# NEW LIGHT ON WEST AFRICA

# ing Story by Dr. Reid.

### KINDNESS OF THE NATIVES.

President of the College of West Africa Gives Historical Sketch of Habits and Customs of Tribal Life on Dark Continent - Influence of Colored Americans,

Yonkers, N. Y.-The Negro Society For Historical Research and its friends were highly entertained at a recent meeting by Dr. J. H. Reid of Monrovia, Liberia, president of the College of West Africa and editor of Liberia and esting and instructive address, in which throughout the state. in the ship Elizabeth Feb. 5, 1820, and will be required at the hands of white numbered eighty-eight souls. This was men. tater followed with another and smaller expedition in 1821, which settled in Sierra Leone (Fournh bay), where they remained till January, 1822, when some of them were brought to Providence island, at the mouth of the Mesuardo river.

Other expeditions followed so that now there is a native population of 2,000,000 representing many interior tribes, notably the Mandingoes, Pessebs. Greboes. Kroomen. Veys. etc. The recent aggressions of the French government in Liberia, which is seven degrees north of the equator, has brought that down from 45,000 to 3,000 square miles. The delimitation of the material of the school are found. The persons that Simms shot Brodt as the ing to herself and what she had said. territory by a foreign power is still a general officers of the central gymna- last resort in self defense. With this She burst into tears and wrung her and, since Liberia is the last chance of Miller, chairman; Mr. Robert A. Pel- Wheaton set about with energy to the Negro to demonstrate his capacity for self government, it is sincerely hoped that no unfair advantage will be taken of the little struggling republic.

There are 15.000 Americo-Liberians in Liberia, which means that they are the descendants of former emigrants from the United States, and they constitute a force in the social. religious and industrial life of the republic which cannot be ignored. This contact of the American Negro with the aborigines of Africa is doing more to bring Africa to the front than Dreadnoughts and Mauser rifles. The public school system of Liberia is under the direction of a board of nine members, one from each county in Liberia. While it has not reached the perfection desired, due to lack of sufficient funds, it is the aim of the board when the \$60,000 fund will have become available to enlarge the scope of

the present plans. The people of Liberia are still imbued with the thought expressed on the tomb of an early white missionary teacher who for many years devoted his life and his talents to the mental and moral unlift of the African people. "Let a thousand fall, but let not Africa be given up." The leading men of Africa today have, many of them, received the foundation of their education in the College of West Africa.

Africans are not as is generally supposed in some quarters backward as students. Their minds are receptive, and they readily absorb knowledge. The natives are remarkably quick to learn. Particularly is this true of the Mandingoes Kroos, who are splendid are fond of the study of abstruse problems, and their knowledge of astronomy is wonderfully accurate.

There are many languages spoken in Liberia, due to the presence of various African tribes from the interior mencement day as well as alumni day, turned with a verdict of not guilty. and of foreign races engaged in business among us. The Mandingoes are est commencements and alumnigather. the most highly cultured tribesmen ings in the history of the university. of this case by Mr. Wheaton adds anamong us, and they speak and write Arabic with great fluency and precision. It is the testimony of all African travelers that the native Africans are the most hospitable of people. An African civilized or uncivilized will alumni at its back, will take its place show the utmost courtesy to the stran- among the colleges of the country. ger within their gate and give him the best they have without money and Higgins-Woods Nuptials Announced. without price. He is the most grateful and the most spiritual and optimis- lugton through Mr. and Mrs. George tic of all the races of mankind, and it | Woods of Chicago announcing the re- notable and interesting figures in the | an ordinary errand to avert suspicion: may truly be said of us that we "write cent marriage of their daughter, Fan-state. He won his spurs when a stu I sprang from my seat among the our benefits in marble and our injuries nie Consuelo, to Dr. Henry M. Hig- dent in the State University of Minne | spectators and cried out: "That woman in dust."

