

July 18. 1909 — Oct. 31, 1909.



James Chapin

CALENDRIER MEMENTO

JANVIER

FÉVRIER

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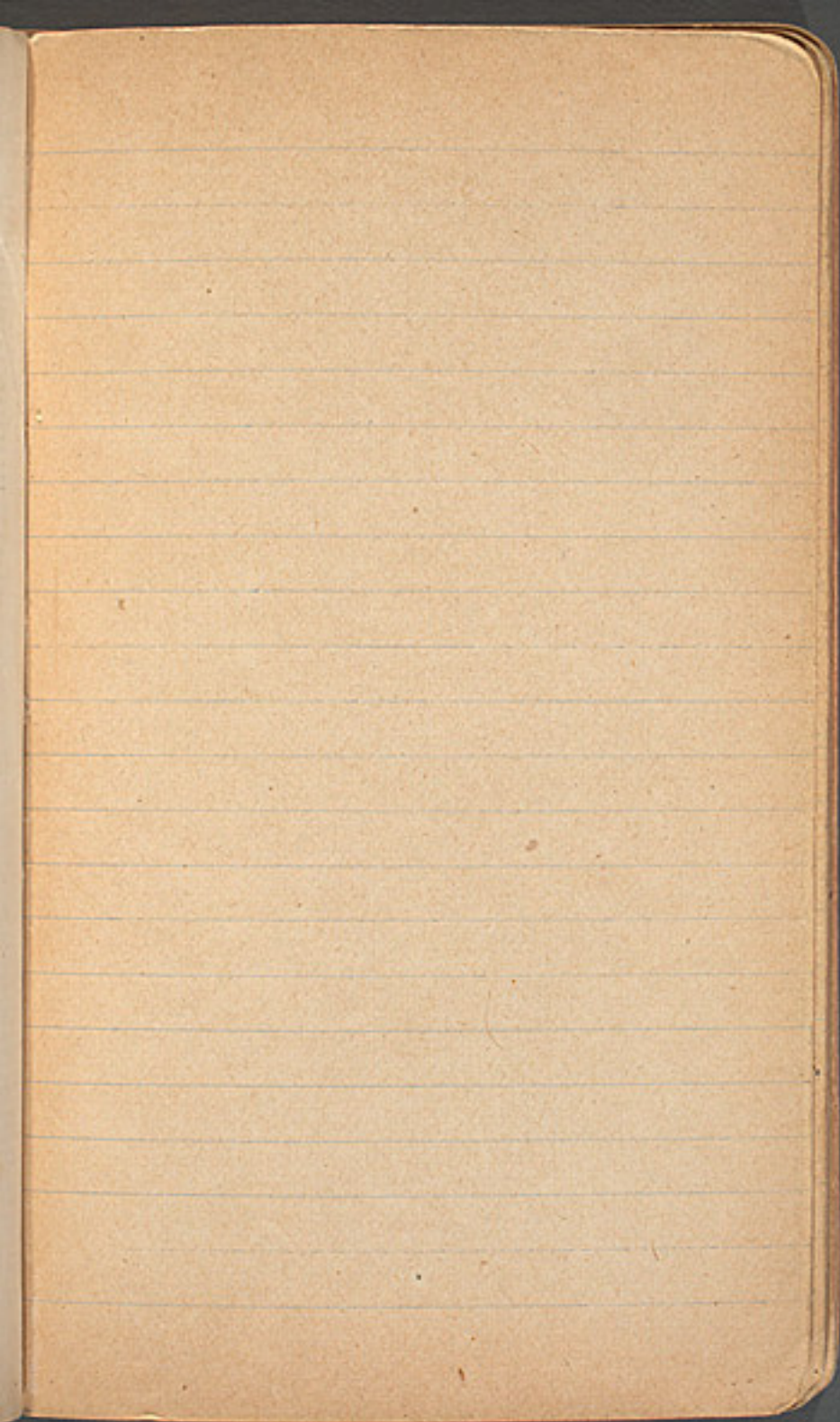
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CALENDRIER MEMENTO

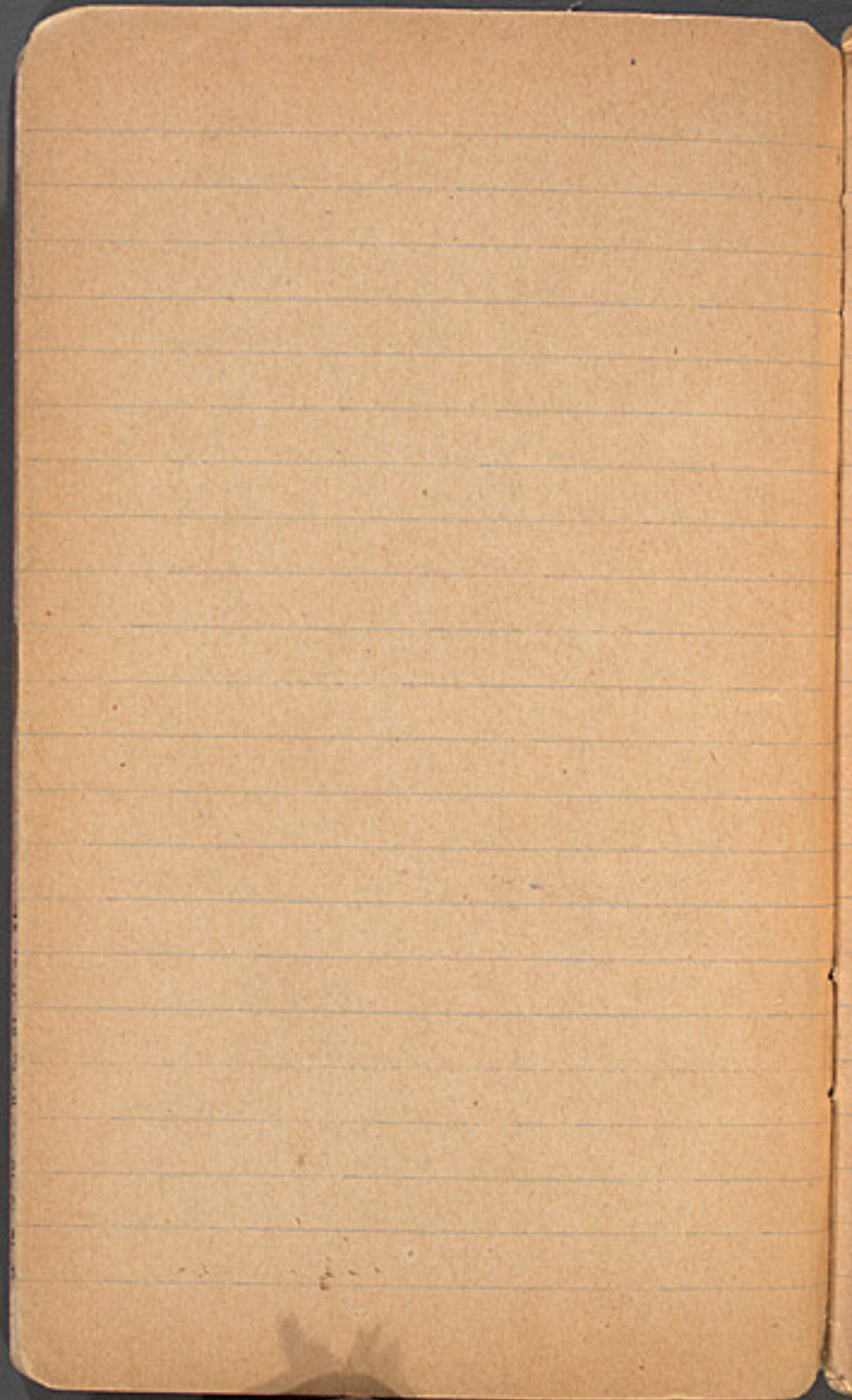
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July 18, 1909. (Sunday)

Coming up the Congo.  
Stopped overnight at Lukolela,  
where we arrived at noon,  
so we had all afternoon  
to go ashore.

