

# Terra Cognita

four hundred years of European  
exploration, travel and discovery



1854 Samuel Gurney Cresswell

**An exhibition to celebrate the centenary of the  
opening of the York Gate Geographical and  
Colonial Library in South Australia**



THE LIBRARY OF THE  
**Royal Geographical Society  
of South Australia Inc**

Mortlock Wing, State Library of South Australia  
North Terrace, Adelaide, South Australia

**22 February – 30 March 2008**

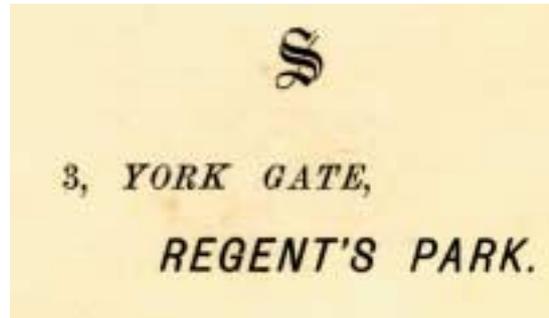
CURATOR Kevin Griffin, RGSSA Librarian    CATALOGUE DESIGN John Kingsmill

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# The York Gate Library

by **Valmai Hankel**

ONCE PRIVATE, now public, the York Gate Library of colonial and geographical literature has been known throughout the world, especially since the second edition of its catalogue was published, in London in 1886. Since 1905 it has belonged to the Royal Geographical Society of South Australia, which has arranged this exhibition to show some of the treasures of this great library. The State Library of South Australia has housed it since 1908.

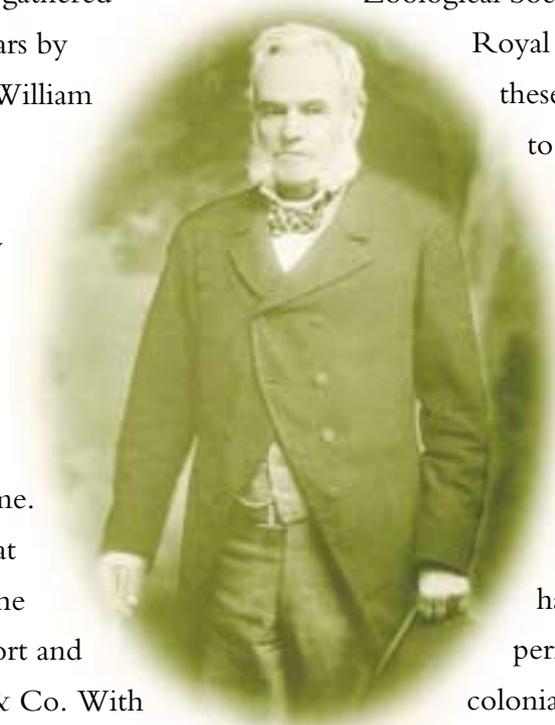
The York Gate Library was gathered together over more than 60 years by London businessman Stephen William Silver (1819-1905). It is a unique collection of books, journals and manuscripts, many of them relating to the British colonies with which Silver's company traded. Most were housed at No. 3 York Gate in Regent's Park, his London home.

Silver was collecting books at least as early as 1841. By 1846 he had taken over his father's export and banking business, S.W. Silver & Co. With agents and correspondents throughout the world the

company did much official and private business with the British colonies, especially Australia. It also published handbooks and other information about the colonies for intending immigrants, as well as important Australian novelist Rolf Boldrewood's first book. As a leading businessman Silver held office in many societies and organisations, among them Governor of three hospitals; Vice-President of the British and Foreign Bible Society; Fellow of the Linnaean, Botanic and Zoological Societies; and Councillor of the

Royal Geographical Society. All of these contacts must have helped him to expand his collecting activities.

