

SCIENCE AND CIVILISATION IN CHINA

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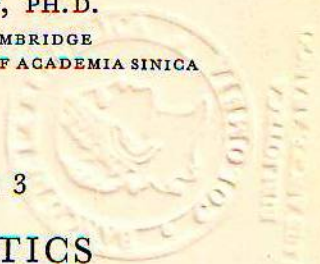
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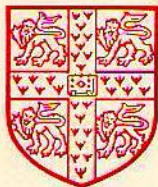
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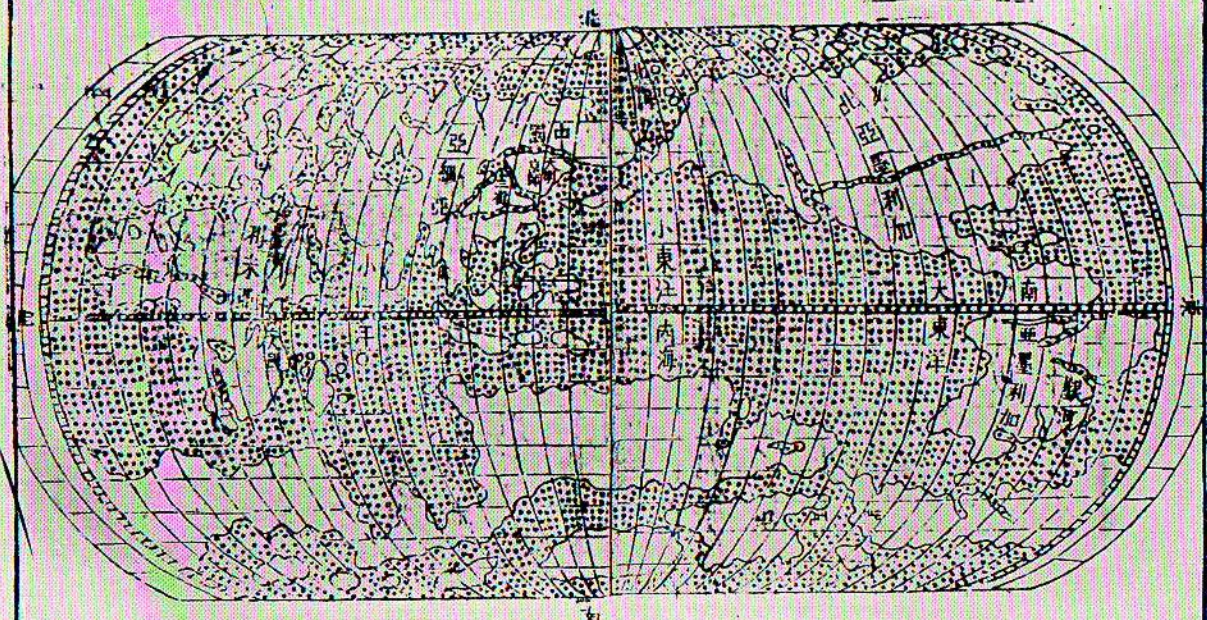


PLATE XC

Fig. 251. The first edition of Matteo Ricci's world-map (+ 1584), reproduced by Chang Tou-Chin in his *Thu Shu Pien* of + 1623 (from d'Elia (2), vol. 2, Pl. viii). Entitled *Yü Ti Shan Hai Chhuan Thu*, it has straight parallels and curving meridians; China is represented almost at the centre, with 'the capital of the Great Ming Dynasty' in prominent characters. A large and straggling antarctic continent is shown, perhaps to balance the land masses of the northern hemisphere. Was the part of it south of the East Indies meant for more than New Guinea? This raises the question of an Asian tradition (which the Jesuits may have encountered) of a great unknown southern continent; see Sect. 29 hereafter.

