

JOCK OF THE BUSHVELD: Schools Edition

Derived from Copac National, Academic, and Specialist Library Catalogue

Main author: FITZPATRICK, James Percy, Sir, K.C.M.G. ⁱ

Title details: Jock of the Bushveld.

Illustrator: E. Caldwell ⁱⁱ.

School edition, abridged. "Adapted for School Use"

Published: London : Longmans, Green & Co., 1908.

Printer: Ballantyne, Hanson & Co., Edinburgh & London

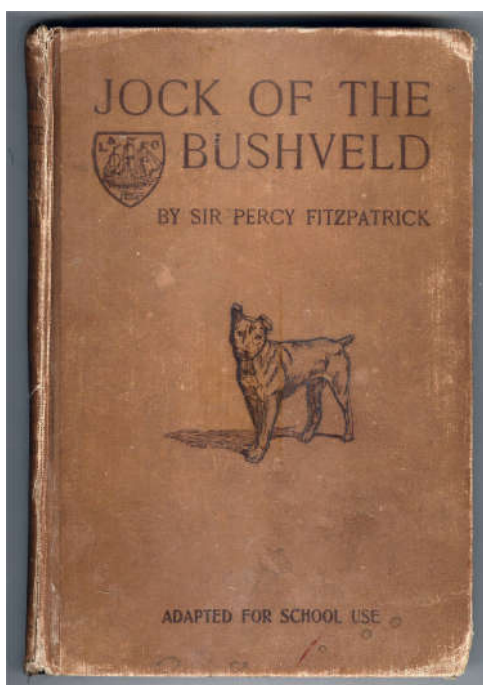
Physical desc.: pp. ix. 182. 8°.

Copies held by: British Library

Jock of the Bushveld was first published in 1907. The original publisher's costing sheet for the first edition shows that 5000 copies were issued. The book was an instant best seller, was reprinted four times in that year alone and was destined to become a South African classic. It has never been out of print since.

The abridged school edition was issued only a year after the original publication date underscoring the immediate popularity of the book.

Africana bibliophiles know little of this edition. PM. states "Whilst there are hundreds of copies of Jock being offered on the net I cannot see a copy of the 1908 school edition. As with most school textbooks few seem to have survived and there would be little or no collectors' interest".



This copy of 'Jock' is autographed, annotated and "embellished" by several hands; and though the cover is somewhat travel weary, the binding remains robust and sound.

The Longmans records are housed in Reading University Library. The collection falls into three parts. Part one contains ledgers, registers and bound records, all relating to the publishing side of the business. Part two contains loose documents, letters, papers and photographs referring both to the Longman family and to publishing. The final section contains books published by or connected with the firm.

On approaching the Reading University Library for information regarding the Jock of the Bushveld School edition, abridged, I received the following reply: "I have checked the ledgers and find that only one has figures relating to the schools edition of the title you mention. The precise meaning of the entries is difficult to read but it seems that in 1909 10,000 copies were printed and the entry for March 30 1911 suggests that a further 10,000 were printed".

References:

1. Andrews, V. Archives Assistant, University of Reading, Special Collections Service
2. COPAC: British Library, Humanities and Social Sciences, St. Pancras Reading Rooms [Shelf Mark: 012804.a.10]
3. Mills, P. Clarke's Africana and Rare Books, Constantia, Cape Town

ⁱ Sir James Percy Fitzpatrick, KCMG (1862-1931) was a South African, author, mining entrepreneur, politician and pioneer of the fruit industry.

ⁱⁱ Edmund Caldwell, a brother of Mary Tourtel, the creator of Rupert Bear.