Although Silver was interested in so many aspects of travelling, he was no traveller himself. This may have been because when he was about 23 he fractured his skull in a fall at a race meeting – less strenuous activities such as collecting may have been easier for him than the perils of nineteenth-century colonial travelling. He was generous with advice, assistance and hospitality to others, and made his



**Stephen William Silver (1819-1905)**  
The original owner of the York Gate Library.

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collections ‘always accessible to visitors’. One such example was a visit to the York Gate Library by members of the Library Association in May 1889. Edward A. Petherick, Silver’s bibliographical advisor, cataloguer, friend, and later counsellor to his widow on the fate of the Library, wrote an account of the visit, and how the collection grew after the publication of the first edition of the catalogue in 1882. (It and its three-times-larger successor, published in 1886, may be considered the foundation documents of Australian bibliography.)

Petherick emphasised Silver’s wish that the York Gate Library was ‘intended for use and reference’. Ironically in the light of what happened to the collection after Silver’s death, Petherick finished his account with a suggestion about ‘the end of the collection’ – that it should go to an estate in New Zealand called Silverhope. Fortunately for South Australia, it did not.

It was largely through Petherick’s efforts that the York Gate Library came to Adelaide. Three weeks after Silver’s death on 7 March 1905 Petherick cabled the head of the Public Library Board in Adelaide, Sir Samuel Way, saying that the collection was for sale. The Public Library was not interested so Way, who also happened to be a founding member of the South Australian Branch of the Royal Geographical Society of Australasia (now the Royal Geographical Society of South Australia), approached his fellow RGS founder and book-



Edward A. Petherick (1847-1917)  
The York Gate cataloguer

collector, Thomas Gill, and the offer was transferred to the Society. After telegrams – fascinating reading in themselves – were shuttled back and forth over several months, a bargain price of £2000, agreeable to both Mrs Silver and the Society, was reached: Silver had insured the library for £3000. Mrs Silver was especially delighted that the York Gate Library would be kept together and not scattered.

More than 6,000 catalogued titles, plus over 1,700 acquired after the publication of the 1886 catalogue, were packed and sent to Adelaide, where they arrived in December 1905. They were stored in the Art Gallery until 8 December 1908, when the Governor, Sir George Le Hunte, opened the York Gate Library to the general public and Royal Geographical Society members.

The Library was housed in the ‘New Wing’ on the north side of the Institute Building on North Terrace. This was built especially to accommodate the societies affiliated with the then Public Library Board – the Royal Geographical Society, the Royal Society, and the Royal Society for the Arts.

It was the acquisition of the York Gate Library which was the catalyst for the ‘New Wing’, and also for the Affiliation, in 1906 and still in effect, between the Board and the Society.

The most special treasure in the York Gate Library is the original manuscript diary kept by Sir Joseph Banks on his voyage to Newfoundland and Labrador in 1766. Other highlights include original watercolours of Rio de Janeiro and the Kaffir people of South Africa by George French Angas;



1808 John William Lewin



1766 Sir Joseph Banks

several collections of voyages, most notably those of Johann Theodor de Bry, published between 1590 and 1634; and John Lewin's colourful *Birds of New Holland* (1808), one of only six surviving copies of the first book on Australian birds. All are on display.

An article in *The Times* (London), 21 July 1905 reported that:

... the City of Adelaide has become the possessor of a Library at once unique and of the highest interest and importance to all students of Greater Britain. It was feared, at Mr. Silver's death, that the collection would be dispersed under the hammer, but the enterprise of the Australasian Geographical Society [sic] has prevented this, to its honour and credit.

This exhibition of some of the York Gate Library's treasures is the first to be held for many years. It is limited by the space available – for instance, the spectacular hand-coloured atlases of

Abraham Ortelius – *Theatrum Orbis Terrarum* (1598) and Arnold Colom – *Zee-atlas* (1655) are not included. A more detailed publication on the Library will be published later in the year.

Today, a century after the York Gate Library was opened in Adelaide, there is some uncertainty about its future location and management. It is possible that under new arrangements it will no longer be housed as a separate collection. Let us hope that future custodians of this magnificent library will take to heart the words of the Society's Treasurer, B.S. Roach, in 1933:

It is a noble heritage that has fallen to the lot of Adelaide readers, and they should ever cherish it and add to its contents.

