Chogori (K2)
as seen from Godwin-Austen Glacier, Karakoram
Dr. Jules Jacot-Guillarmod (1902)

This classic view of Chogori (K2), the second highest mountain in the world at 8,611m, is the first known photograph ever made of the “mountaineer’s mountain”. It was taken by Dr. Jules Jacot-Guillarmod using a “Verascope Richard” camera, during the Eckenstein-Crowley expedition of 1902. This was the first serious attempt to climb K2 and reached a height of approximately 6,525m. Jacot-Guillarmod served as the expedition doctor and published his account of the expedition - “Six Mois dans l’Himalaya, le Karakoram et l’Hindu-Kush” (1904). This particular image has not been previously published in any account of the expedition and was selected for the cover of Alpinist 37. We are pleased to offer, from the Bob A. Schelfhout Aubertijn Collection, magnificent, never-before-published prints (both Limited and Regular Editions) of this historic first photograph of K2.

— another copy. Regular Edition, Image size 10” x 10”, Paper size 12” x 12”, printed on Fujicolor Crystal Archive Matte paper; new. #25929, $95.-
Barry, Martin. *Ascent to the Summit of Mont Blanc, 16th-18th of 9th Month (Sept.)*, 1834. [1835] Prvt prtd for Barry by H. Teape & Son, Printers, Tower-Hill, London, 1s., 8vo, pp.40, frontis, lithograph, uncut, original brown paper boards; inscribed ‘Paul Bevan With the Author’s kind regards, London 6mo 3, 1835’, boards w/ spine paper chipped, AAC bookplate, cover, flop, & lithograph separated, heavy foxing to lithograph, frontis & title, small label on rep, good. [24798], $1395.

Barry was accompanied by six guides when he made, according to his calculations, the 16th ascent (20th person not counting guides) of Mont Blanc. Mckely credits him with the 17th and Perret with the 21st ascent. There are two variants of the title page for this first edition with either SEPT or Sept in the title, see below. Neither variant is accredited priority. This scarce, privately printed, edition proved popular enough to produce a second edition. This represents the second variant of the title page for the first edition. Mckely 014.

Bell, Jon. *On Mount Hood: A Biography of Oregon’s Perilous Peak*. 2011 US, 1s., 8vo, pp.xi, 211, 22 bw photos, map, black cloth; dj & cloth new. [25827], $2295.

Bell tells the story of Oregon’s legendary iconic peak, a mountain that draws five million visitors every year. Hood is a mecca for skiers, snowboarders, hikers, campers, and climbers. Bell tells the stories of countless climbers, scientists, historians, and many others who live, work, and play within the mountain’s reach.

Berg, Peter. Whymper’s Scrambles With a Camera: A Victorian Magic Lantern Show. 2011 UK, 1s., 8vo, pp.x, 138, photo frontis, 122 bw photos/illus, 4 maps, wraps; new. [25837], $3195.

2011 marks the centenary of the death of Edward Whymper, one of the most important figures in the history of mountaineering. His ascent of the Matterhorn in 1865, and the deaths of four members of his party on the way down, attracted attention throughout the world, bringing him praise and criticism in equal measure. In later years, he largely devoted his life to lecturing and writing guidebooks, touring Britain, Europe and America. Whymper was an early member of the Alpine Club and in the club’s archives is a set of magic lantern slides he used to illustrate his lectures. Based on extensive research, former AC Archivist Peter Berg has combined these images with extracts from Whymper’s books and diaries and writings by his contemporaries, to recreate the lecture ‘My Scrambles Amongst the Alps’, first given in 1895. These pictures, mostly not seen for 100 years and never been published as a set before, give us a unique glimpse of the mountain world at the end of the 19th century. We visit the Zermatt valley and its peaks, passes and glaciers, experience Whymper’s many attempts to climb the Matterhorn, explore the Mont Blanc region, including the ill-fated building of an observatory on the summit, and share some of the joys and sorrows of mountaineering. Setting the lecture in context, is a foreword by the distinguished mountaineer and former AC President, Stephen Venables.


Bonatti’s climbs have taken him all over the world. In this book he gives an account of the 1954 Italian K2 expedition, his first ascent of Gasherbrum IV in 1958, as well as Patagoma, and climbs throughout the Alps. Scars. Neate B126, Perret S41, Yak B208.

Bonington, Chris. *Everest: The Hard Way*. 1976 Random House, NY, 1s., 8vo, pp.303, photo frontis, 97 color photos, 14 maps/diagrams, appendices, blue cloth; dj w/ edge tears/tape, good, cloth signed, dj w/ edge wear, near fine, cloth fine. [9528], $495. [393].

The successful 1975 British expedition, first ascent of the Southwest Face. Neate B130, SB B26, Yak B216.
Brill, David. Desire & Ice: Searching for Perspective atop Denali. 2002 US, 1st, 8vo, pp.x, 258, 9 color photos, wraps; new. #22787, $46. - $14.95
A very good account of a guided climb to the top of Mount McKinley. Brill’s engaging narrative puts forth a number of important topics from getting ready for such an expedition to group dynamics to dealing with the hazards of the mountain and everyday life. Highly recommended reading for anyone who wants to get a feel for what climbing this great mountain is like.

Buhl, Hermann. Achttausend Drüber und Drunter. 1955 F. A. Brockhaus Verlag, Leipzig, rep, 8vo, pp.367, photo frontis, 18 bw photos, grey cloth; dj lightly rubbed, chipped top spine, vg, cloth fine. #25897, $39.-
Buhl is considered to be one of the top climbers of all time. He was the first to make the first ascents of two 8000m peaks, Broad Peak and Nanga Parbat. His solo ascent of Nanga Parbat from the final camp, ranks as one of the outstanding feats in climbing history. This autobiography, published prior to his death in 1957, covers his early climbs culminating with Nanga Parbat. This is the German edition of ‘Nanga Parbat Pilgrimage’. Neate B210, Yak B291.

Burns, Kerry L. & Cameron M. Burns. eds. Climb: Tales of Men Versus Boulder, Crag, Wall, and Peak. 2012 US, 1st, 8vo, pp.xi, 243, 14 bw photos, map, wraps; new. #25855, $14.95
A cliff-hanging collection of 15 of the world’s greatest climbing adventures. From straightforward narratives of ascents to meticulous self-examination to spiritual reveries, climbing prompts men and women to pour forth essays, articles, and books that are unlike any other field of literature. Climb brings together tales of climbers, boulderers, and mountaineers from around the world. These include Francesco Petrarca’s 1336 ascent of Mount Ventou, Pat Ament’s descent into the Black Canyon of the Gunnison with Layton Kor; Isabella Bird’s 1873 ascent of Longs Peak, Mick Fowler on Tawoche, and much more.

Cassin, Riccardo. 50 Years of Alpinism. 1981 Mountains, Seattle, 1st, 8vo, pp.207, 90 bw photos, 6 maps/diagrams, green cloth; signed Richard Irving, dj fine, cloth fine. #11079, $66. - $59.-

Autobiography of one of Italy’s finest mountaineers. Cassin is synonymous with some of the most important ascents in mountaineering. He made many first ascents in the 1930’s, the team on which Bonatti made the first ascent of Gasherbrum IV (1957), led the first ascent of McKinley’s Cassin Ridge (1961), and led the 1975 Lhoste south face attempt with Messner. Also includes the Dolomites, Walker Spur, Peru, and more. Neate C21, Yak C47.

Child, Greg. Over the Edge: The True Story of Four American Climbers’ Kidnap and Escape in the Mountains of Central Asia. 2002 US, 1st, 8vo, pp.xiii, 284, 16 bw photos, 3 maps, red/black cloth; signed Child & John Dickey, dj fine, cloth fine. #25832, $39.-
A gripping read by a great writer. Child recreates the hair-raising, hour-by-hour drama of four young American rock climbers who were abducted while in the midst of a wall climb in the Aku-Su region of Kyrgyzstan. Greg won the 1987 AAC Literary Award for his writing achievements.

—. Postcards from the Ledge: Collected Mountaineering Writings of Greg Child. 1998 US, 1st, 8vo, frontis, pp.223, 53 bw photos, black/white cloth; signed, dj fine, cloth fine. #15884, $39.-
More great writings from outstanding climber, and writer, Greg Child. His clever wit, sharp observations, and insightful reflections cover the full spectrum of his mountaineering experience and continue to entertain. Winner 1998 National Outdoor Book Award for Outdoor Literature.

—. Thin Air: Encounters in the Himalaya. 1988 Patrick Stephens, Northamptonshire, 1st, 8vo, pp.192, 36 color & 19 bw photos, map, appendices, blue cloth; signed, dj fine, cloth fine. #25842, $89.-
Child’s first book recounts his climbs on Shilung, Lobang Spire, Broad Peak, & Gasherbrum IV. This UK edition preceded the US edition by two years.

Compagnoni, Achille. Il Tricolore sul K2 [The Tricolor on K2]. 1965 Mondadori, Verona, 1st, 8vo, pp.85, 8 color & 19 bw photos, pictorial cloth; signed, issued w/o dj, cloth fine. #24412, $595.-
This is the second of Compagnoni’s three books providing his first-person account on the Italian ascent of K2 in 1954, this being the scarcest. In Italian, no English translation.

Cox, James R. Classics in the Literature of Mountaineering and Mountain Travel from the Francis P. Farquhar Collection of Mountaineering Literature: An Annotated Bibliography. 1980 Univ Calif Lib, LA, ltd 500 copies, 4to, pp.xxii, 58, photo frontis, 7 bw photos, blue cloth; issued w/o dj, cloth crisp, very fine. #24494, $195.-
A nice bibliography broken down geographically – Europe, Asia, North America, South America, Other Areas, and Journals, with 110 entries. With a preface by Nick Clinch, James Cox, and Mair Dawson. One of only 500 copies. Scarce.

Curran, Jim. Here, There and Everywhere: The Autobiography of Jim Curran. 2012 UK, 1st, 4to, pp.388, 161 bw photos, 58 color & 26 bw illus, black cloth; signed, dj & cloth new. #25951, $59.95
Curran, freelance cameraman, writer, lecturer, climber, artist, and master storyteller, has finally produced the biggest story he can tell. For readers of his previous books it is full of surprises, conundrums, and split lives. Public school educated, he is a sharp bullshit detector, most acutely in himself. Teaching in Bristol during the week, he lived a different life in Sheffield on weekends. A teacher of art, he developed a career as a mountaineering filmmaker before realizing he’d always wanted to be a painter. And, this great humorist turns out to be an intermittent sufferer from depression. The warmest of people. Curran reveals a strand of loneliness throughout his life. By turns this book is hilarious and heart-breaking, anecdotal and reflective, sociable and self-doubting.

Curran has climbed and filmed on fifteen expeditions to the Himalaya (Everest, K2, Kongur, Seput Kangri, Trango Tower), with all the greats of the British mountaineering scene, including Chris Bonington, Joe Tasker, Alan Rouse, Joe Brown and Peter Boardman, and written seven other books. He has also filmed in the Andes, Caucasus, Atlas mountains, and China, and nearer home, on the Old Man of Hoy and St Kilda. This book is chock full of illustrations and weighs four pounds.

Davidson, Jim & Kevin Vaughan. The Ledge: An Adventure Story of Friendship and Survival on Mount Rainier. 2011 US, 1st, 8vo, pp.xii, 269, 17 bw photos, blue cloth; dj & cloth new. #25830, $25.95
In June 1992, best friends Jim Davidson and Mike Price stood triumphantly atop Washington’s Mount Rainier, celebrating what they hoped would be the first of many milestones in their lives as passionate young mountaineers. Instead, their conquest gave way to catastrophe when a cave-in plunged them 80-feet inside a glacial crevasse—the pitch-black, ice-walled hell that every climber’s nightmares are made of.

An avid adventurer from an early age, Davidson was already a seasoned climber at the time of the Rainier ascent, fully aware of the risks and hopelessly in love with the challenge. But in the blur of a harrowing free fall, he suddenly found himself challenged by nature’s grandeur at its most unforgiving. Trapped on a narrow, unstable frozen ledge, deep below daylight and high above a yawning chasm, he would desperately battle crumbling ice and snow that threatened to bury him alive, while struggling in vain to save his fatally injured companion. And finally, with little equipment, no partner, and rapidly dwindling hope, he would have to make a fateful choice—between the certainty of a slow, lonely death or the seeming impossibility of climbing for his life.

At once a heart-stopping adventure story, a heartfelt memoir of friendship, and a stirring meditation on fleeting mortality and immutable nature, The Ledge shows how the exploration originated in nineteenth-century imperial ambitions, threatened to bury him alive, while struggling in vain to save his fatally injured companion. And finally, with little equipment, no partner, and rapidly dwindling hope, he would have to make a fateful choice—between the certainty of a slow, lonely death or the seeming impossibility of climbing for his life.

Davis, Wade. Into the Silence: The Great War, Mallory, and the Conquest of Everest. 2011 US, 1st, thick 8vo, pp.xiv, 655, 41 bw photos, 2 maps, map eps, black/grey cloth; dj & cloth new. #25843, $32.50
In this magisterial work of history and adventure, based on more than a decade of prodigious research in British, Canadian, and European archives, and months in the field in Nepal and Tibet, Davis vividly re-creates British climbers’ epic attempts to scale Everest in the early 1920s. With new access to unpublished letters, diaries, regimental records, and Tibetan monastery accounts, Davis recouts the heroic efforts of George Mallory and his fellow climbers to conquer the mountain in the face of treacherous terrain and furious weather. Into the Silence sets their remarkable achievements in sweeping historical context: Davis shows how the exploration originated in nineteenth-century imperial ambitions.
Cheema’s preparations to climb Everest through 1964, the arduous journey to the summit in May 1965 as well as the fame and glory of the successful climb are described in great detail. Also provided are rare diary entries recorded by Cheema that give a very real taste of the challenges involved in climbing Everest in the 1960s. Written with great sensitivity and attention to detail, this book presents fascinating insights into the life of one of the most respected figures in the Indian Army and mountaineering circles and pays a fitting tribute to a gentleman who truly conquered the hearts of all those he came in contact with. This is a must-read for those who are interested in mountaineering, as well as for anyone who loves the thrill of adventure.

