

Historical Explorations and Connections: An Intimate Relationship Between Imperial Knowledge and Medical Libraries

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California State University



*Archivists and Librarians
in the
History
of the
Health Sciences*

AALHHS:

<http://iis-exhibits.library.ucla.edu/alhhs/index.html>



FIT to PRACTICE

EMPIRE, RACE, GENDER, AND THE
MAKING OF BRITISH MEDICINE, 1850–1980

DOUGLAS M. HAYNES

SOFIA LEUNG

libraries. social justice. critical race theory.

WRITTEN BY SOFIA

APRIL 15, 2019

SEARCH

FOLLOW ME!

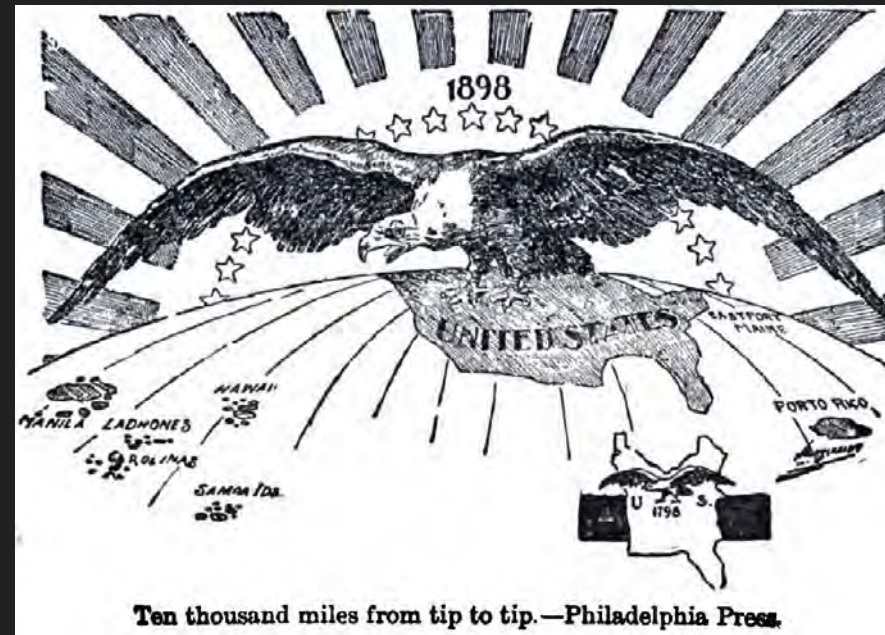
WHITENESS AS COLLECTIONS

I had this interesting mini-eureka moment a few weeks ago that I wanted to share for a few reasons. One, I don't usually reflect on the connections that help me understand how I learn something new or what goes into coming up with some new concept. Most of the time, the connections aren't clear to me. Two, I like to show students that inspiration for new "research" or "scholarly" ideas doesn't have to come from only "scholarly" publications. Three, I need to write it out to fully understand how I came to this conclusion and to really understand what this conclusion means!

Site: <https://sleung.wordpress.com/>



THE DEVILFISH IN EGYPTIAN WATERS.



Ten thousand miles from tip to tip.—Philadelphia Press.

Right: "War in the Philippines" by Marshall Everet in 1898. Source:

<https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:10kMiles.JPG>

Left: The Devilfish in Egyptian Waters in 1882. Source:

<http://www.granger.com/popuppreview.asp?image=0056521>

Dr. Ann L. Stoler's Critiques:

- Colonial administration and the archives: careful evaluation of historically designated categories, and challenges conventional assumptions of traditional colonial divisions.
- Body formation and politics: private and intimate activities including sexual access and domestic arrangements were central and important to development and formation of colonial power structures and authority.

Source: Carnal Knowledge and Imperial Power
Race and the Intimate in Colonial Rule by Ann L. Stoler



Source: <https://www.newschool.edu/lang/faculty/ann-stoler/>



SURGEON &
PHILANTHROPIST
FOUNDER OF THE WO-
MAN'S HOSPITAL STATE OF
NEW YORK HIS BRILLIANT
ACHIEVEMENT CARRIED
THE FAME OF AMERICAN
SURGERY THROUGH-
OUT THE ENTIRE
WORLD.

