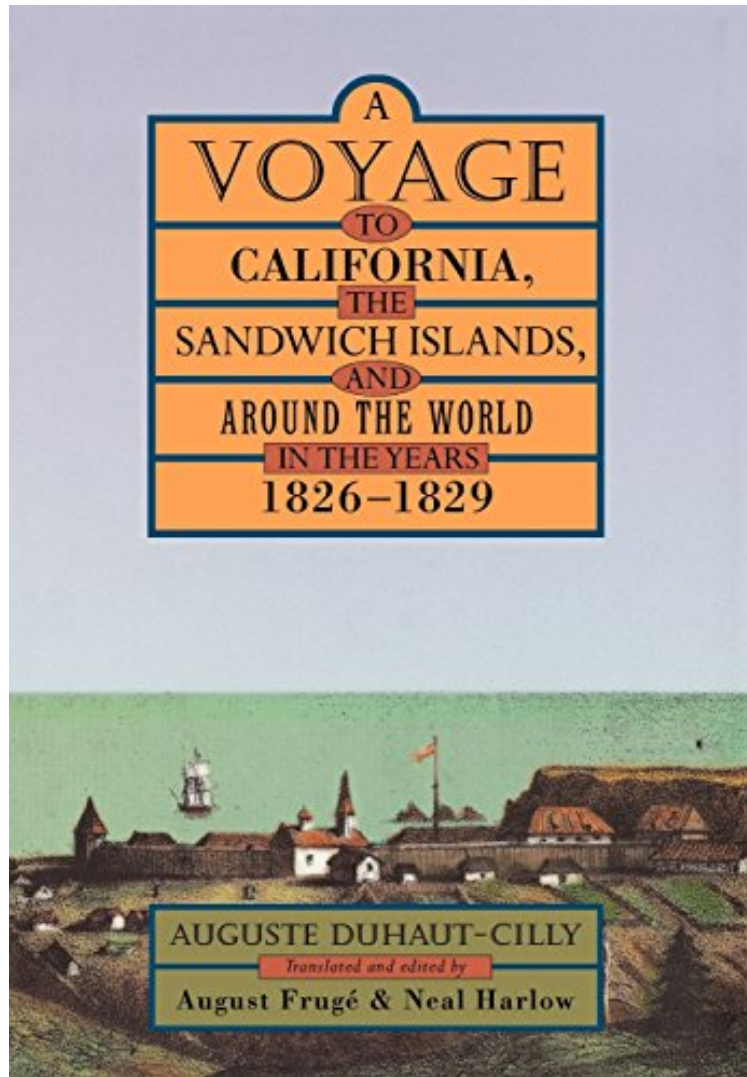


(Download) A Voyage to California, the Sandwich Islands, and Around the World in the Years 18261829

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Auguste Duhaut-Cilly

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#1627230 in Books Auguste Duhaut Cilly 1999-04-15Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 9.21 x .69 x 6.14l, 3.10 #File Name: 0520217527284 pagesA Voyage to California the Sandwich Islands and Around the World in the Years 1826 1829 | File size: 61.Mb

Auguste Duhaut-Cilly : A Voyage to California, the Sandwich Islands, and Around the World in the Years 18261829 before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Voyage to California, the Sandwich Islands, and Around the World in the Years 18261829:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A Poet-Captain's NarrativeBy Roy K. FarberWhat this volume lacks, in graphic description of the doings of this French merchant ship, its officers seamen, the weather they encountered,