Below Lukolela this  
morning, in one place  
we saw some six or  
seven hippopotami in  
shallow water on a  
sand bar, sitting so  
that just the tops of  
their heads stuck out  
of water. We also  
saw many monkeys,  
mostly pure black ones, <sup>(Alouatta)</sup>  
but a few black and white  
in some very high trees  
just above the <sup>BMS</sup> mission  
at Lukolela. One  
*Haliaetus vocifer* seen  
today.

I went on shore about  
three o'clock. Mr. <sup>Van de</sup> Ker-  
<sup>(Substitute)</sup>chove had just sent  
back a female red monkey  
(Colobus) he had shot.  
In the forest along the  
telegraph line to the  
north of the post we  
came upon a band of  
these same red monkeys,  
but I only succeeded  
in killing one very  
young one with my  
shot-gun, tho they were  
not very shy, and  
stayed around even  
after I had fired a  
number of shots.

Later in the afternoon,  
near the same place,  
I saw some 6 or 7  
plantain-eaters



*Myiozetetes cristata*  
(*C. gigantea*), with a tuft of feathers on the crown, and yellow on the basal half of the tail feathers. When flying the crest is inclined backwards, but it stands up straight as soon as the bird alights.

These birds made a loud cuckoo-like noise, "cow-cow-cow----". I wounded one, but it fell in the brush, and must have run off immediately.

There were also 6 or 8 hornbills there, and one of them I succeeded in shooting. It was a male, with testes enlarged. Its

stomach contained fruit, a very large dragon fly, and a large ant. like insect. At Post 34 yesterday afternoon, we saw 5 or 6 of these same hornbills.

As I was coming back to the steamer, soon after sunset, I saw a goatsucker (Macrodipteryx vexillarius <sup>or</sup> <sub>o.k.</sub>) flying around high over the forest. It had some of the wing-feathers greatly elongated, giving it a curious, most un-birdlike appearance in the twilight. I



I think it had white



spots on the wings like  
the night hawk, in  
America.

July 19, 1909 (Monday)

Left Lukolela early  
this morning and  
stopped late in the  
afternoon at Irebu.  
We touched at one  
wood station about  
noon, but did not  
have time to go shoot-  
ing.

This morning I  
saw a jacana (*Metopidius*  
*africanus*?) fly up out

of some grass in a swamp. It was brown on the back, with blackish wing tips, and some white around the neck. I remember seeing the same bird on an island in Stanley Pool on July 12, but I was not sure at the time that it was a jacana.

We saw one snake-bird today, one Haliaeetus vocifer, several black-and-white kingfishers, some hornbills, and three geese.

At Drebu I took a little stroll around the town, seeing 5 fruit pigeons <sup>(vinage)</sup>, and a number of other birds that have been common all the



way up the river. These  
fruit pigeons are found  
at Leopoldville, tho we  
saw none, but I found  
a single feather on the  
ground. They are known  
as "pigeon vert".

Aris Guyon came aboard, with soldiers  
for Bumba. Also an Italian Captain.  
July 20, 1909. (Tuesday.)

We had a thunderstorm  
last night, the first I  
have experienced since  
we landed in Africa.

Today I saw two  
*Haliaetus vocifer*, two  
or three snakebirds, two  
white herons, <sup>(*Casmerodius albus*)</sup>, and a  
flock of some 30 skimmers,  
on a sand bar.

We landed this after-  
noon at <sup>(= Ikengo?)</sup> Inkingi, a  
wooded station a little

below Bolengi, and tied  
up for the night. I shot  
two long-tailed weavers,  
a flycatcher, a dove,  
and one of the same  
goatsuckers (M. vexillarius)  
that I saw at Lukolela.  
Unfortunately it was  
so close by that the  
shot carried away its  
whole tail.

I saw a paradise  
flycatcher, with black  
head, brown back, and  
two elongated white  
tail feathers, but could  
not get a shot at it.  
(Pterpsiphona viridis)



July 21, 1909 (Wednesday)

We stopped at Coquilhatville about noon today. There I shot a very large resplendent starling, and a sun-bird, and saw a crow with a white band on its breast and the back of its neck.

Later in the day we touched at a woodpost, where I saw a green-fruit pigeon, but shot nothing.

On the river, from the steamer, we saw two shimmers today.

In the <sup>early</sup> evening we tied up along the shore, but the forest was so dense, that, at this time of day, it was too dark to hunt.

At Coquilhatville Mr Lang brought two large

lung-fish from a native.

As we were passing a swampy part of the shore today, I saw a jacana, walking on some dead grass. It was the same kind I saw on the 19th, with a white neck and brown back.

July 22, 1909 (Thursday)

Stopped at a wood station today for a very short time. No birds were collected.

3 or 4 *Naliaëtus vocifer*,  
4 black-and-white vultures,  
and 4 anhingas were seen today. One of the anhingas was very prettily marked, with a white line running down the side of the neck, a light brown patch on the



breast, and the feathers on  
the back streaked with  
whitish.

most of  
those we  
see are

probably  
immature.

for they have  
the neck

merely

grayish brown, and the rest  
of the plumage black. I saw  
a dove flying across the  
river today, rich light brown,  
with a gray head (*Calophila*  
*brehmieri*)

We stopped for the night  
at Malele, a small native  
village. Just before reaching  
there, we saw a flock of  
large red-breasted bee-eaters  
flying about over the river.



and dipping in the water like swallows. At Malele there was a flock of 150 or 200 sitting in the top of a dead tree, and we shot 8 of them. We have seen these bee-eaters almost every day since we passed Yumbi.

*Cercopithecus* In the top of a large tree on the shore today we saw 5 black monkeys, with tufts of hair on the tops of their heads. They were of various sizes, and, I suppose, of various ages. Mr. Lang said he had seen one of the same sort in Lukolela, and that they have grayish beards.

At Malele I saw one of the metallic blue swallow (*H. nigrita*)



that I saw at Kinshasa  
on the 12th. A day or two  
ago I saw 2 flying about  
over the river.

*Ceryle maxima (gigantea?)*

July 23, 1909 (Friday)

Today I saw a large  
kingfisher (Ceryle) with a  
slaty blue back, speckled  
with white, a narrow  
white collar and chestnut  
belly. It was, I think,  
larger than our kingfisher  
at home (Ceryle alcyon),  
but reminded me of it  
very much.

One skimmer (R. flavi-  
rostris?). one ♂ or two  
anhingas, and eight  
black and white vultures  
were seen today.

We stopped for the night  
at nouvelle Anvers.

July 24, 1909. (Saturday)

This morning we spent  
an hour on shore <sup>at N. Anvers.</sup> shooting.  
I killed a coucal (*Centropus*)  
the first I have seen.

We shot several kinds  
of weavers, and two finches  
that I think must be related  
to the house sparrow.

In the evening we  
reached Mobeka, where we  
spent the night.



July 25, 1909. (Sunday.)

This morning we spent some time shooting in Mobeka. Mr Lang got a large frog, that was croaking in a small mud-hole. We spent the night at Ekaturaka, a large native town on the left bank of the river. Here I caught a large brown-greenish tree(?) frog, Rana albolaris in the woods behind the village. It was hopping on the ground, and when I came along jumped up onto a bush, and then down on the ground, where it sat perfectly still.

July 26 to 31.

On the 26th we stopped a little below Lié, on the 27th we reached Lisala, but spent the night further up the river, on the 28th we reached Bumba, and spent the night and part of the next morning there. On the 29th we tied up for the night along the shore, in the woods, the evening of the 30th we spent at a large native village. On the 31st we stopped at Barumbu, and Basoko, and tied up for the night along the wooded shore.

During this time we saw a number of crocodiles. Two or three almost every



day. sometimes swimming in the water, with just the top of the head exposed. sometimes sunning themselves on a log or a sandbank, with mouths wide open.

