

The Quest for Empire

Analyzing European Motives

Predict the motives for European Imperialism to gain a deeper understanding of Imperialism and its effects on the indigenous peoples in Africa and Asia.

Directions

You will explore the motives behind the European rush to create colonial empires at the end of the 19th century.

Examine the placards:

- Describe what you see on the placard and discuss with your partners. (It is okay to guess.)
- Determine which of the five categories the artifact reveals. There may be more than one motive.
- Choose one motive to fully explain.

Analyze, identify, and explain the...

1. Political

2. Economic

3. Exploratory

4. Religious

5. Ideological

...motives of Europeans and their effects on indigenous people in Africa and Asia due to the demand of raw materials needed to fuel the Industrial Revolution and the want for exotic goods in Europe.

POLITICAL

Political motives were based on a nation's desire...

- to gain power,
- to compete with other European countries,
- to expand territory,
- to exercise military force,
- to gain prestige by winning colonies, and
- to boost national pride and security.

ECONOMIC

Economic motives included the desire...

- to make money,
- to expand and control foreign trade,
- to create new markets for products,
- to acquire raw materials and cheap labor,
- to compete for investments and resources, and
- to export industrial technology and transportation methods.

EXPLORATORY

Exploratory motives were based on the desire...

- to explore “unknown” or uncharted territory,
- to conduct medical searches for the causes and treatment of diseases,
- to go on an adventure, and
- to investigate “unknown” lands and cultures.

RELIGIOUS

Religious motives included the desire...

- to spread Christianity,
- to protect European missionaries in other lands,
- to spread European values and moral beliefs,
- to educate peoples of other cultures, and
- to end the slave trade in Africa.

