

Mirko Husak MSc.
State Geodetic Administration

Adolf Erik Nordenskiöld (1889, reprint 1973):

Facsimile-Atlas

to the Early History of Cartography

with Reproductions of the most Important Maps

Printed in the XV and XVI Centuries.

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Who is Adolf Erik Nordenskiöld?

The Facsimile-Atlas ... – in brief

Who is Adolf Erik Nordenskiöld?

Born: 18 November 1832

Helsinki, Finland.

Died: 12 August 1901, (aged 68)

Dalbyö, Södermanland, Sweden

Baron, botanist, geologist, mineralogist and arctic explorer

Swedish parents

Member of the prominent Finland-Swedish Nordenskiöld family of scientists.

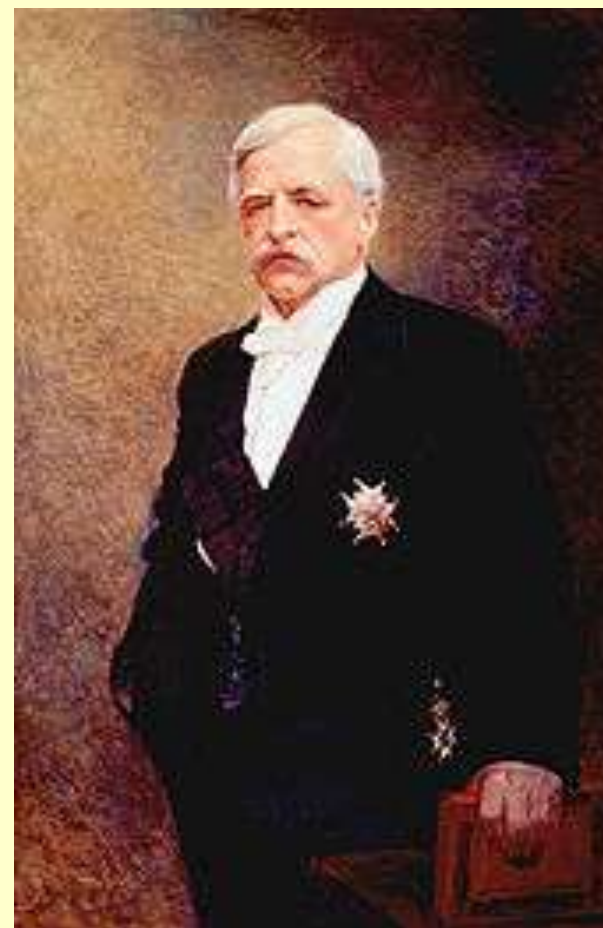
In 1863 he married Anna Maria Mannerheim, the aunt of Carl Gustaf Emil Mannerheim.

Notable awards: Murchison Medal (1900).

Chief of mineralogy at the **Stockholm Riksmuseum**. He created there one of the greatest mineralogical collections in Europe.

Member of:

Parliament of Sweden and
Swedish Academy.



Education

1849 he entered Imperial Alexander University in Helsinki in **mathematics** and **geology**, and applied himself especially to **chemistry** and **mineralogy**

Dissertation: „Om grafitens och chondroditens kristallformer”
(**On the crystal forms of graphite and chondrodite**)

1857 he left for Sweden.

Nordenskiöld's greatest popular fame: polar journeys



1858 the first of his **10 arctic expeditions**

Each phase of expeditions organized Nordenskiöld with meticulous care.

1858, 1861 and 1864 arctic expeditions to **Spitsbergen islands**, staffed with full range of scientific personnel as well as in all his expeditions.

1868 steamer **Sofia** reached **81°42' North** (before being stopped by ice).

1870 trip to **Greenland** was to determine if dogs could be used as beasts of burden in arctic exploration, he penetrate 30 miles inland, the farthest inland anyone had gone up to that time.

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1872-1873 expeditions to **Spitsbergen** – ill fated. Ships were frozen in, but Nordenskiöld write a *History of Swedish science 1718 – 1772* based on *Transactions of the Swedesh Academy of Science*.



Nordenskiöld's greatest popular fame: **polar journeys**

In 1875 he sailed from **Norway** to the **Yenesi River** of Siberia.

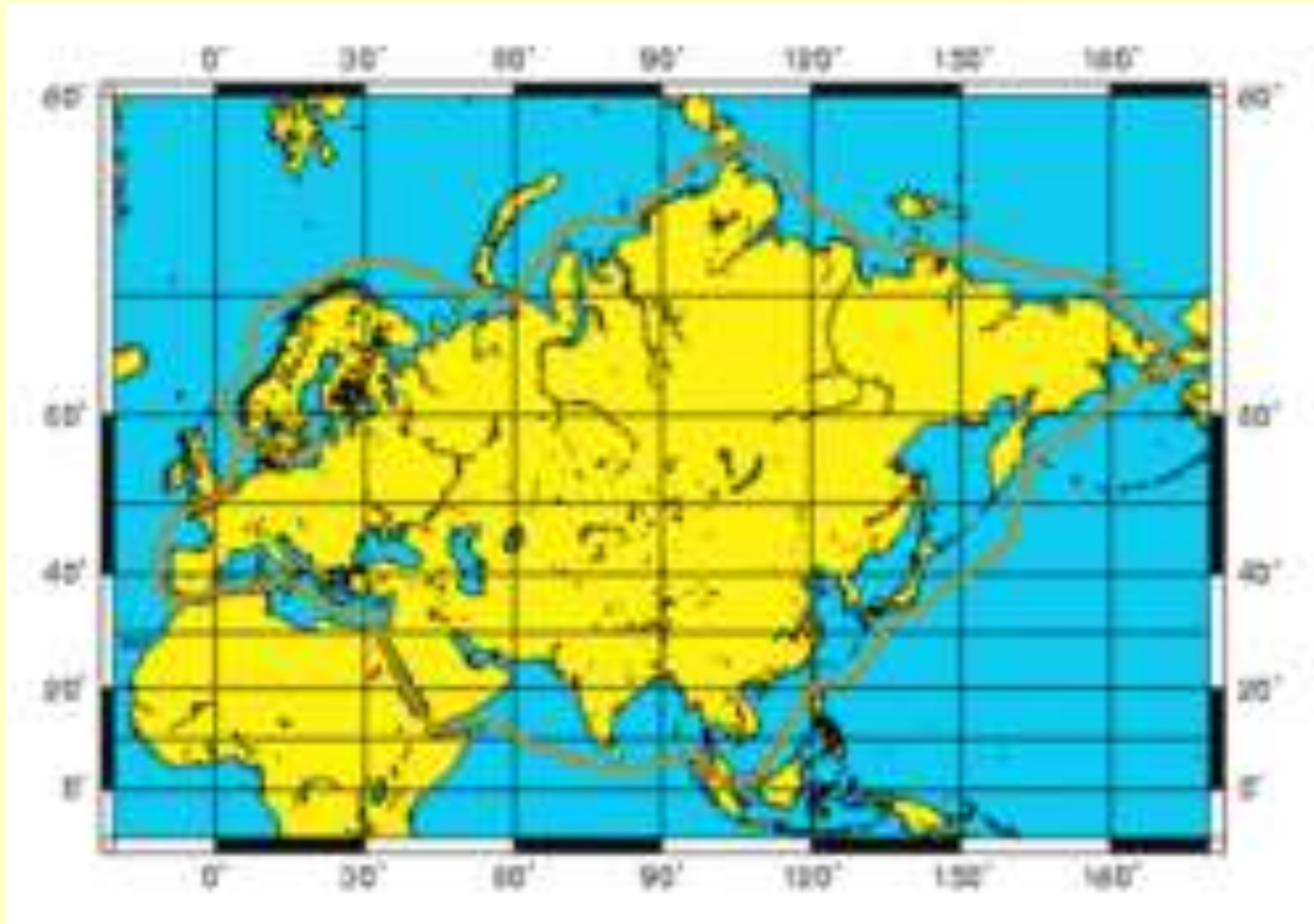
In 1876 he repeated the voyage, delivered a commercial cargo and proved the **Kara Sea** was **navigable**.

The most famous of his arctic journeys was in 1878-1880 his ship whaler **Vega**.



Nils Adolf Erik Nordenskiöld with the *Vega*.

His **VEGA** expedition along the northern coast of **Euroasia** he led in 1878 and 1879



Adolf Erik Nordenskiöld and Northeast Passage commemorative coin

Adolf Erik Nordenskiöld was recently selected as the main motif for a high value commemorative coin, the **€10 Adolf Erik Nordenskiöld and Northeast Passage** commemorative coin, minted in 2007.

This issue celebrates the **175th anniversary of the birth of the Finnish explorer** and of his discovery of the *Northeast Passage*.

Description:

The issue is a part of the European series with the eurostar mintmark, which in 2007 celebrates European achievements in history. The obverse features an abstract portrait of Nordenskiöld at the helm of his ship. The reverse is dominated by a pattern resembling the labyrinth formed by adjacent ice floats.



Honours

The *Laptev Sea* had been originally named "*Nordenskiöld Sea*", after this Arctic explorer.

The *Nordenskiöld Archipelago* and the *Nordenskiöld crater* on Mars were also named in his honour.

The Historian of Early Cartography

As an explorer, Nordenskiöld was naturally interested in the ***history of Arctic exploration***, especially as evidenced in old maps. This interest in turn led him to collect and systematically study early maps. He is today remembered for two substantial monographs, which both included many facsimiles, on early printed atlases and geographical mapping and medieval marine charts, respectively the ***Facsimile-Atlas to the Early History of Cartography (1889)*** and ***Periplus (1897)***.

He left his huge personal collection of early maps to the ***University of Helsinki***, and it was inscribed on ***UNESCO's Memory of the World Register*** in 1997.

Brief Description



Adolf Erik Nordenskiöld:
(1889, reprint 1973):

**Facsimile-Atlas to the Early History of
Cartography with Reproductions of the most
Important Maps Printed in the XV and XVI
Centuries**

Brief Description:

Title-Page

Publisher's Note

Introduction to the Dover Edition

Preface (A. E. Nordenskiöld, Dalbyö, Aug. 15th 1889)

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Addenda.

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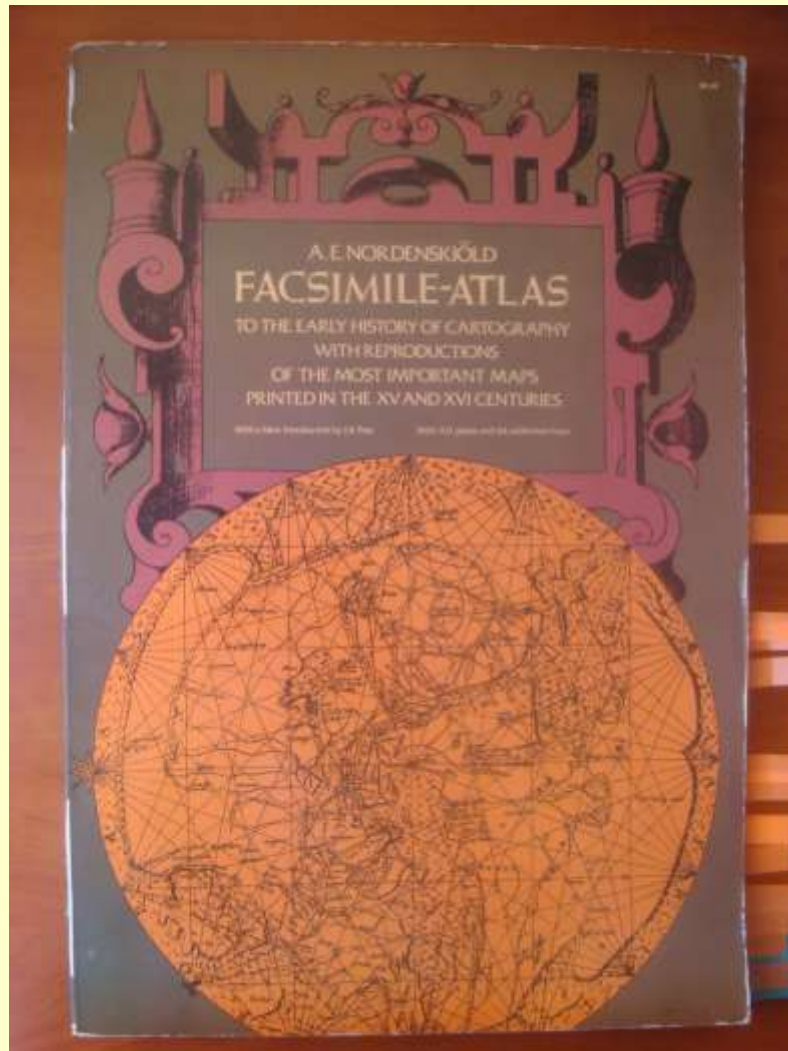
Atlas: 51 table of maps I. – LI.

