

# HORDERN HOUSE

RARE BOOKS · MANUSCRIPTS · PAINTINGS

## Some Russian Books

LEVEL 2, 255 RILEY STREET · SURRY HILLS · SYDNEY NSW 2010 · AUSTRALIA

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## 1. [BELLINGSHAUSEN] [GILLEN, K.K.]

### “Expedition der Sloop Blagonamjerenny”...

*Octavo pamphlet, folding plate, comprising a single issue of the journal, the Gillsen account on pp. 272-94; an unopened copy in the original printed lime-green wrappers. Berlin, Reimer, 1850.*

#### COMPANION WORK FOR THE 1819 RUSSIAN ARCTIC VOYAGES

The first detailed abstract of the Vasil'ev/Shishmarev voyage published outside Russia, based on the extremely rare Russian original published two years previously in 1849. The companion expedition of Bellingshausen is now well-known for the dearth of contemporary published material, and this Arctic voyage was not served any better. This German translation of Gillsen's account is the first European translation of a work that was not translated into English until 1983 (Rhea Josphson, *Ethnohistory in the Arctic*). The title translates as “Expedition of the Sloop Blagonamjerenny to explore the Asiatic and American shores beyond the Bering-Strait in the years 1819 to 1822”, and the work made the 1849 St. Petersburg publication available for the first time to a wider European audience.

In 1819 the Russian Admiralty undertook a double polar expedition under Bellingshausen/Lazarev (Antarctic) and Vasil'ev/Shishmarev (Arctic). The sloop *Otkrytie* (Discovery) was under the command of M.N. Vasil'ev, while the sloop *Blagonamerennyi* (Good Intent) was under the command of G.S. Shishmarew. Leaving Kronstadt in 1819 the expedition reached Port Jackson via Rio de Janeiro and the Cape of Good Hope. The two ships sailed north to Kamchatka, mapping Nukufetau Atoll en route, and naming the “Inseln des Blagonamerennyi”. The ships spent some time on both shores of the Bering Sea, and particularly explored Otkrytie Island (Nunivak). Heavy pack ice beyond the Bering Strait stopped the expedition from their planned work in the deeper reaches of the Chukchi Sea. No official report was published, and the only eyewitness account from either ship was written by the midshipman of the *Blagonamerennyi*, Karl Karlovitch Gillsen, and published in the St. Petersburg journal *Otechestvennyie Zapiski* in 1849.

On the Russian expeditions see: Barratt, *The Russians and Australia*, pp. 87ff & *Russia in Pacific Waters*, pp. 201-2; Howgego II, R34, T3.

**\$3450**

*Chavanne, 4171; Wickersham, 6287.*



## 2. [BILLINGS] SAUER, Martin.

### An Account of a Geographical and Astronomical Expedition...

Quarto, with a folding map and 14 engraved plates; and library stamps; a good copy in old half calf, marbled sides. London, A. Strahan, 1802.

#### THE ALEUTIANS

The classic description of the Aleutian Islands. This is the only edition in English of the Englishman Sauer's full account of the Billings voyage, on which he travelled as secretary to the captain. This was the last of the major Russian surveys of the eastern coast of Siberia, and accomplished a great deal of geographical research, visiting Kodiak, Montague Island and Prince William Sound, and saw Mount St Elias.



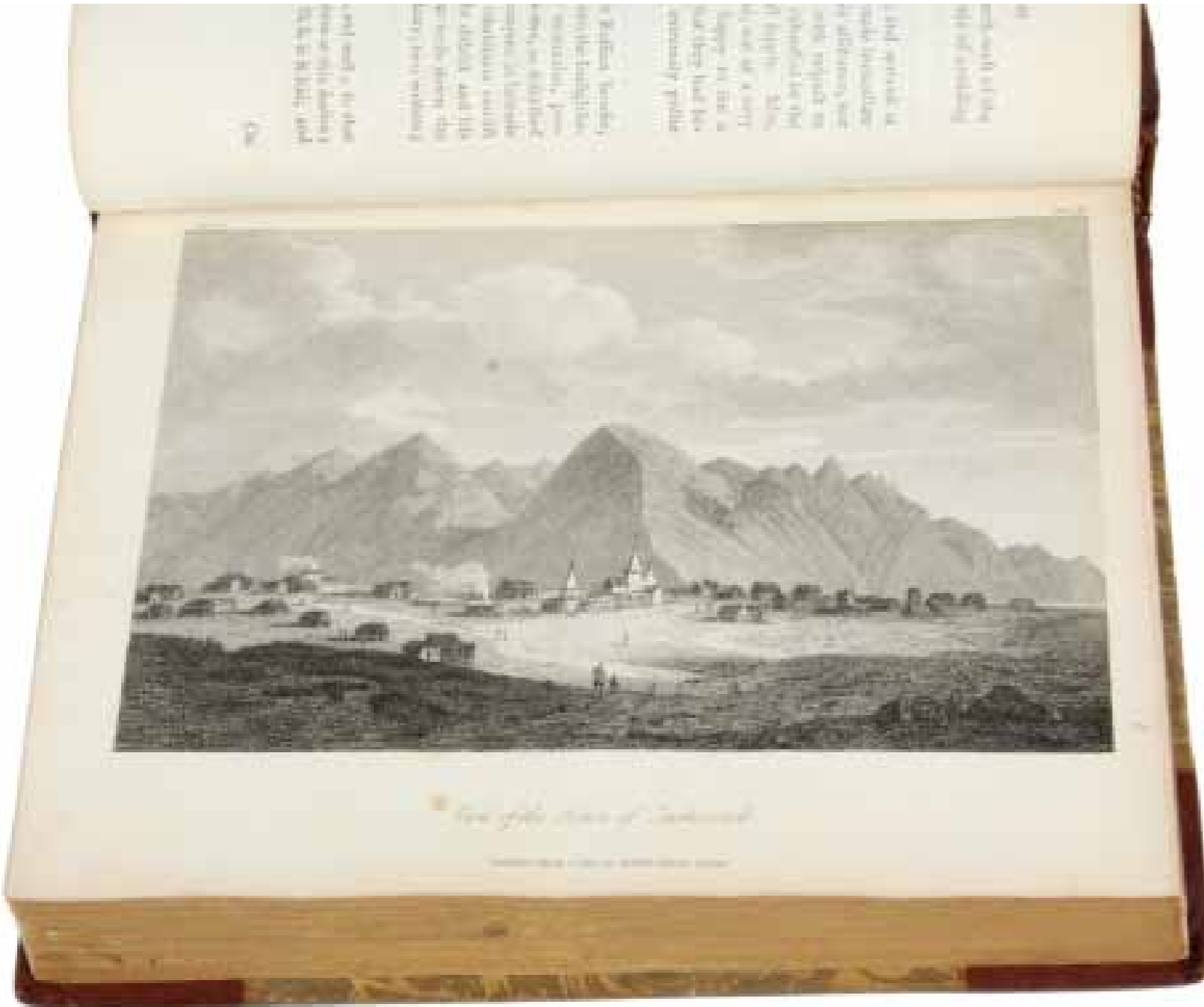
Billings' naval career had started under Cook: he sailed as an able-bodied seaman on the *Discovery*, transferring on Cook's death to the *Resolution*. His voyage included a revisiting of Kamchatka where Captain Clerke, who had taken over the command of the third voyage after Cook's death, had been buried. One of the plates in this publication shows Clerke's grave.

Sauer's is the 'first account in English of the first major exploring expedition sent out by the Russians to the Frozen Ocean and the North Pacific

after Bering's second expedition of 1741... The chart was made by Arrowsmith from Sauer's notes and Captain Billings's astronomical observations...' (Streeter). The large folding map is of Bering Strait and the American and Asian coasts. The appendices include linguistic tables, one of which compares Kamchatkan, Aleutian and Kodiak dialects.

