimo (23 lots); 2Y2v Verscheyde packetten (13 lots); \*1r Catalogus [...] iconum, tabularumque chartacearum [...]; 5\*1v Virorum illustrium effigies [...]; 5\*2r Thesaurus nummorum antiquorum [...]; 9\*4r-v blank; 2A1r Title 2 (see below); 2A1v blank; 2A2r Catalogo de libri Italici manuscripti (132 lots).

*Title 1*

Catalogus exquisitissimorum, raroque occurrentium librorum, in omni studiorum genere, facultate, & lingua; *inter quos excellunt* patres, historici, literatores, antiquarii & numismatici; tam *manuscripti*, quam impressi; ut & multi à *Jano Parrhasio*, *Jos. Scaligero*, *Cl. Salmasio*, *Fulv. Ursino*, *Nic. Rigaltio*, *Dan. & Nic. Heinsiis*, aliisque viris doctiss. emendati, & eorum manibus notati. Collectio plurimarum, & rarissimarum iconum, tabularumque chartacearum, ab excellentissimis in Gallia, Belgio, & Italia praesertim, artificibus, delineatarum. Virorum illustrium effigies. Item thesaurus veterum numismatum antiquorum, Latinorum, & Graecorum, tam aureorum, argenteorum, quam aereorum, omnis magnitudinis, optime conservatorum. Omnia ex variis regionibus, assiduo labore, ac studio, collecta à viro amplissimo *Jano Albino*; J.V.D. *Quae publica auctione distraherentur Dordraci in aedibus Cornelii Willegaerts, bibliopolae, è regione Fori Negotiatorum, ofte over de Beurs; hora nona ante meridiem, & secunda pomeridiana; ad diem 24 septembris, & sequentibus, stylo Gregoriano; 1696. Dordraci, apud Cornelium Willegaerts, M D CXCVI. Ubi catalogi distribuuntur.*

*Title 2*

Catalogus rarissimorum ac exquisitissimorum manuscriptorum Italicorum multis ac ingentibus sumptibus comparatorum ac collectorum. *continens* thesaurum cumulatissimum arcanorum politicorum, maximam partem nondum excusorum

virisque summis ad plurima arcana politica detegenda, utilissimorum. *Quae finita auctione viri amplissimi Jani Albani [sic] publica auctione distrahentur Dordraci in aedibus Cornelii Willegaarts bibliopolae over de Beurs die 6 octobris 1696. Catalogi distribuuntur apud Cornelium Willegaarts.*

### Remarks

1. The copy used is The Hague, Royal Library, Verz. cat. 2714. In this copy, gathering <sup>2</sup>A is missing; for this photocopies were used of the Wolfenbüttel copy, Herzog August Bibliothek Bc 28 (2-3), where, however, this gathering is bound after 2Y. Furthermore, this library possesses a separate copy of this gathering (Be 876). Further copies: London, British Library (2); Edinburgh, Advocates' Library (at present at the National Library of Scotland); Paris, Bibliothèque Nationale (2); Copenhagen, Royal Library; Uppsala, University Library; Washington (DC), Library of Congress; Cambridge (Mass.), Harvard University; formerly also at Leuven, University Library; Dresden, Sachsische Landesbibliothek.

2. The catalogue numbers 4426 lots of printed books and 253 manuscripts (not taking into account the Italian ones); the public sale took place from 24 till 29 September and from 3 till 6 October, including the prints, paintings and coins. The Italian manuscripts were sold immediately after the 'Albinus' collection, on 6 October.

3. The books in this catalogue have only been arranged by format; within each format books on all subjects and in all languages are listed completely unsystematically. After the catalogue had been printed extra titles were added after the books in Folio and Quarto (folio: \*E-2\*[E], quarto: \*T). Before it had been extended the catalogue numbered 432 lots in folio and 1251 in quarto.

## APPENDIX II

### Description of the De Witt Catalogue (1701)

#### Collation

12<sup>0</sup>: \*<sup>4</sup>(±\*<sup>2</sup>) A-G<sup>6</sup> H<sup>4</sup> I-2A<sup>6</sup> 2B<sup>4</sup>, <sup>2</sup>A-O<sup>6</sup> <sup>2</sup>P<sup>4</sup> (-<sup>2</sup>P<sup>4</sup>), <sup>3</sup>A-F<sup>6</sup> <sup>3</sup>G<sup>1</sup>, <sup>4</sup>π<sup>2</sup> <sup>4</sup>A-L<sup>6</sup> <sup>4</sup>M<sup>2</sup>; 344 leaves, paginated [8] 1-270 269-289 [1], <sup>2</sup>1-174, <sup>3</sup>1-74, <sup>4</sup>[4] <sup>4</sup>1-136, with minor irregularities.