Dover books of general interest: 68 Titles

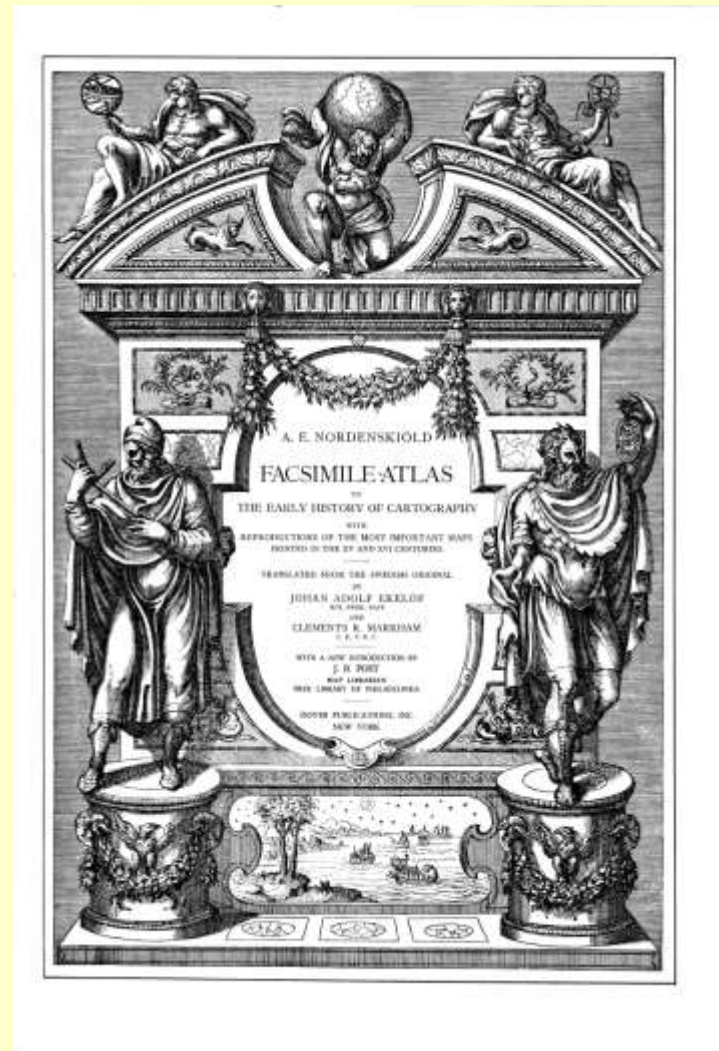
Back-Page with the *Facsimile-Atlas* summary

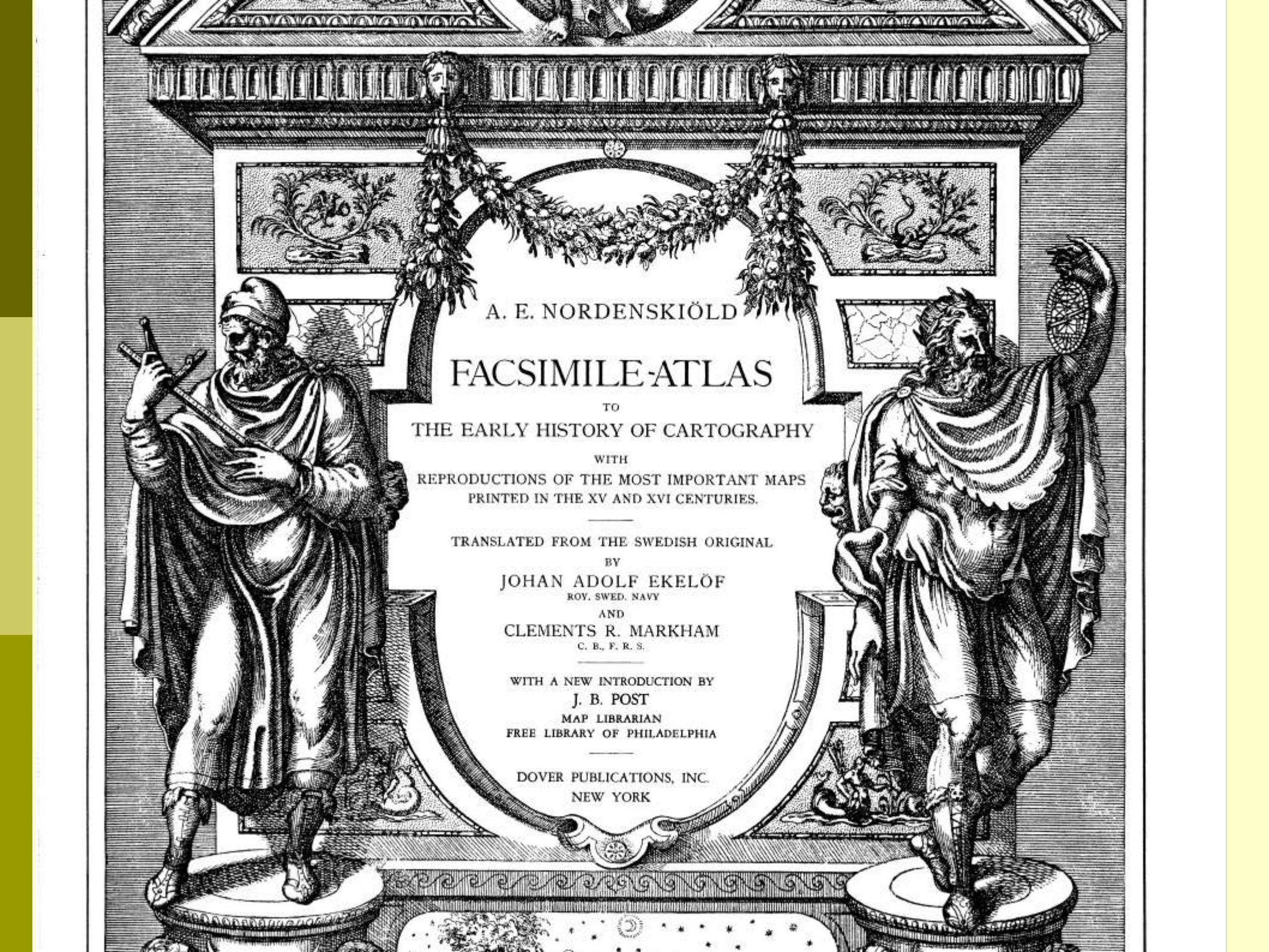
Title-Pages

Outside:



Inside:



The title page is framed by a highly decorative border. At the top, a classical pediment features two female heads (telamones) flanking a central urn. A garland of leaves and flowers hangs from the center. On the left and right sides, there are large, detailed engravings of figures. The figure on the left is a bearded man in a turban and long robe, holding a long staff or scepter. The figure on the right is a bearded man in a long robe, holding a circular object, possibly a map or a shield. The background of the page is filled with intricate patterns and designs.

A. E. NORDENSKIÖLD

FACSIMILE-ATLAS

TO
THE EARLY HISTORY OF CARTOGRAPHY
WITH
REPRODUCTIONS OF THE MOST IMPORTANT MAPS
PRINTED IN THE XV AND XVI CENTURIES.

TRANSLATED FROM THE SWEDISH ORIGINAL

BY

JOHAN ADOLF EKELOF

ROY. SWED. NAVY

AND

CLEMENTS R. MARKHAM

C. B., F. R. S.

WITH A NEW INTRODUCTION BY

J. B. POST

MAP LIBRARIAN

FREE LIBRARY OF PHILADELPHIA

DOVER PUBLICATIONS, INC.
NEW YORK

Publisher's Note

“Wherever possible all maps within the text and all plates have been presented at the size at which they originally appeared in the Stockholm, 1889, edition. Some plates, however, beyond the press size available to us, and had to be reduced by small amounts, generally from two to five per cent:

XVI, XIX-XX, XXII-XXIV, XXVI, XXIX-XXXVI, XXXVIII-XLII, XLIV-XLV, XLIX-LI

A glossary of cities of publication that occur in the list of maps is found in p. x.

The Editors

New York, 1973”

...

“This Dover edition, first published in 1973, is an unabridged and corrected republication of the English edition originally published in Stockholm in 1889. A new Introduction was written by J. B. Post especially for the Dover edition, and a Publisher's Note and Glossary of Cities of Publication have been also added.”

...

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Introduction to the Dover Edition

C. V. of Adolf Erik Nordenskiöld

“... Before *Facsimile-Atlas* there existed **knowledge and interest** but after *Facsimile-Atlas* there existed **systematic approach** to cartography. ...”

“The geographies of Ptolemy were for long the major source of geographic knowledge. Nordenskiöld begins *Facsimile-Atlas* by examining the various editions and pseudo editions, and additions to Ptolemy. Other broad headings into which he devides his study include non-Ptolemaic ancient maps, early mapping of the Age of Discovery (including maps of New World), early terrestrial globes, map projections, and the beginnings of modern cartography.”

Preface

”...

This work was originally written in Swedish and published under the title: *Facsimile-atlas till kartografiens äldsta historia innehållande afbildningar af de viktigaste kartor tryckta före år 1600, af A. E. Nordenskiöld.*

... this English edition was finished in March 1889 ...

Dalbyö, Aug. 15th 1889. A. E. Nordenskiöld.”

