

KAINBACHER RARE BOOKS  
CATALOGUE XII (N.F.)

2017

# Rapa Nui Easter Island Osterinsel



GUEST AUTHORS: JASPER KÖCKE AND HERMANN MÜCKLER



ISBN 978-3-9504451-0-7

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**RAPA NUI, EASTER ISLAND, OSTERINSEL**  
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Books on Pacific travel and exploration are one of the sectors which my anti-quarian bookshop specializes in. Rapa Nui is one of the islands in the southern Pacific with a very special appeal – discovered relatively late, far away from inhabited parts of the mainland, a history which is, in parts, still a mystery, the Myth surrounding the Moais, a sky with stars so clear that the milky way can be seen, the scarcity of reports available by travellers.

In 2016 I was able to visit Rapa Nui in order to experience and understand this fascination and the myth surrounding this island, to understand collectors of books on this subject or to fill others with enthusiasm for it. This catalog is the result of my own enthusiasm, of my visit to Rapa Nui, of my research and of my efforts to find scientists who are prepared to contribute to it.

Your  
Paul Kainbacher



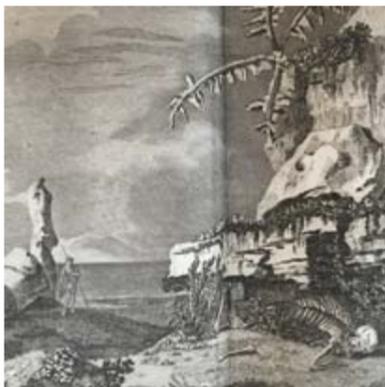
## The Moai's

## LITERARY SOURCES ON EASTER ISLAND: 1728 – 1965

### A selective overview by Dr. Jasper Köcke

Almost three centuries ago a small squadron of vessels under command of the Dutch admiral Jacob Roggeveen attempted to locate a mysterious “Davis-Land” within the web of longitudes and latitudes of the Pacific ocean. On Easter-Sunday 1722 they hit upon a small island. Was this “Davis-Land”? Or part of it? Uncertain of the island’s identity with “Davis-Land” the Dutch named it “Paasch Eyland” – that is: Easter Island – to honor the Christian feast.

For the Dutch crew landing on the shores of this island, as well as the ensuing skirmish with its inhabitants, remained but one of several new discoveries and adventures waiting for them in continuation of their circumnavigation! Thus “Easter Island” remained but a few notes in the logbook of Roggeveen, and ultimately a mere “footnote” in the rapidly developing discovery of the Pacific oceans’ surface. Although Roggeveen describes the expedition’s experiences on the shores of Easter Island in his account – published 6 years later – only a limited number of educated readers at that time took note of the small island’s existence. Neither a more popular description of Roggeveen’s circumnavigation by the German Carl Friedrich Behrens (1738) nor later reports by the famous Captain James Cook (1777) or the unfortunate French navigator La Pérouse (1797), not to mention the increasing amount of naval expedition accounts of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, were able to pinpoint attention of a greater community of readers on Easter Island and its marvels! It took a long time before this changed!



Cook, J.:  
Voyage dans  
l’hémisphère  
Austral et...  
Paris 1778

Early navigators passing by Easter Island throughout the 19<sup>th</sup> century mostly focused on replenishing their supplies of wood, water, and foodstuffs. Neither was available at any reasonable quantity on Easter Island.

Correspondingly, somewhat more frequent contacts with the islanders in the 19<sup>th</sup> century were short and became increasingly disagreeable for the islanders – or even hostile. Curiosity of the visitors as to the local peoples’ native history, their culture and customs, above all the mysterious human stone-images, did not really develop until the last decades of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. In the decades after 1870 a more pronounced interest in the culture and antiquity of Easter Island slowly led to more frequent visits of a different nature than those by the whalers or earlier circumnavigators. To some extent this was triggered-off by European missionaries who first established Christian faith on the island in the 1860s. First reports on the native islanders themselves, their origins, their ancestry, or on the archeology of Easter Island appeared in the last decades of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Easter Island, and its fancy stone images, slowly became a better known entity for an educated international public! By that time more than a century and a half had passed since the first Dutch contact!

Publicity of Easter Island intensified in the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Expeditions of several months’ duration, dedicated to archeological excavation, or the study of the islanders’ origins, their mysterious pictogram-“writings” on wooden slabs, as well as researches into their history, social structures, beliefs and customs by and by created the foundation of our today’s knowledge of Easter Island culture and history.

Today we encounter a vast amount of literature on Easter Island. Respective publications on all possible aspects of Easter Island, from mystery-novels to serious scientific reports, soared from the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century onwards. Quite in contrast to this we have but a few dozen or so publications partially or entirely focused on Easter Island for the long time-span between 1728 (Roggeveen’s report) until 1962 (Heyerdahl’s publications).

And yet it is just the “historic” aspect of the “early account” which fascinates us today. The early reports of Roggeveen, or of the Spanish expedition of Gonzales y Haedo, of Cook, or of La Pérouse today permit us to take a “look-back” into a still largely pre-European existence of the Easter-Islanders. Roggeveen’s soldiers on shore of Easter Island still were able to observe the veneration of stone-statues (“moai”) by islanders, the Spanish troops witnessed the “writing” of the natives (at the occasion of counter-signing the annexation of

the island by the Spanish crown). Cook’s crew saw the first toppled stone-images and numerous skeletons all around the moai-platforms, and La Pérouse believed to have observed a first “moral decline” amongst the islanders. With these old accounts in our hands we may ask: how did the islanders appear to the European soldier or sailor? What were the role and importance of the stone-giants to the natives? Were these stone-statues already shattered on the ground, or did they still stand on their original platforms? How did the islanders dress or dwell at that time? What did they eat? What ancient rites and beliefs did they follow?

Such questions are important today because in the course of the first decades of the 19<sup>th</sup> century most ancient customs of previous centuries disappeared forever. The early accounts of European navigators, until the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century, at least give us a glimpse at what later so rapidly was lost under European influence.

Even slightly later accounts, after the missionaries had exercised their profound influence on traditional ways of life and had abolished traditional beliefs in the latter half of the 1860s, again give us insights into a phase of rapid change in the island’s history. Also these decades of change quickly passed and gave way to yet another history: that of the beginning 20<sup>th</sup> century with its growing academic concern with the archeology and history of Easter Island. These accounts of the late 1800s give us the fascination of the first photographic pictures taken on Easter Island, the first archeological surveys, as well as the first very personal experiences of “life with the islanders”.

And again, all this was superseded by the first important Easter Island publications of the 20<sup>th</sup> century – devoted to analyses of the ancestry of the islanders, their origin, the archeology of their megalithic monuments, their system of “writing” (rongo-rongo) and so on. It were these scientific undertakings of the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century which formed the body of our today’s knowledge of Easter Island and its ancient culture!

It is to this more limited number of “old” literary Easter Island sources that we shall direct our attention in the following lines. Any serious scientific collection of books and articles on Easter Island must include these early sources.

We already mentioned Jacob Roggeveen as first European to visit Easter Island. His report “Tweejahrijge Reyze rondom de Wereld” appeared in print at Dordrecht, Netherlands, in 1728. In spite of the relative

popularity of reports of this kind we may safely assume the number of printed copies of this first edition to have been less than a few hundred. However, later editions of his report followed, even translations into French and German.

By mere accident it was a German corporal, chief of the small number of soldiers accompanying the admiral on his circumnavigation, by the name of Carl Friedrich Behrens who was the first European to set foot on Easter Island soil! Behrens later wrote a book –naturally in German language– which was to become quite popular by the title: “Der wohlver-suchte Südländer”. It appeared –published by Behrens himself – at Leipzig in 1738. This book quickly became so popular that a French edition came out but a year later in La Haye and turned out to be a success. In 1923 the German Brockhaus-Company published a new edition of Behrens’ book (edited by the ethnologist Hans Plischke) under the same original title. Thus, Roggeveen and Behrens today have to be seen as our two earliest sources on Easter Island.

After the appearance of these two accounts it took another 100 years before the actual log-book of Roggeveen was published under the title “Dagverhael der Ontdekkings-Reis van Mr. Jacob Roggeveen” in 1838 at Middelburg, Roggeveen’s birth-place. And yet much later, in 1908, the first edition in English appeared in the series of the Hakluyt-Society’s publications, carefully edited by Bolton Glanville Corney. In this publication Corney joined Roggeveen’s log-book with the documents of the second European visit to Easter Island by the Spanish vessels “San Lorenzo” y “Santa Rosalia” under command of captain Felipe Gonzalez y Haedo in 1770.

Indeed, an islander who might have witnessed the visit of the Dutch ships at Easter 1722 as a small child would have become an old white-haired person before any European ship again came into view of the islanders. By November 1770 the two vessels of the Spanish colonial administration of the Viceroyalty of Peru anchored at the shores of Easter Island. The Spaniards were not looking for Easter Island – of which they probably knew next to nothing! Rather, they were looking for the same “Davis Land” which already the Dutch had been trying to locate! Ignorant of the fact that “Paasch-Eyland” actually was the island they had hit-upon they named it “Isla de San Carlos” and took possession of it in the name of the Spanish crown. The pious Spanish commander had three crucifixes planted on top of three island hills. A contract of annexation of the island’s territory by Spain was dutifully signed by the Spanish

officials – as well as by representatives of the islanders! Indeed, they actually “signed” the document with a handful of pictographs – by many later generations of historians and anthropologists interpreted as a mysterious “Easter Island Scripture”.

Documentation of this second European visit to Easter Island remained in Spanish archives (Sevilla and Madrid) accessible only to a few cartographers or marine-officials. Only far over a century later, in 1908, the documents pertaining to the Spanish visit to the “Isla de San Carlos” first were published for a wider audience in the Hakluyt-Society’s series by Bolton Glanville Corney.



Cook, J.:  
Voyage dans  
l’hémisphere  
Austral et...  
Paris 1778

The famous British explorer James Cook visited Easter Island a mere four years later. In March 1774 he steered a course towards this island in order to replenish his supplies of wood, water, and foodstuffs. In spite of the sobering experience that this was hardly possible considering the poor resources on the island Cook nevertheless sent a group of his soldiers and sailors, accompanied by some of the officers as well as the naturalists, ashore to learn more about the population, their possible horticulture, as well as their livestock. The naturalists were a father-and-son team: Johann Reinhold Forster and his son Georg. The latter wrote a colorful and informative account of his and his father’s excursion – covering quite a bit of the island’s territory. Back in Europe Georg later published a famous account of his circumnavigation as Cook’s junior naturalist by the title of “Reise um die Welt” (Berlin, 1778/80, Haude & Spener). Just a few years ago this wonderful book was re-edited (Frankfurt, 2007, Eichborn Verlag). This re-edition contains a large number of the Forsters’ beautiful colored illustrations of natural-history specimen – here published for the first time! Georg’s detailed account of the Easter-Island visit may be read in this new edition as: “Nachricht von Oster-Eyland und unserm Aufenthalt daselbst” (pp 307-325).

Cook’s account (the only one written by himself) was first published two years after his return to England, 1777, in London (Strahan & Cadell) in two volumes, including 64 charts, maps, and plates. He vividly describes Easter Island, based on the reports of the visitors he sent ashore. The accounts of Cook’s three voyages immediately became so popular that several editions as well as translations into many languages followed throughout the decades after his death in 1779. Of great interest are the accompanying plates: for the first time Easter-Islanders – a man and a woman – as well as a scenery showing a couple of stone-statues (“moai”) appeared “in picture” for a larger reading-audience.



Cook, J.:  
Voyage dans  
l’hémisphere  
Austral et...  
Paris 1778

After Cook’s tragic death in 1779 the leading European seafaring nations, in spite of admiring Cook’s attainments, considered that not all of the aims of the British circumnavigations under Cook had been fulfilled. Britain’s important rival, Louis XVI King of France, decided to send out yet another large expedition to finalize what Cook had not been able to complete! In 1785 two well equipped vessels, the “Astrolabe” and the “Boussole” under command of Jean Francois Galaup de La Pérouse left France. By April 1786, only 12 years after the last European contact, Easter Island came into view; the French anchored, went ashore and, as also had done the previous European visitors, sent a troupe of soldiers across the island to reconnoiter. The French stayed ashore for only one day! La Pérouse later wrote that he noticed somewhat of a demoralization among the islanders. It was as though they had gone through hardships of nature or warfare. Also La Pérouse’s account contains a beautiful plate depicting a group of gallant French surrounded by (mostly female) Easter-Islanders! Also shown in this plate is a moai with its typical hair-knot balancing on its head – a view which later visitors did not have anymore!



Cook, J.:  
Voyage dans  
l’hémisphere  
Austral et...  
Paris 1778

La Pérouse was cautious enough to send interim-reports of the different stages of his circumnavigation back to Paris by help of French vessels met at different harbors touched by the Astrolabe and Boussole. It was thus possible to later publish his accounts even though the La Pérouse-expedition vanished without any trace two years later, in 1788, after a last sojourn at Botany-Bay. By 1797 the available parts of his account finally were edited by L.A. Milet-Mureau and published under the title “Voyage de La Pérouse Autour du Monde” (Paris, Imprimerie de la Republique, 1797) in four quarto volumes and an atlas of charts, maps, and plates. It is by this fortunate coincidence that today we can relive also this – short – visit by the French expedition.

Again quoting the Hakluyt-Series: today we have a detailed and scientifically commented edition in English-language of La Pérouse’s account. Not of the edition by Milet-Mureau of 1797 (whose wording had to pay tribute to the ideals of the French revolution) but rather of the actual reports written by La Pérouse himself and sent to France by help of other ships. These authentic reports (the same which also Milet-Mureau had worked upon) were located by the end of the 1970s by a French graduate student in the Archives Nationales. They were edited by John Dunmore in two volumes in the Hakluyt publications for the year 1994. We can here read the French officer De Langlé’s report of his excursion on Easter Island on pp 53-74 for the first time in English language!

These four European visits to Easter Island in the 18th century today are our only sources which permit a glimpse back to the still largely pre-European history and way of life of the Easter-Islanders. This pre-European phase had produced the famous stone-images which today are the hallmark of this small eastern Polynesian island. Yet this phase was already nearing its end when Cook visited the island: the English were the first to see some of the stone-images, the “moai”

toppled, their hair-knots on the ground, human skeletons scattered around! What had happened? La Pérouse mused that some hardship had demoralized the islanders. Today we know that the end of the 18th century brought many decades of internecine feuds or even warfare among the different leading family-groups of islanders. Was this due to increasing lack of sweet-water, or of wooden resources? We still do not yet know this today with absolute certainty. Fact is that the old customs, above all most of the stone-monuments, were abolished, toppled, destroyed. This destructive development must have lasted well into the mid-nineteenth century on the island. Nevertheless, visitors who came to Easter Island in the early decades of the 19th century still were able to notice some of the old cultural traits. And there were many visitors. Today we may safely assume that there were at least 50 contacts between 1800 and 1860 – compared to but four visits in the 18th century! Of these many were whalers tempted to replenish their supplies by means of the island’s resources. While this hardly was possible the contacts became increasingly burdensome to the islanders. Even hostilities quickly ensued. Hails of stones greeted even more peaceful visitors.

Among the latter were the more serious exploring expeditions: Lisiansky (1804), Kotzebue (1815), Beechey (1825), or Dupetit-Thouars (1838) to name but a few who came across Easter Island during the first half of the 19th century. Their accounts, still to be found in the antiquarian booktrade or auctions of today, reflect what we mentioned before: life had become more turbulent to the islanders! We have a beautiful report by the naturalist who accompanied Kotzebue in the Romanzoff-Exploring-Expedition on his impressions of the Easter-Islanders in 1815. This naturalist later became quite famous as a well-read poet: Adelbert von Chamisso. A trained zoologist and botanist, Chamisso was hired as naturalist by Kotzebue, wrote a contribution dealing with the natural-history specimen collected during the expedition (Kotzebue, Weimar, 1821) and later published his own diary as well as scientific observations (Leipzig, Weidmann, 1836). His lively and colorful style of writing lets us relive his impressions of the Easter-Islanders in 1815.

