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Maps and Atlases

- Congo Free State, attributed to but almost certainly not drawn by Henry Morton Stanley. New York: Harper & Brothers. 1885. This early and large map, most likely cut out of Stanley's 1885 publication The Congo and the founding of its Free State; a story of work and exploration, is extremely detailed along the Atlantic Coast and along the Congo River, east of Lake Tanganyika and around Lake Victoria, but completely empty for hundreds of miles north and south of the River in the center of the country, where the rain forest is dense. The map is a good visual representation of the scope of exploration in the Congo as of about 1880.
- Carte de l'Etat indépendant du Congo par J. duFief, Secrétaire-général de la Société royale belge géographiqe. Bruxelles, 1895. This enormous map (more than four feet square) is drawn at an incredible scale: 31 miles to one inch. In 1895, only limited areas of the Congo had been explored, hence, there's a lot of empty space in this beautiful map. One can imagine how exciting such a map must have been in 1908 to a young man about to set sail.
- Carte de l'Etat indépendant du Congo. Bruxelles. 1907. The 1898 and 1907 versions of the same map are smaller in scale, and begin to show administrative divisions and topographic detail. The 1898 version has routes of exploration (such as "Livingstone 1870") and major battles indicated, and the 1907 version shows missions, administrative posts, and the few railroads that had been constructed around the Congo River rapids. The 1907 version also shows that the bordering territories have been partitioned by the European powers. Such areas as French Congo and German East Africa are noted on the map.

Serials and Monographs: History

- Lopes, Duarte. A report of the Kingdom of Congo and of the surrounding countries; drawn out of the writings and discourses of the Portuguese, Duarte Lopez, by Filippo Pigafetta, in Rome, 1591. Newly translated from the Italian, and edited with explanatory notes, by Margarite Hutchinson. With facsims. of the original maps, and a pref. by Sir Thomas Fowell Buxton. New York, Negro
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- Tuckey, James Hingston, 1776-1816. Narrative of an expedition to explore the river Zaire, usually called the Congo in South Africa in 1816, under the direction of Captain J.K. Tuckey, R.N., to which is added the journal of Professor Smith and some general observations on the country and its inhabitants. New-York: W.B. Wiley, 1818. lxxxii, 410 p., 4 leaves of plates, ill., maps. Columbia University library holds an original copy of this book, and it was microfilmed as part of the library's Early American imprints series. Ask for no. 45905.

Serials and Monographs: Description and Travel


- Hertogh, A. de. Le Congo belge; notre colonie. Bruxelles: A. de Boeck, 1910. 143 p. illus., music, ports. This oversize picture book has terrific photographs of the terrain and peoples of the Congo. It must have been irresistible to young James Chapin. Notable are pictures of people tapping wild rubber vines and lining up with their baskets of rubber. The people of the Congo were taxed by Leopold's government, and paid these taxes with such baskets of rubber. By most accounts, it took approximately twenty days each month to gather enough rubber to pay one family's taxes.

- Jephson, A. J. Mounteney. Emin Pasha and the rebellion at the equator; a story of nine months' experience in the last of the Soudan provinces. With the revision and cooperation of Henry M. Stanley. New York: C. Scribner's Sons, [c1890]. xxiv, 490 p. front., illus., plates, ports., plan, fold. map, facsim. 23 cm.
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- Johnson, T. Broadwood. Tramps round the Mountains of the Moon and through the back gate of the Congo State. London: T. F. Unwin, 1908. xxiii, 316 p. front., illus., 31 pl., map. 21 cm. Typical of the adventure travel books written about the Congo at the time; the cover of this book shows turbanned and fezzed men proudly displaying a haul of ivory; ivory was the first massively exploited natural resource of the Congo.


- Stanley, Henry M. Through the Dark continent: or, The sources of the Nile around the great lakes of equatorial Africa, and down the Livingstone River to the Atlantic Ocean. With ten maps and one hundred and fifty woodcuts. New York, Harper & Brothers, 1878. 2 v. illus., maps, plates, ports. 23 cm.