BORN 1813

FOR HIS SERVICES IN
THE CAUSE OF SCIENCE
& MANKIND AWARDED
HIGHEST HONORS BY HIS
COUNTRYMEN & DECOR-
ATIONS FROM THE GOV-
ERNMENTS OF BELGIUM
FRANCE ITALY SPAIN
& PORTUGAL

DIED 1883

J. MARION SIMS

M.D. L.L.D.

The New York Academy of Medicine





MEDICAL RESEARCH AND MEDICAL PRACTICE IN THE ANGLO-BURMESE SIAM 1877-1888

Psychiatric, Colonial, and Hospital in West Africa

ROYAL SOCIETY

ROYAL SOCIETY

ROYAL SOCIETY

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ROYAL SOCIETY

GENERAL ANATOMY

"[Harriet A. Washington] has unearthed an enormous amount of shocking information and shaped it into a riveting, carefully documented book."
—NEW YORK TIMES

MEDICAL APARTHEID

The Dark History of Medical Experimentation on Black Americans from Colonial Times to the Present

HARRIET A.
WASHINGTON

COLLECTING *the* WORLD

HANS SLOANE AND THE ORIGINS
OF THE BRITISH MUSEUM

JAMES DELBOURGO

The Health of Slaves
on Southern Plantations

By WILLIAM DOSITÉ POSTELL

LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY STUDIES
Social Science Series Number One

PRACTICAL RULES
FOR THE
MANAGEMENT
AND
MEDICAL TREATMENT
OF
NEGRO SLAVES,
IN THE
SUGAR COLONIES.

By a PROFESSIONAL PLANTER.

London:

PRINTED BY J. BARFIELD, WARDOUR-STREET, SOHO,
PRINTED TO HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE ALBERT,
FOR
VERNOR, HOOD, AND SHARP, IN THE FOLTRY; AND
HATCHARD, PICCADILLY.

1811.

Friday, March 18, 1864. 4pp. *Freetn.* 1864.
 S.L. Messenger; No. 66, Apl. 1909- [In continuation]
 ports. 1909
 [Incomplete, wanting Nos. 111, 113, 118, 124, 126]
 S.L. Royal Gazette; v.12, 1881- [In continuation]
Freetn. 1881-
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 [In continuation] 1918-

MEDICINE AND HYGIENE
 [See also West Africa—*Medicine and hygiene*]

BRYSON, A. Account of the origin, spread, & decline of
 the epidemic fevers of S.L. x.174pp. 1849
 [Ross, D. P.]. Med. notes for guidance of junior med.
 officer: & officials (in S.L.) stationed in the bush.
 12pp. 1894.
 ROSS, Col. Sir R. & others. Rept. of the malaria expedn.
 of the Liverpool Sch. of Trop. Med. [to S.L.] [Liver.
 Sch. Trop. Med., mem. 2] 60pp. m. & i. 1900.
 BOYCE, Sir R. W. & others. Rept. on the sanitation
 & anti-malarial measures in practice in Bathurst,
 Conakry, & Freetown [Liver. Sch. Trop. Med., mem.
 14] 40pp. i. 1905.
 S.L. Corresp. re. a genl. surv. of disease in the Pro-
 tectorate of S.L. [Sess. pap. 4 of 1927] 5pp. fo. 1927.

