

# About illustrations in the books of Cornelis Drebbel.

by Francis Franck.

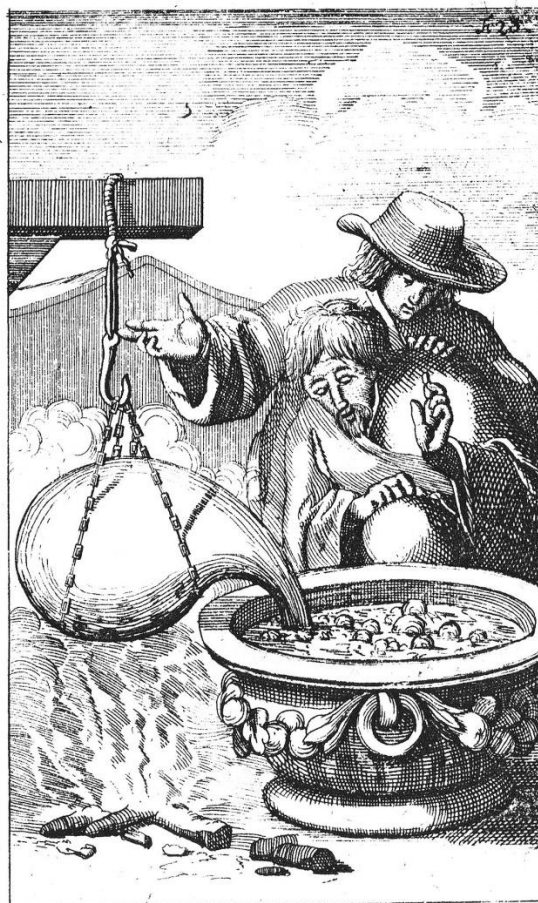
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This short note concerns the publications of Cornelis Drebbel. For extended information on this 17<sup>th</sup> century Dutch researcher and innovator, please consult his [website](#). The site also describes his [writings](#) in full detail.

Book publishers in the 17<sup>th</sup> and early 18<sup>th</sup> century tended to make their work more attractive to the public by including one or more illustrations. Cornelis Drebbel's works were no exception to this habit. Exchange of original etches must have been difficult however, hence one often encounters lower quality copies in later editions. This is illustrated by the examples underneath.

The one on the left of the next page was found in the edition 1688 of "Grondige oplossing van de Natuur en Eigenschappen der Elementen ..." published in Amsterdam by Jacob Claus boekverkoper ([https://play.google.com/store/books/details/Grondige\\_oplossing\\_van\\_de\\_natuur\\_en\\_eigenschappen?id=0LdpeRKbbSIC](https://play.google.com/store/books/details/Grondige_oplossing_van_de_natuur_en_eigenschappen?id=0LdpeRKbbSIC)) and also in the 1702 version by Adriaan van Dijk, boekverkooper te Rotterdam. (<https://play.google.com/store/books/details?id=qbtKAAAACAAJ&hl=en> )

The right one comes from the edition 1709 by Jan Graal in Amsterdam. ([https://play.google.com/store/books/details?id=g7Y\\_AAAACAAJ&hl=en](https://play.google.com/store/books/details?id=g7Y_AAAACAAJ&hl=en) )



**Title:** 2 Mannen kijken aandachtig naar de bellen die uit een koelvat omhoog komen  
**Creator:** etser: [Luyken, Jan \(1649-1712\)](#)  
 auteur: [Drebbel van Alkmaar, Cornelis](#)  
**Keyword:** [natuurwetenschappen](#)  
[Luyken](#) (person)  
**Date of creation:** 1688  
**Technique:** papier  
**Object:** prent  
**Size:** hoogte: 12,34 cm; breedte: 7,29 cm  
**Source:** A42471 (prent, papier), Boekillustratoren Jan en Casper Luyken, Amsterdams Historisch Museum  
**Copyright:** for information contact Amsterdams Historisch Museum

Next the title page of the edition 1688 of “Grondige oplossing van de Natuur en Eigenschappen der Elementen ...” published in Amsterdam by Jacob Claus boekverkoper ([https://play.google.com/store/books/details/Grondige\\_oplossing\\_van\\_de\\_natuur\\_en\\_eygenschappen?id=0LdpeRKbbSIC](https://play.google.com/store/books/details/Grondige_oplossing_van_de_natuur_en_eygenschappen?id=0LdpeRKbbSIC) ). (This one surprisingly antedates the next one by 14 years! )



Below:

On the left, the 1702 version by Adriaan van Dijk, boekverkoper te Rotterdam. (<https://play.google.com/store/books/details?id=qbtKAAAACAAJ&hl=en> )

The right one comes from the edition 1709 by Jan Graal in Amsterdam. ([https://play.google.com/store/books/details?id=g7Y\\_AAAACAAJ&hl=en](https://play.google.com/store/books/details?id=g7Y_AAAACAAJ&hl=en) )





Tot AMSTERDAM.  
by IAN GRAAI, Boeckverkooper Op de Voorburg  
Wal Aan de Nieuwe Kerk Anno. 1709

**Title:** Van de elementen  
**Creator:** etser: [Luyken, Jan \(1649-1712\)](#)  
 auteur: [Drebbel van Alkmaar, Cornelis](#)  
**Keyword:** [tekstfragment](#)  
[natuurwetenschappen](#)  
[Luyken \(person\)](#)  
**Date of creation:** 1702  
**Technique:** [papier](#)  
**Object:** [prent](#)  
**Size:** hoogte: 12,6 cm; breedte: 7,43 cm  
**Source:** A42469 (prent, papier), Boekillustratoren Jan en Casper Luyken, Amsterdams Historisch Museum  
**Copyright:** for information contact Amsterdams Historisch Museum

In Dutch and German versions of “Een kort tractaet van de natuere der elementen” we found a few other remarkable examples:



1608 German, Leyden

(<https://play.google.com/store/books/details?id=oYM5AAAAcAAJ&hl=en> )



1624 German, Erfurt

([https://books.google.nl/books?id=f2Y6AAAAcAAJ&hl=nl&source=gbs\\_navlinks\\_s](https://books.google.nl/books?id=f2Y6AAAAcAAJ&hl=nl&source=gbs_navlinks_s) )



1628 German, Frankfurt

(<http://digital.slub-dresden.de/werkansicht/df/10387/29/0/> )



1621 Dutch, Haarlem

([http://drebber.net/wiki/PDF:1621\\_Tractaet](http://drebber.net/wiki/PDF:1621_Tractaet) )



1632 Dutch, Rotterdam

([http://reader.digitale-sammlungen.de/de/fs1/object/display/bsb10726799\\_00079.html](http://reader.digitale-sammlungen.de/de/fs1/object/display/bsb10726799_00079.html) )