- Stanley, Henry M. The Congo and the founding of its free state; a story of work and exploration. With over one hundred full-page and smaller illustrations, two large maps, and several smaller ones. New York, Harper & Brothers, 1885. 2 v. fronts., illus., plates, ports., maps (part fold.) plan. 23 cm.

- Stanley, Henry M. In darkest Africa: or, The quest, rescue and retreat of Emin, governor of Equatoria ... With one hundred and fifty woodcut illustrations and maps. New York: Chas. Scribner's Sons, 1890. 2 v. front., illus., plates, ports, maps. (part col.), 23 cm.

- Stanley, Henry M. The autobiography of Sir Henry Morton Stanley. Edited by his wife, Dorothy Stanley. Boston: Houghton Mifflin [1909]. 551 p. illus., facsim., folded map., ports. Stanley seems to have been a cruel and conflicted man. His many biographies cite numerous lies he told about himself and his background, chief among them, that he was an American (he was born in Wales and raised in a workhouse) and that his name was Henry Morton Stanley (he was born John Rowlands). An opportunist of the highest order, he was a journalist when he first went to Africa, to find David Livingstone. Every time he returned from the Congo, he wrote a two-volume book, in which he depicts himself as revered by the natives, admired by his men, intrepid and compassionate. Books and diaries written by men who served under him on these expeditions, and even his own letters and journals, often contradicted this depiction, casting Stanley as a ruthless bully who used men like tools. During his last large expedition, he looted and burned villages and killed the Congolese without thought. One of his officers packed the severed head of an African in a box of salt and sent it to a taxidermist in London (Hochschild p. 99).

- Ward, Herbert. Five years with the Congo cannibals. London: Chatto & Windus, 1891. xv, 308 p. ill. 25 cm. Typical of the era, this book is heavily illustrated and
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Larded with anecdotes about "funny" native practices, run-ins with big game, and description of flora. In books such as this one, the authors try to be objective observers - they attempt to be neither patronizing nor critical, but merely to document the oral traditions, rituals, and daily life of a "primitive" culture. These books seem to us, in 1999, to be both patronizing and critical, but it is unkind to judge these writers too harshly. It is very difficult to maintain objectivity when observing other human beings, and it was obviously more so "back then," when the world was smaller.

Serials and Monographs: Politics

- Aborigines Protection Society. The treatment of natives in the Congo; a statement submitted to His Majesty's government on behalf of the Aborigines Protection Society. [London, 1902]. 10 l. 34 cm. H. R. Fox Bourne, secretary of the Aborigines Protection Society and the writer of this document, was a knowledgeable and highly-respected opponent of Leopold's. A historian and essayist, he wrote articles on the Congo for the Times in London.

- Burrows, Guy and Edgar Canisius. The curse of Central Africa. With which is incorporated A campaign amongst cannibals by Edgar Canisius ... With coloured map and numerous illustrations from unique and valuable photographs taken by the author and others. London, R. A. Everett & co., ltd., 1903. xxviii, [10], 276 p., 1 ., viii p., 1 ., [8] p. incl. front., illus., ports. plates, fold. map. 26 cm. Burrows had worked for Henry Morton Stanley, and wrote an adventure travel book called In the land of the Pigmies, to which Stanley had written the introduction. He, like many other former soldiers, was later made an official of the Congo Free State. Edgar Canisius was a soldier in the Force Publique. This book, which criticizes the King and his agents in no uncertain terms, is an insider's - indeed, an administrator's - view of the mistreatment of the Congo natives. Canisius described a six-week campaign that he participated in during which his unit killed 900 Congolese. When this book came out it, especially Canisius's testimony, was quoted in all the newspapers and referred to in official documents and in speeches made by members of the Congo Reform Movement.

- Congo Reform Association. Will civilisation hearken? The appeal of fifty-two pioneers of Christianity on the Congo, comprising Englishmen, Canadians, Americans, Germans, Swedes, Danes, and Norwegians. Liverpool: John Richardson & Sons, Printers, 1906. 8 p. Prefatory material by E.D. Morel. The Congo Reform Association was modeled on the organizations of the Abolitionist movement. National chapters were formed in England, the United States, and several European countries, especially the Scandinavian countries. The national chapters were broken down into local chapters, facilitating grass-roots and direct
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action advocacy. Some of these local chapters held meetings that attracted up to 5,000 people, often with prominent clergymen, members of Parliament, Congressmen, Peers of the Realm, and other celebrities sharing the dais. These celebrities also lent their names to the C.R.A.’s petitions and fund-raising campaigns, in some cases publishing pamphlets of their own (see Twain and Doyle, below). The Association published heavily and lobbied the United States and English governments, agitating for U.S.-British intervention on behalf of the Congolese.


