Basic Detail Report



00001477

Title

Voyage de LA COQUILLE - Mollusques No. 2

Date

1826 - 1830

Primary Maker

Jean Coutant

Medium

Ink on paper

Dimensions

Overall: 500 mm

Name

Engraving

History

René Primevère Lesson was a pharmacist and naval sural surgeon and served on Duperrey's round-the-world

voyage of LA COQUILLE as a naturalist and ship's doctor. During the course of the voyage he was joined by fellow surgeon Prosper Garnot and second officer Dumont d'Urville in collecting a significant number of natural history specimens. On Lesson's return to Paris, he spent many years preparing the scientific findings of the voyage, many of which were published in 'Voyage autour du monde entrepris par ordre du Gouvernement sur la corvette LA COQUILLE'. Some of the impressive plates in the volumes were illustrated by his wife Clémence Dumont de Sainte-Croix and her sister Zoë Dumont de Sainte-Croix. Lesson continued with his medical endeavours and published his significant knowledge of ship medicine in the two volume 'Manuel d'histoire naturelle medicale, et de pharmacographie'. Lesson's interests were wide ranging and in his account of the LA COQUILLE voyage he also records some language of New Zealand Maori language and a selection of languages of New South Wales where the expedition stayed in Sydney for two months in 1824. Here Duperrey and Lesson's met Kuringgai elder Bungaree and Lesson's travelled inland to the Blue Mountains.