

AN EXHIBITION IN THE LIBRARY OF THE ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

“We are somewhat amused – my Empire in Picture Books.”

Victoria, Queen and Empress

Exhibition catalogue

Adelaide Fringe Festival
27 February – 22 March 2009

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26 – 31 May
for History Week

**RGSSA Library
State Library of South Australia
Mortlock Wing**

(SOUTHERN END, SECOND FLOOR)

**10am - 1pm Tuesday to Friday
1- 4pm Saturday and Sunday**



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Step back into the nineteenth century and the Empire of Queen Victoria! In these days of modern library buildings and storage areas inaccessible to the public, it is an uncommon sight to see books from the nineteenth century shelved and displayed in a library building from that time.

Indeed this is one of the reasons for the present exhibition – to celebrate the fact that the Society is still here, in the beautiful Mortlock Wing of the State Library of South Australia.

Last year we celebrated the one hundredth anniversary of the opening to the public of the **York Gate Library**, which was purchased by the Society three years earlier in 1905.

This library was collected over a lifetime by **S.W. Silver**, a London merchant born in 1819, the same year as Queen Victoria.

The Terra Cognita exhibition displayed some 45 of the rarer and more valuable items from this

collection with most of the books and manuscripts dating from before Victoria's reign (the oldest being 1482).

But what of the thousands of more popular titles? This exhibition gives a taste of these now rarely exhibited records of Empire.

Other books are from the library of **Frederick Lucas Benham** who died in 1939 and left the Society approximately 4,000 books from his collection.

There are also books from the library of **Thomas Gill**, the Society's treasurer from 1885 until his death in 1923. Other books were purchased by the Society or donated by others.

Many of the books on display are not electronically catalogued. The only access is through a catalogue of mostly handwritten cards compiled in the 1940s.

But at last through the efforts of volunteers we have started to add the first of about 9,000 titles



from the card catalogue to the national cataloguing system.

Another reason to celebrate by displaying a selection of these books – many of which have probably lain unopened for a century or more.

Thanks to **Beth Stewart** for kindly lending an authentic pair of Queen Victoria's bloomers, **Peter Barnes** for most of the book photographs and **John Kingsmill** for the catalogue design.

Kevin Griffin

RGSSA LIBRARIAN AND EXHIBITION CURATOR

ALLEN, William, Commander
Picturesque views of the River Niger.
 London, John Murray, 1840



LARGE FOLD-OUT ILLUSTRATION
The confluence of the Rivers Niger and Chadda

William Allen joined the navy as a volunteer at the age of 12 in 1805 and retired as a Rear Admiral in 1862. He took part in the Niger expedition of 1832. He published a number of books and an anti-slavery pamphlet. Nigeria, with the last third of the Niger flowing through it, became independent in 1960.

rg 966T c



PLATE 3
The Leaping Water or Westernmost Cataract

BAINES, Thomas
Victoria Falls, Zambesi River, sketched on the spot.
 London, Day and Son, 1865.

Thomas Baines was the first artist to paint Victoria Falls. He was a member of David Livingstone's Zambesi expedition from 1857 to 1859. Except for his exploration of northern Australia (1855-57) and trips to England, he spent all his adult life in southern Africa. Eleven of his paintings are reproduced in this book as chromolithographs. (sp 916.891 B162 d)

Northern Rhodesia (north of the Zambesi): The British granted independence to the new state of Zambia in 1964.
(Southern) Rhodesia: Robert Mugabe was elected Prime Minister in 1980 of the newly named Zimbabwe.

BREES, S.C.

Pictorial illustrations of New Zealand.

London, John Williams?, 1847

PLATE 16

A link with South Australia: Colonel Wakefield's residence, Wellington. Colonel William Wakefield helped establish the city of Wellington. He was the brother of Edward Gibbon Wakefield, the driving force behind much of the early colonization of South Australia and New Zealand.