• Morel, E. D. The Congo slave state: a protest against the new African slavery; and an appeal to the public of Great Britain, of the United States, and of the continent of Europe. Liverpool: J. Richardson & Sons, Printers, 1903. 112 p. illus. (maps) 25 cm.

• Morel, E. D. King Leopold's rule in Africa. London: W. Heinemann, 1904. xxiv, 466 p. front., plates, ports., 2 maps (1 fold.) 23 cm.

• Morel, E. D. Red rubber; the story of the rubber slave trade flourishing on the Congo in the year of grace 1906. London: T. Fisher Unwin, 1906. 213 p. Also published in New York by The Nassau Print. Morel, the leader of the Congo Reform Movement, was an amazingly prolific writer. He put out a monthly magazine, a weekly newspaper, and usually wrote one or two books a year, as well as innumerable pamphlets, speeches, and letters to the editor. His correspondence is reportedly massive. In 1904 or 1905, Morel met a missionary named Alice Seeley Harris, whose photographs Morel published in his books and projected (as lantern slides) in his lectures. These photographs are now held in the archives of the Anti-Slavery League in London. One might expect the New York Public Library to hold copies of some of these widely printed photos (some were also published in Mark Twain’s King Leopold’s soliloquy, for example), but such is not the case.

• Sheppard, William Henry. Presbyterian pioneers in Congo; introduction by S.H. Chester. Kentucky: Pentecostal Publishing Company, 1900. 157 p. : ill. ; 18 cm. Sheppard was among the many Presbyterian missionaries in the Congo who became politicized because of the atrocities that they witnessed. Sheppard's unique perspective, however, is that he was black. This book, and the many pamphlets and open letters that he later wrote, incorporate a sensitivity to the rights of the Congo natives absent in even the most vociferous white Congo reform writers.

• Starr, Frederick. The truth about the Congo; the Chicago tribune articles. Chicago: Forbes & company, 1907. viii, 129 p., plates. 20 cm. Starr wrote 15 articles for the Chicago Tribune, reprinted here in book form, refuting charges
against King Leopold, the Force Publique, and the rubber companies. Starr, an anthropologist who believed in the inferiority of “primitive” peoples, gained his knowledge about the Congo after a year-long tour of the country paid for by the King of the Belgians.

- Twain, Mark. King Leopold's soliloquy: a defense of his Congo rule. Mass.: P.R. Warren Co., 1905. Edition 2nd ed. 56 p., [7] leaves of plates: ill.; 19 cm. “The publishers desire to state that ... it is [Mr. Clemens's] wish that all proceeds of sales ... shall be used in furthering effort for relief of the people of the Congo State. Boston, Mass., Jan. 1, 1906”—Label mounted on half-title p. The AMNH copy of this small book is housed with a letter from the Congo Reform Association exhorting the reader to take specific advocacy steps on behalf of the Congolese, such as organizing meetings and writing letters to Congressmen. A transcript and facsimile of this book is available online: http://www.chss.montclair.edu/english/furr/i2l/kls.html

- United States. Dept. of State. Conditions in the independent state of the Kongo. [Washington, 1906-08]. 4 v. in 1. 34 cm. This is a collection of State Department documents bound together in chronological order. It includes eyewitness reports of the practices of the rubber companies, correspondence between the British Foreign Office and the State Department, and reports of the American consul-general in the Congo. It is a revealing look at the diplomatic pressures that the United States and Britain brought to bear on King Leopold and the Belgians.


Serials and Monographs: Science


- From the title of this little book, it would appear that the Congo exhibit was but a part of the 1897 Brussels-Tervueren International Exposition. However, there are no other publications associated with the exposition, and no references to any but the Congo exhibit, so it seems that perhaps the Exposition was devoted wholly to the natural history, ethnology, industries, and description of the Congo.