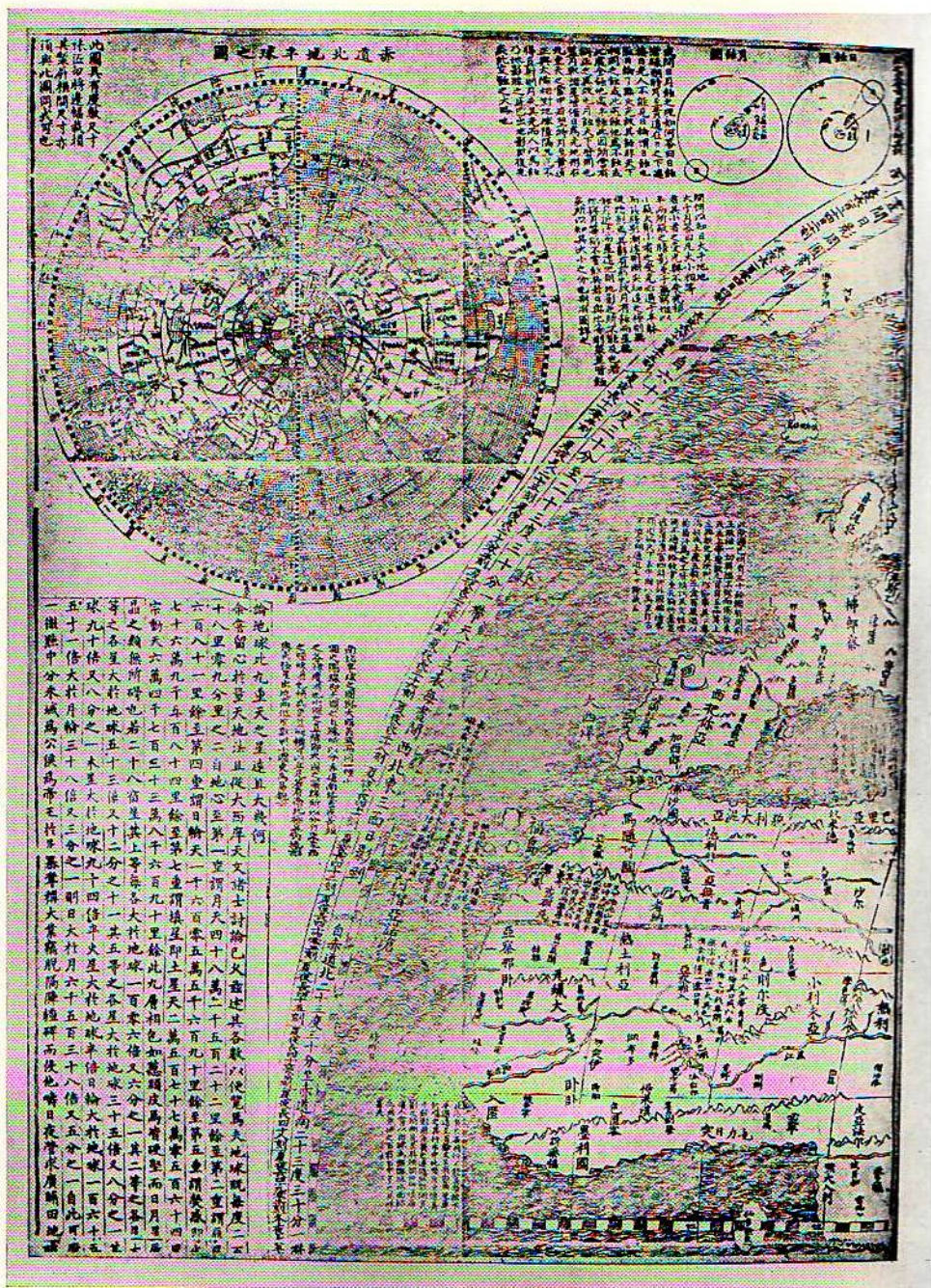


Fig. 252. A corner (one-twelfth) of the definitive world map of Matteo Ricci (+1602) entitled *Khun Yü Wan Kuo Chhüan Thu*. The projection was similar, but the larger format permitted the inclusion of far more information. Here can be seen the western part of Africa, Spain, France, Ireland and the western coasts of England and Scotland. A north polar projection occupies the left-hand top corner, and at the top on the right are two small eclipse diagrams (from d'Elia (3), vol. 2, Pl. II).

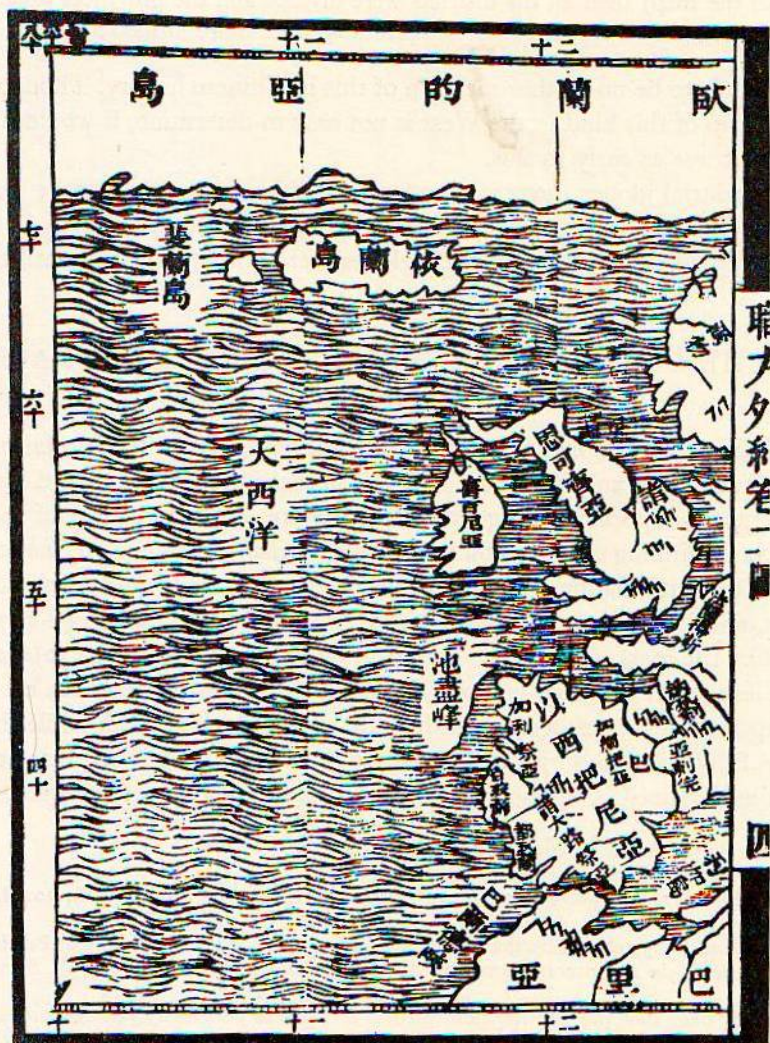


Fig. 253. One of the maps illustrating the *Chih Fang Wai Chi* (On World Geography) of Giulio Aleni, +1623, one of Matteo Ricci's Jesuit cartographic successors in China. This portion shows Spain, France and the British Isles. East Anglia is labelled *An*, Scotland *Ssu-kho-chhi-ya*, and Ireland *Hsi-pai-ni-ya*, Spain being *I-hsi-pa-ni-ya*. Iceland appears as *I-lan Tao*, with further west the mythical island of *Fei-lan Tao* (Friesland). The adjacent sheet has a spouting whale and a large ship of European rig—exotic reading for a Chinese scholar.