**\$4500**

*Hill, 1528; Lada-Mocarski, 58.*



### 3. CHORIS, Louis.

#### Voyage Pittoresque autour du Monde...

*Folio, with lithograph frontispiece portrait of Count Romanzoff, 104 hand coloured lithograph plates, folding map of the voyage and two plans (on one sheet); with text in 12 separately paged sections and plates also separately numbered; original crimson morocco spine and corners, crimson glazed paper boards, title in gilt on spine. Paris, de l'Imprimerie de Firmin Didot, 1822.*

#### THE MOST BEAUTIFUL COLOUR PLATE BOOK OF THE NORTH AND CENTRAL PACIFIC

A lovely copy of this amazing book, “a spectacular and early lithographically illustrated travel account that has always been considered one of the most beautiful and important colour plate books of the Northern Pacific. It contains more early coloured views of Hawaii, Alaska and California than any other work of the period...” (Forbes).

Choris, a Russian of German stock, was just twenty years old when he was appointed as official draughtsman on the Kotzebue expedition of 1815-1818. During this voyage he produced a vast number of important sketches and watercolours, and on his return to Paris was encouraged to produce this great work, which was first issued in 22 parts between 1820 and 1822. Most of these views did not appear in the official account of the expedition published in Germany and in Russia, and some of the copper engraved plates in the official account were re-lithographed to suit the artist. Overall, this publication reflects Choris' personal interests and preferences. It has a rich and exotic point of view not seen in any other voyage book. Over the years copies of this wonderful book have been broken up for sale as separate prints which helps to account for its modern rarity.

This copy contains the Norblin version of the Queen Kaahumanu portrait, the preferred Langlume lithograph of Kamehameha and the first state of the female dancers (Plate XVI) with the plain background.

The many beautiful plates include views and scenes of native life, artefacts, plants, shells and animals. Twelve relate to California (including several of San Francisco), nineteen of Hawaii (with the first view of Honolulu), twenty-three of Alaskan interest, and twenty-one of various parts of Micronesia. Lada-Mocarski calls it “one of the very valuable and fundamental works on Alaska, California and the Hawaiian Islands”. The list of subscribers, which accounts for only 188 copies, includes the Emperor of Russia, and the King of France.

**\$225,000**

*Forbes, Hawaiian National Bibliography, 541; Hill, 290; Lada-Mocarski, 84; Sabin, 12884.*





*Les hommes dans les îles Sandwich.*



*Les hommes dans les îles Sandwich.*



*Les hommes dans les îles Sandwich.*



*Les hommes dans les îles Sandwich.*

## 4. CHORIS, Louis.

### Vues et Paysages des Regions Equinoxiales...

*Folio, with 24 hand coloured lithographs interleaved with descriptive letterpress, contemporary crimson morocco spine, marbled boards. Paris, Imprimerie Paul Renouard, 1826.*

#### CHORIS' MAGNIFICENT COLOURED "TABLEAUX" OF THE PACIFIC

First edition: the rare coloured issue of this beautiful voyage book, with its magnificent series of views, including scenes in Brazil, Chile, Hawaii and other Pacific islands, Kamchatka, the Marianas, Manila, the Cape of Good Hope and St Helena. The book was also issued with the plates uncoloured. According to a contemporary prospectus there was a large paper issue of the work, limited to fifty copies, to which this fine copy appears to belong.

The author was Louis Choris, a Russian of German stock, who was appointed to the Kotzebue expedition (1815-18) as a twenty year old. During this important Pacific voyage Choris produced a vast number of important sketches and watercolours, and on his return to Paris was encouraged to publish. The plates emphasise the lush effects of palms and other plants in the tropics, contrasted by the stark grandeur of the views of Kamchatka and Chile. These were inspired by von Humboldt's *Tableaux de la Nature*, which Choris aimed to emulate by producing a series of similar "tableaux" which would summarise the characteristics of each region. The plates include five of Brazil, three of Chile, six of Micronesia, two each of Hawaii and Kamchatka, and one each of Manila, the Cape of Good Hope, St. Helena and Easter Island. The most famous plate shows the audience of officers of the Kotzebue expedition with King Kamehameha in Hawaii.

'The coloring of the plates is vivid and strikingly beautiful... This was the first Russian circumnavigation devoted exclusively to scientific purposes and several well-known scientists contributed greatly to its success. Choris made a great many drawings during this voyage. In 1822 he published *Voyage pittoresque autour du monde*. Despite his using many of his drawings in that work, Choris found 24 subjects among the remaining drawings which he published four years later [as this work]' (Lada-Mocarski).

Choris dedicated his book to Humboldt. Some copies, perhaps later issues, have an additional preliminary leaf, an address by Choris to Tsar Nicolas 'sa majesté l'empereur de toutes les Russies', which is dated February 1827 and must have been added after the initial publication of the work in 1826. This copy may belong to the fifty-copy limited issue on large paper, on the basis that at 425 x 288 mm (text block) it is larger than or at least as large as other copies that have been claimed to form part of the special issue; however we have been informed of a copy sold in the 1980s measuring 490 x 325 mm, though at this remove in time one can never be sure whether the text block or the binding was being measured.

**\$85,000**

*Forbes, Hawaiian National Bibliography, 632; Lada-Mocarski, 90; O'Reilly & Reitman, 786; Sabin, 12885; not in the catalogue of the Hill collection.*



## 5. COXE, William.

### Les Nouvelles Découvertes des Russes...

*Quarto, four folding engraved maps & one folding plate; a handsome copy in contemporary French mottled calf, gilt spines, red edges. Paris, Hotel de Thou, 1781.*

#### INCLUDES PREVIOUS UNPUBLISHED RUSSIAN JOURNALS

The rare French edition of this famous book on Russian exploration, with good material on Alaska, the Aleutian Islands and the Northwest Coast. Coxe, on a journey through Russia, collected, compared and translated Russian journals, collected maps at St Petersburg, consulted with authorities and included several journals 'never before given to the public', directing the 'curious and inquisitive reader' to compare them to Cook's then unpublished journals.

The book is a significant source on Russian exploration and expansion into the northern Pacific, and the attempt to open trade with Alaska and the Aleutian Islands. Coxe 'also succeeded in securing additional material (for instance the narrative and maps of Krenitzin and Levashev's 'secret' expedition, the first official Russian government expedition since Bering's second expedition of 1741). He was able to secure this particular information, not widely known at the time even in Russia, from Dr. William Robertson, who in turn obtained it through his friend Dr. Rogerson, first physician to Empress Catherine II...' (Lada-Mocarski).

This edition is not in Sabin, who does record another French edition, a version reduced to octavo format published in Neuchâtel in 1781.

**\$2750**

*Lada-Mocarski, 29n; not in Sabin.*



## 6. ERMAN, Adolph.

### Reise um die Erde durch Nord Asien und die Beiden Oceane...

*Seven volumes, comprising five octavo text and two atlas volumes (one quarto and one small folio), complete with the suite of 36 plates and maps; the text volumes with four folding plates, three handcoloured maps, and accompanying folding handcoloured chart; the quarto atlas of views with eleven plates, all double page and two folding; the small folio atlas of natural history plates with 17 numbered plates (two handcoloured); an excellent uncut set in recent period style half green morocco with gilt labels. Berlin, G. Reimer, 1833-1848.*

#### EXPLORATION IN NORTHEASTERN ASIA, SIBERIA, RUSSIAN AMERICA AND THE NORTHERN PACIFIC

One of the rarest and best accounts of nineteenth-century exploration in northeastern Asia, Siberia, Russian America, and the northern Pacific, with significant early scientific observations made in the Americas, including Sitka and San Francisco in late 1829. This set collects material published over a long period, effectively preserving the results of one of the lesser-known scientific voyages of the era for posterity.

This ambitious work comprises a three-volume narrative account of Erman's travels in the years 1828-30, a two-volume natural history text, an atlas of geographical views, and a natural history atlas. It was issued in parts over a span of fifteen years and is almost never found absolutely complete as here: this fine set includes the frequently missing final volume of text comprising the second part of the scientific results (a further volume of narrative text was planned but never published); and it includes the full suite of 36 lithographed and engraved plates and maps, 8 of them accompanying the text, 11 forming an atlas of views, and 17 forming the natural history atlas.