**Valmai Hankel** PSM  
Vice-President, Royal Geographical Society of South Australia  
(formerly Rare Books Librarian, State Library of South Australia)

FEBRUARY 2008



1845 George French Angas (1822-1886)

'Rio [de] Janeiro from the Convent of Santa Teresa' (RGSSA manuscript item 1d, watercolour 23 x 32 cm).  
Original watercolour by George French Angas. This is the first time this painting has been reproduced in colour.

“ **Now what is to be the end of the collection?** *Will it, like Heber's and other collections, be brought to the hammer and scattered? I hope not, I believe not ... Some day, when Mr. Silver and his friends have become tired of the York Gate Library, and the Colonists at the Antipodes are wanting one, what more appropriate than to let them have this, which is so rich in all that relates to the Colony.* ”

E.A. Petherick, from an address to members of the Library Association who visited the York Gate Library in London on 7 May 1889.

NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA MS 760/4/26

# The exhibition

Items are displayed in date order. **YG 1102** means the book was assigned this number in the second edition of the *Catalogue of the York Gate Library*, 1886. The many books added to the collection between 1886 and 1905 were not given numbers.



## 1482 Francesco Berlinghieri (1440-1501)

*Geographia*. Florence, Nicolo Todescho, 1482. A paraphrase in Italian verse of Ptolemy's second-century classic, *Geographia*. YG 1102

Published 525 years ago, this book is the oldest in the York Gate Library. It was printed only 32 years after the invention of printing by movable type in Europe. The map of the world showing 'Terra incognita' in the south is one of the earliest maps to be printed from a metal engraving.

## 1559 William Cuningham (born 1531)

*The cosmographical glasse, conteinyng the pleasant principles of cosmographie, geographie, hydrographie or navigation*. London, John Day, 1559. YG 1282

Cuningham was an eminent London physician and astronomer. Page 103: 'How to finde the longitude of regions by an eclipse.'

## 1590 Theodor de Bry (1528-1598)

America ('Grands voyages'). Part 1. *Admiranda narratio fida tamen, de commodis et incolarum ritibus Virginiae ...* Frankfurt, Theodor de Bry, 1590. Description of Virginia, colonised by Raleigh and Grenville. YG 2030

Theodor de Bry provided the first widely published images of American Indians. The illustrations are based on the paintings of John White, who was the artist on Raleigh's ill-fated settlement in Virginia in 1585-86. De Bry re-drew the Indians in a more classical style. The text was written by Thomas Hariot, whom Raleigh designated as



the group's scientific adviser. Opened at an engraving of the Indians of Virginia fishing. The fire in the canoe was used at night to attract the fish which were then speared.

## 1590-1634 De Bry Family

The collection of early voyages compiled and published by the family of de Bry between 1590 and 1634 is the most influential and sought-after collection of voyages ever published. The collection displayed here is probably the most complete set in an Australian library. Many of the volumes are in their original vellum binding.

YG 2030-2053

## 1598 Bartolome de las Casas (1474-1566)

*Narratio regionum indiarum per Hispanos quosdam devastatarum verissima*. Frankfurt, Theodor de Bry, 1598. (Not found in the 1886 catalogue.)

The Protestant publisher, de Bry, was eager to show illustrations of Spanish atrocities. Page 23: Engraving of Spaniards burning an Indian at the stake.



## 1619 Theodor de Bry (1528-1598)

America ('Grands voyages'). Part 10. *Duae navigationes Dn. Americi Vesputii ...* Oppenheim, Hieronymus Galler for Johannes Theodor de Bry, 1619. Part 10 contains two voyages of Amerigo Vespucci and accounts of New England and Virginia. YG 2039

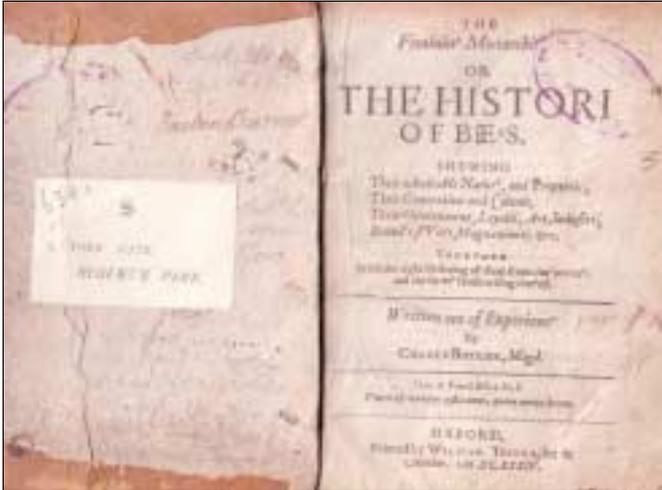
Plate IV: A rare hand-coloured engraving, 'How the Spaniards were received at a place where the natives eat serpents'. Note the illustrator's fanciful interpretation of the word 'serpents', which presumably meant snakes or lizards and not the dragon-like creatures depicted here.

