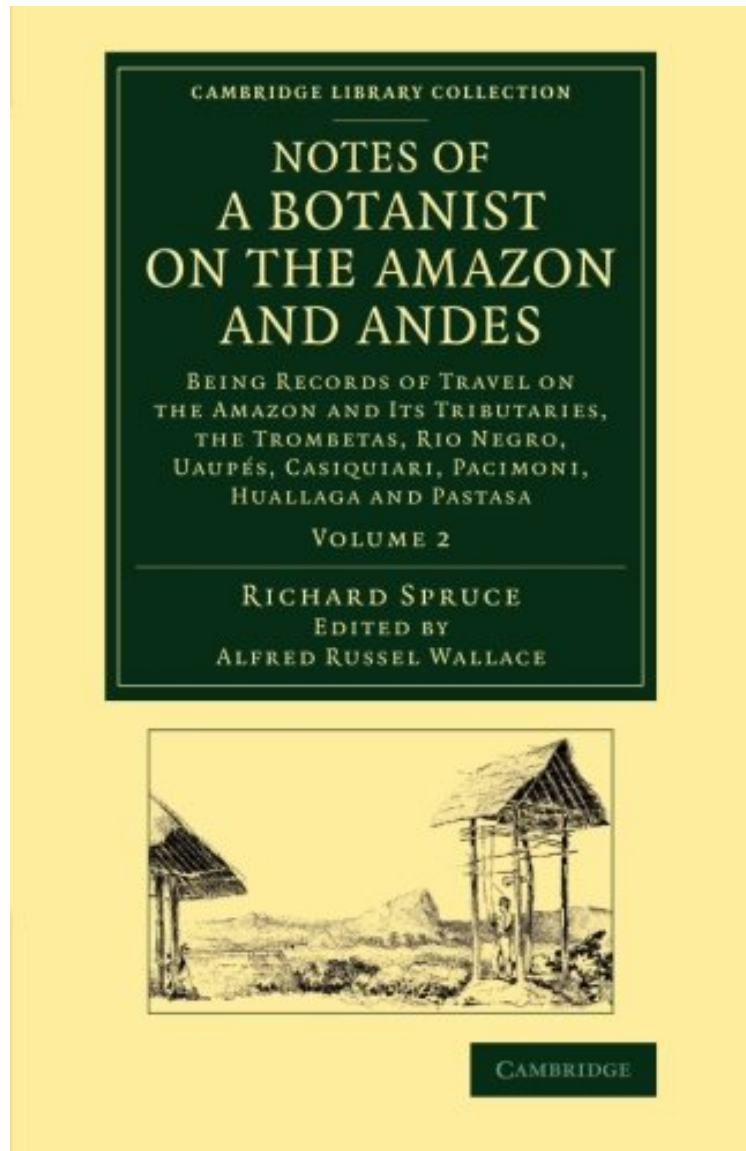


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Notes of a Botanist on the Amazon and Andes: Being Records of Travel on the Amazon and its Tributaries, the Trombetas, Rio Negro, Uaupés, ... - Botany and Horticulture) (Volume 2)

Richard Spruce

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Having previously embarked on a collecting expedition to the Pyrenees, backed by Sir William Hooker and George Bentham, the botanist Richard Spruce (1817-93) travelled in 1849 to South America, where he carried out unprecedented exploration among the diverse flora across the northern part of the continent. After his death, Spruce's writings on fifteen fruitful years of discovery were edited as a labour of love by fellow naturalist Alfred Russel Wallace (1823-1913), whom Spruce had met in Santarém. This two-volume work, first published in 1908, includes many of the author's exquisite illustrations. Showing the determination to reach plants in almost inaccessible areas, Spruce collected hundreds of species, many with medicinal properties, notably the quinine-yielding cinchona tree, as well as the datura and coca plants. Featuring four maps, Volume 2 includes discussion of the Peruvian and Ecuadorian Andes and the cinchona forests of western Chimborazo.