Mutiny, piracy & shipwrecks
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“the most popular book of maritime adventure of the 18th century”, with 34 well engraved plates

1. ANSON, George and Richard WALTER (ed). Reizen rondom de wereld, gedaan in de jaren 1740 tot 1744 door den heere George Anson, opperbevelhebber over een esquader Engelsche schepen op een expeditie naar de Zuidzee. … Tweede druk. Amsterdam, Isaak Tirion, 1749. 4º. With title-page printed in red and black with engraved illustration, engraved headpiece and 34 engraved plates (33 folding), including a world map showing the route of Anson’s circumnavigation, several other maps, and well engraved views. 19th-century half cloth.

Thoroughly revised second edition of the Dutch translation of Richard Walter’s official account of Anson’s ill-fated Pacific privateering voyage. “Anson’s voyage appears to have been the most popular book of maritime adventure of the eighteenth century” (Hill). The objective of the expedition was to plunder the Spanish possessions along the Pacific coast of South America and to attack Panama. The expedition, fitted out with a squadron of five men-of-war and one sloop, rounded Cape Horn in March 1741, in the worst of seasons. Only the Centurion, Tyral and Gloucester reached the Jean Fernandez islands in June. The Wager had been wrecked and the others had been forced back into the Atlantic. Moreover, scurvy, cold and privation had killed a considerable number of the crewmembers of the remaining ships. Nevertheless, Anson took some small prizes before he decided to return home across the Pacific, his squadron now reduced to the Centurion and Gloucester. But before the ships could reach the Mariana Islands, the Gloucester was lost too. With one ship left, Anson was still determined to take a Manila galleon, which he finally did in June 1743, taking the Nuestra Señora de Covadonga, carrying 1,313,843 pieces of eight and 35,682 ounces of virgin silver.

With owner’s inscription in pencil on half-title (“Willekens”). First three leaves slightly thumbed, a waterstain in the upper margins of the first 100 leaves, mostly unobtrusive, and a waterstain in the lower margins of the last 100 leaves, nonetheless still a good copy. Bindings slightly rubbed and the inner hinges cracked, otherwise still good.

Alden & Landis 740/282; Howgego, to 1800, A100; STCN (4 copies); Tiele, Bibl 42; cf. Hill 1817; Sabin 1641.
Travels of an unlucky Russian merchant

2. BARANSHCHIKOV, Vasilii. Neshchastnya priklucheniya Vasiliia Baranshchikova, meshchanina Nizhnego novgoroda v trekh chastakh sveta: v Amerike, Azii i Europe, s 1780 po 1787 god. [The misfortunes of Vasilii Baranshchikov, a merchant of Nizhnii Novgorod, in three parts of the world: America, Asia and Europe between 1780 and 1787].

St. Petersburg, Vil’kovskii Galchenkov, 1787. 8º. 19th-century blue boards. € 12 500

Rare first edition of the fascinating account of the eventful travels of the Russian merchant Vasilii Baranshchikov. In 1780, after getting robbed, Baranshchikov has to borrow money. He decides to take ship transporting timber, bound for France. En route, in Copenhagen, he gets drunk in a tavern and is lured away by a group of Danish slave traders, who force him into service on their ship. This voyage takes him to St. Thomas (Virgin Islands) where the traveller is compelled to take military training in the Danish colonial army. Because of his unwillingness he is transferred to Puerto Rico where he works in the kitchen of a Spanish general. Baranshchikov finally manages to charm the general’s wife into freeing him. He then takes passage on an Italian ship bound for Genoa, which gets attacked by pirates. The crew gets captured, and Baranshchikov becomes an Ottoman slave, undergoes circumcision, becomes a Muslim and takes a Muslim wife. In 1787 he manages to get back Russia where he is ordered to work in the government salt mines to pay his taxes.

With two Russian shelf marks on paste-down and a few words underscored and some sentences ticked off in pencil. Some wear to the gutter of the title-page (a previous restoration at the head) and some occasional thumbing. Binding slightly rubbed. A good copy.