Dickinson, Matt. *The Death Zone: Climbing Everest through the Killer Storm.* 1997 Hutchinson, London, 1st, 8vo, pp.211, 17 color & 18 bw photos, 3 maps, black cloth; inscribed, dj fine, cloth fine.

Matt Dickinson was a member of the 1996 British Himalayan Kingdoms team assigned to film Alan Hinkes 8000m quest. He reached Everest’s summit, via the North Ridge, and became the first Briton to film on the summit, and return.

He presents his views of the 1996 season including an account of the three Indo-Tibetan Border Police expedition members who died on the north side. This is one of 20 books related to the Everest disaster of 1996. In the US this was retitled *The Other Side of Everest*.


Celebrating a rich tradition of bravery, thirst for knowledge, and pursuit of glory, Mountaineers tells the stories of the pioneers who first scaled the heights of this planet. This is a lavish visual survey of the world’s greatest mountaineers — who they were, where they went, and how their conquests led to both scientific discovery and personal glory. This oversized book weighs five pounds.


Account of the 1956 Swiss first ascent of Lhotse, made by Reiss and Fritz Luchsinger, and second ascent of Everest. See Neate E11, SB E01, Yak E18.

Evans, Charles. *Kangchenjunga: The Un trodden Peak.* 1957 Dutton, NY, 1st, 8vo, pp.xvii, 187, 51 bw photos, 2 maps, 5 diagrams, appendices, black cloth; signed George Band & Tony Streather, dj chipped top spine, vg+, cloth fine.

Account of the British first ascent in 1955. This copy is signed by both George Band and Tony Streather who both reached the summit, on successive days. Band was also the youngest member of the successful 1953 British Everest Expedition. Neate E27, Yak E62.


Everett, Boyd N., Jr. *The Organization of an Alaskan Expedition.* 1984 Gorak Books, Pasadena, 1st, 8vo, pp.112, photo frontis, 28 bw photos, 2 maps, wraps; price sticker on cover, else fine.

The first detailed book to describe the tasks necessary to prepare a mountaineering expedition to the Alaska Range, Wrangell Mountains, Chugach Range, and St. Elias Mountains. Topics include route planning, glacier flying, regulations, avalanches, equipment, food, climbing strategies, weather, and ethics. Despite its date this book still has much to offer. Everett made two ascents of McKinley, a new route on St. Elias, two ascents of Logan, a new route on King Peak, and the first ascent of Mount King George. He was killed in an
Filippi, Filippo de. The Ascent of Mount St. Elias [Alaska] by H. R. H. Prince Luigi Amedeo di Savoia Duke of the Abruzzi. 1900 Archibald Constable, Westminster, 1st, royal 8vo, pp.xvi, 241, photo frontis, 34 photogravure plates, 117 bw photos, 4 fildg panoramas, 2 fildg color maps, appendices, teg, original gilt-lettered green cloth; cloth rebacked w/ original spine strip laid down, some corner/edge wear, chipping to edges of original spine, front free endpaper inscription dated 1900, name, front hinge tender, very good. #15033, $1595.-

A wonderful book on the first ascent of this 18,000-foot peak. Most of the magnificent photographic illustrations are by the great mountain photographer, Vittoria Sella. The original binding, however, was poorly conceived and the vast majority of all copies have had to be rebound or rebacked due to the gutter percha latex glue which was used. Neate F24, Wickersham 6361.

Fitzgerald, E. A. The Highest Anodes: A Record of the First Ascent of Aconcagua and Tupungato in Argentina, and the Exploration of the Surrounding Valleys. 1899 Methuen, London, 1st, thick 8vo, pp.xvi, 390, photo frontis w/ tissue guard, 44 bw photos/illus (1 fildg), 2 fildg maps (1 color), appendices, gold dec red cloth; cloth spine lightly sunned, some foxing to end papers as is common w/ this work, name dated 1947, 1 map w/ taped tear, tight, vg. #22145, $325.-

The account of the first, and second, ascent of the highest mountain in the Western Hemisphere. Fitzgerald had accompanied Sir Martin Conway on his tour of the Alps and led an expedition to attempt New Zealand's Mt. Cook. On this large expedition he himself failed to reach the summit, and never climbed again, although his guide Matthias Zarbriggien and two other members did so. The appendices cover the natural history of the region. An important work on the Anodes. Neate F37.

Freshfield, Douglas W. The Exploration of the Caucasus. 1896 Arnold, London, 1st, 2 vol, thick 4to, v, pp.xxii, 278, photo frontis w/ tissue guard, 38 full-page photos w/ tissue guards, 69 text photos, fildg map, fildg panorama; vii pp.x, 295, photo frontis w/ tissue guard, 36 full-page photos w/ tissue guards, 46 text photos, 3 color fildg maps (in 1 pocket), 3 fildg panoramas (2 in back), appendices; teg, uncut, original gilt-dec bevelled green cloth; cloth spines faded as usual, corners bumped, vol I w/ traces of label on fep & ‘With the Publishers Compliments’ stamp on ½ title, vol II w/ scuff marks on covers, stain on front cover, pulled top spine, rear hinge starting, 1 panorama w/ extra fold else all panoramas & maps w/ orig folds & no tears, very good. #24848, $1595.-

A great mountain explorer, and Alpine Club President, Freshfield climbed extensively in the Alps and Caucasus. In 1868, he explored the central Caucasus making the first ascent of Kazbek (16,546'), Elbruz (18,470’), and several other peaks. He returned to the Caucasus in 1887 and 1889 following which he wrote this book. A number of the photos are by Vittorio Sella. This is a monumental work. Neate F64.

Gammelgaard, Lene. Climbing: A Woman’s Account of Surviving the Everest Tragedy. 1999 US, 1st, 8vo, pp.xxxi, 211, 29 bw photos, map, blue cloth; signed Peter Athans, dj fine, cloth fine. #16919, $39.-

Lene Gammelgaard was a friend of Scott Fischer and a member of his Mountain Madness team in 1996. She became the first Scandinavian woman to reach the summit of Everest. She recounts the weeks leading up to the fateful summit day—. Winner 2010 National Outdoor Book Award in the Classic category.

Hannigan, Tim. Murder in the Hindu Kush: George Hayward and the Everest Tragedy. 2011 UK, 1st, 8vo, pp.xxii, 254, 14 bw photos, 3 maps, blue cloth; dj & cloth new. #25958, $37.95

On a bright July morning in 1870 the British explorer George Hayward was brutally murdered high in the Hindu Kush. Who was he, what had brought him to this wild spot, and why was he killed? Told in full for the first time, this is the gripping tale of Hayward’s journey from a Yorkshire childhood to a place at the forefront of the ‘Great Game’ between the British Raj and the Russian Empire, and of how, driven by an ‘insane desire, ’ he crossed the Western Himalayas, tangled with despotic chieftains and ended up on the wrong side of both the Raj and the mighty Maharaja of Kashmir. Hannigan explores the controversies that surrounded his death, travelling in Hayward’s footsteps to bring the story up to date, and to reveal how the echoes of the Great Game still reverberate across Central Asia in the twenty-first century. Shortlisted for the 2011 Boardman-Tasker Award.

Hattingh, Garth. Climbing: The World’s Best Sites. 1999 US, 1st, 4to, pp.160, photo frontis, 232 color & 4 bw photos, 26 sketches, map, photo eps, blue cloth; signed Doug Scott, dj & cloth new. #17417, $75.-

This beautiful book offers essential guidance and inspiration to climbers and mountain-top enthusiasts covering a variety of climbing. Special emphasis is on Himalayan, Big Wall, and Alpine climbs. Includes personal profiles of top climbers and a time line from 218 BC.

Henry, Emil. Triumph and Tragedy: The Life of Edward Whymper. 2011 UK, 1st, 8vo, pp.xxxii, 428, 3 bw photos, 51 illus, 4 maps, blue cloth; dj & cloth new. #25959, $35.95

An engaging account of the extraordinary life of Edward Whymper (1840-1911), the best known but perhaps least understood mountain climber of the 19th century. Acclaimed as the first to scale the Matterhorn, Whymper personifies the spirit of the Golden Age of Mountaineering (1854-1865). Accompanying a young but supremely confident Whymper on exhilarating ascents and narrow escapes amid beautiful, often dangerous Alpine peaks, Henry lays bare the trauma of his companions’ deaths on the Matterhorn, and empathizes with him during the intense pressures of the accident’s aftermath. This thoroughly researched biography then moves on to Whymper’s post-Matterhorn years. Following the publication of his classic ‘Scrambles Amongst the Alps’, Whymper travels first to Greenland’s unexplored interior and then to the high Anes mountains of South America where he becomes the first westerner to reach a 20,000 foot summit. In later life he is recognized as a noted explorer and the author of two best-selling books illustrated with drawings from a sketch-pad kept always in his shirt pocket. Spread throughout are examples of Whymper’s accomplishments as an author, artist, natural scientist, pioneering photographer, lecturer, and raconteur.

Herzog, Maurice. Annapurna: First Conquest of an 8000-meter Peak [26,493 feet]. 1953 Dutton, NY, BOMC, 8vo, pp.316, color frontis, 2 color & 24 bw photos, 8 maps (1 fildg color), black/blue cloth; signed, dj vg+, cloth w/ bookplate, fine. #25964, $75.-

A classic, the first ascent of an 8000-meter peak. Herzog led the successful 1950 French expedition which placed two on the summit but suffered severe frostbite. Winner 2010 National Outdoor Book Award in the Classic category.

Hillary, Edmund. High Adventure. 2003 Easton Press, Norwalk, Signed Edition, 8vo, photos, maps, archival paper, satin page ribbon, silk eps, aec, raised bands, gilt-dec burgundy leather binding; signed, original shrinkwrap, issued w/ o dj, binding new. #25965, $195.-

This is Hillary's account of his trip in 1951 to Everest and Cho Oyu with Shipton and with the 1953 British Everest expedition. This is a great read. Neate H81.

—. View from the Summit. 1999 Doubleday, London, 1st, 8vo, pp.310, 64 color & 22 bw photos, 4 maps, map eps, grey cloth; signed, dj fine, cloth fine. #17747, $175.-

Hillary’s autobiography includes not only his early climbs but also after climbing Everest and crossing Antarctica. This is a thoughtful and honest reappraisal of a life spent pushing the human ability to its limits and relishing the challenges thrown down by the elements. This first UK hardcover edition contains the copyright page error which states “All of the characters in this book are fictitious, and any resemblance to actual persons, living or dead, is purely coincidental.” This error appears only in this UK hardcover edition and at least some of these copies were withdrawn once this error was discovered. This is the preferred edition of this book.

— & George Lowe. East of Everest: An Account of the New Zealand Alpine Club Himalayan Expedition to the Barun Valley in 1954. 1956 H & S, London, 1st, 4to, pp.70, 63 bw photos, 3 maps, blue cloth; signed Hillary & Lowe, dj unclipped, spine browned, small hole back cover, vg+, cloth new. #22489, $325.-

This expedition climbed 19 peaks over 20,000’, made the first ascent of Baruntse (23,690’), and attempted Chamlang (24,012’). Neate H79, SB H16, Yak H189.
Hunt, John. "Deutsche am Nanga Parbat" (Nanga Parbat Adventure). As Hermann and Kate drew close they realized that, to have a future together, they must flee Germany. Standing in their way was a major obstacle, the Nuremberg Laws, prohibiting relationships between Aryans and Jews. This is not only a riveting love story, revolving around two extraordinary individuals, but also provides a close look at German pre-war mountaineering.

Houston, Charles, Robert Bates, et al. "A close look at German pre-war mountaineering." World Record-holding German mountaineer and aspiring physicist, as well as a staunch anti-fascist. Prior to meeting Kate, Hermann made a number of first winter ascents in the Alps with Austrian Erwin Schneider. In 1930, as part of an international team, the duo summited Jongsong Peak (24,334') in the Himalaya, setting a record for the highest mountain climbed at the time. In 1932 he set up the next highest known series of cosmic ray research stations on Huadacan (20,085') in Peru, enduring a total of 41 days alone in the camps. He was then invited by both Gunter Dyhrenfurth and Willy Merkl to join their respective expeditions in 1934. Ultimately, he rejected both due to the death of his father. Kate, too, was involved in mountaineering. She and her husband handled communications and press for Merkl's 1934 German Himalayan Expedition to Nanga Parbat. In the midst of the unfolding disaster of the expedition Kate's husband was murdered by the Nazis and Hoerlin was called in to assist with public inquiries. (Kate also worked very closely with Fritz Bechtold on his book ‘Deutsche am Nanga Parbat’ (Nanga Parbat Adventure)). As Hermann and Kate drew close they realized that, to have a future together, they must flee Germany. Standing in their way was a major obstacle, the Nuremberg Laws, prohibiting relationships between Aryans and Jews. This is not only a riveting love story, revolving around two extraordinary individuals, but also provides a close look at German pre-war mountaineering.


Hoyrup, Jan. "Love letters between her mother Kate Tietz Schmid, who was part of Munich's intellectual and musical elite, but Jewish, and her father Hermann Hoerlin, a world record-holding German mountaineer and aspiring physicist, as well as a staunch anti-fascist. Prior to meeting Kate, Hermann made a number of first winter ascents in the Alps with Austrian Erwin Schneider. In 1930, as part of an international team, the duo summited Jongsong Peak (24,334') in the Himalaya, setting a record for the highest mountain climbed at the time. In 1932 he set up the next highest known series of cosmic ray research stations on Huadacan (20,085') in Peru, enduring a total of 41 days alone in the camps. He was then invited by both Gunter Dyhrenfurth and Willy Merkl to join their respective expeditions in 1934. Ultimately, he rejected both due to the death of his father. Kate, too, was involved in mountaineering. She and her husband handled communications and press for Merkl's 1934 German Himalayan Expedition to Nanga Parbat. In the midst of the unfolding disaster of the expedition Kate's husband was murdered by the Nazis and Hoerlin was called in to assist with public inquiries. (Kate also worked very closely with Fritz Bechtold on his book ‘Deutsche am Nanga Parbat’ (Nanga Parbat Adventure)). As Hermann and Kate drew close they realized that, to have a future together, they must flee Germany. Standing in their way was a major obstacle, the Nuremberg Laws, prohibiting relationships between Aryans and Jews. This is not only a riveting love story, revolving around two extraordinary individuals, but also provides a close look at German pre-war mountaineering.