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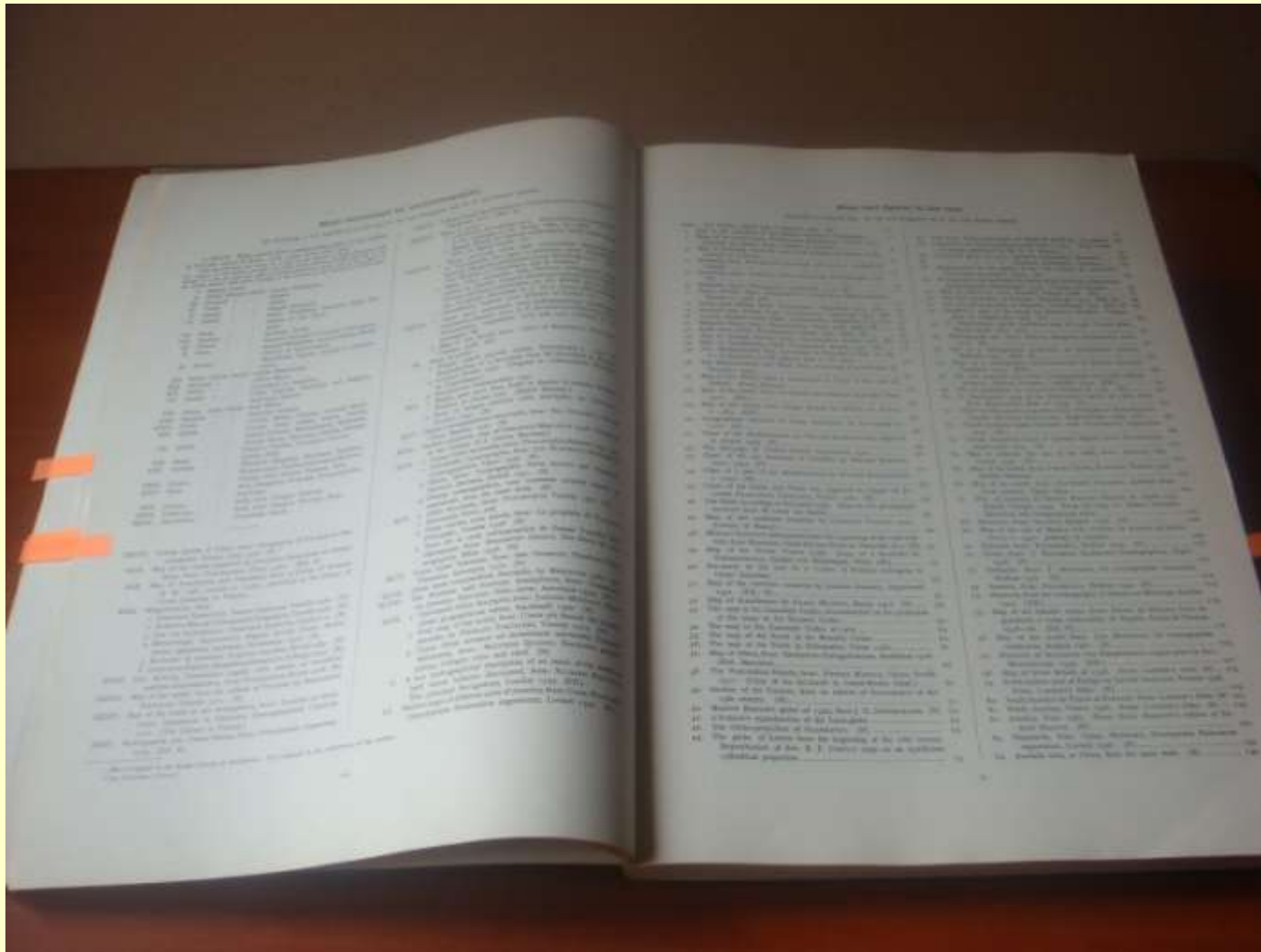
Before I. ...

Maps reproduced by photolithography.

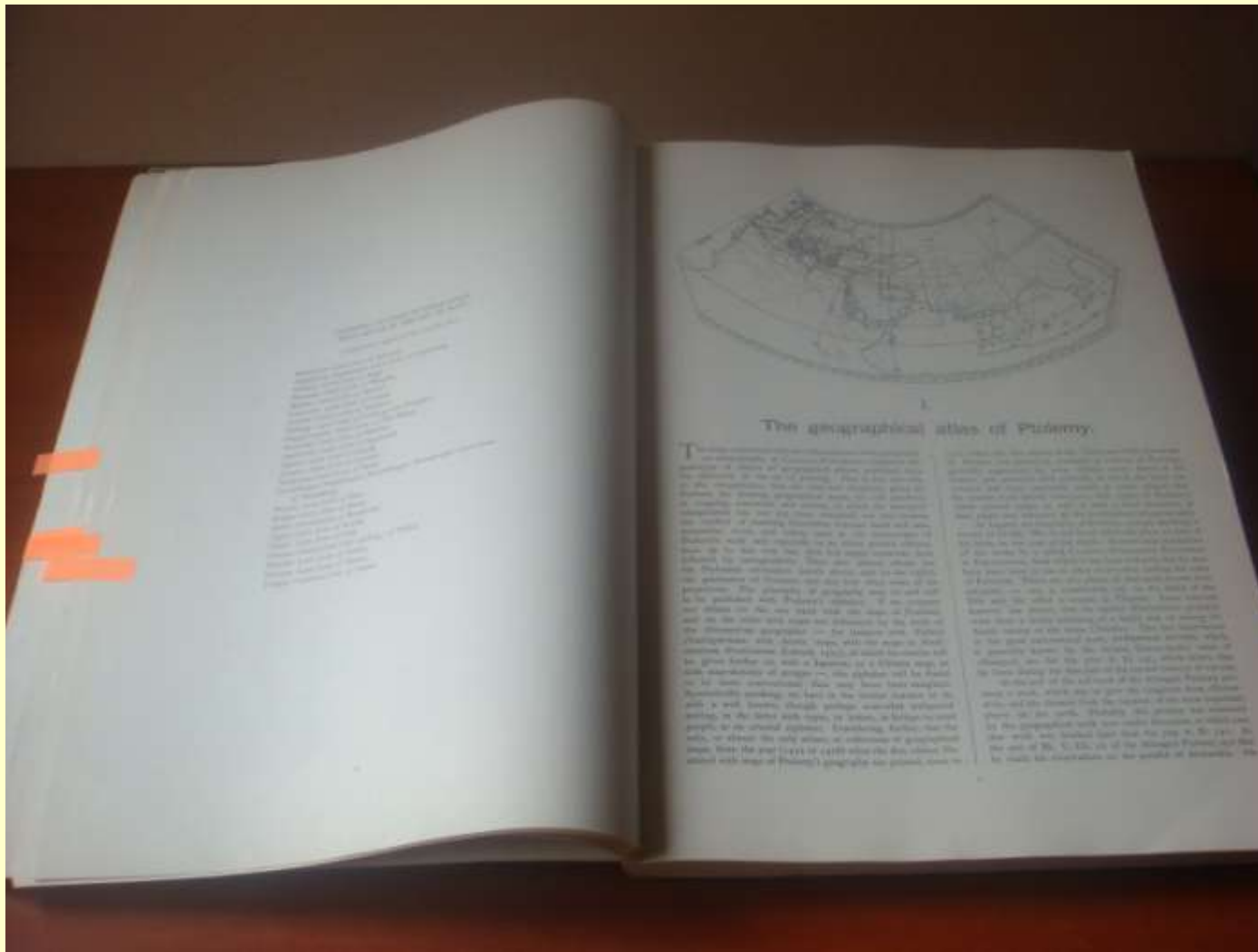
Maps and figures in the text.