Compelling account of shipwreck and survival


Amsterdam, Joost Hartgers, 1648. 2 parts in 1 volume. 4º. With a double-page engraved plate with 6 views of the ship at fire and in a storm, the islands St. Mary, Samatra and Princes Eyland, and an image of flying fishes. Modern marbled wrappers. € 6500

One of the most compelling and entertaining travel accounts of Dutch literature, in one of the earliest and most important editions, the first to be published by Hartgers. Bontekoe details his eventful 8-year voyage to the East Indies. The vivid description of his ship accidently exploding in the Sunda Strait, killing almost a third of the crew, no doubt made a huge impression on his readers. Bontekoe returned in 1625, but his travelogue was not published until 1646. It was an immediate success and went through numerous editions. From the beginning Raven’s short account of a voyage to Greenland, during which he too suffered shipwreck, was added to Bontekoe’s voyage. Almost all editions of Bontekoe’s narrative are rare. Jan Jansz. Deutel, who published the first edition in 1646, also published the first significantly revised edition in 1648, in part to better compete with the pirated edition with new and better illustrations by Salomon Saverij. Hartgers took the best of both, following Deutel’s revised text but Saverij’s illustrations, establishing one of the two principal branches in the lineage of editions. Trimmed close to the text, slightly shaving an occasional shoulder note, the two corners at the foot of the plate are torn off, one just touching the corner of the image, and a dark stain on 2 facing pages, but still generally in good condition. Important early edition of the vivid description of Bontekoe’s voyage to the East Indies.

Landwehr & V.d. Krogt, VOC 383; Tiele, Bibl. 159; Verkruijsse & Verhoeven 1648-03.
Piracy and shipwrecks: travelling to the Indies via the Cape of Good Hope in the 18th century


Very rare German translation of the second Dutch edition of a 16-year voyage in the East Indies (Zestien jaarige reize naa de Indiën, Haarlem, 1757; first published as Aanmerckelyke ontmoeetingen in de zestien jaarige reize naar de Indiën, Haarlem, 1744), together with the unfortunate voyage of Jacob Franken in the years 1756–1760. Jacob de Bucquo (b. 1693), a surveyor and cartographer for the Dutch East India Company (VOC), relates remarkable adventures, including attacks by pirates during his travels from 1720 to 1735 via the Cape of Good Hope to Goa, Madagascar, the African and Malabar coasts, the Dutch trading station at Delagoa Bay (now Maputo Bay in Mozambique), abandoned in 1730, and Batavia. The unfortunate voyage of Jacob Franken with the ship de Naarstigheid (first published Haarlem, 1761) describes the voyage from Batavia along the coast of Bengal to Holland in the years 1756 to 1760. Small tear in folding map. Good copy of this narrative on a voyage to the East Indies by Jacob de Bucquo.

Mendelssohn I, pp. 425–426; cf. Landwehr & V.d. Krogt, VOC 294 & 295 (Dutch editions); Tiele, Bibl. 213 (Dutch edition); not in Howgego, to 1800.
Enslaved in northern Africa for 34 years


First edition of the English translation of an eye-witness account of slavery in Africa. The French writer Jacques Salbigoton Quesné (1778–1859) mentions in the introduction that one day he heard of a man returning to Paris after being enslaved for 34 years in Africa. Reckoning his tale must be very suitable for publication, he invited this man, Pierre Joseph Dumont, to his house. “It was agreed between us, that he should repair to my house every day, to furnish me with data that were to serve as a basis of an history of the thirty-seven years of his absence” (introduction). Dupont gives detailed information on the lives of Christian slaves: where they live, what they wear and eat, what happens when one gets sick or commits suicide, how the Arab masters treat them, etc.

Offsetting of the frontispiece to the title-page, some occasional foxing. Otherwise in good condition, wholly untrimmed.

Eyewitness account of the bombing of Algiers in 1688

7. **ESPINOSA, Antonio de**. Copia de una carta que ha escrito desde la ciudad de Argel el padre procurador Fray Antonio de Espinosa, religioso calzado del Orden de la Santíssima Trinidad, redenció de cautivos, y administrador de los cinco reales hospitales, que su sagrada religion tiene en aquella ciudad.

