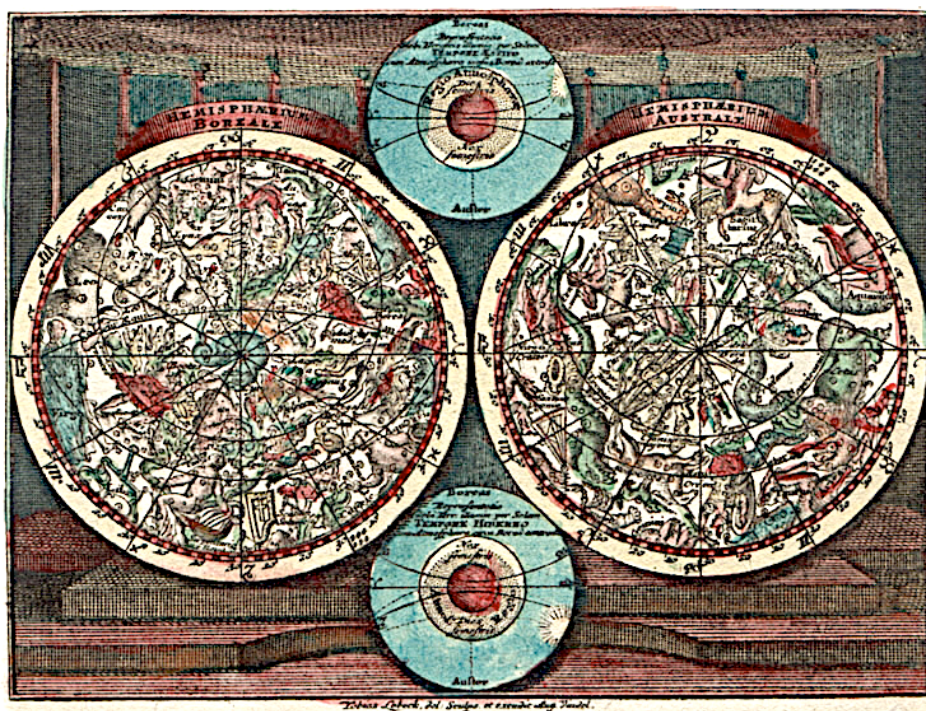


A little gem of a German almanac for 1745 was produced by Tobias Lobeck, with topographical notes about Germany illustrated with a set of six maps. Each is numbered above the centre of the top border with easily missed miniscule arabic figures. The 1746 almanac was the same but for the 1747 one (see below) he added six more maps but without numbers: Spain & Portugal; France; British Isles; Netherlands; Italy; Hungary.





The uniform and finely detailed, but it has to be said, rather crowded maps, include terrestrial and celestial hemispheres, four of the continents and twenty-three of European states. All but one have both men's signatures below the bottom border line: Lobeck's at left and Lotter's at right. The exception is the chart of the heavens (see below), which was drawn and engraved by Lobeck who also engraved the frontispiece and the title-page.



Usually the atlas is bound in nicely embossed leather but the paper is sometimes not uniform in thickness or in tone, suggesting the collation of different printings of the plates. Also, printer's creases are not uncommon. These maps were produced several to a plate, with glimpses of the dividing lines sometimes revealed at page edges. They measure about 120 x 95 mm. with the cardinal points outside the border lines. The original six numbered German ones have titles in German with a French translation above, whereas the later ones have them in Latin, often much longer than is usual with miniature maps. The titles are found either in cartouches or above the top border, or sometimes both:

*Planisphaerium Globi terrestris*

celestial hemispheres with title ribbons: *Hemisphaerium boreale* / *Hemisphaerium australe*

*Europa*

*Asia*

*Africa*

*America*

*Regnorum Hispania et Portugalliae tabula generalis*

*Totius regn. Galliae sive Franciae tabula*

*Nova totius Italiae cum adjacentibus majoribus et minoribus insulis tabula*

*Repubblica di Genova / Theatrum belli Italicum*

*Status Ecclesiastici magni que Ducatus Florentini tabula*

*Magna Britannia complectens Angliæ, Scotiæ, et Hiberniæ regna*

*Tabula gener. totius Belgii qua Provinciæ XVII Infer. Germaniæ olim sub S.R.I. circulo Burgundiæ*

*Germania Inferior / Theatrum belli Belgicum*

*Potentissimæ Helvetiorum reipublicæ cantones tredecim*

1 *Germania H. Römische Reich mit seinen x. craissen / L'Allemagne ou L'Empire Romaine*

