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Marcossou Isaac Frederick 2010-07-30Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 9.69 x .75 x 7.44l, 1.42 #File Name: 1176510126360 pagesAn African Adventure | File size: 39.Mb

Isaac Frederick Marcossou : An African adventure before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised An African adventure:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. An interesting story of a time pastBy D. D. LeDuPublished in 1921, this is the author's account of a post-WWI journey from Capetown through Rhodesia and the Congo. Having been a correspondent in Europe during the war, he had a number of contacts (including General Smuts and King Leopold of Belgium) that resulted in exceptional access to transportation and otherwise remote areas.This is an interesting book on two counts. Firstly, it includes a panoply of images of Africa at critical period of transition, including details of early diamond mining, river transport, rail travel, etc. There are stories of African life (both native and European), laced together by the thread of colonial rule.Secondly, the author discusses the personalities (such as Rhodes, Jameson, and Smuts) who stood as giants of their time. Interestingly he points out that American engineers were crucial to developing the mines and railways. I think that with Churchill we passed the era when one man, by dint of personality

and intellect, could direct the currents of history. Africa was the last sphere where great men (for good or bad) can be said to have had an indisputable impact still visible more than a century later. I greatly enjoy period books such as this. It would be a great mistake to approach "An African Adventure" with the intent of judging by our standards and with 20-20 hindsight. For one thing, the author was as much a product of his time as we are of ours. This shows through in his attitude towards colonialization and race. But the book is well-written and the stories well-told. Unconsciously, I found myself deeply admiring those who faced and overcame the challenges of developing the "Dark Continent". It was with effort that I had to remind myself that the outcome of these heroic efforts were, to say the least, questionable. Regardless, it is difficult to deny the force of character required to accomplish such feats. I hardly recommend this book. My only warning is that it may cause you (as it did me) to spend an inordinate amount of time delving into 19th Century African history. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By jpexcellent 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Three Stars By Joe D Whitt, Not a bad book but I have read better. Well worth the price though.

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About the Author Isaac Frederick Marcossou was an American editor, born at Louisville, Kentucky, and educated in the schools of Louisville. (Wikipedia)