

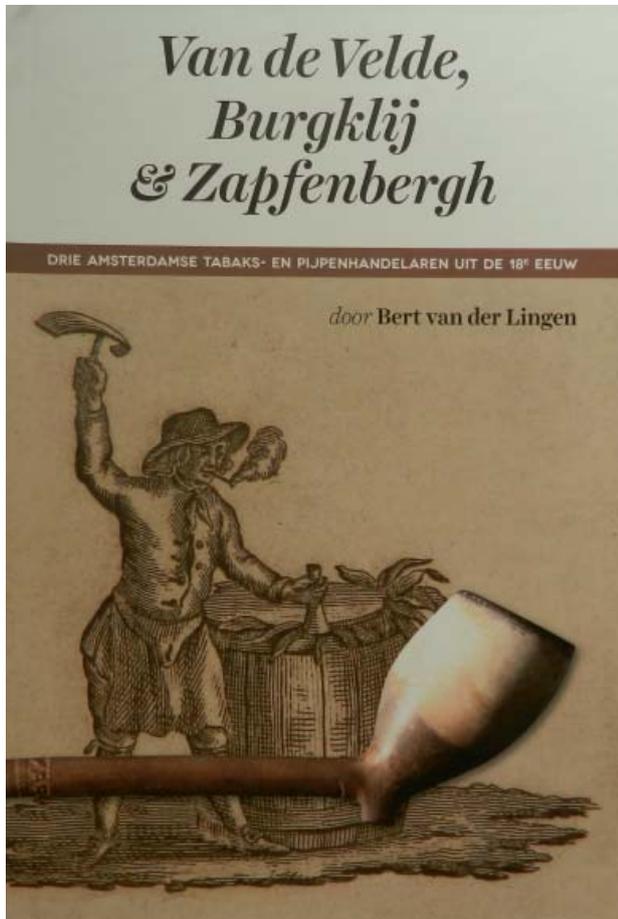
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REVIEW

Van de Velde, Burgklij & Zapfenbergh. Drie Amsterdamse tabaks- en pijpenhandelaren uit de 18^e eeuw. By Bert van der Lingen. 108 pages, illustrated, in Dutch with an English summary. Utrecht: Brittenburg Uitgeverij, 2013. ISBN 978-90-820068-0-3. EUR 35.00.



For a long time pipe stems with the names van de Velde, Burgklij and Zapfenberg were considered to be products of unknown pipe makers. The name of Zapfenberg, in particular, was thought to be the name of a German pipe maker or tobacco dealer with an unknown domicile. In this well presented book, Bert van der Lingen shares with the reader the interesting discoveries he has made in the Amsterdam archive about these traders from Amsterdam in tobacco and pipes.

Around the middle of the seventeenth century Amsterdam was a very important centre for the import, manufacturing and export of tobacco products. Between 1670 and 1730 exports to Germany and the Baltic were at their peak. This publication describes the three largest tobacco manufactures who traded clay pipes using their own company names on the stems of the pipes. The best known were the brothers Frans and Jacob van de Velde who exported large quantities of tobacco and large numbers of pipes to various parts of the world. The documents of Jan George Burgklij give an insight into the distribution

channels of his products. Ertwijn Zapfenbergh had in the first two decades of the eighteenth century a huge market share, especially in Saxony. Brief family histories of these wealthy Amsterdam merchants are provided along with information about their commercial activities.

This small book, with its careful descriptions, gives a deep insight in the world of these tobacco and pipe traders. It is interesting that there were close ties between some of the pipe makers in Gouda and these Amsterdam tobacco firms, like the connection between members of the Danens family and the van de Velde firm. There were also close ties between the pipe maker Hermanus van der Spelt and George Burgklij. It is likely that these tobacco traders invested in specific pipe shops in Gouda. While this book provides new information on various aspects of the pipe and tobacco trade, a more profound introduction about development of the tobacco trade in Amsterdam would have assisted in providing a deeper understanding of the position of these top tobacco traders.

This book can be strongly recommended to those who are interested in the tobacco trade in the eighteenth century but also to those whose primary interest are the tobacco pipes.

Ruud Stam