Hoerlin, Bettina. Steps of Courage: My Parents' Journey from Nazi Germany to America. 2011 US, 1st, 8vo, pp.xiii, 316, 57 bw photos, black cloth; signed, dj & cloth new.

Isserman, Maurice & Stewart Weaver. Fallen Giants: A History of Himalayan Mountaineering from the Age of Empire to the Age of Extremes. 2008 US, 3rd, 8vo, pp.xi, 579, photo frontis, 64 bw photos, 12 drawings, 7 bw maps, blue cloth; dj & cloth new.


Challenge to K2. 1983 Shinchosha, Tokyo, 1st, 8vo, pp.119, 69 color & 23 bw photos, color map, photo eps, wraps w/dj; dj fine, internally fine. #25680, $95.-

Account of the first ascent of K2’s West Ridge in 1981. The Japanese were able to finish off this difficult route first started by Chris Bonington in 1976 and Doug Scott in 1980, placing two members on the summit. This is a good companion book to the Waseda University account. Scarce, privately published. In Japanese, no English translation. Yak jK322 (3rd ed).

Everest. 1970 Mainichi Newspaper, Tokyo, 1st, 4to, pp.202, 129 color photos, lg color 360-degree panorama (“60” x 10.5”), in back, 1 route drawing, 2 maps, red cloth; cardboard slipcase w/dj, dj near fine, cloth fine. #25097, $345.-

A nice, large-format, photo-book on the first Japanese ascent of Everest in 1970, the Japanese Mount Everest Expedition 1970 (JMEE’70). This expedition followed on the heels of two reconnaissance expeditions in the pre and post-monsoon seasons of 1969. A two-pronged attempt was made via both the South-West Face and the South Col routes. A high point of 8,050m was reached on the Face before that attempt was abandoned. Success was finally achieved via the Col route with four climbers reaching the summit - Naomi Uemura and Teruo Matsuura on May 11th and sirdar Chotaré and Katsutoshi Hirabayashi on May 12th. This marked the 11th and 12th ascents of Everest. Text in Japanese, two-page English summary and all photos with English captions.

Mt McKinley Expedition of the Ryosetsu Alpine Club 1972. 1974 pub?, place?, 1st, 8vo, pp.169, 25 color & 27 bw photos, sketches, tables, map, blue cloth; issued w/dj, dj spine faded, else fine. #25390, $175.-

This is the official account of the 1972 Ryosetsu Alpine Club’s ascent of McKinley. The expedition consisted of five women from the Club who planned to climb the West Rib. It is believed that three of them reached the summit but fell on the descent, their bodies being found by Ray Genet. Included in the text is a copy of a letter from Jim Wickwire to the expedition leader concerning the accident. In Japanese with a 20-page English summary.

The Mountain of the White Devil: South Pillar of Dhaulagiri I, 1975 & 1978. 1979 The Expedition, Tokyo, 1st, 8vo, pp.44, 387, 45 color & 38 bw photos + 49 portraits, route drawings, tables, 4 maps, sketch eps, page-ribbon, blue cloth; slipcase rubbed, near fine, issued w/dj, cloth fine. #25461, $185.-

In the 50 years since the Italian ascent of K2, Lino Lacedelli has never released a statement regarding the summit climb he made with Achille Compagnoni, an event which was celebrated in Italy with great pride. However, when the team, led by Ardito Desio, returned home a terrible accusation was leveled at them. One of the members, Walter Bonatti, said that the summit climbers had put his life in danger by abandoning him before the final stretch so they could reach the top without him. The official version of the climb, written by Desio and confirmed by all other members of the expedition, said that hadn’t happened, that Bonatti’s accusations were unfounded, the result of a misunderstanding. Lacedelli has never felt the necessity to correct the inaccuracies written about the expedition, nor has he replied to the accusations that have often been made. Now Lacedelli reveals previously unknown aspects of that extraordinary climb and offers his version. The book succeeds in restoring to its place in the history of Italian mountaineering the final ascent so they could have the oxygen tanks he carried with him. The book is a companion to Lacedelli’s ‘Price of Conquest’. This English translation has many more photos than the original Italian edition. This UK hardcover edition is a much nicer copy than the US softcover edition which is slightly smaller due to being a different binding. This is one of only 472 hardcover copies printed!

Lacedelli, Lino & Giovanni Cenacchi. K2: The Price of Conquest. 2006 UK, 1st, 8vo, pp.127, 21 color & 28 bw photos, blue cloth; dj & cloth new. #24341, $29.95

McDonald, Bernadette. Brotherhood of the Rope: The Biography of Charles Houston. 2007 US, 1st, Special Edition Hardcover, 8vo, pp.250, photo frontis, 54 bw photos, pictorial cloth; signed by Charles Houston, issued w/o dj, cloth new plus 43 minute DVD. #24635, $125.-

This was a long-overdue book on one of America’s great mountain heroes. Charlie Houston led an amazingly full life - mountaineer, high-altitude physiologist, family doctor, educator, mentor, and more. Through extensive interviews and research, McDonald traces Houston’s life and career. His early climbs in the Alps, on Mount Crillon, Foraker, and Nanda Devi were the basis for his ground-breaking attempts on K2 in 1938 and 1953. The expedition’s decision-making in 1953 has set the standard for ‘brotherhood’ in the mountains and is itself a classic story. Houston’s ground-breaking medical experiments on altitude and the human body helped calibrate the nation’s WWII air-assault strategy and shorten the war. This is the man personally recruited by Sergeant Shriver to lead the first Peace Corps programs in India; the friend who Bill Moyers credits with saving his life; the physician who built some of the first artificial-heart prototypes in his garage. With an introduction by Tom Hornbein. Included with this Special Edition hardcover is a DVD documentary with historical footage of the 1953 expedition to K2.

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Freedom Climbers. 2011 Canada, 1st, 8vo, pp.352, 67 color & 30 bw photos, appendix, black cloth; signed, dj & cloth new. #25845, $32.95

Freedom Climbers tells the story of the extraordinary Polish adventurers who emerged from under the blanket of oppression following the Second World War to become the world’s leading Himalayan climbers. Although they lived in a war-ravaged landscape, with seemingly no hope of creating a meaningful life, these curious, motivated and skilled mountaineers built their own free-market economy under the very noses of their Communist bosses and climbed their way to liberation. At a time when Polish citizens were locked behind the Iron Curtain, these intrepid explorers found a way to travel the world in search of extreme adventure — to Alaska, South America and Europe, but mostly to the highest and most inspiring mountains of the world. To this end, Afghanistan, India, Pakistan and Nepal became their second homes as they evolved into the toughest Himalayan climbers the world has ever known. Here are the stories of Cichy, Czerwińska, Czek, Hajzer, Kakuczka, Kurylska, Lwow, Majer, Pawłowski, Ratkiewicz, Wielicki, Zawada, and others. Winner of the 2011 Banff Mountain Book Festival Grand Prize and Winner of the 2011 Boardman-Tasker Award for Mountaineering Literature.

Mallalieu, Peter. The Artists of the Alpine Club: A Biographical Dictionary. 2011 UK, New ed w/Addendum, oblong 8vo, pp.xii, 240, color frontis, 86 color & 9 bw illus, appendices, blue cloth; dj & cloth new. #25952, $49.95

Since its foundation in 1857, there have always been members of the Alpine Club who have carried sketch-books into the mountains, keeping a record of their endeavours and the peaks they had climbed. Descriptions of these artists form the principal part of the text of this Dictionary, together with many illustrations of their work.

In 1895, the Alpine Club’s move to Savile Row, with its generous accommodation, enabled exhibitions of scale and scope to be held and the beginnings of a collection to form. In 1991, the move was made to the present premises at Charlotte Road. Throughout these many changes the Club’s collection has grown, almost exclusively by virtue of gifts from members, families and friends. In recent years, the exhibition tradition has continued. As well as displays from permanent collection, including works by John Ruskin, ET Compton and TH Somervell, there have been individual shows by modern artists such as Julian Cooper, Jim Curran and John Dugger, and even group exhibitions of conceptual art. Members have been offered a changing and varied diet which is reflected in the pages of this book. This is the second edition which now includes an Addendum showing new material added to the collection. This edition, compiled and written by Peter Mallalieu, Keeper of Pictures at the Alpine Club, shows over 150 mainly full-page, full-colour drawings and paintings, with accompanying descriptions and background to the 114 artists represented.

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Lacedelli's 'Price of Conquest'. This English translation has many more photos and written by Peter Mallalieu, Keeper of Pictures at the Alpine Club, shows over 150 mainly full-page, full-colour drawings and paintings, with accompanying descriptions and background to the 114 artists represented.

Lewis-Jones, Huw. Mountain Heroes: Portraits of Adventure. 2011 UK, 1st, 4to, pp.288, photo frontis, 95 color & 81 bw photos, black cloth; dj & cloth new. #25960, $59.95

A beautiful, large-format, photo book featuring 100 portraits and biographies of famous mountaineers. Included are Band, Boardman, Bonington, Bruce, Buhl, Chouinard, Conway, Diemberger, Hill, Hornbien, Kogan, Lowe, Messner, Noyce, Shipston, Somervell, Willians, Whymper, and many more. With a foreword written by Sir Chris Bonington, two essays examining mountain photography ‘then’ and ‘now’ by Lewis-Jones, Gordon Wiltsie, Glen Denny, and Cory Richards; and an afterword by Doug Scott. This is a companion volume to ‘Face To Face: Portrait Portraits’ (#25707). This lavishly-illustrated book weighs 3.75 pounds.

Lim, David. Against Giants: The Life and Climbs of a Disabled Mountaineer. 2007 Singapore, 2nd, 8vo, pp.xii, 164, 45 color & 31 bw photos, 3 maps, appendix, wraps; signed, new. #23045, $29.95


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Bill Denz (1951-1983) was a New Zealand mountaineer who enjoyed a short but stellar climbing career which ended in an avalanche on Makalu in October 1983. Never a top free climber, Denz’s forte was climbing bold ice routes (often solo), difficult big walls and severe mixed alpine cliffs. Denz began rock climbing as a teenager and started climbing big peaks in the Aoraki/Mt Cook area in 1970. During the next five years he completed many new routes, winter firsts and solo ascents in the region, including the first ascent of Mt. Tasman’s Balfour Face and soloing two extraordinarily bold lines on the South Face and Caroline Face of Aoraki/Mt Cook. Winter first ascents include the South Face of Douglas, the Sheila Face of Aoraki/Mt Cook and the North and South Faces of Hicks (all via new routes). In 1973 Denz turned his attention to the Darran Mountains where he was involved in the first ascent of the formidable Adelaide Face of Marian, which was the first climb in New Zealand to involve ‘big wall’ climbing techniques. During the next five years he put up over 20 new routes in the Darrans. In July 1983 Denz returned to the area to complete the first winter ascent of the severe South Face of Sabre.

Much of Denz’s final years of climbing were spent abroad. From bases in North America he completed ascents of 15 big walls in Yosemite and Alaska, including early repeats of Tis-sa-ack, Excalibur and Pacific Ocean Wall and the first ascent of Kichatna Spire’s East Face. He also made several first ascents of the Chugach Range. As a soloist he completed two expeditions to Patagonia (where he came within a whisker of claiming the first solo ascent of Cerro Torre) and in Nepal completed a four-day traverse over Kangan Kanguru (6369m), making the first ascent of the high peak along the way. Denz also ventured into Tibet (illegally) to attempt Menlungtse (7181m), in 1983. His inclusion on Peter Hillary’s four-person Makalu expedition was the first of a series of planned expeditions to attempt 8,000 metre peaks. His death at the age of 32 robbed New Zealand mountaineering of one of its greatest ever climbers.

Merkl, Willy & Karl Herrligkoffer. Vom Karwendel zum Nanga Parbat [From Karwendel to Nanga Parbat]. 1961 Jugendschriften, Hannover, 1st, 8vo, pp.80, 15 bis illus, map, pictorial cloth; cloth lower spine splitting, vg. #22689, $29.-

—. Merkl, who died on Nanga Parbat in 1934, led two expeditions to this difficult peak. For younger readers. In German, no English translation.

A Selection of Signed Messner Titles

Messner, Reinhold. All 14 Eight-Thousanders. 1988 Cloudcap, Seattle, 1st, 4to, pp.247, color frontis, 143 color & 76 bw photos, 19 maps/drawings, 82 tables, blue cloth; signed, dj fine, cloth fine. #2361, $125.-

Messner, the first to climb all 14 of the world’s 8000m peaks [Everest, K2, Kangchenjunga, Lhotse, Makalu, Dhaulagiri, Manaslu, Cho Oyu, Nanga Parbat, Annapurna, Gasherbrum I & II, Broad Peak, Shishapangma], describes each of his climbs and his philosophies. This is the true first edition! An important book and a good reference source. SB M29.

—. Everest: Expedition to the Ultimate. 1979 Kaye & Ward, London, 1st, 8vo, pp.254, 37 color & 42 bw photos, 6 maps, photo eps, orange cloth; signed, dj spine lightly faded, vg+, cloth fine. #20462, $125.-

—. The 7. Grad: Extremstes Bergsteigen (The Seventh Grade: Extreme Mountain Climbing). 1973 BLV, Munich, 1st, 8vo, pp.156, 4 color & 18 bw photos, map, wraps; signed, near fine. #25900, $65.- This is Messner’s fifth book and the first with accounts of his early Alpine climbs and training. He advocated the Seventh grade as a natural extension of the Sixth, which used to be the absolute limit of potential climbing. This was published in English in 1974 as ‘The Seventh Grade’. In German. Neate M90.