With the 19th century progressing, the island’s population became more and more doomed! In 1862 Peruvian slave-raiders abducted about 1500 islanders to mainland South America, mainly the Guano-islands! Here most of the islanders perished. When an international uproar, initiated by the Catholic community in Peru, Chile, and Tahiti – even including the Vatican – finally resulted in the repatriation of the islanders back

home, fate struck again: among the few individuals (less than two dozen) who finally set foot again on the island some were infected by small-pox – which killed most of the island’s population. By 1877 only 110 islanders still were alive!

A decade earlier, immediately after the tragic slave-raid and the beginning repatriation of the islanders also the first European missionaries arrived on the island. Brother Eugène Eyraud, lay-brother of the order of the “Sacres Coeurs de Picpus SS.CC.” arrived on Easter Island in 1864. With a short interruption he was to spend the rest of his life with the islanders. From 1866 onwards eventually three more missionaries arrived to support Eyraud, who died in 1868. The missionaries’ influence on traditional island-culture was devastating: all islanders were turned Christians by 1868, much of their culture and habits of day-to-day life had been drastically changed by the missionaries. While this may have softened the internecine feuds and turmoil of island-life of previous decades, it nevertheless meant for the islanders a complete destruction of their past! One example of this is the missionaries’ treatment of many wooden slabs which the islanders of previous generations had covered with pictographs – the so-called “rongo-rongo” slabs. These were burned by the missionaries. Only very few were sent to the Bishop of Tahiti, Tepano Jaussen, who later sent a few of these rongo-rongo slabs to different museums and the superiors of the SS.CC in France and Belgium.

It is due to Bishop Jaussen’s intense interest in the somewhat “mysterious” pictographs that copies of the rongo-rongo slabs still can be studied today. His important booklet “L’Ile de Paques – Historique, Ecriture”, edited posthumously by Ildefonse Alazard in 1893 today is one of the rarest Easter Island publications!

We have emphasized the missionaries in such a pronounced way not only because their influence on traditional Easter Island culture in the 1860s was so profound, but also because their letters to the Superiors back in France today tell us a lot about the islanders’ life and habits again at a time of rapid change! These letters were published in the “Annales de la Propagation de la Foi” (Lyon, different consecutive years) and today represent a most valuable source of information on Easter Island in those crucial years between 1864 and 1871 (when the missionaries finally left Easter Island for Tahiti). Indeed, the long letter of Eyraud to his Father Superior, telling of his experiences of life among the islanders, today may be seen as the first authentic “field-report” of a sojourn among the natives of Easter Island.

Published in the “Annales” (vol. 38, Lyon, 1866, pp 52-71 and 124-138) it is still occasionally to be found in the international book-trade. A translation into Spanish and English has been edited by the Imprenta Andina, Chile, 2008.

Partially due to parochial differences within the SS.CC themselves, as also with competing Catholic missions in the Pacific, and above all due to the situation on Easter Island itself the missionaries finally were forced to leave the island in 1871 for Mangareva and Tahiti – taking several Christianized islanders with them.

At that time more frequent visits of European (and increasingly also Chilean-) ships almost led to a certain “routine” of contacts with Easter Island. The British vessel “Topaze” had already anchored at the island in 1868 – looking for archeological artifacts and taking the first stone-statue away from the island. It eventually found its place in the British museum! The ship’s medical assistant, Linton Palmer, published several short accounts of this visit and, thus, introduced Easter Island to a growing reading community in England (Journal of the Ethnological Society, 1870, pp 371-377). Two years later the Chilean vessel “O’Higgins” came to the island. Captain Gana wrote a detailed report in Spanish (“Descripción Científica de la Isla de Pascua”) which later was translated into French by admiral de Lapelin. It also was Lapelin who barely two years after the arrival of the “O’Higgins” himself came to Easter Island. On board of his ship “La Flore” a young navy cadet, Julien Viaud. Viaud spent a few days roaming the island, spending the nights with the islanders in their traditional stone-houses. By the pseudonym Pierre Loti he later was to become a widely read poet. Viaud/Loti wrote a fascinating and very personal report of his visit to Easter Island. Also Chilean historians and journalists occasionally began to take a look at Easter Island “from a distance”: Ramón Ballesteros, journalist and politician, wrote yet another article on the situation of the island at that time. Fortune has it, that barely a generation later, in 1903, the Chilean historian Ignacio Silva edited the three reports by Gana, Viaud/Loti, and Ballesteros in a tiny booklet under the title “La Isla de Pascua” in a series on the history of different parts of Chile. This extremely scarce little book today ranks amongst the rarest and most desired early Easter Island sources!

Only a few years later, in 1877, another French ship, the “Seignelay” rounded the shores of the island. Aboard a young scientist, Alphonse Pinart. Pinart first set foot on the island at Anakena Bay, criss-crossing the island in subsequent days. He arrived at yet another breaking-

point in the history of the island: the French adventurer Dutroux-Bornier (who had oppressed the islanders in the 1870s) had just been murdered by the islanders a few days before! Pinart avoided the ensuing intrigues among the islanders themselves and later published an informative account of his sojourn on the island in the then widely read magazine “Le Tour du Monde” (vol. XXXVI, Paris, 1878). This publication is of interest also due to its numerous illustrations. Even today copies of this article occasionally appear in the antiquarian book-trade.

During the 1870s a new social science – “ethnology” or “cultural anthropology” – slowly established itself at the universities in Europe and the U.S. In Germany a leading ethnologist, Adolf Bastian, already in the 1870s occasionally had approached the Prussian marine-authorities with the request to facilitate ethnological research also on far-away islands in the Pacific ocean. Fascinated by the megalithic stone monuments of Easter Island he intensified his petitions particularly with regard to a scientific evaluation of the antiquities of this island by any Prussian marine-vessel available in the larger area. By 1882 his initiative came to bear fruit: a Prussian marine-vessel under command of captain-lieutenant Geiseler anchored at Easter Island in September 1882. Paymaster Weisser was ordered by Geiseler to undertake a reconnaissance-tour across the island, to get in contact with the population, to examine some stone-images, and to report on any antiquities of interest. Geiseler’s report, illustrated with plates and maps, was published in 1883 in the Prussian “Marine-Verordnungsblatt” – a publication almost exclusively read by marine-officials only! Fortunately a small amount of off-prints of this report were printed for use in specific research-institutions and universities. Today Geiseler’s report is one of the rarest early Easter-Island accounts; only very few copies are available at libraries worldwide. Hardly any copy ever finds its way to the antiquarian book-trade!

Also in the U.S. interest in the culture and antiquity of Easter Island increased. Above all the prosperous Smithsonian Institute used its academic standing and importance to press for a U.S. visit to Easter Island. At that time the Navy Department by pure coincidence had the USS “Mohican” anchored right off Tahiti. The Mohican received orders to visit Easter Island basically with the same aim as that of the Prussian mission of 1882! The Mohican’s paymaster, William Thomson, was in charge of the respective scientific program. Which included, how else could it have been, yet another tour across the island by a group of the vessel’s sailors and soldiers. Thomson had his report “Te Pito te Henua, Or

Easter Island” published by the Government Printing Office in Washington in 1891. This report, more detailed and informative than Geiseler’s, today may be seen as the first actual “monograph” on Easter Island. It includes the first photographic views taken of the people, the stone-statues, scenery, as well as antiquities of Easter Island! US-Government publications were printed in larger numbers than was customary in Europe at that time. Even today it is still possible to obtain an occasional first edition of Thomson’s report in the antiquarian trade. Interestingly enough, however, is the fact that the first account of the Mohican’s endeavor at Easter Island appeared in a magazine by the name of “American Naturalist” (vol. 23, Philadelphia, 1889) written by the historian Walter Hough. Also this article today a very scarce item for collectors!

Apart from Thomson’s report and the article by Hough there is another, very personal, account of the Mohican’s team on shore of Easter Island: written by the Mohican’s medical officer, George H. Cooke, under the title “Te Pito te Henua – Known as Rapa Nui” and published in the Reports of the National Museum of History, Washington, 1897. Also this report quite scarce today.

With the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century we increasingly find publications of more substantial and thematically focussed expeditions to Easter Island. In 1911, for example, Chile organized a first meteorological expedition to the island. Headed by the German-born meteorologist Walter Knoche the aim of this expedition was not only to establish a first meteorological station on the island, but also to take a “state of account” of the population’s general situation and well-being 23 years after its annexation by Chile! Knoche much later, in 1925, published a general account of this Chilean expedition in the Scientific Archive of Chile in Concepción. Written in German language, for a limited community of readers, probably less than 100 copies of this account ever were printed. Thus also Knoche’s book today ranks among the scarcest Easter Island sources!

Almost by accident only, and due to the ensuing of World-War I in Europe in 1914, a British couple, Katherine Routledge and her husband William Scoresby, were forced to take refuge on Easter Island. Embarked on a “tour around the world” in their yacht “Mana” they settled for an overall period of 15 months on the island. Not only was this a time of internal upheaval directed against the Chilean administrators and representatives of a commercial company oppressing the islanders, but it was also the time when the last islanders who still had witnessed some of the old customs of mid-nineteenth-century gradually died away.

Katherine Routledge still was able (as was Knoche before her) to interview a few of these individuals and thus obtain valuable information as to the bygone times. Routledge also organized the first archeological examinations of some of the stone-statues applying modern archeological excavation techniques. She published her informative account and narrative of the sojourn on Easter Island in 1919 under the title: "The Mystery of Easter Island" (London, 1919, Sifton, Praed & Co.). Routledge's book is one of the most important early 20th century sources on the past of Easter Island.

It took another 20 years before a second well prepared and organized archeological expedition -this time a Franco-Belgian endeavor- came to Easter Island from July 1934 to January 1935. The archeologist Henri Lavachery and the ethnologist Alfred Métraux spent 6 months on the island - initially to do research on the Easter Island "scripture" (the rongo-rongo pictographs) as well as to do substantial ethnographic research. When they were unable to locate any of the old rongo-rongo slabs, research quickly turned to the examination of the petroglyphs which were to be found at various rock-formations on the island. Lavachery published a seminal work on these petroglyphs in 1939, as well as a more general account of the expedition under the title "Ile de Paques" (Paris, 1935), whereas Alfred Métraux wrote the first substantial ethnographic monograph on Easter Island by the title: "Ethnology of Easter Island" (Honolulu, 1940). Both, Lavachery's work, as well as Métraux's profound study today belong to the "classics" of the early Easter-Island sources!

Almost at the same time when the Franco-Belgian expedition began its research one of the most important persons for the population of Easter Island in the 20th century also set foot on shore at Hanga Roa, the island's small capital village: Father Sebastian Englert. Englert was priest of the order Friars of the Minor Capuchin and was to spend almost the entire rest of his life (from 1935 to 1969) on the island as clerical leader at Hanga Roa. Englert, however, was not only priest and religious authority but in the course of the years turned into a diligent island-historian and researcher into the ancestry of the islanders of his time.

- › **Alazard, Ildefonse:** L'Ile de Paques - Historique-Ecriture. Ouvrage posthume de Tepano Jaussen. Paris 1893
- › **Annales de la Propagation de la Foi (Recueil Périodique..)**. Lyon, Chez l'éditeur des Annales vols 38 und 39 (1866 / 1867)
- › **Behrens, Carl Friedrich:** Der wohlversuchte Südländer... Leipzig, Selbstverlag, 1738
- › **dito:** same title, Brockhaus, 1923. (edited by Hans Plischke)

He published yet another of the important earlier sources on Easter Island under the title: "La Tierra de Hotu Matu'a" (Santiago de Chile, 1948) with a first statistical overview of all the stone-statues he was able to identify.

Englert became such a dominant figure of Easter Island that Thor Heyerdahl, organizer and financier of the well-equipped Norwegian Archeological Easter Island Expedition, greeted him as the "un-crowned king" of Easter Island in 1955, when Heyerdahl's ship arrived at Hanga Roa. Heyerdahl's expedition, which lasted from September 1955 to March 1956, continued in the same archeological vein which Routledge and Lavachery had initiated - directed, however, amongst others to different fields of archeology such as professional excavations of statue-platforms, as well as other megalithic structures at different places of the island. Heyerdahl also was the first European to be led by the islanders into their subterranean caves which hitherto had been completely unknown and untrodden. These caves, full of ancient artifacts, had served the islanders to hide-away whenever, in the bloody past, slave-raiders had come to the island, or internal internecine warfare had endangered complete family-clans.

Heyerdahl's numerous publications, above all the "Reports of the Norwegian Expedition to Easter Island and the East Pacific" (Stockholm, 1961/65, co-edited by Ferdon) as well as his popular book "Aku Aku" (various publication places, 1957/58) and later publications on "The Archeology of Easter Island" or "The Art of Easter Island" may be seen as the bedrock of our today's knowledge of Easter Island's culture and history.

The publications we have mentioned in the foregoing text may be seen as basis of all more recent books and articles on Easter Island. Any public scientific library or specialized research institution most probably will own copies of the titles we have mentioned. Any bibliophile collector of old books in the fields of travel-exploration-culture-history-ethnology with a specific liking of Easter Island must try to obtain the works here discussed.

- › **Chamisso, Adelbert von:** Reise um die Welt. Leipzig, Weidmann'sche Buchhandlung, 1836 (2 vols: Diary as well as Scientific Annotations)
- › **Cook, James:** A Voyage towards the South Pole, and around the World... London, Strahan & Cadell, 1777
- › **dito:** Voyage dans l'Hémisphère Austral et Autour du Monde, Paris, Hotel de Thou, 1778.
- › **Cooke, George H.:** Te Pito te Henua, Known as Rapa Nui... National Museum of History, Washington, 1897 (pages 689-723)

- › **Corney, Bolton Glanville:** The Voyage of Captain Don Felipe Gonzalez to Easter Island in 1770/1771. Preceded by an extract from Mynheer Jacob Roggeveen's official log of his Discovery of and visit to Easter Island in 1722. Cambridge, Hakluyt Society, 1908
- › **Dupetit-Thouars, Abel:** Voyage Autour du Monde Sur la Frégate la Vénus. Paris, Gide, 1840 (Easter Island cf. Vol II, pp 222-235)
- › **Englert, Sebastian:** La Tierra de Hotu Matu'a. Historia, Etnología y Lengua de la Isla de Pascua. Santiago de Chile, Imprenta San Francisco 1948
- › **Eyraud, Eugene:** Lettre au T.R.P. Supérieur General. Annales de la Propagation de la Foi, vol 38, pp 52-71 and 124-138; Lyon, 1866
- › **Forster, Georg:** Reise um die Welt, Berlin, Haude & Spener, 1778/80; siehe auch: Ders.: Nachricht von Oster-Eyland und unserm Aufenthalt daselbst, pp 307-325 in: Reise um die Welt, Eichborn Verlag, Ffm., 2007
- › **Geiseler, Kapitänleutnant:** Die Osterinsel. Eine Stätte prähistorischer Kultur in der Südsee. Offprint from: Marine-Verordnungsblatt. Berlin, Mittler & Sohn, 1883
- › **Gonzalez y Haedo, Cf:** Corney, Hakluyt Society, 1908
- › **Heyerdahl, Thor:** Reports of the Norwegian Archaeological Expedition to Easter Island and the East Pacific: 2 vols: of which vol 1: The Archaeology of Easter Island, Stockholm, 1961 (Heyerdahl & Ferdon, editors)
- › **dito:** The Art of Easter Island, London, 1976
- › **Hough, Walter:** Notes on the Archeology and Ethnology of Easter Island. In: American Naturalist, vol. 23, pp 877-888; Philadelphia, Ferris Bros., 1889
- › **Jaussen, Tepano:** cf: Alazard, Ildefonse
- › **Knoche, Walter:** Die Osterinsel. Eine Zusammenfassung der chilenischen Osterinsel-Expedition des Jahres 1911. Concepción, Wiss. Archiv von Chile, 1925
- › **La Pérouse, Jean Francois Galaup de:** Voyage de La Pérouse Autour du Monde. Imprimerie de la République, Hrsg.: L.A. Milet-Mureau, Paris, 1797
- › **Lavachery, Henri:** Ile de Paques, Paris, Bernard Grasset, 1935
- › **Métraux, Alfred:** Ethnology of Easter Island, Honolulu, 1940
- › **Palmer, John Linton:** Observations on the Inhabitants and the Antiquities of Easter Island. Journal of the Ethnological Society, 1870, pp 371-377
- › **Pinart, Alphonse:** Voyage à l'Ile de Paques. Le Tour du Monde, XXXVI, Paris, 1878
- › **Roggeveen, Jakob:** Tweejährige Reyze rondom de Wereld, Dordrecht, 1728
- › **Ders:** Dagverhaal der Ontdekkings-Reis van Mr. Jacob Roggeveen, Middelburg, 1838
- › **Ders: cf:** Corney, Hakluyt Society, 1908
- › **Routledge, Katherine:** The Mystery of Easter Island. The Story of an Expedition. Sifton, Praed & Co., London, 1919 (2. Ed. 1920)
- › **Silva, Ignacio:** La Isla de Pascua. Santiago de Chile, Imprenta Barcelona, 1903 (reports by Gana, Viaud/Loti, and Ballesteros)
- › **Thomson, William J.:** Te Pito te Henua, or Easter Island, Washington, Government Printing Office, 1891

i

## DR. JASPER KÖCKE

is economist as well as anthropologist. He finished his studies in Germany with an advanced degree in economics (1975) and continued his studies of social anthropology at Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois, USA. After obtaining his M.A.-degree in anthropology (1977) he specialized in economic anthropology and attained the degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in 1979.