their living conditions, the hardships joys of daily life the sweat of their tasks, while sail-ing from France southwest around Cape Horn, up the Pacific to the Californias, Baja Alta, back down again, all several times, as the crew of the Hros en-deavors to trade her cargo at a profit for whatever of value available in its many ports of call, attempting to increase its profit over their 2 years on the coast, until finally sailing off for Hawaii to trade more, then to Canton to trade once more be-fore circumventing the globe sailing home, this more (or less) may be found in Dana's remarkable *Two Years Before the Mast*, which speaks of events just shy of a decade later. But what is lacking in *Two Years* found here, are poetic descriptions of the Californias, of the Missions, Priests Indians (here, our Author-Capitan, be-ing Catholic, is not as caustic as Dana; but nor does he give uncritical accep-tance), of the land its seasons, of small civil communities soon to burst forth, a horseback ride to explore south of San Francisco sailing across that great Bay, its place names already been given. Although more understanding of the Spanish attempt at colonizing, Capi-tan Duhaut-Cilly is a fair critic of its failures the degeneration of society, particu-larly in Alta California. Writing less than 5 years after Mexico became independ-ent at the pinnacle of the Mission experiment, one sees through his eyes hears his prophesy what shall already be in advanced state of decay by the time Dana arrives, moreso a decade thereafter when Frmont Co. overwhelmed the Hispanic residents despite their many blunders. He describes unique matters, the Russian trade in sea otter furs their tightly knit community at Fort Ross, the expulsion of the Spanish by Mexican de-cree, his journey into Oahu the impending decline of the Hawaiian people. Capitan Duhaut-Cilly is an ethnographer, one feels his objectivity, albeit limited by the historical perception of his times, but not nearly so elitist as many Protestants of that epoch who saw nothing noble in anything alien, be it a Multi-Theistic Native, a Papist or a Tralfamadorian. And our Capitan's description of the seafaring merchant's trade, its disap-pointments successes, makes us realize how advanced the entire process al-ready was, the sea routes well-known, with many references to the writings of those nautical pathfinders who came before cherished by those who relied thereon. This is no sterile chronicle, but a living remarkable read, one to treasure sa-avor in wonderment. 4 of 5 people found the following review helpful. French twist By Harry Eagar In some ways, Auguste Duhaut-Cilly's memoir is one of the most interesting of the early travel writings about the eastern Pacific, but for some reason it has not been available in English. "A Voyage to California" is more relevant to Alta and Baja California than to Hawaii. Duhaut-Cilly spent two years on the California coast, trying to open up a French trade and getting the chance to observe the crisis created when the new Mexican Republic expelled the Spaniards. Duhaut-Cilly, a republican and ardent Catholic, was pulled in both directions but religion finally overcame politics and he sided with the Spanish friars. His bigotry carried over to Hawaii, where his opinions about the New England Congregationalist missionaries are some of the harshest on record. He wrote, "We observed the cruel treatment inflicted by these missionaries in the name of religion on the islanders who rebelled against their strictures -- cruelties, I say, quite comparable to those charged against the inquisitors of Spain and Portugal." They were hardly that bad. Hawaiians were never "put to the question" (interrogated under torture), much less burned alive. Even though his feelings were strong, Duhaut-Cilly was intelligent enough not to get involved in the French plot to force Catholic missionaries on the unwilling Oahu alii (chiefs). The French captain was a great admirer of the islands and of the islanders. Coasting along Oahu's North Shore, he described impressions of "fearsome precipices, one towering over the other, of impenetrable forests rising in great steps above other forests, dark chasms of frightful depth, steep and slippery, bare wet rocks mingling their dark color with the somber green of old trees. High and gleaming cascades, after descending for hundreds of yards, threw themselves into the tree tops, where they burst into foam only to reunite and fall again until some fissure in the rocks provided a channel for a gentler descent to the sea." Duhaut-Cilly adds hardly anything to the historical record, although one of his opinions deserves attention. In Honolulu, this veteran of Napoleon's "wars of liberation," wrote, "We no longer live in an age when a power may seize, without scruple or respect for property, any land that it may discover. Today such an act will arouse the indignation of the entire Christian and civilized world." A bad prediction, but the appeal of the book is the lively writing and Duhaut-Cilly's typically French philosophizing, which is totally lacking in the banal accounts of English and American skippers. His account does flesh out a bit the career of Jean-Baptiste Rives, a famous haole (white) troublemaker in Liholilo's reign. Rives, who Duhaut-Cilly identifies only as "Monsieur R.," was Duhaut-Cilly's supercargo (trading agent), and he caused Duhaut-Cilly plenty of trouble, too. Although Duhaut-Cilly's account has been published in English before, until now it never has been all in one place, nor in hard covers. (Some purely nautical material has been left out of this edition, too.) Furthermore, according to translator August Fruge, previous translation were defective. This one reads very easily. There also are plenty of explanatory notes by Fruge and Neal Harlow.

While French sea captain Auguste Duhaut-Cilly may not have become wealthy from his around-the-world travels between 1826 and 1829, his trip has enriched historians interested in early nineteenth-century California. Because of a poor choice in goods to trade he found it necessary to spend nearly two years on the Alta and Baja California coasts before disposing of his cargo and returning to France. What was bad luck for Duhaut-Cilly was good luck for us, however, because he recorded his impressions of the region's natural history and human populations in a diary. This translation of Duhaut-Cilly's writing offers today's readers a rare eyewitness account of the pastoral society that was

Mexican California, including the missions at the height of their power. A veteran of the Napoleonic wars, Duhaut-Cilly was an educated man conversant in Spanish and English. He was also Catholic, which gave him special access to the California missions. Thus his diary allows the reader an insider's view of the padres' lives, including their dealings with the military. Through his eyes we see the region's indigenous people and how they were treated, and we're privy to his commentary on the behavior of the Californios. This translation also contains Duhaut-Cilly's account of the Sandwich Islands portion of his voyage and provides an authentic rendering of life at sea during the early nineteenth century. In the spirit of Richard Henry Dana's *Two Years before the Mast*, Duhaut-Cilly's reflections are a historical gem for anyone with a love of personal narratives and original accounts of the past.

"Written 170 years ago, but as fresh as if it were yesterday, this history is a gem."--"California Wild From the Inside Flap" This is the definitive translation of the most important travel account of California before the American conquest. Duhaut-Cilly's observations are those of the outsider with the most insider access of any visitor. It is a lively read, endlessly fascinating for all those interested in the early history of the Golden State, and a natural supplement to all courses on its past. "James Sandos, author of *Rebellion in the Borderlands*" The best contemporary account of the California missions prior to their secularization. Excellent writing as well as sensitive translation and good editing by two leading scholars make this historical study both informative and a very good read. "Norman Thrower, author of *Sir Francis Drake and the Famous Voyage*" Thanks to this superb new translation, we can again feel Duhaut-Cilly's wonder and realism as he encountered a remote Mexican province whose destiny was at once obscure and exhilarating. "Kevin Starr, State Librarian of California" A wonderful new English-language translation of Auguste Duhaut-Cilly's 1826 Voyage to California that gives us a very detailed set of observations on Indian-white relations in Alta and Baja California on the eve of the secularization of the missions. "Ramn A. Gutierrez, coeditor of *Contested Eden: California before the Gold Rush*