2 *Österreichische craiss. Churf. u. Hertzogt. Bayern / Cercle d'Autriche la Baviere*

3 *Bayrische craiss, Schwäbische cr. Fränckische craiss, Ober u. Nider Rheinische craiss / Cercles de Baviere, de Suabe, de Franconie, du Rhin tant fuverieur qu'inferieur*

4 *Vereinigte Niederlande, Spanische Niederlande, Herzogte. Brabant, Herzogte. Luxemburg, Graffsch. Flandern. / Burgundische craiss Westphalische craiss / Cercle de Bourgogne Westphale*

5 *Ober Sächsische und Nider Sächsische craiss / Cercle de Saxonie supr. de Saxonie inferieur*

6 *Königreich Böhmen. Margr: Mähren, Chur Fürst: Saxen. Marg: Lausnitz, Herzog: Schlesien / Boheme, Moravie, Saxonie, Lusace, Silesie*

*Bohemiæ regnum in circulos suos divisu*

*Poloniæ regnum ducatusq. Magnæ Lithuanie*

*Borussiæ regnum cum adjacentibus regionibus*

*Regnum Daniæ*

*Regnum Sueciæ*

*Imperium Russicum omnisque Tartaria*

*Regni Hungariæ tabula generalis*

*Tabula Danubii Græciæ et Archipelagi.*



Lobeck subsequently introduced some more maps and his signature on all nineteen of them makes clear that he alone drew, engraved and published them. He also retouched two of the original six plates. The first had an extra Latin title engraved in a cartouche at top left, *Circuli Germaniae*, and its scale cartouche was much decorated. On the fourth plate some foliate decoration was added to the title cartouche. As all the atlases were undated the issue sequence of the extra plates is unknown, but most relate to Germany:

*Circuli Westphaliae in omnes suos status et provincias*

*Circuli Franconiae*

*Electoratus Moguntinus ut et Palatin: Inferior Hassiae &c*

*Tabula Marchionatus Brandenburgici et Ducatus Pomerania*

*Ducatus Pomeraniae*

*Marchionatus Brandenburgici pars*

*Ducatus Silesiae Inferioris tabula*

*Ducatus Silesiae Superioris*

*Circuli supe Saxoniae pars meridionalis sive Ducatus Electorati et Principatus Ducum Saxoniae*

*Pars meridionalis Circuli Saxoniae Superioris*

*Tabula Circulus Saxoniae Inferioris in omnes suos status et principatus I. pars*

*Circulus Westphalicus I. pars*

*Circuli Thuringiae I. pars*

*Circuli Saxoniae Inferioris in omnes suos status et principatus II. pars*

*Das Theatrum Belli, am Schwartzten Meer. Russia Petersburg vulgo Moscovia pars*

*Theatrum Belli mit denen Russen Turken und Tartaren. Tabula Danubii et Graeciae pars*

*Dominii Veneti cum vicinis Parmæ Mutinæ Mantuæ et Mirandolæ statibus / Dominium Venetum*

*Ducatus Mediolani*

*Regiæ Celsitudinis Sabaudicæ Status Ducatus Sabaudia Principat Pedemontium Duc Montisferrati / Ducatus Sabaudiae.*

Six of them were included in a copy with an owner's signature dated 20 January 1750, which was sold at Christie's New York salesroom in April 2016 (lot 73). Because of the wide variety in their number, it may well be that plates were added to some of the atlases in accordance with the wishes of the individual buyer. However, the most common numbers are six (thirty-five in total), eight (thirty-seven) and fourteen (forty-three), suggesting that these were standard editions. Later copies are known in red paper-covered boards having forty-eight maps, with many out of order and face to face because they are bound in six oblong octavo sections. The Library of Congress has a copy with forty-nine maps including two which are dated 1762: *Bayer land* and *Schwaben land*. A copy with fifty maps was sold at Sotheby's London rooms in October 2006 (lot 271) for £2040.

*Bequemer politisch-geographischer schreib- und sack-calender auf das jahr 1745 / Kurtzgefaßte Geographie von Deutschland.* Augsburg, Tobias Lobeck, (1744).

*... Compendieusen sack-calender auf das jahr MDCCXLVI / Kurze geo-graphie von Deutschland.* Augsburg, Tobias Lobeck, (1745).

*... Compendieusen sack calender auf das jahr MDCCXLVII ... Atlas von den vornehmste reichen und staaten Europæe.* Augsburg, Tobias Lobeck, (1746).

*Atlas geographicus portatilis XXIX mappis.* Augsburg, Tobias Lobeck, (1747/1762).