—. Der Kräuterei: Durch Tibet zum Mount Everest [The Crystal Horizon: Through Tibet to Mount Everest]. 1982 BLV, Munich, 1st, 8vo, pp.322, photo frontis, 60 color & 215 bw photos, 5 maps, photo eps, blue cloth; signed, dj w/edge wear, vg, cloth fine. #25906, $45.- In 1980 Messner made the first solo, oxygen-less ascent of Everest, via the North Col route; a tremendous feat. SB M27.

—. Die Großen Wände [The Great Walls]. 1977 BLV, Munich, 1st, 4to, pp.143, photo frontis, 32 color & 51 bw photos, 10 sketches, illus eps, pictorial cloth; signed, dj cloth fine. #25907, $75.- Includes the south faces of Nanga Parbat, Dhaulagiri, and Aconcagua. This was published in English in 1978 as ‘The Big Walls: History, Routes, Experiences’. In German. Neate M86, Yak M168.

—. Die Zukunft der Alpen [The Future of the Alps]. 2007 Tappeiner, Lana, 1st, 4to, pp.263, 7 color gatefolds, 214 color photos, 4 color & 3 bw illus, photo ep, black cloth; signed, dj & cloth new. #25908, $75.- Messner provides a richly-illustrated photo essay on the beauty of the Alps. In German, no English translation.

—. Everest: Expedition to the Ultimate. 1979 Kaye & Ward, London, 1st, 8vo, pp.254, 37 color & 42 bw photos, 6 maps, photo eps, orange cloth; signed, dj spine lightly faded, vg+, cloth fine. #20462, $125.- Account of the 1978 first ascent of Everest without supplemental oxygen, with Peter Habeler, a tremendous achievement. Neate M88, SB M26, Yak M169.

—. K2: Berg der Berge [K2: Mountain of Mountains]. 1980 BLV, Munich, 1st, 4to, pp.177, photo frontis, 150 color & 31 bw photos, 9 maps/sketches, photo eps, blue cloth; signed, dj fine, cloth fine. #22956, $95.- A harder book to find, in English, on Messner’s K2 ascent. Includes a history of attempts and ascents and is chock-full of pictures. This is the German language edition of ‘K2: Mountain of Mountains’ published in English in 1981. See Neate M89, Yak M171.

—. The Crystal Horizon: Everest - The First Solo Ascent. 1989 Mountainiers, Seattle, 1st, 8vo, pp.322, photo frontis, 60 color & 215 bw photos, 5 maps, photo eps, blue cloth; signed, dj fine, cloth fine. #9898, $405. - $95.- Includes the south faces of Nanga Parbat, Dhaulagiri, and Aconcagua.

—. The Challenge. 1977 Oxford, NY, 1st, 4to, pp.143, photo frontis, 32 color & 51 bw photos, 10 sketches, illus eps, blue cloth; signed, dj fine, cloth fine. #21962, $185.- Messner describes two climbs - an unsuccessful 1975 expedition to Lhotse’s south face, with Cassin, and his amazing alpine-style ascent of Hidden Peak with Habeler. Neate M87, Yak M167.

—. Die Großen Wände [The Great Walls]. 1977 BLV, Munich, 1st, 4to, pp.254, 37 color & 42 bw photos, 6 maps, photo eps, orange cloth; signed, dj spine lightly faded, vg+, cloth fine. #20462, $125.-

—. K2: Berg der Berge [K2: Mountain of Mountains]. 1980 BLV, Munich, 1st, 4to, pp.177, photo frontis, 150 color & 31 bw photos, 9 maps/sketches, photo eps, blue cloth; signed, dj fine, cloth fine. #22956, $95.- A harder book to find, in English, on Messner’s K2 ascent. Includes a history of attempts and ascents and is chock-full of pictures. This is the German language edition of ‘K2: Mountain of Mountains’ published in English in 1981. See Neate M89, Yak M171.

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— K2: Mountain of Mountains. 1981 Kaye & Ward, London, 1st, 4to, pp.175, photo frontis, 150 color & 31 bw photos, 9 maps/sketches, photo eps, brown cloth; signed, dj fine, cloth fine. #21963, $145. -
A very hard book to find on Messner’s K2 ascent. Includes a history of attempts and ascents and is chock-full of pictures. Neate M89, Yak M171.

— Siebter Grad [Seventh Grade]. 1981 BLV, Munchen, new ed, 8vo, pp.208, photo frontis, 17 color & 27 bw photos, pictorial cloth; signed, cloth fine.
#25909, $65. -
This is Messner’s fifth book and the first with accounts of his early Alpine climbs and training. He advocated the Seventh Grade as a natural extension of the Sixth, which used to be the absolute limit of potential climbing. This new edition has more photos than both the original German and English editions. This was published in English in 1974 as ‘The Seventh Grade’. In German. Neate M90.

— To the Top of the World: Alpine Challenges in the Himalaya and Karakoram. 1992 Mountaineers, Seattle, 1st, 8vo, pp.256, 6 color illus, 72 color & 55 bw photos, 6 paintings, 3 maps, black cloth; signed, dj fine, cloth fine. #9912, $175. -
Messner recounts his exploits on Manaslu, Hidden Peak, Everest without oxygen and solo, Nanga Parbat, and K2. Out of print in hardcover and hard to find.

Mitchell, Ian R. & George W. Rodway. Prelude to Everest: Alexander Kellas, Himalayan Mountaineer. 2011 UK, 1st, 8vo, pp.285, 30 color & 49 bw photos, sketch, 9 tables, 11 figures, 6 maps, appendix, map eps, grey cloth; dj & cloth new. #25846, $39.95
Kellas, who could be considered Scotland’s greatest ever Himalayan mountaineer and one of the foremost in the world during his own lifetime, is today a largely neglected figure. Born in Aberdeen in 1868, there was little in his background or his early life that might have suggested he would become a leading pioneer in the Greater Ranges, exploring and climbing widely in the Sikkim and Garhwal areas, and finally dying on the initial Reconnaissance Expedition to Everest in 1921. This biography restores Kellas to his rightful place in Himalayan mountaineering history, by describing in detail his pioneering work in exploration, his groundbreaking high altitude physiology and detailing his list of Himalayan first ascents. In his day, Kellas had spent more time above 20,000’ than anyone else. His life is an important chapter in the story of the Himalayan mountains.

Mordecai, David. The Himalayas: An Illustrated Summary of the World’s Highest Mountain Ranges. N.d India, reprint, oblong 8vo, [pp.58], 1 color & 55 bw photos (1 full pg), 2 full pg profiles, sketch, charts, illus boards; issued w/o dj, boards new. #24397, $35.95
Mordecai lists 568 peaks over 20,000’, along with their height, location and successful expeditions. This copy is signed by five members of the successful 1965 3rd Indian Everest Expedition. Kohli was the Leader and Kumar Deputy Leader. This was Gomba’s second ascent having previously summited with Jim Whittaker in 1963. A nicely done reprint of the scarce original edition.

[Mount Gongga/Minya Konka]. Map of Glaciers of Mount Gongga. 1985 China, 42” x 30”, scale 1:25,000, color, double-sided, folded; new. #25879,$39.95
A very nice, large topographic map of Mount Gongga (or Minya Konka, 24,892’). Nd India, reprint, oblong 8vo, [pp.58], 1 color & 55 bw photos, 6 paintings, 3 maps, black cloth; signed, dj fine, cloth fine.
This is one of the classics of mountaineering literature.

Oelz, Oswald. Mit Eispickel und Stethoskop [With Ice Axe and Stethoscope]. 2000 Germany, 4th, 8vo, pp.272, photo frontis, 16 color & 168 bw photos, map, page ribbon, blue cloth; inscribed, dj fine, cloth fine. #24072, $45. -
Oelz has had an extensive mountaineering career. In addition to climbing the Seven Summits, with both Cartecy Pyramid and Kosciuszko, he has participated in numerous Himalayan expeditions to Manaslu, Makalu, Annapurna, Shishapamga, and Cho Oyu. In German, no English translation.

Perret, Jacques. Regards sur les Alpes: 100 Livres d’Exception, 1515 – 1908. 2011 France, Ltd signed & numbered ed of 250, 8vo, pp.271, 15 color & 53 bw photos, 91 color & 204 bw illus, 2 color & 3 bw maps, pictorial cloth; signed, slipcase, acetate dj & cloth new. #25891, $175. - Produced to coincide with an exposition in Grenoble, Perret’s work exhibits the evolution of the mountain book from the Renaissance to the early 20th century. This book weighs 3.5 pounds.

Pritzker, Yuri. See It from the Top: How to Climb Everest Without Quitting Your Day Job. 2012 US, 1st, 8vo, pp.210, 41 bw photos, wraps; signed, new. #25969, $14.99
Pritzker summited Everest in 2009 via the South East Ridge as a member of the Eco Everest Expedition 2009 led by Asian Trekking. Prior to this expedition he had trips to his native Caucasus, the Cascades, Grand Teton, Rainier, Peru, Mount Hunter, Mount Shasta, Denali, the Alps, and other peaks. Pritzker describes his 2007 expedition to Denali and then presents a detailed account of both his preparations for and experiences on Everest. This is an excellent reference for anyone training for or preparing to go on an Everest expedition.

Ridgeway, Rick. The Last Step: The American Ascent of K2. 1980 Mountaineers, Seattle, 1st, 8vo, pp.vii, 301, 75 color photos, 2 maps, black cloth; signed by 7 - Louis Reichardt, Rick Ridgeway, Diane Roberts, John Roskelley, Nazir Sabir, Jim Whittaker, Jim Wickwire, dj w/light wear, 1” tear on bottom edge of cover, near fine, cloth fine. #20209, $95. -
The successful 1978 American expedition placed the first four Americans (Louis Reichardt, Rick Ridgeway, John Roskelley, and Jim Wickwire) on top of K2, the world’s second highest mountain and arguably the most difficult. Three of the team reached the summit without the use of supplemental oxygen. This particular copy is signed by all four summitters, expedition leader Whittaker; and two other team members. This is a great story. Neate R33, Yak R110.

Sale, Richard. Broad Peak. 2004 UK, 1st, 8vo, pp.208, 48 color & 18 bw photos, sketch, appendix, blue cloth; signed, dj & cloth new. #23598, $49. -
The first full account of the first ascent of Broad Peak in 1957 by Marcus Schmuck, Fritz, Wintersteller, Hermann Buhl and Kurt Diemberger. Sale drew upon the climbing diaries of Schmuck and Wintersteller; accounts written by Buhl, and conversations with Diemberger and Qader Saeed, the expedition’s Pakistani liaison officer. None of this material has previously been published. Sale begins with a history of Broad Peak, including the first ever drawing of the mountain (from Conway’s expedition of 1892), the first ever photograph (from the Eckenstein expedition of 1902) and Sella’s panorama from the Abruzzi expedition of 1909. There is also an account of the first attempt by the Herrligkoffer expedition of 1954. The photos from the 1957 expedition are almost entirely previously unpublished work of Schmuck and Wintersteller. Additionally, there is an account of Buhl’s last climb and death on Chogolisa from the protocol written by the surviving team members on the day Diemberger returned to Base Camp after the accident. The book ends with an Appendix of all summit climbs from 1957-2004. Broad Peak is long overdue for an English-language account of this important first ascent of an 8000m peak by a very small team. Shortlisted for the 2005 Boardman-Tasker award and Finalist 2005 Banff Mountain Book Festival Best Book Mountain Literature.

— The Challenge of K2: A History of the Savage Mountain. 2011 UK, 1st, 8vo, pp.xi, 227, 32 color & 22 bw photos, 2 tables, appendices, black cloth; signed, dj & cloth new. #25848, $39.95
K2 is one of the most demanding mountaineering challenges in the world and one of the most treacherous. Extreme, unpredictable weather and the acutely difficult climbing conditions test the technique, endurance and psychological...
strength of the most experienced mountaineers to the limit. Many of the men and women who have sought to reach the summit have failed, often with tragic consequences - over 70 have died or disappeared. Yet this, the second highest mountain on Earth, continues to exercise for the world's top mountaineers a special - all too often lethal - attraction, and this is the subject of Sale's fascinating new book. As he traces the climbing history of K2 over the last 150 years, he shows in graphic detail how it acquired this awesome reputation: it was during the first serious attempts on the summit in the 1930s and 1950s that K2 became known as the Savage Mountain.

Salisbury, Richard and Elizabeth Hawley. The Himalaya by the Numbers: A Statistical Analysis of Mountaineering in the Nepal Himalaya. 2011. Nepal, Ltd ed 200, 8vo, pp.224, 217 color charts, tables, appendices, 2 color maps, page-ribbon, pictorial cloth; signed Salisbury & Hawley, dj & cloth new. #25858. $44.95

A comprehensive statistical analysis of climbing activity, ascents and fatalities in the Nepal Himalaya covering three periods of climbing - 1950-1969 (the expeditionary period), 1970-1989 (the transitional period), and 1990-2009 (the commercial period). An extensive amount of data is analyzed in several categories including climbing season, expedition years (changes over time), geographical regions of Nepal, age groups, gender, citizenship, and team size and composition. In addition, fatalities are analyzed for both members and hired personnel by causes of death with special emphasis given to avalanches, falls and physiological factors. Time of day and distance from the summit is also examined for climbing accidents. Special emphasis is given to the most popular commercial peaks - Ama Dablam, Cho Oyu and Everest. Interspersed throughout are stories by Hawley covering particular events during the climbing periods covered. There is much to be learned in this book for anyone interested in the high Himalaya! This hardcover edition has been printed in a limited edition of only 200 copies.

