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Open panel 1: "Bilingual lexicography (1500-2000): labelling, variation, and standardization"

Usage labeling and 'styles' in late 17th-/early 18th-century lexicography of Dutch: François Halma and Pierre Marin

At the end of the 17th century, partly under the influence of recent developments in French monolingual lexicography, the lexicography of Dutch, which would remain bilingual until the end of the 18th century, undergoes significant changes both in terms of renewed and expanded entrylists (De Vooys 1934) and in terms of lexicographical methods of description.

The front matter as well as the lexicographical treatment of Dutch lemmata/equivalents in the early 18th century bilingual dictionaries with Dutch suggest that these works, though chiefly designed for foreign language learning, were also intended for the type of use similar to that of contemporary monolingual dictionaries of other languages. The vivid interest in the Dutch language is evident in the discussion of controversial Dutch (socio-)linguistic issues in the prefaces and the rapidly developping labeling systems pertaining to Dutch, especially grammar and usage labels (Geeraerts 1986).

This paper explores the development of Dutch usage labeling in the work of François Halma (1653-1722) and Pierre (Pieter) Marin (1667/68-1718), two lexicographers whose French-to-Dutch and Dutch-to-French dictionaries had a lasting impact on the later development of Dutch monolingual lexicography. Focusing on the issues where the two authors differ in opinion (loanwords, coinage of technical terms, diatopic, diastratic and diaphasic basis for standardization), this paper explores the types of diasystematic variation that are taken into account in their dictionaries against the backdrop of theoretical ideas on *style*, a rhetorical concept deployed to capture aspects of language variation beyond the rhetorical analysis.

Selected references

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