



The Young King.

H. M. Hall Library

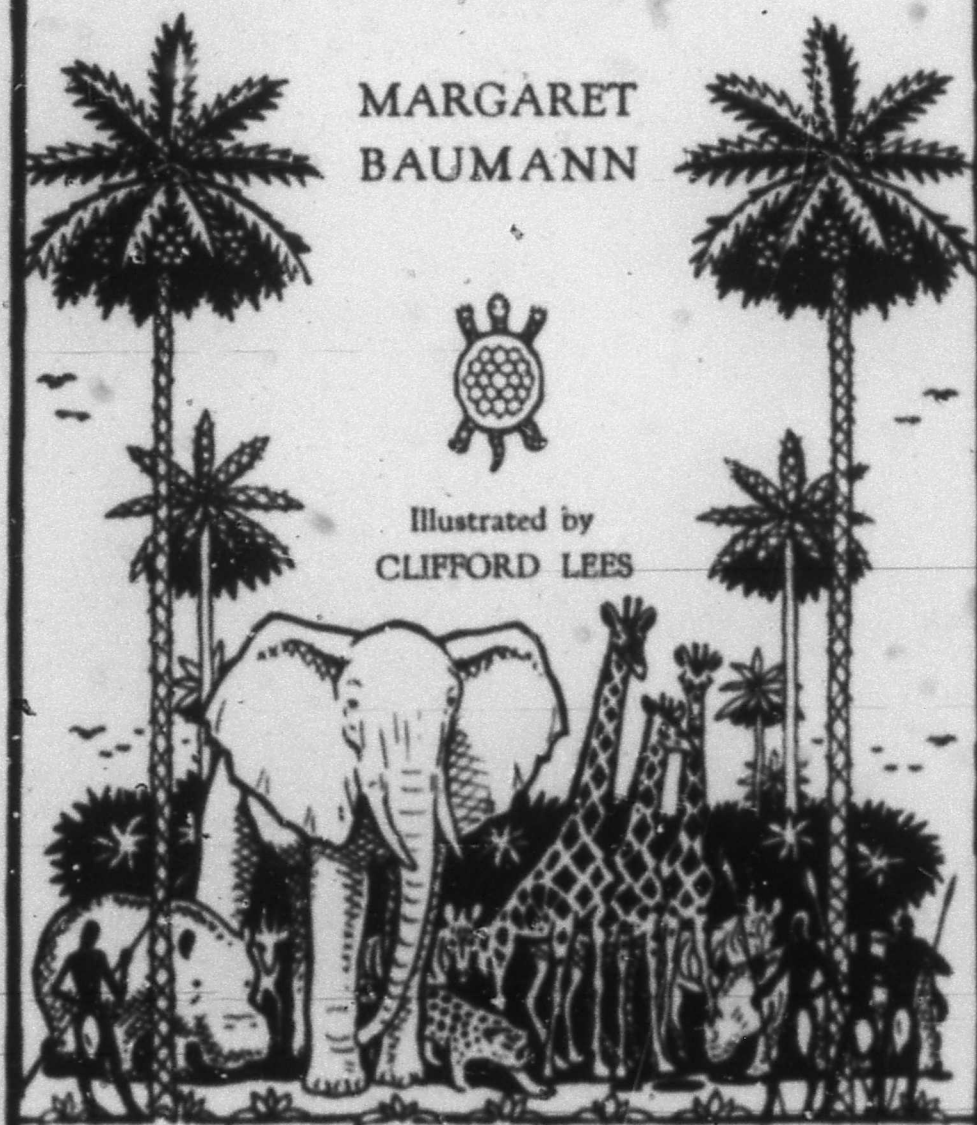
SONS OF STICKS

SKETCHES OF EVERYDAY LIFE IN A
NIGERIAN BUSH-VILLAGE

MARGARET
BAUMANN



Illustrated by
CLIFFORD LEES



LONDON
THE SHELDON PRESS
NORTHUMBERLAND AVENUE, W.C. 2

First published 1933

PRINTED IN GREAT BRITAIN

PREFACE

THE dish of thought which Africa sets before a European is, at a first mouthful, the most unpalatable mixture of red pepper and sugar-cane-shrewdness and childlike faith, sense and superstition, historical fact and fiction. Once the ingredients are recognized, however, the peculiar spice and novelty of the dish may be enjoyed.

These sketches of everyday life in a Nigerian bush-village have, therefore, as their aim to show what the African thinks and how he thinks; for we earnestly believe that a solution of African problems is only possible to those who have sought insight into the African's way of thought. If we would grow flowers in a garden, we must first study the nature of the ground. May the flowers of truth spring vigorously from this fertile African soil.

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

BY CLIFFORD LEES

THE YOUNG KING - -		<i>(Frontispiece)</i>
A RENOWNED MEDICINE-MAN - -	PAGE	4
UTENSILS OF IFA WORSHIP - -	- -	16
THE HUNTERS HAD RETURNED - -	- -	30
WOVEN FAN - - - -	- -	33
LEOPARD SKIN - - - -	- -	43
THE MEDICINE-MAN FOCUSED ALL EYES - -	- -	46
CALABASH AND BASKET - - - -	- -	51
THE DRUMMERS - - - -	- -	53
CALABASH AND BRUSH - - - -	- -	64
THE COCK SCRATCHED WITH HIS FEET - -	- -	65
FOR SOME TIME THEY LIVED TOGETHER - -	- -	68
WITH THE DRAGON CLOSE BEHIND - - - -	- -	72
THEY CAME TO LIE AT HIS FEET - - - -	- -	78
OUT SPRANG WARRIORS - - - -	- -	80
WOODEN TOYS - - - -	- -	85