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### 1632 William Lithgow (1582-1645?)

*The totall discourse of the rare adventures, and painefull peregrinations of long nineteene yeares travayles, from Scotland to the most famous kingdomes in Europe, Asia, and Affrica.* London, Nicholas Okes, 1632. YG 2816

Lithgow was chased out of his native Scotland by the brothers of a woman he had wronged. The brothers had already removed parts of his ears, hence his nickname 'Cut-lugged Willie'. The book shows handwritten sections added to replace missing pages.



### 1634 Charles Butler (died 1647)

*The feminine monarchie, or the histori of bees: Shewing their admirable nature, and properties ...* Oxford, Printed by William Turner for the author, 1634. Printed according to the system of spelling proposed in his English grammar, published 1633. (Not found in the 1886 catalogue.)

An early treatise on bees, one of the many natural history books in the York Gate Library. Opened at the title page to show York Gate Library bookplate on verso.

### 1635 Gerhard Mercator (1512-1594)

*Historia mundi: or Mercator's atlas. Containing his cosmographical description of the fabricke and figure of the world. Lately rectified in divers places, as also beautified and enlarged with new mappes and tables; by the studious industry of Iudocus Hondy. Englished by W.S. Generosus.* London, Sparke and Cartwright, 1635. YG 1203

One of the editions of Mercator's *Atlas* published by Jodocus Hondius from the original completed in 1595. Mercator, a Flemish cartographer, was the first to use the word 'atlas' to describe a collection of maps. Page 898: Virginia and Florida.

### 1648 Francisco Pelsaert (died 1630)

*Onge-luckige voyagie, van't schip Batavia, nae Oost-Indien... in de jare 1628, en 1629.* Amsterdam, Joost Hartgerts, 1648. Disastrous voyage of the Vessel *Batavia* to the East Indies. YG 2321

Opened at fold-out engraving showing scenes of the *Batavia* mutiny and massacre. In 1629, two of the mutineers were marooned as punishment on the coast near the mouth of the Murchison River in Western Australia, thus becoming Australia's first European settlers.

### 1650 James Howell (1594?-1666)

*Instructions and directions for forren travel.* London, Humphrey Moseley, 1650. YG 1283

Written and published while the author was in prison for debts and/or loyalty. At the restoration of the monarchy he became Historiographer Royal to Charles II.

### 1679 Samuel Sturmy (1633-1669)

*The mariners magazine.* Second edition. London, William Fisher (and others), 1679. YG 1287

Page 6: A calculator with two moving circular parts, 'shewing the changing of the tides and the variation of the compass'.

### 1704 Sir John Mandeville (14th century)

*The voyages and travels of Sir John Mandeville ... Together with many and strange marvels therein.* London, B. Chiswell, 1704. (Not found in the 1886 catalogue.)

An entertaining mixture of fact and fiction, *Mandeville's travels* was a 'bestseller' in manuscript and book form for over 300 years. Page 93: An engraving of a man with no head with eyes in his shoulders.

### 1718 Jean Pierre Purry (1675-1736)

*Memoire sur le pais des Cafres, et la terre de Nuyts: par raport à l'utilité que la Compagnie des indes orientales en pourroit retirer pour son commerce.* Amsterdam, Chez Pierre Humbert, 1718. Proposal for colonising parts of the Southern Hemisphere especially Nuyts land (i.e., New Holland) by his theory of climate and latitude. YG 1423

A Swiss man's ideas for colonising Southern Australia (*Terre de Nuyts*) – seventy years before Captain Phillip and the First Fleet. Nuyts Archipelago near Ceduna was named after Peter Nuyts, a passenger on the *Gulden Zeepaard* which reached this point in 1627.