(Colophon: Madrid, Sebastian de Armendariz), 12 October [1688]. Small 4º (19 × 14 cm). With a large woodcut initial with a parrot. Disbound. € 2500

Very rare first and only early edition of a letter written by the Spanish friar Antonio de Espinosa at Algiers, after the city had been bombed by the French navy in 1688. Espinosa worked as an administrator at the hospitals of the Trinitarian Order in the city. He describes the arrival of the French fleet on 26 June, the diplomatic actions between the French and the ruler of Algiers, and the subsequent bombing of the city. The bombing led to reciprocal trials and executions by Algiers’s government against the non-native inhabitants of the city, including Espinosa. Algiers was an important base for pirates, who started attacking French ships after the city signed a peace treaty with Great Britain. The French responded with bombardments in 1683 and 1688, which led to a peace treaty in 1690.

Browned and with a water stain in the head margin, otherwise in good condition.

*Palau 82664; WorldCat (1 copy).*
8. EXQUEMELIN, Alexandre Olivier. Histoire des avanturiers qui se sont signalez dans les Indes, contenant ce qu’ils ont fait de plus remarquable depuis vingt années. Paris, Jacques Le Febvre, 1688. 2 volumes. 8°. With engraved frontispiece, 3 folding engraved maps, 3 engraved plates and 1 engraving in text. Contemporary calf, richly gold-tooled spines and board edges. € 4500

Second French edition of a best-selling illustrated adventure story written by a former Caribbean pirate: the most important primary source and “almost the only comprehensive source of information for pirate activities in the seventeenth century” (Howgego). It was first published in Dutch and soon translated into many languages. “There is certainly no other book of that time which experienced a popularity similar to that of the Bucaneers of America which was in the ten years following its publication translated into most of the European languages” (Sabin). The French edition was, just like the Dutch edition, directly based on the original manuscript. And although it is to a large extent the same as the original Dutch edition of 1678, it is considerably longer. The illustrations and maps for the French edition were newly engraved.

Exquemelin (ca. 1645–1707), born in a small town on the coast of Normandy, began his career in service of the French West India Company on a 1666 voyage to Tortuga in the Caribbean. There he went into the service of the notorious Welsh privateer Henry Morgan (ca. 1635–1688), probably as a ship’s surgeon. He returned to Europe ca. 1674 and made a new career as a reputable surgeon in Amsterdam, where he wrote the present book. The text is divided into three parts. The first tells of the French voyage to the West Indies in 1666 and describes the circumstances there. The second recounts the dreadful deeds of the Caribbean pirates, especially François l’Olonnais and Henry Morgan, and the third describes the burning and looting of Panama City by Morgan’s unruly men.

With the engraved armorial bookplate of Vincent Michel Maynon de Farcheville (ca. 1716–1806) on paste-down of both volumes. Frontispiece trimmed along the edges (slightly cut short), folding map with a tear (restored at the back with browned cello tape) and a few occasional stains and smudges. Binding has some minor restorations to the spine and one hinge cracked. Generally in good condition.

9. EXQUEMELIN, Alexandre Olivier. Historie der boecaniers, of vrybuyters van America. Amsterdam, Nicolaas ten Hoorn, 1700. 3 parts (paginated as 2) in 1 volume. 4º. With an engraved, illustrated title-page, letterpress title-page with woodcut publisher’s device, a folding engraved map of South and Central America, and 7 engraved illustration plates (1 folding). Eighteenth-century half vellum, later marbled sides. € 6950

Second (expanded) Dutch edition of retired pirate Alexandre Exquemelin’s famous and much imitated eye-witness account of pirate life in the Caribbean in the late 17th-century: “the prime, and indeed almost the only comprehensive source of information for pirate activities in the seventeenth century” (Howgego). It comprises three parts (on the island Hispaniola, pirate life, and the capture of Panama City) plus an appendix giving an account of the journey made by buccaneer captain Montauban in 1695.

Binding rubbed. Good copy of popular account of piracy by an insider.

Alden & Landis 700/11; JCB IV, p. 317; Muller, America 580; Sabin 23469.
The pirates of North Africa at the end of the Napoleonic Wars


First and only edition (the first of two issues) of a detailed report on the pirates in the Mediterranean Sea, giving some historical information, but primarily concerned with the infamous “Barbary” pirates then still active off the coasts of Algiers, Morocco and Tunis (the Barbary Coast), along with accounts of the Christian slaves that were still held in these regions. Herrmann presented this work to the Congress of Vienna to convince the representatives of the importance and urgency of bringing the piracy to an end. The Congress did set up an anti-piracy commission to discuss the problem of the Barbary pirates, but the issue remained unsettled and was addressed again at the 1818 Congress of Aix-la-Chapelle. There too, the necessary international cooperation proved difficult and the piracy continued until the French conquest of Algiers in 1830.