Adolph Erman, born in Berlin in 1806, was a physicist and traveller in the mould of Alexander von Humboldt. In 1828 he set out to travel around the world, joining Christopher Hantseen's expedition to carry out magnetic measurements in Siberia. They travelled eastward across Russia, and when the Hantseen expedition turned back at Kyakhta, Erman proceeded onward at his own expense to Yakutsk and Okhotsk. He crossed the Sea of Okhotsk to Kamchatka and journeyed across the peninsula to the port of Petrovalovsk, where he met Leontii Hagemeister whose ship was supplying Russian colonies in Alaska. Erman travelled with Hagemeister to Sitka and then on to San Francisco, Tahiti, the coast of South America, and then around the Horn to Europe, although the textual narrative closes with Erman in Kamchatka in late 1829.

Erman spent several years after his return to Germany preparing his narrative; published in parts through the 1830s and 1840s, it contains detailed observations on zoology, botany, geography and ethnology, as well as accounts of the peoples and places he encountered. Included are descriptions of a trip down the Ob River, the culture of the Ostyanks and Samoyeds, a discussion of the geology and geography of the northern Urals, Yakutsk, and Okhotsk areas, and brief Yakut and Tungus

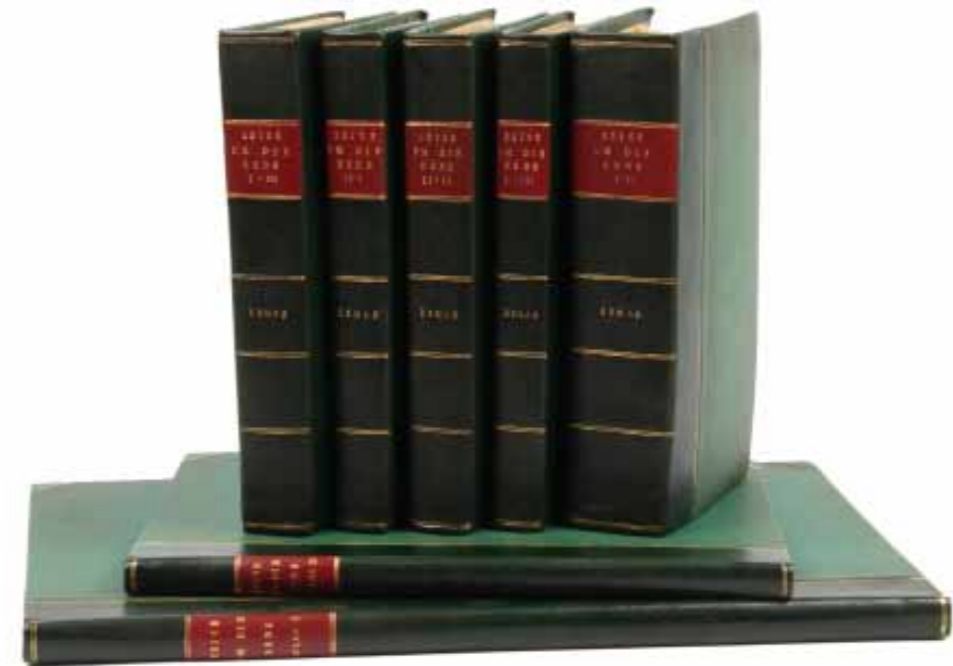
vocabularies. He describes his wanderings over land and by river in Kamchatka in 1829, as well as details of the geography, geology, botany, volcanoes, zoology, meteorology, and ethnology of the peninsula. He also includes a vocabulary of the Kamchadal dialect.

The two volume natural history text contains observations on latitude and longitude, as well as geomagnetic studies and magnetic observations made on land in Siberia, Kamchatka, Alaska, California, and South America, as well as on the Pacific Ocean. Apart from the wealth of scientific studies and readings Erman made in Russia, he performed the same tests and reported the same results for Sitka, Alaska in November, 1829, San Francisco in December of that year, all across the Pacific Ocean, and in Rio de Janeiro in the spring of 1830. The natural history texts, therefore, contain an impressive amount of early, accurate scientific material on Alaska, California, and South America.

The plates in the geographic atlas (each of which contains at least two and up to four views) chiefly depict scenes in Kamchatka, showing forests, waterways, mountains and volcanoes. The natural history atlas features attractive lithographs of birds (the majority of the images), a sea otter from Sitka, fish, insects, and plants.

**\$36,000**

*Arctic Bib, 4661; BM (NH) II, 539; Nissen, 1305; Sabin, 22770.*





## 7. [FORSTER] MULOVSKY, Grigory.

### Autograph letter signed, to Georg Forster...

Single sheet of laid paper, 232 x 382 mm., folded to letter size, watermark "J. Honig & Zonen", written in French in a neat and legible hand, signed "G. Moulowsky", noted as received on 1 January 1788; excellent condition. Kronstadt, 26 November 1787 (old calendar; 7 December 1787 in the modern calendar).

#### CANCELLATION OF THE RUSSIAN VOYAGE TO NEW HOLLAND

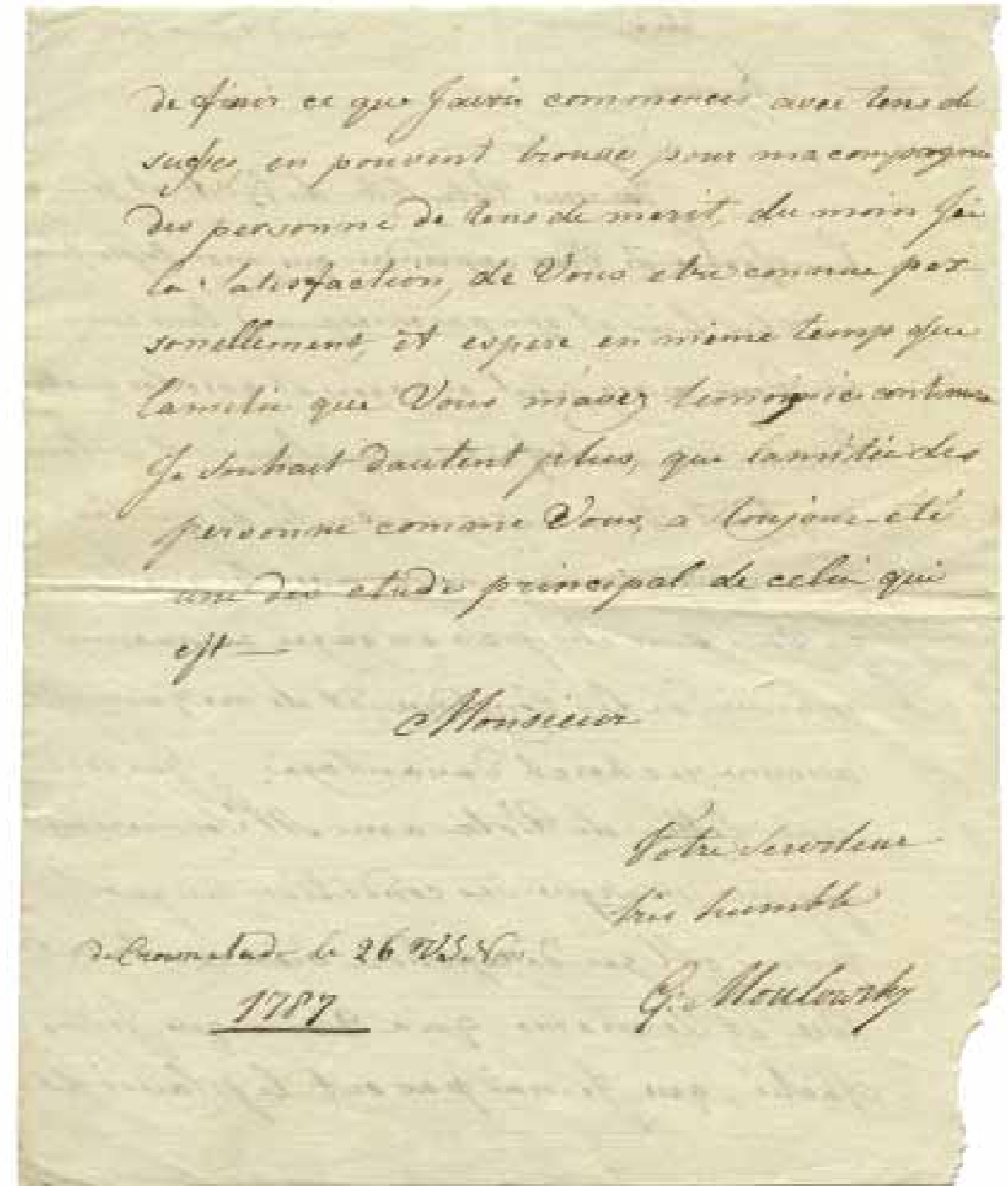
An important letter: the Russian commander Grigory Mulovsky writes to Georg Forster informing him of the cancellation of their proposed voyage to the Pacific and Australia. In April 1787 Catherine the Great commissioned Mulovsky as commander of a squadron destined to carry out a voyage to the Pacific Ocean, Japan and the western coast of America. Five ships – four naval vessels and a transport – were to have taken part, with officers and crew recruited from around the world.