GLOSSARY OF CITIES OF PUBLICATION THAT OCCUR IN THE LIST OF MAPS

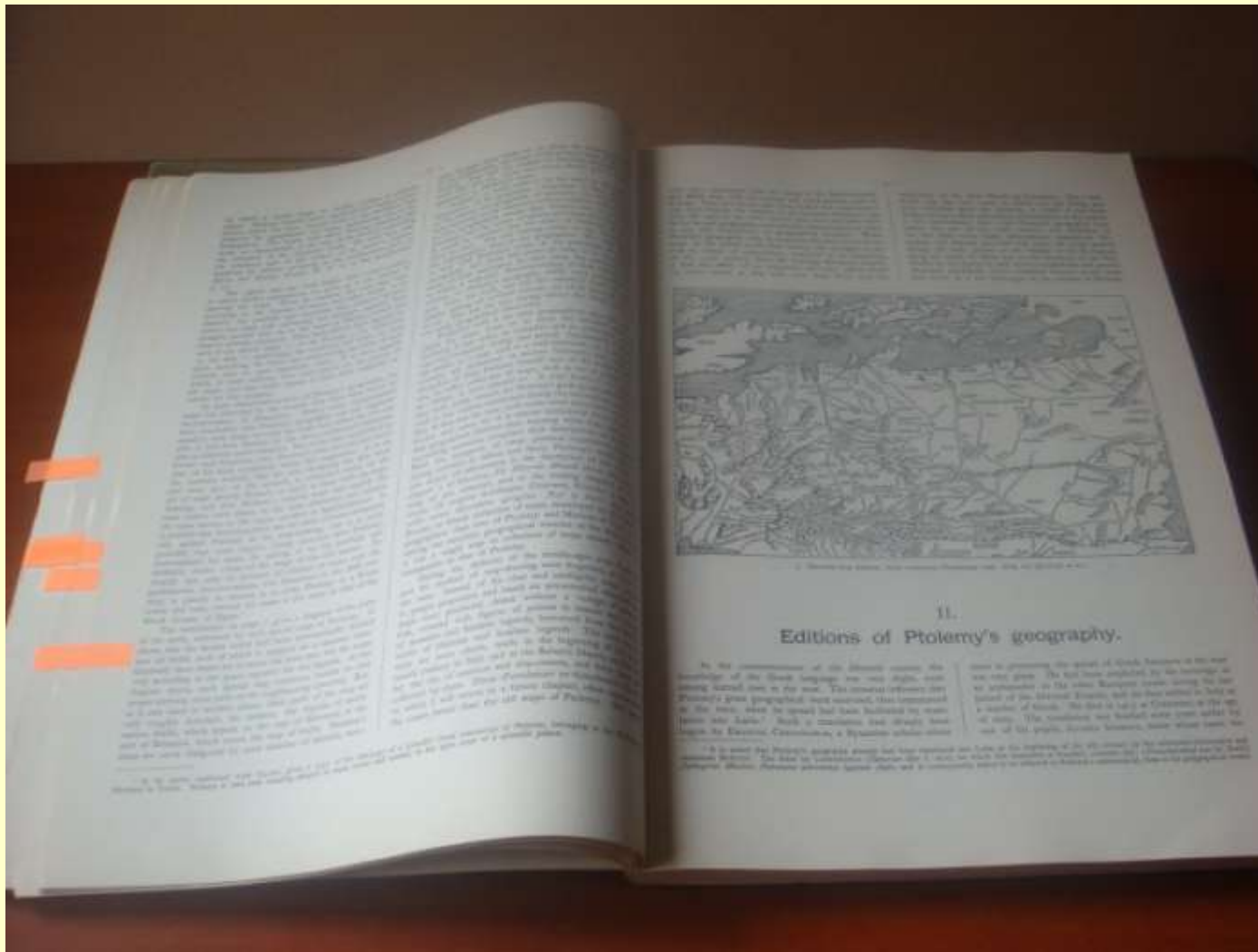
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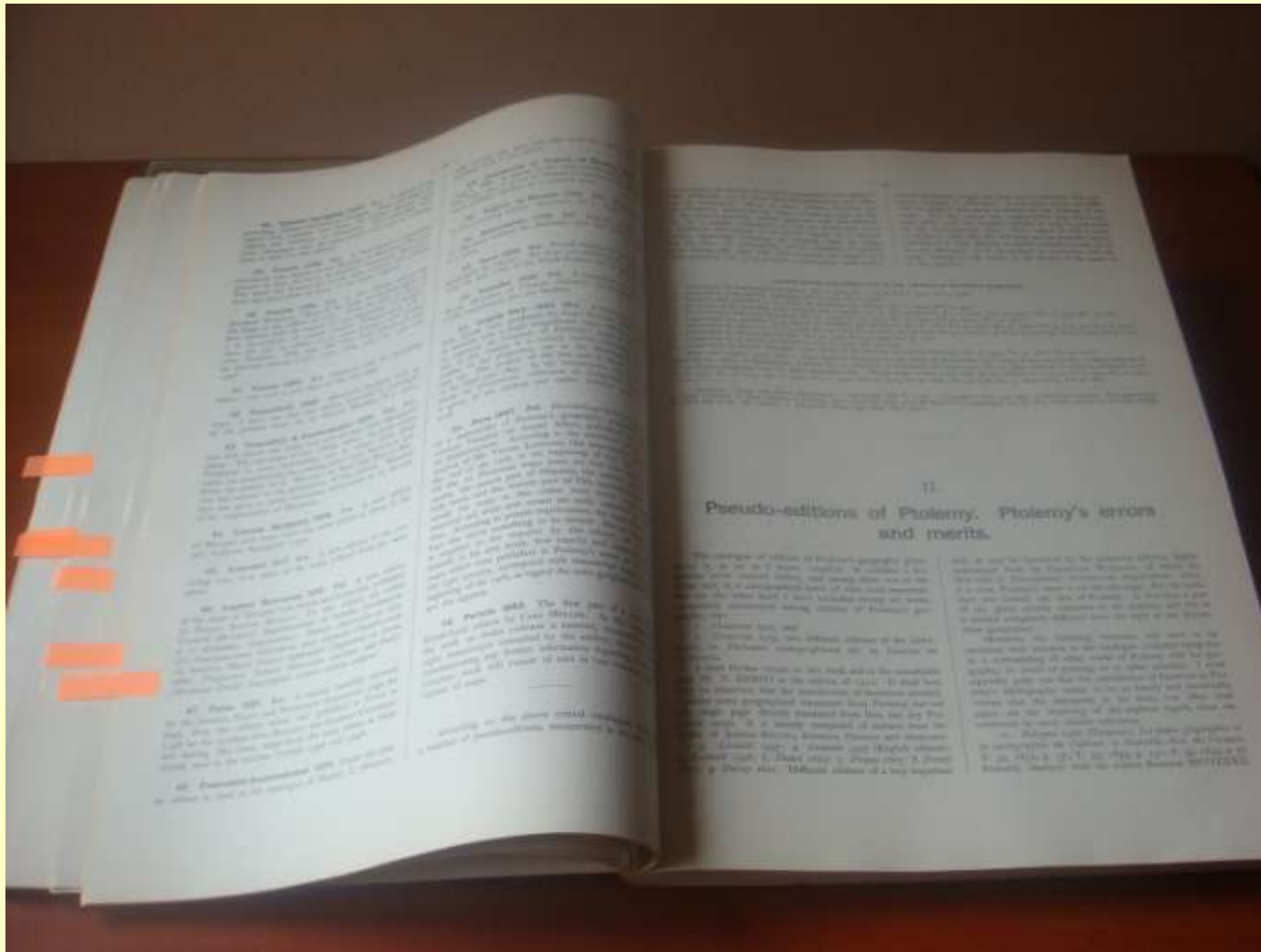
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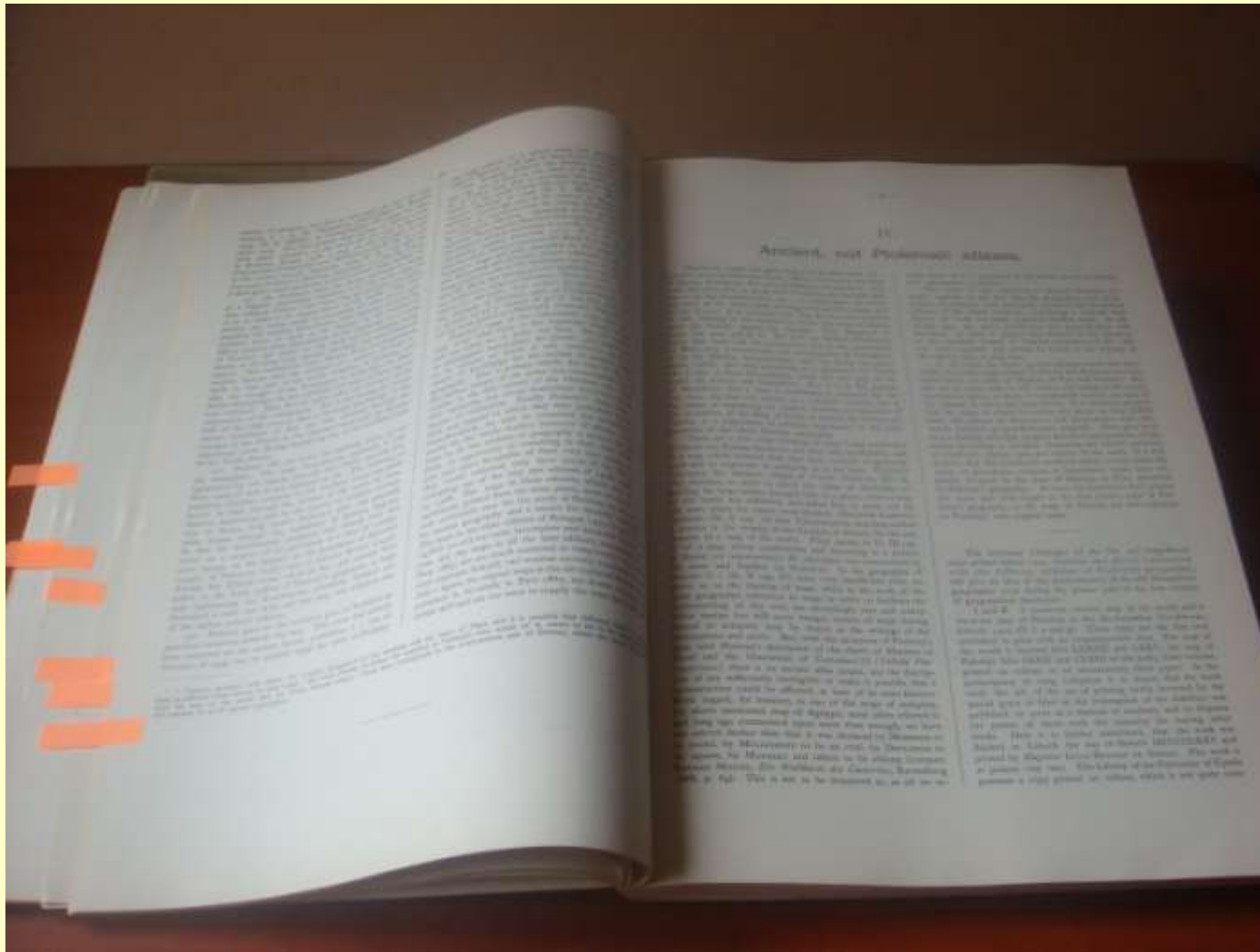