With ownership inscriptionand library stamp. With the imprint damaged, or label and with minor foxing, but otherwise in good condition. With the paste-paper scuffed and torn, but the binding remains structurally sound. A plea for a solution to the piracy problem at the end of the Napoleonic Wars.

Allgemeine Zeitung (Stuttgart), no. 46 (19 April 1816), p. 183.
The eventful life of the first naval commander in the American Revolutionary War

14. **JONES, John Paul.** Mémoires de Paul Jones, où il expose ses principaux services, et rappelle ce qui lui est arrivé de plus remarquable pendant le cours de la révolution américaine, particulièrement en Europe.

Paris, Louis (colophon: printed by Delance), 1798. 12°. With engraved frontispiece showing the portrait of Jones and a naval battle. Contemporary, mottled, tanned sheepskin, gold-tooled spine. € 6500

First edition of the first biography of John Paul Jones, famous naval fighter in the American Revolutionary War, born in Scotland. In his early years, Jones served aboard a number of merchant vessels, but his life took an important turn when he emigrated to North America. From 1775 onwards, Jones made an impressive career in the Continental Navy. As commander of the *Ranger* and later the *Bonhomme Richard*, Jones vigorously and successfully fought the British, an achievement for which he was honoured with a gold medal by the Continental Congress (while in Britain he was regarded as a pirate). After a period in the service of Empress Catherine the Great of Russia, during which he repulsed the Ottomans in the Black Sea, Jones sailed for France, spending his last years in Paris.

Negligible waterstain the lower margin of pp. 61–74 and some faint thumbing to the half-title and back of the title-page, otherwise in fine condition. Bind rubbed along the hinges, but still good.

*Graff Collection 2242; Howes J-228; Muller, America 1178; Sabin 36559.*
Suppressing piracy in the East Indian Archipelago, with a large map and 8 tinted lithographed plates and added autograph


First edition of Sir Henry Keppel’s (1809–1904) account of his travels in the East Indian Archipelago, where he was deployed to assist James Brooke (1803–1868) against the Borneo pirates. Keppel arrives in Singapore in 1847, searches for the wreck of the Minerva, visits Hong Kong, describes Manilla, goes to the Malay archipelago, etc., and returns to England by way of Australia in 1850. It also contains chapters with general information on piracy. The books is well illustrated with tinted lithographed plates after the notable maritime painter Sir Oswald Walters Brierly (1817–1894). Included is an original autograph letter from James Brooke to Lady Keppel.

With on the paste-down of both volumes the bookplates of the pioneer pastoralist James Angas Johnson (1844–1902), great-grandson of George Fife Angas, and of Charles Richmond John Glover (1870–1936), Lord Mayor of Adelaide. A very good copy, with only some occasional thumbing and the spines slightly faded.

Abbey, Travel 550; Cordier, Indosinica, col. 1467; Hill 920; Houwgego, 1800–1850, K8; not in Ferguson.
Algeria and its notorious pirates


Including: Lyst der schepen, welke sedert den 24 december 1715, tot het einde des jaars 1724 door de Algiersche roovers van den staat der Vereenigde Nederlanden genomen zyn.

Amsterdam, Marten Schagen, 1725. 3 parts in 1 volume. 4º. With engraved title-page, folding engraved map of Algeria, folding engraved view and a folding engraved bird’s eye view of Algiers. Contemporary calf, richly gold-tooled spine, gold-tooled boards, gold-tooled board edges.

Rare first and only edition of the Dutch translation of an influential description of Algeria, published in the same year as the original French, and expanded here with a detailed list of 73 Dutch ships captured by Algerian pirates. Algeria was at this time nominally ruled by the Ottoman Empire, but retained a great deal of independence in practice. After more than a century as a French colony (1830–1954/62) it regained its independence and is now a member of the Arab League, the United Nations and a founding member of the Maghreb Union. The work begins with a description of the various in habitants, including separate chapters on the Arabic and Turkish populations, followed by chapters on its architecture, military, navy, politics, slavery, trade etc. It was written by the Jacques Philippe Laugier de Tassy, a former diplomat in Algeria and at this date commissioner of the French navy and consul in the Netherlands. It was translated into English as A complete history of the piratical states of Barbary, a title that emphasized the notorious Algerian pirates.