Initially foreseen for an academic career after graduation from Northwestern University Köcke, however, finally decided to dedicate his professional work to ethnic minorities in developing countries. These minorities, from Köcke's perspective, today face numerous problems in rapidly developing modern nation-states. Problems of legal-, economic-, cultural-, or political dimensions, to name but a few. A professional career in an international setting, related to international cooperation, thus seemed tailor-suited.

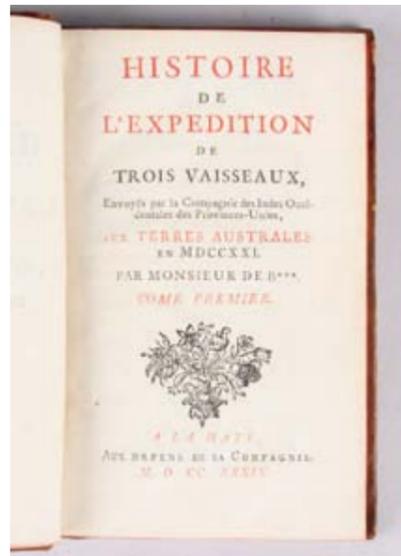
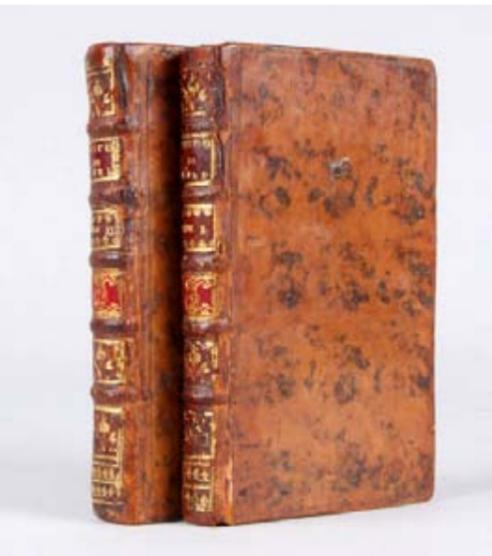
In 1980 Köcke joined the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development ("World Bank") as consultant. In 1981 he was accepted as Junior Professional Officer by the United Nations Development Program and the UN-Industrial Development Organization (UNDP/UNIDO). Until 1983 active in Honduras and other Central-American countries as UN-official, Köcke joined the staff of the German Agency for Technical Cooperation (GTZ) in Germany at the end of 1983. He is retired since 2013.

During his 30 years with the GTZ (today GIZ) Köcke focused his work on the transfer of professional know-how to developing countries - particularly so in South-East Asia, the Far-East, as well as Latin-America. He closely cooperated with Indigenous Organizations in developing civil societies above all in most Latin-American countries.

In recent years Köcke's ethnological interests focused increasingly on so-called marginal cultures, as, for example, the -today nearly extinct- native populations of Tierra del Fuego, the cultures in Papua New Guinea and Irian-Jaya, or the Aborigines of Central Australia.

Ever since his youth Köcke also had an outspoken interest and fascination with Rapa Nui (Easter Island) which he finally visited in 2010. Today he is an avid observer of Rapa-Nui political development - which includes self-administration, tourism-management, ecological issues as well as cultural heritage.

# Volcano Kano Kau



**ROGGEVEENS WORLD  
TRAVEL AND DISCOVERY  
OF EASTER ISLAND**

**BEHRENS,  
CARL FRIEDRICH**

Histoire de L'Expédition de Trois Vaisseaux. Envoyés par la Compagnie des Indes Occidentales des Provinces-Unies, aux Terres Australes en MDCCXXI...

(The Hague, Aux dépens de la Compagnie, 1739.) Two volumes, small octavo; in contemporary mottled calf.

EUR 11.500,-

This attractive copy originally belonged to John Montagu, Duke of Montagu (c.1688-1749), Governor of St. Lucia and St. Vincent. Each volume of this set has Montagu's library shelf-ticket to the front endpaper, with his crest gilt stamped upon petite crimson morocco spine labels. On his death his residence, Montagu House, was acquired by the Government to house the newly-established British Museum.

[Ref: 4401796. Condition: Joints a bit worn but still quite firm, overall a fine set.].

Bibliography: Barbier, II/685-6; Borba de Moraes, 95; James Ford Bell, B149; Kroepelien, 70; Mackaness ('Art of Book-collecting'), pp. 41-2; O'Reilly-Reitman, 230; Taylor, 77; Tiele, 933n.

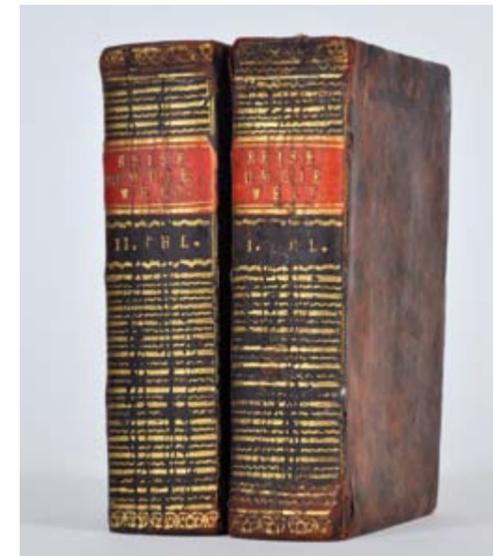
Roggeveen's voyage into the Pacific. Behrens' scarce narrative tells the story of one of the most significant of the Dutch voyages, ranking with those of Le Maire, Schouten and Tasman. Roggeveen set out to rediscover the part of Terra Australis which Quiros had led the exploring world to believe existed, but in fact added substantially to the Dutch record of Polynesian discoveries, with Easter Island and Samoa described here for the first time.

Roggeveen crossed the Pacific from the east at the head of a three-vessel expedition with largely commercial objectives. He specifically sought the fabled continent of Terra Australis, which the English privateer Captain Edward Davis claimed to have sighted in 1680. It did not materialise, but on 5 April 1722 Roggeveen landed at a previously uncharted island which he named Easter Island. They were the first recorded European visitors to the island and the detailed description of the inhabitants, their extraordinary idols and their way of life is of great value. The expedition later went on to discover some of the outer islands of the Samoan group. Because he had sailed for the Dutch West India Company Roggeveen was temporarily imprisoned by the powerful Dutch East India Company in Batavia, but later released to complete 'one of the last of the great Dutch circumnavigations' (Howgego).

Apart from a conspicuously rare pamphlet published in 1727, and the equally rare Dutch Tweejaarige reyze rondom de wereld of 1728, this was the first major notice of this important voyage, not only a substantial Pacific voyage in its own right, but one which provided a direct stimulus for the search for the Southern Continent. Behrens' account of the Roggeveen voyage was originally published in German in 1737, but this first French edition is generally preferred. It was likely translated and amended by Behrens himself, who travelled under Roggeveen as commander of marines, though some authorities have attributed the translation to De Brosse.

Although Roggeveen's voyage failed in its primary objective, it represented an important achievement in terms of its own discoveries. The Behrens account had some effect on subsequent voyages, including providing strong motivation for the authorities who sent Captain Cook out on his first voyage forty-six years later. 'Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> (March 1774). In stretching in for the land we discovered people and those Monuments or Idols mentioned by the Authors of Roggeweins Voyage which left us no room to doubt but it was Easter Island...' (Beaglehole, Journals of Captain James Cook, II, p. 338).

Bibliography: Borba de Moraes, 95; Hill, 99; James Ford Bell, B149; Kroepelien, 70; O'Reilly-Reitman, 230; Sabin, 4379; Taylor, 77; Tiele, 933n.



**ROGGEVEENS DISCOVERY  
OF EASTER ISLAND**

**ANONYM – WELTREISEN,  
SEEFahrTEN, PIRATERIE**

Historischer Bericht von den sämtlichen durch Engländer geschehenen Reisen um die Welt, und den neuesten dabey gemachten Entdeckungen, in einem getreuen Auszuge aus der Seefahrer Tagebüchern. Aus dem Englischen. 1. und 2. Band (von 6) in 2 Bänden.

Leipzig, Junius 1775. 8vo. 591 S.; 671 S. Lederbände der Zeit mit goldgeprägten Rücken und Rückenschild (leicht berieben), gutes Exemplar.

EUR 12.000,-

Sehr seltene deutsche Ausgabe.

**Band 1:**

- I. Sir Franz Drakens Fahrt um die Welt.
- II. Des Hauptmanns Thomas Cavendish Umschiffung der Erde.
- III. Des Hauptmann Dampiers Reisen.

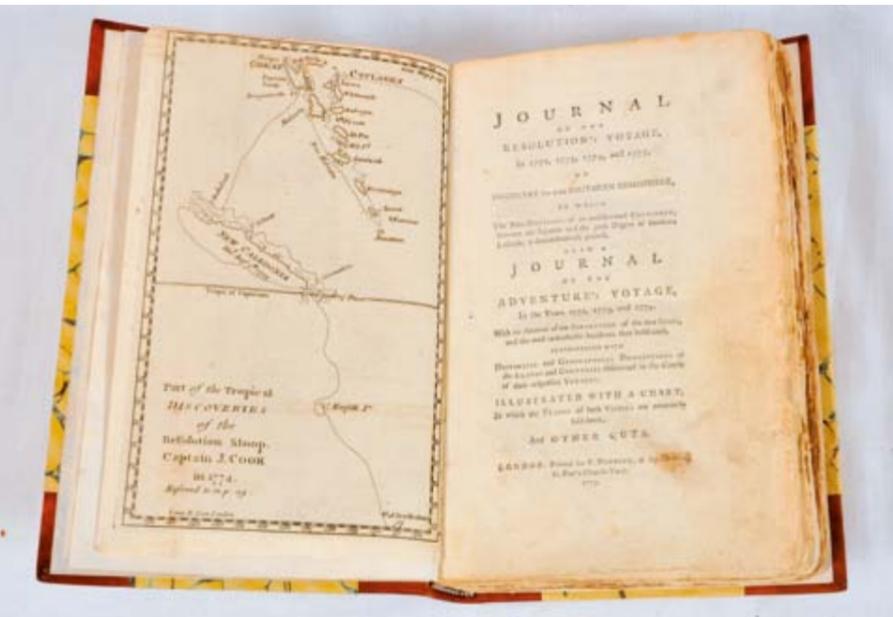
**Band 2: Überwiegend mit Berichten von Freibeutern und Seeräubern.**

- I. Des Cowley Fahrt um die Welt.
- II. Auszug aus einem holländischen Berichte von Roggeweins Entdeckung der Osterinsel.
- III. Bericht von Entdeckung des Davislandes.
- IV. Die Reisen des Hauptmanns (Edward) Cooke.
- V. Hauptmann Clippertons Fahrt um die Welt.
- VI. Des Hauptmanns Shelvock Fahrt um die Welt.
- VII. Ansons Fahrt um die Welt.
- VIII. Anhang. Leben des Admirals Anson.
- IX. Zweyter Anhang. Bericht von dem Verlohren gegangnen Schiff der Wager.

Im ersten Band wird die Weltreise des Francis Drake und seine Kaperfahrten dargestellt. Weiters die wichtigen Reisen von Cavendish und Dampier.

Der zweite Beitrag im 2. Band ist eine Schilderung aus Roggeweins Bericht über seine Weltumsegelung. Bei dieser Fahrt entdeckte er 1722 die Osterinsel (Rapa Nui), sein Begleiter Behrens gab einen Reisebericht in Deutsch heraus. Hier haben wir einen Ausschnitt aus Roggeweins auf holländisch erschienenen Berichts in deutscher Übersetzung. – Sehr selten!

Der dritte Beitrag beginnt mit einer Beschreibung des Erdbebens und des darauf folgenden Tsunami, wodurch am 28. Oktober 1746 die Peruanische Hafenstadt Callao zerstört wurde. Schätzungsweise 5000 Menschen wurden getötet, nur 200 Einwohner überlebten die Naturkatastrophe. – Engelmann I, 96.



**COOK SEGELT ZUR  
OSTERINSEL UND IST  
WENIG BEGEISTERT**

**(MARRA, J.) –  
COOK'S 2. REISE**

Journal of the Resolution's Voyage, in 1772, 1773, 1774, and 1775. On discovery to the Southern Hemisphere.

London, F. Newberry 1775. 8vo. XIII, 328 S. Mit 2 (1 gefalt.) Kupferkarten u. 5 Kupfertafeln. Neuer Halblederband im alten Stil. Some spotting and thumbing, slight browning, restored tear to pp. 153-56. Some offsetting to plates. A uncut copy bound in recent half-calf to old style.

EUR 12.000,-

Sabin 16247; Hocken 14; du Rietz 809; Beddie 1270. – Erste Ausgabe. Marra war Offizier an Bord von Cooks Schiffen und veröffentlichte seine Aufzeichnungen anonym und unautorisiert 18 Monate vor dem Erscheinen des offiziellen Werkes. Enthält die früheste Abhandlung über u. mit Abbildung der Antarktis.

