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Discoveries in Australia

AUTHOR:

Hermann Beckler

ORIGINAL TITLE:

Entdeckungen in Australien

PAGES:

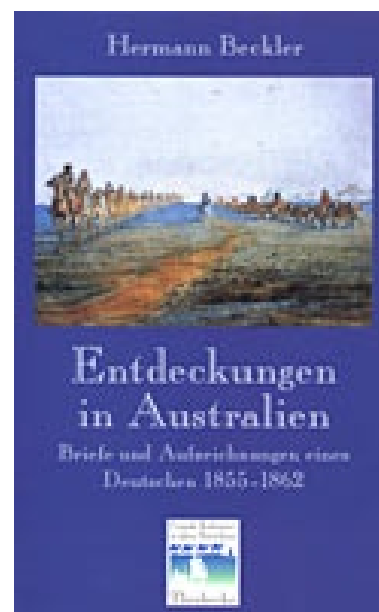
403

IMAGES:

87 black and white illustrations

SIZE:

14 x 23 cm



THE BOOK:

Australia went through a stormy period of pioneers in the middle of the 19th century, a time period in which it was known as the “fifth continent”. Bold explorers set out to investigate this mostly unknown land. One of them was the German physician Hermann Beckler, who combined in his letters the sober and unerring observance of a scientist with the compassion of a humanist.

THE AUTHOR:

The physician Hermann Beckler, whose letters from Australia are edited in this book, was born in 1828 in Hochstadt, Bavaria. He emigrated to New South Wales in 1856, joined the Victorian Exploring Expedition in 1859 and returned to Germany three years later, where he died in 1914.

RIGHTS AVAILABLE:

All language rights available.

PRICE:

By agreement.

Voices from the Extreme North – How the Greenlanders Discovered Europe

EDITOR:

Michael Harbsmeier

ORIGINAL TITLE:

Stimmen aus dem äußersten Norden –
Wie die Grönländer Europa für sich entdeckten

PAGES:

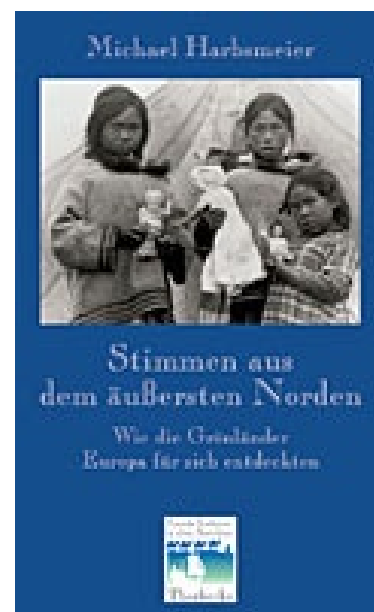
200

IMAGES:

30 mostly coloured illustrations

SIZE:

16,5 x 24 cm



THE BOOK:

During Danish colonisation many Greenlanders came to Denmark in under various circumstances. Starting with reports of those who had been forcibly brought to Copenhagen in the 17th Century to be exhibited at the court, this book follows the tracks of Greenlanders who discovered Denmark and Europe in the following centuries more or less under their own volition. At first there was a great amount of public attention paid to the immigrating new proselytes from the viewpoint of enlightened pietism. In the 19th and 20th centuries there was less interest in the individual salvation of the Greenlanders than in their peculiar customs and traditions – viewing them as “converted heathens” and “civilized savages”. The sources translated in this book follow Greenlanders on their journey to Europe, showing the modern world from their viewpoint and exposing some of the scars that their experiences in Europe left on them. Thus, a hitherto little known chapter of the history of European colonialism is presented to the reader. Historical drawings and engravings illustrate the fascinating contact of two very different cultures.

THE EDITOR:

Michael Harbsmeier, born in Germany in 1951, studied ethnology at the University of Copenhagen. He conducted research and taught at the universities of Copenhagen, Aarhus, Florence, Bergen and Odense and now teaches at Roskilde in Denmark.

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All language rights available.

PRICE:

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Description of the Mighty Empire Japan 1645

AUTHOR:

François Caron

ORIGINAL TITLE:

Beschreibung des mächtigen Königreichs Japan
1645

PAGES:

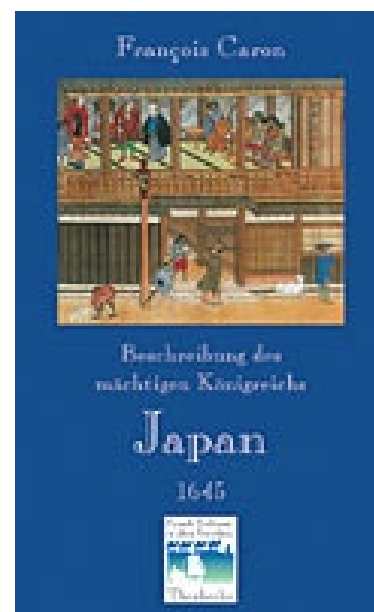
256

IMAGES:

36 mostly coloured illustrations

SIZE:

14 x 23 cm


THE BOOK:

François Caron (1600–1673), an intriguing figure of the 17th century, lived for 20 years in Japan as a representative of the Dutch East India Company. Caron was considered an expert on Japan and was asked to compose an essay on it. This treatise was instantly recognised by his contemporaries as being fascinating as well as informative and was published in 25 editions, translations and reprints. Today, it still makes for an exciting read. It is an early report of Japan from the 17th century, a time during which the country had already begun to close against European influences and Christian missions.

