The Stefano Castaways

by Stefano Skurla
translated by Amedeo Sala
edited by
John Melville-Jones

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The Stefano Castaways publishes for the first time Canon Skurla's full account of the wreck of the barque Stefano on the north-west coast of Western Australia in 1875. The book also details the experiences of the survivors who were rescued by an Aboriginal group. The survivors lived with them for several months before being taken to Fremantle and returning to their European homeland.

The original Italian text is accompanied by a full and accurate English translation made by the late Amedeo Sala and edited by John Melville-Jones against an original manuscript of this work held in the Maritime and History Museum of the Croatian Littoral, Rijeka. Reports of the search made for the survivors and their reception in Fremantle are printed from Western Australian newspapers.

The book also contains chapters by Alan Dench (on the evidence for the local Aboriginal languages which are contained in the text), Kevin Kenneally (on the passages in Skurla's account that describe the vegetation of the area), and Michael McCarthy (on the discovery of the remains of a vessel which is believed to be the Stefano). A map drawn by Annie Boyd shows the probable location of a number of the landmarks mentioned in Skurla's text.

The tale of the castaways is an impressive and inspiring tale of human endurance, worth reading for its own sake. In addition to this, the book paints a fascinating picture of the life that was led by the Aboriginal people in that area. It also brings to life some of the features of the Colonial society of that time. Finally, the account of the underwater search for the wreck will be of great interest to maritime archaeologists everywhere.

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The Stefano castaways by Stefano Skurla, 2007, Warrigal Press edition, in English. Are you sure you want to remove The Stefano castaways from your list? The Stefano castaways. by Stefano Skurla. Published 2007 by Warrigal Press in Mundaring, W.A. Written in English. The Stefano castaways were in contact with at least two Aboriginal groups during their six-month ordeal on the North West coast of Australia. We can now be reasonably certain that both groups were Yinikurtira–Talandji speakers. The evidence for this will in the end have to be found in the Stefano manuscript itself. One way of doing this is by separating the two languages in the manuscript and examining the difference between them. Soloist: Giuseppe di Stefano Orchestra: NBC Symphony Orchestra Conductor: Tullio Serafin. Vladimir Horowitz. Stars and Stripes Forever. Castaway guests share the soundtrack of their lives. Related Content. You may also like.