The natives along this part of the river are great fishermen, and we saw a great many fish, both fresh and smoked, but could preserve only a few small specimens because we had none of our tanks out. The natives have many fish traps in little coves alongshore, and at the mouths of streams emptying into the river.

Almost every evening we heard toads singing—

not like they do at home,  
but with a prolonged  
croak, repeated over and  
over - and at one place  
we caught a number of  
them under a wood-pile  
at Barumbu, on the  
31st, there were many  
toad-tadpoles along the  
shore, and some young  
toads hopping around  
on the land.

At Lisala two medium  
sized antelopes were brought  
aboard. They had been  
skinned - with the ex-  
ception of the head -  
but Mr Lang secured  
the skulls and the  
skin of their heads. At  
Bumba two live antelope  
were given to the ship.



so the entire skin of both, and their skulls and limb-bones, were preserved.

On the night of the 31st, as we lay alongshore, a hippo floated downstream past us, coming to the surface occasionally to expell his breath with a loud snort. At these times, the top of his head, with his little ears sticking straight up, could be seen in the moonlight.

Birds are not particularly abundant along this part of the river, and we found it easier to collect around villages than in the dense forest, where they are

not only rather scarce,  
but very hard to pursue  
thru the dense vegetation,  
where innumerable vines,  
of incredible strength,  
are always in ones way.

No snake-birds, or  
pelicans were seen at  
this time (July 26-31).  
Herons and storks were  
not rare, and there is  
a small heron here,  
very like our little  
green heron at home, but  
of a grayer color all over,  
tho it has the same  
yellow feet. On several  
occasions recently, I  
have seen ~~birds which~~<sup>(yep)</sup>  
~~look very like~~ the  
"Hammerhead" (Scopus)  
flying over the river,  
especially in the evening



Several times, too, ibises,  
Hypodasys h. guineensis  
of a dark brownish color  
would fly out of the  
trees along the shore,  
uttering a loud com-  
plaining cry. (see Oct 6-10, 09)

Black and white  
vultures are rather  
common, often being  
seen in groups of four  
to eight, walking  
around on the sand-  
bars. Near Lie I shot  
a brown vulture,  
evidently an immature  
example of the same  
species, for the brown  
individuals often  
accompany the black-  
and-white ones, and  
have the same size,  
proportions, and

manner of flight. It was a great surprise, in the one I shot, to find the gizzard full of palm-nut pulp, certainly a strange meal for a bird of prey.

There are three birds which we have seen practically all the way up from Stanley Pool, but which I have not yet mentioned in my notes. One of them is a lapwing, (*Xiphidipterus albiceps*) with a great deal of white on it, and apparently with yellowish wattles on the throat. The other two are plover-like birds, one with a pearl-gray back\*, some black

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\* *Glaresola (Galachrysis) cinerea*,  
collected at Zambi in June 1915



on the wing-quills, dark  
lines about the head,  
and some pretty, buffy  
coloration around the  
nape, <sup>(slangla See Aug 24-09)</sup> while the other

is a dark gray bird,  
with a white rump  
and a whitish line  
on the side of the head.  
These birds are both  
about the size of killdeer,  
with shorter tails,  
however; and are seen  
flying around the  
river and alighting  
on the sandbars,  
where flocks of a  
hundred or more are  
sometimes observed.

On the 27th I saw  
another jacana fly  
up out of the grass in a

\* Colaptes auratus

swampy part of the shore. It had a light grayish bill and frontal shield, a feature which I had not been able to see on the others, tho they were undoubtedly of the same species.

One day near Kisala we saw a flock of more than forty skimmers sitting on a sand-bar.

(*Streptopelia semitorquata*)  
The large pigeon, with a black crescent on the back of the neck, is quite common up here, but the little brown dove, like those shot in Leopoldville, Inkingi, etc., appears to be becoming less so.



At Lie I shot a beautiful fruit pigeon, with a red frontal shield that reminds one of a gallinule, and a pretty, blue iris.

On one occasion I saw a plantain-eater (*C. gigantea* ♀) from the steamer, as it flew among the trees on shore. No more cuckoos or coucals have been noticed.

Gray parrots are still common, and often seen from the steamer.

At Barumbu two rollers, very much like the one shot at Maluku - if not the same - were seen.

On this part of the river  
there are five kinds  
of kingfishers. Two  
of these are very small  
blue and brown species,  
with red bills and feet.  
One of them <sup>Ceryle cristata</sup> (See No. 164.)  
was nesting at Bunka,  
in a little burrow,  
some 2 feet long, dug  
at the side of a ditch.  
Then there is a larger  
blue-and-gray Alcyon,  
with the upper mand-  
ible red. It is fairly  
common, and four  
specimens have already  
been collected. Besides  
these species, of which  
we have examples, there  
are two others, which  
we see from the



steamer. One of these is the black-and-white Ceryle, so common down the river, but less abundant up here.

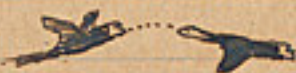
Lastly there is the large blue gray kingfisher, Ceryle maxima, with the belly chestnut, first observed on the 23rd. It is probably the least common of all, and thus far we have seen only about half a dozen of them.

The large red-breasted bee-eater (Nos. 98 to 105) continues to be seen flying overhead, tho not in large numbers.

None of the yellow-breasted bee-eaters, that were so numerous at Kwa-month have been seen

for some time.

Hornbills, of 2 or 3 species, are seen flying across the river, and at Bumba Mr Lang shot a small one.



The flight of these hornbills is not at all swift, but gives one the impression of extreme lightness, and this idea is strengthened when one is skinned, so numerous are the air sacs, especially in the wings. They fly in a somewhat undulating fashion, first beating the wings



several times, and rising a little, then following this with a descending swoop. Before alighting they often sail for a considerable distance.

Several times, in the evening, we have seen large birds that many have been owls, but as yet I have seen none with any degree of certainty. Curiously enough, no woodpeckers, nor anything that looked like one, have been observed.

No goatsuckers have been seen since we left Inkingi, nor any colies for a long time.

Black-and-white wagtails are pretty

common, and at Basoko a young one, with the tail fully grown, was sitting on a boat on the river bank.

Not many swallows have been noticed recently, tho at Ekaturaka I saw a few of the short-tailed ones with the breast, as well as the back, metallic blue. At Bumba two swallows were shot, one a male, and the other a female. The latter was gathering mud for a nest. They were of a kind not previously noticed, with black head, back and wings, brown rump, throat, and belly, and deeply forked



tail.

Quite a few flocks of resplendent starlings (like No. 95) have been noticed lately. In the evening of July 28, as we lay at Bumba, a noise was heard from an island out in the river that sounded almost like a waterfall. From its resemblance to the noise produced by a flock of black-birds at home, I guessed it might be a flock of starlings at their roost. <sup>Probably wrong.</sup> Early the next morning the same sound was audible, and while I was on shore at Bumba, a

few minutes later, an immense flock of these same iridescent starlings came flying from the river. after this the noise ceased.

[I am not sure they were the starlings, possibly Hypotaenidia.] Two sunbirds have been collected here,

one rather large, with a purple and red breast, and square tail, at Dobo, July 28th; and a smaller one, with the two middle rectrices greatly elongated, at Barumbra, <sup>Nectarinia cyanea</sup> on the 31st.

Mr Lang saw one of the latter at Bumba.

Weaver-birds have been especially numerous. At almost all the villages large black-headed ones are nesting



in the palms, as well  
as other trees, often with  
two or more other species.  
A beautiful orange  
and black weaver was  
collected at Dobo, and  
another seen at Bumba.  
At Bumba the long-  
tailed black and white  
one, <sup>*Vidua macrura*</sup> was very common,  
and a pair was watched  
in the act of copulation.  
The brown female  
sat on a tall stalk  
of grass while the  
male hovered in the  
air beside her, with  
his wings beating  
jerkily, and his long  
tail hanging straight  
downward. Suddenly  
he dashed at his mate,  
and they fluttered.

down into the grass together.

