

Dutch Pamphlets 1542-1853

The Van Alphen Collection, Groningen University Library

IDC Publishers is pleased to present a unique collection of almost 3,000 pamphlets from the Groningen University Library. This collection constitutes an important supplement to IDC's authoritative edition of the complete Knuttel Collection: Dutch Pamphlets 1486-1853. The collections contain similar material and deal with similar subjects. However, as Van Alphen omitted from his catalogue all pamphlets previously described by Knuttel, there is no overlap between the two.

Dutch Pamphlets

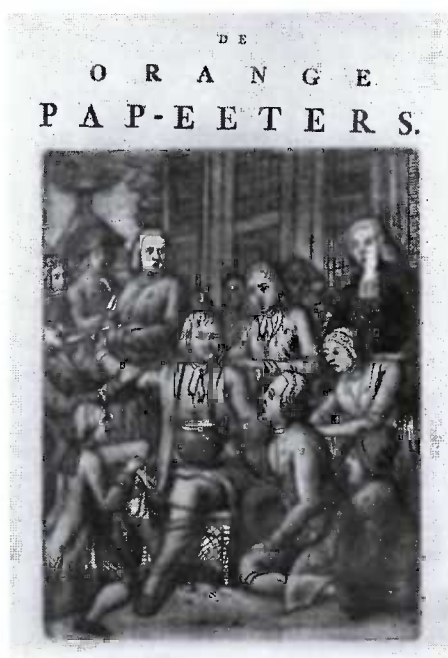
The thousands of pamphlets presented here constitute an essential source for understanding tumultuous periods of history. They range from political apologies and manifestoes to tracts for and against predestination in theology. Along the way, battles, sieges, treaties, riots, and political assassinations form the subject matter of many pamphlets. Domestic issues of all sorts are commented upon or caricatured, sometimes in rhyme, and political events outside the Lowlands are also chronicled. Tracts on astrological predictions and the appearance of comets permit the study of popular culture and mentalities. In short, historians of all sorts can draw on these texts for their research.

The majority of the pamphlets are in Dutch but there are also texts in French, German, Latin, and English.

The Collection

The collection of pamphlets in Groningen was for a large part formed by four large acquisitions:

- 27 volumes, collected by the counter-reformist preacher Willem Crijnsz, were acquired in 1751 and contain pamphlets pertaining to the religious differences during and after the Twelve Years' Truce.
- 59 volumes containing 1253 pamphlets from the period 1617-1760.



Pamphlet 1670 (1786)

- 95 volumes, covering the years 1779-1800, with political tracts concerning the differences between England and the Dutch Republic and the troubles within the Republic.
- 43 volumes were acquired in 1842 at the Pabst van Bingerden auction and contain pamphlets from the seventeenth and early eighteenth century.

Besides these large acquisitions, publications concerning both the University and the city and province of Groningen are collected in twelve volumes. In the twentieth century, the Royal Library at The Hague donated a large number of second or third copies from its so-called 'Knuttel pamphlets'.

Van Alphen's Catalogue

The important collection of pamphlets in Groningen University Library remained largely unknown until the publication of its catalogue in 1944 by Dr. G. van Alphen, who took up his position of assistant in the library in 1939. Van Alphen's catalogue is not a complete listing of the library's pamphlets. The author was of the opinion that the existing catalogues by J. Broekema (Provinciale Bibliotheek Zeeland collection, Middelburg), P.A. Tiele (Frederik Muller collection), J.K. van der Wulp (Isaac Meulman collection), W.P.C. Knuttel (Royal Library, The Hague), L.D. Petit (Thysius Library, Leiden University Library) and J.F. van Someren (Utrecht University Library) were sections in a bibliography of Dutch pamphlets, and the Groningen catalogue was an addition to this corpus. For this reason, Van Alphen omits copies of pamphlets present in Groningen that had been described in one of the previous catalogues. The Knuttel doublets are similarly omitted. The collection contains all pamphlets listed in Van Alphen's catalogue.

General information

Scope	2,779 pamphlets
Number of fiches	1,441
Size of fiches	105 x 148 mm
Reduction ratio	Varies between 1:21 and 1:24, according to the size of the original
Film type	Positive silver halide
Internal finding aids	Eye-legible headers with the numbers of the pamphlets relating to the reference numbers in the Van Alphen catalogue
External finding aids	A copy of the printed catalogue <i>Catalogus der Pamfletten van de Bibliotheek der Rijksuniversiteit te Groningen 1542-1853</i> by G. van Alphen (Groningen, 1944) is given free of charge to purchasers of the complete Van Alphen microfiche collection.
Order number	H-10,064

For information about a flexible purchase plan, please contact IDC Publishers.