#### Contents

\*1r Engraved title 1 (Bibliotheca Wittiana. Pars I. J. Goeree del. et fec.); \*1v blank; \*2r Typographical title 1 (see below); \*2v Ordo venditionis; \*3r Lectori S.D. J.G.Graevius; \*4v blank; A1r = p. 1 Catalogus Bibliothecae Wittianae. Theologici in Folio (followed by Juridici, Medici, etc. in Folio: 1307 lots); H2v blank; I1r = p. 93 Libri in Quarto (Theologici etc.: 2773 lots); 2B4v blank; <sup>2</sup>A1r = p. <sup>2</sup>1 In Octavo (Theologici etc.: 2805 lots); <sup>3</sup>A1r = p. <sup>3</sup>1 Libri in Duo-

decimo (Theologici etc.: 700 lots); <sup>3</sup>D3v = p. <sup>3</sup>42 Libri omissi [...] (14 lots); <sup>3</sup>D4r = p. <sup>3</sup>43 Libri manuscripti in Folio (112 lots); <sup>3</sup>E5 = p. <sup>3</sup>57 Libri manuscripti in Quarto (125 lots); <sup>3</sup>F5v = p. <sup>3</sup>70 Libri manuscripti in Octavo (26 lots); <sup>3</sup>G1r = p. <sup>3</sup>73 Libri manuscripti in Duodecimo (16 lots); <sup>4</sup>π1r Engraved title 2 (as 1, but Pars II); <sup>4</sup>π1v blank; <sup>4</sup>π2r Typographical title 2 (see below); <sup>4</sup>π2v Lectoribus atque emptoribus; <sup>4</sup>A1r = p. <sup>4</sup>1 Numismatum [...] thesaurus; on <sup>4</sup>L1r = p. <sup>4</sup>121 Inscriptiones veteres; on <sup>4</sup>L2v = p. <sup>4</sup>124 Toreumata prisca [...]; on <sup>4</sup>L3v = p. <sup>4</sup>126 Statuae ex marmore [...]; <sup>4</sup>L4v = p. 128 Opera prisca aerea; on <sup>4</sup>M1r = p. <sup>4</sup>133 Opera cerea [...].

### Title 1

Catalogus bibliothecae luculentissimae, & exquisitissimis ac rarissimis in omni disciplinarum & linguarum genere libris, magno studio, dilectu & sumptu quae-sitis, instructissimae, a Joanne de Witt, Joannis *Hollandiae consilarii & syndici, magnique sigilli custodis*, filio. Illius auctio habebitur Dordraci, in aedibus defuncti, 20 octobris 1701. Dordraci, *apud* Theodorum Goris, & Joannem van Braam, *bibliopolas*.

### Title 2

Bibliothecae Wittianae pars secunda; sive Numismatum ac operis prisca thesaurus: prout eum, indefesso labore & magnis sumptibus, collegit nobilissimus Jo. de Witt, Dordracen. reip. à secretis; &c. Juxta catalogi seriem publicè distrahetur, in aedibus Domini defuncti, die                      mensis                      1701. *Amstelaedami* ex typographia Francisci Halmae, M D CCI.

### Remarks

1. The copy used is The Hague, Royal Library, Verz. cat. 15769. Further copies: Utrecht, University Library; Leiden, University Library (3); Leiden, Bibliotheca Thysiana; Groningen, University Library; Amsterdam, Library of the Vereeniging ter Bevordering van de Belangen des Boekhandels; London, British Library; Paris, Bibliothèque Nationale (2); Grenoble, Bibliothèque Municipale; Edinburgh, Advocates' Library (at present at the National Library of Scotland); Dublin, Trinity College; Göttingen, University Library; Washington (DC), Library of Congress; Boston, Public Library; New York, Public Library; Urbana, University of Illinois; formerly also: Dresden, Sachsische Landesbibliothek.

2. The catalogue numbers 7599 lots of printed books and 279 manuscripts. As appears from the Ordo venditionis (i.e. arrangement of sale) the public sale took place from 20 to 22, from 24 to 29, on 31 October, and from 1 to 4 November; the sale of the coin and art collection was to begin on 5 November (date not entered on the title page of part 2).

Page \*2 is a cancel (typographical title and Ordo venditionis); presumably there was a last-minute change of the date, so that the auction would not coincide



with, but follow immediately after two large book-sales in Leiden (Huygens 26 September and following days, Spanheim 10 October and following days; cp. Appendix III.4).

