AFRICAN MISSIONS
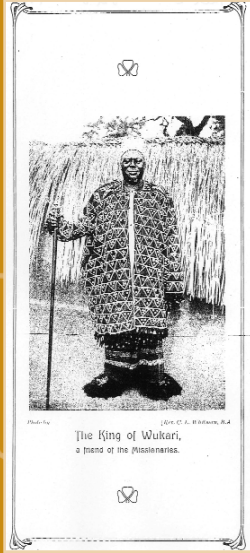
EDUCATION AND THE ROAD TO INDEPENDENCE: THE SUM IN NIGERIA, THE CAMEROONS, CHAD, SUDAN AND OTHER AFRICAN TERRITORIES

The King of Wukari,
a friend of the Missionaries.

THE LIGHTBEARER

The Official Magazine of the Sudan United Mission.

Vol. XVII.—No. 1.

January, 1921.

A BIT OF BENUE BUSH.
A Typical Scene on the Banks of the River Benue,
Nigeria, Western Sudan.

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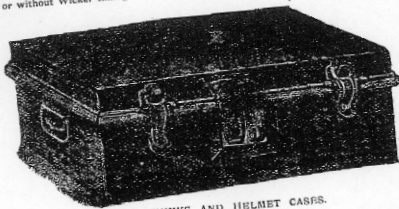
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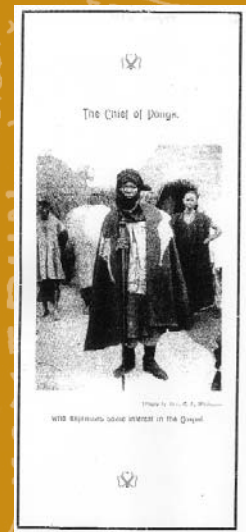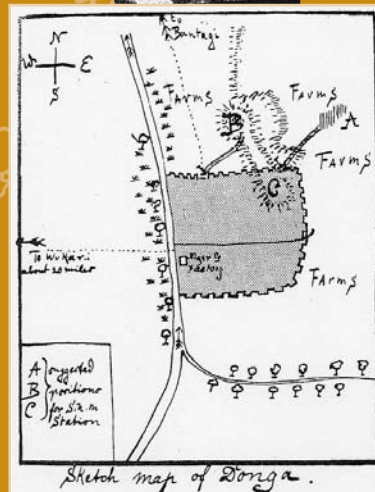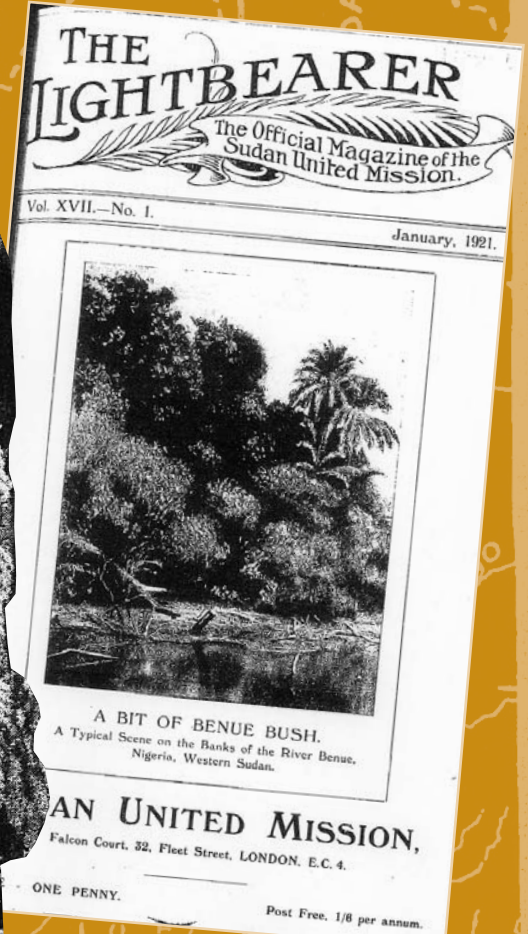With or without Wicker Lining.

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Sketch map of Donga.

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Professor Andrew Barnes, Department of History, Arizona State University

The Archive of the Sudan United Mission (SUM), held at the Centre for the Study of Christianity in the Non-Western World, New College, University of Edinburgh, is an important resource for the study of missionary work, education, medical work, evangelism, the emergence of native churches and the growth of nationalist sentiment in Africa in the twentieth century.
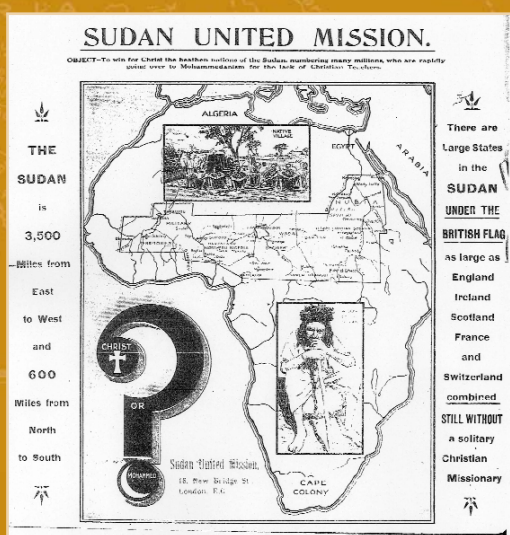
Initially founded as the Sudan Pioneer Mission, SUM took its name from the concept of Greater Sudan. At the beginning of the twentieth century many of the colonial boundaries were in a state of flux and Greater Sudan comprised a vast area of Africa stretching from the coasts of Nigeria, the Cameroons in the west, to Chad and Anglo-Egyptian Sudan further east. The main aim of the SUM was to halt the advance of Islam across this huge swathe of territory. Initial efforts focused on the Benue region in Nigeria.

The SUM manuscripts span the period 1898-1960 and allows researchers to study:

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- The work of J Lowry Maxwell amongst the Hausa-speaking and Jukun tribes and his insights into African language, culture and customs.
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- Reports from the range of different mission stations.
- The tremendous political and social changes in Africa which gathered momentum after 1920, culminating in independence movements and a vibrant Pan-Africanism.
- SUM's commitment from 1904 to the establishment of indigenous African Churches and its changing role once this had been achieved.
- SUM's activities in Nigeria, Chad, the Cameroons and Anglo-Egyptian Sudan

AFRICAN MISSIONS, & THE ROAD TO INDEPENDANCE:
The SUM in Nigeria, the Cameroons, Chad, Sudan & other African Territories
Part 1: Manuscript Papers from the Centre for the Study of Christianity in the Non-Western World, New College, University of Edinburgh, 1898-1960
Part 2: The Lightbearer, 1905-1991
Part 3: Newsletters, 1940-1989, Publications and Annual Reports, 1908-1979
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