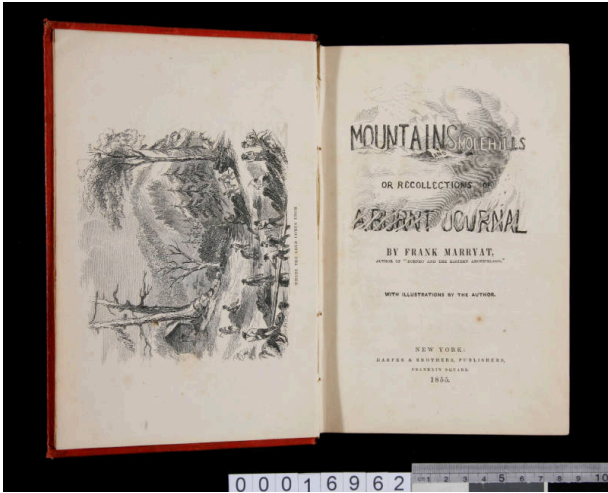


Basic Detail Report



00016962

Title

Mountains and Molehills

Date

1855

Primary Maker

Frank Marryat

Medium

Cloth, gilt, Ink on paper

Dimensions

Overall: 200 x 125 x 25 mm, 0.4 kg

Name

Book

History

Frank Marryat was the son of Captain Frederick Marryat, known for his maritime flag signalling system 'Marryat's Code' and author of the children's classic novel 'The Children of the New Forrest'. Like his father Frank Marryat served in the Royal Navy but left after eight years at the age of 22. In 1848 he published 'Borneo and the Eastern Archipelago' which was a compilation of a number of drawings he had made during his service on HMS SAMARANG in 1843 and text from his own and his colleagues' journals. On 4 May 1850 Marryat arrived in California "with a manservant and three hunting dogs" looking for adventure and experiences to fill another travel book. He found plenty of both with San Francisco booming with thousands of arrivals heading to the Californian goldfields. Marryat also heads north to the goldfields recording as he goes the characters and hectic scenes he encounters along the way. These include the diggings themselves and record the drinking, gambling, lawlessness and the lynching of the gun law society. Marryat returned to England in 1853 suffering from the effects of yellow fever. On his return to England Marryat married and wrote his book 'Mountains and Molehills' from his own recollections of his 'burnt journal' which was published in 1855. He had planned on returning to California but his health deteriorated from yellow fever and he died in England that same year.