In 1841 Samuel Charles Brees signed a contract with the New Zealand Company for a three year appointment as a principal surveyor and civil engineer. His book of North Island scenes met with success and was republished in 1848 and 1849. (sp 919.3 B832 d)

BROWN, Charles Barrington

Canoe and camp life in British Guiana.

London, Edward Stamford, 1876

FRONTISPIECE
Coloured view of Kaieteur waterfall

In 1870, Charles Barrington Brown, a government surveyor in the colony of British Guiana (Guyana) in South America, became the first European to see the Kaieteur Falls, the most famous waterfall in Guyana. (rg 988T c)

BROWN, Robert

The story of Africa and its explorers. 4 volumes.

London, Cassell, (1892-95)

VOLUME 2, PAGE 104
Toilet of the Gani dandies

Robert Brown was a Scottish scientist, explorer and author. He also explored Greenland, the islands of the Pacific and a number of other countries. (rg 960 b)

CUMMING, Constance Frederica

Two happy years in Ceylon. New edition.
London, Chatto & Windus, 1893

FRONTISPIECE

**Shrine on the summit of
Adam's Peak.**

Miss Cumming was a wealthy spinster who travelled extensively. She visited Ceylon to see her old parish priest who had been appointed Bishop of Columbo. (rg 954.8T a)



DOUBLE PAGE ILLUSTRATION
FOLLOWING P.23
***Invalids embarking at
Cape Coast Castle.***

From Cape Coast to Coomassie;

an illustrated narrative of the Ashante War

Special edition of the *London News*, 26 March 1874).

The Ashantis inhabited a region close to the British Protectorate of the Gold Coast (roughly the area of present day Ghana) and had developed a lucrative trade in slaves. The frustration of the Ashantis at the decline in the slave trade grew into open hostility and in 1873 a full-scale war was launched against the British. In February 1874, Coomassie, the Ashanti capital, was captured and destroyed by the British. (rg 966.7 c)

COLOURED FRONTISPIECE
**The Shwe Dagon pagoda,
Rangoon.**

FYTCHÉ, Albert

Burma past and present with personal reminiscences of the country. 2 Volumes. London, Kegan Paul, 1878.

Major-General Albert Fytche , served as Chief Commissioner of the British Crown Colony of Burma from 1867-1871. British rule in Burma lasted from 1824 to 1948. (rg 959.1 a)

GARRAN, Andrew, editor

Picturesque atlas of Australasia. Issued in 42 parts probably between 1886-1888.

In 1853 Garran became co-editor of the South Australian Register and was editor of the Sydney Morning Herald between 1873 and 1885. (rga 919.40431 P611 d)

Why is a view of Cataract Gorge, Launceston (page 591) included in Part 32 on New Zealand? Was the editor distracted by the Maori maidens bathing (as illustrated on page 9)?

HOLUB, Emil

Seven years in South Africa. 2 volumes. London, Sampson Low..., 1881

Holub was a Czech, explorer, cartographer, and ethnographer. He was inspired to visit Africa by the diaries of David Livingstone. (rg 968T a)

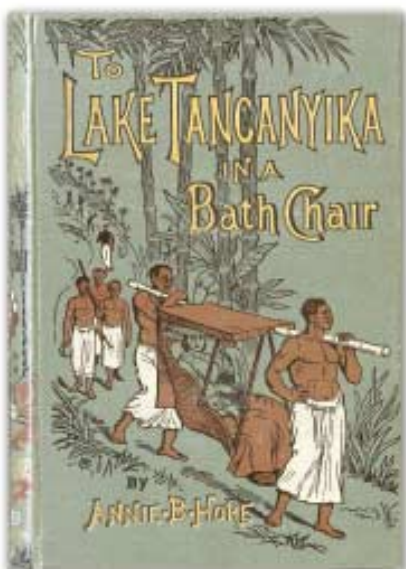
HORE, Annie B

◀ *To Lake Tanganyika in a bath chair.* London, Sampson Low..., 1886

Annie was the wife of Captain Edward Hore (see book below). She and her small son journeyed for 90 days to join her husband at Lake Tanganyika, where he was assembling a steam launch which had been transported to the lake in sections. (rg 967.89 a)

FRONTISPIECE VOLUME 1

Image of the author. Cover of volume 2 also displayed.



