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A Different Kinds of Early Documentation

1. Skeletal remains and remnants of parasites: Bones with lesions due to yaws or syphilis, *Schistosoma haematobium* eggs in the kidneys of two Egyptian mummies of the twentieth dynasty (ca. 1200–1075 B.C.); lice on the scalp of three prehistoric Indian mummies from the southwestern United States, nits of lice on the hairs of a mummy from the Páracas caves in Peru (circa 200 B.C.); nits on the hairs of an Egyptian mummy of the fourth century A.D.; eggs of *Trichocephalus trichiurus* from the intestinal contents of the corpse of a boy of the late Inca period (circa A.D. 1500) buried on a mountain near Santiago de Chile.

2. Inscriptions and reports of authors of classical Antiquity and the Middle Ages: Hieroglyphic inscriptions in the temples of Denderah and Edfu (middle of the first century B.C.) referring to diseases which possibly included malaria; description of Guinea-worm infection among the population on the shores of the Red Sea by Agatharchides (under Ptolemy VII Alexander, second century B.C.); report by Ibn Khaldūn (1332–1406) on the death of Mari Djata (Jaza), sultan of Mali in the Western Sudan from sleeping sickness in A.D. 1373–74.

3. Reports from the 15th to the 19th century by captains of the merchant marine and naval officers, by physicians and naval surgeons, by traders and explorers. These reports and journals were published individually and in collections of voyages and explorations (note).

4. Old beliefs indicating the early knowledge regarding certain parasitic diseases, for example the old widespread assumption of a connection between mosquitoes and malaria, tsetse flies and sleeping sickness, tick bites and tick-fever (relapsing fever), minute insects (sand-flies) and uta.

5. Early works of art representing parasitic diseases and parasites: Statues of different periods, dating from ca. 500 B.C. to the twentieth century found in Nigeria, and an Ashanti goldweight showing elephantiasis of the scrotum; a terracotta head (about

14th century) and Nigerian masks with lesions due to gangosa (tertiary yaws); terracotta heads found in Esmeraldas (Ecuador) and pre-Inca Peruvian Mochica anthropomorphic vessels with signs of leishmaniasis; Peruvian Mochica vessels representing *Tunga penetrans* infection; early representation in clay and stone of fleas, lice and ticks in African, Mexican, and Peruvian art. Pictures of a man and a dog discharging large worms (*Ascaris*) in Sahagún's *Codex matritense* (16th century). A mural painting in a ruined building at Atetelco (Teotihuacán) Mexico showing a man with an exanthema possibly representing syphilis, yaws or exanthematic typhus, A.D. 200–300 (see Part III: Representation of parasitic diseases and parasites in early African and pre-Columbian American art).

Note

Among the numerous authors of interesting publications mentioning parasitic diseases the following may be listed: JOHN ATKINS, GOMES EANNES DE AZURARA, BAJON, SAMUEL BAKER, JOHN BARBOT, HEINRICH BARTH, ANTHONY BENEZET, WILLEM BOSMAN, JAMES BRUCE, ALEXANDER BRYSON, RICHARD FRANCIS BURTON, HUGH CLAPPERTON, O. DAPPER, B. DAVIDSON, J. B. DU TERTRE, G. A. HOSKINS, J. B. LABAT, JAMES LIND, DAVID LIVINGSTONE, JOHN LOK, JOHN MATTHEWS, FRANCIS MOORE, NICOLAS OWEN, W. F. W. OWEN, MUNGO PARK, ANTONIO PIGAFETTA, FILIPPO PIGAFETTA, G. PISO, POUPPÉ DESPORTES, GABRIEL SOARES DE SOUSA, JOHN HANNING SPEKE, HENRY MORTON STANLEY, THOMAS MASTERMAN WINTERBOTTOM.

Besides these few mentioned authors there are many others whose publications were reprinted completely or in abstracts in 'Collections of Voyages', which were quite popular from the second half of the sixteenth to the first half of the 19th centuries.

Among the older collections are those by G. R. RAMUSIO, 1550–1559; R. HAKLUYT, 1598–1600; S. PURCHAS, 1625–1626; CHURCHILL, AWNSHAM and JOHN, 1704; THOS. ASTLEY, 1745–1747; A. F. PREVOST, 1746–1768; JOHN PINKERTON, 1808–1814.

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