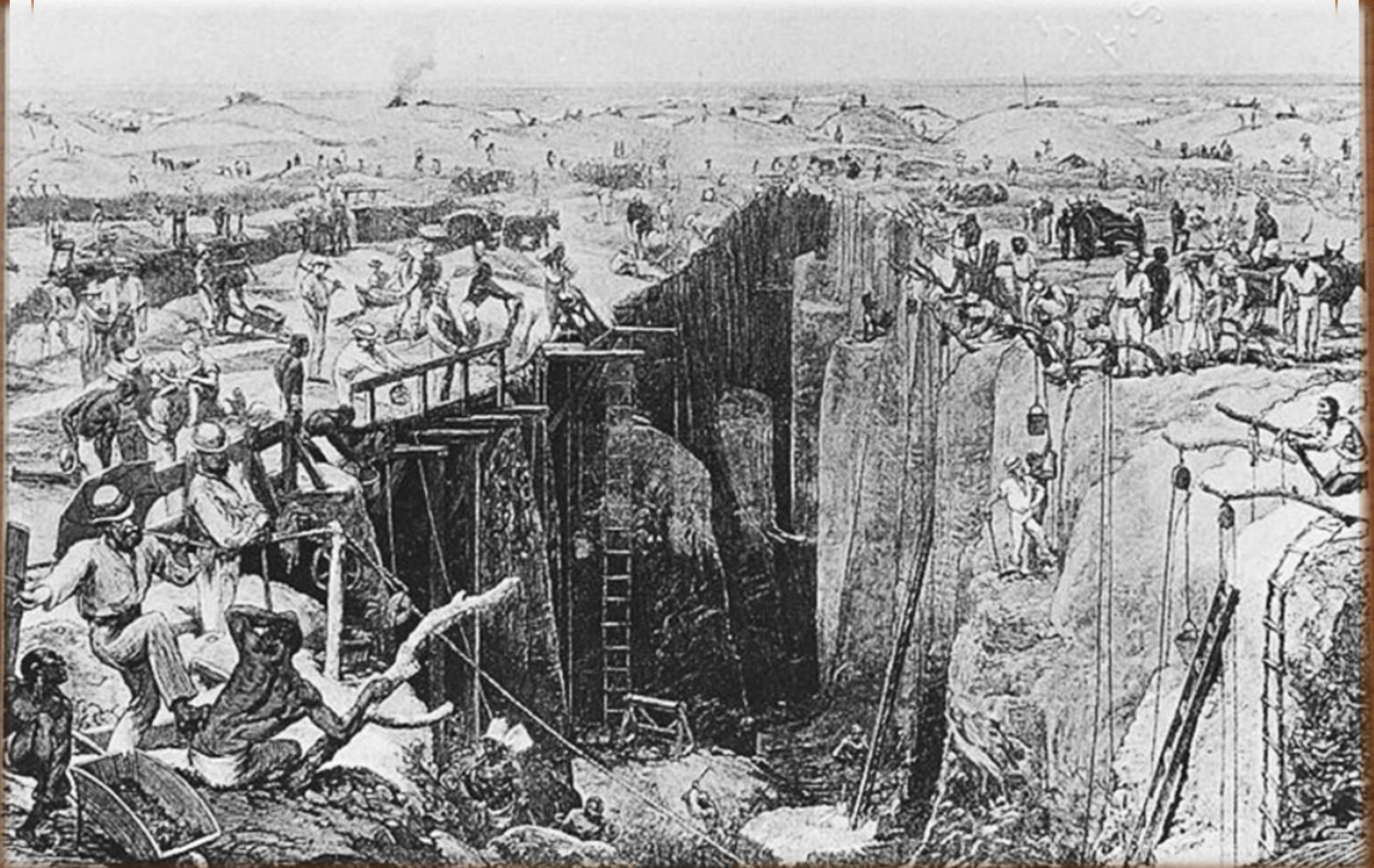
IDEOLOGICAL

Ideological motives were based on cultural values such as the belief that...

- the Europeans and the western culture were “superior,”
- other cultures were “primitive,”
- Europeans should “civilize” peoples in other parts of the world,
- “great” nations should have empires, and
- only the “strongest” nations will survive.