FOLDOUT FRONTISPIECE
**Ujiji, The oldest town
in western Tanzania.**

HORE, Edward Coode

Tanganyika, eleven years in Central Africa.
London, Edward Stanford, 1892.

Edward Hore was a career sailor and missionary. He was part of the large group whose protests lead to the collapse of the slave trade in central Africa and the establishment of Northern Rhodesia (Zambia). He died in Tasmania in 1912.

(rg 967.89T)

Tanganyika attained independence in 1961 and united with Zanzibar to form Tanzania in 1964.

FRONTISPIECE
The end of our tiger hunt.

HORNADAY, William T

Two years in the jungle.
London, Kegan Paul, 1885

William Hornaday was an American zoologist and conservationist. He revolutionized museum exhibits by displaying wildlife in their natural settings, and is credited with saving the American bison and the Alaskan fur seal from extinction.

His most controversial act was to display a pygmy native of the Congo in the monkey house of the New York Zoo in 1906. After public outcry the exhibit was closed after two days.

(rg 954T a)

COLOUR FRONTISPIECE, VOLUME 2
**A male and female dwarf
from the Semliki forest.**

JOHNSTON, Harry

The Uganda Protectorate. 2 volumes.
London, Hutchinson, 1902

Sir Harry Johnston described Uganda and his encounters with the pygmies in a talk to the Royal Geographical Society in London in November 1901. (rg 967.61T b)

Uganda became independent in 1962.

LIFE AND EXPLORATIONS OF DAVID LIVINGSTONE.

Carefully compiled from reliable sources.

London, Murdoch, 1885?



**Colour frontispiece
and title page**

David Livingstone was a Scottish doctor and missionary who was the first white man to trek across the African continent. He battled against the slave trade while trying to spread Christianity. He died in 1873 while trying to find the source of the Nile. His body was taken back to England and buried in Westminster Abbey. (rg 920 L c)

FRONTISPIECE
Portrait of Queen Victoria
(rg 920 V c)

LIFE OF QUEEN VICTORIA.

From *The Times* with photogravure illustrations.
London, *The Times*, 1901.

PLATE 41

**Platform for dead bodies,
South Cape, New Guinea**

LINDT, John William

Picturesque New Guinea. London, Green, 1887.
50 full page autotype illustrations.

Inscribed by the author to the Royal Geographical Society of Australasia (SA Branch).

In 1885 Lindt went with Sir Peter Scratchley's expedition to the Protectorate of British New Guinea as official photographer. Late in the 1880s Lindt photographed the Chaffey irrigation works on the River Murray. (rg 995T b)

NUMBER 1

**Captain Rossiter comes
to Eyre's aid.**

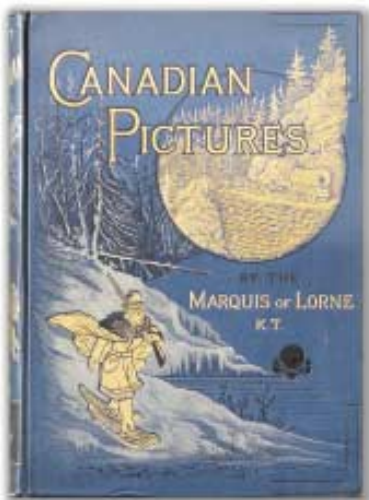
NUMBER 3

**Blacks about to attack
Leichhardt's camp.**

MACFARLANE, J

Two photoengravings of paintings of Australian explorers (from a set of six). Melbourne, Published by Geo. Robertson & Co., [189-?] (printed in England)

