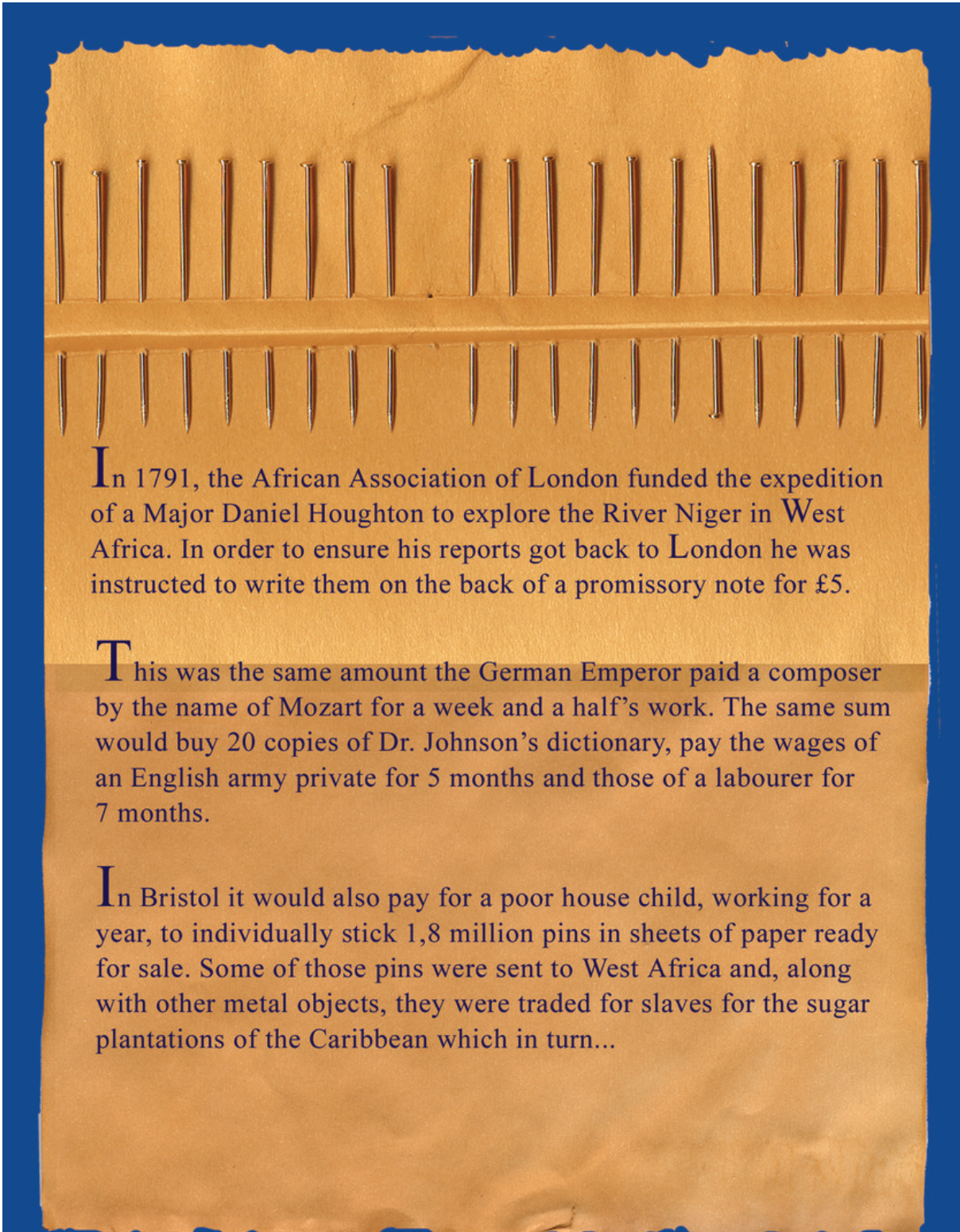


Mo's Money

2006 | Project for Museum in Progress [Verborgene Gesichten/Remapping Mozart] for publication in Der Standard, 13 April 2006

Adam Smith, Daniel Houghton, Mozart and pauperised workers...

<http://www.mip.at/creations/remapping-mozart-01>



In 1791, the African Association of London funded the expedition of a Major Daniel Houghton to explore the River Niger in West Africa. In order to ensure his reports got back to London he was instructed to write them on the back of a promissory note for £5.

This was the same amount the German Emperor paid a composer by the name of Mozart for a week and a half's work. The same sum would buy 20 copies of Dr. Johnson's dictionary, pay the wages of an English army private for 5 months and those of a labourer for 7 months.

In Bristol it would also pay for a poor house child, working for a year, to individually stick 1,8 million pins in sheets of paper ready for sale. Some of those pins were sent to West Africa and, along with other metal objects, they were traded for slaves for the sugar plantations of the Caribbean which in turn...

Jede Ähnlichkeit mit heutigen Verhältnissen
ist rein zufällig.

