

Rhineland'. The new king, Louis-Philippe, briefly appointed him brigadier-general of the so-called 'Division des Volontaires de Paris', a middle-class militia that was soon disbanded. For a while, Bouffet earned his living as a theatre manager, but in 1833 the death of Napoleon I's only son passed the Bonapartist mantle on to Louis-Napoleon. Bouffet soon threw his lot in with the new pretender, moved to London and became, with Persigny (later Napoleon III's Minister of the Interior, and Ambassador to London) one of his two aides-de-camp.

He travelled with Louis-Napoleon to Germany, to Switzerland, and throughout Britain. They plotted together the landing at Boulogne, a pale copy of Napoleon I's landing from Elba; it was a dismal failure: Louis-Napoleon was sent to the fortress at Ham, Persigny got twenty years, Bouffet got five. Released in 1845, he went to London, still acting as the Prince's agent and welcoming him the following year after his escape from Ham. The next two years were spent in endless political intrigues, in the knowledge that the reign of Louis-Philippe could not last much longer.

Bouffet did not return to France with Louis-Napoleon. A fortnight before the latter sailed from London, he gave his old friend his *Voyage de La Pérouse* as a parting gift. It came from his personal collection (the Turnbull copy bears his coat of arms). We can assume that Bouffet, now in his fifties, worn by campaigns and adventures, had no future in the new life he had helped to create for the Prince; but Louis-Napoleon would have selected from his collection a book which he considered of particular value as a gift for a trusted follower and friend; something he had read and reread, and which both prized.

I have found no record of the place or date of Bouffet's death. The fact that Alexander Turnbull bought the book relatively early in his career as collector (the accession number is 612) suggests that Bouffet remained in England and that his possessions were sold locally, eventually reaching the dealer from whom Turnbull purchased it.