One of the driving forces in planning the expedition was James Trevenen, a midshipman on Cook's third voyage, who first discussed his idea with the Russian ambassador in London as an attempt to circumvent the monopoly of the British South Sea Company. Trevenen was so convinced of the reality of his Russian appointment that he did not push for another commission for which he was being sponsored by Alexander Dalrymple: to command the *Bounty* on her ill-fated breadfruit voyage.

Mulovsky's voyage was openly modelled on the discoveries of Captain Cook and was intended as a Russian riposte to British ambitions in the region, much in the same way that the French had appointed La Pérouse and the Spanish Malaspina. It is considered very likely that Mulovsky would have visited the new colony at Port Jackson, much like the French and Spanish expeditions: if this had eventuated it would have been an incredible opportunity for Forster to judge the merits of his early essay on Botany Bay, "Neuholland und die brittische Colonie in Botany Bay", published in a Berlin journal in 1787.

This expertise was all the more reason, of course, to ask Georg Forster to join the expedition. Forster had sailed as a young man on Cook's imposing second voyage, and although relations between the Forsters and the British Admiralty soured, Georg had forged a career as a Pacific expert, partly because of his firsthand experience, and partly because of his continuing research. He was approached by Mulovsky in person and offered a position as naturalist and "scientific commander" in June 1787; the same month Forster wrote to his friend Thomas Soemmering inviting him to join an expedition which 'will visit England, Lisbon, Madeira, Brazil, the Cape of Good Hope, New Holland, New Zealand, the Friendly, Society and Sandwich Islands, the Coast of America, Kurile Islands, Japan and China – and everywhere our zeal for Science will be left unhindered' (Forster to Soemmering, 17 June 1787, *Georg Forsters Werke*, Berlin, 1978, vol. 14, p. 696). Sadly, the hoped for expedition never materialised as the Russian Navy became increasingly immured in war with the Sultan of Turkey. As this letter confirms, the Pacific voyage was finally cancelled in 1787; Mulovsky died two years later during the war with Sweden.

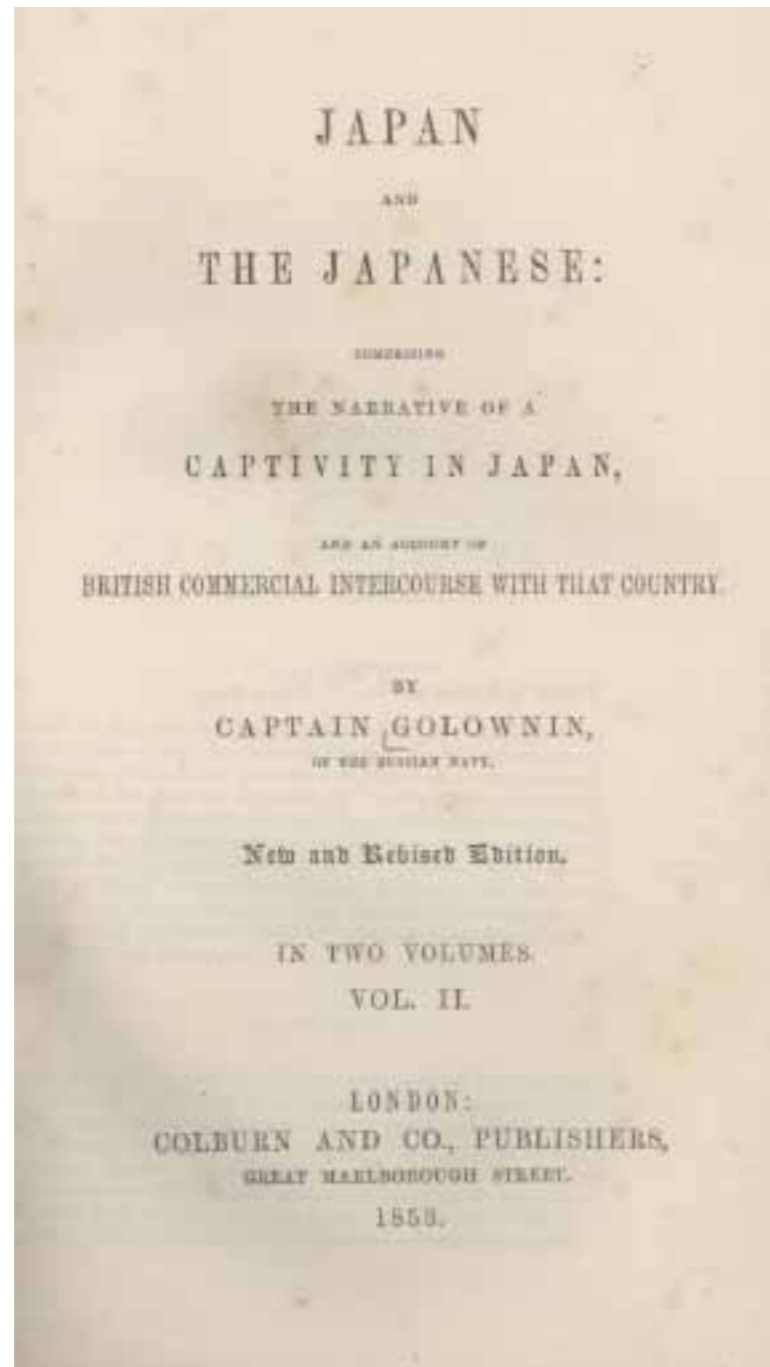
The letter, sent from the Russian naval capital Kronstadt, written in rather halting French, informs Forster about the cancellation of their planned voyage ('Je suis bien fâchée de vous apprendre que mon Expédition n'a plus lieu et que par consequence, tous ceux que vous aurez peut engagée...'). Mulovsky also comments that he has written a second letter to Soemmering as well, and he stresses that there is no personal conflict behind the cancellation, hoping that their relationship will continue to be amicable.



This letter was transcribed as part of the East German publication of Forster's *Werke*, although it was only located in time for the appendix volume (see *Georg Forsters Werke, Briefe 1792 bis 1794 und Nachträge*, Berlin, 1989, volume 17, p. 541; the editors remark that the letter only became known to them during the printing of the book). Added to the original letter is a typescript transcription, plus three typescript pages with further research. It seems that these typescripts were prepared by the editors of the multi-volume *Werke*.

**\$18,500**

See Robert J. King, 'The Mulovsky expedition and Catherine II's North Pacific empire', *Australian Slavonic and East European Studies*, 21:1/2 (2007).