3. In his 'Lectori' J.G. Graevius gives a short biographical sketch of Johan de Witt the Younger. Naturally he is introduced especially as a collector of books, prints and objects of art.

### APPENDIX III

#### Johan de Witt Auction Catalogues 1672-1791

1. (1672). *The Catalogus van boecken inde bybliotheque van Mr. Jan de Wit, door zijn discipel den pensionaris Vivien*, [1672], and the *Appendix van 't Catalogus van de boecken van Mr. Jan de Witt [...]. Welcke verkocht sullen werden op de Zael van 's Gravenhage, maendag den 5 september 1672 [...]*, [1672] belonging to this, fall under the genre of imaginary library catalogues, and W.P.C. Knuttel (*Catalogus van de pamfletten-verzameling berustende in de Koninklijke Bibliotheek*, 's-Gravenhage 1889-1921, nos. 10343-10345 and 10437-10441) rightly classed them among the 'Schotschriften op de gebroeders de Witt' (i.e. Lampoons on the De Witt brothers), and the 'Paskwillen op den dood van de de Witten' (i.e. Squibs on the death of the De Witts) respectively.
2. (1696). *The Janus Albinus catalogue*. See above.
3. (1701). *The Johan de Witt the Younger catalogue*. See above.
4. (1702). *A Catalogue of books, in Greek, Latin, Italian, Spanish, English, and French. Collected chiefly from the libraries of John de Wit, Constantijn Huygens, and Frederick Spanheim [...]. Lately brought from France and Holland [...]. To be sold by auction, in Exeter-Exchange, at the West-End, up stairs. On Wednesday the 25 of February, 170 $\frac{1}{2}$* , [...], London 1702]. Apparently the stock of an English bookseller who had bought much at the auctions of the books of Constantijn Huygens (Leiden, 26 September 1701), Friedrich Spanheim (Leiden, 10 October 1701) and Johan de Witt (Dordrecht, 20 October 1701). Copies: London, British Library; Cambridge, Emmanuel College; Chicago, Newberry Library.
5. (1736). *Bibliotheca Wittiana, continens libros theologicos, juridicos [...], quibus, dum vixit, usus est [...] Joannes de Witt, senator, & judex reipublicae Amstelaedamensis & Societatis Indicae praefectus. Quorum omnium auctio habebitur in aedibus Salomonis Schouten [...] ad diem martis IV. septembris & seqq. A<sup>o</sup>. 1736 [...]. Amstelaedami, apud Salomonem Schouten [...], 1736*. Collection of the Amsterdam regent Johan de Witt (1678-1734), who was not a member of the Dordrecht family De Witt. Copies: The Hague, Royal Library; Amsterdam, University Library.
6. (1752). *Catalogus librorum bibliothecae [...] Joannis de Witt, consilarii status Belgici, & praesidis Camerae rationum. &c. &c. Qui publicè vendentur*

*pecuniâ cambiali in domo mortuariâ sitâ Bruxellis [...] die 5. Junii 1752 [...]*. Bruxellis, apud Carolum de Vos [..., 1752]. These are the books of the Grand Pensionary's grandson (1694-1751), 3226 lots in all. Copies: The Hague, State Museum Meermanno-Westreenianum; Utrecht, University Library; London, British Library; Paris, Bibliothèque Nationale; Brussels, Royal Library; Chicago, Newberry Library.

7. (1791) The Johan and Cornelis de Witt catalogue, from the estate of Johan de Witt (1724-1783, the Grand Pensionary's great-grandson, who had died childless). See above. Copies: The Hague, Royal Library; Amsterdam, University Library. There is also a 'Second edition' of this catalogue, with a Dutch title: *Catalogus van eene aanzienlijke en zeer zeldzame verzameling van manuscripten [...] nagelaaten door [...] Johan de Witt [...] en Cornelis de Witt [...]*. Second edition. [Leiden 1791]. Copies: Amsterdam, University Library; Amsterdam, Library of the Vereeniging ter Bevordering van de Belangen des Boekhandels; Amsterdam, Royal Dutch Academy of Arts and Sciences; Leiden, University Library; New York, Columbia University. This is, incidentally, a real second edition, i.e. printed from different type-matter. A printed price-list was added to some copies (Amsterdam, Library of the Vereeniging; Leiden, University Library). Apart from the 93 manuscripts mentioned, the catalogue contains another 10 'Gedrukte werken, in Folio', 'Additions au catalogue des livres manuscrits' (22 lots), and an 'Appendix librorum': 191 printed volumes, mostly 18th-century scholarly editions.