

The Society of Jesus adapted popular emblem books to devotional purposes and in 1640 the House of Plantin published a sumptuous Latin book of emblems, to mark the first centenary of the Jesuit Order. The frontispiece and 124 other plates were beautifully engraved by Cornelis Galle. According to the 1964 edition of *Bryan's dictionary of painters and engravers*, 'he equalled the most famous engravers and surpassed all the Galles', i.e. his father Philip (see 1577 & 1583), elder brother Theodor and son Cornelis.



The British Library

The emblems include three scarce miniature maps: a *Leo Belgicus*, measuring about 145 x 105 mm., and two different world twin hemispheres, 137 x 103 mm. One of these two prints features Jesuit symbols depicting missions all over the world and the other one has smaller hemispheres.

Only the last of these appeared among the ninety-nine plates in the Dutch abridged edition, published later the same year.

*Imago primi saeculi Societatis Jesu.* Antwerp, Balthasar Moretus, 1640.

*Afbeeldinghe van d'eerste eeuwe der Societeyt Jesu.* Antwerp, Plantin Press, 1640.