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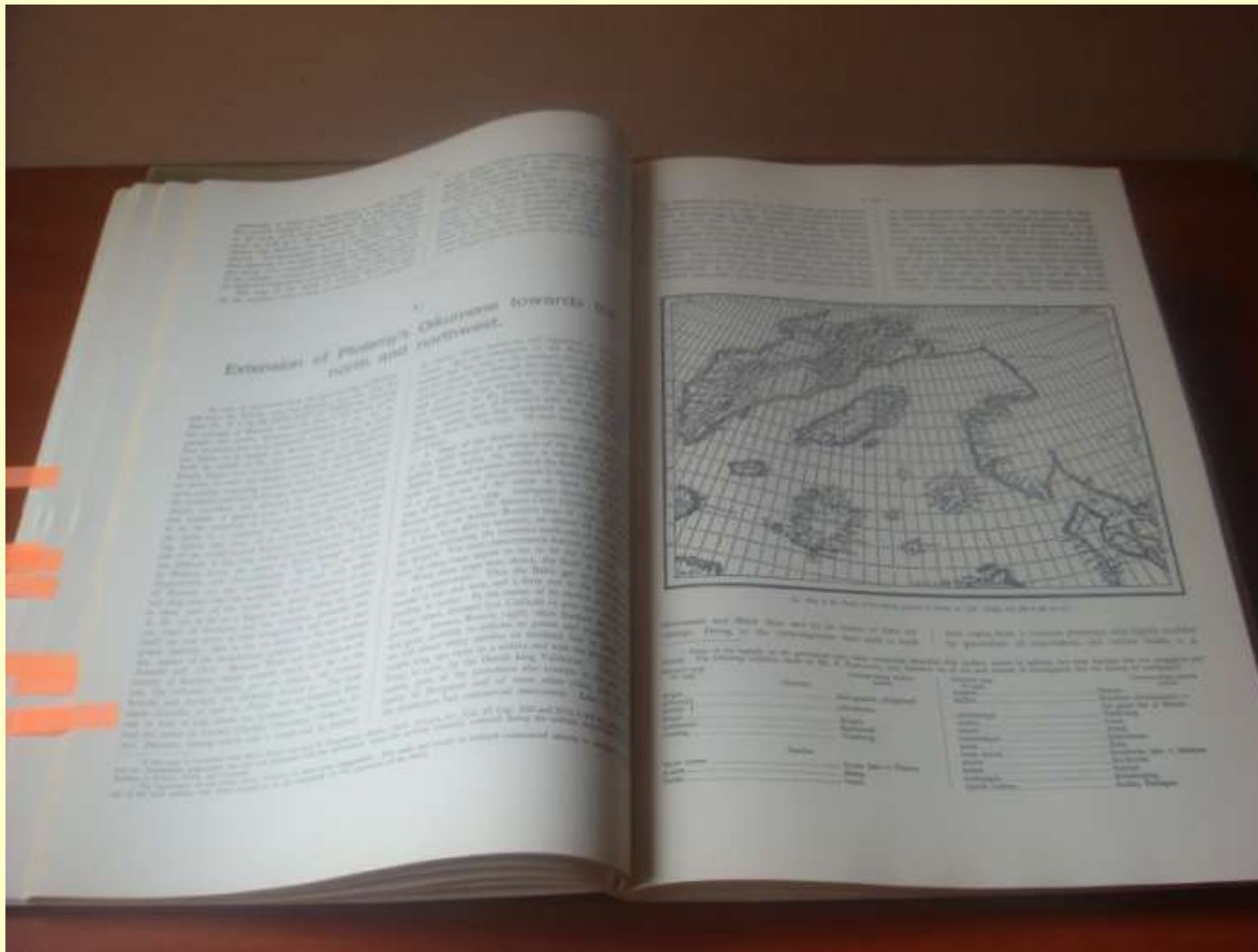
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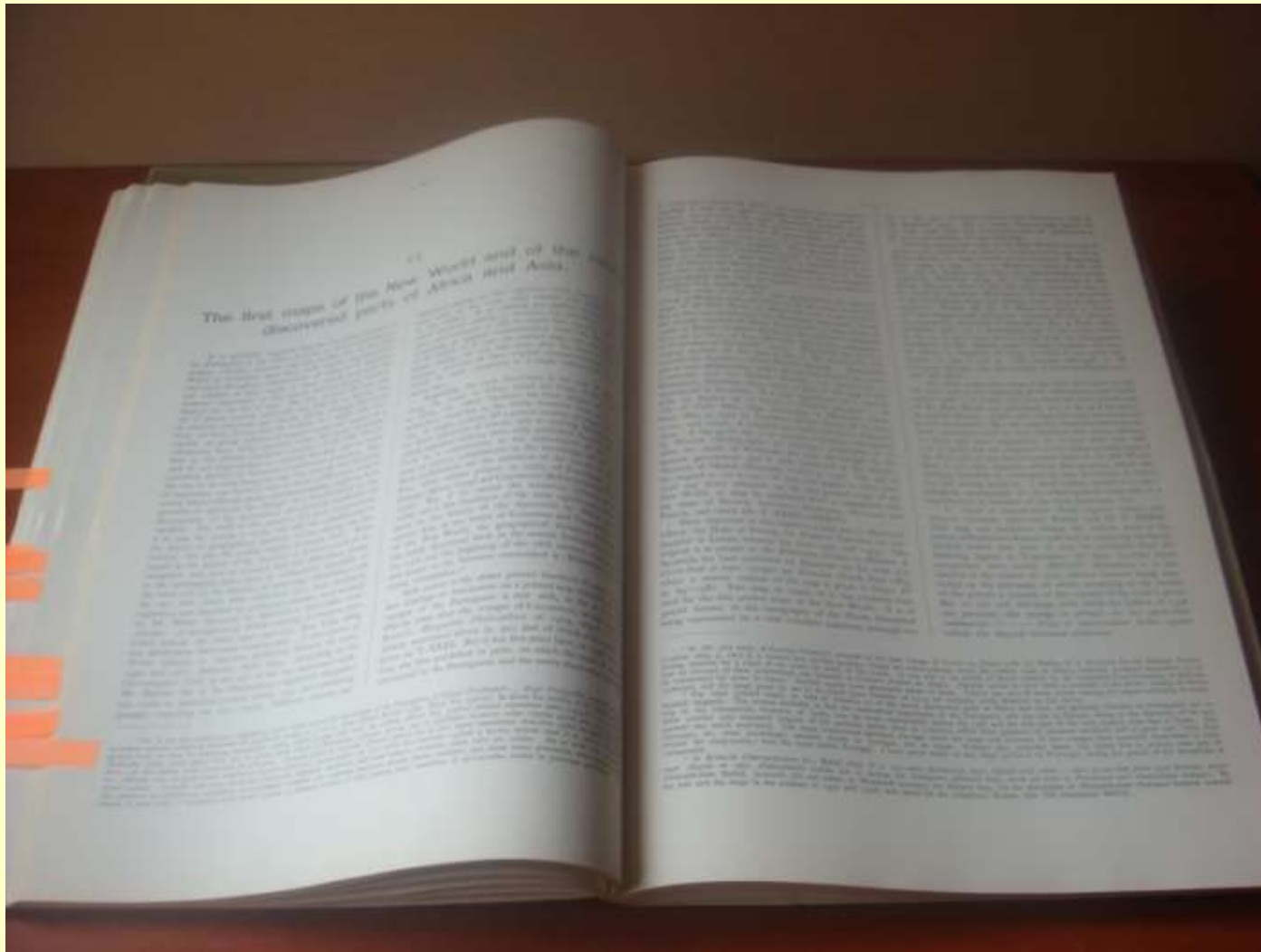
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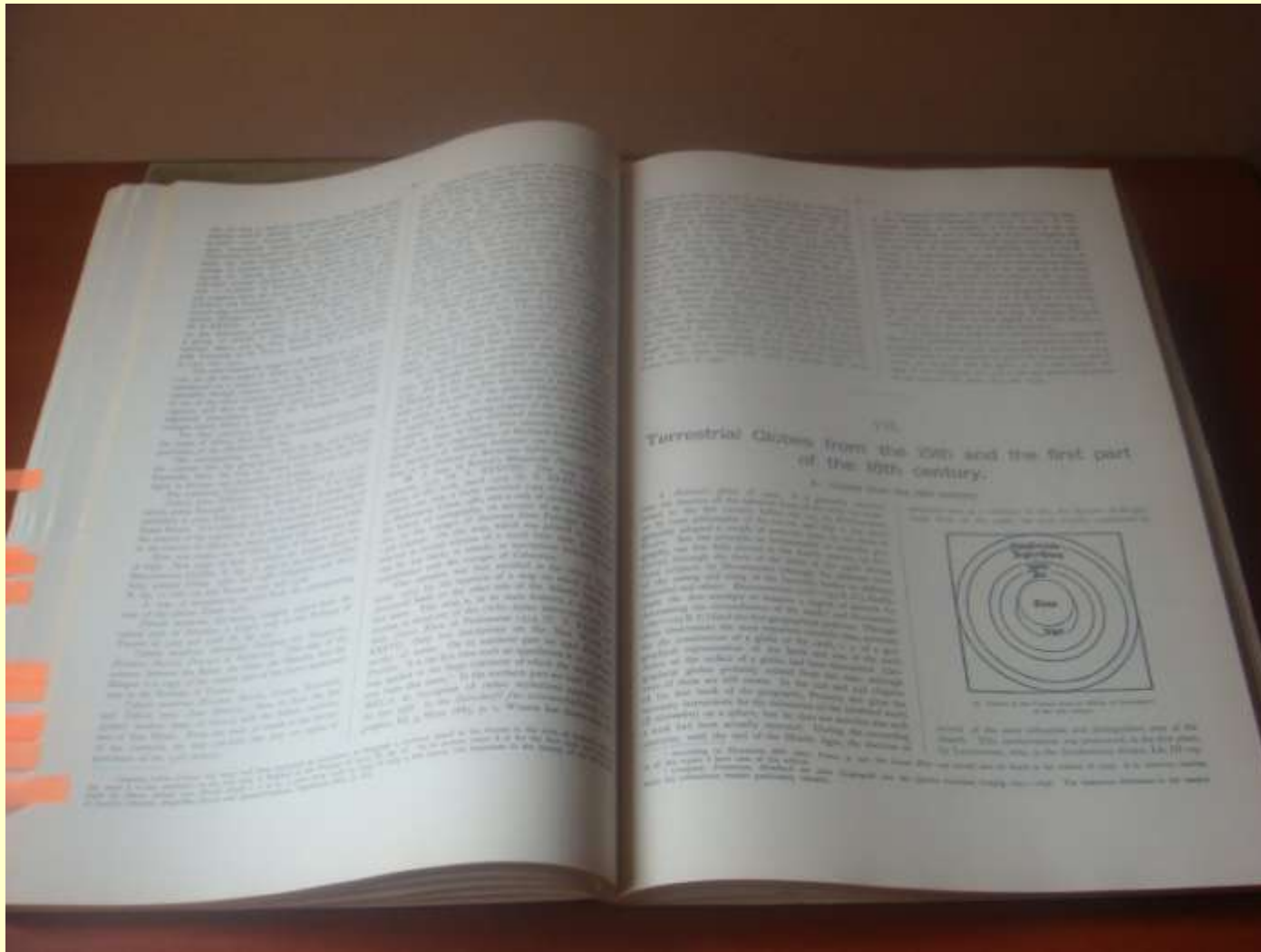
