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"Charting the Role of Chinese Demand: Socio-economic Perspectives on the Integration of the Pacific, 1750-1850"

Abstract

The paper will examine how Chinese demand for specific forest and marine products, coupled with the desire of European, US, and Asia-Pacific states to limit their use of silver in trade with China, created a 'silver substitute century' throughout the Pacific from circa 1750 to 1850. It will also detail how the lives of peoples throughout the Pacific were shaped by the dual dynamics of Chinese demand and silver substitution trading strategies.