### 1766 Sir Joseph Banks (1743-1820)

Journal of a voyage to Newfoundland and Labrador commencing 7 April and ending 17 November 1766 (RGSSA manuscript items 2a, 3a). Two volumes (Volume 2 concerns Portugal, which he visited on the return journey). Brown rough calf with gilt clasps. YG 5851

The young Joseph Banks' original handwritten diary of his first voyage. He accompanied his friend Lieutenant Phipps who commanded HMS *Niger* on a mission to protect the Newfoundland and Labrador fisheries. Without doubt the most valuable York Gate treasure. Page 55 (August 1766) concerning the Indians of Newfoundland: 'Their method of scalping is very different from the Canadian they not being content with the hair but skinning the whole face at

least as far as the upper lip. I have a scalp of this kind which was taken from Sam Frye a fisherman who they shot in the water as he attempted to swim off to his ship ...'



### 1768 Sir Joseph Banks (1743-1820)

Notes describing the recovery of diamonds in Brazil with annotated list of the accompanying three watercolours and five drawings (RGSSA manuscript item 5c). (Not found in the 1886 catalogue.)

Captain Cook and the *Endeavour* stopped at Brazil on the way to the 'Great South Land'. Banks took the opportunity to observe the methods of diamond mining. Opened at a watercolour (17.2 x 15.2 cm) of a diamond smuggler washing gravel in the 'hopes of finding diamonds'. This document has added significance as it was, no doubt, on board the *Endeavour* as she sailed up the east coast of Australia in 1770.

### 1773 John Hawkesworth (1715?-1773)

*An account of the voyages undertaken by the order of His present Majesty, for making discoveries in the southern hemisphere, and successively performed by Commodore Byron, Captain Wallis, Captain Carteret, and Captain Cook, in the Dolphin, the Swallow, and the Endeavour ...* London, W. Strahan and T. Cadell, 1773. Three volumes. Volumes 2 and 3 deal entirely with Cook's voyage. YG 2355

Hawkesworth was criticised for composing his official account of Cook's voyage in the first person, incorporating Banks' observations and his own commentary without distinguishing the different sources. Opened at a fold-out engraving of the *Endeavour* being repaired at present-day Cooktown after being holed on the Great Barrier Reef (Volume 3, plate 19, page 557).

### 1776 Pierre Sonnerat (1749-1814)

*Voyage à la Nouvelle Guinée*. Paris, Chez Ruault, 1776. YG 2384

Although the title of the work refers to New Guinea, Sonnerat did not actually land there but rather on nearby islands. Contains over 100 illustrations of plants and animals. Frontispiece: An elegant engraving of the author drawing a bird, which is being held by a woman and child.



### 1787 Alexander Shaw

*A catalogue of the different specimens of cloth collected in the three voyages of Captain Cook to the Southern Hemisphere ...* London, Alexander Shaw, 1787. YG 2373

This catalogue contains 38 specimens of tapa, or bark, cloth. One piece (specimen 34, the middle specimen above) was unwound by a young girl from her body and given in gratitude to one of the officers as the redemption price for a little boy who had just before been exchanged by a native for a piece of old iron.



### 1790 John White (1757?-1832)

*Journal of a voyage to New South Wales, with sixty-five plates of non-descript animals, birds, lizards, serpents, curious cones of trees and other natural productions*. London, J. Debrett, 1790. YG 4826

The plates in this book were drawn in England from specimens sent back by White in November 1788, only ten months after he arrived with the First Fleet. This is one of the rare copies with hand-coloured plates. Page 248: 'Blue frogs'. The frogs were not in fact blue – it was the preserving fluid that changed the frogs' green colour to blue on the way back to England.