The ancients recognized these qualities and loved to descant on them. been followed with pride by the people orator and the first colored graduate of There was a hubbub in the court-They seemed to regard the fear and of Ohio and Illinois. He is twenty-one the school. His rise in the prominence room, but when I took the witness love of God as the peculiar gift of the years of age. Immediately after tak of the state was rapid. He was ap- stand and had been sworn all was si darker races. No one can accurately ing his degree at the Ohio State uni pointed reading clerk in the state leg- lence to hear what I would say. I told estimate the extent of the material versity, specializing in veterinary sur islature in 1895. He was elected a bow I had followed her to the bake resources of Africa. Its soil is prac- gery, he was appointed to a position in member of the state legislature in Min- shop and had given her a ten dollar tically virgin, and its possibilities are | Chicago as a veterinary inspector un | nesota from the wealthiest district in | bill. When asked how I remembered almost beyond human calculation, der the government Miss Woods (that the state and where but few colored the date and the bour, even almost There are gold and silver and iron and | wast is a beautiful and accomplished) precious stopes and an infinite variety | young lady, a society belle of Chicago of every species of flora and fauna and is a graduate of the Chicago uni and live stock

Dr. Reid said that he was proud of the Negro Society For Historical Re- Miss Jones Says the Race is Advancing which he is grand exalted ruler. In I was curious to know how the hus search, which is doing a needed work | Speaking at one of the sessions of the the courts of New York Mr. Wheaton band had met his death. It was yerr and a good work in bringing to public recent fourth annual convention of the is considered one of the most brilliant singular that he should have been i potice the achievements of Negroes National Association For the Advance in wyers at the bar, and his record in his wife's room just long enough to throughout the world. When he re- ment of Colored People, in Chicago | criminal cases is expecially fine. Mr. | get murdered. It was a long while turned to Africa he would co-operate Miss Anna Jones, a prominent white Wheaton is a man of pleasing address before an explanation came. Then a with it gladly and interest some of the | woman, paid a glowing tribute to the | and has a forceful personality. He man who had known him in a distant senders of thought in the futherland | tace when she suid: "The Negro owns | easily makes friends and has a wide | state appeared and said that the deits race uplifting work. There are 300,000 plantations in the south and circle of friends among the business ceased had told him of his desertion editieen or seventeen weekly and more than 400,000 homes. He has and professional class. His present and said he was too unhappy to live sical among them West Africa and Li- and in 200 years more, if given an presidency of the equity congress, a ably committed suicide. Why he did beria edited by Dr. Reid and set up equal chance, will creep up in attain civil organization that is doing much so still remains a secret, though I fan by the students of the College of West ments to the highest dreams of the good for the civic betterment of the cy fle man's wind was unbinged by

Court Holds No One Responsible For Murder of Zachariah Walker. The district attorney of Chester county. Pa., has thrown up his bands in despair, declaring it impossible to get a conviction in any of the cases walker at Coatesville, and has caused Case In which J. Frank Wheaton the last one of the several indictments to be taken from the list. And Pennsylvania rightfully takes her place in

the Pittsburgh Courier. When it is remembered that simultaneously with this action in Chester county a southern grand jury returned indictments against white men for a southern lynching, the shame and disgrace of Pennsylvania stand out all the more prominently. There is no es-

caping the shame. ' The whole state must shoulder the curse. Until a change of venue was demanded and refused the public eye was directed to Chester county only. but the refusal of a petition to change

#### ALUMNI WORK AT HOWARD SHOWS SPLENDID RESULTS came known.

Building Succeeds.

The Alumni association of Howard and thorough investigation of the case asked for a loaf of bread, offering 4 university, in Washington, recently and secured some of the most promicents instead of the full price, which reached high water mark in its cam- nent white citizens, including the was 5. The baker had evidently paign for the gymnasium fund, which chief of police, as witnesses, who tes- granted similar requests. has been going on for some time in tified to the good character of Simms. When she came out I spoke to her. all sections of the country where grad. Mr. Wheaton discovered from reliable told her that I had overheard her talk. bam, secretary-treasurer, and Mr. Shelby J. Davidson, financial agent.