## 8. GOLOVNIN, Vasilii Mikhailovich.

### Japan and the Japanese...

*Two volumes, octavo; a very good, largely uncut and partly unopened copy in original green blind-stamped cloth. London, Colburn, 1853.*

#### CLASSIC ACCOUNT OF JAPAN

The Russian explorer's classic account of Japan, first published in 1817 and still a fascinating primary resource in the 1850s, one of the most valuable works of the period on Japan by an actual observer. Virtually no other first-hand study of Japan by a Westerner had been published, though by the 1850s a growing desire to force Japan to open her hitherto closed doors meant that this 'new and revised edition' was needed: it would certainly have been read with interest by Perry and others as the United States Expedition to Japan was being formed.

**\$3850**

*Cordier, Japonica, p. 466.*

## 9. KOTZEBUE, Otto von.

### Entdeckungs-Reise in die Süd-See...

Three volumes bound in one, quarto; with six maps (five folding) and 20 engraved and aquatint plates (19 with original handcolouring and four double-page); contemporary quarter black roan, gilt arms on cover of Ernst Augustus, King of Hanover. Weimar, Gebruder Hoffmann, 1821.

#### THE SECOND GREAT RUSSIAN EXPEDITION TO THE PACIFIC

First edition of Kotzebue's account of his voyage, the second Russian scientific expedition and one of the great Pacific exploration accounts. The plates include two each of Alaska and Hawaii, and four of Micronesia. The aquatint plates are finely handcoloured (with

the exception of the single engraved plate of the monkey-skull), and retain the quality of original watercolours. The third volume includes the fine coloured butterfly plates omitted from the English and Russian editions.

This famous voyage narrative is particularly important for its descriptions of Alaska, California (including the first scientific account of the state flower, the Golden Poppy), Hawaii and Micronesia; Lada-Mocarski describes the account of Alaska as 'rich in early original source material'.

The expedition rounded Cape Horn and visited Chile, Easter Island, the Marshall Islands, Hawaii and the North American coast, making an unsuccessful search for a Northwest passage. The *Rurik* sailed along the California coast, stopping at San Francisco; Kotzebue describes the missions, and the work is considered one of the most important early accounts of the state. Kotzebue made a stop in Hawaii in

November-December 1816, revisiting again in September-October 1817, anchoring off Hawaii and Oahu. The Hawaiian portion is extensive with important observations on life and customs during the reign of Kamehameha I, whose famous "red vest" portrait by Louis Choris is one of the illustrations.

The account of Albert von Chamisso, the expedition naturalist, includes important information about flora and fauna, as well as the native inhabitants and the work of the missionaries. There is also a comparative vocabulary table for languages of some of the islanders. As a record of historical import, and as a collection of significant maps and

beautiful plates (most notably those of the butterflies), this work is one of the prime desiderata of Pacific voyages. 'Kotzebue belonged to that group of outstanding Russian naval officers of the first half of the nineteenth century, which included Kruzenshtern, Golovnin, Lisianskii, Sarychev, and others...' (Lada-Mocarski).

There were altogether three issues of this first edition, as noted by Forbes in the *Hawaiian National Bibliography*. This is an example of the second issue with the text printed upon laid paper and the plates coloured (the regular issue has the plates in sepia aquatint).

**\$27,500**

Forbes, *Hawaiian National Bibliography*, 525; *Hawaii One Hundred*, 24n; Hill, 943; Judd, 94; Kroepelien, 670; Lada-Mocarski, 80; Wickersham, 6197.





## 10. KOTZEBUE, Otto von.

### Ontdekkingsreis in de Zuid-zee en naar de Berings-Straat...

*Three volumes, each with engraved title-page (the last hand-coloured), four hand-coloured plates and three folding plates, five folding maps, an excellent set in early twentieth-century vellum, decorated gilt and blind. Amsterdam, Johannes van der Hey, 1822.*

#### DUTCH EDITION OF KOTZEBUE

Fine set in vellum of the uncommon Dutch edition of the Kotzebue voyage to the Pacific, the second Russian scientific expedition. Kotzebue's voyage is one of the great Pacific exploration accounts. This famous voyage narrative is particularly important for its descriptions of Alaska, California (including the first scientific account of the state flower, the Golden Poppy), Hawaii and Micronesia; Lada-Mocarski describes the account of Alaska as 'rich in early original source material.'

'A Dutch edition of the first Kotzebue voyage, translated by P.G. Witsen Geysbeek, with prefaces by the translator in volume I and II and footnotes throughout. The three hand-coloured portraits in volume II are "Tameamea, Konig der Sandwich-Eilanden" (p. 28), a version of the "red vest" portrait by Choris; "Rarick" (p. 130); and "Kadu" (p. 230). A folding plate in volume II... depicts the *heiau* and Kamehameha's residence at Kailua, Kona. The hand-coloured vignette on the volume III title is of the butterfly named for Kamehameha' (Forbes). A fourth hand-coloured plate in the first volume depicts "Inwoners van Kotzebue-Sond."

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**\$5500**

*Forbes, Hawaiian National Bibliography, 551; Kroepelien, 672; O'Reilly-Reitman, 778a; Sabin, 38285.*

## 11. KRUSENSTERN, A.J. von.

### Reise um die Welt...

*Two parts in three volumes, duodecimo, stipple-engraved portrait of Krusenstern and two other frontispieces both finely coloured by hand, folding engraved map and 11 double-page engraved views and a large folding map; a fine set in original papered boards, orange labels, red edges, preserved in a cloth slipcase. Berlin, Haude und Spener, 1811-1812.*

#### PIVOTAL RUSSIAN VOYAGE OF DISCOVERY TO ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

The first Russian circumnavigation: its captain, Krusenstern, was accompanied by a brilliant corps of officers, which included men like Lisiansky, Langsdorff, and Kotzebue. This Russian voyage was of great importance to Pacific history for the attempt to open Japan to commerce, and for the observations made on the Russian-Chinese trade. The *Nadeshda* and the *Neva* were together at the Marquesas and Hawaii; there they separated and from this point on Krusenstern's narrative concerns the western Pacific. The book includes a view of Nagasaki Harbour, one of the earliest views of Japan published in the west, as well as views of Nukahiva (three), Japan (three), Macao, Canton, St Helena and St Catherine, Brazil.

This was the first popular account of this important voyage to be made available to the public, and the first edition to have been printed in Germany, published at the same time as the more costly St Petersburg quarto edition. No English edition appeared until 1813.

This is an excellent copy of this scarce edition, in which an extra piece was added (at the start of volume 3) by the publisher in the form of the *Nachricht* by Langsdorff on the practice of tattooing in Nuku Hiva and the Washington islands, including a small woodcut showing the instruments used. There is also a Prospectus by Langsdorff and his publisher Wilmans for the German publication of his *Bemerkungen*.

**\$7600**

*Borba de Moraes, p. 442; Forbes, Hawaiian National Bibliography, 421; Kroepelien, 691 (the two plates uncoloured); Lada-Mocarski, 61; O'Reilly-Reitman, 728.*



## 12. [KRUSENSTERN] LANGSDORFF, Georg Heinrich.

### Bemerkungen auf einer Reise um die Welt...

*Two volumes quarto bound in one,; with accompanying two part atlas bound as one quarto volume with two frontispiece portraits and 43 other engraved plates (one folding) and a folding leaf of music, title-page to each part and a leaf with explanatory text each side to face each of the plates; non-uniform binding comprising the text in contemporary half calf with double labels, the atlas in original marbled boards, leather label on spine. Frankfurt am Mayn, Friedrich Wilmans, 1812.*

#### SOME OF THE MOST FAMOUS PACIFIC IMAGES

The uncommon first edition of the Langsdorff account of the Krusenstern voyage to the north Pacific and Japan, in its preferred form with separate atlas. The small atlas, with its marvellous series of plates after Langsdorff's original sketches, is seldom seen in this form as the plates were more often bound into copies of the text, usually with the leaves of explanatory text (here present) discarded by the binder on account of the complication that they present: the text on recto and verso of each leaf describes two different plates which are not always to be bound near each other. This copy contains both the two separate title-pages ("27 Kupfer..." and "17 Kupfer...") to each part which are also more often discarded.