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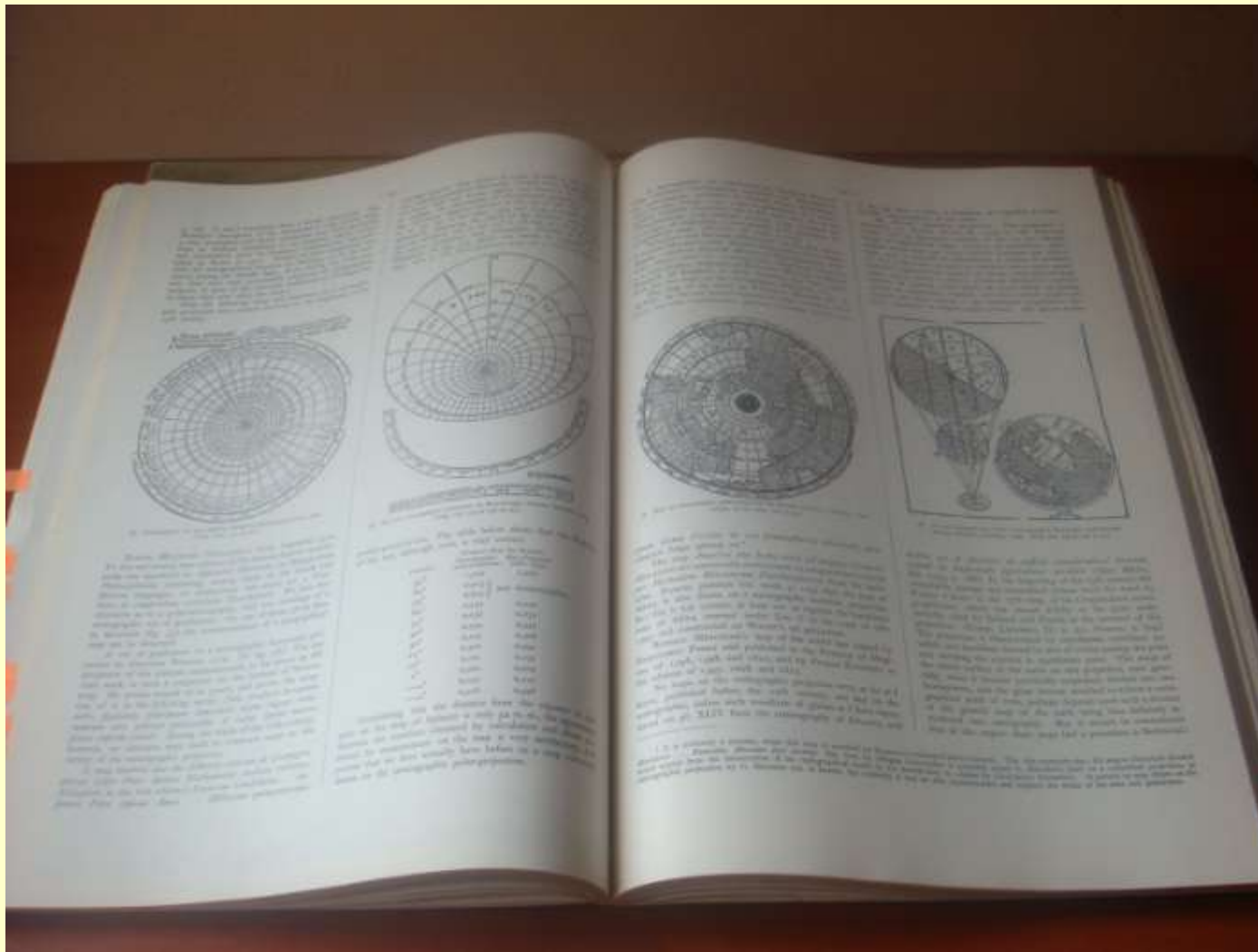
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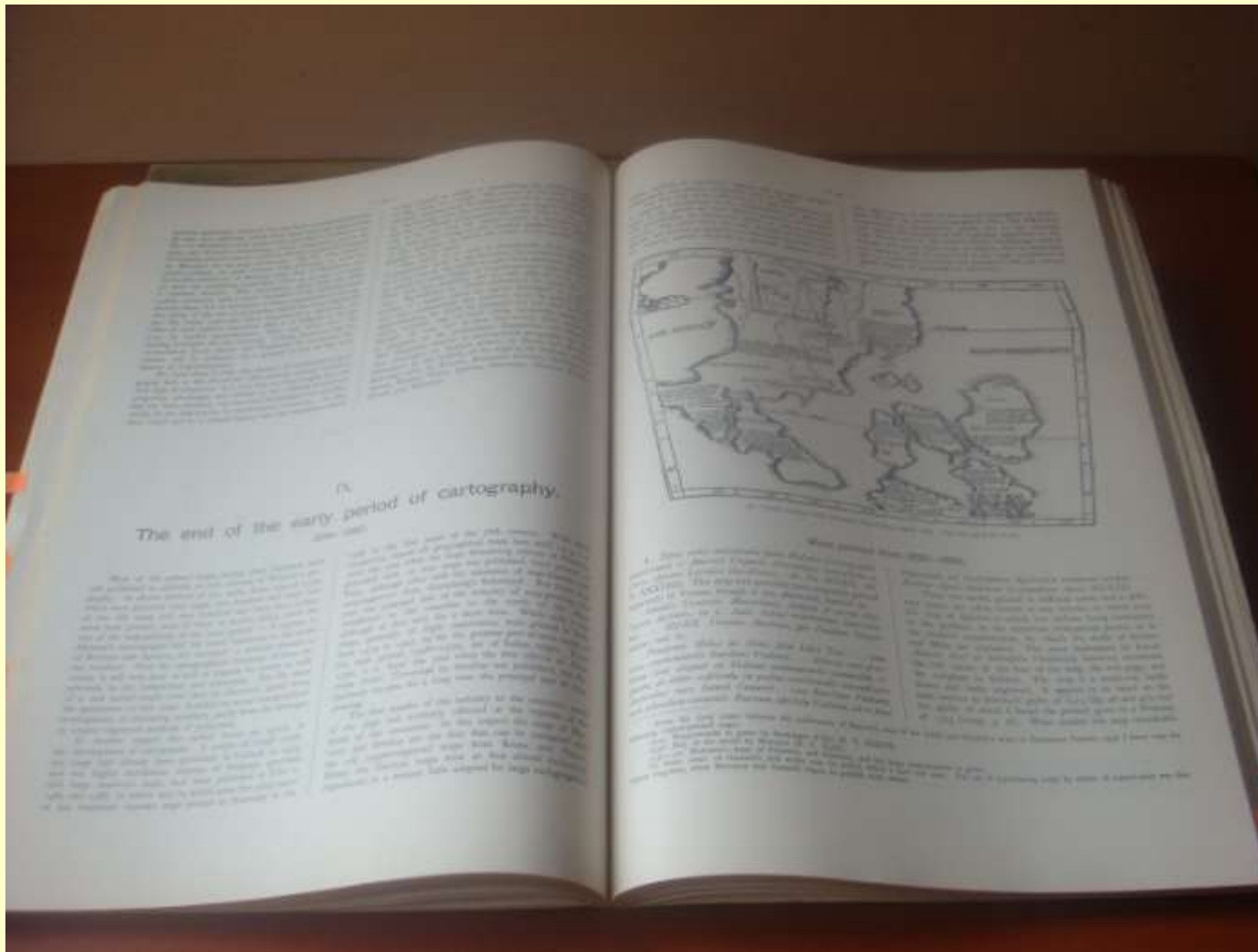
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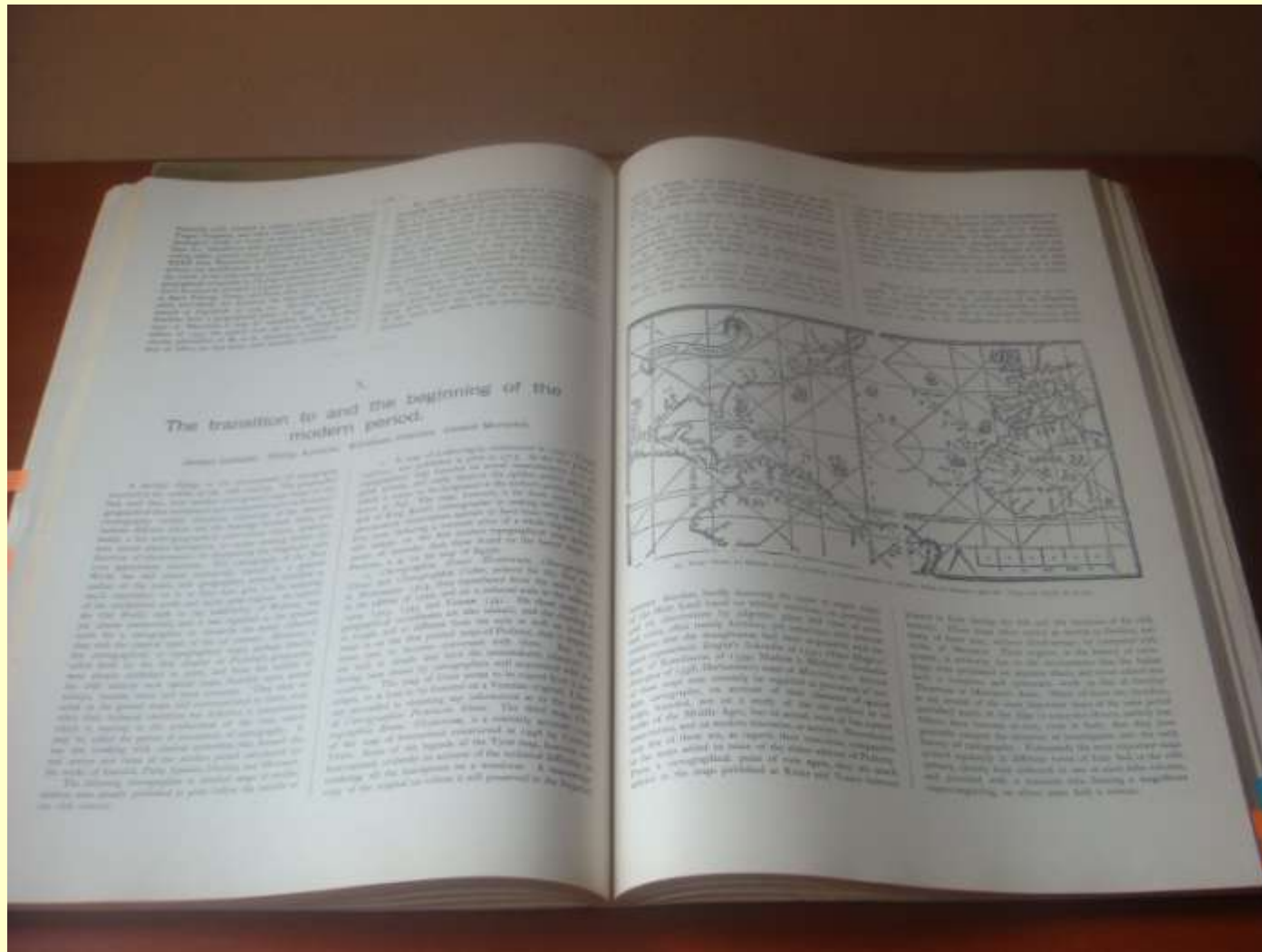
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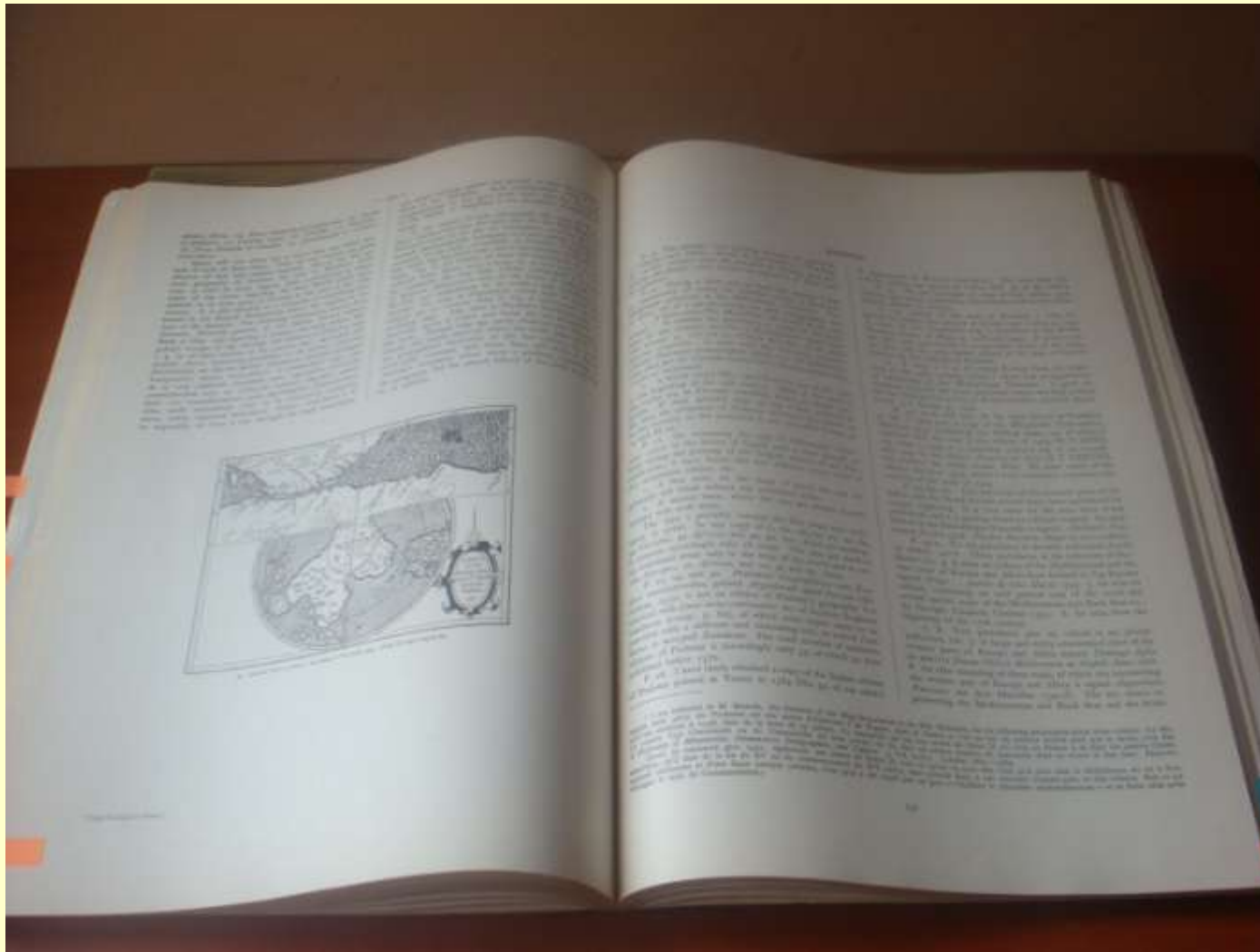
