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LIBRARY OF THE ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY OF SA

'ADOPT-A-BOOK' PROGRAMME

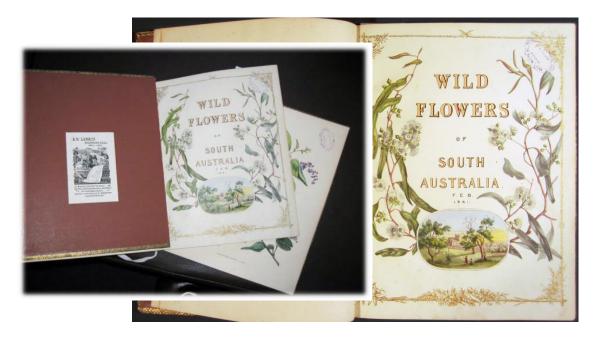
Here is your chance to contribute towards preserving valuable books for posterity, as well as recording your own name for all time! The Society's Library of some 25,000 titles is a national treasure. It contains one of the most significant collections of rare geographical books, atlases and manuscripts in Australia, and includes 27 books published before 1599, the oldest being a beautifully bound version of Ptolemy's Geographia (1482).

Many rare and valuable books significant to Australia's geographical history are in need of repair. Many are tied with acid-free white tape to keep the covers and pages in place.

Some volumes have been repaired by master bookbinder Mr Anthony Zammit, who bound our recent award winning facsimile of Joseph Banks' diary. An example of such a volume before and after repair is shown here.

DE MOLE, Fanny

Wild flowers of South Australia. London, Jerrard and Son, 1861

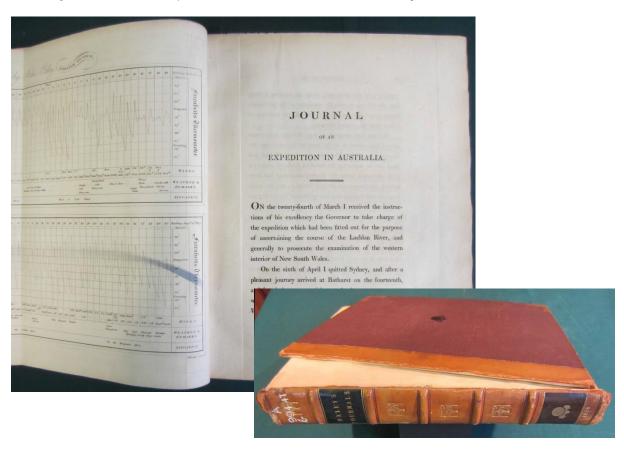


On the following pages are items from the collection in urgent need of attention. The costs of repair are quoted by Mr Zammit to be in the range \$250-\$500 for each item.



OXLEY, John Joseph William Molesworth

Journals of two expeditions into the interior of New South Wales, undertaken by order of the British government in the years 1817-18, London, John Murray, 1820.



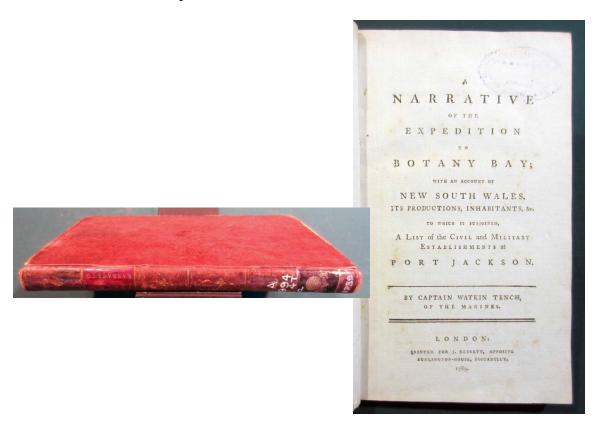
Following the success of Blaxland, Wentworth, and Lawson in crossing the Blue Mountains, Governor Macquarie sent surveyor George Evans to look at the country to the westward in 1815. Then he appointed John Oxley, the Surveyor General, to lead two expeditions to explore these lands. Oxley's own account of them is in two parts, bound with an Appendix into a single volume with plates and maps. Our copy is one of just 420 produced in 1820.

Condition: covers and leaves loose.



TENCH, Watkin

A narrative of the expedition to Botany Bay; with an account of New South Wales, its productions, inhabitants, &c. To which is subjoined a list of the civil and military establishments at Port Jackson, London, printed for J. Debrett, 1789.



Watkin Tench was an officer on the convict transport ship Charlotte which arrived in Botany Bay in 1787. He was a keen explorer and participated or led many expeditions to the west and south west of the settlement. His interests ranged widely and recordings in his journal revealed a sympathetic view of the welfare of convicts and Aboriginals in addition to his detail observations of the unexplored land he travelled.

Condition: Binding in need of repair.



CAMPBELL, John

Travels in South Africa undertaken at the request of the London Missionary Society and a narrative of a second journey in the interior of that county, London, Francis Westley, 1822.



