1751 - 1775

1751-55

BARKER, Robert, carpenter

(1) The unfortunate shipwright, or cruel captain... a narrative of Robert Barker, late carpenter aboard the Thetis... in a voyage to the coast of Guinea and Antigua, London, n.d. (1760?), & later eds.
(2) The genuine life of Robert Barker, dictated by himself while in a state of total blindness..., London, 1809.

1751-64 (but see comment)

GONJA CHRONICLES

Ivor WILKS, Nehemia LEVITZION, & Bruce M. HEIGHT, Chronicles from Gonja, Fontes Historiae Africanae, Series Arabica, 9, Cambridge, 1986.

A number of Arabic MSS from Gonja are presented with English translations and considerable discussion and commentary. The most substantial item is the Kitab Ghana, a chronicle some MSS of which ended in 1751 and others in 1764. Some of the other items contain information relating to the early nineteenth century.

1752-56

THOMPSON, Rev. Thomas

(1) An account of two missionary voyages... the one to New Jersey... the other... to the coast of Guiney, London, 1758. facs. 1937
Ger. trans. 1767.
(2) The African trade for Negro slaves shewn to be consistent with the principles of humanity and of revealed religion, Canterbury, n.d. (1772).

Thompson was the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel's missionary at Cape Coast in 1752-56. It was he who recommended 1766 QUAQUE for education and training in England.

1753-63

CONSIDERATIONS...

Considerations on the present peace as far as it is relative to the colonies and the African trade, London, 1753.
This includes affidavits from persons engaged in the trade with western Africa. Extracts are printed in 1441 COLLECTION: DONNAN.

1753

COSTA ARAUJO, António José da

(1753)

G._._., J. S.

_The detector detected, or the state of affairs on the Gold Coast._... London, 1753.

The author is described as 'the last commander of Comenda under the Royal African Company'.

c. 1755

EQUIANO, Olaudah

_The interesting narrative of the life of Olaudah Equiano or Gustavus Vassa, the African,_ 2 vols, London, 1789; many other U.K. & U.S. eds.

Dutch trans. 1790; Russian trans. 1794.


Equiano was captured and sold into the Atlantic slave trade when he was about ten years old. The first three chapters of his memoirs describe society and his childhood in western Igboiland.

1758

LINDSAY, Rev. John

_A voyage to the coast of Africa in 1758, containing a succinct account of the expedition to, and the taking of the Island of Goree by, a squadron commanded by the Hon. Augustus Keppel,_ London, 1759.

Lindsay was a chaplain in Keppel's squadron. He spent some time in Senegal and made an expedition up the river. See also 1758 TOUCHET.

(1758)

POSTLETHWAYT, Malachy

_The importance of the African expedition._... London, 1758.

The expedition was that sent to capture St. Louis and Goree (1758 LINDSAY), and Postlethwayt argued that the French should be completely ousted from West Africa. For a note on the author, see 1745 POSTLETHWAYT.

1758

[ TOUCHET, Samuel ]

_A letter to a merchant of Bristol concerning a petition of S-- T-- Esq. to the King for an exclusive grant of the trade of the R. Senegal... by a merchant of London._ London, 1762.

Touchet had been involved, together with Thomas Cumming, in the British expedition against Senegal in 1758. See also 1758 LINDSAY.

1759-74

CHERUBINO da SAVONA, Fr

Carlo TOSO, _Il Congo nella seconda metà del XVIII secolo: il 'Breve ragguaglio' di P. Cherubino da Savona_, Rome, 1976

(cont.)

**1760**

'B**A curious account of the climate and diseases in Africa, upon the Senegal...' published as an appendix to Richard BROCKLESBY, M.D., Economical and medical observations... 1758-63... tending to the improvement of military hospitals.... London, 1764.

Boone spent three years in Senegal as Surgeon to the British garrison.

