

Zeitschrift: Acta Tropica
Herausgeber: Schweizerisches Tropeninstitut (Basel)
Band: 26 (1969)
Heft: (10): Parasitic diseases in Africa and the Western Hemisphere : early documentation and transmission by the slave trade

Artikel: Parasitic diseases in Africa and the Western Hemisphere : early documentation and transmission by the slave trade
Autor: Hoespli, R.

Inhaltsverzeichnis

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-311630>

Nutzungsbedingungen

Die ETH-Bibliothek ist die Anbieterin der digitalisierten Zeitschriften auf E-Periodica. Sie besitzt keine Urheberrechte an den Zeitschriften und ist nicht verantwortlich für deren Inhalte. Die Rechte liegen in der Regel bei den Herausgebern beziehungsweise den externen Rechteinhabern. Das Veröffentlichen von Bildern in Print- und Online-Publikationen sowie auf Social Media-Kanälen oder Webseiten ist nur mit vorheriger Genehmigung der Rechteinhaber erlaubt. [Mehr erfahren](#)

Conditions d'utilisation

L'ETH Library est le fournisseur des revues numérisées. Elle ne détient aucun droit d'auteur sur les revues et n'est pas responsable de leur contenu. En règle générale, les droits sont détenus par les éditeurs ou les détenteurs de droits externes. La reproduction d'images dans des publications imprimées ou en ligne ainsi que sur des canaux de médias sociaux ou des sites web n'est autorisée qu'avec l'accord préalable des détenteurs des droits. [En savoir plus](#)

Terms of use

The ETH Library is the provider of the digitised journals. It does not own any copyrights to the journals and is not responsible for their content. The rights usually lie with the publishers or the external rights holders. Publishing images in print and online publications, as well as on social media channels or websites, is only permitted with the prior consent of the rights holders. [Find out more](#)

Download PDF: 14.03.2026

ETH-Bibliothek Zürich, E-Periodica, <https://www.e-periodica.ch>

CONTENTS

<i>Foreword</i>	V
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	VII
<i>Introduction</i>	XI

PART ONE

A DIFFERENT KINDS OF EARLY DOCUMENTATION

1. Skeletal remains and remnants of parasites	3
2. Inscriptions and reports of authors of classical antiquity and the Middle Ages	3
3. Reports of sea captains, traders, explorers, physicians from the fifteenth to the nineteenth century	3
4. Old beliefs of a connection between certain parasites and diseases	3
5. Early works of African and pre-Columbian American art representing parasitic diseases and parasites	3

B THE SLAVE TRADE

I Slavery in general, kinds of slaves, transmission of diseases by slaves to different parts of the world	7
II The slave trade from Africa to America	11
1. Development	11
2. The Spanish possessions and the slave trade	14
3. Origin of African slaves carried to the New World	18
4. Number of slaves carried from Africa and loss of lives	20
5. Circumstances which favoured the African slave trade to America	21
6. Revolts of negro slaves	23
7. Abolition of the slave trade	25

PART TWO

THE EARLY DOCUMENTATION OF PARASITIC DISEASES IN AFRICA AND THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE AND THEIR TRANSMISSION BY THE SLAVE TRADE

A DISEASES CAUSED BY PROTOZOA

I Sleeping sickness of man – trypanosomiasis of animals	31
II Cutaneous leishmaniasis	43
III Malaria	50
IV Amoebic dysentery	62

B BORRELIA INFECTIONS

African relapsing fever	66
-----------------------------------	----

C	HUMAN TREPONEMATOSIS	
	Introduction	71
	I Carate, mal del pinto, pinta	79
	II Yaws, framboesia, pian	85
	III Endemic syphilis	94
	IV Venereal syphilis	98
D	HELMINTH INFECTIONS	
	I Intestinal Helminths	113
	Ascaris – Enterobius – Trichocephalus – Taenia – Hymenolepis	113
	Hookworm: <i>Ancylostoma duodenale</i> – <i>Necator americanus</i>	115
	II Filariae	119
	<i>Wuchereria bancrofti</i> – Elephantiasis	119
	<i>Dracunculus medinensis</i> – the Guinea worm	124
	Loa loa	132
	<i>Onchocerca</i> sp. – Onchocerciasis – Enfermedad de Robles	136
	III Blood flukes	145
	<i>Schistosoma haematobium</i> and <i>S. mansoni</i> – Schistosomiasis	145
E	LEECHES	
	Endoparasitism of leeches	151
F	ARTHROPOD INFECTIONS	
	I Bloodsucking Diptera	156
	Mosquitoes	156
	Sandflies – <i>Phlebotomus</i> sp.	157
	Surret flies – Tabanidae (gad flies or horse flies)	157
	Tsetse flies – <i>Glossina</i> sp.	158
	II Fly larvae – maggots	160
	Blood sucking fly larva	161
	Congo floor maggot – Larva of <i>Auchmeromyia luteola</i>	161
	Myiasis	161
	Larva of the Tumbu fly, <i>Cordylobia anthropophaga</i>	161
	Larva of <i>Dermatobia cyaniventris</i>	162
	III Scabies – <i>Sarcoptes scabiei</i>	165
	IV Ticks	167
	V The sandflea <i>Tunga penetrans</i>	169
	VI Fleas	176
	VII Lice	178
	VIII Bedbugs. <i>Cimex lectularius</i> – <i>C. hemipterus</i> (rotundatus)	183
	IX Porocephalus	185
G	MACULO – Bicho do cu	187

PART THREE

A	DISEASES AND MORTALITY OF WHITE PEOPLE ON THE GUINEA COAST AT THE TIME OF THE SLAVE TRADE	193
B	REPRESENTATION OF PARASITIC DISEASES AND PARASITES IN EARLY AFRICAN AND PRE-COLUMBIAN AMERICAN ART	200
	<i>Conclusions</i>	215
	<i>Subject index</i>	
	<i>Index of names</i>	
	<i>Illustrations</i>	