Sanderson, Pauline. The World’s Longest Climb: Dead Sea to Everest Summit. 2011 UK, 1st, 8vo, pp.244, photo frontis, 200 color & 4 bw photos, sketch, photo eps, wraps; new. #25955. $39.95

Sanderson was a member of the five-person 2006 EverestMax expedition, which journeyed from the Dead Sea, the lowest point on Earth, to the summit of Everest. This is a tale of endurance, comedy, culture, tragedy, geography, romance and just a bit of nudity in one epic adventure. A Jordan to the base of via the North Ridge route. For another perspective on this expedition see also Dominic Faulkner’s ‘The Longest Climb’, #25574.

Simpson, Joe. The Sound of Gravity. 2011 UK, 1st, 8vo, pp.234, black cloth; dj & cloth new. #25878. $33.95

Simpson’s second novel is a harrowing, dramatic and powerful tale of how a haunting split-second memory can change the course of a lifetime. Trapped high on a stormbound mountain face in the icy depths of winter, a stricken young man is forced to fight for his life. Many years later, haunted by grief and guilt, he is freed from his self-imposed vigil when at last the mountain releases his heartrending secret.

Singh, Brigadier Gyan. Lure of Everest: Story of the First Indian Expedition. 1961 Ministry Info & Broadcasting, Delhi, 1st, 8vo, pp.xi, 212, color frontis, 64 bw photos, 3 maps, sketches, page-ribbon, appendices, map eps, tan cloth; cloth w/ Margaret Prouty & AAC/Prouty bookplates very lightly tipped in, bright, fine. #24949. $89.-

Singh was Principal of the Himalayan Mountaineering Institute in Darjeeling when he led this first all-Indian attempt on Everest in 1960. Although unsuccessful they did reach 8,625 metres.

Prouty, Margaret Jo (1908 – 1992) & Robert L. (1913 – 2000) – Margaret was a pediatrician and mountaineer. For 70 years she traveled the world to climb mountains, photographing and writing of her adventures. She made 400 ascents of peaks above 10,000 feet in 22 countries. Her climbing experiences ranged from the Rocky Mountains, Mexico, South America, Europe, Nepal, Africa, New Zealand, and Antarctica. She climbed the Matterhorn (1949), was the physician for the Cordillera Blanca Expedition to Peru (1958), and was the first to employ Col. Jimmy Roberts on a trek in the Khumbu Region (1965). Scarcely with the jacket. Neate S77, SB S35, Yak S246.

Snyder, Howard H. The Hall of the Mountain King. 1973 Scribner’s, NY, 1st, 8vo, pp.x, 207, photo frontis, 43 bw photos, appendices, map eps, grey cloth; dj w/ small pull bottom spine, else fine, cloth fine. #10132. $85.- One view of the disastrous 1967 season on McKinley. Two parties combined to do the climb and seven died. For an opposing view see Wilcox’s “White Winds”. Neate $141.

Sutchiffe, Alistair. The Hardest Climb. 2011 UK, 1st, 8vo, pp.ix, 149, 30 color & 1 bw photos, color map, black cloth; dj & cloth new. #25835. $31.95

Sutchiffe recounts how he became the first man to summit the highest mountain on each of the seven continents, the Seven Summits, at the first attempt. He has endured the harshest climates, been held at gunpoint, seen climbers fall to their deaths, and stood on top of the world, but his hardest climb started on February 2nd, 2010, the morning after his brain hemorrhage. With a foreword by Chris Bonington.

Symons, Leslie. To Ride the Mountain Winds: A History of Aerial Mountaineering and Rescue. 2011 Scotland, 1st, 8vo, pp.xxxii, 304, 26 color & 14 bw photos, 2 illus, blue cloth; dj & cloth new. #25836. $43.95

By the end of the 18th century Mont Blanc had been climbed and man had begun to fly in balloons. In 1849 a balloonist flew over the Alps and a little over half a century later aeroplanes were also doing so. The age of aerial mountaineering had begun. Worldwide in its scope it was destined to include the first Aeropostale flights across the Andes, exploration in Alaska, across the Poles and in the Himalayas, scientific investigation, and rescue. Aircraft would include flimsy biplanes and even flimsier microlights, sophisticated balloons and helicopters. Their pilots would number scientists, explorers, soldiers and civilians, men and women of adventure, and quite a few eccentrics. Possibly the first history of aerial mountaineering to span the whole period from the 18th century to the present day, this is written for everyone interested in the history of mountaineering and also those interested in the history of aviation and the limits to which pilots have pushed their machines and their skills. This should include not only climbers and flyers but also those airline passengers who, while sipping a gin and tonic in the luxury of a modern airliner, far above the shining snows, have paused to wonder what might happen if their jet-propelled magic carpet were forced suddenly to descend among them. Few will have pondered the connections between the histories of mountaineers and aviators but their interaction is almost as old as either.

Talbot, Margo. All That Glitters: A Climber’s Journey Through Addiction and Depression. 2011 Canada, 1st, 8vo, pp.192, 23 bw photos, wraps; signed, new. #25889. $19.95

Margo Talbot’s unflinchingly honest account of a childhood characterized by abuse and neglect, her descent into depression, addiction, and criminal activity is both heartbreaking and, ultimately, inspiring. Finding redemption and healing through her passion for the outdoors and, in particular, ice climbing, this memoir is a stirring testament to the power of the human spirit and the healing force of nature. As a climber, Margo’s favorite medium is ice and alpine climbing, and she has accomplished many first ascents of waterfall ice in Canada. This book was conceived at the Banff Mountain Writing Program and was a finalist at the 2011 Banff Mountain Book Festival.


This is the German edition of Tichy’s classic book ‘Cho Oyu: By Favour of the Gods’ recounting the first ascent of Cho Oyu in 1954. The summit was reached by Tichy, Pasang, and Joseph Jöchler. This was the smallest team to make a first ascent of an 8000 meter peak. In German.

— another copy. 1955 Ullstein, Wien, 2nd, 8vo, pp.243, 4 color & 39 bw photos, map, map eps, appendix, blue grey cloth; signed dj, vgc, cloth fine. #25903, $225.-

Ullman, James Ramsey. The Age of Mountaineering. 1954 Lippincott, Phil & NY, 1st, 8vo, pp.352, 30 bw photos, 5 maps, appendices, map eps, brown/tan cloth; dj rubbed, vg, cloth fine. #14001, $25.- Revised edition of ‘High Conquest’ with ascents of Annexapurna, Nanga Parbat, and Everest. Neate U02, SB U06.
Nepal may be one of the poorest countries in the world, but when it comes to mountains there is no other that stands taller. Within its boundaries lie eight of the ten highest mountains in the world. This is primarily a photo-book featuring a number of great aerial views of both Everest and the surrounding area. Also included is a 32-min DVD featuring the views from the Everest flight.

Vajpai, Arjun w/ Anu Kumar. On Top of the World: My Everest Adventure. 2010 India, 1st, 8vo, pp.112, 16 color photos, 2 sketches, wraps; new. #25871, $17.95

Two months after he had set out, sixteen-year-old Vajpai stood on top of the world, having conquered Mount Everest. At that time, he held the record for being the youngest non-Sherpa person in the world to do so. He is still the youngest Indian to climb the peak. It had indeed been a long journey. Arjun’s fascination with mountains began at the age of ten, nurtured and encouraged by his parents, teachers, and close friends. As a trekker and an athlete, he had trained and worked hard to achieve this amazing feat of endurance. This is an unforgettable story of inspiration, fortitude and courage; of having a seemingly impossible dream and daring to chase it.

Viesturs, Ed w/ David Roberts. The Will to Climb: Obsession and Commitment and the Quest to Climb Annapurna - the World’s Deadliest Peak. 2011 US, 1st, 8vo, pp.xv, 281, photo frontisp, 20 color photos, blue cloth; signed Viesturs & Roberts, dj & cloth new. #25849, $25.95

Viesturs chronicles his three attempts to climb Annapurna, the world’s 10th highest and statistically deadliest peak, while exploring the dramatic and tragic history of others who have made, or attempted, the ascent, and what these exploits teach us about facing life’s greatest challenges. As a high school student in the flatlands of Illinois, Ed read and was captivated by Herzog’s famous account of the first ascent of Annapurna in 1950. When he began his own campaign to climb the world’s 14 highest peaks in the late 1980s, he looked forward with trepidation to undertaking Annapurna himself. Two failures to summit in 2000 and 2002 made Annapurna his nemesis. His successful 2005 ascent was the capstone of his climbing quest. In ‘The Will To Climb’ Ed brings the extraordinary challenges of Annapurna to vivid life through edge-of-your-seat accounts of the greatest climbs in the mountain’s history, and of his own failed attempts and eventual success.

Washburn, Barbara w/ Lew Freedman. The Accidental Adventurer: Memoirs of the First Woman to Climb Mount McKinley. 2001 US, 1st prtg, 8vo, pp.192, photo frontis, 31 bw photos, 3 maps, black cloth; signed Barbara & Lew Freedman, dj & cloth new. #21956, $95.

Barbara and Bradford Washburn are icons of American mountaineering. In 1940 Barbara married Brad Washburn, who was the director of the New England Museum of Natural History and the youngest museum director in the country. They were inseparable ever since. Although Barbara was not a mountaineer prior to meeting Brad she quickly developed the skills under his tutelage. She participated in the first ascents of Alaska’s Mount Hayes and Mount Bertha. Then came her first woman’s ascent of Mount McKinley. Her ability to balance her many roles, as wife, mother, teacher, climber, surveyor, and world traveler are inspiring. This is her story. The first printing hardcovers disappeared quite quickly!

Wiessner, Fritz. K2: Tragödien und Sieg am Zweithöchsten Berg der Erde. 1955 Rother, München, 1st, 8vo, pp.54, [18], 19 bw photos, 2 maps, wraps w/ dj; dj w/ edge wear & several small fold lines, vg. wraps fine. #24359, $350.

Wiessner led the second American K2 expedition in 1939. The deaths of four members and lack of information concerning events led to much criticism. His only accounts in English were a brief article in the A AJ and then a later article in Appalachia which was extracted from this book. The copyright page states 1-3 edition which is the only way I have seen this in other copies. In German, no English translation. Quite scarce.

In 1953, Sir Edmund Hillary & Tenzing Norgay made history as the first people to reach the top of Everest. Now, 50 years later, three sons (Peter Hillary, Jamling Tenzing, Brent Bishop) of Everest’s most celebrated climbers return to the mountain to challenge it again. Join their journey as they brave the elements and face death to climb 29,000 feet of wind-blasted rock and ice. And, relive the dramatic history of Everest from great triumphs to deadly tragedies, enduring rivalries and the unsung role of the Sherpa people - as National Geographic exposes the untold stories that lurk in the mountain’s epic shadow and takes you on the ultimate Everest experience.

Viesturs, Ed. The Wildest Dream: Conquest of Everest. 94 min. DVD #25944, $24.99

George Mallory was obsessed with becoming the first person to conquer the Mount Everest. He was last seen 800 feet below the summit in 1924, before the clouds rolled in and he disappeared into legend. His death stunned the world. Seventy-five years later, climber Conrad Anker’s life became intertwined with Mallory’s after finding his frozen body with all his belongings intact. The only thing missing was a photograph of his wife, Ruth, which Mallory had promised to place on the summit. Haunted by Mallory’s story, Conrad Anker returned to Everest, as leader of the 2007 Altitude Everest Expedition, as he along with British climbing prodigy Leo Houlding tried to unravel the mysteries surrounding Mallory’s disappearance.

Antarctica Calendar 2012. 13¾” wide x 18½” high when opened, 24 color images, 12 months; new. #25883, $19.95

This is one of our favorite calendars! Here is a stunning collection of color images from the frozen south – Adelie and Gentoo penguins, icebergs, Antarctica, Peninsula, and more!

Aston, Felicity. Call of the White: Taking the World to the South Pole. 2011 UK, 1st, 8vo, pp.317, 16 color photos, wraps; new. #25838, $24.95

Could you ski to the South Pole? That was the challenge that British adventurer, Felicity Aston put to women from around the Commonwealth, as she set out to create the most international all-female expedition ever to the Pole. The team would not be experienced explorers but ‘ordinary’ women who wanted to inspire others to follow their dreams or make a change for the better in their lives. She received more than 800 applications and embarked on a three-month journey around the world to interview candidates. ‘What is skiing?’ asked someone in Ghana.

At the close of 2009, Felicity led a team from places as diverse as Jamaica, India, Singapore and Cyprus - some of whom had never even seen snow or spent the night in a tent before joining the expedition - on a 900-km skiing trek across the Antarctic, one of the toughest and most notoriously hazardous journeys on the planet. Eighty-mile-an-hour winds ripped through base camp, frostbite and injuries were an everyday occurrence, and deadly crevasses emerged from the cracking ice beneath their feet. But they also shared beliefs, ideas, philosophies and laughter, made lasting memories and broke no less than six World Records.

Battersby, William. James Fitzjames: The Mystery Man of the Franklin Expedition. 2010 Canada, 1st, 8vo, pp.224, 33 bw photos, 2 tables, 6 maps, appendices, blue cloth; dj & cloth new. #25888, $34.95

James Fitzjames was a hero of the early nineteenth-century Royal Navy. A charismatic man with a wicked sense of humour, he pursued his naval career with wily determination. When he joined the Franklin Expedition at the age of 32 he thought he would make his name. But instead the expedition completely disappeared and he never returned. Its fate is one of history’s last great unsolved mysteries, as were the origins and background of James Fitzjames - until now. Fitzjames packed a great deal into his thirty-two years. He had sailed an iron paddle steamer down the River Euphrates and fought with spectacular bravery in wars in Syria and China. But Fitzjames was not what he seemed. He concealed several secrets, including the scandal of his birth, the source of his influence and his plans for after the Franklin Expedition. In this first complete biography of the captain of the HMS Erebus, Battersby draws extensively on
Fitzjames’ personal letters and journals, most never published before, as well as official naval records, to strip away 200 years of misinformation and half-truths and enable us to understand for the first time this intriguing man and his significance for the Franklin Expedition.

Baughman, T. H. Shackleton of the Antarctic. 2009 US, rep, 8vo, pp.115, map frontisp, map, wraps; new. #25947, $12.95
A concise account of Ernest Shackleton, his life and expeditions, by a noted expert Antarctic historian.