The plates include eight of the Marquesas, five of Japan, three of Alaska, and two of California, and this original edition also includes the earliest known view of San Francisco – which was one of the images that was dropped and did not re-appear in the subsequent English version.

The Marquesas plates are of particular interest for the images of tattooing in the islands, and especially for the engraving of Jean Baptiste Cabri, the French deserter who had been living there for some time and had taken a Marquesan wife and become extensively tattooed. Cabri went back with the expedition to Russia and made a living exhibiting himself and telling tales of his life among the "savages" of the islands. He toured widely in Russia and then in Europe for some years. He is noteworthy as one of the first extensively tattooed Europeans to exhibit himself: since the late seventeenth century such exhibitions were almost exclusively of native people, such as Giolo who came back with Dampier, and Omai who came to England on Cook's *Endeavour*.

'When the Russian explorer Ivan Fedorovich Krusenstern arrived in the Marquesas in 1804 he found two Europeans living among the natives. They were a Frenchman, Jean Baptiste Cabri, and an Englishman, Edward Robarts. Both men had lived in the islands for several years and had been tattooed in the Marquesan fashion. Krusenstern employed them as guides and interpreters, and George Heinrich von Langsdorff, the German naturalist who accompanied Krusenstern, used them as informants when he wrote the



first published account of native life and customs. The tattoo culture was reintroduced in the country when 18th-century European sailors travelled to Pacific islands and got fascinated by this art. They brought some form of exotic art back to Europe. French sailors were most fascinated from the art. The Frenchmen Jean Baptiste Cabri was the first person to get his entire body tattooed and display himself for an admission fee at fairs. However till the late eighteenth century this art was considered to be nomadic and lower class art basically symbolizing the criminals and uneducated class people...' (Tricia Allen and Steve Gilbert, *Tattoo History Source Book: The Marquesas*). See also 'Speckled Bodies: Russian Voyagers and Nuku Hivans, 1804' in N. Thomas et al, eds., *Tattoo: Bodies, Art and Exchange in the Pacific and the West*, London, 2005.

**\$15,500**

*Borba de Moraes, p.388; Forbes, 'Hawaiian National Bibliography', 427; Hill, 968; Kroepelien, 706; Lada-Mocarski, 69; O'Reilly-Reitman, 733, etc; Russica, L260; Sabin, 38895; Wickersham, 6243.*

### 13. LUTKE, Count Fyodor Petrovich.

#### Autograph letter signed “Fr. Luetke”, to Russian Privy councillor...

Manuscript in ink on paper, single leaf folded to form four pages, 210 x 130 mm. St. Petersburg, 22 October, 1872.

#### RARE EXAMPLE OF A LETTER BY ONE OF THE GREAT RUSSIAN EXPLORERS

An interesting and rare private letter from the explorer Count Fyodor Petrovich Lütke.

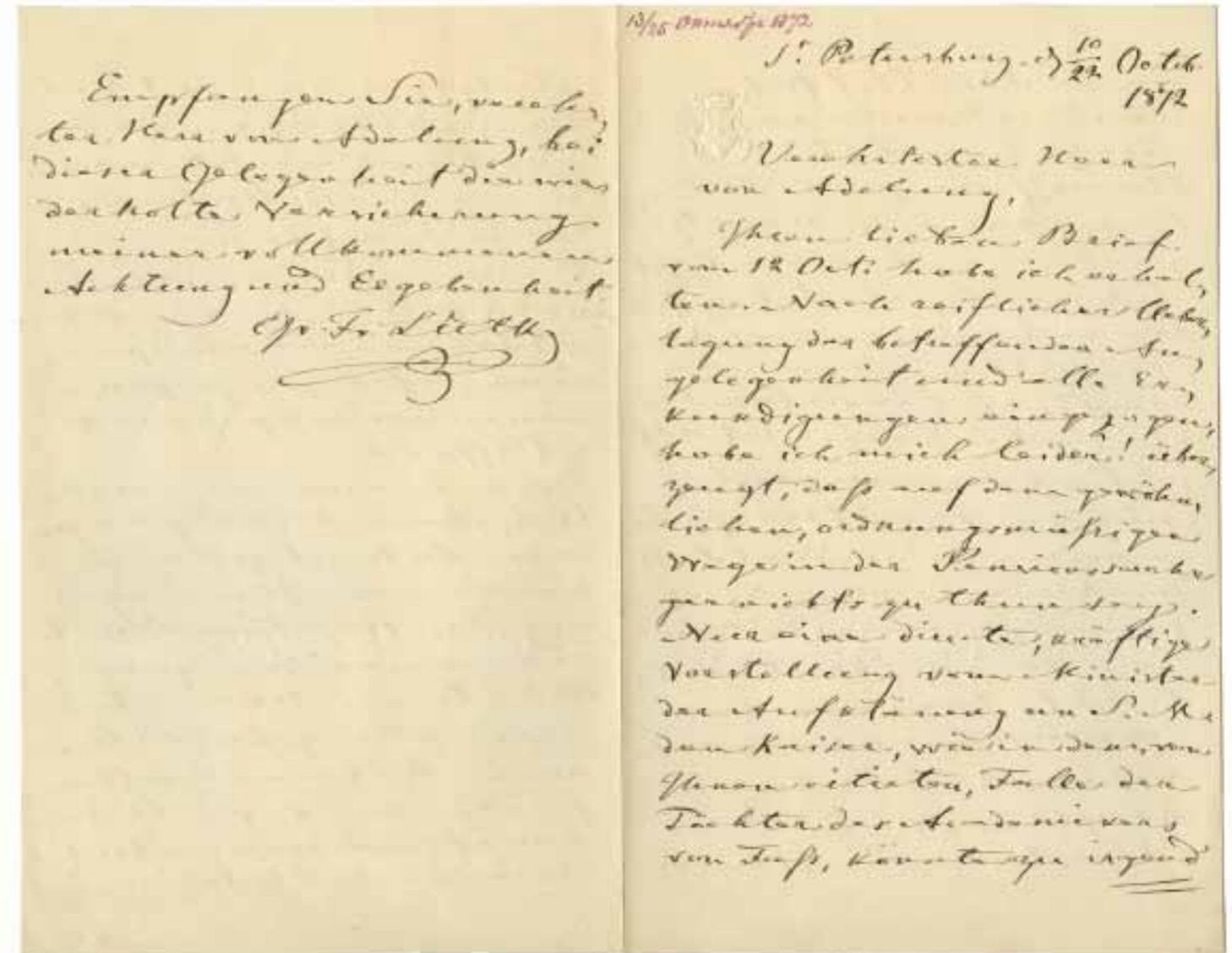
Lütke, who started his career in the Imperial Russian Navy in 1813, was a member of Golovnin's voyage on the *Kamchatka* (1817-19). Subsequently he himself led (1821-24) the expedition to explore the coastline of Novaya Zemlya, the White Sea, and the eastern parts of the Barents Sea. From 1826 to 1829 he commanded the last great Russian scientific voyage to the Northwest coast of America: sailing to the Pacific on the *Senyavin* via Cape Horn, they reached Sitka in 1827 and spent over a month there. They continued north to Unalaska and the Aleutian Islands, going as far north as St Matthew Island and the Bering Sea, and surveying the coast of the Alaskan Peninsula as far as Kvichak Bay. Islands in the Caroline group of Micronesia were explored during the winter of 1828, and they visited Guam, the Philippines, and St Helena Island in the south Atlantic before returning to Kronstadt in September 1829.

The printed account of his voyage on the *Senyavin* is one of the rarest Pacific voyages today, and was rare even in the nineteenth century (the bibliographer Sabin could only explain this by pointing out that the small edition is said to have been almost entirely bought up within Russia, unlike other voyage publications of the period which reached a much wider audience).