With owner’s inscription. A good copy; some minor thumbing, a couple smudges and the bird’s eye view has some restorations. Binding slightly rubbed along the extremities and some restorations to the spine, but otherwise good.

Cat. NHSM, p. 201; STCN (8 copies); Tiele, Bibl. 644; WorldCat (6 copies?); cf. Playfair 220; not in Blackmer.
One of the best Robinson Crusoe imitations

17. [LONGUEVILLE, Peter]. The hermit: or, the unparallel’d sufferings and surprising adventures of Mr. Philip Quarll, an Englishman: who was lately discovered by Mr. Dorrington, a Bristol merchant, upon an uninhabited island in the South-Sea; where he has lived above fifty years, without any human assistance; still continues to reside, and will not come away.

London, printed for J. Wren, J. Jefferies and J. Fuller, 1751. 12º. With engraved frontispiece and engraved map. Contemporary tanned sheepskin. € 1250

Rare third edition of a popular account of an imaginary voyage and robinsonade, written by Peter Longueville. The first edition was published in 1727, and “became an enormously popular work, rivalling Defoe’s Robinson Crusoe, of which it is possibly the best imitation” (Howgego). The story tells about the imaginative Englishman Philip Quarll, who shipwrecked near an uninhabited island in the South Sea where he continued to live for almost fifty years. It starts with the voyage of the Bristol merchant Edward Dorrington, who discovered Quarll in 1725. He gives an extensive account of Quarll’s life, starting with his adventures in England, where he married three wives before becoming a merchant seaman. Stranding on the island, he had to build a home and survive. The book relates remarkable events involving sea monsters and Quarll’s pet monkey Beaufidelle. “Apart from occasional intrusions by bloodthirsty Indians and marauding Russian pirates, life in his ‘second Garden of Eden’ is carefree and idyllic, so much so that he refuses Dorrington’s invitation to return to England” (Howgego). Somewhat browned, foxed and with a few marginal water stains. Overall a good copy. Corners of binding bumped and worn, hinges cracked, lacking the front flyleaf.

ESTC (7 copies); Gove, pp. 262–268; Howgego, Invented narratives, L45; cf. Sabin 66952; Ulrich IV, pp. 118–119.
First extensive biography
of a notorious captain, smuggler and naval captain


First edition of the first extensive biography of the notorious François Thurot. An account of some of his actions had appeared earlier in a.o. *Journal de la navigation d’une escadre Françoise, partie du port de Dunkerque aux ordres du capitaine Thurot, le 15 octobre 1759*. Thurot was celebrated in France for his harrying of the English and feared around the British Isles for his daring skill and seamanship. Thurot was killed in action when his ships, having been driven in flight to the Isle of Man, were engaged by Captain Elliot and defeated.

Some water damage in the fore edge margins (most notably in the first and last few leaves), otherwise in good condition, with broad margins.

Not in Gosse.
Shipwreck of the Fattysalam off the coast of Coromandel


€ 3500

Very rare narrative of the loss of the English East Indiaman *Fattysalam* off the coast of Coromandel on 28 August 1761. It was written by the French counsellor, man of letters and employee at the Royal library of King Louis XV, Anne-Gabriel Meusnier de Querlon (1702–1780), Comte de Kearny.

The account is given in a letter from M. de Kearny, a captain in Lally’s regiment, who was taken prisoner by the English, to the Count D’Estaing, lieutenant-general, commanding the French troops in the East Indies, during the war of 1756 ... The *Fattysalam* had been built at Bombay, and had never been employed in the Indian seas. She was intended to carry great part of the stores taken by the English, and near 500 troops, which it had been thought fit to send to Bengal, because after the regiment of Pondicherry, they were not wanted on that coast...” (Duncan).