**1760s**

**HIPPISLEY (or HIPERSLEY), John**

*Essays on the populousness of Africa, on the trade at the forts on the Gold Coast.... London, 1764.*

Hippisley served on the Gold Coast with the Company of Merchants, in 1766 becoming Governor at Cape Coast (where he eventually died).

**VOYAGES: NEWBERY, John**

*The world displayed, or a curious collection of voyages and travels, 20 vols,* London, 1760-61; later eds., 1767, 1774-78, 1790.

Ger. trans. 1764.

African material is in Vols. 17 and 18.

**1762-88**

**ABDUL RAHMAN**


Austin reprints and discusses the considerable contemporary source material for the life of Abdul Rahaman. Born in Futa Jalon c.1762, he had travelled widely in West Africa before being shipped from the Gambia to America as a slave in 1788. Later he went to Liberia, where he died in 1829. Austin also lists the considerable supporting literature, which includes a modern biography, Terry ALFORD, *Prince among Slaves* (New York, 1977).

**BENEZET, Anthony**

(1) *A short account of that part of Africa inhabited by the Negroes...extracted from divers authors,* Philadelphia, ?1762; another ed. *with large additions and amendments*, Philadelphia, 1762; eds. also pub. in London, 1763, 1768.

Ger. trans. 1763.
(2) Some historical account of Guinea... also a republication of the sentiments of several authors... on this interesting subject..., Philadelphia, 1771; also pub. in London, 1772, with several subsequent eds. (that of 1788 being reissued in facs., London, 1968.)

What is essentially the same anti-slavery tract was extensively developed over the years and enjoyed a wide success. Benezet (1713-84) came of a French Huguenot family which moved to London in 1715 and to Philadelphia in 1731, where he became a Quaker and ran a school for Black children. His African material is almost all extracted from well known published 17th and 18th century sources. However (2) contains previously unpublished extracts from the journal of a surgeon who visited R. Sestos on a Liverpool ship in 1724-25; the fullest version of these is in the 1788 ed. There is a Memoir by Roberts VAUX (Philadelphia, 1817), revised and extended by 1848 ARMISTEAD (London, 1859).

1762-63

CHOISEUL, Etienne-François de, Comte

The Choiseul Papers, Munger Africana Library Notes (Pasadena), No.3. 1971.

This publication reproduces in facsimile four memoranda sent to the Duc de Nivernais by Choiseul, Louis XV's Foreign Minister, at a time when the French were considering whether to press for the return of Senegal and other possessions in Africa in the negotiations with Great Britain that led up to the Treaty of Paris in 1763. They contain considerable information, from the French point of view, on West Africa and its trade. The accompanying Eng. trans. is not wholly reliable. Cf. 1762 COLLECTION: BECKER.

1762

WORGE, Major-General

George DUKE, The life of Major-General Worge, Colonel of the 86th Regiment of Foot, and Governor of Senegal in Africa, with an account of the settlement of Senegal and Goree, London, 1844.

1762-83

COLLECTION: BECKER, Charles


Cf. 1762 CHOISEUL.

1764-67

DEMANET, Abbé Jean-Baptiste


Demanet had been chaplain in Goree and St Louis; there is an account of a journey made by him in 1826 VOYAGES: WALCKENAER, Vol.5. But his book contains borrowings from 1685 LABAT.

1764-72

SOUZA COUTINHO, Francisco Innocencio de


This study of an energetic governor of Angola prints some informative documents.
1766-76

PROYART, Abbé Liévaïn Bonaventure


1808 Pinkerton

Proyart was active in the last of three successive French missionary campaigns in Loango and Kakongo. See 1766 COLLECTION: CUVELIER.

1766-1811

QUAQUE, Rev. Philip


Quaque, son of a Cape Coast cabocean, was educated and ordained in England and then served as Anglican chaplain and missionary for the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel at Cape Coast. Cf. 1752 THOMPSON.