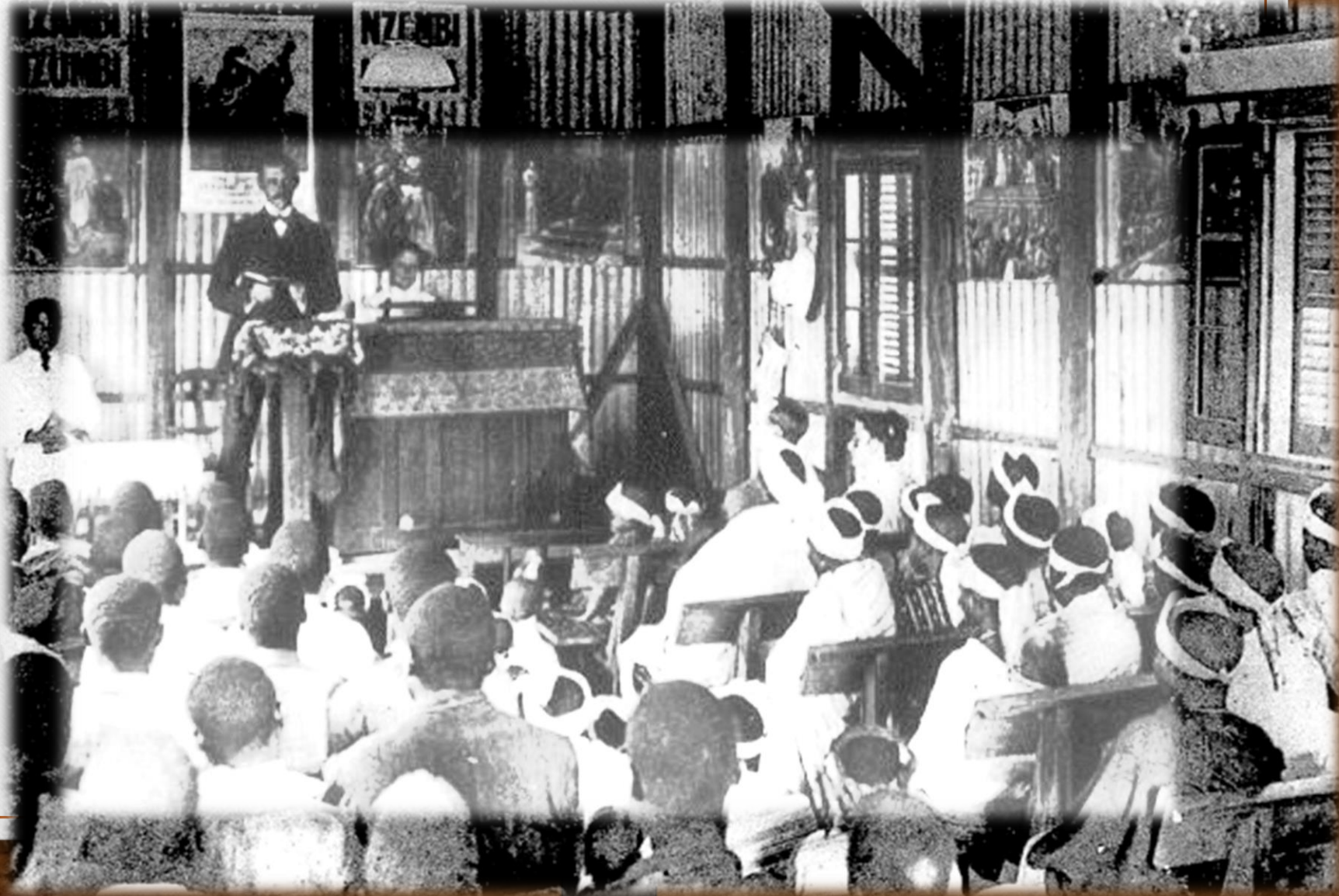
Placard A

-Open-shaft diamond mining at Kimberley, South Africa, in 1872



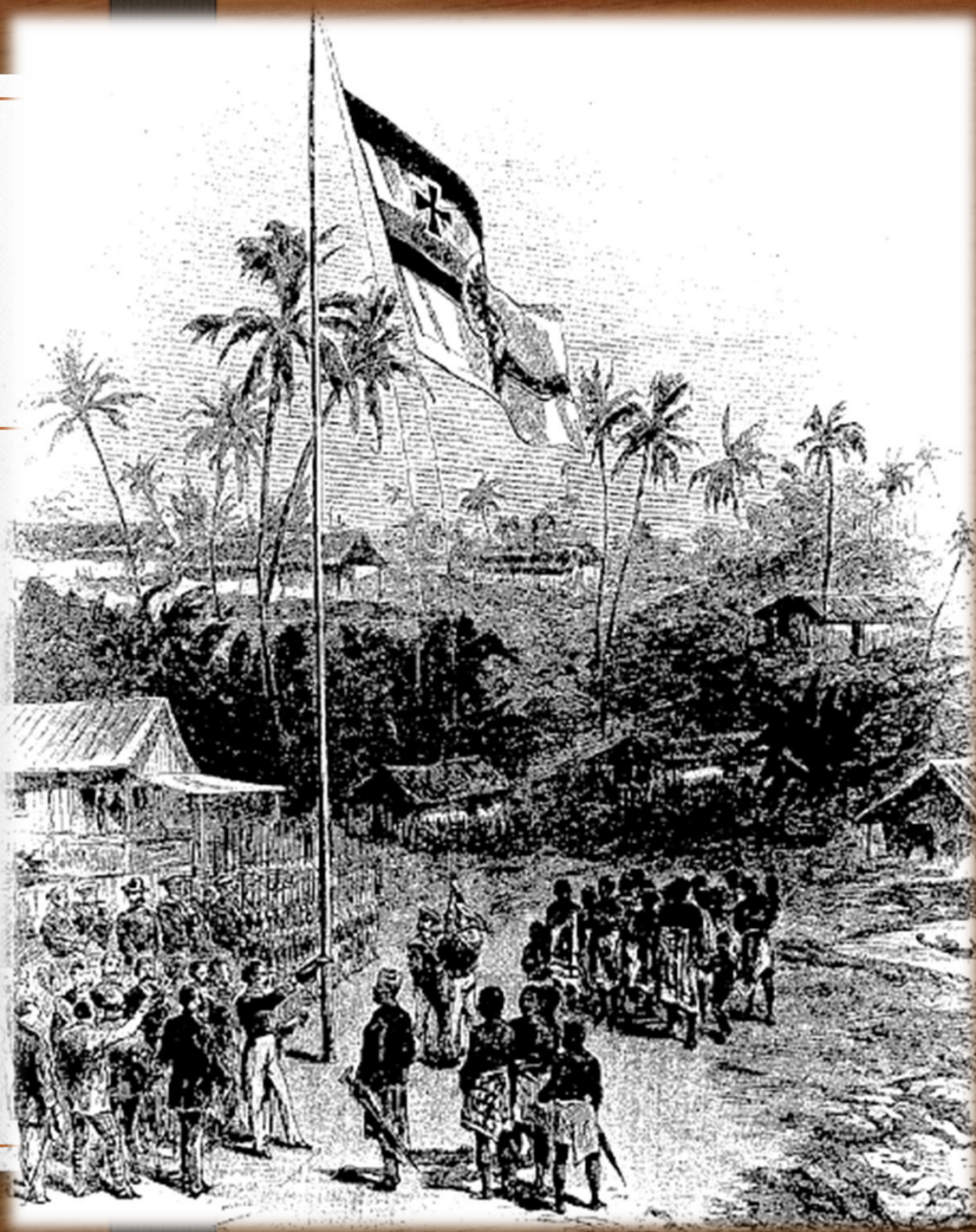
Placard B

-A Methodist Sunday School at Guiongua, Angola, 1925



Placard C

Germans taking
possession of
Cameroon in 1881



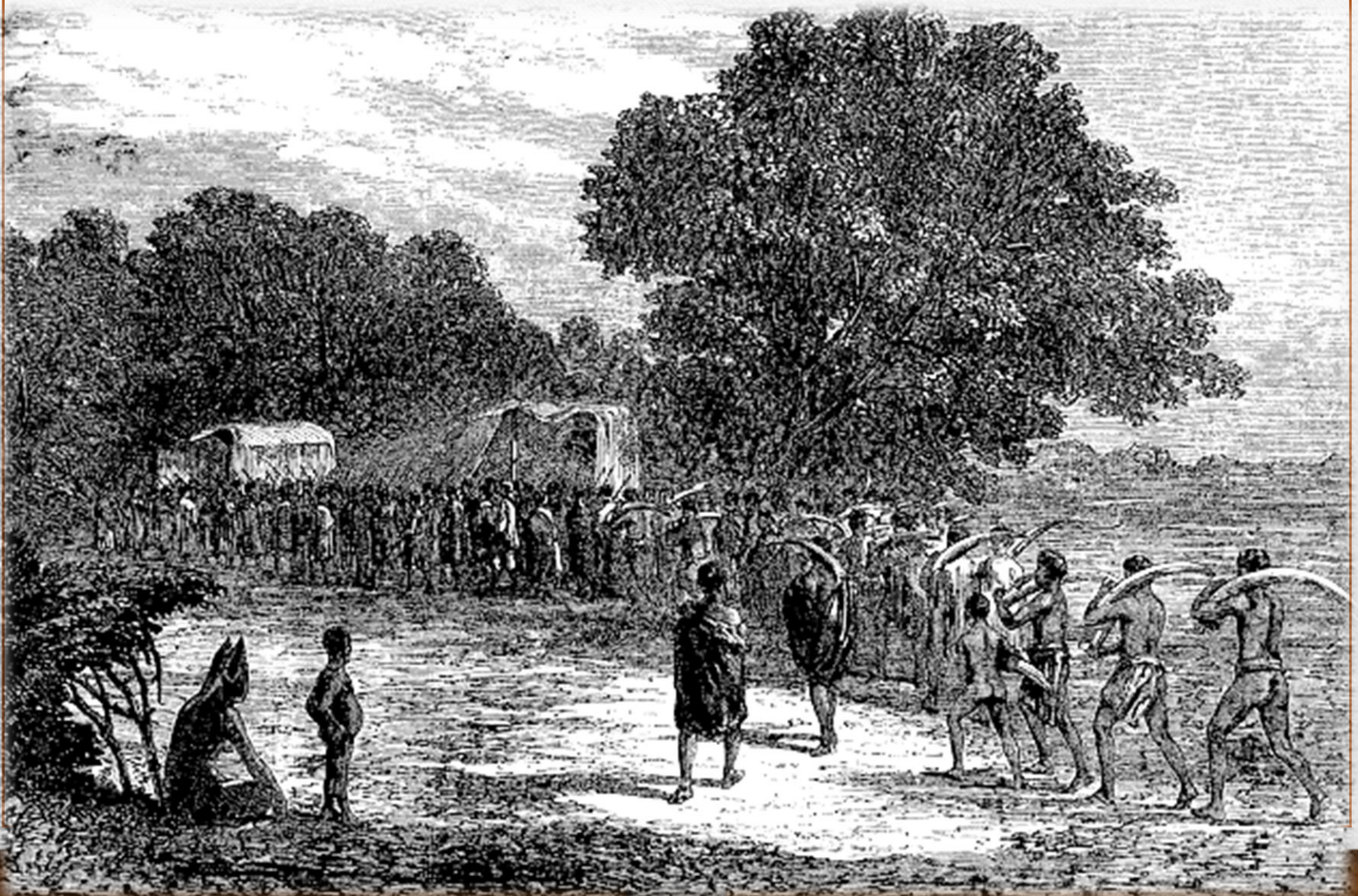
Placard D

As yet the Congo basin is a blank, a fruitless waste, a desolate and unproductive area.... It has been our purpose to fill this blank with life, to redeem