Kearny was one out of 12 who had escaped from the ship, which had been lost, together with most of the crew. By way of the dominion of the Rajah of Arsapour, Cuttack, Barrasole and Calcutta, the company arrived at Goupil (Gupil) where they spotted several of the East India Company’s ships. “On the 2d of February I [Kearny] left Calcutta and returned to Goupil, on the Ganges, where I embarked in the *Holdermesse*, commanded by Captain Brooke. I was received with great kindness by the captain, who had on board thirteen or fourteen other French officers, prisoners like myself” (Duncan). After a month the ship arrived at London, from where he was permitted to return to France.

Only slightly trimmed. In very good condition, with only a small marginal stain at the foot of pp. 35–36. The front wrapper with 2 tears along a fold.

*Barbier III, col.400; KVK (3 copies); Polak 15070; cf: Duncan, The Mariner’s Chronicle III, pp. 180–198; not in Huntress.*
Rare tale of heroic exploits by a Dutch pirate of the Caribbean, illustrated by Jan and Caspar Luyken

20. REYNING, Jan Erasmus (as told to David van der STERRE). Zeer aanmerkelijke reysen gedaan door Jan Erasmus Reining, meest in de West-Indien en ook in veel andere deelen des werelds. &c.
Amsterdam, Jan ten Hoorn, 1691. 4º. With an engraved frontispiece signed by Caspar Luyken and 6 engraved plates (including 2 folding) one by Jan Luyken (unsigned). 18th-century marbled wrappers. In a modern black cloth clamshell box.

Rare first and only edition of the heroic exploits of the famous Dutch pirate, privateer and naval officer Jan Erasmus Reyning (1640–1697). His close friend, a Curaçao doctor, wrote down his stories and published them. Reyning’s adventurous career began at age ten when he went to sea with his father, who was killed in battle when they served on a privateering ship a couple years later. Jan Erasmus was taken prisoner during the Second Anglo-Dutch War (1665–1667), and went into the service of a French plantation on the island of Hispaniola. Around 1667 he became a buccaneer in the jungles around Santo Domingo, and between 1669 and 1672 he appears to have fought as a privateer captain with French or English letters of marque. He and his partner Jelle Lecat worked with such notorious pirates as Roche Braziliano and Henry Morgan. In 1672, with the Netherlands at war with England and France, he left Spanish service to protect the Dutch colony of Curaçao, earning him a reputation as a sort of Robin Hood and the gratitude of the Dutch West India Company. After returning to the Netherlands he served as an officer in the Dutch marine, dying in a storm in the Bay of Biscay in 1697. An object apparently once placed between C1 and C2 left some rust-coloured stains in the text near the gutter margin and there are occasional marginal stains or chips, but the book is still in good condition and only slightly trimmed. A vivid picture of the pleasures and violence of life among pirates of the Caribbean: it would make a good movie.

Klaversma & Hannema 1381; Sabin 69119; STCN (5 copies); Tiele, Bibl. 1052.
Buccaneering adventures & prototype Robinson Crusoe illustration

Amsterdam, Johannes Oosterwyk, Hendrik van de Gaete, 1715. 4º.
With engraved frontispiece, 5 folding engraved maps, 4 full-page engraved plates (views). Modern half morocco. € 1500

Rare first and only Dutch edition (the second edition in any language, and the first to include illustrations in addition to maps) of a very colourful and influential eye-witness account of an important voyage around the world and especially along the Pacific coast of Mexico and South America, 1708 to 1711. Its story of the marooned Alexander Selkirk served (with Edward Cooke’s account of the same voyage) as the basis for Defoe’s 1719 Robinson Crusoe. Since the first edition of Rogers was not illustrated, the present plate of his party meeting Selkirk before his hut seems to be the world’s first Robinson Crusoe illustration.
With an old owner’s name (Schuchardt) on the title-page. With water stains affecting about fifty leaves and small holes in a half-dozen leaves, some repaired. Good copy of the first illustrated edition of an exciting story of adventures at sea.