At most of the villages we have visited since we reached nouvelle anvers, we have seen a finch with gray head and brown wings (like nos. 109 & 110), that keeps near the houses, often feeding on the ground - in fact, not only acting, but also chirping, just like a house sparrow, to which it must be closely related.  
(*Parus griseus*)



August 1, 1909. (Sunday.)

Stopped at one wood post today, and reached Isangi late in the afternoon.

Today we saw the first <sup>*P. africanus*</sup> cormorants, we have noticed on the Congo. There were three of them perched on posts along the bank, and one flying. The two in brightest plumage were shiny black all over, with

the exception of the bill and the naked skin of the face, which were brownish yellow, and the back. where the feathers were margined with gray. The other two were much grayer, with a tinge of brown about the head.

Fully 10 hornbills were seen today from the steamer, at least 4 of them being the same as the one collected at Burnba, July 29.

Black-and-white vultures were rather common - 15 or 20 of them in all, today.

Three great plantain-eaters (*C. gigantea* #) were observed, 20 or 30 gray parrots, 3 green fruit pigeons, three lapwings



*Xiphodactylus albiceps*.  
(*Lobivanellus*?), and  
five crows, with white  
breasts (at Isangi). At  
Isangi there were also a  
few resplendent starlings.

At the wood post where  
we stopped today - Yam-  
bingil(?) it is called - there  
were two wagtails, and  
a number of weavers,  
the little long-tailed  
black-and-white one  
being especially conspic-  
uous. There I also saw  
a long-tailed flycatcher,  
but this one had the tail  
brown, the same color  
as the back; and the  
~~black~~ black plumage  
of the head was continued  
down on to the belly. (♀ or ♂ imm.)

Several toads were  
singing this evening.

Along this part of the river, and further down, as well, the natives have very interesting drums, made of hollow logs, usually from 4 to 6 feet in length, which are used for signalling and communicating with other villages.

These drums are often placed upon special supports, as indicated, and are



beaten with two short sticks, which have sometimes pieces of rubber bound to the end. They are struck on both sides of the long slot, one side producing a somewhat



higher tone than the other.

August 2, 1909. (Monday)

Left Isangi this morning, and stopped for the night at an island <sup>"Ile de Serche"</sup> a few hours sail from Stanleyville.

At about 6 P.M. we saw a flock of some 20 or 25 rollers (*Coccyzus*), and a great many large fruit bats *Eidolon helvum*. (1000 to 1500?). The latter were flying high overhead, in a westerly direction, as tho going out from their roost to feed.

They kept passing over for  
at least 10, or 15 minutes, and  
as it grew dark a few lit  
in trees near where we  
were standing.

August 3, 1909. (Tuesday)

Arrived at Stanleyville  
about 11. am.

The birds in Stanleyville are quite tame, for no shooting is allowed. Weaver-birds are numerous, including the small red-rumped species (like nos 172 & 3.), the red-faced one (like No. 93.), two black-headed ones, one larger (like No. 113), the



August 5, 09. (Thursday).

The Minister of Colonies arrived in Stanleyville today, reaching the railroad station, on the other side of the river about one o'clock, and crossing over to our side about 5.30 P. M.

This morning I shot two little red-rumped weavers and two warblers, the first we have seen of the latter, except perhaps at Ile de Berthe. They are common in the high grass and brush near the shore at Stanleyville, and have a little trill, with slight musical quality. to do duty for a song.

are numerous, and very tame, sitting in the trees and feeding, on the sand, along the shore. Five or six are sometimes seen in company.

Only one kind of kingfisher, a Halcyon (like nos 161 to 163) has been seen at Stanleyville, tho one or two black-and-white Ceryles were seen a little way below, on the river, in the morning of the 3rd.

August 4, 09. (Wednesday)

Spent the day arranging our outfit.



"Coo-coo, cu-cu-coo-coo."

The first two "coos" are the loudest, and the whole is repeated over and over indefinitely.

Further up, in some shallows on the side of the river, I shot a small cormorant (♀) of the same kind as those seen from the steamer near Isangi. Its stomach contained a great many small shrimp-like crustaceans and a few small fish-bones and scales.

A black-and-white kingfisher (*Ceryle*) and a sandpiper (*Actitis hypoleucos*?) very much like our spotted sandpiper were also seen.

August 6, 1909. (Friday)

This afternoon I walked a little way up along the bank of the river, taking my gun as well as an insect net. In a small open swamp two jacanas, the same as those seen further down the river, were walking about on the mud and decaying vegetation, while on the shore were at least 15 or 20 pigeons, with black crescents on the back of the neck - like those shot in Leopoldville and in Bumba. The song of this pigeon, which I have heard many times now, is composed of six syllables,



odor as a musk rat. The stomach contained the hair, bones and teeth of a rodent about the size of a small rat, and also a few pieces of a fairly large insect, with very spiny legs.

We have seen many toads here lately, especially around the palm-oil lights which are set out in the evening to guide us on our way to the mess. A few of them have been collected, and they appear to be the same as those in Leopoldville. The song, at any rate, is exactly the same, a loud "cr-r-r-rk" repeated at

In a small puddle in the grass I caught four rather small brownish tree-frogs. The two smaller ones - males, I suppose - had patches of green on the upper part of the back, just behind the head. There were many of these little frogs singing there, the note reminding me of that of *Pseudacris triseriatus*, tho not quite so much of a rattle.

Some natives brought us a <sup>*Genetta*</sup> ~~cat~~ today, which had been killed at only a short distance. It was a female, and had two scent glands, with much the same



August 8, 09. (Sunday)

In a small mango tree, a little way from our house, there were four or five bats this morning. Two were shot, and were found to be very different from all those we had already collected, the ears being very long, and the nose ornamented with several flaps of skin concealing a pit of considerable size (Nycteris). One of them, a female, had one embryo in the uterus; its mammae were, as usual, two in number, and on the breast. A drawing was made of this one's face. The other, <sup>- a male -</sup> was so mutilated by the shot

intervals of about one second, anywhere from three to twenty or thirty times.

August 7, 1909. (Saturday.)

The Minister of Colonies left Stanleyville about 9 am. today.



and shuffle away. At the slightest touch, however, it turned into a motionless ball again.

One coucal (*Centropus*) was seen this morning. Two kinds of swallows are to be seen here, one much like *Hirundo rustica*, the other the same as those shot in Brumba, black on the back, with a rusty brown rump, throat and breast. There are likewise two swifts, a small <sup>blackish</sup> *Cypselus*, with deeply forked tail, and a larger swift, also blackish, but with white rump, and short, square tail.

that he was put in alcohol.

We caught two lizards today, and two yesterday. (Nos 51 to 54) So far, this is the only species we have seen at Stanleyville. The amount of rufous on the sides varies extremely, some being entirely without it.

A native brought us a manis today, rolled up in a ball, so as to be perfectly protected by its scales. By taking hold of the end of its tail, and shaking it, one could make it unroll itself a little; and if, at this stage of the proceedings, it were placed on the ground, it would get on its feet



which we preserved; and there were two or 3 rather small nematodes in its stomach. The remains of food in the alimentary tract consisted of the shells of small insects, probably ants, mixed with a quantity of sand. It was a male, but the testes were rather small. The tongue was of extraordinary length, and seemed to be attached to the long xiphoid cartilage, which ran back as far as the pelvis. The iris was dark brown, and the ear opened into a pit situated just behind the eye, there being no external ear.

While we were hunting bats this morning, Mr Lang caught sight of a large green snake, sitting in the branches of a coffee bush, some 6 or 7 feet from the ground. It got down into the grass, but was captured. In its stomach there was a large brown tree-frog.

August 9, 1909. (Monday.)