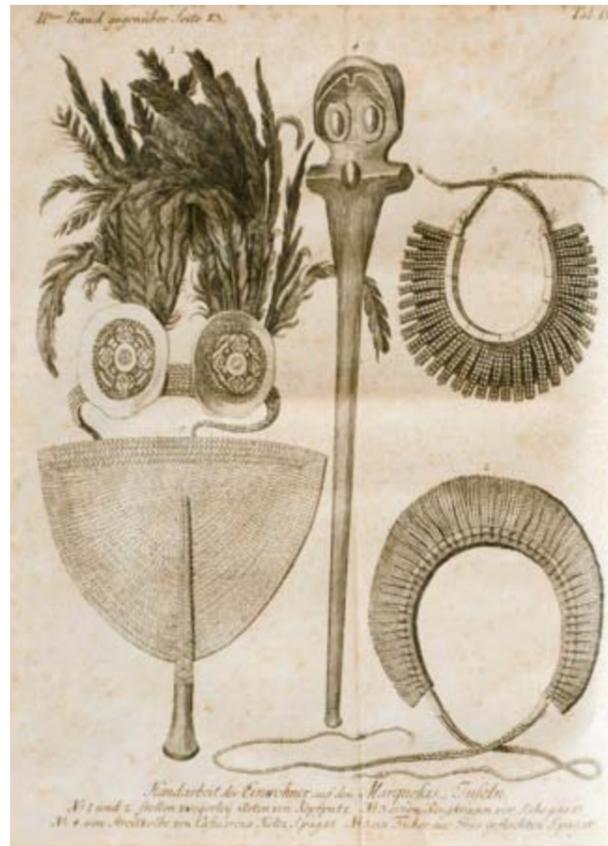
Während seiner zweiten Südseeexpedition besuchte James Cook vom 13. bis 17. März 1774 die Osterinsel. Er war von der Insel nicht begeistert und schrieb in sein Logbuch:

„Keine Nation wird je für die Ehre kämpfen, die Osterinsel erforscht zu haben, zumal es kaum ein anderes Eiland im Meer gibt, welches weniger Erfrischungen bietet und Annehmlichkeiten für die Schifffahrt denn dieses.“ – James Cook: Logbücher der Reisen 1768–1779[

Dennoch brachte der Aufenthalt wesentliche Erkenntnisse über die geologische Beschaffenheit, die Vegetation, die Bevölkerung und die Statuen (die in der Mehrzahl bereits umgeworfen waren). Wir verdanken sie dem deutschen Naturforscher Johann Reinhold Forster und seinem Sohn Johann Georg Adam Forster, die an der Cook-Expedition teilnahmen. Reinhold Forster fertigte auch erste Skizzen der Moais, die, als Kupferstiche in damals typischer romantischer Überhöhung veröffentlicht, in den Salons Aufsehen erregten. (Wikipedia)

This rare account of Cook's second voyage was published surreptitiously eighteen months before Cook's official narrative. It records many incidents omitted by Cook and gives the reasons which caused Sir Joseph Banks and his twelve assistants to withdraw from the expedition at the last moment. Marra was a gunner's mate on the Resolution. He was an Irishman whom Cook had picked up in Batavia during the first voyage. Marra made an unsuccessful attempt to desert at Tahiti on May 14, 1774. Marra probably supplied material from his private journal which was put into shape by some literary person in the pay of the publisher Newbery" (Hill coll. 60). The plates include the first views of the Antarctic.





**COOKS SECOND VOYAGE, VISITING EASTER ISLAND**

**FORSTER, GEORG**

Johann Reinhold Forster's Reise um die Welt während den Jahren 1772 bis 1775 in dem von Seiner itzregierenden Großbritannien Majestät auf Entdeckungen ausgeschickten und durch den Capitän Cook geführten Schiffe „the Resolution“ unternommen. Vom Verfasser selbst aus dem Englischen übersetzt, mit dem Wesentlichsten aus des Capitain Cooks Tagebüchern und andern Zusätzen für den deutschen Leser vermehrt und durch Kupfer erläutert. 2 Bände.

Berlin, Haude und Spener 1778-1780. 4to. 17 nn. Bl., 451 S.; 2 nn. Bl., 467 S., 1 nn. Bl., mit 1 mehrfach gefalteten Kupferkarte und 11 Kupfertafeln. Halblederbände der Zeit mit Rückenschildern und Rückenvergoldung, (etwas berieben, Ecken gestaut, Rücken von Band 2 mit kleiner Fehlstelle). Karte mit kleinem Randeinriss, etwas stockfleckig und gebräunt, Ex-Libris auf Innendeckel und Namensstempel auf Vorsatz von Band 1. Ein gutes Set dieser Reisebeschreibung.

EUR 5.500,-

Berühmter Reisebericht von Cooks zweiter Reise, die Johann Reinhold Forster als Naturforscher auf dessen Hauptschiff „Resolution“ begleitete. Forster war es verboten einen eigenen Bericht dieser Reise in England zu veröffentlichen, sein Sohn Georg, der ebenfalls an der Reise teilnahm, übernahm daher diese Aufgabe. Die englische Ausgabe erschien 1777, allerdings ist die deutsche Ausgabe durch Zusätze aus Cooks Tagebüchern erweitert wurden.

Am 13.3.1774 landeten James Cook und die Forsters auf der Osterinsel und blieben dort vermutlich eine Woche. Über die Moais schreibt Forster:

„Wir erkundigten uns bei einigen, die am verständigsten zu sein schienen, was diese Steine zu bedeuten hätten und soviel wir aus ihrer Antwort schließen und erraten konnten, müssen es Denkmäler ihrer Arikis oder Könige sein. Also ist das gemauerte Piedestal vermutlich als der Begräbnisplatz anzusehen, und bei genauer Untersuchung fanden wir wirklich nicht weit davon eine Menge Menschengebeine, welches dann unsere Vermutung bestätigte.“

„Selbst die sorgfältigsten Nachforschungen waren noch nicht hinreichend gewesen, ein gewisses Licht über die bewunderungswürdigen Gegenstände zu verbreiten, die wir auf dieser Insel antrafen. Was besonders die riesenmäßigen Monumente anlangt, die hier überall so häufig sind und doch die Kräfte der gegenwärtigen Einwohner gar weit zu übertreffen scheinen, so muss man wohl billig annehmen, dass sie Überbleibsel vormaliger besserer Zeiten sind.“

James Cook schrieb über die Osterinsel:

„This is undoubtedly the same Island as was seen by Roggewein in Apl 1722 altho' the description given of it by the author of that Voyage does by no means correspond with it now, it may also be the same as was seen by Captain Davis in 1686, but this is not altogether so certain. In short if this is not the land and if it is not then his discovery cannot lie far from the continent of America for this Latitude seems to have been very well explored between the Meridian of 80 and 110, Captain Carteret carries it much farther, but his Track seems to be a little too far to the South. Had I found fresh Water on this isle I intended to have determined this point by looking for the low sandy isle mentioned by Wafer, but as I did not, and had a long run to make before I was assured of getting any and being at the same time in want of refreshments, I declined it, as a small delay might have been attended with bad consequence. No Nation will ever contend for the honour of the discovery of Easter Island as there is hardly an Island in this sea which affords less refreshments, and conveniences for Shiping than it does. Nature has hardly provided it with any thing fit for man to eat or drink, and as the Natives are but few and may be supposed to plant no more than sufficient for themselves, they cannot have much to spare to new comers.“

„Mehr noch als durch die Kenntnis der Flora und Fauna der Südseeinseln hat sich Reinhold durch umfassende Vergleichung und philosophische Ordnung der einzelnen Beobachtungen und Wahrnehmungen Ruhm und Anerkennung erworben. Er ist der Bahnbrecher geworden für die vergleichende Völker- und Länderkunde, wie für wissenschaftliche Reisebeschreibungen in Deutschland“ (Goed. VI, 238). – Die Tafeln zeigen Pflanzen, Waffen, Handarbeiten und Gebrauchsgegenstände. – Die große Karte der Südhalbkugel mit detaillierten Darstellungen der Kontinente Afrika, Südamerika und Australien. – Goedecke VI, 246, 6; Engelmann 98; Henze II, 264; Sabin 25131; Cox I, 61; Beddie 1250.





In command of two ships, La Pérouse commanding the “Boussole” and de Langle the “Astrolabe”, the expedition left Brest on 1 August 1785 making for Brazil. Doubling Cape Horn La Pérouse refitted in Chile, and then sailed to the Sandwich Islands. On way to these islands the two ships passed by Easter Island. On April 10th, 1786, La Pérouse anchored off Hanga o’ Honu on the island’s north-eastern shore. The French remained only for one day ashore Easter Island and continued their route at nightfall to the Sandwich Islands. From these, La Pérouse steered towards Alaska, where he finally turned south exploring and surveying the coast as far as California.

After a short refit at Monterey, he sailed across the Pacific, discovered uncharted islands, and visited Macao and Manila. After six weeks re-provisioning and refreshing he left on 10 April 1787 to survey the coasts and territories north of Korea, which had been described and commented on by Christian missionaries. He sailed up the Gulf of Tartary, naming several points on both its shores and learned that Sakhalin was an island. In September he put in to Kamchatka to replenish his supplies.

From Kamtchatka he dispatched an officer, de Lesseps, overland to Paris with accounts of his discoveries, while he turned south making for New Holland. In December, at Tutuila, Samoa, which Bougainville had called the Navigator Islands when he explored them in 1768, natives suddenly attacked a party from the Astrolabe seeking water and

killed de Langle and eleven others. La Pérouse left without taking reprisals and sailed through the Pacific Islands to Norfolk Island and to Botany Bay. He was sighted off the coast there on 24 January 1788 but bad weather prevented his entering the bay for two days. By then Governor Arthur Phillip had sailed to Port Jackson, but John Hunter had remained with the Sirius and the transports, and assisted La Pérouse to anchor. La Pérouse established a camp on the northern shore, now called after him, and maintained good relations with the English during his six-week stay.

La Pérouse left Botany Bay on 10 March and was never heard of again. This great French expedition vanished without leaving any trace for the next 40 years. Three years after the disappearance of the two vessels, in the year 1791, the French government undertook the effort to equip another expedition under Bruny d’Entrecasteaux to look for survivors of the La Pérouse expedition. However, this search –by itself an important expedition- did not bear any results as to the whereabouts of the La Pérouse ships and crews.

Vgl. Ferguson 251; Hill 972; Lada-Mocarski 52; Sabin 38960; Smith 2109; Staton & Tremaine/TPL 596; Streeter sale VI:3493; Wickersham 6611; Zamorano 80, 49.

La Pérouse wrote about the Moais:

„Alle und jede Denkmäler, welche dermalen dort vorhanden sind, scheinen in den ältesten Zeiten verfertigt zu sein. Sie stehen insgesamt auf Moais, wie aus dem Umstande erhellet, dass man um und neben denselben eine große Menge Totenknochen wahrnimmt. Statt jener Kolossen errichtet man daher heutiges Tages kleine pyramidenförmige Steinhäufen, deren Spitze mit einer Art Kalkwasser angestrichen werden. Diese Art von Mausoleen, dergleichen ein einzelner Mann in Zeit von einer Stunde zu fertigen imstande ist, trifft man besonders am Seeufer häufig an.“

„Diese kolosalischen Bildsäulen, denen man es ansieht, dass dieses Volk in der Bildhauerkunst noch keine großen Fortschritte gemacht hat, bestehen aus einer vulkanischen Steinart, die den Naturforschern unter der Benennung „lapillo“ bekannt ist. Diese Steine sind so fein und so leicht, dass einige von Cooks Offizieren auf den Einfall kamen, sie für ein Kunstprodukt zu halten, das aus einer Art von Mörtel verfertigt und nachher an der Luft immer härter werde.“

**LA PÉROUSE, JEAN FRANÇOIS DE**  
La Perousen's Entdeckungsreisen in den Jahren 1785, 86, 87 und 88. Aus dem Französischen mit Anmerkungen von Forster und Sprengel. 2 Bände.

Berlin und Hamburg 1800. (Bibliothek der neuesten und interessantesten Reisebeschreibungen, Band 2+3). 8vo. 410 S. mit 1 gest. Frontispiz, 1 Portraitvignette auf dem Titel, 2 Kupfertafeln, 1 gef. Karte; 344 S. mit gest Frontispiz, 1 Titelvignette, 1 gefalt. Karte. Halblederbände der Zeit mit RSchild (etwas berieben), Rotschnitt, guter Zustand.

EUR 2.600,-

The voyage of La Perouse is „one of the most important scientific explorations ever undertaken to the Pacific and the west coast of North America“. In 1783 the French government resolved to send an expedition to the Pacific to complete Captain James Cook’s unfinished work, and in particular to explore the passages in the Bering Sea, which had been a mystery to Europeans since the sixteenth century. King Louis XVI himself took a hand in drafting the plan and itinerary, a copy of which is in the Municipal Library at Rouen, France, and when La Pérouse was selected to lead the fleet gave him an audience before he sailed.

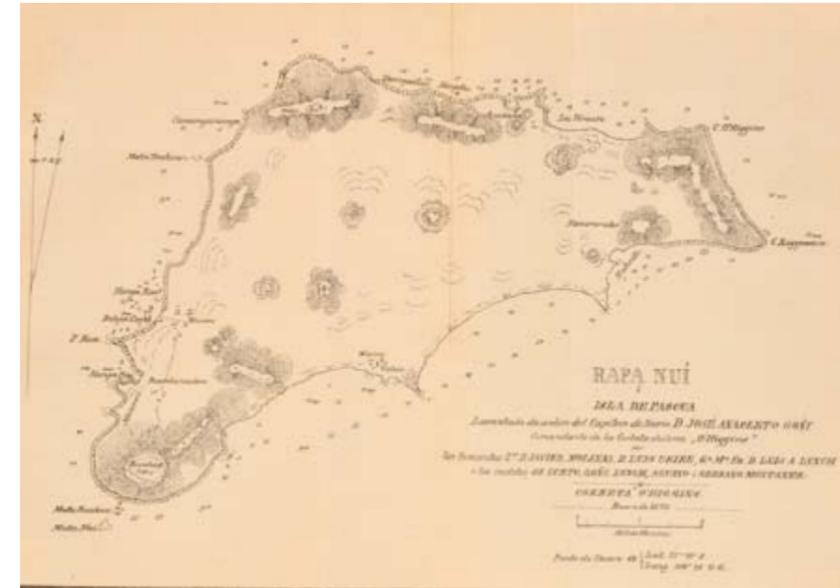
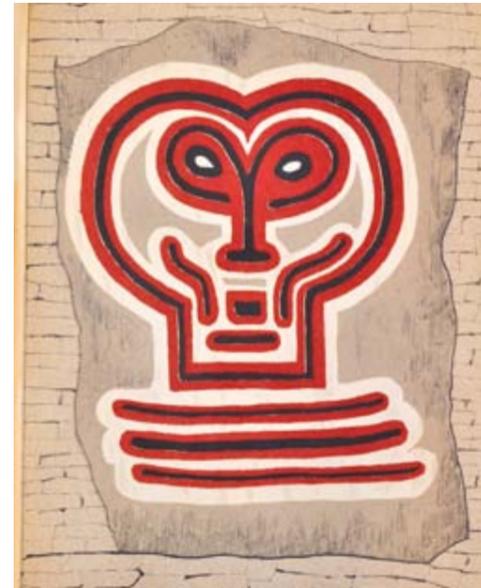




J. Neidder gez.

Rapanui

Skizze eines kleineren Steingötzen von der Ebene vor dem  
Rana Koraka. Originalaufnahme.



**RARE – WITH GREAT ILLUSTRATIONS**  
**GEISELER (KAPITÄNLIEUTENANT)**

Die Oster-Insel. Eine Stätte prähistorischer Kultur in der Südsee. „Bericht des Kommandanten S.M. Kbt. 'Hyäne', Kapitänlieutenant Geiseler, über die ethnologische Untersuchung der Oster-Insel (Rapanui) an den Chef der Kaiserlichen Admiralität“.

Berlin, Mittler 1883. 8vo. 54 S. mit 22 lithographischen Tafeln und 1 Karte. Flixbler Leinenband der Zeit (leicht berieben), St.a.u.verso Titel, Exlibris am Innendeckel. Gutes Exemplar.

Der Band weist zahlreiche alte Bleistift-Marginalien – offenbar von wissenschaftlicher Hand – auf (Handschrift Prof. Robert v. Heine-Geldern?). Bindung und Papierqualität gut.