Lütke became an influential member of the Russian Geographic Society, chairman of the Naval Scientific Committee, commander-in-chief and military governor of the ports of Reval and later Kronstadt, and a member of the Russian State Council. In 1873, the Geographical Society introduced the Lütke gold medal. He is commemorated by many placenames, including a cape, a peninsula, a mountain and a bay in Novaya Zemlya, as well as a group of islands of the Franz Josef Land, Baydaratskaya Bay, and Nordenskiöld Archipelago. A strait between Kamchatka and Karaginsky Island, as well as a Russian icebreaker were also named after him.

In this letter to the Russian privy councillor von Adelung, Lütke discusses the financial support of his friend's niece. Lütke gives advice on how this might be accomplished with the help of prominent members of St. Petersburg society including the Secretary of the St. Petersburg Academy of Sciences, the mathematician Paul Heinrich Fuss, past and present Ministers of Culture Counts Uwarov and Tolstoy, as well as Tsarina Olga Nicolaevna.

\$4450



## 14. LUTKE, Frederic.

### Voyage Autour du Monde...

*Two volumes comprising: Atlas folio, with 51 lithographed plates and three maps (one folding); original quarter morocco and marbled boards; the quarto text volume with five coastal profiles (two folding) and 10 maps (one folding); including a large folding map of "Aliaska" tipped in between pages 274 and 275 (not mentioned by Lada-Mocarski or any other authority); contemporary half roan with cloth sides, Paris and St. Petersburg, Lithographie de Engelmann et Compagnie; C. Hintze, 1835-1836.*

#### EXCEPTIONALLY RARE RUSSIAN VOYAGE INTO THE NORTH PACIFIC

A substantial portion of the very rare official account of the Lütke voyage, one of the rarest and most beautiful of all illustrated Pacific voyage publications, featuring fine lithographic plates of Alaska and the Northwest Coast, the Caroline Islands, Guam and the Philippines.

The full account of the voyage comprises two discrete publications since the Historical and Hydrographical sections were separately published by different publishers. In addition, some parts were available in either Russian or French versions (the complicated bibliography of these editions is fully dealt with by Lada-Mocarski in his *Bibliography of Books on Alaska published before 1868*).

All printed materials relating to the Lütke voyage are notoriously rare. This is the famous American voyage collector Fred Ellis's set of this voyage, which comprises the Historical Atlas, published in Paris by Engelmann to accompany either French or Russian versions of the text; the two text volumes for the *Partie Historique* are supplied here in a modern facsimile of the French version (Amsterdam, 1971). These are accompanied by the Russian-published French-language text volume of the Hydrographical section. The Hydrographical atlas is not present

Complete sets of both parts (that is, with both text and atlas volumes) are virtually impossible to obtain; the French edition, which is just as rare as the Russian, is said to have been almost entirely bought by Russians (Brunet, quoted by Lada-Mocarski) explaining its extraordinary rarity today.

The Lütke expedition of 1826-1829 was the last great Russian scientific voyage to the Northwest coast of America. The expedition sailed to the Pacific via Cape Horn, and reached Sitka on the Northwest Coast and spent over a month there. They continued north to Unalaska and the Aleutian Islands, before sailing into the Bering Sea and surveying the coast of the Alaskan Peninsula. As winter approached the expedition turned southward to the Caroline group of Micronesia where they stayed for most of 1828, followed by Guam and the Philippines. The return voyage stopped at St Helena Island in the south Atlantic before finishing at Kronstadt in September 1829.

The 51 plates in the atlas, many of them comprising two images, were lithographed by



the Parisian specialist printer Engelmann from the original drawings. Working in Paris from 1816, Godefroy Engelmann was the pioneer and best exponent of the new techniques of lithography in book illustration that gradually replaced older methods from the 1820s onwards. In this copy the plates are examples of the more desirable form identified by Lada-Mocarski, printed on fine India paper and mounted into the atlas rather than printed directly onto thick paper.

Renowned for their exceptional detail and finesse, the plates are rivalled only by those of Choris as the finest nineteenth-century depictions of the Pacific. They comprise sensitive portraits, landscapes, village scenes, native habitations, canoes and sailing craft, tools and weapons, and more. The depictions of tropical foliage are of exceptional quality. The plates are significant as an ethnographic record of the indigenous peoples of the Northwest coast, Unalaska, Kamchatka and present-day Micronesia.

**\$96,000**

*Hill, 1046 ; Lada-Mocarski, 100 (atlas only, further details at 98) & 101; Majors, 327 & 328; Sabin, 42739; Streeter, 3520; Wickersham, 6273.*



## 15. [MONGOLIA] FRITSCHÉ, Hermann.

“Resultate aus Astronomischen und Magnetischen...

*Large quarto, with a single chromolithographic plate of cloud formations, four engraved plates of scientific instruments, three large folding tables and set of blank meteorological observation slips bound in (comprising 16 smaller leaves); in contemporary decorated full green calf, moiré endpapers, all edges gilt. Saint Petersburg, Imperial Academy of Sciences, 1870.*

### OVERLAND FROM SAINT PETERSBURG TO PEKING

Rare Russian printing of an overland journey from Saint Petersburg to Peking.

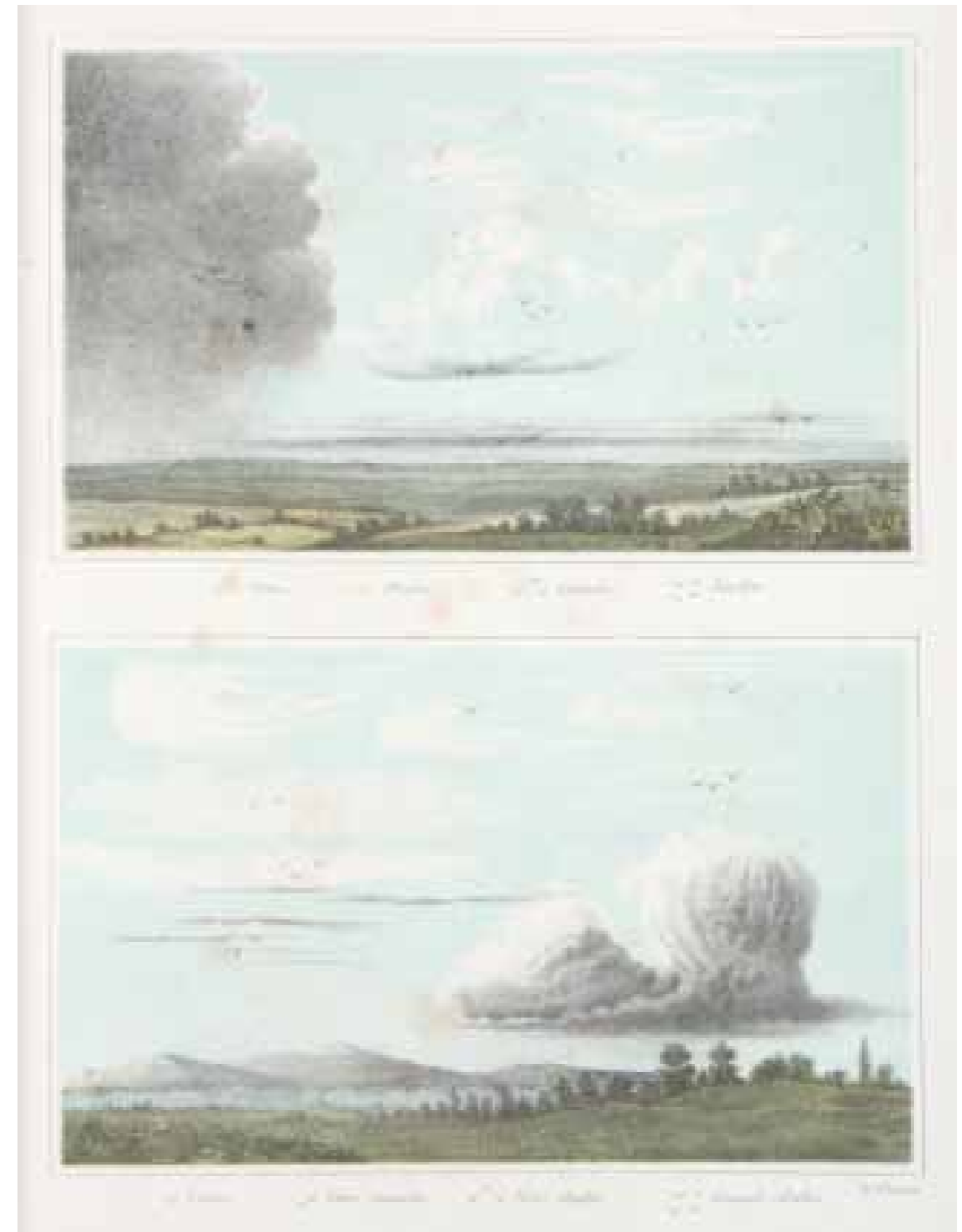
Russia maintained a meteorological service in China since 1841, as part of the Russian Orthodox Mission based in Peking. In 1849 the service was expanded and moved to the grounds of the Russian Embassy, although the recording of scientific data remained intermittent for many years. In 1867 the service came under the supervision of the Academy of Science in St. Petersburg, who dispatched Dr. Hermann Fritsche to Peking as the new director. Fritsche (1839-1913) travelled extensively in the first years of his appointment, and the article offered here records his journey from St. Petersburg to Peking, traversing the vast steppe country of northern China and Mongolia in the process. The article documents his work in determining geographical, astronomical and magnetic points en route (including observations of Kyakhta, Urga and Kalgan).