Alden & Landis 715/148 (4 copies); Muller, America 1927; Sabin 18386 & 72761; Tiele, Bibl. 291; STCN (1 copy).
Extremely rare collection of disastrous Dutch voyages, with 13 engraved plates

22. [SHIPWRECKS]. Schouw-tooneel van wederwaardigheden of verzameling van rampsoepelige en ongelukkige reistochten, van en naar verscheide gewesten van den aardbodem, gedaan door Nederlandsche en andere schepen, …

Including:

[CAMSTRUP, Nicolaas Jansz.]. [Drop-title:] Rampsoepelige reys-beschryving, ofte journaal van het ed: Oostindische Compagnies schip Blydorp, …


[LOP, Martinus]. Weederwaardige te huys-reyze, van het Neerlandsche Oost-Indische-Compagniesch retour-schip, gezegt de Gerechtigheid, … gevoerd by den capitein-luitenant Martinus Lop, …


[JONGE, Marten de]. [Drop-title:] Verhaal van het droevig ongeluk, dat het Nederlands Oost-Indisch retour-schip Nieuw Vyver-Vreugd, gevoerd door schipper Marten de Jongh, … [and 17 other accounts].

Amsterdam, Bernardus Mourik, [ca. 1778]. 5 parts in 1 volume. 4º. With 13 engraved plates and 1 engraved frontispiece to the second part. Later marbled wrappers. € 8500

Extremely rare collection of accounts of disastrous 18th-century Dutch voyages, published by the Amsterdam bookseller Bernardus Mourik, active from 1735 to 1791. He had published parts 2–4 separately after 1751, but reissued them here together with part 1 (a 1735 edition by another publisher) and the new part 5, the latter including a list of the voyages in all 5 parts, the whole with a general title-page. We have located only one other complete copy, now at the Library of Congress.

The first part gives an account of the aftermath of the shipwreck of the VOC ship Blydorp commanded by Captain Haye Blauwhuysen, written by Nicolaas Jansz. Camstrup. The
ship left the port of Texel on 6 July 1733 and ran aground in the night of 7 to 8 August off
the coast of Guinea. The crew left the ship, travelled into the country, where the indige
nous people murdered many and took the rest prisoner. Eventually they were released and
reached the nearby French post in Gorée, in present-day Senegal. It is followed by Captain
Haye Blauwhuysen's own account of what happened after they reached Gorée.

The second part is an account of the shipwreck of the Dutch warship Het Huis in 't Bosch
off the coast of Morocco, commanded by Captain Hendrik Cornelis Steenis. Reports are
given in the form of 15 letters relating the proceedings of captain Steenis and his crew in
North Africa, their encounter with the King of Morocco and their deliverance at Gibraltar.
The third part is the first and only edition, no doubt first published in 1755, of an account of
the return voyage from Batavia to the Netherlands of the Dutch VOC ship De Geregtigheid,
commanded by Captain-Lieutenant Martinus Lop. After having endured many disasters
on the coast of southern Africa, the ship was finally able to reach castle Rammekens in
Zeeland on 1 December 1754.

The fourth part is the second edition of a compelling account of two fatal voyages, of the
French East Indiaman Le Prince, and the VOC ship Rustenwerk (or Rust en Werk). Le Prince,
commanded by Captain Morin, left the port of Lorient on 19 February 1752, sailing for
Pondicherry. The voyage had passed quietly when fire was discovered in the ship. It spread
fast, and the ship exploded when the fire reached the gunpowder magazine, leaving only 10
survivors. The second account relates the seizure of the ship Rustenwerk, a 650-ton Dutch
East Indiaman. Moored off Ternate, it was taken by the pirate Frans Fransz on 28 June 1751
and some 12 passengers (including the Captain) were killed. The survivors reached Batavia
by way of Makassar and sailed for Holland. The VOC eventually managed to retake the
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The ill-fated voyages of two East Indiamen

24. [VOC]. Twee-rampspoedige zee-reyzen, den enen ... met een Fransch Oost Indiesch Compagnie-schip, genaamt Le Prince, ... Den anderen, met het Hollandsche Oost-Indische Compagnie schip, genaamt Rustenwerk, ...

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The second account relates the seizure of the ship Rustenwerk, a 650-ton Dutch East Indiaman. Moored off Ternate, it was taken by the pirate Frans Fransz on 28 June 1751 and some 12 passengers (including the Captain) were killed. The survivors reached Batavia by way of Makassar and sailed for Holland. The VOC eventually managed to retake the ship, but Frans Fransz escaped with the valuable cargo. The account includes a list of 210 VOC ships lost in the period 1688–1752 through disasters, mutiny, piracy etc.

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