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- Tick fever, sleeping sickness, and other relapsing illnesses were often blamed by the Congo government for the high death rate among Congolese natives. In fact, European and American visitors to the Congo died of these fevers at an alarming rate.
- Though Frobenius published many more scholarly works on the anthropology of African peoples, this largely descriptive work covers his 1904-1906 expedition to the Congo. Page 295 includes an illustration of a black man being whipped with the infamous chicotte, a twisted whip made of hippopotamus hide.
- Halkin's monograph on the people of the Uele district of the Congo would have been especially interesting to Lang, who was planning to focus his expedition on the northeastern areas of the Congo.
- Lemaire, Charles Francois Alexandre. Congo--vocabulaire pratique: français, anglais, zanzibarite (swahili), fiote, kibangi-irebou, mongo, bangala. Bruxelles:
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- Lemaire, an officer of the Force Publique who fancied himself a scientist, kept a diary while he was in the Congo. This diary was published in 1986, prompting speculation that Lemaire was the model for Joseph Conrad's sadistic Colonel Kurtz. The diary reveals Lemaire's leadership in the murder and maiming of large numbers of Congolese natives by men under his command. He was also a staunch promoter of Esperanto, and at least one of his publications, Tra Mez-Afriko, a pamphlet published on the occasion of the 2nd Congress of Esperantists, is printed in both French and Esperanto, with the French in black on the left-hand page, and Esperanto in green on the right-hand page. Regardless of his administrative policies and linguistic abilities, however, his work was not apparently up to the American Museum's standard - none of his publications appear in that library.
- The American Museum Congo Expedition paid special attention to the Mangbetu, whose art captured the imagination of Europe as soon as examples of it were brought out of the forest. The Mangbetu had a complex social system and were quite wealthy, with large structures, highly developed art, and elaborate personal ornamentation including tattoos, body paint, body modification (pointed skulls), scarification and hairstyles.
- Not published until 1978, Piaggia's diaries recount his year and a half among the Azande (sometime after 1860). During his time in northeast Congo, Piaggia traveled extensively, learned the Azande language, and developed a high
opinion of his hosts, along with what would now be called liberal views on the effect of colonialism on the Congolese.


- Schweinfurth, George August. The heart of Africa: three years' travels and adventures in the unexplored regions of Central Africa from 1868 to 1871. London: S. Low, Marston, Low, and Searle, 1873. 2 vol., illustrated, with maps.

- Starr, Frederick. A bibliography of Congo languages. Chicago, The University of Chicago Press, 1908. 97 p. front., plates, ports., facsims. (University of Chicago Dept. of Anthropology bulletin, 5). "Practically all the titles in our list represent the Bantu languages." 678 titles of which 391, marked with an asterisk (*), belonging to the author were (with exception of 17 missing and 13 retained by Mr. Starr) purchased by Harvard University Library in 1929. The purchase included also 11 titles not marked with an asterisk.

- See note on Starr under "Politics".

- Thonner, Franz. Im Afrikanischen Urwald; meine Reise nach dem Kongo und der Mongalla im Jahre 1896. Berlin: Reimer, 1898. 116 p. illus. Thonner studied the botany of the Congo, and this book, part travelogue, part field guide to plants, was almost certainly read by Herbert Lang.


Serials and Monographs: Materials relating to Joseph Conrad


- Quinn, John. Papers, 1901-1926. Originals: 46 linear feet (72 boxes, 41 letterbooks, 3 v.). General correspondence: 50 microfilm reels. Finding aid available in repository. Manuscripts & Archives Section, NYPL. John Quinn was a corporate lawyer in New York City who collected manuscripts and art. His correspondence, 1901-1924, is with artists, art dealers, critics, poets, playwrights, booksellers, publishers, and members of his family. He had special interest in modern and avant-garde art, modern literature, and the Irish Home Rule Movement. His correspondents include Constantine Brancusi, William Butler Yeats, Marcel Duchamp, James Joyce, and Ezra Pound, among very many others. He carried on a correspondence with Sir Roger Casement, the traitorous English peer and Congo hero, during the latter's (largely unsuccessful) fundraising tour of America in the last years of his life. The letter from Joseph
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Conrad responding to Quinn's questions about Casement is included here; the Casement section begins on the leaf labeled "II."