mittee has been conducting a system- the three days' session of the trial, atic correspondence with members of and the minds of the spectators centhe Alumni association throughout the tered upon the brilliant Negro lawyer country, appealing to them as to the who defended Simms. When Mr. necessity for the building of the gymnasium, for which the trustees of the university have promised a donation of \$15,000 on the condition that the alumni raise \$10,000, the building to be

known as the alumni building. The responses from the alumni and friends have been encouraging, and at the recent rally Mr. Shelby J. David son, financial agent, reported that since the inauguration of the campaign the amount of pledges has been raised from about \$3,000 at that time to more than \$4,900. Of the cash in hand at the outset be reports that an addition of \$500 has been made, making the total collections about \$1,500. The effort to personally reach as many of the aluma

ni is being tried with much success. The alumni of Philadelphia has pledged \$1,000 toward the gymnasium fund. Preparations are under way in Baltimore for a meeting of the local alumni, and it is believed that with this strong and interested contingent the outcome will be favorable to the gymnasium proposition.

With the graduates of the university i numbering more than 3,000, many, if not all of them, deeply indebted i Howard university for what they have accomplished in life, there seems no reason why the gymnasium as a tangible evidence of the alumni interest he was listened to with marked attenshould not prove a success Surely no tion as he made a striking review of mathematicians and linguists.. They one who has been through Howard uni the case. When Judge Mayon, before versity in its earlier days will hesitate whom the case was tried, made his not only to contribute his quota, but charge to the jury eager ears waited will go out of his way to speak a word the verdict.

of encouragement for the project. June 5 has been designated as com- ation of seven and one-half hours re-Plans are on foot for one of the great- Mr. Wheaton came in for a large share Every alumnus is invited to come back Each class which has gone from the ord of his legal career. He has long university is expected to be represent- figured in the national life of the conn- wife. At ten minutes past 10 one in ed. There will be a grand class march. try, and few lawyers of the race can and Howard university, with a united boast of a similar legal career. He is had gone in and found the man mur-

Cards have been received in Wash- ver. gins. Jr. Dr Higgins is a popular Cin- sota, of which school he is a graduate is innocent. I know it. I can prove cinnati boy, and his brilliant career has in law, class of 1894. He was class it. Put me on the stand."

white man's civilization."

# THE COATESVILLE LYNCHING. SUCCESS OF AN ABLE LAWYER

Proved His Ability.

#### the line of mob and lynch law, says WELL KNOWN AS STATESMAN.

Former Member of Minnesota Legislature and Private Secretary to Congressman McComas Rated as One of New York's Foremost Attorneys. Won Victory In Recent Murder Trial.

By CLEVELAND G. ALLEN.

New York.-Among the foremost colored lawyers of this city is J. Frank | cepted as the future husband of the Wheaton, who has made an excellent the venue, together with the failure of record for efficiency in handling many a Chester county jury to convict a sin- difficult cases. His recent victory in West Africa, who delivered an inter- gle participant, spreads the infamy clearing William D. Simms of a mur- While passing before a dwelling a woder charge in Schenectady, N. Y., has man came out, muttering imprecations be sketched the progress which has The rabble of Coatesville have sown won for Mr. Wheaton new laurels. on some one. She was so wrought up been made by the little republic since the seed. We have but to await the Simms shot and killed one George by what she was thinking about that It was founded in 1847. The first emi- harvest. Meanwhile let it not be for- Brodt in Schenectady in self defense. she did not appear to see me. I walkgrants, he said, sailed from New York gotten that the blood of Zack Walker The murder of Brodt caused wide ed on behind her and heard her talkspread alarm, as both Simms and ing to herself. I don't remember her Brodt were well known men in the community. Fear fell upon the little who had deserted her, leaving her to town as the news of the tragedy be-

Realizing that the keenest legal ing her say: ability had to be exercised in the de-Effort to Raise Funds For Gymnasium fense. Simms sent for his old friend gry and nothing to give him to eat but Wheaton to take up the case in his dry bread when he needs dainties! I'd defense. Mr. Wheaton, on taking like to kill"charge of the case, made a complete | She turned into a baker shop and clear his client.

The trial lasted for three days. The Since the first of the year the com- little courtroom was crowded during



A PTORNEY J. FRANK WHEATON.

Wheaton made his address to the jury

The jury retired and after a deliber. of praise for his victory. The winning

voters resided. This testified to the the minute, I gave the reasons I have wide influence of Mr. Wheaton among given in the beginning of this story. the white voters of the state.

especially prominent as an Elk. of my family and for no one else.