The manis was photographed, and killed and skinned this afternoon. Under its scales were a number of ticks, some of



bluish, with a black head. The beak is short, like that of a Porzana, without frontal shield, and of a light yellowish green color. The iris, as well as the edge of the eyelids, is red, and the feet are also pinkish red.

I did succeed in killing a small kingfisher, with red bill and feet, and barred feathers in the crest. Yesterday I saw one of the other species, with the purplish tinge on the cheeks.



A flock of 30 cormorants,  
two jacanas, and a squirrel,  
like the one collected in  
Leopoldville, were seen today.

August 10, 1909. (Tuesday).

This morning, before  
breakfast, I walked up  
along the bank of the  
river, seeing two jacanas,  
in the same place as  
yesterday. Three or four  
*Actitis (hypoleucis?)*, and  
a large flock of the dark  
gray plover-like birds,  
of which we saw so many  
while coming up river.  
Near some grass along  
the shore, I shot at a  
large rail, the same  
species as one that a  
boy of ours had the other  
day. They are very dark



Aug. 12 & 13. 1909.

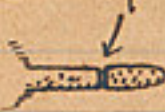
Just a little way from our house in Stanleyville is an old coffee plantation, in which grass and bushes had been allowed to grow up. A week or two ago all this vegetation was cut down, and now a gang of women from the prison are cleaning it up, under the supervision of a couple of native soldiers. Two or three snakes have been killed and brought to us, and on these two days we received a number of rats, millipedes, <sup>frogs</sup> and three large lizards. These last are greenish brown on the back, and <sup>on the sides</sup> salmon red, barred with black. They are

August 11, 1909. (Wednesday)

This afternoon I shot a jacana and one of the dark bluish rails such as I saw yesterday. The former was one of a pair, feeding in a little swamp near the river. These were probably the same two that I have been seeing around there lately.

A striped squirrel was collected in the same place that the one was seen on the ninth, in the coffee plantation mentioned on the next page.



(no 41.)  
iduals, when brought  
to us, had the skin of  
the tail broken in a  
complete circle. Whether  
 this would cause  
a piece of the tail  
to drop off I do not know.

August 14, 1909 (Saturday)

Spent the day skinning  
rats brought to us by our  
boys and other natives.

looked upon with horror  
by the natives, who will  
not pick them up in the  
hand.

One of the rats was  
especially interesting  
in the way the tail  
varied in different  
individuals. <sup>See no 30, etc.</sup> Some  
had the tail complete.  
it being then about 70  
mm. long, less than  $\frac{1}{2}$   
the total length. Others  
had no visible tail at  
all, and a few had  
bob-tails, that had  
obviously been broken  
off. The whole skin of  
these animals was  
extremely tender and  
easily torn; and one  
of the bob-tailed indiv-



little holes and crevices worn by the water. These cavities in the rocks allow the natives to build rough structures of long poles and logs, bound together with strong vines, stretching all across the falls, save for a few breaks where there is too much water. In the water at the foot of the falls are



long conical fish-traps, from 10 to 12 feet from end to end. There are also a few large nets, fastened to hoops of wood. These continuances are attached by vines to the wooden framework, about which the fishermen

August 15, 1909 (Sunday)

This afternoon I visited the falls, which lie some half or three-quarters of a mile above the part of the town where we are staying, tho the native quarter of the town reaches, with a few interruptions to a point above the falls. The most interesting thing to be seen is the way the natives have set out their apparatus for fishing. The falls themselves have the form of an arc, with a drop of not more than 8 feet at this season at least; and one can walk out for some distance over the rocks, which are full of



falls there are always numbers of swallows, all of one kind, resembling *Hirundo rustica*, but with a less deeply forked tail. Some of these were alighting on the ground near the native houses, and one, an adult female, was collected. On the way back a small pure black swallow was also secured, one of two or three that were going to roost in some high grass near the bank of the river.

A tattler (*Helodromas* or *Totanus*?) was shot at a little rocky pool below the falls, and four large resplendent starlings were seen, but not collected.

climb to arrange their apparatus. To paddle a canoe up to the foot of the falls must require considerable skill, but is done with great expertness by the natives, sometimes 15 or 18 in one boat.

In a little pool on the grass along the shore we caught water-bugs of at least three kinds, including one like *Nepa*; and another resembling *Ranatra*.

August 16, 09. (Monday)

This afternoon I walked up toward the falls again, and shot a few birds. Over the river below the



only is the skin of the tail, as well as that of the whole body, very tender, but the attachments of the caudal vertebrae are very weak, so that the tail, in a dead specimen at least, breaks to pieces very easily.

On Aug. 18th a small kite (No. 209.) was brought to us by the natives. This is the first specimen I have seen up here, tho on June 23rd, between Banana and Boma, a kite very much like it was seen sitting in a tree on the river bank.

August 17 to 21, 1909.

Our time, during this period, was divided between packing our outfit at the magazine and preparing the animals which were brought in so abundantly by the natives. At least seven kinds of rats were thus secured, and several specimens of the striped squirrel, the latter being caught, we were told, by being surrounded in a <sup>small</sup> tree, and then shaken out of it on to the ground.

We have decided that the small brown rat, so many of which have no tails, must lose them simply by their being broken off. Not



being remarkably up-  
right. They were not  
at all shy, allowing  
one to approach well  
within shot gun range  
before taking flight.  
(*Blacus emine?*) See August 24-09.

Late this afternoon  
I walked out a little  
way on the road to  
Bafwaboli. Small  
black swallows, like  
No. 205, were common.  
some of them, probably  
immature, having  
very slightly forked  
tails. Four or five  
brown barbets, like  
No 201, were sitting  
on a large dead tree,  
whence they flew  
out and returned  
as tho catching insects  
in the air. Once or

August 22, 1909. (Sunday.)

On a long rocky point running out into the river, this morning, we watched a large flock of the small gray, ploverlike birds that we so often saw on sandbars down the river. The base of the bill, and the feet, we could see



Galathea nuchalis  
minor

now, were respectively orange and orange red. There were considerably over 100 of them, sitting close together on the tops of the rocks. the posture



close to them. The larger individuals had much hoarser voices than the smaller ones. During each "errrk" the vocal sac expands, and the sides of the body contract, the mouth, of course, being kept closed. During the succeeding interval of silence the body again expands, and the vocal sac contracts a little. Almost all of these toads were males, and several times small male individuals attempted to copulate with others of their own sex. The true breeding season is probably finished now, for we have several

twice they were seen  
to climb up a sloping  
branch in true woodpeck-  
er fashion. Five or six  
rollers (*Eurystomus*),  
three resplendent starlings  
and two large black-and-  
white hornbills were  
also noticed.

August 23, 09. (Monday.)

This evening, by the  
light of a lantern, we  
watched some toads  
singing in a little brook  
near the magazine.  
They were not at all  
shy, but continued to  
sing with the lantern



the "Cambridge Natural History"  
says, probably *G. emini*.

A short distance from  
our house a red-and-black  
weaver-bird, with an  
enormous beak, <sup>(*Pyrenestes*)</sup> was also collected.  
A bird of similar size and color  
was seen in the same place  
a week or so ago, but I did  
not notice its bill particularly.  
Here at Stanleyville, there  
is a thrush, of a dull  
brownish color, with a  
~~orange~~ yellow bill, that sings  
exceedingly like the  
American robin. It is  
usually heard in the  
early morning and late  
afternoon. A thrush, of  
probably the same species  
was noticed at Barumbu,  
and two at Isangi.

See Nov 15/07

times seen young toads that had just emerged from the water. Early in the evening the croaking in the brook was loud and unbroken; but from 10 o'clock on there were frequent intervals of complete silence, after which the whole chorus would start almost simultaneously.

August 24, 09 (Tuesday)

Early this morning I went out on the point where we watched the gray birds mentioned in last Sunday's notes, and shot two of them. They proved to be pratincoles, (*blancola*), and from what



green mantis. When I cut open the abdomen of this last-mentioned insect, out stuck part of a large Nematode worm, which had been coiled up inside. It was between 25 and 30 cm. long, and of a dark gray color, mottled with black, and with an exceedingly hard and stiff skin. It was preserved in alcohol.

