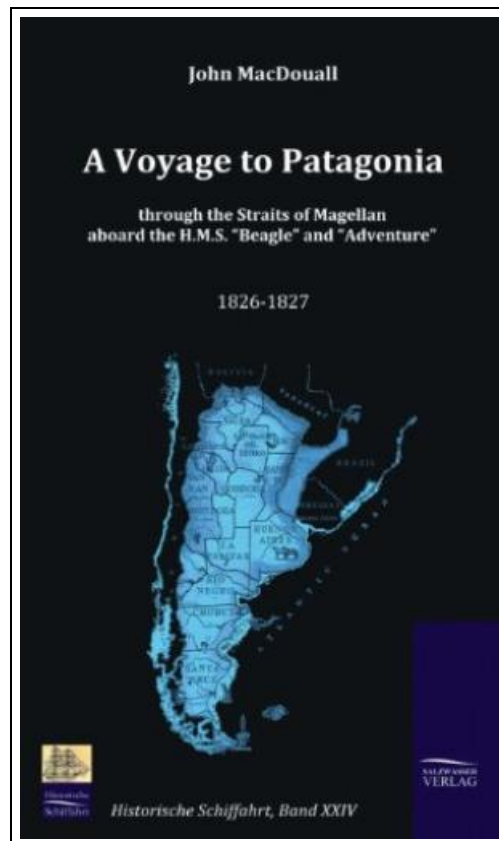


A Voyage to Patagonia through the Straits of Magellan aboard the H.M.S. "Beagle" and "Adventure" (1826-1827)



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A VOYAGE TO PATAGONIA THROUGH THE STRAITS OF MAGELLAN ABOARD THE H.M.S. "BEAGLE" AND "ADVENTURE" (1826-1827)

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Salzwasser-Verlag Gmbh Aug 2009, 2009. Buch. Book Condition: Neu. 199x134x27 mm. Neuware - Die Expedition der britischen Schiffe 'Beagle' und 'Adventure' in den Jahren 1826 und 1827 diente vornehmlich der Erkundung der Magellan-Straße für die Nutzung durch die Handelsschifffahrt. Man wollte Alternativen zu dem gefährlichen Seeweg um Kap Horn finden, war sich aber durchaus bewusst, dass auch die Magellan-Straße mit ihren starken Strömungen, heftigen Stürmen und zahlreichen Untiefen große Gefahren für Segelschiffe barg. Die wendigen und schnellen Erkundungsschiffe der Royal Navy leisteten gefährliche Pionierarbeit. Von großem Glück für die Nachwelt sollte sich der Umstand erweisen, dass mit John MacDouall ein Offizier mit von der Partie war, der nicht nur scharf beobachten konnte, sondern das Erlebte auch ebenso lebendig wie präzise darzustellen vermochte. Darüber hinaus besaß MacDouall eine in seiner Zeit und in seinen Schichten selten anzutreffende Eigenschaft: Sensibilität für soziale Fragen jenseits der ansonsten vorherrschenden Überheblichkeit der herrschenden Klasse. Dies macht sein Buch nicht nur für Seebären, sondern auch für an der Zeit interessierte ausgesprochen lesenswert. Die Erstveröffentlichung erfolgte im Jahre 1833 unter dem Titel 'Narrative of a Voyage to Patagonia and Terra del Fuego in 1826 and 1827' The expeditions of H.M.S. 'Beagle' and 'Adventure' in 1826 and 1827 were primarily carried out to explore the usefulness of the Strait of Magellan for the merchant navy. Aiming at finding an alternative seaway to the perilous route around Cape Horn, it was clear that the Strait of Magellan with its strong currents, severe storms and numerous shallows was as dangerous for sailing vessels as the former. The swift and easily manoeuvrable Royal Navy ships conducted hazardous pioneer work. Luckily, the mate John MacDouall, with his accurate sense of observation, was on board, who delivered a lively and precise account of his adventures. Additionally, for his day and age MacDouall bore...



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