

Apr. 5. 1912 — Dec. 22. 1912.  
Jan 1914.

# CALENDRIER MEMENTO

JANVIER

FÉVRIER

MARS

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8	Monsieur Van Schote, with an		
9	aneroid barometer, finds the		
10	altitude of Saina ("mt.") near		
11	Vanherchovenille 1096 meters,		
12	and of Sadumais village 662 m,		
13	making the hill 434 meters		
14	above the surrounding country		
15	— which I doubt greatly.		
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Van Schote  
 Saina  
 Sadumais  
 Vanherchovenille

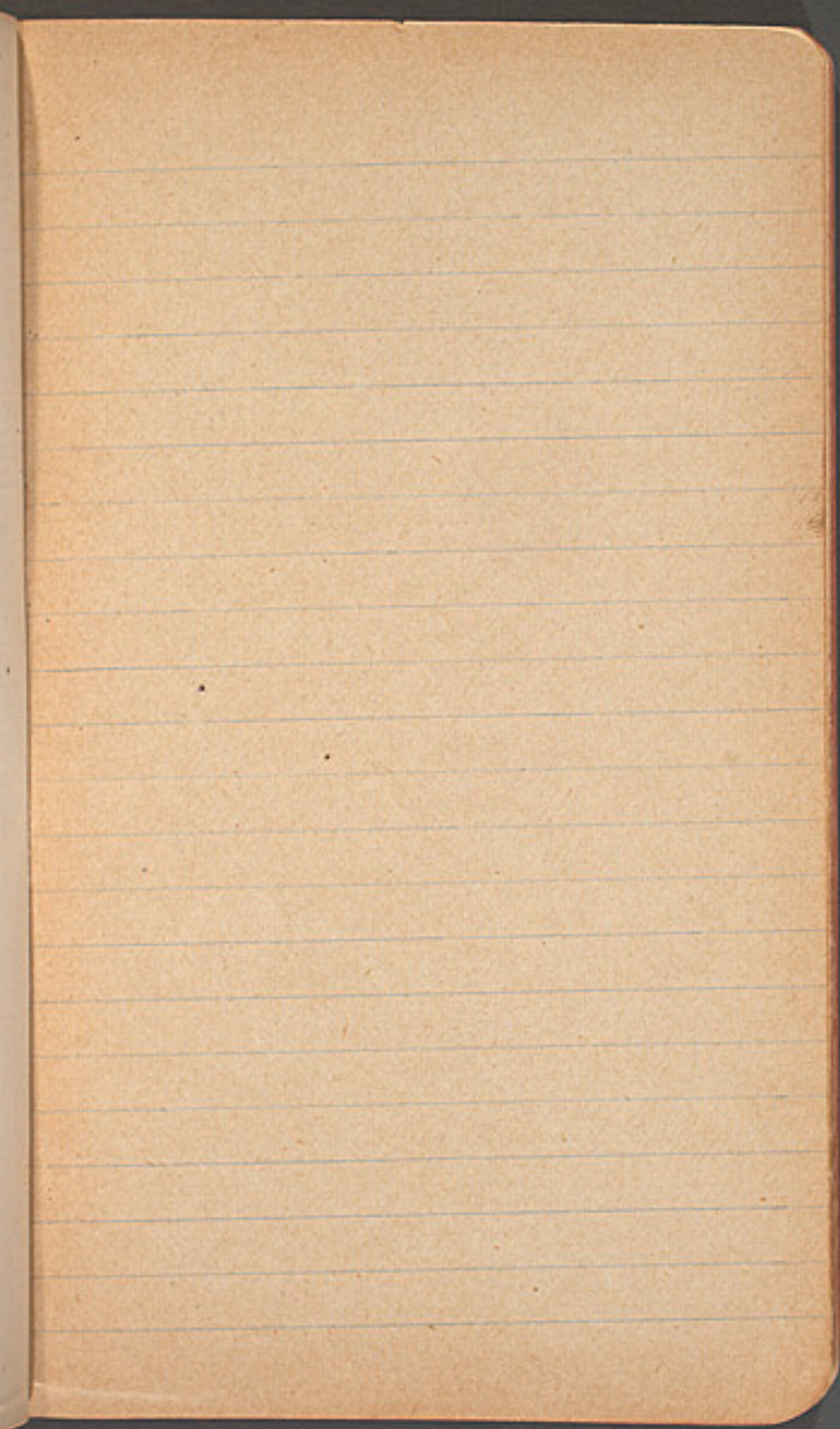


## 1912. CALENDRIER MEMENTO 1912.

AVRIL		MAI	JUIN
1		Lodged with men	
2		Left for Saramba	
3		Arr. Saramba	
4			
5	Left Saramba for		
6	Arr. Bangura.		
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[July 21, 1912]

