Three African Kings Visit Brighton in 1895:
An Online Black History Education Resource

From The Evening Standard, November 1895

The Bechuana Chiefs, having concluded their mission to this country, left London on Saturday to return to their native land. They travelled in a reserved carriage from Waterloo to Southampton, where they embarked for South Africa. The chiefs took with them the Queen's presents, the gifts of Mr Chamberlain, and a considerable collection of mememtoes. They were cheered as the train departed – a compliment which they acknowledged by saluting in military fashion.

The Chiefs have addressed the following letter to the Editor of the Times of Africa

Southplace hotel, London, November 23rd 1895

"Sir, As yours is a paper devoted to African matters, we have thought it right to use its columns to bid farewell to the English people. We thank them very cordially for the great kindness which they have without exception shown to all our party. They have made us feel as though we were indeed brothers of theirs. We have partaken of their hospitality and seen the inside of their homes. We shall return to our own country with very grateful recollections indeed. And now, we have one and all to say, that we hope that God will bless this great country of England and that we Bechuana and you Englishmen may be long linked together in the bonds of mutual friendship, serving one Queen

We wish to say also that is has been impossible to answer all the kind letters which have been sent to us, although our friend Mr Willoughby has stayed up till two and three o clock in the morning for weeks together in the attempt to do so

And now farewell
We are your friends
Khama
Bathoen
Sebele