THE AUTHOR:

François Caron, a French Huguenot refugee to the Netherlands, joined the Dutch East India Company (VOC), the most prominent trading company of the world at that time, at the age of 19 and went to Japan. There he learned Japanese, married a native woman and made a spectacular career, becoming the Company's President for Japan. In 1643, he was named governor for Formosa (Taiwan), but had to leave the Dutch East India Company in 1651 due to allegations of private trade. Later, he joined the French East India Company, for which he worked in Madagascar and Ceylon. Caron died when his ship sank off Lisbon in 1673.

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PRICE:

By agreement.

Athos – Journeys to the Holy Mountain 1347–1841

EDITORS:

Folker Reichert, Gerrit Schenk

ORIGINAL TITLE:

Athos – Reisen zum Heiligen Berg 1347–1841

PAGES:

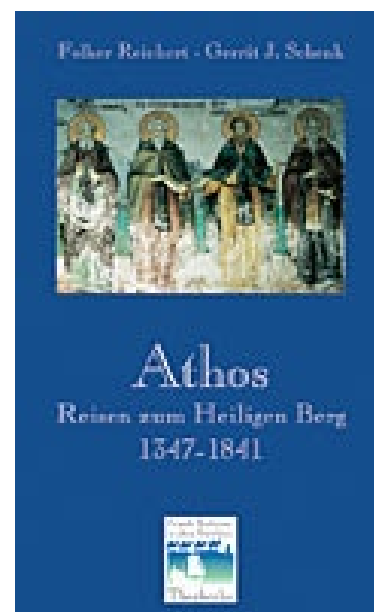
368

IMAGES:

55 mostly coloured illustrations

SIZE:

14 x 23 cm

**THE BOOK:**

Mount Athos, situated on a peninsula in northern Greece, is one of the holy mountains of the Greek Orthodox church. Since the 8th century there have been hermitages and fortified monasteries housing several thousand monks who have withdrawn from the world in order to serve only God and the Holy virgin. Travellers have always been received by the monks as pilgrims.

This book collects 14 reports, dating from medieval times to the 19th century, that illuminate the impressions of those visitors. The orthodox pilgrim and the Catholic theologian, the natural scientist and the hiker, the romanticist who was tired of civilisation, the enthusiast of old manuscripts – they all came to Mount Athos and found what they were looking for. Furthermore, they were all fascinated by the ascetic life of the monks, their nearly continuous prayer, and by the magnificent monasteries situated in a splendid landscape.

THE EDITORS:

Folker Reichert is a professor of Medieval History at the University of Stuttgart. In 1992, he published “Encounters with China. The Discovery of Asia in the Middle Ages”.

Gerrit J. Schenk is Folker Reichert’s scientific assistant.

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PRICE:

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Saint Jacob's Road – The Oldest German Pilgrim's Guide to Santiago de Compostela

EDITORS:

Klaus Herbers, Robert Plötz

ORIGINAL TITLE:

Die Strass zu Sankt Jakob – Der älteste deutsche Pilgerführer nach Santiago de Compostela

PAGES:

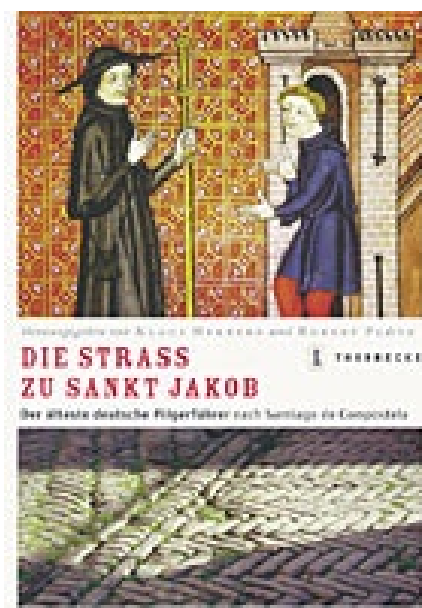
128

IMAGES:

30 black and white images

SIZE:

16,5 x 24 cm



THE BOOK:

Pilgrims to Santiago de Compostela today follow the footsteps of a tradition many centuries old. Whoever walks the road today wonders: How were the first pilgrims able to find the right road, good lodging, and food? The pilgrim's guide from 1495 describes two routes from Germany to Santiago de Compostela. The writer Hermann König von Vach portrays cities and landscapes, hints at dangers on the road, and mentions good lodgings. The book is a document of a century-old tradition still alive today and is reproduced here as facsimile in present day language. The atmospheric pictures taken by the photographer Gerhard Weiß give a glimpse of what the first pilgrims might have encountered on the road.

THE EDITORS:

Dr. Klaus Herbers is a professor of medieval history at the University of Erlangen-Nürnberg.

Dr. Robert Ploetz is president of the German St. Jacob's Society.

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All foreign language rights available.

PRICE:

By agreement.