at the beginning of the rainy season. at baramba, in the fields where sorghum was grown <sup>last year</sup>, there sprang up a new growth of the same plant. According to natives this is of no value, as the grain will not ripen in the middle of the rainy season, and so they cut it down to make place for their earlier crops, maize, squashes (maloki), small gourds (of which the seeds are eaten). Near our camp a large patch of sorghum had nevertheless been left, and by the middle of July much of it had attained a height of 10 to 14 feet, and many <sup>of</sup> stalks



bore heads of green seeds,  
which attracted some  
finches (*Carpodacus*),  
weavers (*Pyromelaena*)  
and occasionally paroquets.  
(*Agapornis*.) Other birds  
fed on the ground in  
this cover, but mostly  
small forms.

On July 21, a woman  
at work in the plantations  
saw a leopard entering  
this patch of worthless  
grain, and spread the  
alarm. All the men  
and youths of the village,  
numbering about 25  
assembled on the spot  
with their spears and  
some also with bows and  
arrows. The spears were  
of two sorts, short elephant



spears with heavy clublike handles and long narrow blades.

( $1\frac{1}{2}$  - 2 ft long), and the common long slender shafted lances with shorter head. They entered the sorghum without hesitation, spreading out, and walking back and forth until they came upon the leopards, which proved to be two in number.

One, slightly wounded by a spear, sprang up with loud growls of rage, scattering his pursuers, and then ran off to another



place of concealment. The hunt was now interrupted for a quarter of an hour, while nets were procured, and set up along a path bisecting the field of sorghum. 6 or 8 natives stood behind these nets, with spears in readiness, while the others again beat the cover as before. The natives of these parts have no shields, but two of the hunters had provided themselves with doors from their huts, heavy rectangular lattices, which when provided with handles of bark, served the same purpose. I now waited near the net, hoping to get a shot, but ere long

a loud yelling and stamping told us that the beaters had come upon a leopard, and before we could reach the spot it had been riddled with spears. Kalifa, a Baka, who usually served as guide and tracker for Mr. Lang, and who boasts of having killed, with the lance, 17 elephants, besides divers lions and leopards, was the first to pierce it with his spear. Seeing this, the whole party rushed in, each anxious to give a final thrust. <sup>later on</sup> The carcass was carried to the village, and formed the center of a short savage dance. Kalifa was found to be wearing



the tip of its tail in a cord  
about his neck. The  
hunt was resumed,  
for one leopard still  
remained, but he got  
thru the beaters, and  
escaped on the other  
side, crossing a freshly  
cleared field, and  
disappearing for good  
in the brush, where  
the tracks were very  
difficult to follow, and  
where there was no  
chance of seeing him  
again.

The dead leopard was  
an old female, but of  
remarkably small size.

Sept. 3. 1912 - Late this afternoon I listened to the singing of a white-crowned *Cosypha*, in the small swampy patch of brush and trees at the spring where our drinking water is drawn. It sang continually, but kept well hidden in the bushes, withdrawing when approached, but never guarding silence for long. Besides recognizable imitations of other birds, it gave many notes which I could not construe as such; either they were its own compositions, or they were imitations I could not appreciate. One of the birds it liked best to mimic was the oriole (the common yellow-



crowned species of this neighborhood), while the calls of the small yellow- & green shrike (with gray crown & orange breast), the streak-breasted kingfisher, the <sup>common rufous-breasted</sup> cuckoo, fruit pigeon, & *Asturina* were <sup>also</sup> reproduced with success. Three imitations new to me were those of the black barbet with red face ("hic-cup, hic-cup...") *Haliaeetus vocifer*, and a bee-eater (*Merops rubicus* <sup>or</sup> other member of the genus), the last-mentioned in 2 different keys, perhaps indicating different species.

One of these thrushes sings nearly every day at the post, keeping among some lemon trees, or in neglected patches

of rubber- and banana-trees. The voice is sometimes low as tho far distant, or may be raised, as often toward dusk.

Sept. 4, 1912. — The little black weaver, apparently related to Vidua, tho with only a short tail, was observed today, its first appearance this season. <sup>3♂ and a ♀, in the post.</sup> Last year one was seen a few days earlier. Along in October & November they became common, but disappeared about the first of the year — probably breeding during their stay here. In 1910 they were seen near Rungu and Niangara in October & November, but before



January had disappeared

Sept. 5. 1912 - The ring-necked turtle dove was heard calling today. I heard it first on Aug. 17th, and again on Aug. 31st & Sept. 1st.

