

**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**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649026395

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 by Edmund D. Morel

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

EDMUND D. MOREL

**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**

THE ⁰³¹
CONGO SLAVE ⁴⁴
STATE. ²⁴

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.

By EDMUND D. MOREL.



"Every step that we take upon our way is a step that brings us nearer the goal, and every obstacle even although for the moment it may seem insurmountable, can only for a little while retard, and never can defeat, the final triumph."

William Ewart Gladstone.



LIVERPOOL:
JOHN RICHARDSON & SONS, PRINTERS, 29, DALE STREET.
1903.

BY THE SAME AUTHOR.

"Affairs of West Africa."

Demy 8vo, with Illustrations and Maps. PRICE, 12/- NETT.

LONDON: WILLIAM HEINEMANN.

"The sufferings of which the picture was given to the world in *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, are as nothing to those which Mr. Morel represents to be the habitual accompaniments of the acquisition of rubber and ivory by the Belgian companies."—*Times*.

"Another feature of Mr. Morel's book is a tremendous attack on the Congo Free State."—*Spectator*.

"Neither the author's language in denouncing this system, nor his condemnation of King Leopold is one whit too strong."—*Speaker*.

"A terrible indictment of the Congo State."—*Morning Post*.

"We know of no author who displays a more intimate knowledge of the European side of the Congo scandal."—*Glasgow Herald*.

"Mr. Morel's work depicts at length the abuses committed by the Congo State, which have, in part, been juridically confirmed already."—*Norddeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung*.

"The chapters of Mr. Morel's book which will cause the greatest sensation are those which the author devotes to the Congo State. If the movement against the Congo State succeeds in its object, the author will certainly be able to claim to have powerfully contributed to its success."—*Bulletin du Comité de l'Afrique Française*.

ALSO

"The British Case in French Congo."

W. HEINEMANN, 6/- 1903.

"The Belgian Curse in Africa."

CONTEMPORARY REVIEW, March, 1902.

"Trading Monopolies in West Africa."

J. RICHARDSON & SONS. PAMPHLET, 6d. 1902.

ETC., ETC.

JUN 27 1921

June 27, 1921

CONTENTS.



	PAGES.
PREFACE	5-7
INTRODUCTION	8-10
CHAPTER I. The Policy of the Congo State or the <i>Domaine Privé</i> ...	11-21
CHAPTER II. The <i>Domaine de la Couronne</i>	22-23
CHAPTER III. In the <i>Domaine Privé</i>	24-33
CHAPTER IV. The Subsidiary Trusts—No. 1, The Katanga Trust, ...	34-42
CHAPTER V. " " The Katanga Trust (<i>contd.</i>)	43-54
CHAPTER VI. " " No. 2, The Mongalla Trust ...	55-68
CHAPTER VII. " " No. 3, The Lopori - Maringa Trust	69-73
CHAPTER VIII. " " No. 4, The Kasai Trust ...	74-80
CHAPTER IX. Other Trusts	81-84
CHAPTER X. Oppression in the Lower Congo	85-90
CHAPTER XI. The "Commercial Statistics" of the Congo State for 1902	91-97
CHAPTER XII. The Debate in the House of Commons on May 20th, 1903.—Members of Parliament who have identified themselves with the Congo reform movement. ...	98-112

1

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

PREFACE.



IN the days of the over-sea slave trade, Europeans went down the West Coast of Africa to capture the inhabitants and carry them away to labour on European and American plantations, and for other purposes. That wickedness was put an end to by a few men, who, after incredible difficulty, heart-breaking set-backs and soul-tearing toil, with pen and voice succeeded in rousing the conscience of the world. An evil perhaps as great—possibly greater—and accompanied by concomitant dangers which the over-sea slave trade was innocent of, faces us to-day. Although the present evil is not so universally practised as was the other, it wields nevertheless, a corrupting influence upon men's minds, its perpetration being accompanied by temporary material gains of an extensive kind—much more extensive than the profits derived from the over-sea slave trade—which gains, moreover, are unaccompanied by any hardship or unpleasantness to the principal beneficiaries concerned in promoting and enforcing the evil. The consequence has been that within the last few years the virus has spread, a pernicious example has been copied, the minds of many men are confused and, as in the days of the over-sea slave trade, familiarity with an existing evil has resulted in the blunting of conscience, in indifferentism and unthinking acquiescence.

One hundred years ago, a handful of men were fighting a system hoary with age and sanctified by custom, whereby the negro was considered the lawful prey of the white man, who, thanks to his superior engines of destruction, and to the inter-tribal warfare among the negroes, captured enormous numbers of the latter and enslaved them in a land of exile.

To-day, some of us are fighting a system whereby a certain number of individuals in a small country, having at their head a man utterly unscrupulous but extraordinarily able, consider the negro as their lawful prey, and, thanks to the perfection which modern engines of destruction have now attained and to the lack of unity among the negroes, are enslaving them in their own land.

The men of a century ago had for a long time, everything against them: Parliament, class prejudice, vested interests, and much more, beside of which the difficulties that face us to-day are insignificant.

We are confronted merely with the intrigues of a *clique*, the allies bound to it by the ties of material interest, and the paid agents it entertains. We are not struggling against a system to which long usage has given almost the force of law, but against a system adopted in violation of solemn international pledges, and which has been in existence for little more than a decade. We are not contending with a system which might have endured for a thousand years without the Nemesis of retribution, but with a system which carries within it the germs of destruction and chaos.

Yet, disproportionate as are our difficulties with those which faced the men of a hundred years ago, the obstacles we have to overcome are, nevertheless, considerable. If the honour of the nations of the world is concerned in this matter, so also are their mutual jealousies involved. The partition of Africa has given rise to much rivalry, to dangerous disputes almost culminating in armed warfare between the nations of Europe. Deeds have been done in Africa, of which each participating Power in the "scramble" feels ashamed, and this feeling of shame, coupled with distrust of its neighbour, causes each Power to hesitate before taking action, leads the timid statesman to shrink, to search for excuses, to palliate—almost to condone. Public opinion is still suffering, although in a lessening degree, perhaps, from one of those periodical waves of materialism and indifferentism which sweep over the intellectual world from time to time, when appeals to humanity are put down to sentimental clap-trap, or to the deluded imaginings of ill-regulated minds. But what movement for reform, what effort to undo a wrong, or to upset a tyranny has ever been

carried to a successful conclusion without impediments and opposition? Rather should we rejoice that so many powerful sympathies are already enlisted in the cause.

Those whom appeals to humanity leave untouched, we are able, happily, to approach on other grounds, to put before them arguments and data based upon the severest practicability, upon the clearest common-sense, upon considerations of science and reason which will bear—and have borne—the test of examination. We can produce sufficient presumptive evidence to show that the continuation and spread of this evil will bring with it, as inevitably as night follows day, ruin and disaster upon every legitimate European enterprise in Equatorial Africa; will undo the work of years of patient effort; will render valueless the sacrifice of many valuable lives laid down in the task of exploring and opening up those vast regions, and will fling back their inhabitants into the welter of barbarism, deeper and infinitely more degrading than any they have hitherto experienced.

The men of a hundred years ago, who fought the over-sea African slave trade, were giants. The obstacles they had to surmount were colossal. They surmounted them—they won. Compared with them, the men who to-day are fighting the New Slavery in Africa are pygmies. Their difficulties are substantial, but they will overcome them—and they will win.

HAWARDEN, 1903.