1766-76

COLLECTION: CUVELIER, Mgr Jean

Documents sur une mission française au Kakongo, 1766-1776, ARSC Mém. 30, 1, Brussels, 1953. Cf. 1766 PROYART.

1767-70

DALZEL, Archibald

The history of Dahomy, an inland kingdom of Africa, compiled from authentic memoirs, London, 1793. facs. 1967

Dalzel, who had qualified in medicine at Edinburgh, was governor of the British fort at Whydah during 1767-70 (and his total experience of West Africa and the slave trade extended from 1763 to 1802), but his History, a work justifying the slave trade, is for the most part a compilation, drawing heavily, for example, on 1727 SNELGRAVE and 1772 NORRIS. He also made good use of material supplied to him by Lionel ABSON for the period 1774-90 when Abson resided on the Slave Coast. There are studies of Dalzel by I. A. AKINJOGBIN, JAHI, 7, 1 (1966) 67-78, and by James A. RAWLEY, UAJHS, 17, 2 (1984) 317-23.

1767-70

GRACE, Edward


(1767)

VOYAGES: KNOX, J.

(1769) CASTILHON, Jean-Louis

Zingha, reine d'Angola, histoire africaine..., Paris, 1769; Rotterdam, 1775.
A novel, with 1657 ANTONIO LAUDATI as a principal source; see O. de BOUVEIGNES
in Zaire, 2, 7 (1948) 797-800.

1769 DOUMET de SIBLAS, Jacques

Charles BECKER & Victor MARTIN, 'Mémoire inédit de Doumet... [sur] le Kayor
Doumet was an officer of engineers in the French army who was stationed at Goree for nine or ten years
from 1763.

c.1770-1793 BJÖRN, Andreas Riegeisen

Tanker om slavehandelen, Copenhagen, 1806.
Bjorn was chief merchant in the Danish establishment on the Gold Coast in the 1770s, and in the
1780s he became a fort commander. During 1789-92 he was governor of the Danish settlements, and he
left the Gold Coast for good in 1793. See also 1780 THAARUP.

1770 COSMÉ, Dr Francisco Damião

Luis de PINA, 'Tratado das queixas endemicas, e mais fataes nesta conquista',
Pina has edited other work on the medical history of Angola in the 18th century, e.g.
'Documentos para a historia medica nacional ultramarina', A Medicina
Contemporânea (Lisbon) 37 (1937); & 'Notas para a medicina indigena
angolense no século XVIII', Bol. Geral das Colonias, 151 (1938).

(c.1770) GRONNIOSAW (or GRANWASA), James Albert Ukawsaw

A narrative of the most remarkable particulars in the life of James Albert
Ukawsaw Gronniosaw, an African prince, as related by himself. Bath, 1771?
There are many other publications of this pamphlet, e.g. from Leeds, Dublin, London, Newport R.I.
and Catskill N.Y., with some variations in title, and varying from about 32 and about 48pp in length.
Gronniosaw claimed to be a native of Bornu who had been shipped as a slave from the Gold Coast. (This
would not have been unusual - cf. 1808 ALI EL-SAMI, or the recruitment at Cape Coast by 1830 LANDER
of two Bornu men for service with the expedition to the Niger.) Depending on the edition, there are
something like ten pages in which Gronniosaw retails the adventures he claimed to have had in Africa.

1770s SCHOTT(E), Johann Peter

(1) Kurze Nachrichten über den Zustand von Senegal, von den dasigen Mönchen-
und Negerstämmen... der Gegend, Leipzig, 1781. [cont.
(2) A treatise on the Synochus atrabilosa, a contagious fever which raged at Senegal in the year 1779, London, 1782.
Fr. trans. 1785; Ger. trans. Stendal, 1786.

The author's name is given as Schott on (1) and as Schotte on (2); he was a German surgeon based in London who made a number of voyages to West Africa on British vessels. The first publication was written up from Schott(e)’s information by Johann Reinhold FORSTER, the pioneer German naturalist and ethnographer, who was based in England during 1766-75. The second includes information on the slave trade from Galam.