this waste, to plant and sow that the dark man may gather, to vivify the wide, wild lands so long forgotten by Europe. But cursed be he or they who, animated by causeless jealousy and a spirit of mischief, will compel us to fire our station, destroy our work so conspicuously begun, and abandon Africa to its pristine helplessness and savagery.

—Henry Stanley, 1882

Placard E

-Africans bringing ivory to the wagons in South Africa, c. 1860



Placard F

Sketch map of
Central Africa,
showing Dr.
Livingstone's
exploration

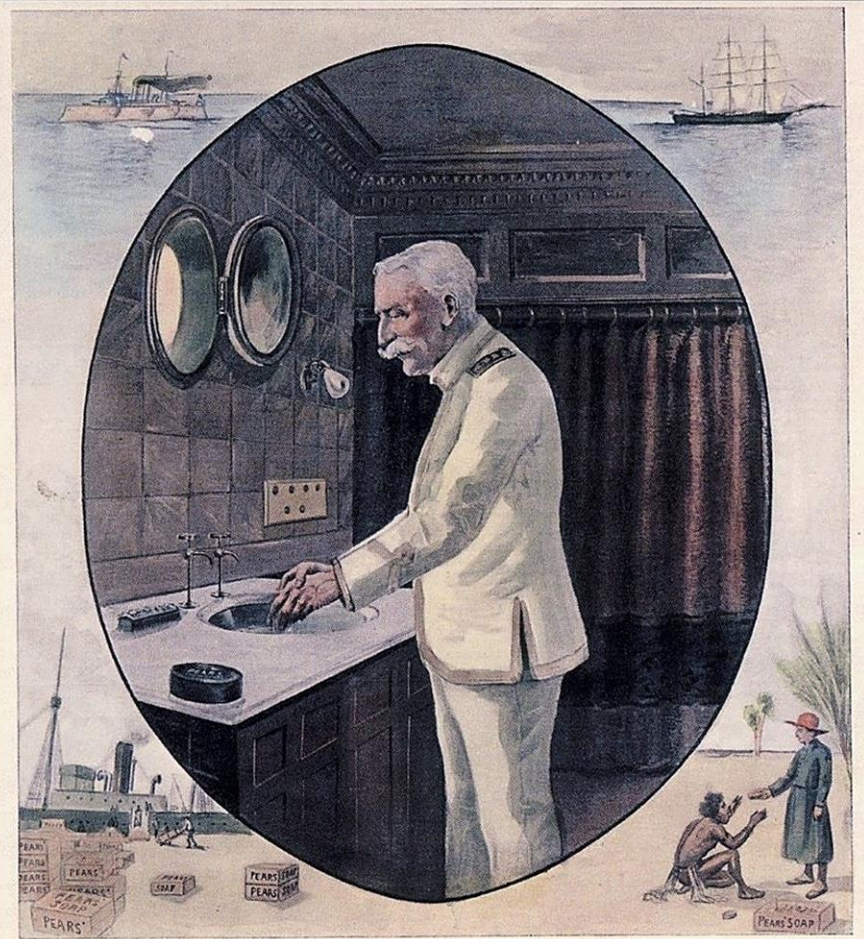


Placard G

Advertisement for Pears' Soap from the 1890s,
and a stanza from *The White Man's Burden*,
written in response to the American take over
of the Philippine Islands

Take up the White Man's burden--
Send forth the best ye breed--
Go bind your sons to exile
To serve your captives' need;
To wait in heavy harness,
On fluttered folk and wild--
Your new-caught, sullen peoples,
Half-devil and half-child.