Macfarlane was a painter and illustrator who contributed cartoons to the *Barrier Daily Truth* in the 1890s. He illustrated *At the Races: the Melbourne Cup 1892* and Dwithdale's *The book of the Bush* (1898) (Sp 994 M143 d)



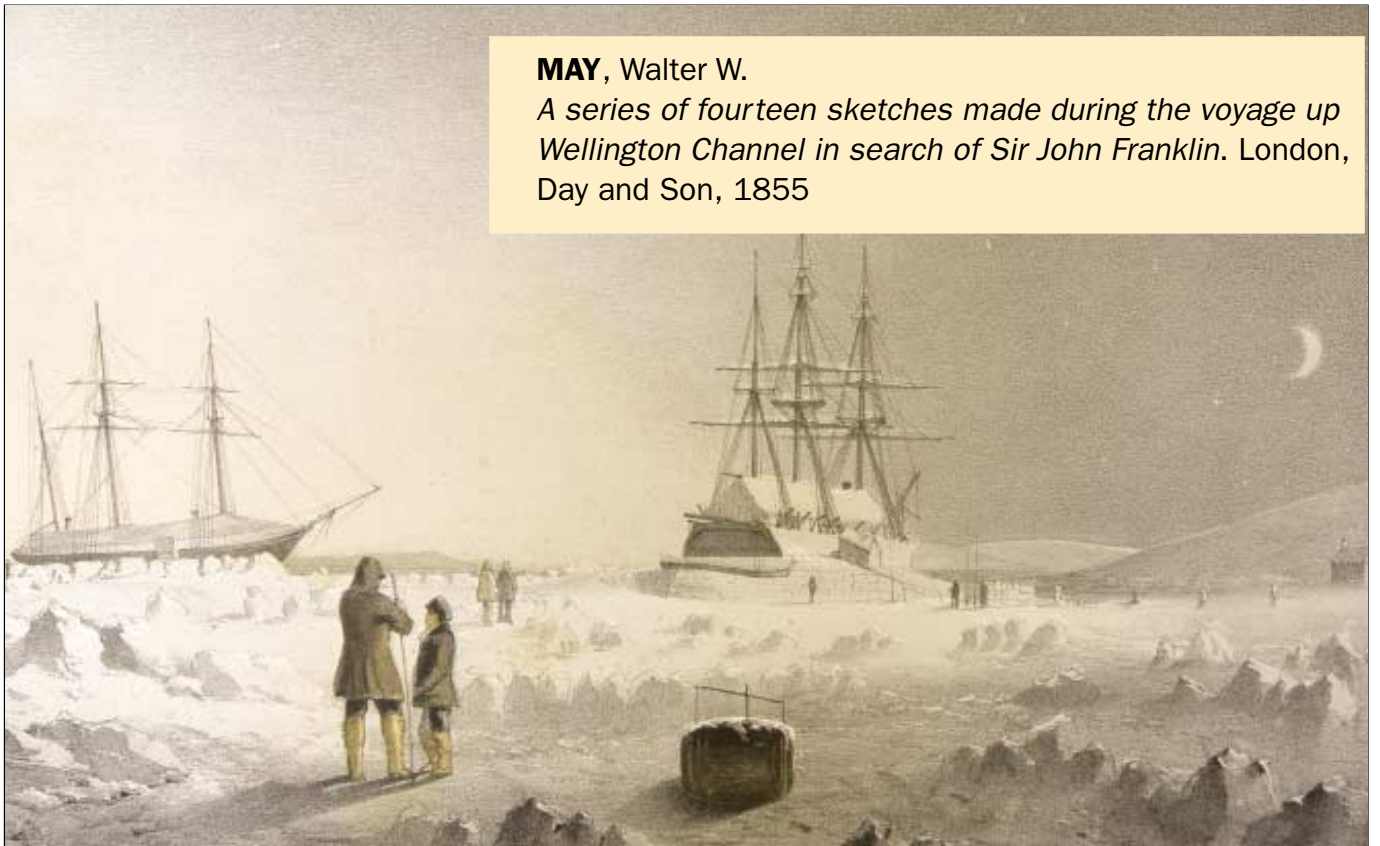
MARQUIS OF LORNE (Duke of Argyll)

Canadian pictures.