MINES AND MINING
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 countries: v.1—Nigeria: v.2—W. Afr. (The G.C.,
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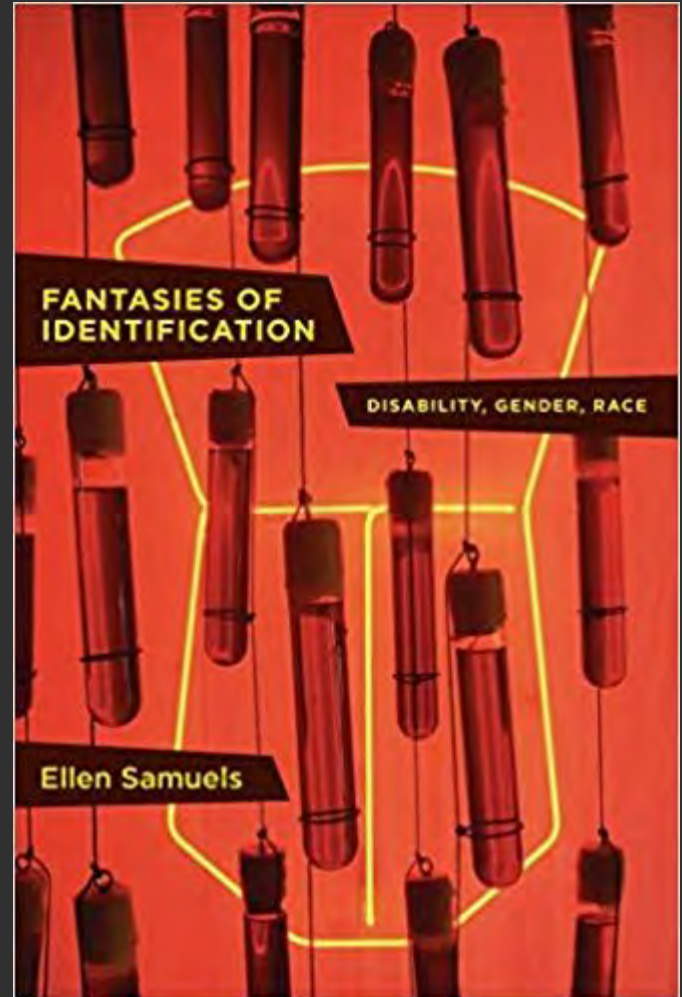
NATIVE RACES—Ethnological
 WINTERBOTTOM, T. Account of the native Africans in
 the neighbourhood of S.L.; to which is added an
 account of the present state of medicine among them.
 2v. m. & i. 1803.
 [Review of vol. 1 of the above, ex. *Edinb. Rev.*,
 pp.355-60, 1804; *Afr.*, v.1]

The Roles of Medical Libraries and Collections in Empire Building

- Acts of collecting, researching, classifying, comparing, and preserving data while colonizing.
- “Colonialism is literally a health hazard” from *Public Health in Papua New Guinea: Medical Possibility and Social Constraints* (1984).
- “Transformation in the [medical] field is dependent on colonialism, creating new social status and hierarchy in society” from *Physicians, Colonial Racism and Diaspora in West Africa* (1996).
- As a result, colonial health data fortified medical texts that are studied, classified, produced, authoritative, and disseminated.

Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA)

- Using CDA as a method to critique relationships and structures of language and power and access in medicine through racial divisions.
- In response to eugenics and “racial sciences” as “expert knowledge” and “medical authorities.”
- Libraries’ roles in gathering, describing and classifying medical texts to be consumed.



The Intersections of Body, Texts, and Knowledge

- Colonial administration and the archives on body (in)formation over time.

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- Critical discourse analysis: texts are collected, described, disseminated, transferred and preserved as foundational knowledge in medical libraries. Power and attribution.
- There is a view that libraries are inherently “neutral” yet the collections preserve and advance a certain perspective. What is the response to this?



“New Orleans Pharmacy Museum” (Established in 1823)
 Voodoo Pharmacies of New Orleans & Medications and Substances Used by Voodoo Practitioners

A photograph of a library reading room. The central focus is a dark wood door with two small, square, leaded-glass windows. Above the door is a plaque that reads "THE DRS. BARRY AND BOBBI COLLER RARE BOOK READING ROOM" and "Aide possible by generous contributions from The Samuel J and Ethel Lefink Charitable Trust & Charitable Foundation, Inc.". The room is filled with tall, dark wood bookshelves with diamond-patterned glass doors, containing numerous books and decorative objects. In the foreground, a wooden table and a chair are visible, along with a large, glowing, conical lamp with a leaded-glass shade.

Thank You

Raymond Pun