### 1798 George Vancouver (1757-1798)

*A voyage of discovery to the North Pacific Ocean, and round the world; in which the coast of north-west America has been carefully examined and accurately surveyed ... performed in the years 1790, 1791, 1792, 1793, 1794, and 1795, in the Discovery sloop of war, and armed tender Chatham*. London, Robinson and Edwards, 1798. Three volumes. YG 2407

At the age of fifteen, Vancouver was a crew member on Captain Cook's second voyage. Almost twenty years later, in 1791, he named King George Sound (Albany, WA) on his way to the northwest coast of America. Volume 1, page 54: 'A deserted Indian village of King George III Sound, New Holland.'

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### 1800 Jacques Julien Houton de Labillardiere (1755-1834)

*Voyage in search of La Pérouse, performed by order of the Constituent Assembly, during the years 1791, 1792, 1793, and 1794 ...* London, John Stockdale, 1800. Two volumes. YG 2408

The search for the explorer La Pérouse was a French obsession in the 1790s. It is said that even Louis XVI had asked about him just before his execution. Volume 2, frontispiece: 'Double canoe of the Friendly Islands'.

### 1802 George Barrington (1755-1804)

*The history of New South Wales, including Botany Bay, Port Jackson, Pamaratta [sic], Sydney, and all its dependancies, from the original discovery of the island, with the customs and manners of the natives; and an account of the English colony from its foundation to the present time.* London, M. Jones, 1802. YG 4832

Due to his criminal exploits, Barrington was at the time one of Australia's most notorious convicts. Publishers used his name to sell books, none of which he had written. Frontispiece: Coloured engraving of Sydney.



### 1804 David Collins (1756-1810)

*An account of the English colony in New South Wales, from its first settlement in January 1788 to August 1801: with remarks on the dispositions, customs, manners &c. of the native inhabitants of that country ...* Second edition. London, T. Cadell and W. Davies, 1804. YG 4831

Collins arrived with the First Fleet and was responsible for the colony's entire legal establishment. The York Gate Library also holds the first edition of this work (in two volumes). Opened at plate four of a series of eight engravings of an Aboriginal initiation ceremony observed by the author in January 1795.

### 1805 John William Lewin (1770-1819)

*Natural history of lepidopterous insects of New South Wales collected, engraved, and faithfully painted after nature.* London, Printed for the author, and published from the hand of his brother, Thomas Lewin, 1805. At head of title: *Prodromus entomology.* (Not found in the 1886 catalogue.)

First natural history book illustrated with plates produced in Australia. Lewin arrived in Sydney in 1800 some time after his wife, who had arrived on the ship he had accidentally missed in London. His father was the author of *Birds of Great Britain*. Plate 9: *Bombyx Banksiae*. 'This moth inhabits low and shrubby Banksia trees near Sidney' (page 10).



1805 John William Lewin

### 1808 John William Lewin (1770-1819)

*Birds of New Holland with their natural history; collected, engraved and faithfully painted after nature.* London, J. White and S. Bagster, 1808. (Not found in the 1886 catalogue.)

First book solely on Australian birds - one of six surviving copies. The 67 copies destined for Australia appear to have been lost. The York Gate Library acquired the copy which belonged to Lewin's patron, Lady Arden. Plate 2: Mountain bee-eater.

### 1818 Basil Hall (1788-1844)

*Account of a voyage of discovery to the west coast of Corea and the great Loo-Choo island ...* London, John Murray, 1818. YG 3414

This unique copy of the book has many sketches by the author bound into the volume. On the return journey Hall called in to St Helena and met with Napoleon who had been at school with his father. Adjacent to page 16: 'Corean chief and his secretary' with part of an original pencil sketch folded out from later in the book.

### 1820 Giovanni Battista Belzoni (1778-1823)

*Plates illustrative of the researches and operations of G. Belzoni in Egypt and Nubia.* London, J. Murray, 1820-1822. (Not found in the 1886 catalogue.)

The binding was designed and executed by Oliver Omarsh, custodian and bookbinder of the York Gate Library in London.



1808 John William Lewin



1841 Sir Robert Hermann Schomburgk



### 1825 Joseph Lycett (1775-1825?)

*Views in Australia, or, New South Wales & Van Diemen's Land delineated in fifty views with descriptive letter press ...* London, J. Souter, 1825. YG 4849

Lycett was transported in 1811 for forgery. His series of fifty views is considered to be Australia's finest book of topographical plates. The drawings in this volume were engraved to conform to what Lycett regarded as contemporary taste and hence they can look more like English parkland than Australian bush scenes. Opened at an aquatint engraving of a view of Newcastle, where, as a convict, he helped design the new church.