Aug. 27-30. 1909.

most of the time spent arranging our outfit, the the natives continued to bring insects, snakes and so on.

Aug 31 - Sept 3. 09.

About 100 porters sent off on Sept 2nd, 5 or 60 loads still remaining

August 25, 1909. (Wednesday)

The natives continue to bring us insects, reptiles, rats and so. Today we received three small bats of one species, and one of another. The latter had exceedingly small wings, the skin of which was black near the body, but on the outer half of the wing almost unpigmented and very translucent.

August 26, 1909 (Thursday)

Among the things brought to us by the natives today were several rats, two beautiful snakes, with a pair of horns on the nose, some large grasshoppers, and a large



by a slight noise,  
disappeared down the  
hole. We went off for a  
little while, and  
returning, found it  
singing again, but  
could not capture it,  
so that we had to dig  
it up. The burrow  
was about a foot long,  
running down at an  
angle of about  $45^{\circ}$ , and  
the insect was found  
at the bottom. The  
soil was sandy, but  
not very soft.

Another insect of  
the same sort was  
heard near a small  
brook in the evening  
of Aug. 23, and again  
in the same place on  
Sept 2, but the vegetation

Practically no collecting done.

On the evening of the 2nd, about 100 feet back from the shore where the steamers land, there was an orthopterous insect, singing very loudly, a sort of a droning, buzzing hum. We finally located it, <sup>a large cricket</sup> by lantern light, sitting at the entrance to a burrow about as big as around as ones thumb. Its head was pointed toward the hole, its wings slightly opened, and apparently vibrating rapidly. It did not mind the light in the least, but when startled



Sept 4, 1909 (Saturday)

Left Stanleyville at about 6 P.M. with about 60 porters. We walked for about 45 minutes, stopping for the night at Mapruhi.

Sept 5, 1909 (Sunday)

We walked for about 2 1/2 hours today, thru country partly cleared by natives, who grow bananas, rice and corn.

In a rather large tree standing in a clearing were two hawks gray, with a dark stripe on the throat. One was standing in a crotch formed by four limbs some 55 feet from the ground, where a few sticks had already been placed, evidently

were too high to  
find just where it was  
sitting.

A man at Stanleyville  
now has a tame monkey  
of the same species of  
which we saw 5 or 6 in  
a tree near Bukobela on  
July 18th. There is a  
tuft of black hair on  
the top of the head,  
and gray whiskers  
sticking out from the  
cheeks. The rest of the  
pelage, as well as the  
skin of the face is  
black (Cercopithecus -  
see specimen purchased  
at Stanleyville in 1914.)



pieces of the nest of some  
Hymenopteron insect,  
probably a wasp, many  
of the cells still containing  
larvae.

A black shrike, <sup>(No. 226)</sup> was also  
collected, one of two that  
flew across the road into  
some thick bushes. Its  
stomach contained beetles.

This part of the road  
is well settled, and we  
passed thru several  
villages.

(Met our first reporters today).

Sept 6, 1909 (Monday)

This afternoon we  
reached Cumatuli, the  
country passed thru  
being somewhat the  
same as yesterday, but  
more wooded. Both today

the beginning of a nest.  
Both of them were shot,  
and one was found to  
be a male and the other  
a female. <sup>(no 224-5)</sup> The latter  
had a small right ovary,  
the ova of which  
were just as much en-  
larged as those of the  
left. There was, however,  
no right oviduct.

A little later a honey  
buzzard came flying  
along, and lit in a tree.  
It was shot, and proved  
to be a female, with a  
right ovary about  $\frac{3}{4}$  the  
size of the left. No right  
oviduct was visible,  
but the ovaries were  
not enlarged. <sup>(no 223)</sup> The crop  
and stomach contained



a large hornbill flies over,  
his wings making a  
"ch ch ch" as they beat  
the air, or at other times  
a band of monkeys go  
off jumping from tree  
to tree, exactly like  
monstrous squirrels.

Butterflies, of great  
variety as well as beauty  
are very abundant  
along the road, numbers  
of them often settling  
down <sup>together</sup> upon a damp  
spot or a piece of excrement.

An oriole <sup>(No 227)</sup> and a bush  
shrike <sup>(No 228)</sup> were the only  
birds collected today.  
In the villages and  
clearings thus far we  
have very often seen  
the finch (Passer?)  
which occurs along the

and yesterday there  
have been many brooks  
of pretty clear water

Sept 7, 1929 (Tuesday)  
From 6:5 Am to 2 PM

we walked thru the unbroken  
forest from Rumatululu  
to Risimu. The road is  
little more than a wood  
path, shaded by the  
high trees of the forest,  
over which run innume-  
rable vines. Brooks are  
crossed either by rude  
wooden bridges, or  
simply on a tree trunk  
laid across the stream.

Inside the forest  
one hears many birds,  
but sees few. Occasionally



Sept 8, 1909 (Wednesday)

Left Resimur at 7 am,  
and after walking  
about 2 hours, came  
to a large village  
where our porters laid  
down their loads saying  
they were tired out.

As the next village,  
Kissaci, was some  
4 hours distant, we  
stayed here the the  
rest of the day. In the  
afternoon Mr. Lang  
went out hunting  
monkeys, while I caught  
some butterflies and  
shot a few birds, a  
roller, a sunbird, and  
a couple of others.  
One black-and-white  
vulture, like those  
seen on the river.

river from Nouvelle  
Amers up. Black- and-  
white wagtails, of the  
same sort we have  
already collected are  
also to be seen near the  
houses, even in very  
dry situations. Blue  
parrots fly overhead,  
whistling and screaming.  
But the birds of the forest  
appear to be very different  
in general, from those  
near the river.



15 porters and their loads could be pulled across the stream. During the second or third trip one of the vines broke, but the men ran into the forest and quickly returned with another to replace it.

It was here that I noticed for the first time a small gray flycatcher, <sup>[Collected later at Batana. No 248.]</sup> of which several other specimens were seen later in the day.

Stopped at Munie Katoto.  
Sept 11, 1909. (Saturday)

Arrived at Bafwaboli about noon today.

men here today. It  
was the first one observed  
since we arrived at  
Stanleyville.

Sept 9, 09. (Thursday)

We reached <sup>Rissasi</sup> Rissaci  
late in the afternoon,  
it having rained all  
morning, so that  
we could not start  
till afternoon.

Sept 10, 09 (Friday)

Soon after leaving  
Rissaci this morning,  
we came to a small  
but swift river,  
across which there  
were stretched  
two long vines,  
fastened to trees  
on both banks. By  
means of these vines  
a raft, holding about



Sept 14 we stopped for  
the night at Bafwamoko

Sept 15 arrived at Batama  
a state post, but without  
anyone in charge at

present. Here we waited  
until the 19th for some  
loads we had left behind  
at Bafwaboli. On the 16th  
I shot the first woodpecker  
I have seen in the Congo,  
a small greenish one,  
whose stomach was full  
of black ants.

On the 18th I secured  
one of the large black  
hornbills that we have  
seen once or twice along  
the road (No 255) as well  
as two very small ones,  
the first of the kind I  
had seen.

Sept 12, 1909 (Sunday)

Spent the day at Bafwaboli.  
Caught two geckos in the  
evening on the side of  
a brick wall behind  
our house.

Sept 13, 1909 (Monday)

Left Bafwaboli rather  
late in the morning,  
and reached Babene  
before nightfall. Today  
we climbed the steepest  
grade we have yet  
encountered, and  
crossed a river just  
before Babene by means  
of a raft and some long  
vines stretched across  
the river.



It was one of a pair (?)  
that were flitting about  
in the low bushes, and  
catching insects, as an  
examination of the stomach  
showed. There too, was  
a large patch of the  
white-flowered pea, which  
(Pisum)  
is used to poison fish,  
with one single bush that  
bore purple flowers.