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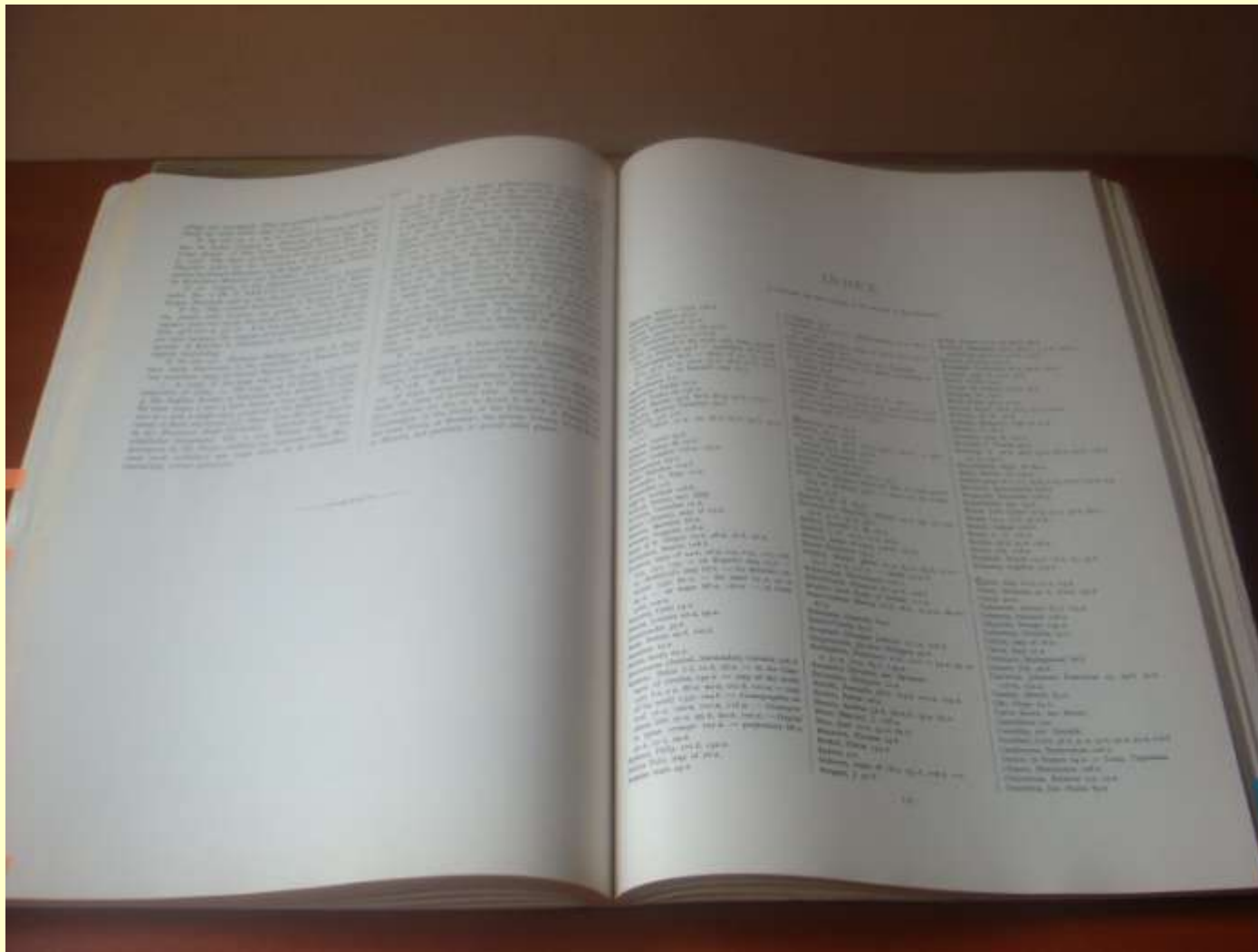
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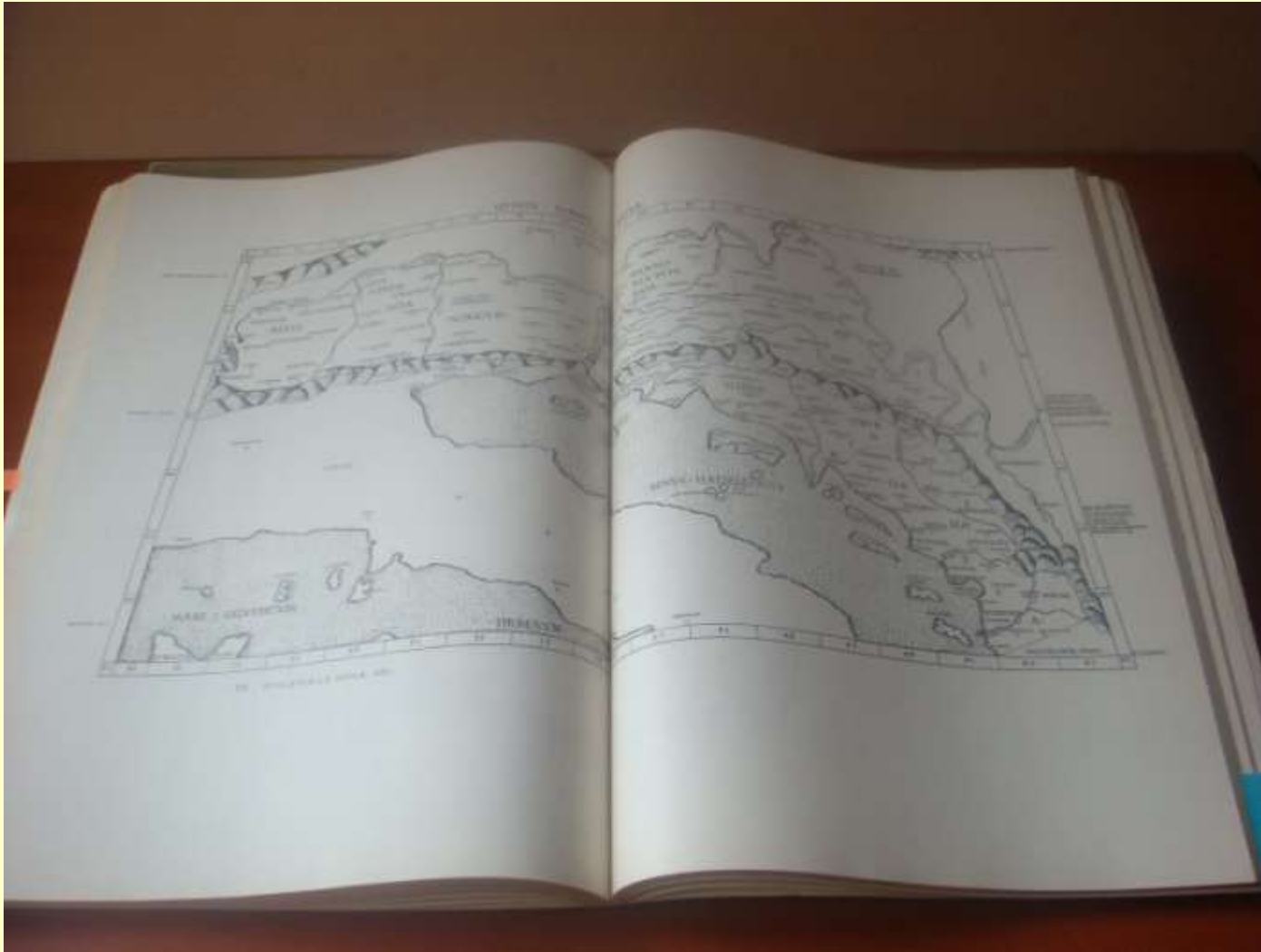
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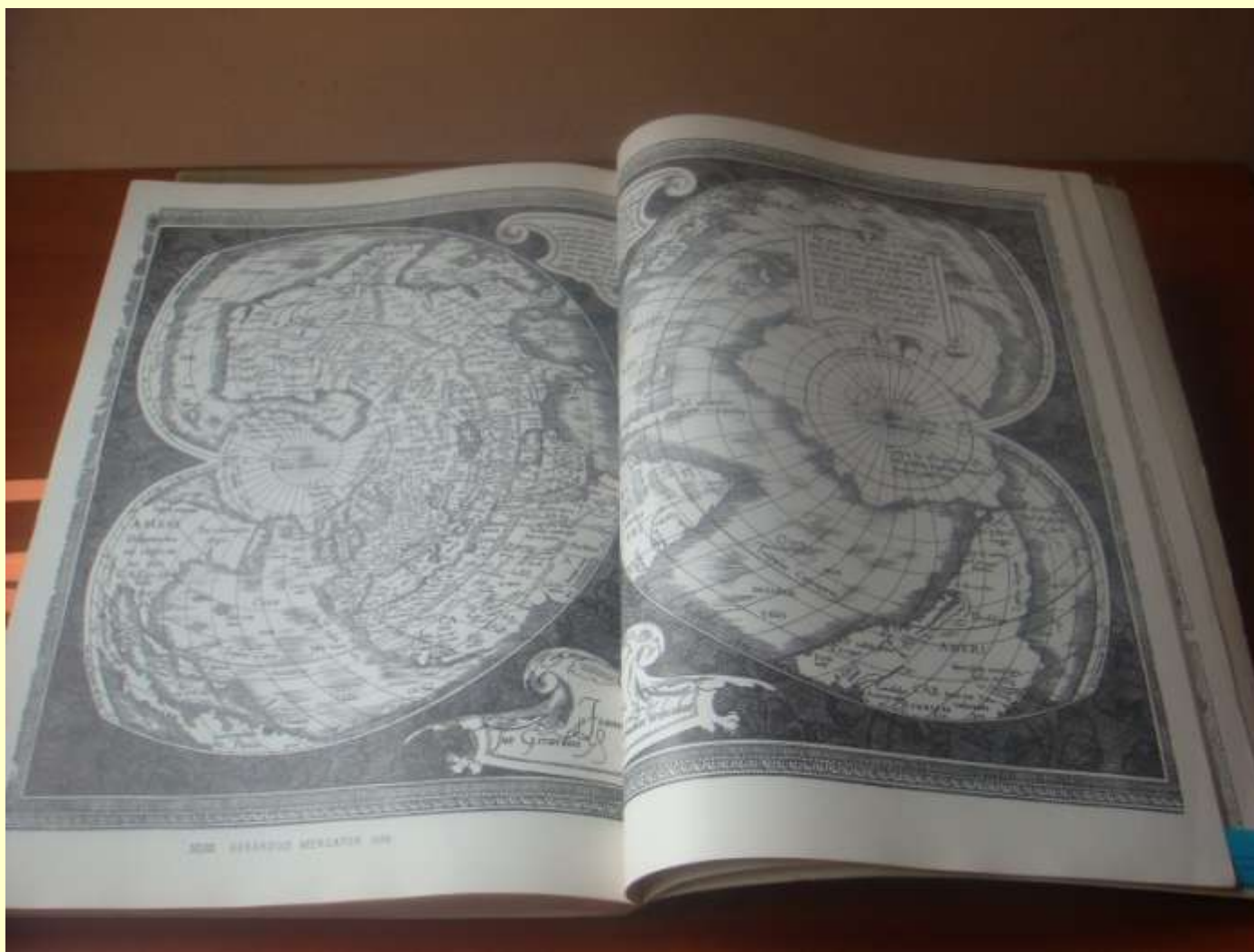