1771-74
SMEATHMAN, Henry

Plan of a settlement to be made near Siëra Leone on the Grain Coast of Africa, London, 1786.

Smeathman, a man of varied enthusiasms, spent 1771-74 collecting botanical specimens in the Banana Islands. It was largely as a result of his urging - from at least 1783 - that Sierra Leone became the site for the 1787 settlement of 'Black Poor' from London (cf. his letters to the Quaker Dr Thomas Knowles and the 'Substance of a plan of a settlement....' printed in 1787 WADSTROM, Pt.2). In 1781 Smeathman published Some account of the termites which are found in Africa and other hot countries.

(1771)

[ TWEED, Mr ]

Considerations and remarks on the present state of the trade of Africa, with some account of the British settlement... by a gentleman who resided upwards of fifteen years in that country, London, 1771.

This anonymous pamphlet of some 88 pages is generally ascribed to a Mr Tweed.

1771-72
VERDUN de la CRENNE, Jean-René-Antoine de, Admiral, et al.


The purpose of the voyage was to check instruments for measuring latitude and longitude and to verify charts. Other authors include the Chevalier BORDA and M. PINGRE.

(1772)

[ ? DEMARIN, John Peter ]

A treatise upon the trade from Great Britain to Africa... By an African merchant, London, 1772.

Appendix H, pp. 53-123, consists of letters from the merchant Richard BREW at Anomabu etc.; extracts are printed in 1441 COLLECTION: DONNAN, Vol 2. For Brew, see Margaret PRIESTLEY, West African trade and coast society... (London, 1969).

1772
NETTELBECK, Joachim

Joachim Nettelbeck, Bürger zu Colberg; eine Lebensbeschreibung... herausgegeben von J.C.L. Haken, 3 vols, Leipzig, 1821-22.

[cont.]
Nettelbeck visited West Africa on a slaving vessel in 1772; the account of the voyage is in Vol.2. He called at Cape Mesurado and spent some time on the Gold Coast.

1772-75

NORRIS, Robert

(1) A short account of the African trade..., Liverpool, 1788; a 'corrected' ed. was pub. in London in 1789, and was also incorporated in
(2) Memoirs of the reign of Bossa Ahádee, King of Dahomy... to which are added the author’s journey to Abomey... and a short account of the African slave trade, London, 1789. facs. 1968.
Fr. trans.: Voyage au pays de Dahomé... avec une description de quelques parties de la côte de Guinée durant un voyage fait en 1787 et 1788 avec le Dr Sparrman et le Capt. Arrenhuis, par C.B.Wådström, Paris, 1790.
Ger. trans.: Leipzig, 1790; Berlin, 1791.

The Memoirs are critically examined by Robin LAW, The slave-trader as historian: Robert Norris and the history of Dahomey, HA, 16 (1989) 219-35. A revised version of Norris's work was printed in 1767 DALZEL; both authors were active in the slave trade interest during the campaign against the trade.

1772-74

ROBERTSON, Dr Robert

A physical journal kept... during three voyages on the coast of Africa and the West Indies in the years 1772-74, London, 1777.
Robertson was Physician at the Royal Hospital, Greenwich, writing on tropical fevers.

1774-91

ABSON, Lionel

Abson, governor of the British fort at Whydah 1774-1803, provided Dalzel with information on Dahomey for the years 1774-91. See 1767 DALZEL, pp.156-230.

1774-77

LE BRASSEUR, Joseph-Alexandre


Le Brasseur was royal governor at Goree in 1774-77, and his memorandum was written in 1778. See also 1701 COLLECTION: MACHAT.

(1775)

DUBOIS-FONTANELLE, Jean-Gaspard

Anecdotes africaines, depuis l'origine ou la découverte des différents royaumes qui composent l'Afrique, jusqu'à nos jours, Paris, 1775.
A superficial work deriving from standard 17th and 18th century sources.