At Boyulu our boys  
brought in a very beautiful  
bee-eater (Melittophagus  
gularis?)

As we were leaving  
Kamunonge in the  
morning we saw two  
green parrots on the top  
of a dead tree. They were  
not quite entirely green,  
the front of the head, the  
hind of the wing, and

The same day our boys brought in two large blue plantain-eaters (*Corythoeca* ?), of which I had seen and heard a number since we left Bafwaboli. At Stanleyville too, I saw some feathers of one that had been killed there.

Our stops between Batama and Bafwasende are as follows

Sept 19 Bafwalongo

Sept 20 Kibila(?)

Sept 21 Kamunonge

Sept 22 Boyulu.

Sept 23 Bafwasende.

At Kamunonge I shot a small bird that looked very much like a very slender-billed weaver.



of elephant dung there was a great variety of beetles, some of them with vertical horns, others without.

The march from Bafwasende to Awakubi is supposed to take three days; but we did it in four, arriving at the latter post a little before noon on Sept. 30th.

Oct 1st to 4th we stopt in the house of the Chef de Secteur at Awakubi, but I went out shooting only once, and then only a little way along the road. Here there were many examples of a little red-faced weaver we had not yet seen. It evidently

at Bafwasende we saw our first piece of Okapi skin,  
a strip that was being used by a soldier as a sling for  
his rifle.

some feathers on the legs  
being reddish. One of  
the boys went after them  
and shot one (No 273) a  
female. Up to this time  
the gray parrot had  
been the only one seen.

We did not leave  
Bafwasende until the  
27th, but I got a fever  
on the 24th and did  
not notice much from  
that time until we  
reached Awakubi.

For several days  
before arriving at Baf-  
wasende, and most  
of the way from there to  
Awakubi we saw a  
great many elephant  
tracks, most of them  
very old, of course.  
Under the heaps



Here at Avakubi we met again the same toad that we found all along the Congo from Leopoldville to Stanleyville. The toad of the forest, which we first encountered the second day after leaving Stanleyville, is redder, rougher-skinned, and has the paratoid glands narrower and more widely separated at Cumatulu, however, two of the gray toads were seen, but from there to Avakubi only the other species was taken.

Late in the afternoon of the fourth two swallows were seen sitting on a

replaces that found along  
the Congo (see No 93 etc) &  
but differs from it in  
having most of the plumage  
finely barred, and the  
breast suffused with  
rosy. The habits, however,  
are the same, the birds  
feeding on the seeds of tall  
grasses, and usually  
being found in small  
flocks.

Near some native houses  
a short distance south  
of the post there is a large  
tree covered with the nests  
of the same large yellow  
weavers, with black heads -  
in the males - that occur  
all the way up the river  
from Leopoldville at least  
(see Nos 293 to 299)



put up our tents. It was the first of the sort we had seen. The common black-and-white wagtail is, of course, abundant here, as it has been in nearly all the villages along the road from Stanleyville.

Oct 6 to 10, 1909

A black-and-white vulture, the "aigle pecheur" of the French-speaking population, has been seen several times from our camp, as well as two large kingfishers, possibly the same as that observed on July 23rd last.

On the 9th our hunters brought in an ibis (no 337),

beam projecting from an unfinished house, and one of them was shot. It proved to be the metallic blue swallow, with a white spot on the throat and white patches on the rectrices, that we used to see from the boat while we were ascending the Congo.

Oct 5, 1909. (Tuesday)

We pitched our tents near the bank of the Ituri, and left the Chef de Secteur to occupy his house alone.

Yesterday, I neglected to say, we shot a yellow breasted wagtail on the ground where we later



presented itself for slaughter  
It was no surprise, for I  
found that I was accompanied  
by eight blacks. A few  
birds were shot, and  
more escaped, one of them  
a partridge that got up  
within a few inches of  
the boys as they were  
catching a wounded  
weaver-bird, and  
another a small  
cormorant that was  
seen sitting on a dead  
branch along the shore  
while we were returning  
in the canoe.

In the afternoon of  
the 17th we went up the  
river a little way in  
a canoe with several  
officers who were going

and the same day I heard their loud complaining cries, like "kah-kah-ha-ah" from the other side of the river. To judge from the voice, this is the same ibis we saw on the Congo, but beyond this I can say nothing as to their identity (See July 26 to 31, 09)

Oct 10 to 17, 1909.

Still camping at Avalakuli. I went out hunting on the 16th with some native guides, over to the opposite side of the river. Elephant tracks were extremely abundant, but not a single mammal, of any sort,



the top of the head and  
the back of the neck bright  
red. Its stomach was  
filled with winged  
termites, a fact which  
would have surprised  
me more had I not  
seen weavers of four  
different species (See  
catalog under No 386)  
catching termites on  
the wing in the morning  
of the day previous,  
near our camp. Up to  
this time almost every  
weaver-bird whose  
stomach I had examined  
had been eating seeds,  
often of grasses, and  
not infrequently rice.

out to try to get a shot  
at elephants; and then  
walked back by land.  
On a tall dead tree  
along the road a wood-  
pecker was working,  
and was mercilessly  
shot, for it was not  
only larger than the  
two specimens we  
already had, but was  
decidedly different in  
regard to the size of the  
bill, pattern of coloration  
and so on, tho it was  
still more or less greenish.  
This was only about the  
fourth woodpecker I  
have encountered in  
the Congo. One of our  
boys shot a beautiful  
black weaver, with



singer, it turns out to be a rather difficult affair, so extremely shy he is.

A kite (*Milvus*) (No 390) was sent us today by the priest in charge of the mission. One was seen at Bafwalongo, Sept 19. 09, and one at Bafwasende. Sept 24.

Oct 19, 1909 (Tuesday)

A female falcon (*Fimunculus*) was sent to us today by the priest, but we shot no birds ourselves. A goliath beetle was brought by a native, who said

Oct 18, 1909 (Monday)

Today two flycatchers  
(Tersiphone) were  
collected near our camp.  
They were both males,  
but not in full plumage.  
This is a bird I considered  
rather rare until I  
learned to recognize  
its song, a monotonous  
whistled "twoe-twoe-twoe,  
twoe-twoe-twoe, twoe-twoe"  
After that I found  
that they must be  
decidedly numerous  
near our camp, for  
after <sup>my</sup> shooting four  
males, two or three  
others can still be  
heard almost all thru  
the day. But when  
one tries to kill the



breasted bee-eaters  
collected at Malele,  
on July 22nd, and the  
bird is of about the same  
size, and has the middle  
tail feathers elongated.  
But the breast, instead  
of being rosy, is green.

Oct 20, 1909 Wednesday.

Avakubi - A pitta, the  
first one we have seen,  
was brought to us alive  
today by a native. It  
was wounded, and died  
before it could be photographed  
but we had the opportunity  
to observe that it hopped,  
instead of walking, as one  
might expect from such  
a terrestrial bird.

he had caught it on the way from Mawambie. When released from its bonds and placed on the ground, it was a great surprise to see how it spread out its legs and kept its body close to the ground, instead of walking in a more graceful and energetic fashion as expected.

Almost every day since we have settled on the bank of the Ituri, some large bee-eaters have been heard, and sometimes seen, out over the river. The call is exactly like that of the large red



almost precisely the same as that of the semipalmated plover (*Argialetis semipalmata*) which they also resembled somewhat in their size and plumage.

Oct. 22, 1909 (Friday)

Awakubi - No birds collected today, for we are preparing for our trip to Macaba. Yesterday a female *Terpsiphone* was killed near our camp, where we have already collected four male examples, each one in a plumage a little duller than the one preceding. The plumage of this female was almost exactly like that of

A number of green fruit pigeons were seen today, and several long-tailed flycatchers were heard singing.

Oct 21, 1909 (Thursday) 555.