EUR 9.500,-

This is one of the scarcest early scientific publications on Easter-Island. It appeared only a few years after the small island had been christianized by the French lay-brother Eugene Eyraud (from 1864 onwards) and before the American paymaster Thomson published the first photographic images of the island, its people, scenery, as well as some of the famous moai-sculptures (1889). The German anthropologist Adolf Bastian had requested the Prussian Marine authorities around 1882 to call on this tiny island in the Pacific in order to advance scientific studies into its history, its sculptures and the mysterious “rongo-rongo” wooden tablets with hieroglyphs. By 1883 the ship “Hyäne” under command of captain Geiseler fulfilled this order. On his return Geiseler presented a detailed report with ample illustrative documentation to the Prussian authorities. The recipients were but a few Marine-officers, administrative officials, dignitaries of Prussian militia, representatives of trade-companies, and scientists. The small, yet highly important, publication was not intended for a larger public audience and appeared for this reason in a small number of copies. Today probably the scarcest Easter-Island item. In spite of its age it has not lost its value as an early important document on Easter-Island at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

**THE MOHICAN EXPEDITION OF 1886**

**HOUGH, WALTER**

Notes on the Archeology and Ethnology of Easter Island.

Philadelphia, Ferris Bros. 1889. (In: "American Naturalist", vol. 23 of October 1889), pp 877 – 888. A few text-illustrations. Issues of the "American Naturalist" of the 1880s are not frequent. Our copy bound in hard-cover paper-boards, the original cover of the magazine mounted on the modern top-board – an attractive copy of a scarce account!

EUR 1.200,-

This article by Walter Hough essentially is an account of the results of the "Mohican"-visit to Easter Island in 1886 (of which we have the exhaustive report by paymaster William Thomson as well as the account by Cooke). It is interesting in the fact that Hough's article appeared almost a couple of years earlier than Thomson's authentic account which did not appear before 1891. It may thus be seen as the first account of the famous "Mohican"- visit to Easter Island, albeit not written by someone who actually took part in this landing!

For the American audience the visit to Easter Island of the U.S. Ship "Mohican" in 1886 resulted in the earliest first-hand knowledge concerning this isolated Pacific island! Thomson, as paymaster, and Cooke as surgeon, reported from their own first-hand experience on the island. Hough, anthropologist and archeologist, undertook the effort to give a summary-report before it would take "too long" for the actual participants' accounts to appear in press.

the platforms. Many of the images in the workshops are of proportions, but the largest one on the island lies on one of the ce traces in an unfinished condition and measures 70 feet in length it across the body; the head being 28½ feet long. Some of the g statues are in as perfect condition as the day they were finish One (Fig. 15) is noticeable from the fact that the head is sli rned to one side and is known as the "wry-neck," but whether e result of accident or design could not be determined.



**THE MOHICAN EXPEDITION OF 1886**

**THOMSON, WILLIAM J.**

Te Pito te Henua, or Easter Island.

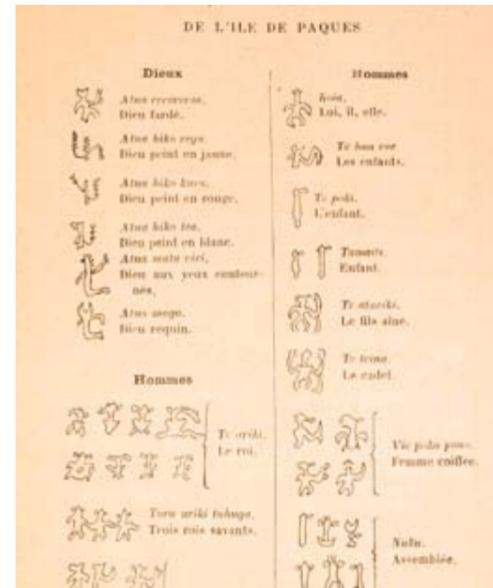
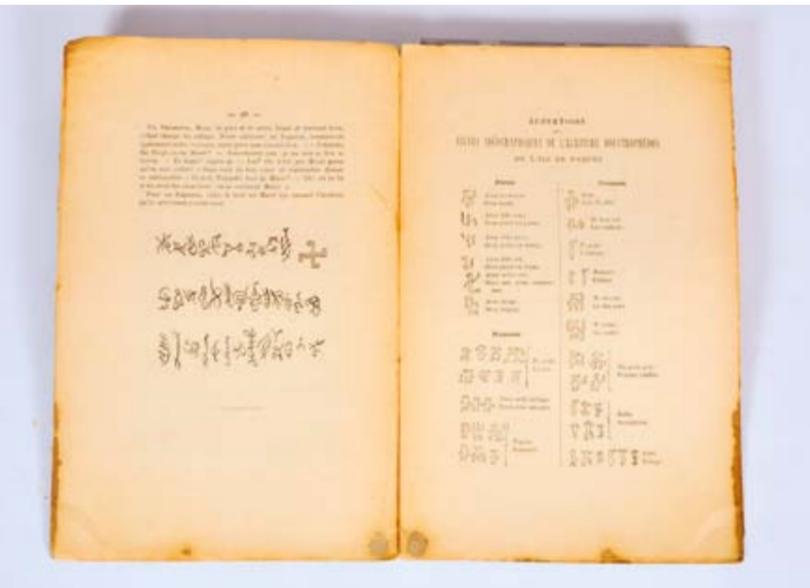
Washington, Government Printing Office 1891. 8vo. S.447-552 mit 48 Fototafeln und 1 Karte. Späterer Leinenband, priv. Exlibris am Innendeckel, ein gutes Exemplar.

EUR 2.500,-

Sonderdruck (in Buchform) aus dem "Annual Report of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution (...) for the year ending June 30<sup>th</sup> 1889. Er enthält die ersten photographischen Abbildungen von Menschen, Landschaft, sowie Steinmonumenten der Osterinsel, die veröffentlicht wurden.

Paymaster William Judah Thomson (1841-1909) kam mit dem U.S.S. „Mohican“ im Dezember 1886 auf die Osterinsel, also nur wenige Jahre nach Geiseler's Besuch. Thomson organisierte eine umfassende, obschon zeitlich relativ kurze, Erforschung der Insel und nahm auch erste Mythen und Erzählungen einiger älterer Insulaner auf. Mit Hilfe des damals einzigen Weissen auf der Insel (Alexander Salmon) gelang es Thomson, 2 geschnitzte Holzbretter mit schriftzeichen-ähnlichen Symbolen (sog. „rongo-rongo“) zu erwerben. Diese, sowie alle sonstigen Funde, wurden im April 1890 dem Smithsonian übereignet.





**RARE – RONGO-RONGO**

**JAUSSEN, TEPANO MONSIGNORE (MGR)**

L'île de Paques. Historique – Écriture. Et Répertoire des Signes des Tablettes ou Bois d'Hibiscus Intelligents. Ouvrage Posthume Rédigé Par Le R.-P. Ildefonse Alazard De la Congregation des SS.- Coeurs de Picpus.

Paris, Ernest Leroux 1893. Gr.-8vo. 2 Bl., 32 S. mit zahlreichen Abbildungen. S.21-32: Repertoire des Signes Idéographiques de l'Écriture Boustrophédon de l'île de Paques.

Original-Broschur, am oberen Vorderdeckel mit mehreren kleinen Einrissen, vorderes Einbandblatt, erstes Blatt, sowie die beiden letzten Blatt mit grösseren, braunen Flecken.

EUR 5.500,-

Next to Geiseler's study one of the rarest Easter-Island publication at all. Monsignore Jaussen (Polynesian name: Tepano) was bishop of Tahiti in the 1880s and 1890s. Since a small number of Easter-Islanders had fled to Tahiti in the early 1880s bishop Jaussen became interested in their original culture, above all their mysterious glyphs on wooden boards ("rongo-rongo") interpreted as an early "writing system". As a matter of fact Jaussen's little booklet has to be seen as the first effort at all to deal with rongorongo from a scientific point of view. Up until today (21st century) the issue of role and importance of the rongorongo boards in the original Easter-Island culture remains unsettled. Jaussen managed to obtain several rongorongo boards from the Pascuenses and undertook the effort to transmit them to leading museums worldwide.

The value of this little (and somewhat shabby) publication can hardly be overestimated and represents one of the gem-stones of each collection of early Easter-Island literature. Extremely scarce!

**THE MOHICAN EXPEDITION OF 1886**

**COOKE, GEORGE H.**

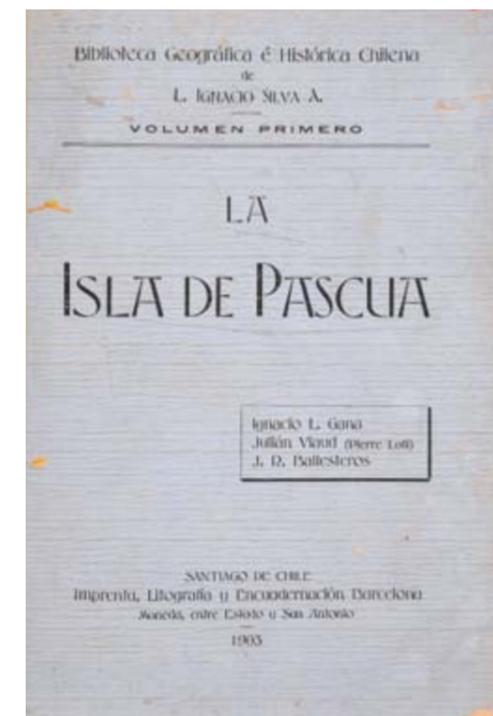
Te Pito te Henua. Known as Rapa Nui; Commonly called Easter Island, South Pacific Ocean.

Latitude 27° 10' S., Longitude 109° 26' W.

Washington 1897. (Extract from account 97-44 of the National Museum of History for the year 1897), 8vo. pp 689 – 723. Octavo-size booklet, bound in half-calf with marbled paper boards, author and title on spine. Scarce item!

EUR 900,-

Report by the Surgeon of the U.S. Ship "Mohican" which visited Easter Island in December 1886. Next to the substantial report by paymaster William Thomson this is the second authentic account by a participant of the Mohican expedition. Our catalogue contains altogether three accounts of the Mohican visit: the report by Thomson, the present account by Cooke, as well as an early general article, drawing on the results of the Mohican visit, by Walter Hough who was not a participant of the Mohican-expedition. These three reports reflect the increasing interest of the US-public in this small island in the Pacific. At the same time they represent valuable information of a phase of rapid change on Easter Island, its population and culture!



**EARLY EASTER ISLAND REPORTS**

**SILVA, L. IGNACIO**

La Isla de Pascua.

Enthält:

Gana, Ignacio L. "Descripción Científica de la Isla de Pascua" (1870)

Viaud, Julián (Pierre Loti) "La Isla de Pascua" (1872/1899)

Ballesteros, José Ramón "Isla de Pascua" (1872)

Santiago de Chile, Litografía y Encuadernación Barcelona Moneda, entre Estado y San Antonio 1903. Neuerer Leinenband, Orig.-Broschur miteingebunden, kl.priv.Exlibris am Innendeckel, ein gutes Exemplar.

EUR 4.800,-

16°-sized booklet, petrol-green recent full cloth-binding, containing the original pale-blue paper-covers. Two nn pages, front-cover title, series-title, title-page, preface pp 5 – 9, account of Ignacio Gana (corvette O'Higgins – 1870) pp 11 – 49, followed by a two-page report by Tomás Guillermo Bate, Surgeon on the O'Higgins on the physical state of the islanders, followed by the account by Pierre Loti, pp 53 – 72, followed by the account of José Ramon Ballesteros, pp 73 – 147 (which contains numerous direct quotations from letters by Pacome Olivier and Eugene Eyraud – both missionaries), followed

by an extensive bibliography on publications on Easter-Island as to the end of the nineteenth century. Pp 149 – 161. Table of contents at end of volume.

Next to Geiseler's German-language publication of 1883 and Thomson's account in English on Easter Island (1889) probably one of the most profound early reports on Rapa Nui. As stated: extremely scarce and possibly the most searched-after volume of the Biblioteca-series.

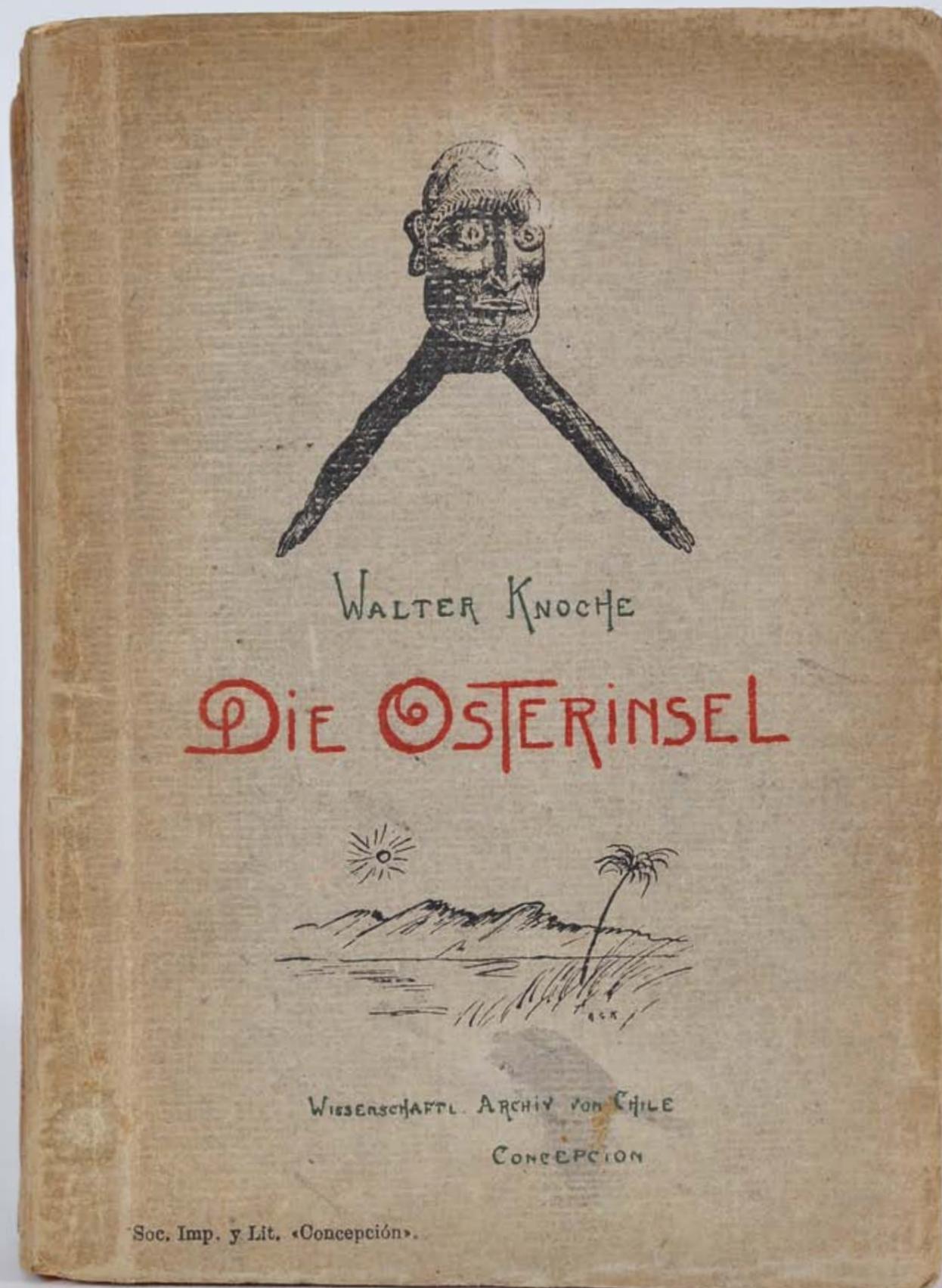


Abb. 13. Verschiedene Tätowierungen an einer Osterinsulanerin. (Vergl. Text Seite 164–169).