London, Religious Tract Society, 1885

At age 33, the Marquis of Lorne became Canada's youngest Governor General (1878-1883). He had married Queen Victoria's fourth daughter, Princess Louise in 1871.

One of his close homosexual friends was the colourful and dissolute Frank Shackleton, brother of the explorer Sir Ernest Shackleton. (rg 971T b)



MAY, Walter W.

A series of fourteen sketches made during the voyage up Wellington Channel in search of Sir John Franklin. London, Day and Son, 1855

PLATE 3

'HMS Assistance and Pioneer in winter quarters – returning daylight'

'This plate is intended to represent a curious effect of the power of the moonlight before the return of the sun...'

Note the use of tents on deck while the ships were stranded in the winter ice.

In 1852-54, Lieutenant Walter May accompanied Sir Edward Belcher on his Franklin search expedition to northern Canada. May, who was described as 'sensitive and artistic' was, at one point, threatened with court-martial for criticising Belcher. Although the expedition spent two winters in the ice, it failed to find Sir John Franklin. (sp 919.8 M476 d)

FRONTISPIECE

St Helena from the anchorage.

MELLISS, John Charles

St Helena a physical, historical and topographical description of the island. London, Reeve and Co, 1875

John Melliss was born on the island of St Helena in the South Atlantic Ocean and became its government surveyor from 1860-1871. The island is still a British Overseas Territory.

(rg 997T b)

VOLUME 1, P. 89

General Post Office and Adelaide Town Hall, Adelaide.

MORRISON, W. Frederick

Aldine history of South Australia. Sydney and Adelaide, Aldine Publishing Company, 1890

Following the success of both the Aldine History of Queensland and the Aldine History of New South Wales, the two well illustrated volumes on South Australia were published. (rga 994.23031 M883 b)