-Rudyard Kipling, 1899



The first step towards lightening

The White Man's Burden

is through teaching the virtues of cleanliness.

Pears' Soap

is a potent factor in brightening the dark corners of the earth as civilization advances, while amongst the cultured of all nations it holds the highest place—it is the ideal toilet soap.

Placard H

-Mrs. Maria C. Douglas, doctor and missionary, and the first class of pupil nurses in Burma, in 1888



Placard I

-British cartoon showing the Chinese being savaged by European powers, and the poem *The Partition of China*, 1897

THE PARTITION OF CHINA

THE Heathen Chinees! The Heathen Chinees!
What a channel for Christian Expansion is he.
Then Ho! for the Flowery Land of the East,
Like vultures we'll swoop on the promising feast.
Commission your Navies, ye Nations so free,
To bear the true light to the Heathen Chinees.

If Russia "makes converts," it's perfectly clear
We need for "converting" a well-defined sphere;
If Germany's "missions" hold meetings for prayer,
So Christian a work 'tis our duty to share.
Incidentally, too, there is cash to be made;
There's naught like Religion to stimulate Trade.

Then come all ye Teachers and Preachers and Fighters,
Backed up by the Press and its wonderful writers,
Let's give to this darkened and downtrodden nation
A touch of the blessings of Civilisation.
And our Christian "Maxims" will work, you will see,
A change for the good in that Heathen Chinees.

29th December 1897.



"The Heathen Chinees! The Heathen Chinees!"

Placard J

Bagged groundnuts
in pyramid stacks in
West Africa



Placard K - French capture of the citadel of Saigon, Vietnam



ASSAUT DE LA CITADELLE DE SAIGON PAR LE CORPS EXPÉDITIONNAIRE FRANCO-ESPAGNOL, LE 17 FÉVRIER 1859. — D'après le croquis envoyé par M. L. Roux, secrétaire de l'amiral Rigault de Genouilly.

Placard L

- British Lipton Tea advertisement in the 1890s

LIPTON'S

Tea Merchant.
BY SPECIAL APPOINTMENT
TO HER MAJESTY.
THE QUEEN.

**ONE OF
LIPTON'S TEA-GARDENS
CEYLON**

TEAS.

FINEST THE
WORLD CAN
PRODUCE
1/7 PER LB.
NO HIGHER PRICE.
**RICH PURE
& FRAGRANT**
1/2 and 1/4 PER LB.

LARGEST SALE IN THE WORLD

Chief Offices : City Road, London.

Branches and Agencies throughout the World.

Placard M

British cartoon "The Rhodes Colossus," showing Cecil Rhodes' vision of making Africa "all British from Cape to Cairo," 1892



THE RHODES COLOSSUS

STRIDING FROM CAPE TOWN TO CAIRO.

. Mr. Rhodes had announced his intention to continue the telegraph northwards across the Zambesi to Uganda, then, crossing the Soudan, to complete the overland telegraph line from Cape Town to Cairo.

Placard N

Brought by faithful hands over land and sea,
Here rests David Livingstone, Missionary,
Traveller, Philanthropist. Born March 19, 1813, at
Blantyre, Lanarkshire. Died May 1, 1873, at
Chitambo's Village, Ulala. For 30 years his life
was spent in an unwearied effort to evangelize
the native races, to explore the undiscovered
secrets, to abolish the desolating slave trade, of
Central Africa, where with his last words he
wrote, "*All I can add in my solitude, is, May the
Heaven's rich blessing come down on everyone,
American, English, or Turk, who will help to heal
this open sore of the world.*"

I beg to direct your attention to Africa; I know
that in a few years I shall be cut off in that
country, which is now open: Do not let it be shut
again! I go back to Africa to try to make an open
path for commerce and Christianity; do you
carry out the work which I have begun. I leave it
with you!

