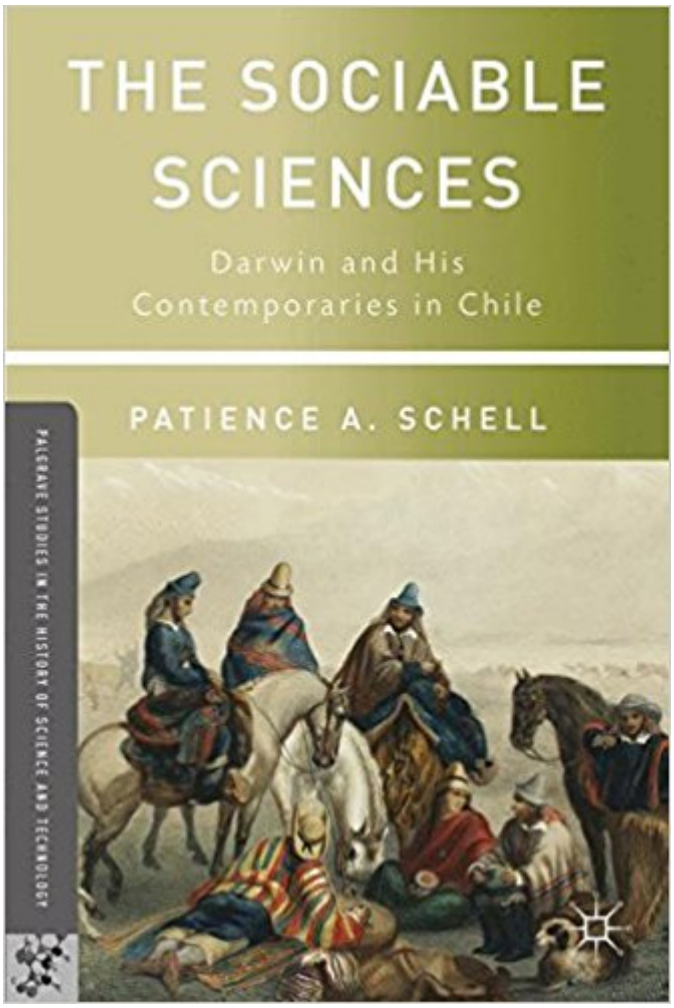
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The Sociable Sciences: Darwin And His Contemporaries In Chile (Palgrave Studies In The History Of Science And Technology)



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Synopsis

This beautifully written history traces the fortunes of Charles Darwin and his contemporaries in Chile. It explains how they showed Chileans a new way to see their own natural environment, teaching a younger generation of scientists there and forging international networks that helped to shape the modern world.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

’The Sociable Sciences is an accessible and enjoyable book which brings the study of natural history to life. Nineteenth-century science was about book learning and careful observation, but it was also about human relationships and communities of exchange. Schell’s colourful cast of characters illustrates the role of friendship in natural history, in an era when the aspiring naturalist needed to cultivate his personal relationships as carefully as his botanical specimens." - Archives of Natural History ’The Sociable Sciences narrates the daily life of naturalists in Chile, focusing on the middle fifty years of the nineteenth century. Darwin’s visit to Chile is considered in detail, along with the life of Claude Gay, a French naturalist who resided in Chile for many years. Schell has made a persuasive argument for presenting the culture of discovery and exploration in Chile as a vital part of modern science, rather than as a ’case study’ of peripheral interest. Her clear and strong prose commands a wide range of archival material from the New World and from Europe.’ - Lewis Pyenson, Professor of History, Western Michigan University ’This is a wonderful, very well-written book with a very original approach. The narrative is especially coherent because the research

programs of the book's protagonists were interlocking: Darwin and Gay were providing first accounts of many areas of the country and synthesizing them. The book will appeal to historians of science, of course, and not simply Latin Americanists: it is a model study of how affinity groups (social and professional networks) work in a particular setting, and the generalizations the author makes can be applied with profit to any society.' - Thomas F. Glick, Professor of History, Boston University

Patience A. Schell Chair of Hispanic Studies at the University of Aberdeen, Scotland, UK. She is the author of Church and State Education in Revolutionary Mexico City (2003), and co-editor of The Women's Revolution in Mexico: 1910-1953 (2007) and New Approaches to Resistance in Brazil and Mexico (2012).

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