COLOURED PLATE P. 258
**Victoria Falls, Zambesi (Western
extremity)**

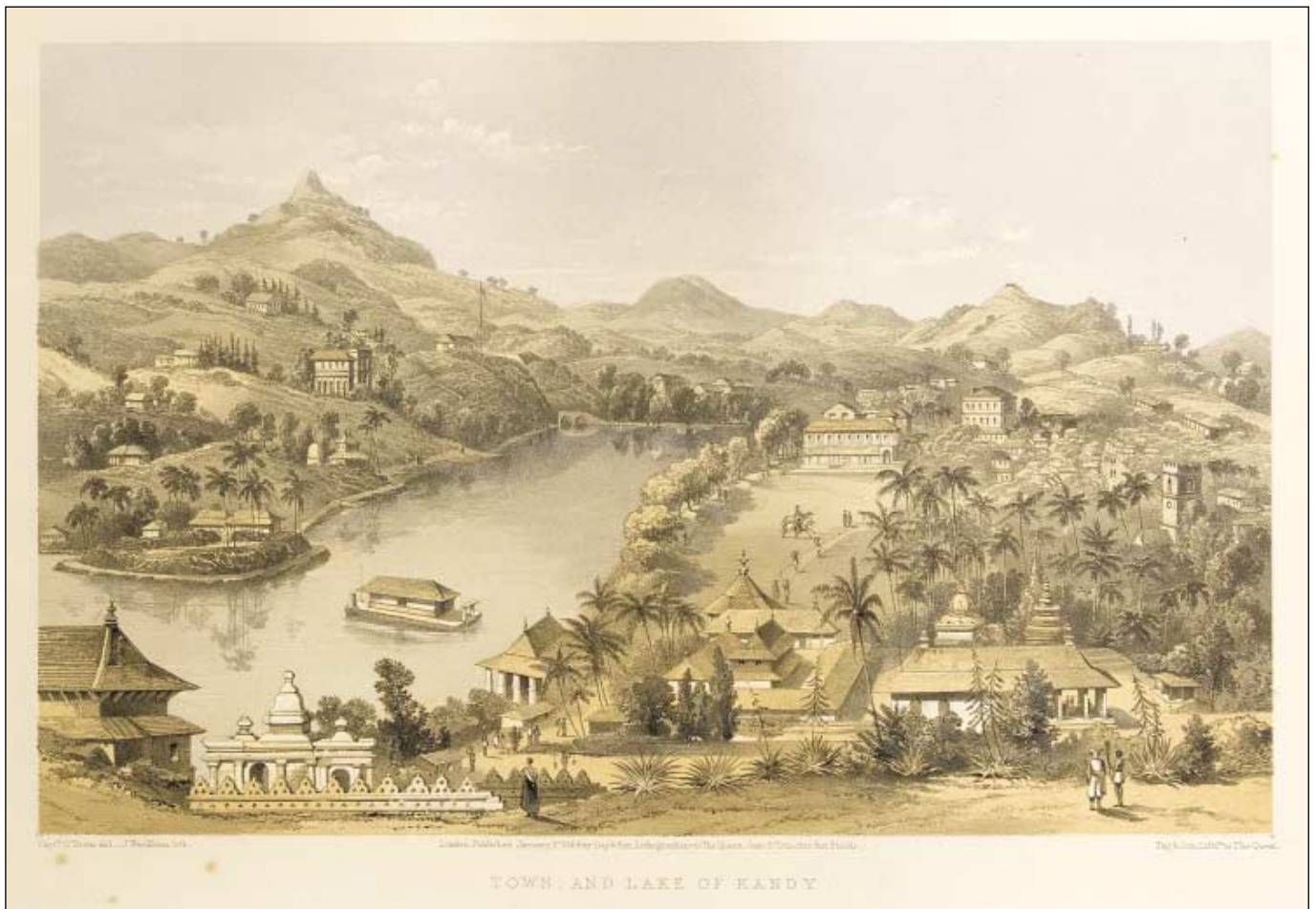
OATES, Frank

Matabele Land and the Victoria Falls.
London, Kegan Paul, 1881

In December 1874, Frank Oates was one of the first Europeans to see the Victoria Falls in full flood. He died of fever soon after. His brother, who was also on the expedition, edited this book from his journals and letters. (rg 968T b)

O'BRIEN, C.O., Captain

Views in Ceylon.
London, Day and Sons, 1864



TWO PLATES DISPLAYED
**'Town and lake of Kandy' and
'Thuparamaya Dagoba'**

Lithographs by J. Needham from sketches made on the spot by Capt C. O'Brien, late Assistant Surveyor General, Ceylon. (rg 954.8T c)

Ceylon became independent in 1948 and adopted the name Sri Lanka in 1972.

PICTORIAL chart of the British Empire.

c1888.

(Map 101 a)

At top: 'Time dial of the British Empire showing that the sun never sets on the Queen's dominions'.

At bottom centre: A view of Victoria Square and King William Street, Adelaide.

The QUEEN'S Empire; a pictorial and descriptive record.

Illustrated from photographs. Special edition. 4 volumes.

London, Cassell, c1899

Four volumes of over 500 photographs – available for browsing. (rg 909.42 c)

FRONTISPIECE
A Malay hill mine.

RATHBORNE, Ambrose B.

Camping and tramping in Malaya: fifteen years' pioneering in the native states of the Malay Peninsula.

London, Swan Sonnenschein, 1898

Ambrose Rathborne was an Australian engineer who started as a coffee grower in Ceylon. In the 1880s he moved to Malaya as a planter and entrepreneur. Malaya gained independence in 1957. Malaysia formed in 1963.

(rg 959.5T a)

ROUSSELET, Louis

India and its native princes; travels in central India.

London, Chapman and Hall, 1876



FRONTISPIECE

His Highness the Maharajah of Gwalior.