**RAPANUI-EXPEDITION 1911**

**KNOCHE, WALTER**

Die Osterinsel. Eine Zusammenfassung der chilenischen Osterinselexpedition 1911.

Concepcion, Verlag des Wiss.Archivs von Chile 1925. 8vo. 4 Bl., 319 S. mit 54 Abbildungen auf 20 Tafeln. Illustrierte Original-Broschur (Rücken etwas brüchig, gebräunt), Papier etwas gebräunt. Priv.St.a.T., insgesamt ein guter Zustand des seltenen Buches.

EUR 9.500,-

Account of an expedition in 1911 to Easter Island, sent out by the Chilean government in order to establish a station for meteorological and seismic research on the island. The leader, Walter Knoche (1881 – 1945), gives a general account of the expedition – years after several results had been published in individual articles in various scientific journals. A scarce and sought-after work on Easter-Island.

The importance of Knoche's expedition in 1911 rests on the fact that he was able to meet two old individuals who still remembered the pre-missionary times on the island, i.e. the years before 1864 – when Eyraud arrived on the island. Knoche was able to interview these two old people about traditional religious rites, myths, music and dances as well as pre-Christian customs and traditions. Three years later, in 1914, when Catherine Routledge arrived at Easter Island, these elderly informants had died. Thus Knoche was the last to interview the last survivors of a bygone time on Rapa Nui.





**KNOCHE, WALTER**

Ein atypischer Kopf aus Pechstein von der Osterinsel.

Berlin, Springer 1929 (In Zeitschr.f. Ethnologie , Bd.60, Bd.61 vorgebunden). Gr.-8vo. S.386 mit 1 Abbildung. Leinenband der Zeit, St.a.T., gutes Exemplar.

EUR 250,-

**KNOCHE, WALTER**

Vorläufige Bemerkung über die Entstehung der Standbilder auf der Osterinsel.

Berlin, Behrend 1912 (In Zeitschr.f. Ethnologie , Bd.44). Gr.-8vo. S.873-877. Halbleinenband der Zeit, St.a.T., gutes Exemplar.

EUR 250,-

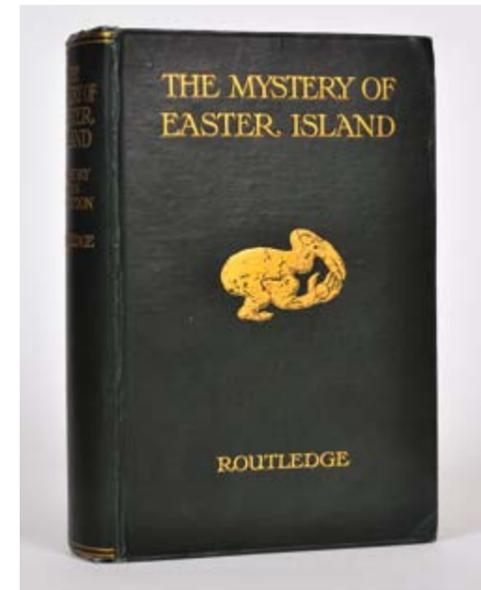


**KNOCHE, WALTER**

Waren die Toromiro der Osterinsel Marionetten?

Berlin, Springer 1929 (In Zeitschr.f. Ethnologie , Bd.59, Bd.58 vorgebunden). Gr.-8vo. S.95-98 mit 4 Abbildungen. Leinenband der Zeit, St.a.T., gutes Exemplar.

EUR 250,-



**FIRST EDITION**

**ROUTLEDGE, KATHERINE**

The Mystery of Easter Island. The Story of an Expedition.

London, Sifton, Praed & Co. 1919. Gr.-8vo. XXI, 404 S. mit 134 Abbildungen uund 11 Karten und Plänen. Original-Leinenband, ein sehr gutes Exemplar.

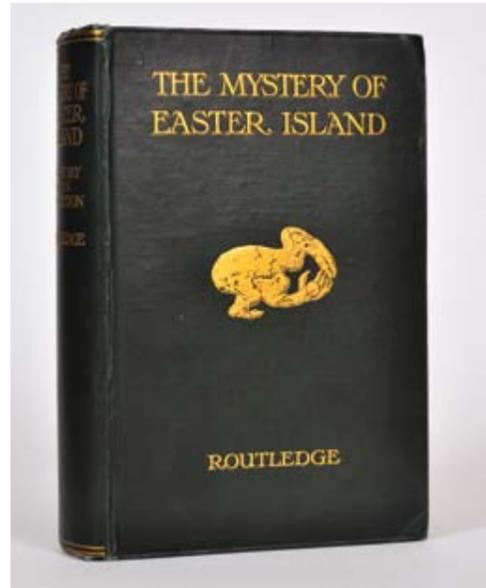
EUR 750,-



In their private yacht "Mana" Katherine Routledge arrived with her husband at Easter Island on 29<sup>th</sup> March 1914. Stranded on this island by the First World War, the couple spent almost 15 months –which Katherine spent entirely on the island whereas her husband undertook a few trips back to Chile during these months to purchase needed food and further equipment. The couple established two base camps, one in the Mataveru area, the other one at the slope of Rano Raraku, the actual "quarry" of the stone-moai. During their time on Easter Island they excavated over 30 moai, made contact with a leper-colony north of Hanga Roa, where they recorded various oral accounts referring to the pre-European history of the native culture.

One of Routledge's findings was the cultural continuity between the statue-carvers and the Polynesian Rapa Nui people resident on the island at the time of her visit. She discovered that the designs carved on the backs of several excavated statues included the same designs tattooed on the backs and posteriors of elderly islanders in the island's leper colony. As the tattooing tradition had been suppressed by missionaries in the 1860s this particular primary evidence was unavailable to later expeditions except through her records.

The Routledge-expedition has to be seen as one of the most important expeditions to Easter Island in the 20<sup>th</sup> century – in its importance only rivalled by the Franco-Belgian expedition during the 1930s (cf. Metraux and Lavachery) and Heyerdahl's in the 1950s!



**ROUTLEDGE, KATHERINE**

**The Mystery of Easter Island. The Story of an Expedition.**

London, Sifton, Praed & Co. 1920. Second edition. Gr.-8vo. XXIV, 404 S. mit 134 Abbildungen und 11 Karten und Plänen. Original-Leinenband (Kanten etwas berieben), am Anfang und Ende etwas gebräunt, das Portrait von Routledge lose, insgesamt ein gutes Exemplar.

EUR 450,-

In their private yacht "Mana" Katherine Routledge arrived with her husband at Easter Island on 29<sup>th</sup> March 1914. Stranded on this island by the First World War, the couple spent almost 15 months –which Katherine spent entirely on the island whereas her husband undertook a few trips back to Chile during these months to purchase needed food and further equipment. The couple established two base camps, one in the MATAVERI area, the other one at the slope

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**MCMILLAN-BROWN, JOHN**

**The Riddle of the Pacific.**

London, T. Fisher Unwin 1924. First edition, hardcover, 312 pages. Original blue cloth-binding. With numerous photographic illustrations/plates throughout the text pages. Pages clean, binding sturdy,

EUR 150,-

This book was written for the most part on Easter Island itself. It gives a full account of its features, inhabitants, ancient sculptors, various cults and religions. Finally, the author promotes his theory of Easter Island as part of a great sunken empire. This title is one of the most difficult books on Pacific archaeology to find. Going beyond Easter Island the author considers cults across the eastern Pacific. A valuable title – written by a man who spent 5 consecutive months on Easter Island in 1922, partially living in a small tent at the western coast of the island. McMillan-Brown got into close contact with numerous islanders who admired him on account of his age (he was 76 years old when residing on Easter Island).



**LAVACHERY, HENRY**

**Île de Pâques.**

Paris, Éditions Bernard Grasset (1935). First edition, small octavo, cheap original bluish paper-binding, title, author, and Easter-Island design in red and black on faded top-board. Titling also on spine. Collation: 1 nn page, half-title, title-page, dedication-leaf, introductory note by author, map of pacific ocean, text pp 11 – 287, bibliography pp 288 – 290, list of illustrations (photographs) pp 291 – 296, table of contents pp 297 – 299, 2 nn pages at end.

EUR 120,-

Lavachery was archeologist in charge in the Franco-Belgian Easter-Island expedition of 1934/1935. He was accompanied by ethnographer Alfred Métraux who published the first most profound ethnography of Easter Island in 1940. Going far beyond the diggings and research of Katherine Routledge (1914/1915) Lavachery undertook the first extensive archeological survey of the island – years later only to be rivalled by the excavations of the Norwegian expedition under leadership of Thor Heyerdahl. His book today is a classic of the earlier Easter-Island literature.



**ENGLERT, P. SEBASTIAN**

**La Tierra de Notu Matu'a. Historia, Etnología y Lengua de la Isla de Pascua. Santiago de Chile, Imprenta y Edit.**

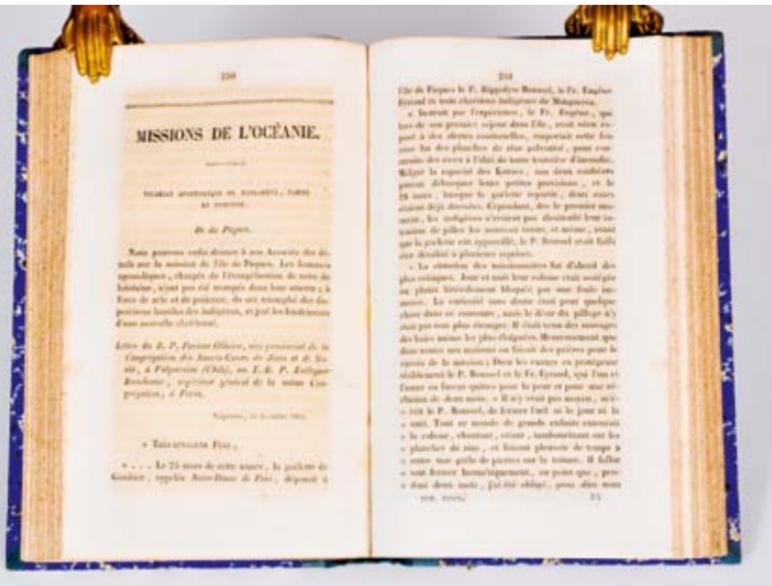
"San Francisco" Padre las Casas 1948. First edition, small-quarto size, original green half-cloth binding, illustrated top board, author and title on top board, spine not legible any more. Binding sturdy, overall good copy. Collation: 1 nn page, dedication to Hermano Eugenio Eyraud, frontis verso, title-page, imprimatur verso, table of contents, introduction pp 7-12, text pp 15-513, appendix (archeological survey) pp 515-533, multiple-folding-map at end of volume. The text contains a long vocabulary of the Rapa Nui language.

EUR 150,-

Father Sebastian Englert (1888 – 1969) was a Capuchin Franciscan friar, Roman Catholic priest, missionary, linguist and ethnographer from Germany. He is known for his pioneering work on Easter Island, where the local museum is named after him.

From 1935 for more than 30 years until his death, Father Sebastian worked as a missionary priest on Rapa Nui (Easter Island). At the time, he was perhaps the only non-Rapa Nui to have mastered the native language. Although he celebrated Mass in Latin, he preached, heard confessions and catechized the faithful in the Rapa Nui language. He also translated popular catholic texts into Rapa Nui and encouraged native religious song. He wrote a history of the early activity of the French Sacred Hearts missionaries who first evangelized the island. Given the isolation of Rapa Nui during the period before air travel, Father Sebastian researched the language, ethnology and anthropology of Easter Island to a very profound degree. His knowledge of Rapa Nui culture and prehistory impressed the scientific staff of the Norwegian Archeological Expedition under Heyerdahl.

Our present title is a seminal study of Rapa Nui culture by an author who –possibly like no one else– penetrated the minds, mentality, and thinking of the Rapa Nui population before contact intensified after the building of the airport near Hanga Roa. It is a most valuable study joining the important works by Routledge, Knoche, Métraux, and Heyerdahl in its wealth of detailed information. Englert died in 1969 during a lecture-tour in the USA.



FIRST MISSIONARY REPORTS

MISSIONSBERICHTE VON DER OSTERINSEL

Annales de la Propagation de la Foi. Recueil Périodique des lettres des évêques et des missionnaires des missions des deux mondes, et de tous les documents relatifs aux missions et à l'oeuvre de la propagation de la foi. 2 Volumes.

Lyon 1866 and 1867. 8vo. 1866: Olivier: S.44-52, Eyraud: S.52-71 und S.124-138, S.139-145. 1867: S.73-74, S.250-259. Unterschiedlich gebundene Halblederbände der Zeit, Exlibris am Innendeckel, leicht gebräunt, gute Exemplare.

EUR 3.500,-

Two volumes (38 and 39) of this annual missionary-report which contain the first missionary comments and descriptions of Easter Island. Writings of Eugene Eyraud, Pacome Olivier, Albert Montiton, Hippolyte Roussel, Gaspard Zumbomh et altera are to be found. A scarce and valuable source for the first and substantial missionary influence on Easter Island. Important for the history of Easter Island because the missionaries entirely uprooted the original customs and culture of ancient Rapa Nui.

PINART, ALPHONSE

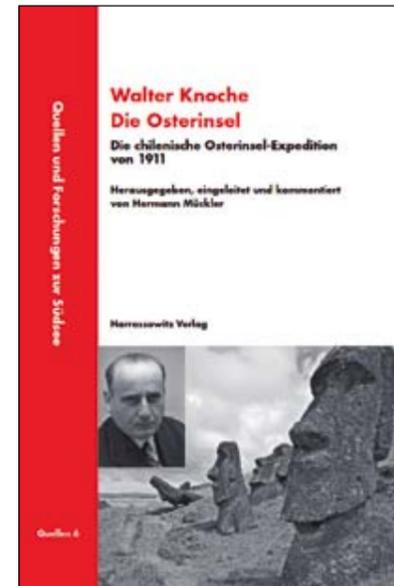
Voyage à l'Île de Paques (Océan Pacifique).

Paris, Le Tour du Monde, XXXVI. 1878 (Sonderabdruck a. Le Tour du Monde). 4to. S.225-240 mit zahlreichen Holzstich-Abbildungen im Text. Späterer dunkelbrauner Papiereinband, Autor und Titel in weissen Buchstaben auf schwarzem Papierlabel auf Vorderdeckel montiert.

EUR 300,-

Alphonse Pinart (1852-1911) war ein französischer Entdecker, Philologe und Ethnograph. Er war ein früherer Vertreter der Annahme, dass Amerika zuerst durch Migration über die Beringstrasse bevölkert worden sei. Um dafür Belege zu sammeln, unternahm er ausgedehnte Reisen im pazifischen Raum, von Alaska und den Aleuten bis hinunter zur Osterinsel. Er war mit der berühmten Altamerikanistin Zelia Nuttall verheiratet.

Pinart kam 1877 auf die Osterinsel, zu einem Zeitpunkt, als die Missionare der Sacre-Coeur ihren Rückzug vorbereiteten und der Abenteurer Dutrou-Bornier, der die Osterinselbevölkerung einige Jahre drangsaliert hatte, kurz vorher von den Insulanern ermordet worden war. Sein Bericht, erstmals veröffentlicht in der hier vorliegenden Form in „Le Tour du Monde“ war in Frankreich fast umgehend sehr populär und wurde in den Folgejahren viel zitiert. Bis heute ein wichtiges literarisches Dokument aus einer der schwersten Zeiten der Osterinselgeschichte! Es gibt eine englische Übersetzung seines Berichts in einer Veröffentlichung der Easter-Island-Foundation aus dem Jahr 2004 („Early Visitors to Easter Island 1864-1877“ von Ann M. Altman. Von besonderem Interesse in unserem Exemplar ein ganzseitiger Holzstich der den Besuch von Pinart bei der „Königin der Osterinsel“ (eigentlich der Witwe von Dutrou-Bornier) darstellt.



