

PACIFIC NORTHWEST AMERICANA

Zimmermann's "Reise um die Welt"

An item of unusual value and interest has been recently obtained by the University of Washington Library. This volume is the work of Heinrich Zimmermann, a Swiss sailor who accompanied James Cook on his third voyage around the world. The book bears the following title: *Reise um die Welt mit Capitain Cook* (Mannheim: C. F. Schwan, 1781. Portrait vignette, Pp. 110).

Heinrich Zimmermann was a brass-founder on board the *Discovery*. He was with Cook during the entire third voyage and gives particulars not elsewhere to be found. His account was the first to appear on the continent, although Rickman's *Journal* published anonymously in London in 1781 may have preceded it by a few months. The official English edition did not appear until 1784.

Attention was drawn to the importance of Zimmermann's account by His Honor Judge F. W. Howay, in his presidential address before the Royal Society of Canada, delivered in May, 1924. In this address devoted to "The Early Literature of the Northwest Coast," Judge Howay discussed this account by H. Zimmermann and its rarity. He stated that he had never seen a copy and that it was not contained in the British Museum. He stated that the first edition of Zimmermann appeared in Göttingen in 1781 and that it was issued the following year in Mannheim.

The copy just obtained bears the imprint of Mannheim, 1781. Whether an edition was also issued in Göttingen the writer is unable to confirm, but it is so stated in the bibliography of the *Centenaire de la Mort de Cook*, item 111. Through the kindness of Mr. H. H. B. Meyer, it is learned that the Library of Congress has no edition nor has it reference to any copy in its union catalog of rare books.

After years of effort the Provincial Library of Victoria, B. C. has secured an option on a copy of Zimmermann's *Reise*. It is learned that this copy was located in Australia and that it is the Mannheim edition of 1782. The copy in the University of Washington Library was secured by an Italian agent from a dealer in Leipzig.