Avakubi - A kite (milvus) a black-and-white vulture, two small cuckoos (like nos. 317 & 373), were among the more interesting birds seen today. Two plovers, a male and a female, were shot on the open square at the post, where they were walking on the ground together. When they took wing they uttered a whistled call.





end of a small  
branch, about  
17 feet from  
the ground,  
The entrance

was at the side, and  
the interior was lined  
with some very soft  
white material, while  
the outside was woven  
of strips of soft bark.  
Only the female was  
seen near the nest,  
but she even entered  
it once, tho there were  
no eggs as yet.

the last male collected,  
while the colors of her bill,  
eyelids, feet and iris were  
practically identical.

She was accompanied by  
a male with a long white  
tail, and today a male,  
with a tail of the same  
size - probably the same  
bird - was back in the  
same place with another  
female.

Oct 23. 1909 (Saturday)  
Avakubi.

Today I found a nest  
of the common little red-  
breasted sunbird in a  
young rubber tree, and  
directly over a path. It  
was suspended from the



snail shells, probably intended to aid in crushing the food. The gizzard also contained rice and a few small stones.

Several rollers (*Eurystomus*) a great many small black swallows, like No 205, and one flock of large swallows, like No. 389 were also seen near the mission late in the afternoon. Between there and the post a flycatcher (*Terpsiphone*) was heard singing, and a pair of coucals (*Centropus*) were both seen and heard.

Oct 24, 1909 (Sunday)

This afternoon, near the mission, a pigeon (No 401), of the species so common at Stanleyville, with a black crescent on the back of the neck. It was sitting alone in a high tree overlooking a banana plantation, and was heard to sing once, the notes being the same as with those observed in Stanleyville. This is the first pigeon of this species seen at Avakubi, and, in fact, the only one noticed since two or three days after we left Stanleyville. Its crop contained rice, with the hard outer covering still on, and four or five small empty



and fairs, but almost  
always too high to be  
shot at. As in Stanleyville, there is  
also a smaller fork-tailed  
swift, but it is not very common.

Three small sandpipers  
(*Pisobia*) were found  
feeding among the stones in  
a small stream this  
morning, where one  
or two *Actitis* (*hypoleucos*?)  
were also picking up  
their breakfasts. Two  
of the small ones, both  
males, were collected,  
one of them having  
three very small snails  
in its esophagus (Nos 406 & 7).  
These birds, I guess, and  
the two plovers taken  
last Thursday, must  
be migrants just  
arriving from the  
north, probably from  
Europe. Several small

Oct 25, 1909 (Monday.)

Two of the large swallows such as were seen yesterday were shot today by the priest and sent over to us. One was a young male, and the other a young female, the latter still exhibiting some brownish plumage on the crown.

Oct 26, 1909 (Tuesday)

This morning a flock of large swifts, with short square tails, like those seen in Stanleyville, was feeding high in the air over our camp. Birds of the same species have already been watched here, usually in threes



October 28, 1909 (Thursday)

Avakubi - This afternoon the doctor and I went out toward the mission, through part of the rubber plantation and a short bit of woods. Besides the ordinary small weavers, warblers and the like, and some birds in the woods which I could not identify, the following were seen; two gray hawks (same as no 381), three or four green pigeons, (same as no 392), one small hornbill (same as no 333), six or seven hornbills like no 379, a coucal (same as no 389) and a number of the common small black swallows. The fruit pigeons were seen to sing, uttering a very soft whistle of several

flocks of yellow-breasted wagtails (the same as no. 341.) have also been seen flying by recently, and I am inclined to consider this as another winter visitor from farther north.

A snake-bird was sitting on a dead branch along the river bank this afternoon, with tail spread & wings hung out to dry.

October 27, 1909. (Wednesday)

Some natives brought an immature gull (no. 410) this morning, our first and only specimen as yet. No gulls were observed as we ascended the Congo, nor have we noticed any ourselves on the Ituri.



female, as appears to be the case with some other sun-birds, as for example, No 232.

From our camp, today, we saw two large birds of prey, about the size of red-tailed hawks, circling around high over the river. Above, their whole plumage was black, with the exception of a large white



(from beneath)

patch on the primaries and of the tail, which was gray,

barred with darker gray or black. The under wing coverts, throat, breast and belly were black, while the secondaries from below, looked grayish. The bill and feet appeared to be lighter in color than the plumage. The only notes

syllables, not at all like  
the notes of the other pigeons.  
The doctor shot a dove (Turtur)  
(No 412), the first one I have  
seen, and the only one he  
has shot here, tho he tells  
me that "turturelles" are  
very numerous on the plain  
near Drummer and Kilo. An  
interesting simbird was  
also shot (No 411), one of the  
very common ones (Cinnyris?),  
but a young male, in  
juvinal plumage, with a  
few metallic green feathers  
just coming in, showing  
that in this species at least  
the male may pass directly  
from the juvinal plumage  
to that of the adult male,  
without assuming a  
plumage like that of the



very much like *H. rustica*,  
have been seen flying over  
on several occasions, in flocks,  
and are perhaps migrants  
from the north. A similar  
swallow was breeding at  
Stanleyville when we were  
there, but it differed from  
those collected here in the  
length of the tail and the  
amount of white on the rectrices.  
(No 418)

A small green cuckoo<sub>x</sub> was  
also taken in the same place.  
We had already one male  
and one female specimen,  
but tho the specimen  
secured today was bright  
green on the back, it proved  
to be a female. However  
it did differ from the  
male in having a brown  
iris and gray eyelids. Its  
stomach contained hairy

Sat. Oct 30. 09. A tiny blue-backed kingfisher was seen this morn.  
about 2 weeks ago I saw one here; it was the species with a blue wash  
on the cheeks; the crown not conspicuously barred, and the bill slightly  
depressed; the same as no. 11. Today's example may also have been  
the same, but was not seen well enough for me to be sure.

heard sounded like "hec —  
hec — hee — ee — ee."

Oct 29. 1909 (Friday)

Avakubi No birds collected

Oct 30. 1909 (Saturday)

Early this morning, during  
a shower, a flock of 20 or 25  
small swallows (*Hirundo*)  
lit in some bare trees near  
our tents. An adult male &  
female, and two young  
males were collected (Nos 414 to  
417). These small swallows,



wings and tail appears to  
be due either to wear or  
fading of the feathers. for  
the new quills that have  
just come in are perfectly  
green, without a trace of  
blue.

This small cuckoo has a song (?) of about 5 short whistles, often given while the bird is on the wing. We hear it from our camp at all times of day, and even this female gave these notes as it came flying over.  
caterpillars

Oct 31, 1909 (Sunday)

The priests at the mission presented us with another cuckoo<sup>(no 418)</sup>, somewhat larger than the one just mentioned, and blackish on the back, with barred feathers beneath.

On our return late in the afternoon, a small flock of bee-eaters was occupying the trees near our camp. These were of the large green species which we so often see flying over. Two male examples were secured. (nos 420 & 421), one showing the elongated middle rectrices, much worn, the other having them broken off. The blue color on the



# CALENDRIER MEMENTO

	OCTOBRE	NOVEMBRE	DÉCEMBRE
1			
2	S		
3	S		S
4			
5			S
6		S	
7		S	
8			
9	A		
10	S		S
11			
12	Y		S
13		A	
14		S	
15			
16	A		
17	S		S
18			
19			S
20		A	
21		S	
22			
23	A		
24	S		A
25			
26			S
27		A	
28		S	
29			
30	A		
31	S		

# CALENDRIER MEMENTO

	JUILLET	AOUT	SEPTEMBRE
1		S	
2			
3			
4			144 82 f. 1/2
5			<del>144 82 f. 1/2</del>
6			S
7			
8		S	
9			
10			
11			
12			S
13			(2) (2) (2) <i>Counted</i>
14			
15		S	
16			
17			
18			
19			
20			
21			
22		S	
23			
24			
25			
26			S
27			
28			
29		S	
30			
31			