NEW, ANNOTATED EDITION OF KNOCHE'S „OSTERINSEL“

HERMANN MÜCKLER (HG.)

Walter Knoche: Die Osterinsel – die chilenische Osterinsel-Expedition von 1911.

Herausgegeben, eingeleitet und kommentiert von Hermann Mückler. Reihe Quellen und Forschungen zur Südsee, Reihe A, Quellen, Bd. 6, Wiesbaden 2015: Harrassowitz Verlag, XIV, 306 Seiten - 79 Abb., 1 Diagramm, 1 Tabelle. Illustrierter OriginalEinband, neuwertig. ISBN: 978-3-447-10478-4.

EUR 68,-

Dem aus Berlin stammenden Meteorologen und Biophysiker Walter Knoche wurde von der chilenischen Regierung 1911 die wissenschaftliche Leitung der ersten chilenischen Osterinsel-Expedition

übertragen. Mit dem Schiff „General Baquedano“ gelangte eine mehrköpfige wissenschaftliche Kommission auf die abgelegene polynesische Insel, die seit 1888 unter chilenischer Kolonialverwaltung gestanden, jedoch bis zu der Expedition keine nähere Beachtung gefunden hatte. Knoche errichtete nicht nur eine meteorologische und seismologische Station auf der Insel, sondern führte darüber hinaus unterschiedliche, vor allem ethnologische Erhebungen durch. Der heute weitgehend unbekannt Wissenschaftler verfasste 1925 das Buch Die Osterinsel. Da es ihm noch möglich war, die letzten beiden Osterinsulaner, die die alten Kulturtraditionen der im Aussterben begriffenen Rapanui-Kultur kannten, zu befragen, dokumentierte er Bräuche und Überlieferungen, die wenige Jahre später gänzlich verloren gegangen sind.

Sein damals in nur geringer Stückzahl erschienen Buch wird nun nach 90 Jahren der Öffentlichkeit wieder zugänglich gemacht. In der kommentierten Ausgabe werden erstmals der biografische Hintergrund von Walter Knoche sowie seine vielfältigen wissenschaftlichen Aktivitäten in den Bereichen Meteorologie, Geografie, Ethnologie und Medizin dargestellt. Knoches Buch dokumentiert den Stand der Osterinselforschung in den 1920er-Jahren und beleuchtet aus interdisziplinärer Sicht die Probleme der polynesischen Inselbevölkerung in einer Epoche, die von vielfältigen äußeren Einflussnahmen wie Versklavung, eingeschleppten Krankheiten, Missionierung und Kolonialismus geprägt war.



# Rapanui Culture – Tapati

## “EASTER ISLAND” – THE FORGOTTEN BOOK BY THE EASTER ISLAND EXPLORER WALTER KNOCHE

Hermann Mückler, Vienna

Way back in the early 1990s the author of this article found out that a book on Easter Island existed, written and published in German in 1925, nowadays available only in very few and special libraries. It practically never appears on antiquarian book markets and the information it contains is new to most people; only a small number of experts on Easter Island are familiar with it and only very few of them would actually have read the book. This book is a rather inconspicuous, small-size one, printed on bad quality, acid, woody paper with an unpretentious cover. And yet this book is very precious indeed. Not only is it a rarity on the second-hand market, but it also offers some most important information, of interest for ethnological and anthropological research in those days as well as for present day Easter Island research. The author of the book is Walter Knoche. To the title of the book “Die Osterinsel” (Easter Island) an explanatory sub-title is added to narrow down the scope of the book. It says: “The Chilean Easter Island Expedition of 1911”.<sup>1</sup> Knoche had organized this expedition, which had been initiated by the Chilean government, and carried out with the Chilean Navy training ship “General Baquedano”. He was accompanied by three more scientists. To this day this expedition has not been paid much attention by the scientific community. In the historical and ethnological literature on this subject, only very few articles, written in Spanish, have appeared. So, in effect, hardly anyone is familiar with the details of this expedition. I myself, during the few months that I spent in Chile in 2009, have tried to obtain on the spot information on this Chilean research expedition in the national and regional archives, museums and libraries. The yield was very marginal. Even the Museo Navale e Marítimo in the Chilean port of Valparaiso could provide very little useful information on the Easter Island Expedition of 1911. Yes, the ship’s logbooks of that expedition are kept there, but above and beyond that the keepers of the archives were not able to provide any interesting material. Perhaps some such material is hidden away somewhere in archives, but this will be left for the next generation of Spanish speaking researchers to find out.

Walter Knoche’s book appeared in a small edition of probably not more than one hundred copies. It was published in German in Concepción in Chile.

Hardly anyone is familiar with it in Chile because it is written in German, and in the German speaking world it is also almost unknown because it was published in Chile in a very small edition and only a few copies found their way to Europe. It is not really surprising that in those days in Chile the book appeared in German: Not only was the author himself born in Berlin – for Knoche’s biography, more below – but also the German language was an accepted scientific language at that time especially in the natural sciences and the arts. This means that especially before the Great War but also still in the inter-war years, German and English were the predominant scientific languages in the world. The result of having lost two World Wars was that German also lost its world-wide significance as a scientific language, indeed has been deliberately ousted as such by the victorious powers. Chilean professional journals at the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, however, had been published mostly in Spanish and German, the reason being certainly the fact that many German ex-patriots, amongst them numerous scientists and researchers, had settled in Chile – Knoche was one of them.

When luckily I was able to obtain a copy of Knoche’s original Easter Island book at the end of the 1990s at quite some price, it became obvious for me: This book provided the incentive for a research project of many years, which began to take shape in 2006. In search of material I travelled to many countries, ultimately also in 2009 twice to Chile and Argentina and finally to Easter Island itself. Thereupon the material which I had collected in places such as New York, Berlin, Jerusalem, Phoenix/Arizona, Santiago/Chile, Valparaiso and Buenos Aires had to be reviewed. It was the aim to re-publish and make available the complete text of Knoche’s Easter Island book, and to add some biographical details on Walter Knoche, together with weighting Knoche’s work and interpretations to benefit current (Easter Island) research. Moreover, at a US auction I managed to buy another original copy of the book, but one that was bound at a later date. And eventually I was told that a third copy existed which was said to be offered for sale in a second hand book shop in Santiago de Chile. I immediately contacted the book shop and wanted to enquire about the condition of the book.

The most unsatisfactory reply I got, was that no one even knew whether they had ever had such a book. So this book remains to be a rarity and very special in many respects.

In 2015 my book on Walter Knoche and the Easter Island Expedition of 1911 was at last published by the scientific publishing house Harrassowitz of Wiesbaden. This hard cover book of more than 300 pages, with almost 80 illustrations is currently the only book dealing with the meteorologist, anthropologist, physician and ethnologist Walter Knoche, and which describes historical and organizational details of the first and so far most comprehensive Chilean Easter Island expedition. An English edition of the book is currently being produced and a Spanish edition of this originally German work is being discussed. This comprehensive and commented new edition will now make the book by Knoche available to the general public, but the value of the precious original book is in no way diminished thereby.

### Biography of Walter Knoche

The key data of Walter Knoche’s biography can be summed up as follows: He was born in Berlin on March 7<sup>th</sup>, 1881 and was the son of the industrialist Moritz Knoche and his wife Anna; they had seven children. His mother Anna Knoche, born in 1875, was the daughter of Ismar Ehrlich and Rosa Weigert and she had five brothers and sisters, one of them being the future Nobel-Prize winner in Medicine, Paul Ehrlich. Having finished school Walter Knoche passed his finals in 1902. He then began to study natural sciences. For this purpose he first went to Geneva University but after one semester he left Geneva for the Friedrich-Wilhelms University in Berlin. Knoche’s fields of specialization were meteorology and geography. From the beginning of his scientific career most of his works had to do with a combination of these two disciplines. From 1905–1907, after having briefly worked in a number of observatories for the Department for Weather Forecasts of the Meteorological Service of Prussia, he went on numerous geographical expeditions to Turkey and to various countries in North Africa and to the Canary Islands. Subsequently he went to South America to do research on the micro climate and atmospheric electricity at 5.200 m above sea level in the course of an expedition to the high cordillera of Bolivia. The results of this expedition were later published by the Instituto Central Meteorológico y Geofísico de Chile.

In 1910 the Chilean government under Pedro Montt had offered him to head and reorganize this institute and he had readily accepted this responsible position. Starting from Chile, Knoche undertook a number of expeditions to most of the South American countries in the following decades.

In 1937 Knoche moved from Chile to neighbouring Argentina with which he was quite familiar and to which he had dedicated a number of publications on former occasions. He lived in Buenos Aires and worked there as a climate advisor in what was then the Ministry of Meteorology, Geophysics and Hydrology. At the outbreak of World War II and with the increasingly precarious situation of his family in Germany, he tried to help from abroad to enable some members of his family to leave Nazi Germany. In this connection he also corresponded with the Nobel Prize winner in Physics, Albert Einstein. On July 5<sup>th</sup>, 1945 Walter Knoche died of a heart ailment. At the time of his death he had been the Head of the Department of Climatology of the Ministry of Meteorology, Geophysics and Hydrology in Buenos Aires. Walter Knoche left an oeuvre of 308 publications, which dealt mainly with meteorological, climatological, geophysical, geographical, but also medical-anthropological issues. Of these 308 publications, 39 are devoted to Easter Island – proof of the fact that Knoche’s fascination with Easter Island kept him busy in his scientific research for a lengthy period of time, and this resulted in quite a number of publications for various scientific journals (see also the second article in this catalogue).



Portrait of Walter Knoche from the mid 1930s



A stamp about Walter Knoche was issued by the Austrian Postal Service in 2015, commemorating his 70's anniversary of death.

## The Significance of Knoche's Easter Island Book

The Chilean government initiated the research expedition to Easter Island in 1911. Easter Island had been under Chilean colonial rule since 1888, but had hardly attracted the Chilean administration's attention until then. This expedition marked the beginning of an interest taken in the island by the Chilean administration. This remote island in the South East Pacific belongs to the greater Oceanic region of Polynesia, is called Rapanui by its Polynesian inhabitants, the Chileans spell the name Rapa Nui. The name Easter Island goes back to the Dutch explorer Jakob Roggeveen, who discovered the island on Easter Sunday of 1722 for Europe.

Two authors concerned with this region have given some attention to Knoche: the Norwegian experimental archaeologist Thor Heyerdahl, and the Swiss ethnologist Alfred Métraux. Heyerdahl was interested in Knoche's research on Easter Island to the extent that he carefully studied Knoche's information on the material culture and the archaeology of the Rapanui when he was planning his own expedition to Easter Island in 1955-1956. At some later date Heyerdahl devoted a sub-chapter to Knoche in each of his two publications: In the popular scientific book on "Die Kunst der Osterinsel" (Easter Island Art)<sup>2</sup>, and in the two volumes about the insights gained from the archaeological and ethnological findings of his own Easter Island expedition of 1955-1956, which he published together with Edwin Ferdon.<sup>3</sup> Métraux likewise mentions Knoche; he had already visited Easter Island in 1934-1935 and had written an article about his visit.<sup>4</sup> Other authors - e.g. the New Zealand-Scottish John Macmillan Brown, philologist and researcher of Oceania, - copied drawings from Knoche's book to illustrate their own books without mentioning the source, in Macmillan Brown's case in connection with tattoos and Knoche's ethnographic collection.<sup>5</sup> Others just mention him by the way, so that only now the attention has been drawn to Knoche as a result of my publications on this topic.

The Easter Island book was not given much attention by the community of Easter Island researchers when it was published. So far we know of no contemporary review of the book or of an evaluation according to scientific criteria. Knoche's interviews of islanders, which he carried out with great enthusiasm, may have lacked validity, because in the short time available Knoche mainly had to attend to the meteorological and geophysical jobs he had been assigned by the Chilean government, and in addition pursued all the other topics that interested him. And yet, in terms of chronology (in 1911) he was the first explorer who systematically tried to get information on all aspects of the life of the Rapanui. In his book we find all his own observations and surveys as well as the conclusions he drew from them.



The Chilean Navy training ship „General Baquedano“ off the Chilean coast.

What is so special about this book? Knoche was the first explorer to undertake systematic field research on the island. The English explorer Katherine Scoresby Routledge went there later, in 1914, to carry out archaeological research, and only from the 1930s on we can speak of some explicit research on Easter Island in the form of an archaeological/ethnological sub-discipline. Knoche was the first and at the same time the last person able to enquire about and observe things which never more existed three years later when Routledge spent considerably more time on the island than Knoche. Knoche managed to interview two old men who were able to describe, at least roughly, the traditional customs, feasts, dances, ceremonies and other cultural manifestations. He was on the island at a time when the living conditions of the indigenous population were extremely bad. These conditions were mainly the result of the complete disinterest in the island by the questionable Chilean colonial government. As a matter of fact the inhabitants of the island, as Knoche found them in 1911, were living in abominable conditions.

Marginalized and largely deprived of their cultural roots, from the European (and Chilean) perspective, this Polynesian indigenous population was considered to be a "dying race", whose extinction could not be prevented but only delayed. The population had been massively decimated in the middle of the 19<sup>th</sup> century as a result of kidnapping by Peruvian slave traders and by imported diseases. By 1877 it had reached an absolute minimum. Only 111 islanders were still alive, among them allegedly 26 women, so that the population was rapidly nearing extinction. The German Captain Wilhelm Geiseler, who had visited the island in 1887 with his vessel "SMS Hyäne", wrote in his report on the visit that he had encountered 67 men, 39 women and 44 children, i.e. 150 people altogether. In 1911, the year of Knoche's expedition, there were already 228 inhabitants on the island, among them for the first time again since the first census, an equal number of men and women.

Knoche's main work reflects just one moment in time. This book, which is the only one that describes the Easter Island Expedition of 1911, is significant not only for the history of science as a whole, but it is also a substantial work for Easter Island research. It is essential for us to be able to reconstruct the situation of life and the traditions of the Rapanui as they existed at the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century on the Polynesian island, and also for us to be able to evaluate the status of Easter Island research in the 1920s. Knoche definitely deserves to go down in history as one of the great Easter Island explorers, and that his work will be more cherished in future.

<sup>1</sup> Walter Knoche: Die Osterinsel. A Résumé of the Easter Island Expedition of 1911. Concepción 1925: published by Scientific Archives of Chile.

<sup>2</sup> Thor Heyerdahl: Die Kunst der Osterinsel. Geheimnisse und Rätsel (Easter Island Art, Mysteries and Riddles), Gütersloh, Vienna 1975: Bertelsmann.

<sup>3</sup> Thor Heyerdahl & Edwin Ferdon Jr. (eds.): Archaeology of Easter Island. Reports of the Norwegian Archaeological Expedition to Easter Island and the East Pacific Volume I. Monographs of the School of American research and the Museum of New Mexico, No. 24, Part 1, London 1961: George Allen and Unwin.

<sup>4</sup> Alfred Métraux: Ethnology of Easter Island. Bernice P. Bishop Museum Bulletin 160, Honolulu 1940: Bishop Museum Press.

<sup>5</sup> John Macmillan Brown: The Riddle of the Pacific. London 1926: T. Fisher Unwin; the drawings are opposite pages 142 and 172.

## i ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Hermann Mückler is Professor for Cultural and Social Anthropology at the University of Vienna, focussing on topics of anthropology, (ethno)history, colonial history and on political issues in the greater region of the Asian Pacific area, especially the Pacific Islands (Oceania) and Australia. He is the President of the Anthropological Society in Vienna, and the Federation of Austrian-Foreign Societies.