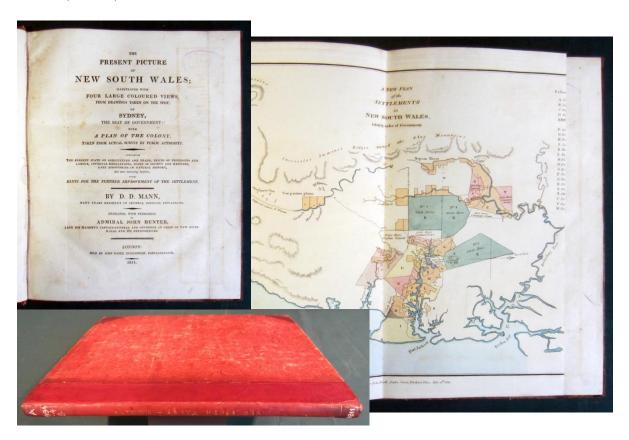
John Campbell (born March 1766) was a Scottish missionary and traveller. He was instrumental in founding the British and Foreign Bible Society and became a director of the London Missionary Society. Sent to South Africa in 1812 to inspect the mission stations which were in operation, he travelled for nine months the following year. He later wrote the account of his trip which was published on his return to London in 1815. He visited the Cape again in 1819 in the company of Dr John Philip, with orders to inspect and improve the mission stations, which had fallen into neglect. Two further volumes covering his second journey were published in England in 1821. Our volume contains accounts of both trips.

Condition: Bindings in need of repair.



MANN, David Dickenson

The present picture of New South Wales: illustrated with four large coloured views, from drawings taken on the spot, of Sydney, the seat of government: with a plan of the colony, London, Booth, 1811.



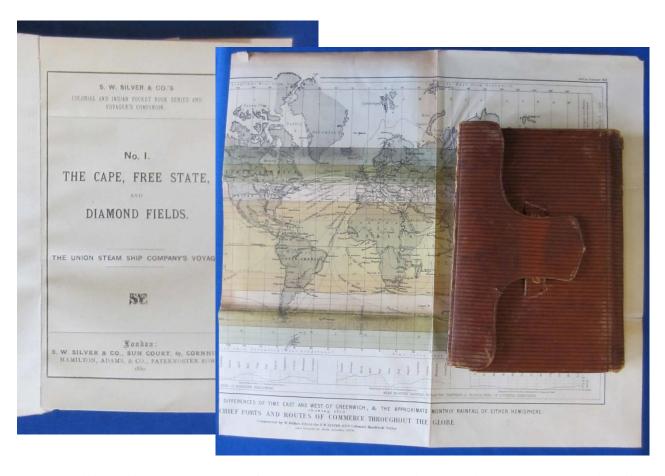
Convicted of forgery at the age of 23, David Dickenson Mann narrowly escaped hanging and was transported instead to N. S W., where he arrived in 1799. Three years later he received a full pardon and was soon working for the Colonial Government of Governor Philip Gidley King. The book gives a detailed account of the colony and was dedicated to Governor John Hunter, King's predecessor. It was published in 1811 after Mann's return to England in 1809.

Condition: Binding and one sheet loose.



S. W. Silver & Co.

The Cape, Free State, and Diamond Fields. The Union Steam Ship Company's voyage. (Colonial Indian Pocket Book Series and Voyage's Companion No.1), London, S.W. Silver & Co., 1880.



Stephen William Silver was the owner of the York Gate Library which housed an extensive collection of works on geography, travel and exploration. The Library of books was purchased by the Royal Geographical Society of South Australia in 1905 and represents the backbone of our current collection.

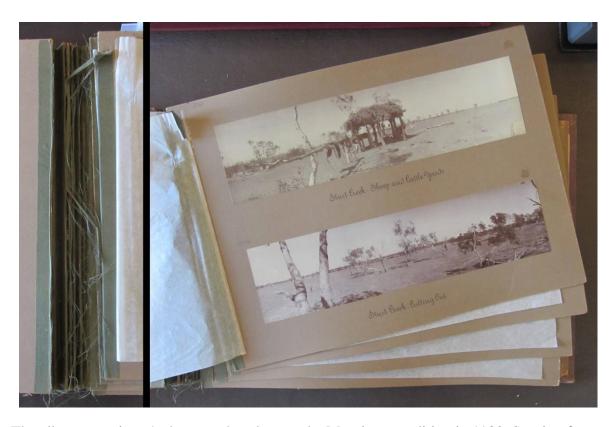
'The Pocket Book' published in 1879 was produced for his agents and would-be migrants to the new lands. The tiny book comes with two pockets, one at the back, which in our copy is empty (maybe meant for your own notes?), and one in the front with a folded map showing the seasons of the world.

Condition: Binding in need of repair.



MAURICE, Richard Thilwell

Transcontinental expedition, 1904



The album contains 69 photographs taken on the Maurice expedition in 1902. Starting from Fowler Bay, Maurice and his party, with fourteen camels, crossed the Everard and Musgrave Ranges and the Tanami Desert and reached Sturt Creek station after four months. The coast-to-coast journey was completed at Wyndham on Cambridge Gulf. The album includes handwritten annotations and a photocopied article on the expedition from the World Wide Magazine, volume 16, 1905.

Condition: Binding in need of repair.



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What will happen with your donation?

The book, its hinge, pages, end papers, boards and covers, will be assessed by the master bookbinder. If the material does not have boards or a cover, and some very early manuscripts did not, a storage slip case will be made.

You will have the chance to see the finished and conserved item, and be shown the tipped-in bookplate with your name and the date appended for posterity.

The Library may be viewed Tuesday to Friday 10:00am to 1:00pm in the Mortlock Wing, State Library of South Australia, North Terrace Adelaide.

Enquiries and tax deductable donations to:-The Royal Geographical Society of S.A. Inc. ABN 93 978 549 002 PO Box 3661, Rundle Mall, Adelaide S.A. 5000

Phone 61 8 82077266 library@rgssa.org.au