

LIBERIA COLLEGE.

[The Editor having been Secretary of the Iowa State Colonization Society, from its beginning, in 1857, takes pleasure in copying the following extract, from the *African Repository* of April, 1883.]

This institution, situated at Monrovia, the capital of the Republic of Liberia, has been brought prominently before the Christian public of the United States during the last few months, and has received general sympathy. The cities of Boston, New York, and Philadelphia have given tangible expression of their appreciation of the great work in which the institution is engaged. The missionary societies connected with the First African Baptist Church in the city of Richmond, Virginia, from which the first church founded in Liberia went out, after listening to addresses by the President of the College, gave a handsome donation. An organization has been formed in St. Paul, Minnesota, called the Liberian Educational Aid Society, to give substantial assistance.

Two well educated young colored men, the fruits of the enlarged education to which colored youth are now admitted in this country, have answered the call of President Blyden for additional professors and have gone out to occupy chairs in that institution. This is a move which has already profoundly impressed many of the thinking youth of their race, now engaged in study as to their duty to the land of their fathers.

The inauguration of Dr. Blyden as President of the College took place January 5th, 1881. His inaugural address delivered on that occasion and his annual report, after a year's administration, have been generally read and have received commendation. Dr. McCosh, President of Princeton College, holding in his hand at a public meeting called in New York in the interest of Liberia College, a copy of the inaugural address, said that no President of any College would need to be ashamed of having produced such a document. In a lengthy review of the address and report, Dr. Whedon, in the *Methodist Quarterly Review* for January, says: "Dr. Blyden's two pamphlets are written in the grace-

ful English of which he is so fine a master. They show an earnest interest in behalf of his people. We take occasion to express our hearty sympathy for his self-consecration to his work and the general wisdom of his counsels.

“As an exposition of his views of the methods of *constructing an African civilization*, these publications remove some misunderstandings. We find a report, even in the periodicals of his race in America, that he had prohibited the use of the English language in Liberia College. The truth seems to be that he reprobates a great share of English literature because it is so depreciatory toward the colored race as to depress the feelings and degrade the character of its present Negro readers. In the literary course of the College he will so plan the studies as to fling in the back ground this period of modern literature.

“That Dr. Blyden thoroughly understands the character of the needed missionary is well indicated in the following ideal picture: ‘For the great work to be done in this vast country, men must be trained amid the scenes of their future labors—men who can enter at once upon their work, knowing what is to be done; who need neither mental nor physical acclimation; who know the specific methods in this country for performing industrial, commercial, educational, and religious work; who will know how to live in the country and in the towns; who, if necessary, like the intrepid Anderson — educated in Liberia — can walk two hundred miles on their bare feet, doing exploring and scientific work; who can take the surveyor’s chain and compass through swamps and over mountains without the accessories of hammocks and beasts of burden, umbrellas and waterproofs; who as missionaries can walk from village to village proclaiming the Gospel of Christ to the natives in a language they can understand, and can sit down on mats and skins in native huts, reading their Greek Testament and Hebrew Bible, or discussing the Arabic Koran with Mohammedans — and then at meal time can enjoy with their hosts palm oil and rice, palaver sauce and dumboy; who will not long and pine for bacon and greens, peaches and pears, broad-cloth coats, and beaver hats.’

“That such missionaries, plentiful it would seem, among the Mohammedans of Africa, should not yet appear among the Christians, is the real complaint uttered in America. How can this coming band of new *life* Christian missionaries be made to come immediately? The Mohammedan school of Cario is, we understand, sending out its flowing missionaries by hundreds through the Continent.

CURRENT EVENTS.

The death of William E. Dodge, of New York, leaves a vacancy among the merchants of New York of world wide fame. He was a member of the committee of the World's Alliance from America to Russia to induce Emperor Alexander to relax his religious domination and persecution of protestants, or persons not of the Russian Greek church. The effort had a good effect.

The death of Prince Alexander Gortchakoff, the Russian minister, of long prominence, reminds one of his antagonist Metternich, who was only equalled by Bismark, of Emperor William's cabinet in Germany.

NOTES BY THE EDITOR.

The recent death of Dana F. Stone, of Iowa City, who has been so long in the business circles of the city, deserves a fuller notice than we have room to insert. Suffice it to say that he has left a wide vacancy in the Church and the community, as well as in his family connections, whom he remembered in his last will and testament.

Rev. Dr. Samuel M. Hopkins, Professor in the Theological Seminary, Auburn, New York, wrote a highly commendatory letter to the editor, regretting that they have not had such a work as the Annals of Iowa, in years gone by, in New York State.

The Frontispiece is a neat portrait of RANT-CHE-WAI-ME (or *Female Flying Pigeon*), lithographed by Mills & Co., Des Moines. She was the favorite wife of Mahaska, the younger. On his going to Washington, D. C., she met him with tomahawk in hand, saying: “Am I not your wife? I will go with you.” All that is known of this remarkable Indian woman is told in the January ANNALS of 1882, page 20.

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