-David Livingstone, 1857

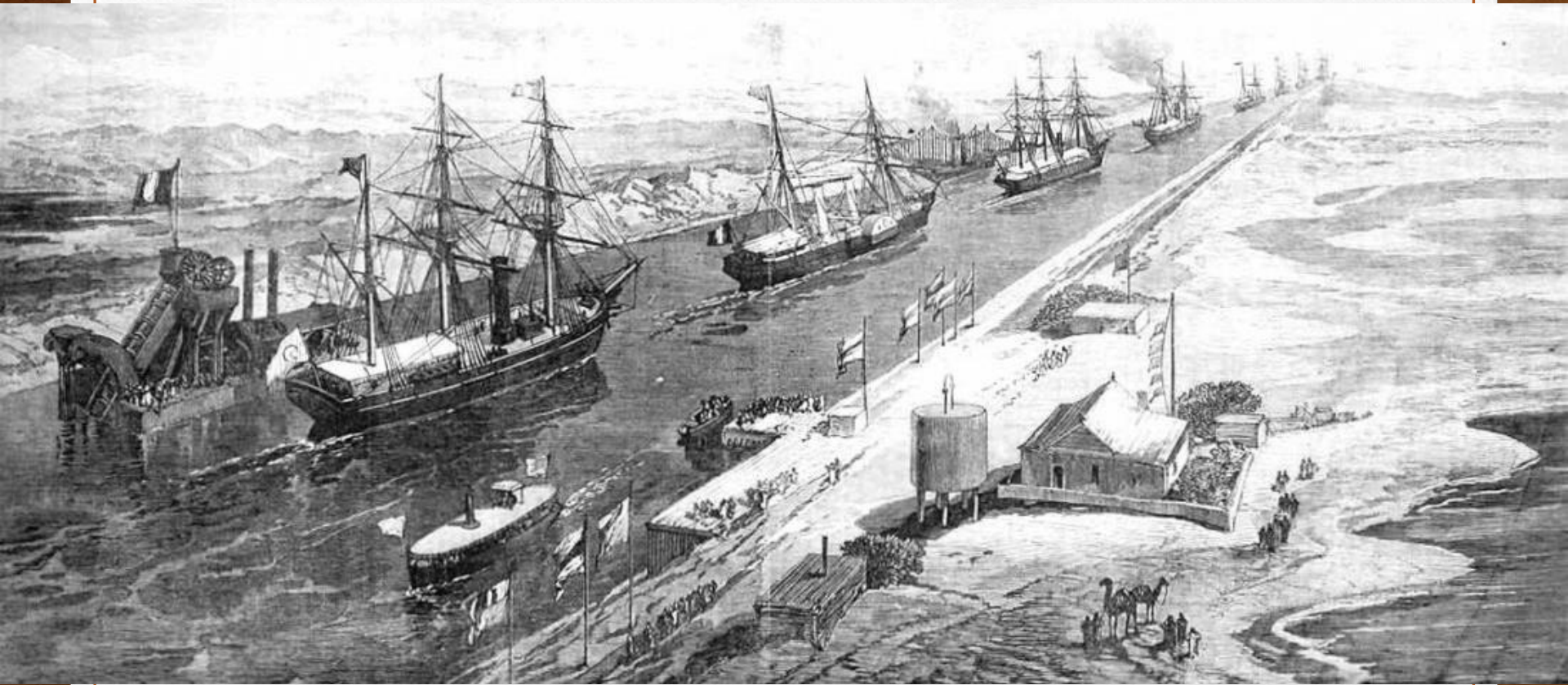
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ON EVERY ONE, AMERICAN, ENGLISH, OR TURK,
WHO WILL HELP TO HEAL
THIS OPEN SORE OF THE WORLD."

"OTHER SHEEP I HAVE, WHICH ARE NOT OF THIS FOLD:
THEM ALSO I MUST BRING, AND THEY TOO SHALL HEAR MY VOICE."

"TANTUS AMOR VERI, NIHIL EST QUOD MOSCERE MALIM."

Placard O



An imperial yacht passing through the Suez Canal in Egypt at the opening of the canal in 1870.