Among his more than twenty book publications - most of them about Oceania - are a four volume edition about the cultural history of the Pacific Islands, an encyclopedia with more than 1.700 biographic entries about pioneer missionaries in Oceania, two books about the Fiji Islands and a book about Austrians in the South Pacific.

Regarding Easter Island/Rapa Nui he published one book about Walter Knoche and edited a volume together with Ian Conrich about recent cultural and historical perspectives on the remote island. His most recently book is about the Marshall Islands and Nauru during German colonial times.

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# Ahu Tongariki and an Austrian guy

## WALTER KNOCHE'S OEUVRE ON EASTER ISLAND A CURSORY FORAY INTO THE PUBLICATIONS BY THE LEADER OF THE CHILEAN EASTER ISLAND EXPEDITION OF 1911.

Hermann Mückler, Vienna

When Walter Alfred Knoche was assigned by the Chilean government in 1911 to lead the first Chilean expedition to Easter Island he certainly did not realize that this remote Polynesian island, which had been under Chilean colonial rule since 1888, would pursue him the rest of his life. 38 articles and one book are the result of his scientific preoccupation with Rapa Nui, as the inhabitants of the island themselves like to call it.

The experiences and the lessons learned from his twelve days' stay on Easter Island in 1911 were altogether very impressive and influenced him for the rest of his life. His assignment was to travel to Easter Island on the Chilean Navy training ship "General Baquedano" and to set up a seismological and meteorological station there and in addition to find out all he could about the indigenous population. Knoche was just the person for this job considering his scientific background: He was an expert in meteorology, geophysics, geography and cultural anthropology and had some experience in physical anthropology and even – to a limited extent – in medicine. He was well suited to lead this expedition and to achieve the maximum scientific gain for all these branches of science from this short visit.

When he was invited to lead this expedition, he had already been successful in his career in Santiago, the capital of Chile: He was the co-founder and Head of the central meteorological service (Instituto Central Meteorológico y Geofísico de Chile) in Santiago de Chile, an institution which he headed until 1916. Moreover Walter Knoche, who was born in Berlin in 1881 and died in Buenos Aires in Argentina in 1945, was the co-founder of a pharmaceutical enterprise.

His articles on Easter Island prove that for his research and the publication of its results Knoche invested his expert knowledge in these many fields of science. What is so special about his scientific publications is not the large number of them, even if they are numerous indeed, but the great variety of topics and issues he dealt with. Some of these are of almost iconographic significance these days and this is shown by the fact that illustrations of tattoos taken from his book are frequently reproduced – yet very often without the source being quoted.

Below, a complete list of all of Knoche's publications on Easter Island is assembled for the first time, and it clearly shows the wide scope of topics, ranging from research on myths and songs, ethnological treatises, local customs and rituals to aspects of natural sciences, the micro-climate, and physical anthropology. His main work of course is the book *"Die Osterinsel. Die chilenische Osterinsel-Expedition von 1911"* (Easter Island. The Chilean Easter Island Expedition of 1911), published in Concepción in Chile in 1925 in German in a very small edition.<sup>1</sup> Original copies of this 300 page extremely rare book appear on the market only seldom and are therefore offered at exorbitant prices (see also the article on the book in the present catalogue).

The author of this article was able to successfully trace the circumstances of the Chilean Easter Island expedition and conducted a project thereto in the years from 2008 to 2014, and he was also able to re-publish Knoche's main work together with comments. Thus the information given in that book has become easily available and also the biographical background of Walter Knoche himself is presented in detail.<sup>2</sup> A comment by Hermann Mückler on the largely forgotten and now re-discovered book by Knoche was already published in Catalogue XI (N.F.) of the Antiquariat Kainbacher, when one of those rare copies of the book was offered for sale.<sup>3</sup>

The articles written by Knoche on Easter Island are even less well known. Most of them were printed in scientific journals published in German and Spanish even before the book was released. This is why some of the information contained in the book of 1925 had already appeared in articles, sometimes in more detail, sometimes more concise but very similar, sometimes even identical. All the same, quite a number of articles are isolated articles and had never yet appeared anywhere else. In the course of another two-year project that was started after the Knoche book had already been re-published, the author was able to discover all of Knoche's publications. "All of" in this context means that to the best of my knowledge and having tapped all the sources available presumably all the works ever published by Knoche have been discovered; however, it can never be ruled out that there may be a hitherto unknown publication hidden away somewhere.

In order to render this undertaking as successful as possible, libraries and library associations the world over were visited and searched for any publications by Knoche. At the time when the commented book by Knoche was re-published, 35 articles had been found. Now, at the beginning of 2017, three more articles, hitherto unknown, and therefore not yet listed, can be added. Many of the German publications were found in South American libraries, mainly in Chilean ones. This has to do with the fact that they were published in Latin-American journals, written in German, which was a very common scientific language in Latin America up to World War II.

### Knoche's scientific articles – a few examples



Moai stone sculpture on the slopes of Rano Raraku near the ancient quarry, viewing west.

Some of Knoche's publications deal with the material culture of the Rapanui and clearly have to do with the fact that he himself collected precious ethnological specimens of Easter Island culture while on the island. These objects, which he brought to Chile in 1911 and later on sold piecemeal, can today be found in various museums and from time to time they appear in some of the rare Easter Island exhibitions. His article dated 1927: "Waren die Toromiro der Osterinsel Marionetten?" (–Were the toromiro of Easter Island puppets?) – is a case in point; it shows that Knoche was speculating on what could have been the function, in a ritual, religious or folkloric context, of these wooden anthropomorphic figures carved from the hard toromiro wood of Easter Island.<sup>4</sup> Even if he could give no definite answer to this question, in this article Knoche managed to discuss aspects of ancestor worship, which was relevant not only for the Rapanui, but could also be observed in other regions of Polynesia.

Also the 1928 publication "Ein atypischer Kopf aus Pechstein von der Osterinsel" (An atypical head from Easter Island made of pitchstone) shows that Knoche was interested in the object as such. It is striking that these two articles were published at a relatively late date, i.e. a long time after the expedition. Each of them appeared after his book had been published. Another example is "Tres Notas sobre la isla de Pascua" (Three Notes on Easter Island), published in 1912; in this article he presented his observations on the various indigenous pictographic phenomena, discussed and described what he believed to be the last traditional tattoos, and finally he analyzed one tale and two chants as to whether they referred to actual events in history.

The indeed longest article is the one which appeared as a special print in 'Verhandlungen des Deutschen Wissenschaftlichen Vereins in Santiago' (Proceedings of the German Scientific Society in Santiago) in 1921. On almost 60 pages he linked historical events related to the discovery of Easter Island by Europeans with his own experience and impressions. He went into great detail about social and political characteristics of the traditional Rapanui-society, well aware that this was on the verge of disappearing on account of the colonial administration at that time. At the same time he took sides with the indigenous population by trying to explain certain forms of behaviour by the Rapanui which had been critically viewed by other travellers, because they viewed things from their own perspective. Thus he mentions that without exception all the travellers told of a 'knack for thieving' by the natives of the island. Knoche viewed this from a different perspective: He concluded that the reason for this behaviour was not that they had a bad character, but rather that in their traditional social system no private property existed. Knoche emphasized that the traditional social system of Easter Island was governed by 'communist principles'. *"The Easter Islanders happily brought their garden produce, fish and manufactured things on board the visiting vessels and quite unabashedly grasped, as they were wont to do, whatever they fancied"*.<sup>5</sup> Knoche was critical of the hasty condemnation of the Easter Islanders which he ascribed to the early travellers' lack of knowledge of details regarding the islanders' social system, values and norms. *"It is certainly to be wondered why it is so difficult to shed light on all these interesting aspects. Let the following be added by way of an explanation. Numerous travellers, amongst them Roggeveen, Behrens, Cook, Gonzáles, La Perouse, Forster, Krusenstern, Kotzebue, Chamisso, mostly paid only a few days' visit to Rapa Nui; their reports often refer to curious and generally striking facts as seen by them in keeping with the times, whereby not seldom fantasy was let loose"*.<sup>6</sup>

This statement is remarkable in some respects. First of all, because Knoche himself had spent only twelve days on Easter Island in 1911, i.e. not really much longer than most of the early travellers he mentions; and secondly because he is already using the indigenous name of Rapa Nui for Easter Island, which was not at all usual yet at the beginning of the 20th century and he presumably was emphasizing his affinity with and sympathy for the Easter Islanders.

The articles by Walter Knoche reveal much about the catastrophic living conditions of the indigenous population of Easter Island, because he wrote about their desolate state of health and, for example, described the various stages of leprosy and its effects.<sup>7</sup> But also social phenomena such as blood feud and the ways it was carried out, were addressed by Knoche.<sup>8</sup> It is remarkable that he never added any photographs to all his articles in the scientific journals and magazines. Without exception all these articles are not illustrated. Not only are the articles on meteorology and climatology of special interest to natural scientists, but they also present a vivid picture of some aspects of Easter Island culture, and they reflect the level of scientific research in the first decades of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

## All the scientific publications on Easter Island by Knoche

The following list contains all the publications by Walter Knoche that have to do with Easter Island (Rapa Nui, Isla de Pascua). There are 39 of them. The list covers scientific articles, publications in scientific journals, his Easter Island book and various shorter miscellaneous articles which appeared in other magazines and newspapers.

- › Knoche, Walter (1910): Algunas observaciones meteorológicas durante un viaje a Pascua. In: Revista Chilena de Historia y Geografía, vol. 1, no. 3, Santiago de Chile: Universitaria, pp. 367-371.
- › Knoche, Walter (1911a): Einige Beobachtungen während einer Reise nach der Osterinsel. In: Meteorologische Zeitschrift, vol. 28, Braunschweig: Vieweg & Sohn, pp. 467-469.
- › Knoche, Walter (1911b): Determinación del contenido de emanación en el agua del mar y de la actividad inducida del aire entre la costa chilena y la isla de Pascua. In: Revista Chilena de Historia y Geografía, vol. 1, no. 4, Santiago de Chile: Universitaria, pp. 573-582.
- › Knoche, Walter (1911c): Märchen und Mythen von der Osterinsel. Manuscript in the Koninklijke Musea voor

- Kunst en Geschiedenis. Bruxelles: Musées royaux d'Art et d'Histoire.
- › Knoche, Walter (1911d): Explicaciones sobre el clima de la Isla de Pascua. In: Revista Chilena de Historia y Geografía, vol. 1, Santiago de Chile: Universitaria, pp. 155-157.
- › Knoche, Walter (1912a): Tres notas sobre la isla de Pascua. 1.) Observaciones de algunas pinturas, en sus reproducciones. 2.) Los últimos tatuajes en la isla de Pascua. 3.) Un cuento y dos canciones. In: Revista Chilena de Historia y Geografía, vol. 2, no. 6, Santiago de Chile: Universitaria, pp. 442-466.
- › Knoche, Walter (1912b): Bestimmungen des Emanationsgehaltes im Meerwasser und der induzierten Aktivität der Luft zwischen der chilenischen Küste und der Osterinsel. In: Physikalische Zeitschrift, vol. 13, Leipzig: S. Hirzel, pp. 112-115 & 152-158.
- › Knoche, Walter (1912c): Bestimmungen der elektrischen Zerstreung, der Ionendichte und Geschwindigkeit, sowie der elektrischen Leitfähigkeit der Luft zwischen der chilenischen Küste und der Osterinsel. In: Physikalische Zeitschrift, vol. 13, no. 8, Leipzig: S. Hirzel, pp. 322-332.
- › Knoche, Walter (1912d): Ein Märchen und zwei kleine Gesänge von der Osterinsel. In: Zeitschrift für Ethnologie, vol. 44, Berlin: Berliner Gesellschaft für Anthropologie, Ethnologie und Urgeschichte, pp. 64-72.
- › Knoche, Walter (1912e): Einige Beobachtungen über Geschlechtsleben und Niederkunft auf der Osterinsel. In: Zeitschrift für Ethnologie, vol. 44, Berlin: Berliner Gesellschaft für Anthropologie, Ethnologie und Urgeschichte, pp. 659-661.
- › Knoche, Walter (1912f): Vorläufige Bemerkungen über die Entstehung der Standbilder auf der Osterinsel. In: Zeitschrift für Ethnologie, vol. 44, Heft 6, Berlin: Berliner Gesellschaft für Anthropologie, Ethnologie und Urgeschichte, pp. 873-877.
- › Knoche, Walter (1912g): Die Lepra auf der Osterinsel. In: Zeitschrift für physikalische und diätische Therapie, no. 1, Berlin: G. Thieme, p. 372.
- › Knoche, Walter (1912h): Determinación de la dispersion eléctrica de las densidades de iones y de su velocidad de la conductibilidad eléctrica del aire entre la costa chilena y la Isla de Pascua. In: Revista Chilena de Historia y Geografía, vol. 4, no. 8, Santiago de Chile: Universitaria, pp. 215-239.
- › Knoche, Walter (1913a): Der Lepraheerd auf der Osterinsel. In: Medizinische Klinik, Heft 1, 5. Januar, Wien, p. 13.
- › Knoche, Walter (1913b): Observaciones Meteorológicas en la Isla de Pascua Mayo 1911- Abril 1912. Con estudios de F. Montessus de Ballore, F. Fuentes, W. Knoche. In: Instituto Central Meteorológico y Geofísico

- de Chile. Publicaciones bajo la dirección del Dr. W. Knoche, no. 4, Santiago de Chile. 180 p.
- › Knoche, Walter (1913c): Von der Osterinsel. In: Umschau, vol. 18, no. 13, Frankfurt/Main, pp. 1-4.
- › Knoche, Walter (1913d): De la Isla de Pascua. In: Pacífico Magazine, no. 6, Sept., Santiago de Chile, pp. 347-351.
- › Knoche, Walter (1913e): Reseña Botánica sobre la Isla de Pascua. Según la expedición Meteorológica de 1911 a bordo de la Corbeta Baquedano. Santiago: Imprenta Universitaria.
- › Montessus de Ballore, F./ Fuentes, F./ Felsch, J./ Knoche, W. (1913): Observaciones meteorológicas en la Isla de Pascua: Mayo 1911-Abril 1912. Santiago de Chile: Sección impresiones del Instituto meteorológico. 180 p.
- › Knoche, Walter (1914a): Algunas observaciones a la geomorfología de la Isla de Pascua (Einige Bemerkungen zur Geomorphologie der Osterinsel). In: Publicación del Instituto Central Meteorológico de Chile, no. 4, Observaciones meteorológicas de la Isla de Pascua, Santiago de Chile: Instituto Central Meteorológico de Chile, pp. 150-154.
- › Knoche, Walter (1914b): Algunas observaciones a la geomorfología de la Isla de Pascua (Einige Bemerkungen zur Geomorphologie der Osterinsel). In: Revista Chilena de Historia y Geografía, vol. 9, no. 13, Santiago de Chile, pp. 95-105.
- › Knoche, Walter (1914c): Cráneos marcados de la Isla de Pascua. In: Revista Chilena de Historia y Geografía, vol. 12, no. 16, Santiago de Chile, pp. 344-346.
- › Knoche, Walter (1914d): Explicaciones sobre el clima de la Isla de Pascua (Bemerkungen zum Klima der Osterinsel). In: Publicación del Instituto Central Meteorológico de Chile; no. 4, Observaciones meteorológicas de la Isla de Pascua, Santiago de Chile: Instituto Central Meteorológico de Chile, pp. 155-177.
- › Knoche, Walter (1914e): Die Osterinsel. In: Die Naturwissenschaften, vol. 2, no. 32, August, Berlin: Springer Verlag, pp. 798-801.
- › Knoche, Walter (1917): Die Osterinsel: Vortrag. In: Deutsche Zeitung für Chile, Santiago, 25.-30. August. Nachdruck in: Verhandlungen des Deutschen Wissenschaftlichen Vereins zu Santiago de Chile, vol. 6, Heft 4-6, Santiago de Chile, pp. 354-400.
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