

State Library of Pennsylvania Rare Collections Open House Celebrating the 180th Anniversary of the United States Exploring Expedition, 1838-1842

Date: Thursday October 25

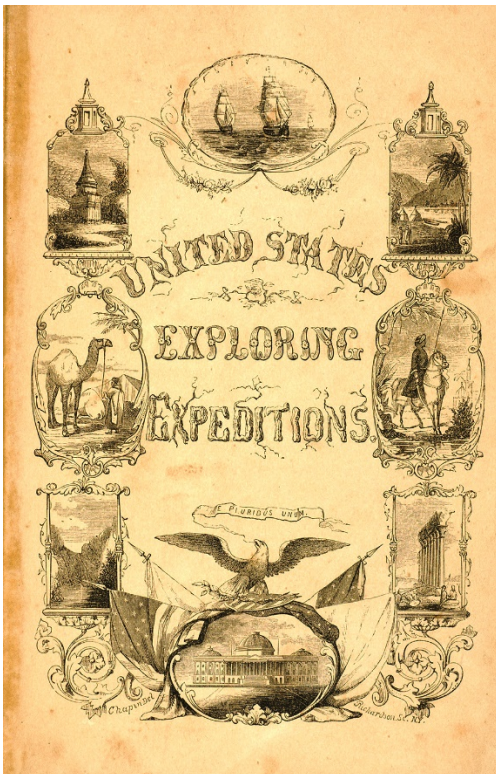
Time: 12 PM - 1 PM

Location: Green Room and Rare Collections Room, Ground Floor Forum Building

607 South Drive Harrisburg, PA 17120



Imagine yourself a junior officer at sea in a squadron of sailing ships in the late 1830s. You are a part of America's first Exploring Expedition in search of new lands, new peoples and exciting scientific specimens. Bound for the Antarctic, the wooden ships must dodge huge ice bergs, in search of a new continent. During the Pacific surveys of the Fiji Islands and atolls, crew members encounter cannibals, ready to kill and consume those who venture ashore. The Expedition explores the Pacific northwest, surveying the mighty Columbia River (near modern Portland) and the San Francisco Bay, before turning westward for its eight-month return journey to New York. Come hear the stories; see the maps and illustrations that document this incredible voyage of danger, dissention and discovery.



A talk by Professor Barry Joyce of the University of Delaware—author of *The Shaping of American Ethnography: The Wilkes Exploring Expedition, 1838-1842*. The talk will be followed by a tour of an exhibit of the Library's Rare Collections on *The United States Exploring Expedition*. Forum Building, Green Room on the Ground Floor.

For more information please contact Ellen Shenk at ellshenk@pa.gov or 717-783-5969.