Beaufort, Simon. The Nimrod Murders. 2011 UK, 1st, 8vo, pp.370, sketch, wraps; new. #25895, $19.95
Novel. On 30 July 1907, members of the British Antarctic Expedition, led by Ernest Shackleton, sailed down the Thames on the tiny, refurbished sealer Nimrod. Some six months later, in February 1908, the expedition landed in Antarctica. At Cape Royds, Shackleton and his companions built a hut and set up camp. They then began their long wait for the following spring, when Shackleton would head into the icy unknown in an attempt to become the first man ever to reach the South Pole. In the worldwide fame and glory that followed the return of Shackleton’s party to civilisation, little was ever said about a dark incident that almost halted the expedition before it ever sailed from London’s East India Docks. On the eve of departure of the Nimrod to the Antarctic, the body of the assistant biologist was found in the East India Docks. Without a doubt he had been murdered. Raymond Priestly, just short of his 21st birthday, had been appointed expedition geologist and was one of the first on the scene and it fell to him to undertake an investigation, along with Inspector William Taylor, an old school friend of Shackleton’s, into the events surrounding this dark deed. Beaufort is a pseudonym for Beau Riffenburgh and his wife Liz Cruwys.

Bemrose, Anna. Mawson’s Last Survivor: The Story of Dr Alf Howard AM. 2011 Australia, 1st, 8vo, pp.xiv, 250, 55 bw photos, plan, map, wraps; signed, new. #25967, $39.95
Alf Howard (1906-2010) sailed with legends of the heroic era of Antarctic exploration and became a legend in his own lifetime. Over the course of 104 years he earned five science degrees, the last at age 62, stopped his research work at age 97, and wrote computer programs late in life. He was the last surviving member of Sir Douglas Mawson’s 1929-1931 British, Australian and New Zealand Antarctic Research Expedition (BANZARE) and was also the last survivor to have served aboard the coal-fired three-masted wooden ship Discovery, built for Captain Robert Falcon Scott’s 1901-1904 Antarctic odyssey. As a young chemist and hydrologist on board the Discovery, going south with Mawson was the catalyst for his long-distinguished career with the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO). Subsequently, at the University of Queensland, he was awarded degrees in physics and linguistics and completed a PhD in psychology. For more than twenty years he designed computer programs and provided statistical advice to postgraduate students and staff until he was 97. The call of Antarctica was too strong to resist and during the 1990s he returned four times.

Boothe, Joan N. The Storied Ice: Exploration, Discovery, and Adventure in Antarctica’s Peninsula Region. 2011 US, 1st, 8vo, pp.ix, 373, 73 bw photos, 16 illus, 42 maps, appendices, map eps, pictorial cloth; issued w/o dj, cloth new. #25867, $34.95
Boothe recounts the dramatic history – from Magellan through the collapse of the Larsen B Ice Shelf in 2002 – of the Antarctic Peninsula Region (South Georgia Island, South Sandwich Islands, South Orkney and South Shetland island groups, Antarctic Peninsula, and Weddell Sea). This part of the south polar regions is the most visited portion with a long and fascinating human history. Tales of early explorers, sealers, whalers, seven expeditions during Antarctica’s 1897-1917 Heroic Age, pioneer aviators and scientists are all woven together into a coherent whole. Abundant quotes from the explorers’ accounts complement this well-illustrated work.

Branagan, David. T. W. Edgeworth David: A Life - Geologist, Adventurer, Soldier and “Knight in the Old Brown Hat”. 2005 Australia, 1st, thick 8vo, pp.xix, 648, 87 bw photos, 25 sketches, 7 maps, appendices, map eps; wraps; new. #25956, $45.95
This comprehensive biography evokes the life and achievements of Edgeworth David (1858-1934): celebrated geologist, Antarctic pioneer, co-founder of the Australian Tunnelling Corps in World War One, tireless campaigner for Australian and international science, inveterate congress organiser, mesmerising lecturer; and, with his formidable wife Cara, prominent Sydney social identity in the early decades of the twentieth century. David was a member of Shackleton’s British Antarctic Expedition 1907-09, initially intending to stay for only half of the expedition. However, he decided to stay on and ended up leading the first ascent of Mount Erebus, with Douglas Mawson and Alistair Mackay, as well as the South Magnetic Pole party, again with Mawson and Mackay. Mawson was a former student of David’s. Later, David would assist with the follow-on Scott, Mawson, Shirase, and Shackleton expeditions. This intensively researched work by Dr David Branagan, featuring a striking array of photographs, provides a timely reappraisal of this great and today strangely neglected Australian.

Bryan, Rorke. Ordeal by Ice: Ships of the Antarctic. 2011 UK, 1st, 8vo, pp.vii, 536, color frontis, 82 color & 102 bw photos, 8 color & 5 bw illus, 85 plans, 21 color maps, appendices, blue cloth; dj & cloth new. #25839, $69.95
Antarctica is surrounded by some of the world’s most hazardous seas and was first sighted less than three centuries ago. Since then, ships have been of vital importance in Antarctic exploration. Expeditions were challenged by poorly-charted waters, violent storms, pack ice and icebergs, and disease. Frequently, the success of expeditions was determined by the qualities of the ships involved. The pivotal importance of ships and ship design has been largely ignored by Antarctic literature.

This is the story of these ships – some specially designed, some plucked from obscurity – and the critical role they played in opening up the continent, from the hypothetical earliest sightings by fleets of the Ming emperors of China in the 15th century to the tourist ships and sophisticated reinforced research vessels of today. Using extensive research in archives, museums, libraries and private sources around the world, Bryan brings the detailed information about the ships into a single, comprehensive record. It contains technical information, plans, photos, paintings and maps, and describes the expeditions and exploratory activities in which the ships took part. This authoritative work fills an important gap in Antarctic literature and is destined to become the reference book on ships of the Antarctic. This book weighs four pounds.

Charcot, Jean-Baptiste. The First French Expedition to the Antarctic 1903-1905. 2011 UK, 1st, 8vo, pp.liv, 247, photo frontis, 273 bw photos, plan, drawing, 6 maps, appendix,illus blue-green cloth; issued w/o dj, cloth new. #25555, $89.95
The first English translation of Charcot’s first expedition narrative – “Le “Francais” au Pole Sud: Journal de l’Expedition Antartique Francaise, 1903-05”. Charcot originally intended to head north, but upon hearing there was no word from Nordenskjöld and his ship ‘Antarctic’ Charcot turned his attention to the south. Although Nordenskjöld returned before Charcot could begin his search, his time was well spent. Despite running aground and nearly sinking, the expedition discovered 620 miles of new coastline, conducted extensive scientific research, and took thousands of photos. A most important work of Antarctic exploration and long overdue for a translation. See Rosove 60 for the original French edition.

Cox, Lynne. South with the Sun: Roald Amundsen, His Polar Explorations, and the Quest for Discovery. 2011 US, 1st, 8vo, pp.xviii, 291, 51 bw photos, 3 bw illus, 2 figures, 2 maps, brown cloth; dj & cloth new. #25873, $25.95
Cox presents the life and expeditions, both in the Arctic and Antarctic, of Roald Amundsen together with accounts of her swimming the frigid Antarctic waters in Amundsen’s wake a century later.
After becoming shipwrecked the crew sought refuge on an ice floe and drifted down the Arctic Ocean for two months and nearly 800 miles.

Davis, Pamela B. *These Rough Notes*: Scott's Last Expedition. Nov 1996 Cambridge Review, UK, extract. 4to, pp.11, 3 bw illus; photocopied extract in plastic binding, new.

Their last hope was gone. Inside the tent, Scott composed his final thoughts, *These rough notes*, he wrote, 'and our dead bodies must tell the tale...'. Without his 'rough notes', which are anything but, the story of this heroic struggle for life would be lost. *These Rough Notes* is a theatrical retelling of the Scott story, based on the diaries of Scott, Bowers, Wilson, Cherry-Garrard and Kathleen Scott, in order to 'hear and see' a first-hand account of the expedition, dating from 3 January 1912, the march to the Pole, through Scott's last diary entry on 29 March 1912. This was first performed in March 1992, and again as a fund-raising event in March 1996 for the Scott Polar Research Institute. The Institute was extremely fortunate to have a group of distinguished readers well versed in polar matters. From SPRI, Irene Burns as Kathleen Scott, Peter Speak as Apsley Cherry-Garrard, and Matthew Haddelsey as Birdie Bowers; David Wilson read for his great-uncle Edward, and Sir Vivian Fuchs, leader of the successful Transantarctic Expedition of 1955-8, read for Scott.

Debenham, Frank. *In the Antarctic: Stories of Scott’s Last Expedition*. 1998 Erskine, Norfolk, 1st thus, 8vo, pp.146, many illus, illus eps, blue cloth; issued w/o dj, cloth new.

A delightful work dealing with the lighter side of Scott's last Antarctic expedition during Debenham's three years with the expedition. Now out of print.

Doorly, Gerald S. *The Voyages of the ‘Morning’*. 1995 Bluntisham/Erskine, Norfolk, 1st thus, facs ed, 8vo, pp.xx, 224, frontis, 21 bw photos, map, dec blue cloth; issued w/o dj, cloth new.

The ‘Morning’, under the command of William Colbeck, made two voyages to relieve Scott’s ship ‘Discovery’. Doorly served as Third Officer. A fine facsimile reprint of the scarce Antarctic classic first published in 1916. Now out of print.

Ennis, Helen. *Frank Hurley’s Antarctica*. 2010 Australia, 1st, small 8vo, pp.141, 68 bw photos, pictorial cloth; dj & cloth new.

Frank Hurley is best known for his stunning Antarctic photographs. Ennis discusses some of his most famous images and the conditions in which they were taken. Sprinkled throughout the book are images of typescripts from Hurley’s diaries written during both Mawson’s Australasian Antarctic Expedition (1911-14) and Shackleton’s Imperial Trans-Antarctic Expedition (1914-17), his words describing the landscape with an artist’s eye. For Hurley, image-making and exploration went hand in hand and he sought out exhilarated experiences, through physical struggle, through relationships with the natural world and through story telling. This book brings to life his passion for photography and for making art, and his own spirit of survival.

Feeney, Robert E. *Polar Journeys: The Role of Food and Nutrition in Early Exploration*. 1997 US, 1st thus, 8vo, pp.xxix, 279, map frontis, 48 bw illus, 22 tables, 2 maps, appendices wraps; fine.

With extensive quotes from explorers’ journals, historical menus, tables, and numerous illustrations, Feeney presents a vivid description of what polar expeditions experienced, making a powerful case that the explorers not only traveled on their stomachs, they lived and died by the quantity/quality of their food.

Filchner, Wilhelm. *To the Sixth Continent: The Second German South Polar Expedition 1911-1913*. 1994 Bluntisham, Huntingdon, 1st in Eng, ltd ed 400, 4to, pp.42, viii, 253, photo frontis, 53 plates, 37 illus, 6 maps, appendices, blue cloth; issued w/o dj, cloth rubbed else new.

Filchner’s expedition plan to cross the polar ice from the Weddell Sea to the Ross Sea came to an abrupt end when the ice broke up under their base and they were forced to winter over aboard ship. This is the first English translation of Filchner’s expedition narrative, edited by noted polar historian Prof. William Barr. This translation also includes Filchner’s ‘Exposé’, published in 1956, which sheds further light on the interpersonal frictions within the party. Now out of print. See Spence 457.

Gerlache, Adrien de. *Voyage of the Belgica: Fifteen Months in the Antarctic*. 1998 UK, 1st English, ltd ed 700, 4to, pp.xxii, xxx, 202, photo frontis, 97 bw illus, 4 figs, 4 maps, appendices, gilt dec green cloth; issued w/o dj, cloth new.

The first English translation of Gerlache’s 1902 narrative. Until now the only English-language account of the Belgian Antarctic Expedition (1897-99) was Cook’s. *The Belgica* expedition was the first international scientific expedition to the Antarctic. They suffered a number of hardships from mental breakdowns to illness and communication. “Belgica” was trapped in the ice and drifted for 13 months becoming the first to endure the Antarctic winter. Rosove 150.

Haddelsey, Stephen. *Ice Captain: The Life of J. R. Stenhouse*. 2008 UK, 1st, 8vo, pp.xvi, 238, 21 bw photos, 5 maps, black cloth; dj & cloth new.

The first full biography of Commander Joseph Russell Stenhouse, commander of the ‘Aurora’ on Shackleton’s Imperial Trans-Antarctic Expedition (1914-17) and the ‘Discovery’ on the National Oceanographic Expedition (1925-27). While Shackleton was beginning his epic with the ‘Endurance’, the ‘Aurora’ was on the other side of the Antarctic continent, intending to support Shackleton’s crossing. Shortly after arriving at Cape Evans on Ross Island, the ‘Aurora’ was blown out to sea from its moorings, leaving 10 men stranded ashore, and drifted in ice for nearly a year before it could be freed. Based on diaries and letters this is a nice biography by the author of ‘Born Adventurer: The Life of Frank Bickerton, Antarctic Pioneer’.


This is a 100th Anniversary reprinting of Henson’s scarce book *A Negro Explorer at the North Pole* which relates his account of reaching the North Pole with Admiral Peary in 1909.

Herbert, Kari & Huw Lewis-Jones. *In Search of the South Pole*. 2011 UK, 1st, 4to, pp.192, photo frontis, 46 color & 65 bw photos, 29 color & 2 bw illus, 6 maps, illus eps, pictorial cloth; issued w/o dj, cloth new.