PLATE OPPOSITE PAGE 114

Criminal executed by an elephant, at Baroda

Louis Rousselet (1845-1929) was a French writer, traveller and photographer and pioneer of the darkroom. His photographic work now commands high prices. He was in India from 1864 to 1870. India gained independence in 1947. (sp 915.4 R866 c)

TITLE PAGE AND TWO PLATES DISPLAYED
'City Fortress of Cabul'
and **'Jellalabad No. 1'**.

SALE, Major General Sir R.H.

Defence of Jellalabad. Drawn on stone by W.L. Walton.
London, J. Hogarth..., 184_?

The defence of Jellalabad against the Afghan tribesmen in April 1842 under Brigadier Sir Robert Sale's brigade was an enormous boost to the British in India and to Britain after military disasters at Kabul and Gandamak.

The holding of Jellalabad made heroes of the 13th Foot. Queen Victoria directed that the regiment be made Light Infantry, carry the additional title of 'Prince Albert's Own' and wear a badge depicting the walls of the town with the word 'Jellalabad'. (rg 958.8 c)

SCHOMBURGK, Sir Robert Hermann

Twelve views of the interior of Guiana.

London, Ackermann and Co., 1841. Inscribed by the author to John H. Cutting (a piece of the original envelope is displayed).

In 1840 the British Government assigned Robert Schomburgk to survey and mark out the western boundary of British

Guiana with newly independent Venezuela and the eastern boundary with the Netherlands' colony of Dutch Guiana.

Robert's brother Richard was also on the expedition and later became Director of the Adelaide Botanic Garden (1865-1891).

British Guiana, the only part of the Empire on the South American mainland, was

captured from the Dutch in 1796.

It became independent in 1966 as Guyana. (sp 918.8 S369 d)



PLATE

The Comuti or Taguiare Rock

FRONTISPIECE
Our travelling party

SMITH, Agnes

Through Cyprus.

London, Hurst and Blackett, 1887

Agnes Smith was an authority on ancient biblical manuscripts, and achieved fame with her discovery of the earliest known manuscript of the Gospels in Syriac.

(rg 956.4T a)

Title page three plates displayed.

SMYTH, Coke

Sketches in the Canadas.

London, Thomas McLean, c1840

Smyth was an artist who visited the Canadas (i.e. Upper and Lower Canada) briefly between 1838 to 1839 as Drawing Master to the daughters of the Governor-General, the Earl of Durham.

Smyth also produced watercolours of the guests attending Queen Victoria's Silver Jubilee fancy dress ball. (rg 971T c)

FRONTISPIECE VOLUME 1
Portrait of Stanley.

STANLEY, Henry

In darkest Africa. 2 volumes.

London, Sampson Low..., 1890

Stanley was born in Wales in 1841 and brought up in a workhouse. In 1859 he left for New Orleans and later claimed to have served on both sides in the American Civil War. He then worked as a sailor and journalist.

In 1867 Stanley became special correspondent for the *New York Herald* which sent him to look for the Scottish missionary and explorer David Livingstone. In November 1871 he found the sick explorer, greeting him with the famous words 'Dr Livingstone, I presume?' Stanley's reports on his expedition made his name. (rg 967T b)

FRONTISPIECE
Bussunta's revenge
(Elephant trampling a tiger)

STERNDALE, Robert Armitage

Seonee, or, Camp life on the Satpura Range: a tale of Indian adventure. 2nd ed.

London, Sampson Low..., 1877. Illustrated by the author.

Sir Robert Armitage Sterndale (1839 – 1902) was a naturalist and statesman. This book is said to have influenced the work of Rudyard Kipling and inspired many scenes in *The Jungle Book*. (rg 954.3T a)

FRONTISPIECE
Punishment of criminals.

TREGANCE, Louis

Adventures in New Guinea.

London, Sampson Low..., 1889

Tregance was a French sailor who was held nine years in captivity among the Orangwoks, a tribe in the interior of New Guinea.