Fritsche remained in Peking for the next 16 years, during which time he travelled extensively and established observation stations in provincial China. In 1877 he published in Shanghai *The Climate of Eastern Asia*, the first substantial thesis on the subject. Aside from his efforts in establishing scientific meteorology in China, Fritsche's travels assisted in the accurate mapping of northern China and eastern Mongolia.

Fritsche's article was included in the first issue of the meteorological journal *Meteorologicheskii Sbornik*, here offered in its entirety with the full complement of blank folding tables and paper slips for recording data in the field. *Meteorologicheskii Sbornik* was published under the direction of the Swiss physicist Heinrich von Wild (1833-1902) who assumed directorship of the General Physical Observatory in Saint Petersburg in 1868. Under Wild's supervision a modern meteorological system was introduced throughout the Russian Empire and beyond. Indeed, the improvement of the Peking station and Fritsche's appointment reflect Wild's aspiration for a continental approach to data collection. Printed in both in Russian and German, *Meteorologicheskii Sbornik* was published by the Imperial Academy of Sciences at Saint Petersburg between 1870-1894 and totals 23 volumes.

On the Russian observatory at Peking see MacKeown *Early China Coast Meteorology* (Hong Kong University Press 2011).

**\$1850**



## 16. TIMKOVSKI, Egor Fedorovich.

Voyage à Peking, à travers la Mongolie en 1820 et 1821. Traduit du russe par M. N., revu par M. J.-B. Eyriès

*Two octavo volumes bound in one, and a quarto atlas with lithographic title page, large folding map, two folding plans and eight lithographic plates; matching later quarter crimson morocco. Paris, Dondey-Dupré père et fils, 1826-1827.*

### A RUSSIAN ENVOY TO CHINA

First French edition, recounting the experiences of a Russian envoy to China in the years 1820-1821. Significantly, the atlas volume includes a large plan of the Forbidden City, the first to be published in a Western book.

The author, Russian diplomat Egor Fedorovich Timkovski accompanied the Russian Orthodox mission to Peking departing Kyakhta in August 1820. Russia had maintained a presence in Peking since 1728. As the embassy contained a church and school, it formed a centre of cultural exchange, language instruction and diplomatic activity between two great empires. The staff of the embassy were refreshed each decade, providing the need for ongoing missions from Russia to the Imperial Court.

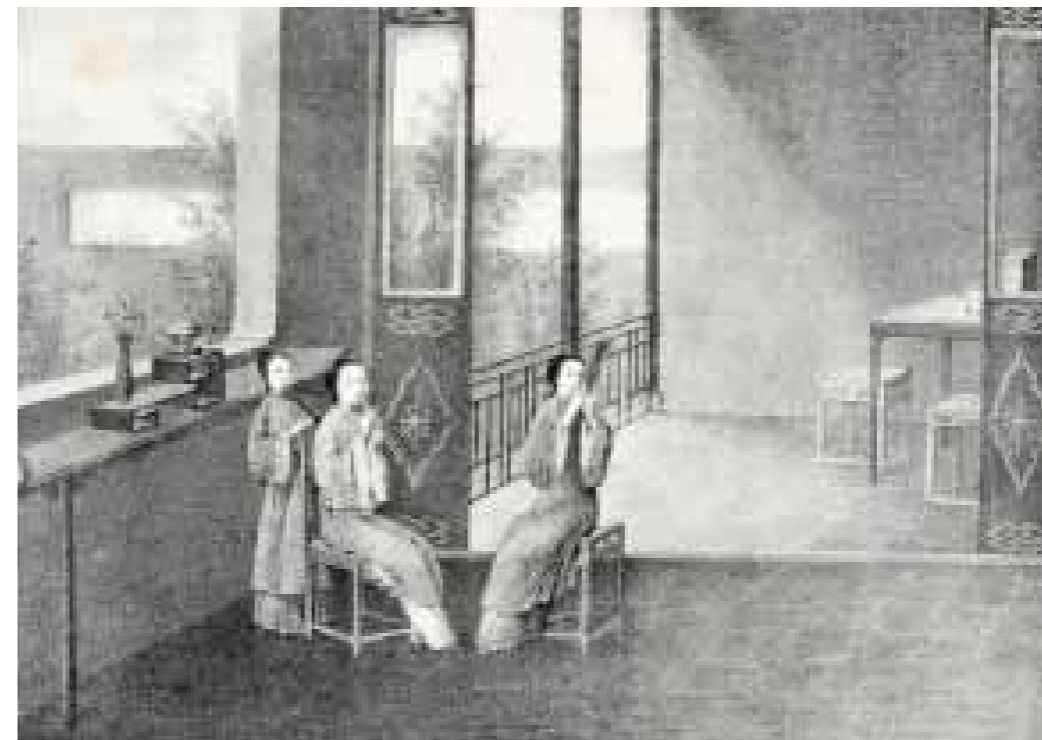
Timkovski's account was considered one of the most important China books of its era, on account of the information he obtained from the long serving Orthodox priests at the Peking embassy. With years of cultural exposure and formidable linguistic competence, the priests provided Timkovski with rich descriptions of Mongol customs and religious life, and enough additional information to expand the scope of his book to Eastern Turkestan, Tibet and Korea. Immediately popular, it was translated and published in German, Dutch, French, English and Polish editions by 1828.

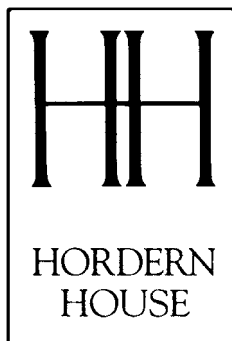
Eight lithographic plates of customs and costumes provide an unusually serene and intimate insight into everyday life, depicting a mounted nomad, musicians, gamblers, a Manchu couple in formal dress and a remarkable grouping of four hunters dressed in furs. The large folding map accurately charts *the route of the embassy to Peking through Mongolia, providing a novel and accurate geographical record of the vast Gobi desert.*

Timkovski's narrative was edited for publication by accomplished orientalist and explorer Heinrich Klaproth, who had previously travelled through Mongolia in 1805-1807 as part of an unsuccessful Russian embassy to the Imperial Court. Klaproth contributes a statistical overview to the atlas, detailing the wealth, agricultural output, and population of each of the Chinese provinces. Interestingly, he totals some 142,326,734 souls for the entire nation.

**\$3500**

*Cordier, 2473-74; Lowendahl, 'China Illustrata Nova', 101; Lust, 551.*





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