On the Centenary of the Amundsen-Scott race to the South Pole, this book traces our search for the Pole, from the earliest encounters with Antarctica’s icy waters, through the Heroic Age to modern times. In addition to the words of Scott and Amundsen, vivid descriptions from the logbooks, journals and narratives of pioneers such as Carsten Borchgrevink, Ernest Shackleton and Douglas Mawson provide first-hand experiences of this enigmatic and unforgiving region. In our own times, there is commentary from modern explorers and travellers, writers and scientists, who explain what the South Pole means to them. Among those featured are Edmund Hillary, Vivian Fuchs, Ranulph Fiennes and Borge Ousland. Stunning images by Herbert Ponting and Frank Hurley, and from the personal collections of explorers and adventure photographers, as well as contemporary ephemera and artefacts illustrate the hardships of life on the ice. Herbert is the daughter of the great polar explorer Sir Wally Herbert and Lewis-Jones is former Curator at the Scott Polar Research Institute. A nicely illustrated book.

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Many more items on-line at www.topworldbooks.com!
Herbert, Wally & Kari Herbert. The Polar World: The Unique Vision of Sir Wally Herbert. 2007 UK, 1st, oblong 4to, pp.128, frontis, 47 watercolor & 18 oil paintings, 4 pen & ink & 13 pencil & scalpel drawings, 7 maps, grey cloth; dj & cloth new. #25948, $69.95

Sir Wally Herbert was a bridge between the Heroic Age of polar exploration and modern adventure, a visionary who walked in the footsteps of all the great explorers, and learned the art of survival from the Inuit. During his 50 years as an explorer he retraced the routes of most of the pioneers both in the Arctic and Antarctic, knowing many of them as personal friends. His single greatest achievement was leading the 1968-69 British Trans-Antarctic Expedition which made the first surface crossing of the Arctic Ocean, a 15-month, 3800-mile journey from Alaska to Spitsbergen. Herbert was also a gifted artist whose work is shown here in this marvelous book depicting not only his expeditions but many aspects of the polar world.

Hibbert, Alex. The Long Haul. 2009 UK, 1st, 8vo, pp.vi, 219, 27 color & 1 bw photos, 3 maps, wraps; corners bumped from shipping, else new. #25840, $21.95

On July 16, 2008, Alex Hibbert and George Ballard reached the Arctic coast of Greenland. Starved and dizzy, they had man-hauled 430lb sledges for eighteen weeks across 1374 miles in unbroken steps, further than any previous unsupported polar expedition in history. This is Alex's story of mental perseverance, physical toll in brutal conditions and teamwork under pressure. The pair were forced to ski in darkness, where temperatures plummeted to minus forty and winds reached gale-force. As an isolated double act, Hibbert and Ballard had to rely on each other for their survival and even their own sanity. The journey required meticulous planning, intense training and no small measure of luck to succeed. Many thought Hibbert's plan impossible. Ever conscious of those pioneers who preceded him, Hibbert explains the expedition's place in polar history and describes the lesser known realities of expedition life. His account is filled with stark recollections of adrenaline and reflection in the face of enormous odds stacked against them.

Hirzel, David. Sailor on Ice: Tom Crean - With Scott in the Antarctic 1910-1913. 2011 US, 1st, 8vo, pp.279, map, appendices, wraps; new. #25688, $18.50

There are more famous names than Tom Crean's from the “heroic age” of Antarctic exploration, but there are few stories as compelling as his. The Antarctic is a harsh place of bitter cold and darkness, where only the strong and resourceful can hope to survive. Crean was such a man. Time and again he was one of three, at times the only one, whose courage in the face of insurmountable odds saved the lives of his companions. He weakened and failed the lives of all three, at times the only one, whose courage in the face of insurmountable odds saved the lives of his companions. He weakened and failed the lives of all.

Jones, Aubrey. Scott's Forgotten Surgeon: Dr. Reginald Koettlitz, Polar Explorer. 2011 UK, 1st, 8vo, pp.xiv, 209, 47 bw photos, illus, 5 maps, appendices, wraps; new. #25661, $37.95

Koettlitz, a British physician, was a member of the Jackson-Harmsworth Expedition (1894-97) to Franz Joseph Land serving as both physician and surgeon. During this expedition he fine-tuned his measures to prevent scurvy, became an experienced ski runner, dog and pony handler, and expert in polar survival. He then joined the Herbert Weld Blundell Expedition to North East Africa (1898-99) as surgeon, geologist, anthropologist, and field manager. Following this expedition, Koettlitz turned his sights south once again and joined Scott's National Antarctic Expedition (1901-04). He was senior surgeon and botanist/bacteriologist for this expedition and was later awarded a medal by the Royal Geographical Society for his work. He is also credited with taking the first color photographs on the Antarctic continent. Unfortunately, these have been lost to history. This well-researched account is enriched with previously unseen archive material such as correspondence with Nansen and photographs relating to polar history during the period 1890-1916.


Roberts developed an interest in polar matters at an early age and went on to have a career in both Arctic and Antarctic exploration. He organized and led the Cambridge University Expedition to Vatnajokull in Iceland (1932) and the Cambridge University Expedition to Scoresby Sound in East Greenland (1933). He then joined the British Graham Land Expedition, 1934-1937, as an ornithologist and was later involved in drafting the Antarctic Treaty of 1959. In 1961 he became the official UK observer for the US Naval 'Operation Deep Freeze'. This is a collection of reminiscences by 35 of Roberts’ contemporaries.

Kohl-Larsen, Ludwig. South Georgia: Gateway to Antarctica. 2003 UK, 1st, 8vo, pp.xviii, 294, photo frontis, 38 bw photos, 3 maps (1 color foldg), appendix, pale green cloth; dj & cloth new. #22749, $45.00

The first English translation of an account of an expedition to South Georgia in 1927-28. The author, together with his wife and a camera-man, explored both the south coast and the little-known interior of the island. They collected many scientific specimens for German museums and made the first film of the island’s wildlife and work of the whalers. Translated by William Barr.

McCrum, Mark. Walking with the Wounded. 2011 UK, rep, 8vo, pp.viii, 307, 35 color photos, map eps, red cloth; dj & cloth new. #25962, $35.95

In April 2011, four British soldiers—each a hero of recent conflicts who suffered devastating injuries in the line of duty—set out on a two-hundred mile trek, unsupported, to the North Pole. It was the culmination of a journey that began long before, when two friends decided to mount an expedition that would demonstrate how remarkable our armed forces are and raise funds for the rehabilitation of injured service men and women. Little did they know their idea would ultimately gain global attention, and royal endorsement. The year-long selection process was more physically and emotionally draining than anyone had anticipated. By September 2010 the final team was set: the two founders, four wounded soldiers, a polar guide, and patron Prince Harry. Once they’d ventured inside the Arctic Circle they had to contend with new challenges. Pulling sleds weighing more than 100kg over vast swathes of ice rubble, pressure ridges and dangerous open water leads; constant daylight; ground that could literally tear itself apart beneath them as they slept; and temperatures as low as -35 degrees. And all the time, they had to be alert for signs of the notoriously aggressive polar bears that roam the desolate landscape. With every step fraught with risk, the trek tested its participants’ resilience to the limit. Each of these brave men tells their story here, along with that of the extraordinary expedition itself—the rigorous training, the meticulous preparation, and of course, the final, awe-inspiring journey across the ice. A remarkable and moving story. For 2012 the team has set it’s sights on Everest.

Murphy, David. The Arctic Fox: Francis Leopold McClintock – Discoverer of the Fate of Franklin. 2004 Dundurn Press, Toronto, 1st, 8vo, pp.xiii, 201, frontis, 29 bw photos/illus, 2 maps, black cloth; dj & cloth new. #25826, $22.95

The Shackleton of his day, Leopold McClintock (1819-1907), was one of the best-known Arctic explorers of the Victorian era. He successfully undertook four major voyages of discovery as well as epic sledge journeys and was the first explorer to bring back definitive information on the lost Franklin party. In 1884 he rose to the position of Admiral and was consulted by Scott before he undertook his Discovery expedition in 1901.

Murphy, David Thomas. German Exploration of the Polar World: A History, 1870-1940. 2002 US, 1st, 8vo, pp.x, 273, 30 bw photos, 3 maps, black cloth; dj & cloth new. #25831, $49.95

The exciting story of the generations of German polar explorers who braved the perils of the Arctic and Antarctic for themselves and their country. Such intrepid adventurers as Wilhelm Filchner, Erich von Drygalski, and Alfred Wegener are not as well known today as Robert Falcon Scott, Roald Amundsen, Ernest Shackleton, Robert E. Peary, or Richard E. Byrd, but their bravery and the
hardships they faced were equal to those of the more famous polar explorers. In the half-century prior to World War II, the poles were the last blank spaces on the global map, and they exerted a tremendous pull on national imaginations. Under successive political regimes, the Germans threw themselves into the race for polar glory with an ardor that matched their better-known counterparts bearing English, American, and Norwegian flags. German polar explorers were driven, like their rivals, by a complex web of interlocking motivations. Personal fame, the romance of the unknown, and the advancement of science were driven, like their rivals, by a complex web of interlocking motivations.

Richards, R. W. The Ross Sea Shore Party 1914-17. 2003 UK, 1st thus, 8vo, pp.44; 2 bw photos, map, blue cloth; dj & cloth new. #22750, $39.- Richards was a member of the Shackleton’s Imperial Trans-Antarctic Expedition 1914-17 which saw the dramatic loss of the ‘Endurance’. Had Shackleton been successful in crossing the Antarctic continent they would have met up with the Ross Sea Shore Party whose duty it was to lay depots in anticipation of the crossing. Richards was a member of this Party which encountered many difficulties and is an inspiring story on its own. With their ship ‘Aurora’ ripped from its moorings, along with most of their supplies, ten men scavenged equipment and food and set out to set the depot for men who would never come. This is one of the few accounts regarding this part of Shackleton’s expedition. This is a nice reprint of this scarce volume. See Spence 969.

Riffenburgh, Beau. Aurora: Douglas Mawson and The Australasian Antarctic Expedition 1911-14. 2011 UK, 1st, 8vo, pp.525, photo frontis, 71 bw photos, 2 sketches, 2 diagrams, 8 maps (1 fldg), appendix, blue cloth; dj & cloth new. #25869, $74.95

In 1911 Douglas Mawson organised and led the Australasian Antarctic Expedition (AAE) - a scientific investigation of the Antarctic on a scale never before considered. At the same time it was responsible for the exploration of mostly more territory than any other Antarctic expedition. It consisted of three land bases operated by 32 men, seven major sledging journeys (as well as numerous shorter ones), and a full oceanographic program in addition to its shore-based scientific studies. Yet what was intended by Mawson to be a scientific exercise devoid of heroic adventure, also proved to be a tale of death, determination, and raw courage. This is the first examination of the full expedition since Mawson’s ‘The Home of the Blizzard’ was published in 1915.

—. Douglas Mawson. 2010 SPRI, Cambridge. 1st, small 8vo, pp.32, photo frontis, 37 bw photos, 2 maps, map eps, card covers; new. #25915, $19.95

A smallish, but nicely illustrated, publication from the Scott Polar Research Institute as part of their Polar Profile series. This examines Mawson’s life and expeditions, including his incredible tale of death, determination, and courage. This is a companion work to the item below.

—. Roald Amundsen. 2010 SPRI, Cambridge. 1st, small 8vo, pp.32, photo frontis, 10 color & 20 bw photos, map eps, card covers; new #25916, $19.95

A smallish, but nicely illustrated, publication from the Scott Polar Research Institute as part of their Polar Profile series. This overviews the life, expeditions, and remarkable achievements of this accomplished Norwegian explorer. This is a companion work to the item above.

Rossiter, Heather, ed. Mawson’s Forgotten Men: The 1911-1913 Antarctic Diary of Charles Turnbull Harrison. 2011 Australia, 1st, 8vo, pp.xx, 299, photo frontis, 23 bw photos, 15 color & 25 bwillus, 4 maps, page-ribbon, dec eps, wraps; new. #25949, $59.95

Harrison (1867-1914) was the only Tasmanian member of Douglas Mawson’s legendary Australasian Antarctic Expedition 1911-14. Appointed biologist and artist to the expedition, he was a gifted writer. His diary of December 1911 to March 1913 records the challenges that faced the 8-man Western Base party, led by Frank Wild, which landed on a glacier 2000m west of the Main Base, and their heroic achievements in Queen Mary Land. Transcribed and edited by Rossiter, Harrison’s engaging narrative is complemented by his oil and watercolour paintings, pencil sketches made in the field and many photographs. Harrison’s 240,000 word diary, here edited to 133,000 words, is presented for the first time.

Shirase, Norbu & the Japanese Antarctic Expedition Support Committee (trans by Lara Dagnell and Hilary Shibata). The Japanese South Polar Expedition 1910-12: A Record of Antarctica. 2011 UK, Ltd ed 600, 8vo, pp.414, 3 color & 71 bw photos, 4 color & 33 bw illus, 2 color maps, appendices, red cloth; issued w/o dj, cloth new. #25896, $69.95

Now translated for the first time into English, this is often called the ‘official account’ of the Japanese Antarctic Expedition (JAE) 1910-12. The JAE, under the leadership of army lieutenant Nobu Shirase was the first exploration of Antarctic territory by Japan. After initial scepticism about the expedition they sailed from Tokyo on 29 November 1910, in Kainan-maru, a vessel only 100 feet in length. They arrived in Wellington on 8 February 1911 and three days later departed for the Antarctic. Although originally intending to try for the South Pole, Shirase realised they were too far behind Amundsen and Scott, and he opted instead for scientific exploration on King Edward VII Land. The entire trip south was dogged by poor weather and when the coast of Victoria Land was finally sighted conditions were so bad that a landing was impossible. They sailed on through the Ross Sea only to find even worse ice and soon it was impossible to go any further. Shirase ordered the crew to turn the ship northward for Australia. They arrived in Sydney on 1 May, 1911 and were initially greeted with suspicion and hostility. Captain Nomura went back to Japan, with the secretary to the expedition, during the following season a second attempt was made to reach an Antarctic landfall, with the specific objective of exploring King Edward VII Land. At the Great Ice Barrier they met Amundsen’s ship Fram, which was waiting in the Bay of Whales for the return of Amundsen’s South Pole party. Seven men were landed on the Barrier and a ‘Dash Patrol’ journeyed southward to 80°05’S, at which point adverse weather and lack of food and time forced their return. Meanwhile the ship landed another party on the coast of King Edward VII Land, where an exploration of the lower slopes of the Alexandra Range was carried out. In mid-February Kainan-maru returned to Japan, reaching Yokohama on 20 June 1912. The expedition had sailed some 27,000 miles since leaving Japan and despite not reaching the Pole, they had achieved many of their other goals. There was a tremendous reception upon their return to Tokyo. Nobu Shirase died in 1946. Largely overlooked and never before translated into English, this early adventure laid the foundation for the Japan Antarctic Research Expeditions which began in 1956. This translation, originally published in Japan in 1913, fills an important void in the English-language literature of Antarctic exploration. See Ross 1.5.1.