Newspaper Headlines, 1880-1916
Compiled from the indexes of the New York Times and the New York Herald and from an unpublished NYPL clipping scrapbook on France, 1879-1890. The Times has a complete printed index, but the Herald's index starts only at 1904. Prior to 1904, the NYPL librarians apparently indexed the newspaper themselves, in handwritten ledgers arranged alphabetically by subject. These indexes are available in the Microform Room, but not all librarians know about the handwritten Herald index. While this list looks very dense, even a quick skim will reveal the pattern of the Congo's history and public opinion about the Congo - first its "exploration" by Stanley and DeBrazza, then the European scramble for ownership and trade rights, and then the 1900-1901 revelations of the atrocities committed by the rubber companies, the Congo Reform movement, and the 1908 annexation of the Congo Free State by Belgium. The American Museum Congo Expedition is mentioned twice in the New York Times, once in 1909 and once in 1916.

1880
- Mr. Stanley's African road (slavery). New York Herald.

1882

1883
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1884

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Annotated Bibliography of the American Museum Congo Expedition (1909-1915)

Annotated Bibliography of the American Museum Congo Expedition (1909-1915)

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1885

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1886

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1887

- Von Geles appointment. New York Herald. Apr. 27. p. 6, col. 3.
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1888

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1889
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- 1890 (top)
- 1891 (top)
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- 1892 (top)
  - Jesuit missionaries for Congo. NY Herald.
  - 1893 (top)
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- 1894 (top)
- 1895 (top)
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- 1896 (top)
- 1897 (top)
- 1898 (top)

1899

1900
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1901

- 1902 (top)
- Cape to Cairo railroad to be built through Congo. New York Herald. Apr. 25. p. 9, col. 5.

1903

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- Congo cruelties etc, Swiss Office. New York Herald.

1904

- Missionaries in Congo, representatives see
- Cruelties in Congo, King Leopold refutes charge,
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- Congo cruelties Captain Baccari says officials tried to kill him, said he was crazy. New York Herald. Oct. 6. p. 9, col. 2.
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1905

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- Few abuses found by comm of international investigators who admired work of Belgian Govt; King Leopold to order reforms suggested by comm. New York Times. Nov. 5. p. 6, col. 1.

1906

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1907

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- Article asserts natives are well treated by Belgian authorities; missionaries believed to be exaggerating abuses. New York Times. Apr. 7. p. 18, col. 6.
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- King Leopold turns over large part of Congo to joint stock co in which he repeatedly has financial interests. New York Times. Sept. 9. p. 3, col. 2.
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- Belgians reptedly outraged over King Leopold's scheme for transferring Congo's resources to co. owned jointly by himself and friends; Brit intervention urged. New York Times. Sept 15 p 1, col. 7.
- Parliament reptd to be against King Leopold's new treaty transferring Congo to Belgium; critics say it is designed to preserve King's personall commercial interests. New York Times. Dec. 8. p. 2, col. 3.
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1908

- Fund of $30 million to be provided by people to be used by King for National benefit. New York Herald. Feb. 6. p. 8, col. 6.
- King Leopold retracts all his promises on Congo settlement; demands control of special fund for Congo and grant of $50 million for special projects; Govt reptd ready to resign if King presses demands. New York Times. Feb. 24. p. 4, col. 3.
- Belgium King Leopold's agreement as to Congo described. New York Herald. Mar. 4. p. 11, col. 3.
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- King reptd required to protect Amer grants in turning Congo over to Belgium; France to be offered Congo if Parliament does not ratify treaty. New York Times. Mar. 6. p. 4, col. 3.
- Belgium Congo treaty map yet to be defeated. New York Herald. Mar. 10. p. 9, col. 3.
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1909
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- Natives employed by Congo are reduced in number and all salaries are paid in money. New York Herald. Apr. 2. p. 9, col. 3.
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- Congo Reform Association to ask Secretary Knox to see that two Presbyterian missionaries awaiting trial for libel have fair play. New York Herald. June 23. p. 4, col. 7.
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1910

1916