The Protectorate of British New Guinea was established in 1884 to pre-empt German claims. (rg 995T)

Framed certificate

COLONIAL AND INDIAN EXHIBITION

London, 1886

The objective of the 1886 Colonial and Indian Exhibition in South Kensington, London, was to give to the inhabitants of the British Isles, to foreigners and to one another, practical demonstration of the wealth and industrial development of the outlying portions of the British Empire.

This framed certificate and a commemorative medal were presented to the Society for contributing some reports to the Exhibition. The Society was only in its first year at this time and wasn't granted use of the 'Royal' appellation until later in 1886.

Framed lithograph by S.T. Gill

OLD COLONISTS FESTIVAL DINNER

Held at the rear of the City-Bridge Hotel, Morphett Street, Adelaide on Thursday 27 March 1851. In commemoration of the first sale of town land, 27 March 1837.

QUEEN VICTORIA'S BLOOMERS



Like other ladies of the late Victorian era, the Queen wore open-crotch underwear with separate legs joined by a draw-string at the waist.

They are made of fine linen (or cotton?) sewn by hand with a tiny embroidered crown and the initials VR (Victoria Regina). Queen Victoria's clothes and underwear were often handed to ladies-in-waiting and servants, who in turn left them to their descendants. This pair and other items in the frame were kindly lent by Beth Stewart.

A SELECTION OF BOOKS SHOWING TITLES AND ILLUSTRATIONS PRINTED DIRECTLY ONTO THE COVERS.

BUDGE, E.A. Wallis

The Egyptian Sudan. Volume 1.

London, Kegan Paul, 1907. (rg 962.4 b)

CHALMERS, James

Pioneering in New Guinea.

London, The Religious tract Society, 1887. (rg 995T a)

COLONEL Gordon in Central Africa, 1874-1879,
ed by George Birkbeck Hill.

London, De la Rue, 1881. (rg 962.4 b)

COOK, A.R.

A doctor and his dog in Uganda, edited by Mrs H.B. Cook.

London, The Religious Tract Society, 1903. (rg 967.6T a)

D'ALBERTIS, L.M.

New Guinea; what I did and what I saw.

London, Sampson Low..., 1880. (rg 995T a)

DE RICCI, J.H.

Fiji; our new province in the South seas.

London, Edward Stanford, 1875. (rg 996.11T)

EDEN, Charles H.

The West Indies.

London, Sampson Low..., 1880. (rg 972.9 a)

GRIFFITH, George

Men who have made the Empire. 2nd ed.

London, Pearson, 1897 (rg 920.042 b)

HALL, E. Hepple

British North America; for health, sport and profit.

London, W.H. Allen, 1879 (rg 971T a)

HINGSTON, James

The Australian abroad. Series 2. Ceylon, India and Egypt.

London, Sampson Low... 1880 (rga 910.41 H663)

HOLUB, Emil

Seven years in South Africa. Volume 2.

London, Sampson low..., 1881 (rg 968T)

HORSELY, Reginald

Romance of Empire; New Zealand.

London, Jack, 1908 (rga 993 A818)

JAMES, F.L.

The wild tribes of the Soudan.

London, John Murray, 1884 (rg 962.4T a)

LANG, W.H.

Romance of Empire; Australia.

London, Jack, 1908. (rga 994 L271)

MITCHINSON, Alex. Will.

The expiring continent; a narrative of ravel in Senegambia.

London, W H Allen, 1881 (rg 966.3T a)

REEVES, William Pember

The Long white cloud; Ao tea roa.

London, Horace Marshall, 1898 (rga 993 R332)

SAVILE, Bouchier Wrey

How India was won by England.

London, Hodder and Stoughton, 1881 (rg 954 a)

STANLEY, Henry M.

In darkest Africa. Sampson Low, 1890 (rg 967T a)

SWETTENHAM, Frank Athelstane

Malay sketches. London, Macmillan, 1896 (959.5T a)