For the last couple of weeks it has rained comparatively little. Last September, I remember, there was a similar lull in the <sup>during which some grass was even burned,</sup> rains, the October seemed to make up the time lost. When the wet weather is in full swing, it rains here every other day, sometimes every day, afternoon being the most common

time for storms, tho in this there is no firm rule.

For two days past, bee-eaters (of the genus *Merops*) have occasionally been heard high overhead, from their notes and from the color of one seen at a great height, they seem to be of the common large green species.

The "Tribune Congolaise" of June 1. 1912, quoting from "Anvers Bourse" gives the flow of water at the mouth of the Congo 120,000 cu. meters per second, of the Kasai at its mouth 11,000, of the Ubangi 7,000, of the Aruwimi 4000 cubic meters per second.



Sept. 6, 1912 - Saw today about 8 of the little black weavers (and their brown mates), mentioned under date of Sept 4 '12.

Sept. 7. 12. The long-legged, broad-winged *Polyboroides* is a hawk of rather peculiar habits, proceeding with a slow sailing or leisurely flapping flight, hopping about the branches of leafy trees, or clinging to the side of a rotten stub, apparently in search of insects. Its small head sometimes gives it a vulturine appearance, and the feathers of the nape form a sort of ruff. It

is a restless bird, and even when not pursued, often travels continually from one tree to another in a definite direction, tho on the other hand, I have seen them return, after being molested, to the same group of trees along the Dungle above the post. Two are the most I have noticed together, usually they go singly; nor have I ever heard the voice. (1 specimen seen at Faradje today, 1 on Sept 3rd, two at Bangura's in April last.)

The tall cane-like grass, known in Bangala as "Baka" (Kiwana "matete"), so characteristic of the



borders of the forest-region,  
seems to reach the limit  
of its distribution between  
Paradje and Baramba.

At the latter locality  
I never saw it, tho there  
are other high grasses  
near water. The largest  
stalks of baka measure  
2 cm. in diameter near  
the ground (2.5 cm at  
nodes), and the tallest  
plants attain a height  
of at least 15 feet,  
(late in the rainy season)  
terminating in a ~~a~~  
long fuzzy catkin. Baka  
is used by natives, both  
here and at Medje, as a  
light building material,  
for supporting the thatch,  
etc, and when dry has  
the appearance, tho not

the strength, of bamboo.  
A <sup>few old</sup> bunch of old dry stalks  
of "matete", at medje, often  
serves as a torch, and  
gives a good flame; but  
in the Uele a bunch  
of dry "suli" (the grass  
used for roofs), or any other  
dry grass at hand, is  
more often used for illumin-  
ation. This latter grass  
("suli" in Bangala, "nyazi" in  
Kiwana) is found at  
medje and everywhere we  
have visited in the Uele.  
Its blades are long, & fairly  
broad, so that even tho it  
has no conspicuous stalks  
it often reaches up to one's  
chest. It is especially  
characteristic of old village  
sites, often forming open



fields of grass, agreeable to the eye by reason of its uniform height, and not difficult to walk thru.

For the roofs of the houses of posts this grass is usually tied on in small bundles, after the earth has been cleaned off; but natives usually fashion a long but simple mat, bound with two cords, and then wind this spirally upon their conical roofs.



Bamboo is rare in the parts of the Congo where we have worked most. Since we left Stanleyville, in fact, the only place I have seen any was near Van-kerckhovensville, where,

some  $2\frac{1}{2}$  hours south of the post, not far off the road to Arubi, there was a small patch, standing on high ground, but close to a forested gorge cut by a small stream. This bamboo had a peculiar desiccated appearance (it is true some had been cut by workmen from the post), growing in rather open clumps, the stalks rising to a height of 30 feet, with only few and small branches. Its outer surface was not glossy, nor were the hollow chambers within very large. I visited it in company with Mr. Goffinet (Aug 1911), and we agreed that it seemed a very different bamboo from that along the Congo.

→ It should be noted that

Bamboo was later brought to the post at Barado's neighborhood of Matapi.



the stalks of *Raphia* palms, extensively used in building are often called bamboo by Europeans in the Congo.

Along the banks <sup>of islands</sup> of the R. Dunge at Faradje, there are patches of a tall grass, sometimes a little taller than baka, and with hollow stems much thicker, tho it has not at all the solidity of bamboo.

Sept. 17. 1912. Went to Lemvo  
to fetch Mr. Pickering & threatened  
with blackwater fever. Saw  
a light gray cuckoo (first of the  
season), and what was probably  
a widow bird such as I shot  
last November (*Steganura*).  
On the road one passes a  
curious open swamp, where  
a dense low growth of vines  
seems to keep out all other  
vegetation. From its resemblance  
to a field of sweet potatoes, the  
workmen from the post  
call it "maliba na bangbe".  
One of the pleasant mellow  
calls of a common shrike they  
interpret "pété-pété kie-lé".