## The Woman Who Talked to I-lerself

By MARTIN B. ERLICH

It was a bright moonlight night—the | South 422 or South 396-Y. 19th of April, 1871. I was walking Mount Vernon 5138 along the street of the city in which I lived and heard a town clock strike with its deep tones the hour of 10. me," I said to myself.

What I meant was this: Ten years secessionists, and on the present 19th of April, 1871, I had only an hour before I heard the clock strike been acwoman who has for forty years been

There is a third reason why I have remembered that 19th of April, 1871. words, but she was heaping maledictions upon the head of her husband. support and care for two little children. These words I remember hear-

"Poor dear little Bob, sick and hun-

me pleasure to supply her immediate wants and handed her a bill quite sufficient for that purpose. Not only were my sympathies enlisted for her. but I was myself at the moment the happiest man in the world.

As she thanked me the moon shone me distinctly. It was a face not soon to be forgotten-not beautiful, but sad. of life, but we can't. It is much easier to forget the happy ones.

A few months later the public became interested in the trial of a woman accused of having murdered her husband. I read some accounts of the trial, and certain features of it seemed ramiliar to me. Witnesses swore that they had heard her say that she was going to kill him if she hanged for it Where and when had I heard some one say "I should like to kill"- The" talking to herself, who had been de a serted by her husband, whose sick boy needed dainty food and for whose immediate wants I had provided.

A thrill of horror ran through me at enced by her wrongs to do what she had said she would like to do. I re solved not to speak to any one of my Price List. having met such a woman lest I be called to testify against her. For awhile I kept away from the court, rooms, but something uncanny strange curiosity-drew me there, and on the day of the summing up! yield. ed and went to the courtroom.

I had not been mistaken. The prise oner's face was the same that I had Its the story all about our good and last seen on the street in the moonlight.) though the sadness of it had given place to a sort of stupor.

The prosecutor was summing up as) I entered the courtroom. I heard him TO THE LADIES say that be had proved that the woman had threatened to kill her busband; that at the hour of 9 at night he had left a friend to go to his home, sayother star to the long and brilliant rec- ing that he had received some money and was going to return with it to his the adjoining house had heard a cry. well educated and thoroughly prepared dered, the money gone. Later his wife Hair Dressing, Face Massage and for his life's work. It was in the west, had been found at a confectioner's with before taking up his practice in New | a ten dollar bill buying delicacies. | York, that he made his start as a law- | What could be plainer than that she had in a mad desire for revenge killed In Minnesota he was one of the most him, taken the money and gone out on

The woman was acquitted. What ) He is a prominent lodge man, being did for her after that is for me and

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### As she thanked me the moon shone down full on her face, showing it to BALTIMORE LIFE INSURANCE CO.

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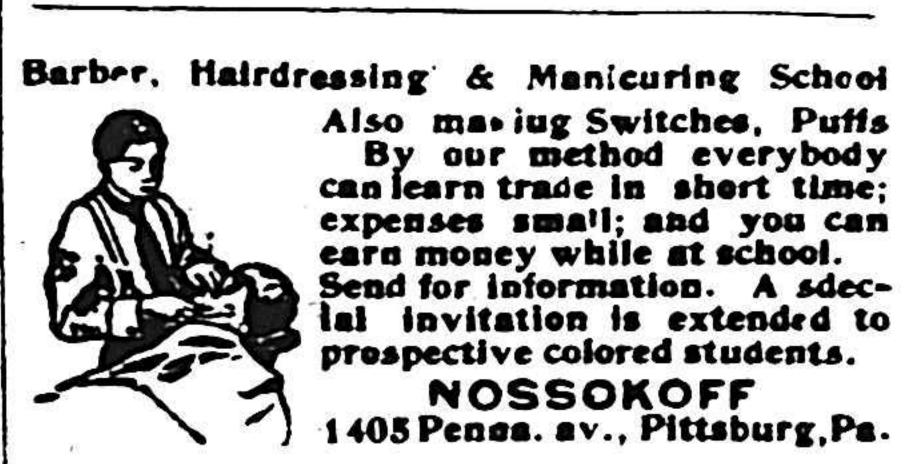
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