Polar Exploration

This series includes accounts, by eye-witnesses and contemporaries, of early expeditions to the Arctic and the Antarctic. Huge resources were invested in such endeavours, particularly the search for the North-West Passage, which, if successful, promised enormous strategic and commercial rewards. Cartographers and scientists travelled with many of the expeditions, and their work made important contributions to earth sciences, climatology, botany and zoology. They also brought back anthropological information about the indigenous peoples of the Arctic region and the southern fringes of the American continent. The series further includes dramatic and poignant accounts of the harsh realities of working in extreme conditions and utter isolation in bygone centuries.

The Voyages and Travels of Captains Parry, Franklin, Ross, and Mr Belzoni

Little is known about the life of Captain John Frederick Dennett, who published this compilation of travel narratives in 1826, with a second edition in 1835. A naval officer, he was clearly familiar with recent developments in polar exploration, but his writing also had an educational and moral purpose. ‘It must be attended with advantage to become acquainted with the state of mankind in other parts of the world; but also it will be encouraging to the poor in Britain ‘to find that the lowest state of comfort in this country is preferable to all the enjoyments within the reach of natives of other climes.’ Emphasising encounters with native peoples rather than geographical or scientific discoveries, Dennett describes expeditions by Parry, Franklin and Sir John Ross in the Arctic seas and the Canadian north, and also includes a chapter on Giovanni Battista Belzoni’s travels in Egypt and Nubia.
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The Voyages and Travels of Captains Parry, Franklin, Ross, and Mr Belzoni

Forming an Interesting History of the Manners, Customs, and Characters of Various Nations

John Frederick Dennett
Captain Parry

Commander of the present & late Polar Expeditions.

Published by J. & W. Wright, 13 Paternoster Row.
THE

VOYAGES AND TRAVELS

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SELECTED BY

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OF THE ROYAL NAVY.

LONDON:

PUBLISHED BY J. JAQUES AND W WRIGHT,

13, PATERNOSTER ROW.

1826.
ADVERTISEMENT.

IN this age, when the first rudiments of knowledge are obtained by the lowest orders of society, it must be attended with advantage to become acquainted with the state of mankind in other parts of the world. It will be productive of contentment and resignation under all the ills of life, to find that the lowest state of comfort in this country is preferable to all the enjoyments within the reach of natives of other climes. The adventures of our bold and daring fellow countrymen in the pursuit of discovery will be a source of no small gratification. Under these impressions the following pages are submitted to the reader by the publishers, as forming an appropriate Supplement to JAQUES and WRIGHT's edition of the Voyages and Discoveries of Captain Cook.
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