Nov. 28. 1912 - Colors of the  
flower of the "tulipier".



The central mass of  
flowers (~~petals~~ <sup>stamens</sup>)  
is creamy white. The  
bracts forming an  
outer ring like the ray-flowers  
of a sun-flower are also creamy  
white above, tinged about their  
edges with red, while below  
they are deep carmine. The  
rest of the bracts forming the  
base of the flower are brownish-  
green, shading to dark umber  
at their distal edges, and  
sometimes, especially the  
larger ones, tinged with red.



Unopened flower-buds,  
being covered entirely  
by these bracts, are  
colored like the bases of  
flowers, deep carmine

at their tips, shading to brownish green at the base, each bract being edged with dark brown.

Jan 4. 1914 — This morning about 8 o'clock, as we were coming up the river by canoe, between Mongalula & Avalubi Succursale, a slight commotion was noticed in the water ahead of us, close to the shore. Something dark would come to the surface from time to time; at first we thought it might be a hippo's nose, so I stepped ashore with the rifle; then its small size suggested a crocodile, and finally a glassethru the field glass disclosed



a monkey's head. ~~The~~ It came to the surface very often, meanwhile drifting considerably downstream, and making quite a little progress out away from the shore. As for holding its breath it seemed to possess less ability than a man, and instead of raising its whole head above the water while breathing, it would sit more or less vertically in the water, and expose only the face, with blinking eyes staring stupidly upward. Then it would plunge with a forward movement, much as a man would, but at one might expect did not swim



with any great rapidity  
under water. All this  
we saw as we made  
after it in the canoe. Fearing  
it would sink if shot  
dead, I hesitated to fire,  
and finally wounded it  
slightly with no. 8. Still  
we had considerable  
difficulty in catching it,  
and the boatmen were  
afraid of being bitten,  
but finally it was pulled  
into the boat by the tail,  
opening wide its mouth,  
ready to use its sharp teeth.  
It was a rather small  
example of the white-bearded  
*Cercopithecus* <sup>(brazzav)</sup>, with brown  
forehead, a female.

Judge Smets, I believe,  
first told us of the aquatic



is the same story  
Cercopithecus [brazzae?]

Barns' tame monkey - said to be C. "ignitus" - was caught by a native ~~whose~~ shot its mother while 'bathing in the river', near Bafwasende. The description of the old monkey reads very like C. brazzae.

- D. A. Barns, 1923, 'Across the Great Craterland to the Congo', p. 100.



feats of this monkey. He  
had heard something drop  
into a stream (near Poko)  
and was told it was this  
monkey. Later other natives  
told us the same story  
about the "makako na Inaij".



the remaining 57 pages are blank.

1912

## CALENDRIER MEMENTO

OCTOBRE		NOVEMBRE	DÉCEMBRE
1	O	<del>Nightingale</del>	S
2	R		Circus aeruginosus
3	R Sertorio called.	S	Microdipyrus m.
4	R		
5	O		
6	R		
7	R		
8	R		S
9	R		
10	R white fronted experiencing.	Halcion serice-	
11			
12	Megascops asio		
13	"	Stone Curlew	
14	"	Gray Wagtail	
15	R		S
16			
17	Micropterus crucifer	S	
18	Hamer. Pipit		Anting. Lophoceros
19			Scops. noct.
20			crucifer 20
21			
22	Black Swift. 1.	↘	S marabou Pseudop.
23			
24		S	
25	the dusky crowned cuckoo		
26		Red-tail Buzzard	
27	Ardea cinerea?	Red-winged blackbird	
28		Gray heron calls	
29		Fish hawk Scops.	
30			
31	Nightingale.		



1912

## CALENDRIER MEMENTO

	JUILLET	AOUT	SEPTEMBRE
1			
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3			
4			
5			
6			R Clamator 9 PM
7		Clamator. 9:30 AM	O
8	Visited Tanager hills	Vidua twitter	R
9	several earthquakes shortly after noon		O
10			A Hirundo rustica reclusa.
11			O Bucconus ②
12			O
13			O Bank Swallow
14			R
15			R Rhytmides
16			O
17			O light grey cuckoo
18			O
19			O
20			O
21	Leopard ♀	V der Snelk	O Whinchat R Yellow wagtail O Pratincole
22			
23			O muscicapagrisola
24			R
25	Return to paradise		R
26			R
27			O
28			O
29			R
30			R
31			