### 1830 Thomas J. Maslen (1787-1856?)

*The friend of Australia, or, A plan for exploring the interior and for carrying on a survey of the whole continent of Australia, by a retired officer of the Hon. East India Company's service.* London, Hurst, Chance, 1830. YG 4712

Plate 4 (adjacent page 425): A town plan with similarities to Adelaide. Maslen was one of the first to suggest towns surrounded by parkland. 'That a park surrounding every town, like a belt one mile in width, (the park could not be included in the plan for want of room) ...' (page 426).

### 1833 John Gould (1804-1881)

*Description of a new species of the genus Eurylaimus of Dr. Horsfield.* London, Zoological Society, 1833. Bound with two other articles from the *Transactions of the Zoological Society*, London. (Not found in the 1886 catalogue.) Two copies held.

An early example of the work of John Gould. Opened at a hand-coloured lithograph of *Eurylaimus lunatus*. 'Several examples of this beautiful bird were shot in the neighbourhood of Rangoon by Major Godfrey' (p.177). The York Gate Library also holds Gould's famous *Birds of Australia* (1848, seven volumes plus supplement, 1869) and *Mammals of Australia* (1863, three volumes).

### 1841 Sir Robert Hermann Schomburgk (1804-1865)

*Twelve views in the interior of Guiana, from drawings executed by Mr. Charles Bentley, after sketches taken during the expedition carried on in the years 1835 to 1839 ... With descriptive letter-press, by Robert H. Schomburgk.* London, Ackermann and Co., 1841. (Not found in the 1886 catalogue, although Silver is listed as a subscriber in 1841.)

The author was the brother of Richard, Director of the Adelaide Botanic Garden, 1865-1891. Richard was also on this expedition. Opened at the title page showing the Amazon waterlily.

### 1845 Edward John Eyre (1815-1901)

*Journals of expeditions of discovery into Central Australia, and overland from Adelaide to King George's Sound, in the years 1840-1.* London, T. and W. Boone, 1845. Two volumes. YG 4723

Volume 2, frontispiece: 'Tenberry with wife and child.' York Gate copies of this book and eleven other explorers' accounts were rebound in standard binding with a common title at the top of the spine: 'Discoveries and expeditions in Australia' (various publishers, 1833-1853).

### 1845 George French Angas (1822-1886)

Eight original watercolours of scenes from Rio de Janeiro. (RGSSA manuscript item 1d. Not found in the 1886 catalogue.)

Angas arrived in South Australia on New Year's Day in 1844, aged 21. After travelling in Australia and New Zealand he returned to London, unexpectedly spending several days in Rio de Janeiro. The watercolours that resulted from this visit were obviously intended for a book but it was never published. Two rarely exhibited watercolours framed on wall: 'Rio [de] Janeiro from the Convent of Santa Teresa' (23 x 32 cm) and 'Pharoux Hotel from the Market Place' (23 x 32 cm)

### 1847 George French Angas (1822-1886)

Ten original watercolours of the South African Kaffirs RGSSA manuscript item 2d. YG 4240

Six of the ten watercolours are reproduced as hand-coloured lithographs and three as woodcuts in Angas' *The Kaffirs illustrated*, (1849) which is also in the York Gate collection (YG 4239). Angas offered the watercolours to S.W. Silver in 1876 for thirty pounds when he was short of money. Two watercolours framed on wall: 'Young Zulu playing upon a musical instrument' (23 x 32 cm) and 'Zulu woman returning from work in the field' (23 x 32 cm).



### 1848 Edmund Gilling Hallewell (1822-1869)

*Views of the Bermudas: 13 coloured plates.* London, J. Hogarth; Bermuda, D.M. Lees, 1848.

Hallewell was in the East Devons battalion as part of the Bermuda garrison, 1846-7. It is said that the drawings ▶

▶ were executed as a test of the surveying skills of young military officers. Published as a limited edition of fifty copies. One view framed: scene of ships in a bay.