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October, 11th 2014

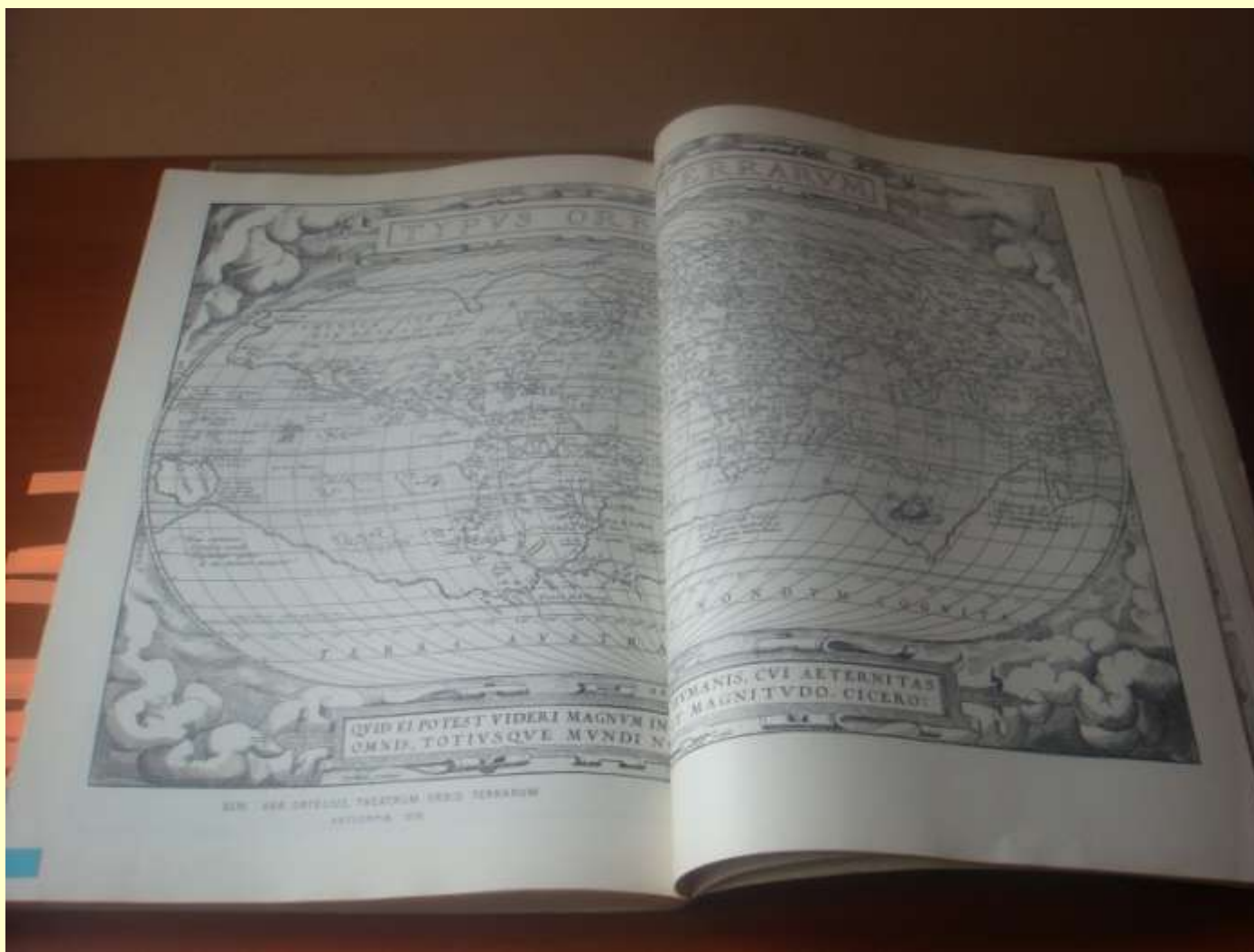
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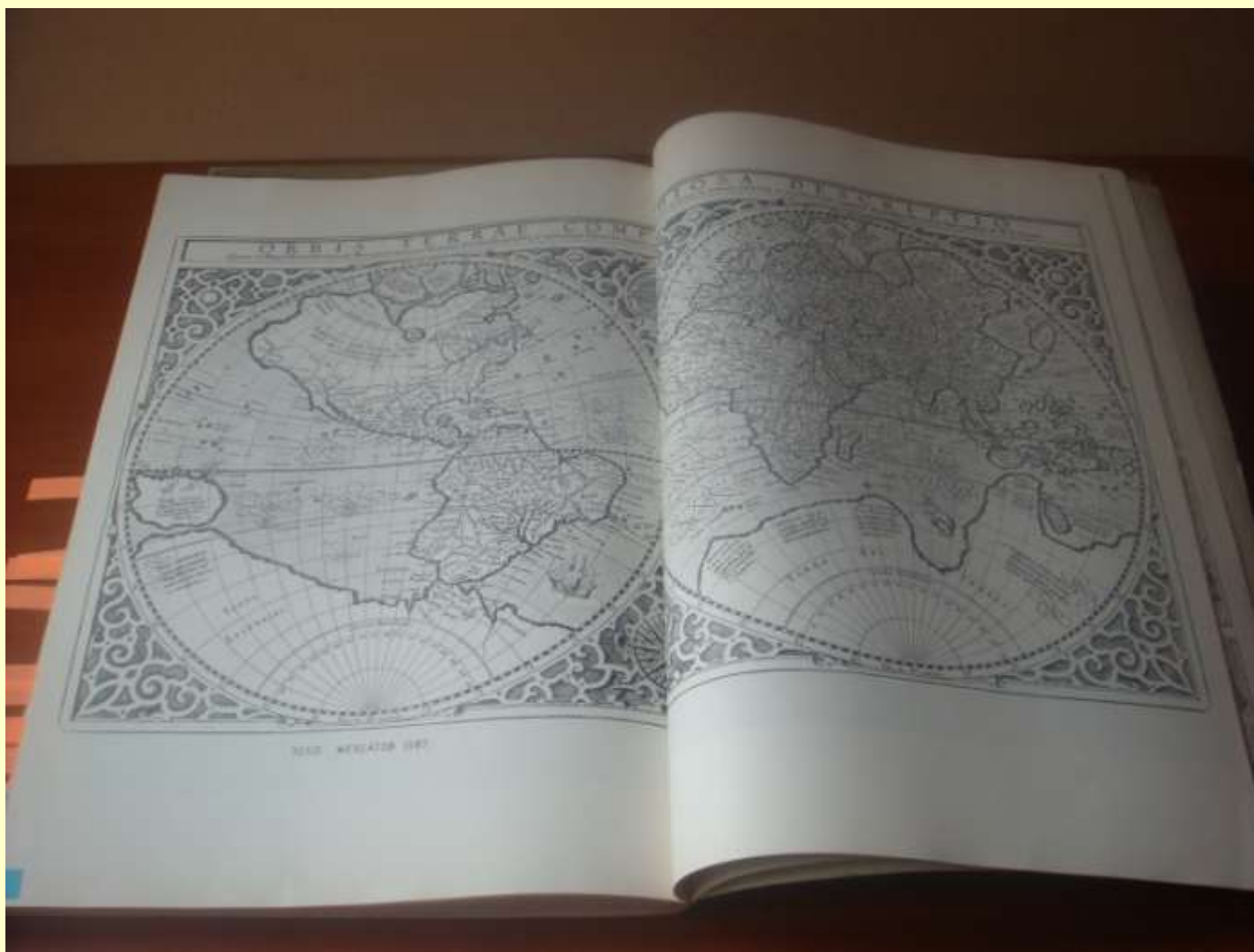
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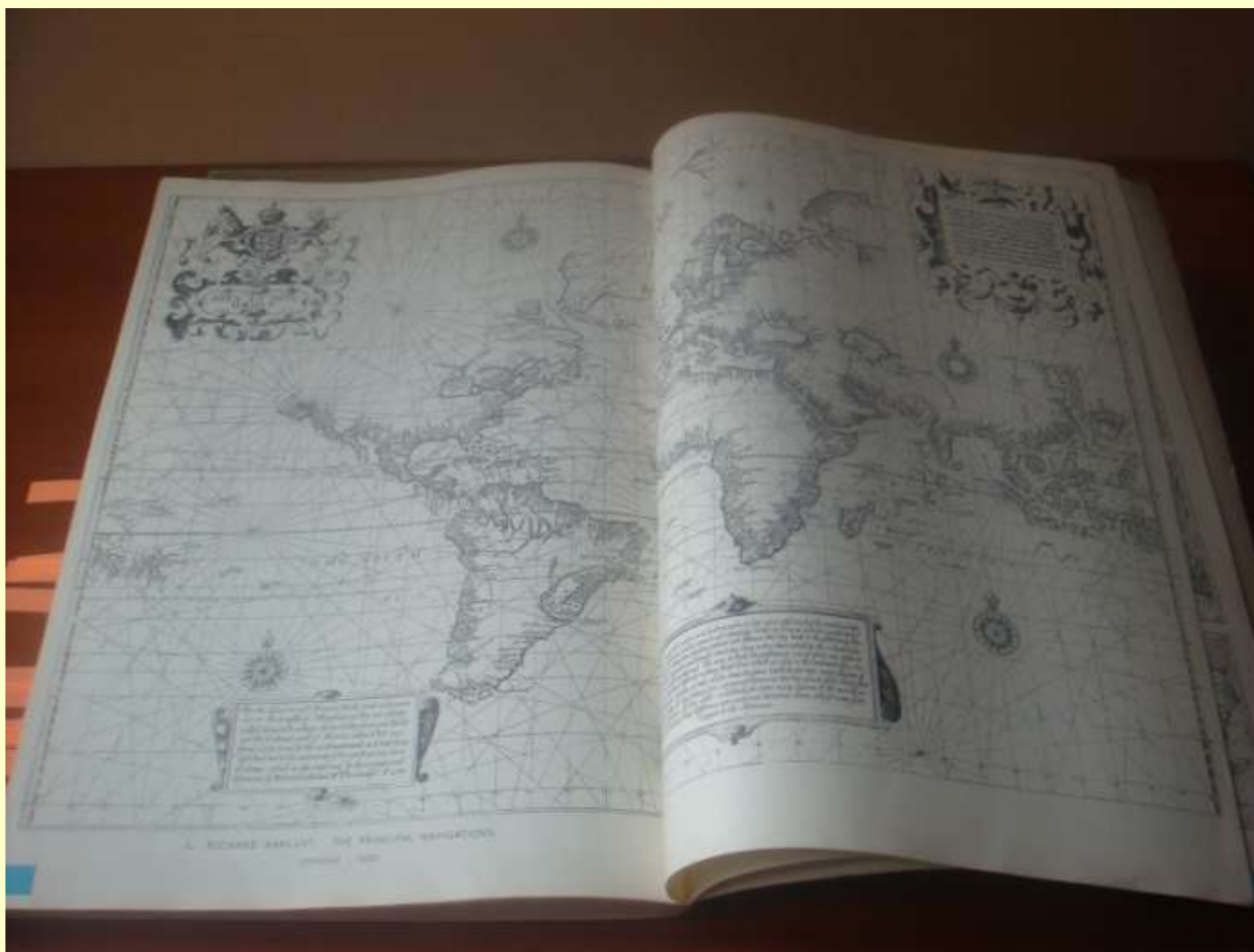


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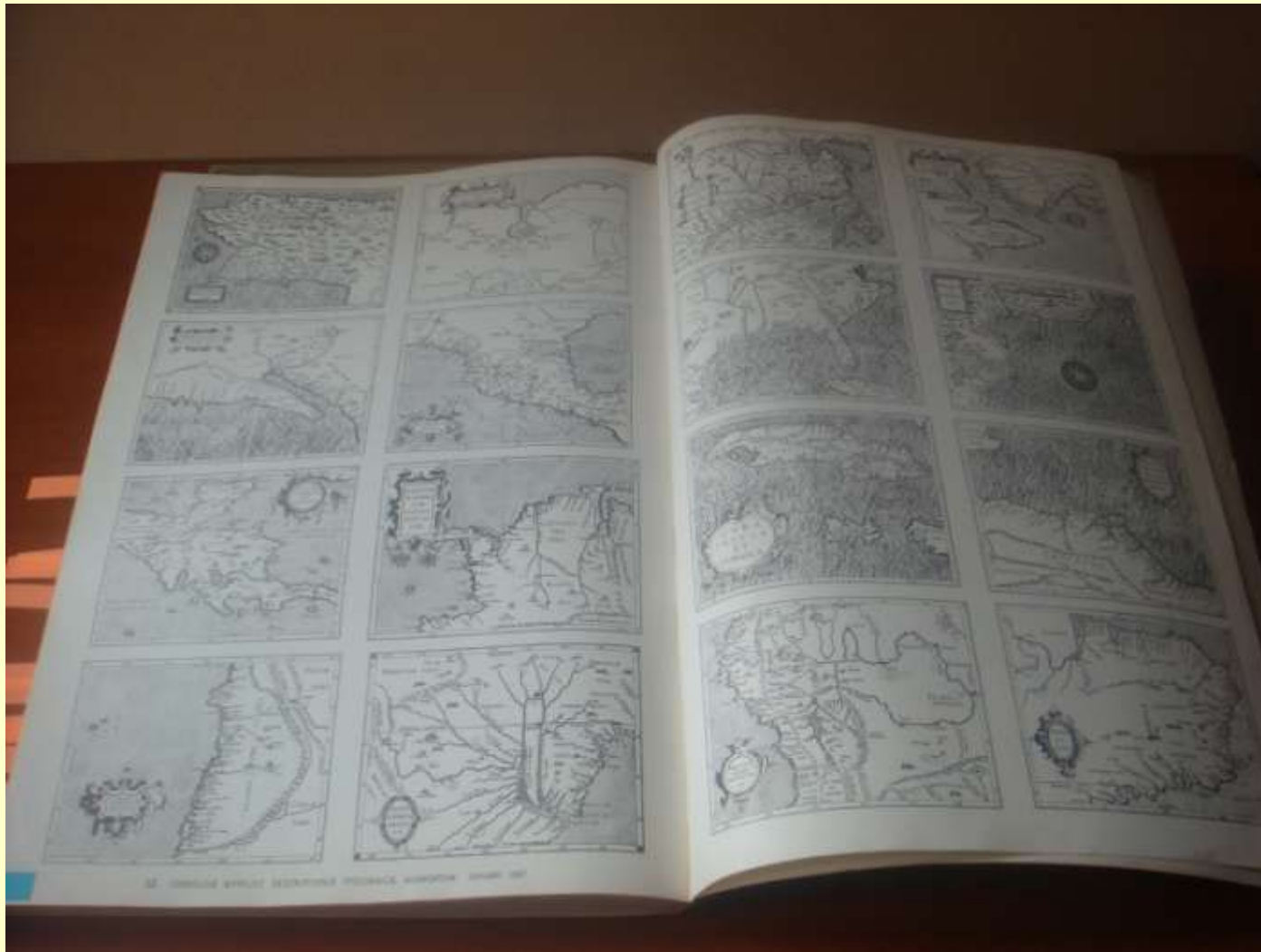
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