Speak, Peter. Deb: Geographer, Scientist, Antarctic Explorer - A biography of Frank Debenham. 2008 UK, Ltd ed 150, 8vo, pp.xiv, 128, 9 color & 19 bw photos, 8 sketches, 3 maps, appendix, pictorial cloth; issued w/o dj, cloth new. #25918, $69.95

Frank Debenham - ‘Deb’ to all who knew him - was one of the youngest members of Scott’s Terra Nova expedition of 1910-1913. Largely overlooked by history, he was nevertheless at the heart of that great adventure, during which he had his own life-threatening experiences. He was destined to go on to far greater things, for which he was awarded both the OBE and the Polar Medal, and to make his mark indelibly on Cambridge history. This thoroughly researched account is supported by illuminating correspondence, interviews, and personal communications, as well as numerous photographs and maps, some published here for the first time.

Stuck, Hudson. A Winter Circuit of Our Arctic Coast: A Narrative of a Journey with Dog-Sleds Around the Entire Arctic Coast of Alaska. 1920 Scribner’s, NY, 1st, 8vo, pp.xiv, 360, photo frontis w/ tissue guard, 33 bw photos, errata slip, 2 fldg maps, blue cloth; cloth w/ small nick to spine edge, rear hinge cracked, vg, maps w/original folds, fine. #25862, $95.- Stuck’s narrative of a one year journey (1917-18) from Fort Yukon to Kotzebue,
to Point Hope, and then to Point Barrow. Includes much on the early exploration in the region.

Stump, Edmund. The Roof at the Bottom of the World: Discovering the Transantarctic Mountains. 2011 US, 1st, 4to, pp.xv, 254, photo frontis, 105 color & 1 bw photos, 2 figures, 33 maps, appendices, black cloth; dj & cloth new. #25866, $29.95

The Transantarctic Mountains are the most remote mountain belt on Earth, an utterly pristine wilderness of ice and rock rising to majestic heights and extending for 1,500 miles. Stump is the first to show us this continental-scale mountain system in all its stunning beauty and desolation, and the first to provide a comprehensive, fully illustrated history of the region’s discovery and exploration. He not only has conducted extensive research in the Transantarctic Mountains during his forty-year career as a geologist but has also systematically photographed the entire region. Selecting the best of the best of his more than 8,000 photographs, he presents nothing less than the first atlas of these mountains.

In addition, he examines the original firsthand accounts of the heroic Antarctic explorations of James Clark Ross (who discovered the mountain range in the early 1840s), Robert Falcon Scott, Ernest Shackleton, Roald Amundsen, Richard Byrd, and scientists participating in the International Geophysical Year (1957–1958). From these records, Stump is able to trace the actual routes of the early explorers with unprecedented accuracy. With maps old and new, stunning photographs never before published, and tales of intrepid explorers, this book takes the armchair traveler on an expedition to the Antarctic wilderness that few have ever seen.

Swithinbank, Charles. Foothold on Antarctica: The First International Expedition (1949-1952) Through the Eyes of its Youngest Member. 1999 UK, 1st, 8vo, pp.viii, 260, 99 bw photos, 8 maps, black cloth; dj & cloth new. #25919, $37.95

In 1948 when Charles Swithinbank was still an undergraduate at Oxford, he applied to join the Norwegian-British-Swedish Antarctic Expedition. A year later, he was the youngest member of the expedition as he set out to spend two years in the splendid isolation of Antarctica. This is the human story of this great adventure, illustrated with 100 superb black & white photographs. The author went on to become an eminent glaciologist who has made a score of important contributions.

Stump, Edmund. Still Life: Inside the Antarctic Huts of Scott and Shackleton. 2010 Australia, 1st, 4to, pp.223, photo frontis, 174 color photos (7 gatefolds), 2 maps, hessian cloth; issued w/o dj, cloth new. #25921, $79.95

A beautiful photographic study of the Antarctic huts that served as expedition bases for the expeditions led by Captain Robert Falcon Scott and Sir Ernest Shackleton. At the turn of the 20th century Antarctica was the focus of one of the last great races of exploration and discovery. Known as the ‘heroic age’, from 1895 to 1917 Antarctic explorers set off from their huts in search of adventure, science and glory but some, such as Scott, were never to return. The World Wars intervened and the huts were left as time capsules of Edwardian life. Jane Ussher was invited by the Antarctic Heritage Trust to record ‘the unusual, the hidden and minutiae of these sites’. These images, shot with a medium-format Hasselblad, provide haunting details of the interiors of Scott’s Discovery Hut, Shackleton’s Cape Royds Hut, and Scott’s Cape Evans Hut. These huts were utilized during the National Antarctic Expedition 1901-04, British Antarctic Expedition 1907-09, 1910-13, Ross Sea Party of Imperial Trans-Antarctic Expedition 1914-17, and Aurora Relief Expedition 1916-17. This book weighs 4.5 pounds.

Waltin, David & Bruce Pearson. White Horizons: British art from Antarctica, 1775-2006. 2006 UK, 1st, 4to, pp.55, 39 color & 19 bw photos, wraps; new. #25910, $19.95

A tremendous amount of artwork has emanated from the Antarctic. This is an interesting catalogue from an exhibition in Edinburgh in 2006. Although some of the illustrations are small a range of styles and artists are represented. In the back are biographies of 29 artists including Cherry-Garrard, Debenham, Fogh, Murdoch, Wilson, and others.

Williams, Isobel. Captain Scott’s Invaluable Assistant: Edgan Evans. 2012 UK, 1st, 4to, pp.191, 31 bw photos, 3 maps, wraps; new. #25950, $25.95

Petty Officer Edgar Evans was Captain Scott’s ‘giant worker’ and his ‘invaluable assistant’. He went with Scott on both British Antarctic Expeditions of the early 1900s — the ‘Discovery’ expedition of 1901 and the ‘Terra Nova’ expedition in 1910 — distinguishing himself on both. In 1903, with Scott, Edgan made the first long and arduous sortie onto the Plateau of Victoria Land. The journey highlighted his common sense, strength, courage, wit and unflappability. Thus it came as no surprise when, in 1911, Edgar was chosen by Scott to be one of the five men to go on the final attempt at the South Pole. Tragically the ‘Welsh Giant’ was the first to die on the ill-fated return, and posthumously Edgan was blamed in some quarters for causing the deaths of the whole party. It was suggested that his failure was due to his relative lack of education, which made him less able to endure the conditions than his well-educated companions.

Williams repudiates this shameful suggestion and redresses the balance of attention paid to the upper and lower-deck members of Scott’s famous expeditions.

Trendall, Alec. Putting South Georgia on the Map: Duncan Carice’s South Georgia Surveys of 1951-56. 2011 Ptp Pub, Australia, Ltd ed 200, 4to, pp.216, frontis sketch, 107 color & 6 bw photos, 2 illus, 9 color maps, appendices, photo eps, pictorial cloth; signed, issued w/o dj, cloth bumped from shipping, else new. #25890, $89.

The sub-Antarctic island of South Georgia, about 170 kilometres long and up to 30 kilometres wide, lies at the southern end of the Atlantic Ocean, about 2000 kilometres east of Cape Horn. Its icy mountain spine rises nearly 3000 metres out of the ocean, like a misplaced section of the Alps. The island lies well within the cold waters bounded by the Antarctic Polar Front, and more than half of its area is permanently covered by ice and snow. Although South Georgia was visited with increasing frequency after its discovery by Captain Cook in 1775, and was for a long time a busy base for the sealing and whaling industries, a properly surveyed map of the island was not published until 1958. That map resulted from a series of small privately-organised expeditions — the South Georgia Surveys — initiated and led by Duncan Carice. Trendall, a geologist on the Surveys of 1951-52 and 1954-53, puts accounts of the three Surveys (1951-52, 1953-54 and 1955-56) into the context of their leader Duncan Carice’s life (1913-2004). In addition there is a chapter which discusses how current conditions on South Georgia differ from those on the island in the 1950s, when it was an important base for both whaling and sealing. The illustrations were mainly selected from those taken during the Surveys.

Ussher, Jane & Nigel Watson. Still Life: Inside the Antarctic Huts of Scott and Shackleton. 2010 Australia, 1st, 4to, pp.223, photo frontis, 174 color photos (7 gatefolds), 2 maps, hessian cloth; issued w/o dj, cloth new. #25921, $79.95

A beautiful photographic study of the Antarctic huts that served as expedition bases for the expeditions led by Captain Robert Falcon Scott and Sir Ernest Shackleton. At the turn of the 20th century Antarctica was the focus of one of the last great races of exploration and discovery. Known as the ‘heroic age’, from 1895 to 1917 Antarctic explorers set off from their huts in search of adventure, science and glory but some, such as Scott, were never to return. The World Wars intervened and the huts were left as time capsules of Edwardian life. Jane Ussher was invited by the Antarctic Heritage Trust to record ‘the unusual, the hidden and minutiae of these sites’. These images, shot with a medium-format Hasselblad, provide haunting details of the interiors of Scott’s Discovery Hut, Shackleton’s Cape Royds Hut, and Scott’s Cape Evans Hut. These huts were utilized during the National Antarctic Expedition 1901-04, British Antarctic Expedition 1907-09, 1910-13, Ross Sea Party of Imperial Trans-Antarctic Expedition 1914-17, and Aurora Relief Expedition 1916-17. This book weighs 4.5 pounds.

Waltin, David & Bruce Pearson. White Horizons: British art from Antarctica, 1775-2006. 2006 UK, 1st, 4to, pp.55, 39 color & 19 bw photos, wraps; new. #25910, $19.95

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Nimrod Illustrated celebrates the centenary of one of the most exciting expeditions of the Heroic Age of Antarctic exploration. This is a remarkable collage of expedition photographs, paintings and ephemera in a deliberate reminiscence of the expedition scrapbooks kept by so many of the expedition participants at the time. Many of the images are rarely seen, if ever before published, whilst others are better known. Together with quotations from the diaries of expedition participants, they tell the story of the British Antarctic Expedition 1907-1909 which saw the first use of ponies and motor cars in the Antarctic, achieved the first ascent of Mount Erebus, achieved the first attainment of the South Magnetic Pole, and took Shackleton within 100 miles of the South Geographic Pole to attain a dramatic new ‘Farthest South’ record. This was the expedition that made Shackleton’s name as an explorer and for which he was awarded his knighthood. This is a companion book to Wilson’s previous book ‘Discovery Illustrated: Pictures from Captain Scott’s First Antarctic Expedition’.

The official expedition photographer for the British Antarctic Expedition (1910-13) was Herbert Ponting. However, Ponting was not a member of the Southern Party which set out toward the South Pole. It was under Ponting’s tutelage that Captain Robert Scott learned the intricacies of polar photography so he could document the progress and work of the Southern Party. Remarkably, following the return of the expedition, Scott’s historic photos were initially fought over, neglected, then lost, only to resurface at auction in 2001. Here, at last, are Scott’s own breathtaking photographs: panoramas of the continent, superb depictions of mountains and formations of ice and snow, and photographs of the explorers on the polar trail. This is an important addition to the literature of both this historic expedition and Antarctic photography. This book weighs over three pounds.

Edward Wilson’s Antarctic Notebooks. 2011 UK, 1st, 4to, pp.184, illus frontis, 3 color & 35 bw photos, 261 color & 163 bw illus, map, illus eps, brown cloth; dj & cloth new. #25963, 79.95

Dr. Edward A. Wilson (1872-1912) is widely regarded as one of the finest artists ever to have worked in the Antarctic. Sailing with Captain Scott aboard ‘Discovery’ (1901-04), he became the last in a long tradition of ‘exploration artists’ from an age when pencil and water-colour were the main methods of producing accurate scientific records of new lands and animal species. He combined scientific, topographical and landscape techniques to produce accurate and beautiful images of the last unknown continent. Such was the strength of his work that it also helped to found the tradition of modern wildlife painting. In particular Wilson captured the essence of the flight and motion of Southern Ocean sea-birds on paper. Returning with Captain Scott aboard ‘Terra Nova’ (1910-13) as Chief of Scientific Staff, he continued to record the continent and its wildlife with extraordinary deftness. Chosen to accompany Captain Scott to the South Pole, his last drawings are from one of the most famous epic journeys in exploration history. Along with his scientific work, Wilson’s pencil recorded the finding of Roald Amundsen’s tent at the South Pole by Captain Scott. Wilson died, along with the other members of the British Pole Party, during the return journey, in March 1912. Many of the images in this book are rarely seen or are previously unpublished. The drawings and paintings were created at considerable personal cost in the freezing conditions in which Wilson worked. He often suffered severely from the cold whilst sketching and also from snow-blindness, or sunburn of the eye. They provide a remarkable testament to one of the great figures of the heroic age of Antarctic exploration. The book has been produced as a companion volume to ‘Edward Wilson’s Nature Notebooks’, to mark the centenary of his death.
Many publishers have lists of 100 best books, defined by their own criteria. This article enumerates some lists of "100 best" books for which there are fuller articles. Among them, Science Fiction: The 100 Best Novels (Xanadu, 1985) and Modern Fantasy: The 100 Best Novels (Grafton, 1988) are collections of 100 short essays by a single author, David Pringle, with moderately long critical introductory chapters also by Pringle. For publisher Xanadu, Science Fiction was the first of four "100 Best" books