**1854 Samuel Gurney Cresswell (1827-1867)**

*A series of eight sketches in colour (together with a chart of the route), by Lieut. S. Gurney Cresswell, of the voyage of H.M.S. Investigator (Captain M'Clure), during the discovery of the North-West Passage.* London, Day and Son, 1854. YG 2679

When the crew of the ice-bound *Investigator* was found by a search party from a rescue ship, Cresswell led the first sled party carrying the six sickest crew members 160 miles to the ship. One coloured lithograph framed on wall: Plate 4, 'Critical position of H.M.S. *Investigator*. On the north Coast of Baring Island, August 20 1851'.



**1877 George French Angas (1822-1886)**

*Original sketches in pen and ink of life and scenery in the colonies – Down the Murray from its source to the sea,* by 'GFA' (George French Angas).

Supplement to the 7 July 1877 edition of *The Colonies and India: a weekly journal for the interchange of information throughout the British Commonwealth* (published by S.W. Silver and Co.).

**1879 S.W. Silver & Co.**

*Map of the British Colonies and adjacent territories in South Africa* [fold-out map]. London, S.W. Silver & Co., 1879. YG 4269

The company of S.W. Silver and Co. was a prolific publisher of information about the colonies.

**1882 Edward Augustus Petherick (1847-1917)**

*Catalogue of the York Gate Geographical and Colonial Library.* London, Printed by R. Clay, Sons, and Taylor, 1882.

Petherick spent much of his early life in Australia. In London he became Silver's cataloguer, bibliographical adviser and, later, widow's confidant. In 1905 he was instrumental in negotiations to sell the York Gate Library to the RGSSA. His own significant collection of Australiana was acquired by the Commonwealth of Australia and later it formed the basis of the National Library's Australiana collection, where today one of the main reading rooms is named in his honour.

**1884 (a copy) Nicolas Desliens (16th century)**

A copy of a map of the world by Nicolas Desliens of Dieppe, 1566. YG 1195

The 'Dieppe maps' (1542-1568) by Desliens and others show 'Java La Grande', a large land mass in the south, thought by some to be evidence of early Portuguese or Chinese exploration of Australia's coasts. The map displayed was hand-copied in 1884 by a colleague of E.A. Petherick, the York Gate cataloguer, from the original in the Bibliotheque Nationale in Paris. Petherick's notes on the map and how the copy came to be made are adhered to the back of the frame (photocopy is displayed).



**1886 Edward Augustus Petherick (1847-1917)**

*Catalogue of the York Gate Library formed by Mr. S. William Silver: an index to the literature of geography, maritime and inland discovery, commerce and colonisation.* Second edition. London, J. Murray, 1886.

The public acclaim of the first edition of the *Catalogue* encouraged Silver to enlist Petherick's help in enlarging his collection and to produce a second edition which met with even greater success.

**2005 Edward Augustus Petherick (1847-1917)**

*Catalogue of the York Gate Library formed by Mr. S. William Silver ...* Second edition. Mansfield Centre, Connecticut, Martino Publishing, 2005.

Surprisingly, this reduced-size facsimile of the 1886 edition makes no mention of the fact that the York Gate Library still exists.



## The Illustrations

### ANDREW DUNBAR

These photographs were taken by Andrew Dunbar:

- Page 3 J. W. Silver from a portrait hanging  
in the RGSSA Library
- Page 4 Blue-cheeked honeyeater from J.W. Lewin's  
*Birds of New Holland*, 1808
- Page 5 Joseph Banks' diary of his Newfoundland  
voyage of 1766

And also these from the list of exhibited items:

- 1482 F. Berlinghieri  
1766 J. Banks  
1787 A. Shaw  
1790 J. White  
1805 J.W. Lewin  
1808 J.W. Lewin  
1825 J. Lycett  
1841 R.H. Schomburgk  
1877 G.F. Angas  
1886 The two York Gate catalogues and the 2005 facsimile.

### STATE LIBRARY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

The remaining images were scanned by the Image Services of the State Library of South Australia.

### NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA

Copies of the E.A. Petherick manuscript (quoted on page 6) and his portrait (page 4) were supplied by the National Library of Australia.

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